

Scout
Murphy and
North Carolina
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Do We Want A Cash Crop?

This is a crucial week for the farmers of this section. This week must be determined whether or not a cannery will be established in this section for the canning of tomatoes. The cannery has signified its willingness to locate here if the acreage can be secured, which will guarantee it a product to be canned.

County Agent Gray has been working on the proposition several days. He reports that all the farmers seem to be interested, but that they have delayed signing contracts. As it is now nearly time to put out the hot beds and get the seed planted, it will be impossible to delay much longer. What is to be done about it?

For the farmers the cannery will mean a market for a crop during the summer months when the farmer has little else to sell. During July, August and September he has practically nothing to sell except poultry and eggs and during this season of the year poultry products are at rock bottom prices. The timber and other natural resources are fast being exhausted. We must depend more and more on Agriculture. Isn't it important that we develop a market for some of our agricultural products so that the farmers will be insured of a cash income?

The cannery binds itself to pay \$13.50 a ton for tomatoes. At this rate the average farm ought to produce \$75 or \$80 to the acre as against \$15 or 20 when planted to corn. Can it be that the proposition looks too good to be true?

The farmers binds himself to grow a given number of acres to tomatoes and sell them to the cannery. The cannery agrees to buy them at a stipulated price. The farmer has little outlay. If the tomatoes should not do as well, he would lose very little on a few acres. There is everything to gain and nothing to lose. What is to be done about it?

The time has come when the contracts must be signed or the cannery proposition given up for this year. Do the farmers want a crop that will bring them larger returns than the grain? Do they want to make more money? The mental assent of the farmer or truck grower is not enough. He must sign a contract if the proposition is to be put over. Next week may be too late. Now is the time to act. Every farm-

er in the county ought to be in Murphy Saturday and sign a contract to grow tomatoes. This is a critical time.

Still A Hero

The bureaucrats have demoted William Mitchell from his title of General to his Colonelcy and they may send him to Chicago or any other hinterland until they are blue in the face, but the fact remains that he has done his country brilliant service. The last of the tests made necessary by his charges of American incompetency in the air was the trial performance of the anti-aircraft guns at Fort Monroe. The guns did not hit the targets in the air, and even the searchlights supposed to pick out at night attacking airplanes for slaughter by the guns failed to find one. This was on land. How pitiable the performance of both guns and searchlights would be on the rolling deck of a battleship at sea, is a thing for a saddened imagination to contemplate.

Colonel Mitchell has demonstrated one of two things: either that all the great military powers of the earth have been guilty of ariant folly in expecting anti-aircraft guns to serve as adequate defense against attacking planes; or that the United States Government alone is hopelessly incompetent in the use of anti-aircraft guns. And either fact is ample proof of the correctness of his contention that the only real defense against aircraft is aircraft.

The country at large is convinced that Mitchell has proved his case, that this Government needs to overhaul and improve its air service, and that at present its air-fighting forces are behind the times and deficient in material and numbers of personnel. The country is also convinced that Mitchell never in all his career made a braver fight than when he went before the Congressional committee to show up our air weakness. He knew that he was courting demotion. But he is known among his fellows as "a fighting fool," and, having decided that to talk frankly to the committee was his duty, he went ahead with it without the faintest regard for consequences.—Asheville Citizen.

Statement From County Agent W. R. Gray

TO THE FARMERS OF CHEROKEE COUNTY:
The proposition of locating a cannery at Murphy for the farmers of Cherokee County lies entirely in the hands of the farmers. The company has allowed us this week to get our contracts signed, and as yet the farmers have been very slow in coming to the front.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the farmers of the county and it would be a very bad mistake to let this opportunity go by. We feel that this is a good proposition for the

farmers as we feel they can make more money by growing tomatoes than by any other crop being grown in the county. With proper cultivation we should very easily make from \$75.00 to \$150.00 per acre on our tomatoes, which is far better than we are making on corn or any crop we are now growing. Now we must remember that these contracts must be signed this week and we are compelled to give the company an answer at once. Now, let's everyone rally to the cause and sign up our contracts before Saturday night. See your neighbor and have him to do the same thing for if we do not get the three hundred acres we will lose the entire proposition and will have to continue with the same crops that we have been growing. Do not neglect this matter any longer as you might make it too late.
W. R. GRAY, County Agent.

WOLF CREEK

Mr. G. W. Fincher of Copperhill, was a pleasant visitor here on Friday of last week.

The flu epidemic here has somewhat abated for last few days.

Mr. John Newman of Hethouse Creek took his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Paynter, who had been visiting for the last few days, to their home in Belltown, Sunday.

The fair weather of last week was followed Saturday night by a storm and cold that was a close call to the peach crop as the trees are in full bloom.

Mr. G. T. Hancock called at the Rural School Sunday afternoon and entertained all those present with several selections on the Graphophone.

Mrs. John Garren has been very sick for several days with flu.

Mrs. Mat Withrow has been very sick with erysipelas for the last few days.

Some boys not of our community "Rocked" Mr. John Westmoreland the other night and bruised him up somewhat, and he later in the night bruised some of them up with his fist.

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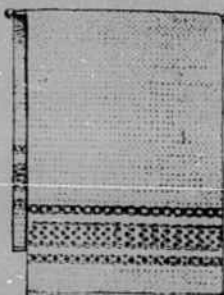
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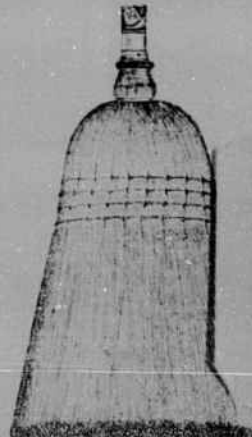
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