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Today and Tomorrow

By FRANK P. STOCKBRIDGE

Alcohol

More alcohol is being distilled in the United States than ever before. That has nothing to do with prohibition. The use of alcohol in industry has multiplied enormously since the war. The new chemical industries use it in a thousand ways. Next to sulphuric acid, it is the most important of all chemicals. Business would stop, in hundreds of lines, if the manufacture of alcohol stopped. But less grain is being used for alcohol than before. Molasses and potatoes are the chief sources of industrial alcohol. The sugar-growers of Louisiana are getting real money now for what used to be pure waste, and the potato growers of Maine, Michigan and other potato centers have a more stable market for their product.

Citizenship

Becoming a citizen of the United States ought to be as impressive as joining a church or lodge. When you join a church it is a solemn occasion. You are welcomed into the communion by a ceremony in which ministers, elders, deacons or other officials take the lead and the whole congregation participates. When you join a lodge you are, for the moment, the central figure among the brothers; you are made to feel that you have achieved a new importance in their eyes, a new dignity in your own esteem. But when a man or woman goes into a naturalization court to get his final papers he is treated as if Uncle Sam wished he had stayed at home.

It would be a useful service for any Chamber of Commerce to undertake to make of the admission of aliens to citizenship an occasion for public rejoicing. And if the same idea could be extended to an annual welcome to the new American-born voters who have just come of age, that would certainly help impress upon them the responsibility and the dignity of American citizenship.

Cheese

There are more than five hundred varieties of cheese. Some are made only in certain parts of the world, such as Roquefort, which ripen only in natural caverns in France, Gorgonzola, a native of Italy, Stilton, an English as John Bull, Limburger, Brie and a hundred other "ripe" cheeses, besides the mild soft cheeses such as Camembert, cream and the others which should be eaten as soon as possible after they are made. Swiss cheese must not be overlooked. And then there are the more universally popular cheeses of the cheddar type, which includes the Dutch Edam and pineapple cheeses and the standard hard cheese of commerce, which is the staple product of the American dairy.

Cheese supplies all of the nutritive elements found in meat. The use of cheese is increasing, as the use of meat is decreasing. That is encouraging to the dairy farmer but not so good for the cattle raiser.

Mount Vernon

Greatest of all our national shrines is Mount Vernon, the country seat of George Washington, on the Potomac, a few miles below Washington. It was a neglected, almost ruinous old house when, more than fifty years after Washington's death, a band of indies selected from the various states, raised funds with which to purchase and repair it.

From time to time a movement for the Federal Government to take over Mount Vernon and be responsible for its maintenance has been begun. For nearly eighty years the burden has been carried by private donations and subscriptions. If there is any one spot in America which should properly be a charge upon the whole nation, it is Mount Vernon.

Gettysburg

To North and South alike the battlefield of Gettysburg is hallowed ground. Here was the high tide of the Confederate forces. Here Lincoln voiced his immortal phrase, "Government of the people, by the people, for the people." Here the most imposing monument is the statue of General Lee. Here, among these rolling Pennsylvania hills, lie the most gallant soldiers whom America has produced, "Under the sod and the dew, waiting the judgment day."

Every year nearly a million and a half tourists visit the Gettysburg National Park. They come from every section of the Union, as many from the South as from the North. The pleasant little town has welcomed them but its facilities for the housing and feeding of its guests have not kept pace with the growth of the tourist tide.

It is good news, therefore, to all who cherish Gettysburg as one of our national shrines, that the people of the town have at last stirred themselves to meet this need. A new hotel, in a style and manner befitting its surroundings, is to be built this year. And this will make the pilgrimage to Gettysburg even more popular than it is now.

WILLIAM H. TAFT IMPROVES

William Howard Taft was said Tuesday afternoon to have had a fairly good day and to have taken more nourishment than at any time in the past week. Dr. Hagner said Mr. Taft's diet consisted of only liquids and ice cream and that his appetite was better.

U.S. FARM OUTLOOK WARNS TO AVOID OVER-PRODUCTION

"No Marketing Machinery Can Insure Good Prices and Satisfactory Income if the Farmer Plants and Breeds Unwisely," Says a Recent Bulletin of the Federal Farm Board.

BY CALEB JOHNSON
Special Writer for The Democrat

Hand a hand with the Government's efforts to regulate the marketing of farm products in such a way as to give the farmer his rightful share of the price which the ultimate consumer pays, and to equalize distribution so that foodstuffs will not be dumped on glutted markets, goes the attempt to regulate agricultural production.

The plain fact is that farming in America suffers more from overproduction in most of the staple crops than from any other cause. And this condition has been getting worse ever since the war, according to the Secretary of Agriculture.

"No marketing machinery can insure good prices and satisfactory income if the farmer plants and breeds unwisely," says a recent bulletin of the Federal Farm Board. It does not follow that because a farmer got a good price for the corn he grew on 50 acres last year he can get twice as much for the crop from 100 acres this year. The reverse is likely to be true, if all of the corn growers, or any considerable part of them, plant more corn than they did last year.

The Agricultural Outlook for 1930, just issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, is full of danger signals for the farmer. If all farmers are guided by them, the average of farm prices will be higher than last year. If they are generally disregarded agriculture will not be very profitable to most of those engaged in it. No one farmer and no one community can control the situation. Until all farmers are organized into marketing associations handling practically all of each staple crop, the only production control possible is through appealing to the intelligence of individual farmers. The Federal Department of Agriculture's program for this spring includes the spreading of the information contained in the Agricultural Outlook as widely as possible, so that each farmer can govern himself accordingly.

Here are the danger spots to which the outlook calls attention:

In general, demand for all farm products is likely to be less in 1930 than in 1929.

Corn acreage should be decreased definitely.

Wheat cannot be expected to bring higher prices, and no increase in planting should be undertaken.

Cotton acreage is high enough now and should not be increased.

Hog prices probably will average as high as 1929, with a reduction in supply already indicated. That should not be taken as an invitation to breed more hogs, however, as demand is falling off.

Beef cattle herds are too large now, and prices are tending downward.

Dairy herds should be closely culled and more heifers slaughtered if butter prices are not to drop still further next year and the years after.

Sheep and lambs are at the top of their swing now. No improvement in the wool market is looked for before next year.

Any increase in poultry and egg production will result in lower prices.

The hay demand is for alfalfa and similar legume hays, but less sweet clover for seed should be sown this year.

Flax looks good. A third increase in acreage would not materially affect prices.

New apple orchards should be set out only where conditions favor the growth of the highest grades. Grapefruit and oranges will be in greater production. Grape prices are expected to go lower. The peach outlook is unfavorable, with heavy production and low prices expected.

Cantalope and watermelon growers should reduce their acreage.

The outlook for strawberries is good, and production can safely be increased.

Present projected increase of six per cent. in potato acreage is unfavorable to price maintenance.

Lettuce demand continues to increase but marketing difficulties help keep prices down. Sweet potato acreage should be reduced. Tomato acreage should not be increased. Dry beans production should be kept at last year's level.

The early cabbage market looks very favorable, late cabbage not so good. Peanut crops should be reduced.

The tobacco outlook is good. The growers of Virginia and Maryland can safely plant larger acreage. Rice prices are tending upward. Sugar at present production levels should hold up to present prices.

In other words, American farmers must watch their steps. And the ones who watch most intelligently are the ones who will survive. For it is clearly on the cards that there will be fewer farms and fewer farmers ten years from now than there are today.

More and more, American farming must be done for the American market. Secretary Hyde of the Department of Agriculture points out that in the world markets Canada, Argentina and Australia are crowding the United States out. In those three countries agricultural acreage has tripled since 1900. They now grow more wheat than we do. Argentina

(Continued on page five.)

County Official Has Sheep Raising Record

Mr. J. Y. Walker, member of the Board of County Commissioners and prominent farmer of the Sugar Grove section, believes that he has a new record for spring lambs. A Shropshire ewe belonging to him has four lambs, almost two weeks old, strong and healthy, and with all promise of perfect development. The lambs are being fed from a bottle but are being allowed to go with the ewe. Several farmers of the county have been heard to express the view that no similar instance has been chronicled in this county.

WATAUGA CLUB RESPONSIBLE FOR GROWTH OF STATE SCHOOL

It may be of interest to those living in Watauga County to know that the North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering of today is a direct result of a movement of the "Watauga" Club. However, the club, unknown to many, was not organized in our county or composed of Watauga citizens.

In 1884 Mr. W. J. Poole, member of the Raleigh bar and a gentleman of great learning, ardent patriotism, high and unselfish purpose, and clear vision, first conceived the idea of the formation of a few public spirited citizens into a club for the study and discussion of public improvement. A few leading citizens met at his office where he unfolded his plans for the organization of such a club suggesting that the Indian word "Watauga" meaning "sparkling water," would be a most appropriate name. Continuing, he said, "In Watauga County there is trickling down a mountain rock a stream of water no larger than a man's finger, clear as crystal and sparkling like silver, which is the source of a mighty river that turns many thousand spindles and floats many ships of commerce." Whether this oratorical statement is true in its entirety is left to the reader to surmise, nevertheless, it is of interest to know that this name be given to such an influential organization.

Some of the members of the club were Alfred D. Jones, afterwards consul general to Shanghai; Arthur Winslow, Dr. Charles W. Dabney, then State chemist and later president of Cincinnati University, and W. J. Peete. At subsequent meetings other members were added, among them were Hon. Josephus Daniels, afterwards Secretary of Navy; Hon. Walter Hines Page, afterwards Ambassador to Great Britain, and W. E. Primrose, later member of the board of trustees of the college.

At every meeting some member was appointed to prepare an essay on some subject of public interest. One of most interest was on "The Establishment of a Technical College" which was the central subject discussed at every subsequent meeting. Mr. Peete was the originator of the idea and it was his dominating passion. It was he, along with many other influential citizens, who conceived the idea that one of the greatest needs in North Carolina was industrial education.

A committee of ardent supporters of the idea was appointed to appear before the Legislature with the bill for an appropriation to build an industrial school. Under the chairmanship of Hon. Augustus Leazer, the bill passed both the House and Senate after combatting successfully all the arguments against it.

The grounds for the erection of buildings was generously donated by Mr. R. S. Pullen, upon which State College of today is located.

The names of Leazer, the introducer and champion of the bill; Pullen, the donor of these valuable grounds; and the Watauga Club, the author of the movement, have been honored and remembered in that there are two literary societies here bearing the names of Leazer and Pullen Hall and a Watauga Hall. The monthly magazine of the college, published by the students, is also known as "The Wataugaan." The newly constructed business administration building bears the name of Peete, the organizer of the Watauga Club.

Today we have able instructors, beautiful grounds, up-to-date buildings and equipment, and wonderful

Late News Dispatches

Calvin Coolidge, former President of the United States, Tuesday dedicated the great Arizona Dam named in his honor and at the same time called upon the people of the Southwest to dedicate themselves to the task of completing Boulder Canyon Dam. Speaking from the parapet of the Coolidge Dam, Mr. Coolidge made a plea for unity in the Southwest. He spoke for 20 minutes and climaxed the dedication ceremonies by breaking over the parapet a bottle filled with waters from the Gila River.

The Temple Bill to provide for the extension of the proposed Great Smoky Mountains National Park to include 12,000 more acres on the North Carolina side was reported Tuesday by the House Public Lands Committee.

Spruce Pine has voted bonds in the sum of \$35,000 to match an equal amount given by the Duke Foundation for the purpose of constructing a municipal hospital in that city.

Consumption of the \$350,000,000 merger of the Republic Steel corporation was assured yesterday

WATAUGAN LOSER IN ONE SIDED FIGHT WITH ANGRY BEAR

Citizen of Grandfather Section Painfully Injured by Mother Bruin as He Attempts to Make Away With Offspring. Animal Kills Dog and Launches Attack on Owner Breaking Bones of Hand.

Henderson Gragg, who resides in the Kelsey section of Watauga County, was the victim of a most unusual experience last Friday afternoon while cutting wood on the side of the Grandfather Mountain near his home. A small dog, which had accompanied him to his work, had wandered some distance up the mountain side and a few minutes after his disappearance began baying. Thinking that the canine had "treed" a woodchuck or some other small animal, Gragg stopped his work and started to the scene of the disturbance. When he arrived, he found that the dog had bayed a cub bear.

Picking the small animal up, Gragg started for home, realizing that delay might spell disaster. He had gone only a few paces when he came face to face with the mother bear and two other cubs. The small "bruin," which he carried in his hands gave a distress cry and the mother bear immediately showed fight. Gragg began running, with the angry mother hot on his heels. When she came abreast of the interloper, the forest-dweller seized Gragg's right hand, causing him to drop the cub. The animal's fangs badly lacerated the fleshy portion of the organ, and broke one of the finger-bones.

The dog then made his appearance and started a fight with the old bear, who grabbed him and with one flourish of fang and claw dispatched the canine to "the happy hunting ground." Then taking her "children" under her maternal care once more, the old animal lumbered off into the dark recesses of the forest.

Gragg came to Boone late that afternoon, where Dr. J. B. Hagaman dressed the wounded member, and at last report the injured man is recovering nicely from his almost fatal encounter.

INTERESTING PAPER FOUND IN POSSESSION OF CAROLINIAN

Belhaven, N. C. — A very interesting old newspaper, "American Recorder," a weekly edited on May 19, 1815 in Washington, N. C., is in possession of E. W. Clark in Belhaven.

There are some interesting articles in this old paper about Napoleon, also the War of 1812 between the States and England. There is an article in the paper about England receiving the "distral" news of the death of General Gibbs who was the brother-in-law of the Duke of Wellington. General Gibbs was killed in a battle at New Orleans.

Some of the following are quotations of prices in Washington, N. C., taken from this old paper.

Whisky, 75 cents per gallon.
W. I. Rum, \$1.50 to \$1.60 per gallon.
Brown sugar, \$17 per cwt.
Leaf sugar, 45 cents per pound.
Leaf tobacco, \$6 to \$7 per cwt.
Twist tobacco, \$12 to \$15 per cwt.
Corn, 70 cents to 75 cents per bushel.
White beans, \$1 per bushel.

ATTENTION! EX-SERVICE MEN OF WATAUGA COUNTY

The American Legion will meet in regular session over the old Watauga County Bank Building on Friday evening, March 7th, at 7:30 o'clock. All members and ex-service men are urged to attend as there are several matters of particular interest to be disposed of.

Important legislation now in Congress is being supported by this post. In union (and in numbers) there is strength. Bring along some new members. We need them.

opportunities, in fact, a great institution of learning. All of which is a consummation of the vision of the "Watauga Club."

with the announcement by the merger committee that sufficient percentages of stock of the constituent companies have been deposited under the proposed plan of consolidation.

Captain Boris Serievsky, late of the Imperial Russian Air Corps, brought back Tuesday to his adopted country the altitude record for seaplanes carrying a useful load of 4,492.24 pounds, when he drove a twin-motored Sikorsky to an altitude of 19,500 feet. Dressed in ordinary flying clothes, but in a heated cabin, Captain Serievsky drove the silver-winged ship up through a hole in the clouds above North Beach, N. Y., and an hour and a half later dropped back over Oyster Bay with what was believed to be a new record.

The Western Carolina Betterment Association Tuesday elected Mayor Roberts of Asheville as its president and at the same time raised \$10,000 with which to launch a campaign of newspaper advertising and radio broadcasting during the year in its war against chain stores. About 1,000 members have been secured and plans call for the incorporation of the whole western section of the State.

Walton League Holds Its Regular Meeting

The first regular meeting of Daniel Boone Chapter, Izaak Walton League of America, was held Saturday night at the Daniel Boone Hotel, the regular meeting place of the organization.

During the business session, Raxter M. Linney was elected president for the ensuing year, and R. L. Clay, secretary and treasurer. A discussion on ways and means of doing away with stream pollution followed, and the fifteen members present pledged themselves to co-operate with conservation officers in this effort.

J. W. Bryan spoke briefly on this phase of the Waltonians' work and suggested that a fiddlers' convention be given on July 4th for the purpose of raising funds with which to wage the fight. This suggestion was enthusiastically received by those present, and Mr. Bryan was named to arrange details for the entertainment which, it is stated, will be one of the highest ever staged in this section.

MRS. ALICE GREER DIES AT HOME IN IDAHO

Mrs. Alice Greer, of Malad City, Idaho, formerly of Trade, Tenn., died in Malad City, Idaho, on February 3, where she had lived since 1911. She was buried at that place. She was a member of the Thomas' Chapel Methodist Church near Trade, Tenn. She became the wife of Austin Greer in 1901. She was loved by all who knew her, for her religion was lived each day.

She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Thomas, of Trade, Tenn. She is survived by her husband, who resides in Malad City, Idaho, and a host of friends in Watauga County and Johnson County, Tenn. The following near relatives also survive: A daughter, Mrs. Ethel Richards, and a son, Gaud Greer, of Malad City, Idaho, and three brothers and four sisters, Luther M. Thomas, of Hickory, N. C.; Emmitt Thomas, of Malad City, Idaho; G. C. Thomas, of Towson, Md.; Mrs. Pearl Johnson, of Hickory, N. C.; Mrs. Eunice Lawrence, of Trade, Tenn.; and Mrs. Margery Lawrence, of Trade, Tenn., and Mrs. Bina Greer, of Tacoma, Wash.

—Reported.

COVE CREEK NEWS ITEMS

The minstrel show given in Boone last Saturday night by the students of Boone High School with such a decided success will be repeated in the auditorium of the Cove Creek High School on Friday night, March 7. Sections from the program were given at chapel exercises Wednesday morning which were thoroughly enjoyed by the students. Come out on Friday night and enjoy a real old-time minstrel.

Farmers of this section have been getting in some valuable time recently in the preparation for an unusually large planting in the spring. Our people seem determined to devote more time to intensive farming this year than ever before.

Mr. D. T. Brown is excavating for a large and well appointed garage and filling station on his property near the school. He moved the dirt onto the school grounds, with no cost to the school, thereby making extensive improvement to the school property.

Last Wednesday night County Agent Miller of Johnson County, Mr. Toby of the University of Tennessee, and Mr. Geer, of the Kraft-Phoenix Cheese Corporation spoke to the farmers of this section on production of burley tobacco and the increasing of the milk supply for the Kraft plant at Mountain City.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave P. Mast visited in Kings Mountain over the weekend. They brought back with them Mrs. Mast's mother, Mrs. T. L. Blacklock, of Bakersville, Va., for a few weeks' visit.

Miss Constance Shoun visited her parents at Neva, Tenn., over the weekend.

Mr. Ralph Walker, who is head of the agricultural department of the Booneville High School, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Y. Walker, last week.

Don Henson, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Henson, was operated on for appendicitis at Grace Memorial Hospital several days ago. He is getting along nicely.

Mrs. J. W. Henson has been ill with pneumonia for several weeks. At this time she is very much improved.

Junior, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Swift, is at the Grace Memorial Hospital undergoing treatment for pneumonia. His condition is gradually improving.

Dr. A. E. Cate, dean of Carson-Newman College, has been secured to deliver the commencement address at Cove Creek School on April 19. Dr. Chandler, pastor of Boone Methodist Church, will preach the annual sermon on the evening of April 20th. The school and community feel themselves fortunate in securing these well-known speakers.

HODGES DRUG COMPANY OPEN ONE-CENT SALE

The first announcement of a local spring merchandising event on any considerable scale, comes from the Hodges Drug Company, who yesterday started their first semi-annual one-cent sale.

Under the well-known plan, drugs and drug sundries of standard brands are offered to the customers of the local store at the regular price, and by the payment of an additional one cent the purchaser may secure another article of the same kind. The offerings will continue throughout the remainder of this week.

NEED FOR GARDEN TO LIVE AT HOME AT LIVE AT HOME ASSEMBLY

Large number of Citizens Enjoy Live-at-Home Program, Sponsored by Local Organizations. Home-Grown Foods Comprise Menu, and Ashe County Farm Agent Delivers Speech on Home Gardening.

The importance of a home garden, pointers on its preparation and care, and figures showing its monetary possibilities featured the address of E. C. Turner, Ashe County Farm Agent, before the live-at-home meeting held in the dining room of the old Lovill Home, on the college campus, last Friday evening.

The session was sponsored by the Civitan Club of Boone and the ladies' club, co-operating, and more than 150 were present to enjoy the talk of the evening and to feast upon Watauga-grown foods. Boxes for two had been prepared in advance by the ladies of the community, solely from home-grown commodities and were supplemented with instant milk, sweet milk, spicewood and sassafras tea.

Professor I. G. Geer introduced Mr. Turner, who is a well known farm authority, and whose remarks centered around the home garden. Garden sash, he said, should be planted on well-drained land, and should the earth become infected, a change of location is necessary. He advised a cover crop of rye or crimson clover and outlined the process of preparing the soil for tomato growing, stressing the necessity of proper pruning and suckering. In the opinion of Mr. Turner, the average Watauga County garden has a cash value of from \$100 to \$200, and deduced that if the 2,000 local farmers would give average attention to gardening, their efforts would amount to \$200,000 and would pay the taxes of the county.

Mr. Turner said that all gardens should have a coat of lime and that acid phosphate should be broadcast after plowing. Lime, he says, is excellent for all products, with the exception of the Irish potato. Turning for a moment to the pests which beset the gardener, Mr. Turner insisted that control of the Mexican bean beetle is possible only on bush beans. The talk covered a period of an hour and was exceptionally well received.

Dr. Dougherty, J. E. Moore, G. F. Hagaman and W. H. Gragg closed the session with brief remarks.

REGISTRATION FOR MUSIC CONTEST CLOSES MARCH 29

The District Music Contest is almost here and it is hoped that the schools in the Thirtieth District, which includes Caldwell, Alexander, Wilkes, Ashe, Watauga, Avery, Burke and McDowell counties, are ready for the event. If there are any last minute questions concerning the contest, please send your inquiries to Mrs. F. N. Blackwell, Lenoir, N. C., who is district chairman, and she will gladly answer any questions immediately.

The registration for this contest must be completed by March 29th. Registration must include the fee and the events which the school will enter. This must be sent to the district chairman. The registration fee is 50c for each event the school wishes to enter. Fees are doubled for registration made after March 29th.

From all indications, the contest on April 11th promises to be a very fine one. The schools are enthusiastic over the event. Davenport College is looking forward with great deal of pleasure to being host to the representatives from the various schools.

SCRUB DAIRY BULLS BANISHED FROM CATAWBA

With the elimination of all scrub dairy bulls of breeding age from within the borders of Catawba County, the county now becomes the third in North Carolina and one of the few in the nation to have this distinction.

Official announcement of the results secured in Catawba was made last week by John A. Arey, dairy extension specialist at State College. Mr. Arey, praised County Agent J. Wade Hendricks and his assistant, N. B. Nicholson, who worked on this project throughout last year in co-operation with F. R. Farnham, of the office of dairy extension.

These three men, says Mr. Arey, first made a careful and detailed survey of the situation in the county. They located every scrub and every purebred sire and then went to work to have the scrubs replaced with registered stock. In all, 65 scrubs and 86 purebreds were found. Personal visits were made to the farms where the scrubs were located and the owners were urged to co-operate in the movement to free Catawba of this disgraceful situation. Finally four large auction sales were held at convenient points and 28 of the scrubs were sold to butchers. The others were eliminated later.

The work was begun in March and ended late in the fall. Mr. Arey says that it was carefully done and that further efforts will be made to eliminate any scrub bull calves that may be dropped in the future.

There are now three counties in North Carolina having this distinction. These are Gaston, Buncombe and Catawba. The latter county has the distinction at present of being a breeding center for purebred, high producing Jersey cattle. Some of the herds have been given national recognition and this further effort will make Catawba take still higher rank in breeding registered cattle.