

# COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK

IN

AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

NORTH CAROLINA STATE COLLEGE OF  
AGRICULTURE AND ENGINEERING  
NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES AND  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE COOPERATING

EXTENSION SERVICE  
COUNTY AGENT WORK

## Gaston County

The Gaston County 4-H club boys carried on numerous activities for security on the home front during the war in addition to carrying on their projects and farm work. The boys were helping with farm work because of an acute labor shortage created through the drafting of farm labor as well as high paying war jobs.

It was through the 4-H Clubs that 57,000 pounds of scrap iron were collected, 3,775 pounds of rubber and 39,500 pounds of paper. Not only were the clubs active in participating in the scrap drives but also in the selling of War Bonds and Stamps, collecting of old magazines to be sent to soldiers in hospitals, and in sending Christmas cards to every former 4-H club member in the Armed Forces.

One of the local concerns sponsored a Garden Contest for 4-H club boys and it was through this contest and other special interests that the boys produced large amounts of food for home consumption and the local town people.

George Stowe, Clover, RFD 1, made a remarkable record from the standpoint of food production in 1944 and won the county "Feed a Fighter" Contest. To win the county contest he produced 600 bushels of corn, 300 broilers, 150 dozen eggs, 15,000 ppunds milk, 1 bale of cotton, and 1 acre of garden, from which 500 quarts of vegetables

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Page #2

were canned. Not only did he produce all the above food listed in 1944, but he did even better in 1945 by raising 3 litters of pigs from 2 purebred broodsows and planting and cultivating 25 acres of cotton in addition to the same production of corn, broilers, milk and eggs. Stowe was a Senior in high school in 1944 when he won the county "Feed a Fighter" contest. He not only found time to produce all this food but also was a school bus driver and president of his graduating class at Gastonia High School.

Lester Carpenter, Lincolnton, R4, made an excellent record too, before entering the Armed Forces, since he operated the farm on which he lived as well as attending high school.

He planted and harvested 4 acres of cotton, 10 acres of corn, and 5 acres of small grain. He also raised approximately 300 broilers each year, maintained a flock of 100 laying hens and raised registered Berkshire swine. When he entered the Armed Forces he owned 1 boar, 4 sows and 20 feeder pigs. Not only was he active in 4-H club work, but displayed excellent work and leadership in Vocational Agriculture. He also found time to help in getting the children to school by driving a school bus.