



**JEST A-WHITTLIN'
AN' A-THINKIN'**
BY PETE GETTYS

A young fellow up from town the other day was tellin' "how grand was nature—the trees and grass and birds and sunshine!" An' "how peaceful it all is—no hurry, no worry, no strife."

Yes, the trees and birds and flowers make a pretty picture—but "no hurry, no worry, nor strife!" Nowhere in nature is there the slightest bit of kindness, of consideration for the suffering or weak. No landscape is so beautiful, or day so balmy, but the cry of suffering rends the air.

The fight to live and stay up on top never stops. Most animals die by violence. The snake darts out on the road and swallows him alive. The spider spins his web to snare the unwary fly. The hawk swoops down on the hen. Certainly, the big trees crowd out and smother the little weaker ones. Some are born in rocky ledges. It's a struggle for existence. Others are at home on beautiful lawns where they're pruned and trimmed and fertilized and sprayed and get every care and attention—and can't you imagine the little yellow dandelion casting envious eyes at an orchid?

You never have had any kind of a pet until you've tried a pet crow—plain ornery and destructive—but the most intelligent and amusing of all feathered life. And if there's anything in your yard you don't want eaten—raise a pet lamb.

And speakin' of birds, I've been areadin' a book about birds. There's a whole lot of unsolved mysteries about 'em. People used to think a buzzard could locate a dead horse or a dead cow by smell, but tests pretty well show none of the birds has a very highly developed sense of smell.

And this business of bird migration has 'em all stumped. Course they know the winter weather and food supply has got something to do with it, but there's more than that back of it. Take Purple Martins, they come here from South America in March when it's so cold and bad there isn't a bug in the air, so cold many of 'em actually freeze, when they could still be in sunny Brazil.

Now they got an idea how they know directions. Been experimenting with homing pigeons, and find these birds are all upset by radio broadcasting stations, and think a pigeon's sense of direction bears upon the "electro-magnetic" hypothesis, whatever that is. Pigeons have been freed near broadcasting stations when the station was on or off the air. During broadcasting experienced pigeons took as long as three minutes to find directions as against a normal 20 seconds. Once 169 birds were let loose. More than half lit or returned after repeated failures to find directions. This suggests that birds may be sensitive to the earth's lines of magnetic force.

Anyhow, at milking time when the cows come up we like to see the old bull stick his nose down to the ground and bellow just as deep and scary-like, and paw up the dust, and the calves bawl and when the cows are in the stalls everything gets as still . . . and directly you hear the milk playin' a tune in the buckets, and the old spotted cat stands around with her tail straight up and rurs her sides against the corner of the barn, purring just as contented like . . . and away over yonder a little owl screeches . . .

"And the day is done! And slowly from the scene the stooping sun upgathers his spent shafts and puts them back in his golden quiver."

BETWEEN THE ROWS

BY ROY H. PARK

We should do a lot this year—for we have one more day in which to do it. Incidentally, Leap Year also brings us two Friday-the-13ths—one in March and another in November.

ELEGY—1936

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,
A line of cars winds slowly o'er the lea;

The pedestrian plods his absent-minded way—
And leaves the world quite unexpectedly.

—Rotary News

Walkers are often just as much to blame for road accidents as drivers. They hang to the road to maintain their "rights," but being "right" is little satisfaction to a dead man.

"77 North Carolinians Draw in Excess of \$15,000 Salary Each," said a headline the other day.

"But," commented North Carolina's Ike London, "none of them is an editor, a preacher, teacher, or farmer."

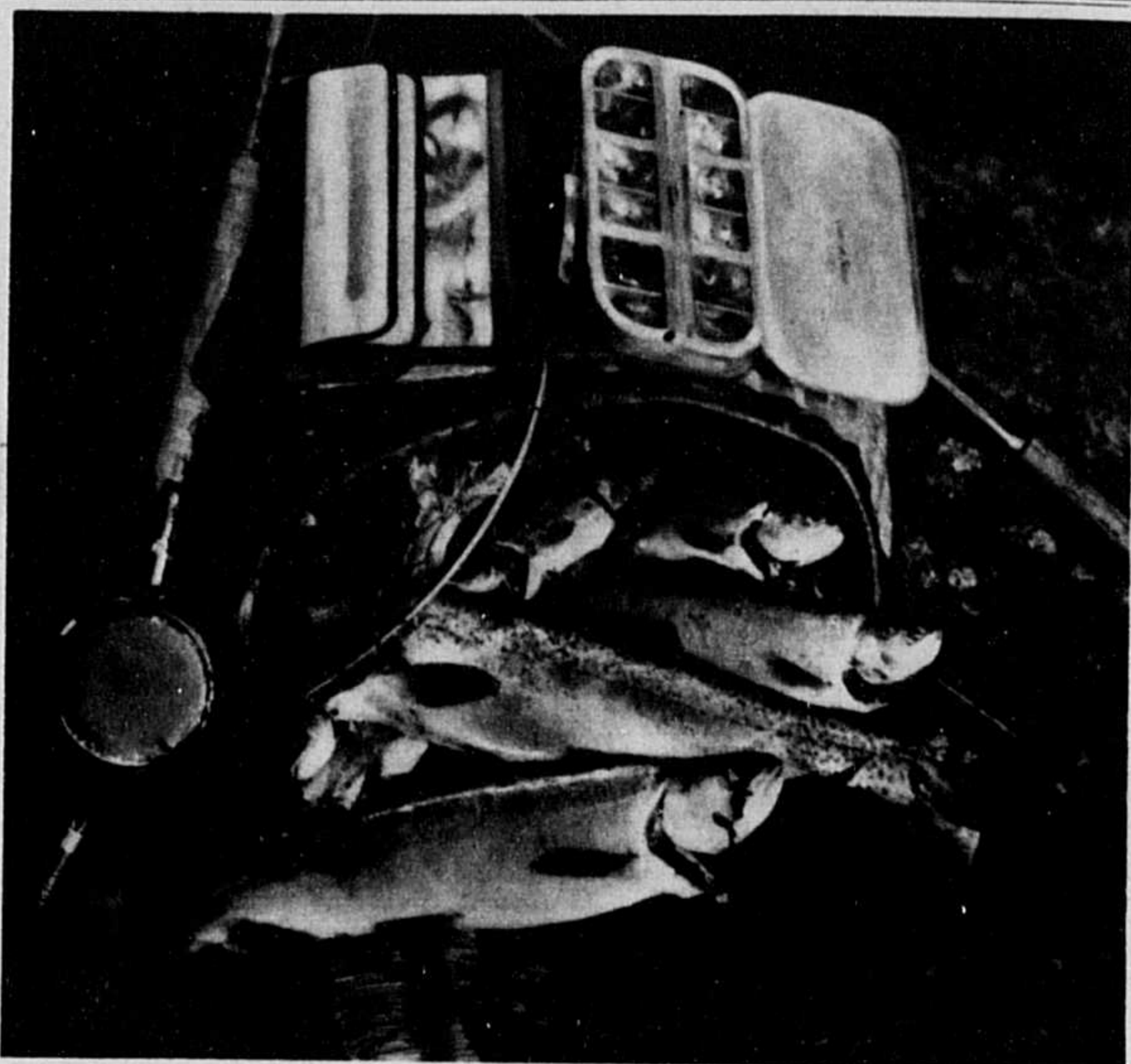
A friend of mine in Tennessee, wrote inviting me to visit his state. Commenting on places of interest in Tennessee, he said: "Why I could take you on a little trip through the ancient capitals: Rome, Athens, Sparta, Antioch, Alexandria, Memphis, Carthage, Palmyra, and Troy . . . or on a swing around modern Eu-

rope by visiting Winchester, Manchester, Rugby, Bristol, Dover, Paris, Loreta, Cordova, Milan, Florence, Dresden, Moscow, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Christiana, and back to Belfast."

I wrote him that perhaps I may come later but that first I want to visit Niagara, Quebec, Japan, Ararat, Troy, Bombay, St. Pauls, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Broadway, Toledo, Denver, Reno, Cleveland, Dublin, Nazareth, Hudson, Bahama, Genoa, and Congo, all located in North Carolina.

Incidentally, I'll be glad to hear from readers in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky, South Carolina, Delaware and Florida about towns with unusual names in their states.

Pointing out how little things may often mean a lot, O. O. McIntyre offered the following the other day to show how a comma may change the meaning of an entire sentence: "Woman, without her, man would be a savage." And: "Woman, without her man, would be a savage."



Trout Season Around Corner

BY DICK WOOD

In most states, the season opens on trout in April. Rubber boots or waders will be in order in Southern states where trout streams head in the mountains. Few trout streams in the South can be fished from the banks with flies. At this time of the year, streams may be discolored too much for artificial lures, and the natural fly season isn't until May, so the only recourse may be bait or worm fishing.

The ardent dry fly fisherman holds up his hands in horror at worm fishing, but I don't blame the impatient angler, who may be fish hungry, for acquiring a few trout by any legitimate means during the open season. The method is not exactly sportsmanlike, inasmuch as a worm caught trout is invariably hooked too deeply to release with any assurance of its living.

Nevertheless, when the stream is roiled, as it often is during April, about the only way to catch a trout is via the garden hackle route. The trout are lying in the pools, heads up stream, grabbing such food as the current brings them.

The still fisherman spirals a worm around a tandem hook tied on gut weighted down with a few split shot, and lets it drift down stream, near the bottom. Trout are generally taken near the head of pools, or by boulders or sunken logs, in swift water. They are seldom caught in placid pools, except late in the evening, or at night.

FRANK FARMER

Says --- By A. B. Bryan

The biggest waste in farming is the waste of time and energy in an unbalanced farming plan.

Sunshine must be mixed liberally with the ration for growing chicks.

A fruitful way to spend a little spare time is to prune and spray the fruit trees of the home orchard.

It costs me less to buy absolutely needed farm implements than to do without them.

Farmers who have supplies of home-grown feed are better off than those who have a margin of money in the bank from cash crops.

I don't mean to wait until mistakes make it too late for this season to get valuable information and suggestions from my county agent.

Nymph fishing is the next step above worm fishing. Nymphs represent the larval stage of insects before they rise from the bottom of the streams to shed their skins and emerge as winged insects. The hellgramite is one of the best examples. Nymph fishing is really indicated by early Spring conditions. While the sport of nymph fishing doesn't compare with fishing flies, it is preferable to worms and other messy bait.

The nymph of the Caddis, Stone and May fly are known to all trout fishermen. Every boy living near a trout stream in the Smoky Mountains is familiar with "stick bait," the Caddis nymph. It is found in small eddies of trash along banks, encased in the peculiar stick-like substance, and in lieu of artificial lures, may be fished on the point of a fly hook.

Other nymphs are the Olives—Dark, Green, Orange—Large Stone, March Brown, Pink Lady and Alder. Nymphs should be fished with a long, dark colored leader. They are dropped into the swirl at the head of a pool and permitted to drift down with the current. No attempt should be made to fish them near the surface. Only one nymph should be fished on a leader. The line should be kept taut to facilitate hooking.

Late in April, if the water is clear, flies may be fished quite successfully. Some of the best early patterns are Mosquito, March Brown, Black gnat and Royal coachman, fished wet.

By using better seed and more suitable fertilizer on my crops this season I expect to be more thankful next Nov. 26.

The hundred million pounds of dairy products imported into the South yearly is a good source of income—to dairymen in other states.

Investigate the most successful farmer in any community and you will find a soil-builder, not a soil-robber.

Beware of the lazy cow that does not mind going into debt to her owner for feed consumed.

Rusting out is worse than wearing out—which is true of farmers' machines and of farmers' minds.

The best investment I have made in fertilizers is the cent I spent for a post card asking my agricultural college for fertilizer formulas.

Here's the Dairy Barn
that Scored "PERFECT"

Maryland Milk Producer Cashes In on Best Ideas

of 175 Others

BY GEORGE H. DACY.

MOUNTAIN Top Farm owned and operated by Roger L. Dade and his three sons would attract attention even though it did not feature a perfect score, 100 per cent dairy barn as part of its equipment. It sparkles with prosperity and you can find neither bribe, bribe nor fence-row weed within its boundary fences. This rolling layout of 185 acres in Frederick County, Maryland, boasts some of the finest permanent bluegrass pasture in the Atlantic and South Atlantic States. The Dade place is one of those intriguing picturesque farms which you sometimes read about but rarely visit. To complete the setting from the practical farmer's standpoint, the farming management and the dairying methods are exactly as good as they should be on such a high-quality establishment.

Like the mill-run of his community Dade "dairied" in his old-fashioned bank barn as long as the law and dairy inspectors allowed. Every once in so often, the county inspector, a representative of the Washington, D. C. health department, told Dade the day of reckoning would come when he would either have to build a new barn or seek a new market for his milk. Dade decided not to sink an additional penny in his old barn. When the deadline arrived he determined to begin anew with a modern dairy barn and spick and span equipment, fresh from the factory.

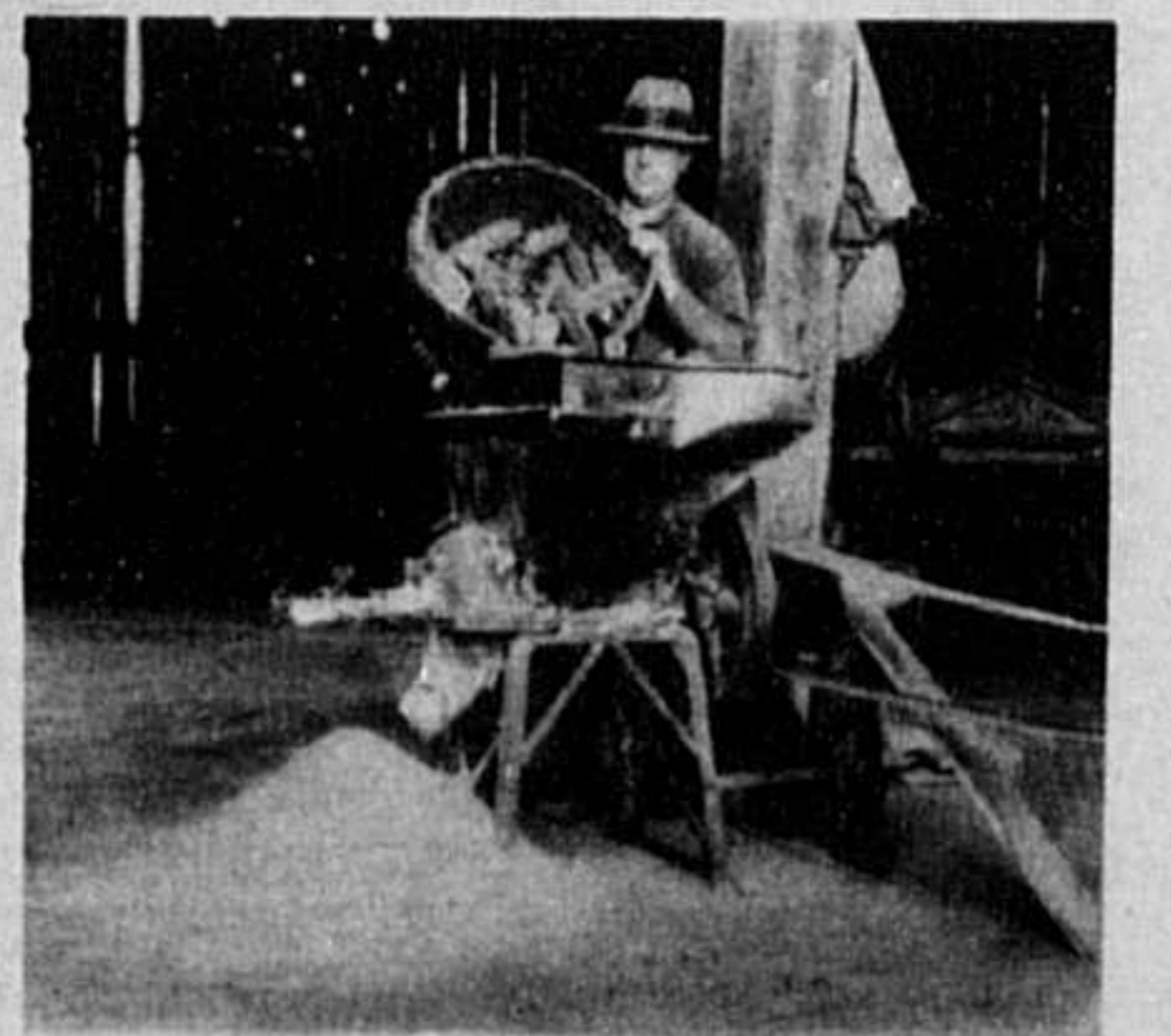
5,000 Mile Inspection

He devoted his spare time for six weeks to personal inspections of dairy barns in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, and Pennsylvania. The father and sons motored some 5,000 miles in quest of dairy-barn lore. They visited 175 dairy farms, gaining firsthand information about the merits and defects of different types of construction.

The Dades aspired to build such a dairy barn as was never built before on a practical farm in Maryland. Eventually, they drafted rough sketches, incorporating ideas gained from their dairy barn survey. The county dairy-farm inspector aided measurably in revising and improving the plans. The final plans were submitted to the District of Columbia health department.

Just to indicate the thoroughness which Dade devoted to his new-barn construction, drainage around the building is so perfect the barnyard is never wet nor muddy regardless of how heavy the downpour of rain may be. All storm water from the barn roof and run-off water from a nearby hill empties into a sewage system under the barn, which vents in a remote field. The sewer mains

Roger Dade is a firm believer in home grown grain for his dairy herd.



are from 6 to 8 inches in diameter; the fall is so great it is impossible for the mains or laterals to clog. Three hundred feet of 5-inch tile compose the "carry-away" line.

40 Cows Accommodated

Dade also capitalized on the lay of his land in the location of the new dairy barn. The arrangement is such that the ground line is 5 feet higher at one end of the barn than at the other. A man can easily unload sacks of feed from a truck into the feed room on the second floor.

The dairy barn is built of hollow glazed tile with a steel roof, twin tile silos, each 12 by 32 feet, concrete floors, and steel stalls, stanchions, and feed manger partitions. Maintenance costs are minimized because of the permanency of construction. The glazed tile finish is attractive externally and wearworthy. Its use facilitates keeping the interior of the stable, dairy, cooling, washup, sterilizer, and boiler rooms as clean and sani-



Hired help's no problem for Roger Dade on his Mountain Top Farm, Frederick County, Maryland. With his three sons, this successful dairyman does all of the work on his 185-acre farm.

Dade is shown in action here, doing his part of getting up the bill of fare for his high producing Holstein herd. In fact, Dade says the family's biggest task is to produce an abundance of feed so that the cows can yield their peak production of milk.

All repair jobs as well as machinery maintenance are performed in the home shop.

tary as a modern hospital. The glaze of the tile is such that in service only 0.05 of 1 per cent of moisture penetrated its surface during a 24-hour test. This guarantees a dairy barn free of moisture. And as every experienced dairyman knows, moisture in the stable is one of the most objectionable atmospheric conditions which can occur.

The dairy stable, accommodating 40 cows, has a varnished ceiling. Twenty gallons of varnish in three applications were used in producing the durable surface, which can be washed as readily as the cement floors and tile walls. Neither dairy barn appliances, utensils, nor other equipment are discernible in the milking stable. Chutes connecting with the silos are equipped with double doors of paneled type. Grain feeds and ensilage feed carts are stored in these chutes when not in use. Grain feeds by gravity from overhead storage with vents in these chutes. A storage closet for cow-clipping machines, medicine and other supplies utilize the waste space under the stairs.

Use Electrical Refrigeration
Swinging panel doors link boiler and dressing rooms, the first which you enter, with the adjoining sterilizer and washup rooms, and the annex milk cooling and storage room. Dade has devised a satisfactory 18-ounce canvas cover for his two-section milk cooler. This hood encircles the cooler and protects it from contamination by dust or foreign mate-



The only 100 per cent score dairy barn supplying milk to Washington, D. C. And that means perfect with a capital P.

rial after it is sterilized daily. The farm water supply is piped one-half mile from a storage tank proximate to a mountain spring.

The Dades cool and store milk by aid of electrical refrigeration; both water from the mountain spring and ice water circulate through the milk cooler. Dade has rigged up a block-and-tackle hoist which runs on a steel track, being used for lifting or lowering cans of milk into the storage tank. A concrete platform just outside the dairy door facilitates direct transfer of cans of milk from storage tank to motor truck. Empty cans are returned through another door to the wash and sterilizer rooms.

is hired. The men of the family are skilled and seasoned, mechanically speaking. All repair jobs as well as machinery maintenance are performed in the home shop. Repair jobs occupy spare time.

The major task of the Dade family is to produce an abundance of feed for their high-producing Holsteins; the cows return the compliment by yielding their peak production of milk.

Dade plants about 20 acres of ensilage corn annually, husking the surplus above silo requirements. Corn stubble is sowed to either barley or wheat for feed and straw. The barley is ground and used in the dairy ration. Wheat is raised as a cash crop. The 28-acre bluegrass pasture has not been broken in 26 years and probably will never get acquainted with a plow point as long as the Dades own Mountain Top Farm. Alfalfa is the major hay crop.

Real 100 Per Cent Score

The sanitary milk from Mountain Top Farm tops the Washington, D. C. market, winning the highest bonus award due to the perfect barn score. Just to show that the 100 per cent score was not a fluke, the District of Columbia health department held an education meeting at this Maryland farm at which time a dozen inspectors again scored the place. They all confirmed the perfect score accorded Mountain Top herd and barn by the District of Columbia inspector stationed in Frederick County.

The District of Columbia health department uses the Dade dairy barn as a demonstration and urges Washington shippers to visit Mountain Top Farm before they make dairy barn improvements. The Baltimore health department has followed suit and also sends many visitors to see Dade.

Many dairymen would object to having 50 or 60 visitors on every fair Sabbath inspect the dairy barn. Not so Roger Dade. His barn is really a monument to his dairying knowledge and success. He is proud of the fine building and glistening equipment. If he can help others by showing them around his premises and telling of his experiences, he is glad to do so.

Dade's steel windows are shielded efficiently in the dairy barn to prevent drafts, are screened on the outside, operate easily, and are airtight when closed.

Electricity illuminates the Dade farm. Although there are some 75 outlets in the barns, shops, sheds and house, and that the refrigerators, washer, ironer, and vacuum-cleaner are used daily, the bill for current aggregates only \$9 a month, less than half what the ice alone would cost if used in cooling the milk.

No Hired Help

The Dades follow an effective distribution of home work program; no help

Pictured here is The Mountain Top Farm dairy barn's manure disposal system.

