

Agriculture in Action

DEFINING FARM BUREAU is everything really animal, vegetable or mineral, like the experts say? Then what's Farm Bureau?

It's not an animal. Those scholarly folks who tell us what our words mean say an animal is any living thing that's not a plant. Which seems to be sort of taking the easy way out. But Farm Bureau is just not an animal or any sort that we know of. And it's sure not a vegetable, exactly. Although it will grow strong and healthy if you cultivate it right. But the word-makers say a vegetable, in its broadest sense, is any plant. So Farm Bureau doesn't fit under this heading either.

Well, is Farm Bureau a mineral, then? Sort of. Because a mineral, says Mr. Webster, is "an inorganic substance occurring in nature, of a definite chemical composition and definite structure."

Which makes Farm Bureau sort of a mineral, because it sure has a definite structure. It's made up of 1,628,000 farm families who are interested in doing something to keep agriculture on the go. And it stands on a foundation of membership and service. So it has a definite structure.

But we're hard put when it comes to the "definite chemical composition" part. So we would say to differ with anybody who says flatly that Farm Bureau is a mineral. And this probably makes us a differ-beggar. But our only task right now is to classify Farm Bureau.

And frankly, we're stumped. Because Farm Bureau seems to be a thing apart. And it is, as a matter of fact. In the first place, it's the largest general farm organization in the United States, and in North Carolina. It's also the grassroots farmer's voice in public affairs.

Aside from that, we give up. Through no stretch of the imagination can we, in all good faith, call Farm Bureau an animal, a vegetable, or a mineral. We'll probably have to be content to call it necessary.

Your License Life-Saver

RALEIGH—Your new driver's license may help save your life!

According to Commissioner Edward Scheidt of the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles all new and renewed driver's licenses issued in North Carolina, beginning in November, will provide a form for medical information which could be useful in the event of an emergency.

The special form, believed to be the first in the United States to be made a part of a driver's license, provides space for your blood type (group and Rh factor), the date of your last tetanus shot (and whether it was oxoid or antitoxin), drugs or medicines you may be taking or to which you are allergic and other medical data such as conditions of diabetes or epilepsy or the wearing of contact lens.

To insure the accuracy of the information, you will be encouraged to consult your family physician when filling out the form. Accurate medical information can be a dire need in some emergency situations.

The new addition to the driver's license was suggested by the Committee on Trauma of the North Carolina Chapter of the American College of Surgeons as a part of a continuing statewide program to improve medical care for accident victims.

More than 200,000 North Carolinians are afflicted by heart and blood vessel disease, according to estimates released by the North Carolina Heart Association. That number is equal to the total population — everman, woman, and child — of 20 North Carolina counties: Alleghany, Caswell, Cherokee, Chowan, Clay, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Graham, Greene, Hoke, Hyde, Jones, Mitchell, Pamlico, Perquimans, Polk, Swain, Tyrrell, and Yancey.

Stretching Your Dollar

By Philip J. Goldberg
Institute for Financial Planning, Inc.

The closest anyone has come to "getting something for nothing" has been through life insurance. As soon as you make your first premium, the life insurance company guarantees that your beneficiary will be paid the amount due on your policy when there is a claim. There, too, if you have taken out a policy for \$25,000 and expire after making only one small premium payment, your family will be given all this money. Based on your small investment, your beneficiary will almost literally be getting something for nothing.

As you can see, insurance also gives you guaranteed dollars. Suppose you had decided to leave your family \$25,000 by saving \$500.00 a year. Even with the interest payments, it would take you well over 30 years to achieve this objective. However, should you die in the interim, your family would be left the amount you had saved. But if you had life insurance, your family would get \$25,000.

Here are some case histories which illustrate how many people not only get guaranteed dollars from life insurance but can receive a sizeable sum of money for an indefinite period of time, by electing one of the options insurance offers. In fact, they ultimately collected payments which exceeded the face amount of the policies.

On the west coast, one life insurance beneficiary received a total of \$203,125 in life insurance payments for the cost of only one annual premium of \$2,681.25. Instead of taking a lump sum, the beneficiary, a widow, chose to receive yearly payments for the rest of her life. She now has collected 65 payments of \$3,125 a year and will continue to get this amount as long as she lives. Because of the reserve, still kept in tact by the life insurance company, the face value of the policy will be paid to her children when she dies. The amount \$62,500. Remember, the original investment was just over two thousand dollars.

It is not at all rare in insurance company records to find records where policies provided income for over half a century to beneficiaries who chose the annual annuity provision, rather than the one lump sum. The benefits being paid to thousands of beneficiaries of life insurance policies throughout the country today, have far exceeded the initial value of the policy or total cost

paid in premiums. A lawyer from a northwestern state is another example of "getting something for nothing"—or rather, his daughter is. In 1921 he acquired a \$15,000 life insurance policy, and at that time paid a \$277.04 before he died. His motor boat during a few months later. His daughter is now 63, and has received annual income payments of \$650.00 for the past 51 years—or a total of far more than \$33,000. This is about 145 times the premium her father paid.

If you are among the millions of Americans who have the good fortune to endure to old age, you can also collect benefits such as this for yourself. About 17 million Americans over the age 65 now carry life insurance which helps to aid their financial security. They have let their cash value accumulate during their lifetime, and now that they are over 65, can borrow from it annually, still keeping their life insurance in tact for their beneficiaries—or elect to take an annuity.

Speaking longevity, there are about 1,000 Americans aged 95 or older who have policies in force, or else have actually seen their policies endow for the face amount.

When you ask your agent about life insurance, inquire about a policy that guarantees you an annuity for as long as you live, or discuss with him how cash value builds up, and can ultimately be converted to an annuity.

It is true that no one gets something for nothing, but beneficiaries of this kind of life insurance very often come close to it.

Colored News

Evelyn Giles, daughter of Mrs. Eva Giles, has entered the University of Connecticut. Miss Giles is a graduate of Compact high school.

Rev. A. A. Ponder of Shelby will be guest speaker at Shady Grove Baptist church Sunday night at 7:30. Mrs. Lewis Curry is sponsoring the service.

The Usher Board of Long Branch Baptist church will celebrate an anniversary Sunday night at 7:30 p.m.

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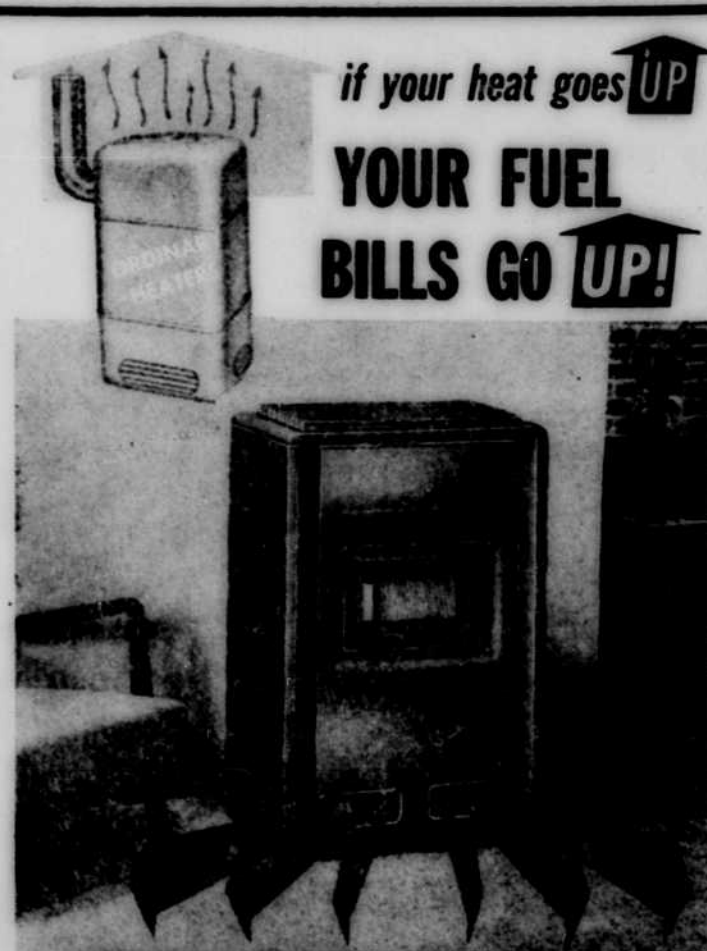
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