

### County Agents Receive Honors

The National County Agents Association, which held its annual convention in Chicago recently, cited eight outstanding county farm agents of the North Carolina State Agricultural Extension Service for their "distinguished service."

The men honored were: J. I. Waggoner, Guilford county; E. S. Millsaps, Randolph; J. Graham Morrison, Lincoln; W. B. Pace, Durham; R. L.

Sloan, Burke; R. D. Goodman, Cabarrus; Donald Stuart Matheson, Orange; and R. E. Black, Alleghany county.

Income from fluid milk in Alleghany was practically nothing in 1935 when Mr. Black took his present post there. It has grown to be a \$300,000 a-year industry.

Largely through Mr. Matheson's efforts, the first REA power line built in the U. S. was constructed in Orange county.

Under Mr. Goodman's leadership, Cabarrus now ranks among the first ten counties in the state in agricultural enterprises, and is one of the largest lespedeza growing counties in North Carolina.

Mr. Sloan's 30-year contribution to agriculture has included many projects such as dairying, poultry, beekeeping, field crops, horticulture, 4-H Club work, and many others.

During his 21 years in Extension, Mr. Pace has actively participated in these, and other phases of Durham county's agricultural program. Guernsey Dairy Calf Club work, helped obtain REA lines, encouraged hybrid seed corn production, conducted a corn-yield improving program, and helped organize the farm milk route which balances farm income throughout the year.

A greater interest in poultry raising in Lincoln County is one of the results of Mr. Morrison's hard work in promoting a Cooperative Marketing Program for Poultry. His county has won recognition as one of the leading counties in the Piedmont under his leadership and drive.

Mr. Millsaps has successfully pushed livestock, pastures, hay crops and soil conservation in Randolph county, and started the first cooperative calf club with Asheboro business men. He has built poultry industry to one of the largest in the state.

Guilford county was the first in North Carolina to have a Board of Agriculture, organized in 1925 by Mr. Waggoner. He also started the first dairy herd improvement work in the state, was a leader in organizing the Guilford Cooperative Dairy Association and the county's Terracing Association, the first in the state to use heavy equipment.

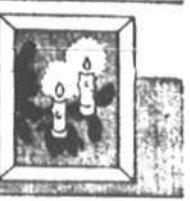
The present farm population of the United States is nearly 20 percent of the total population.

The greatest expansion of the U. S. since the Louisiana Purchase occurred during the administration of President James K. Polk.

The Ohio river is nearly 1,000 miles in length, is 1,500 feet in width in several places and contains numerous islands.

Labor day in the United States was first celebrated by the Knights of Labor in 1882. It was made a legal holiday by Congress in 1894.

### Story of the Tree



We are told that the fir tree goes back to Eve, but it was not until the time of Martin Luther that the evergreen was used as an indoor decoration in celebration of Christmas.

It is said that Luther one Christmas Eve wandered through the woods and became enamored with the wonder of the night.

He cut a small snow-laden fir tree, and set it up in his home for his children. He illuminated it with candles to represent the stars.

It was not until 1604 that, in Strassburg, the first Christmas tree appeared in literature.



Oklahoma City, the capital of the state of Oklahoma, is one of the most modern cities in the world.

### Christmas Visit to The Seven Fountains

In 1540 when a plague was raging in Switzerland, 12 pious men of Rheinfelden formed a brotherhood to pray for St. Sebastian's aid, and to nurse the sick and bury the dead. Pestilence in medieval times was ascribed to evil spirits in water, so the Brotherhood of St. Sebastian visited each of the town's seven fountains, praying and singing hymns at each stop. They still continue this custom, but only on Christmas Eve. For this ritual the 12 Brothers are dressed in black, with black silk top hats. At every fountain they gather around the lantern-bearer and sing a medieval song. The march begins at the Froschweide fountain, where the plague is supposed to have started three centuries ago. When they have passed the seventh, they enter the church for midnight mass, and ceremoniously place their lantern on the altar of St. Sebastian.

William B. Wilson of Pennsylvania, a former coal miner, was the first Secretary of Labor of the United States.

It was not until after April 22, 1889 that any individual was permitted to claim or own land in what is now the state of Oklahoma.

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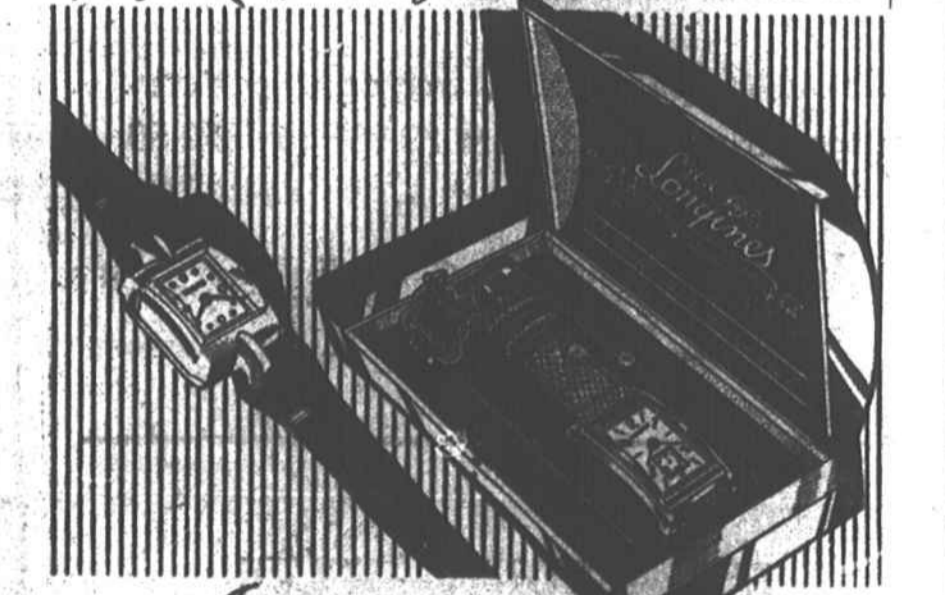
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