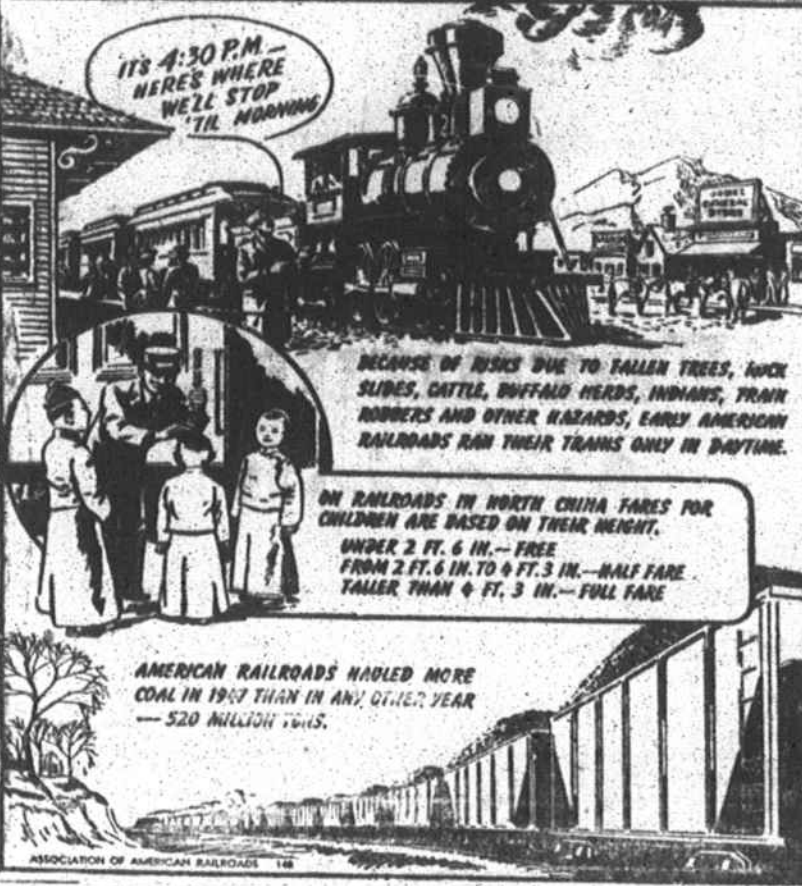


# Rail oddities



## Land Resources Not Being Used

Evidence of improper use of land resources in North Carolina last year lies in the fact that about 12 per cent of the cropland in the state was idle and even a larger per cent not fully used, C. Brice Ratchford, in charge of Farm Management for the State College Extension Service, said here this week.

Land devoted to cash crops such as cotton, tobacco, peanuts, and commercial truck has been well utilized and have normally rendered a good return, Mr. Ratchford said, but the land devoted to the non-cash crops such as corn, hay, and pasture has not been utilized to the maximum. Farmers have normally carried out recommended practices on the cash crops but they have not carried out the recommended practices on the non-cash crops. Adoption of these practices on all crops grown on the farm would pay high returns, he declared.

One half of the land in North Carolina is devoted to woodland, and on many farms the woodland has given a very low return. Even though

many of the crop land resources have been fairly well utilized, the land devoted to forest has been more poorly utilized.

Labor, North Carolina's greatest resource, has not been fully used, he stated. Most farmers have felt there was a labor shortage and this has been true, yet, on these same farms there has been idle labor.

Most crops require labor from 6 to 7 months a year, but during certain seasons, especially the harvest and planting seasons, there is a labor shortage. During the winter months no labor is required and this results in idle labor. Enterprises can be added which will profitably use the labor resources throughout the year, and keeping this labor busy the year-round will yield higher profits, the specialist said.

Systematic farm planning will indicate ways to use all the land and labor, and those who take time out during the bad weather this winter to plan their farm operations for 1948, will be spending their time well, Mr. Ratchford said.

—THE HERALD—\$2.00 PER YEAR—

## County's Rural Property Shows Huge Valuation

Farm property in Cleveland county is now worth more than \$22,209,000, and rural homes here and throughout the state are in the best condition in history, according to a report just released by the Tile Council of America.

More than 75 percent of farm dwellings in North Carolina and the South are in excellent condition or need only such minor repairs as painting or general maintenance, the report revealed. Only 61.1 per cent were in good repair in 1940. The report was based on Bureau of the Census surveys.

"The rise in farm incomes and property values since 1940 has been accompanied by a great increase in the number of rural homes equipped with such modern conveniences as electric lights, tiled baths and showers and running water," said F. B. Ortman, chairman of the Council's residential construction committee.

Electricity, for instance, has gone into hundreds of thousands of the nation's rural dwellings since 1940 Ortman noted. More than 59 percent of all farm homes now have electric lights, in contrast to 31.3 percent in 1940.

More than 32 percent of rural dwellings in the United States today have running water, and 20.1 percent have private baths, according to the Tile Council report. In 1940, 17.7 percent had running water and only 10.6 percent private baths.

### EXPRESSION OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to our neighbors and friends who have been so kind to us and to our daughter, Nancy, since the accident in which Nancy was severely injured. All of us are deeply appreciative of the many kindnesses shown and will never forget all the friendly gestures.

Mr. and Mrs. James Smith.

The sharp decline in the number of cattle on farms this year and reduced grain feeding probably will result in a smaller cattle slaughter in 1948 than in 1947.

Jonathan Logan

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(Fleetline Sportmaster and Aero Sedan not pictured)

Sedan not pictured



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