

## Advises Planting Of Black Walnut Trees

The black walnut has been called the liberty tree because of its unique value. It grows wild or once did, and has been planted in every state in the Union. It is the most valuable tree in the United States. Although it grows on higher lands it flourishes on most overflow acres which are often very fertile silt, but cannot be cultivated because subject to floods. The primary and secondary black walnut areas include probably twenty-five million acres of such land. Much of this land is the natural home of the black walnut which does not mind an occasional flood. So by planting black walnut millions of acres can be reclaimed and made profitable. Since it must be planted why not plant the best there is? There are many sorts of black walnut now selected for size, quality, easy cracking, bearing, and so on. These sorts are propagated the same as varieties of apples, cherries or any other fruit. Growers of Thomas black walnuts are now receiving \$1.35 a pound for the shelled nut. Wild nuts bring 7 cents a pound in the shell. One bushel of nuts of the named sorts will crack out about ten pounds of meat, that is at the rate of \$13.50 a bushel. A machine has been perfected which cracks black walnuts by power, producing 75 to 95 per cent half kernels. Black walnuts have many by-products. The husk is used for tanning, stain, hair dye and other things. Grafted black walnut trees have borne seven nuts when planted only 17 months. Propagated trees including nut trees, bear much younger and grow much faster than seedling trees. For bearing nuts the trees are set 40 or 50 feet apart to give large rounded trees. The trunks grow short and thick. Propagated nut trees are expensive to produce and cost more than fruit trees but they live longer, fewer are needed to the acre and they require no spraying and very little pruning and nuts do not spoil or rot like fruit. So they are cheaper by the acre. A man in Iowa says, "black walnut is becoming a hobby with me and I am advising young men to plant them on their best land and go after the proposition on a business scale. There is no crop which our best land can be devoted to that will pay a better return for the investment." If this is true of the best land, what about the millions of acres of swamp overflow land now of little value in North Carolina.

The main use for black walnut has always been its valuable wood and still is. The annual cut is sixty million board feet. At present about 85 per cent of walnut furniture is made of American black walnut which is popular and expensive. A figured or curly grain black walnut tree is used for veneers, for panels, furniture, and cabinet work. Logs of figured black walnut have realized as much as \$1,200 each to the tree owner. A method has been discovered by which this valuable figured tree can be propagated. This is the first time a tree has been propagated for the valuable wood instead of for the fruit or foliage. The variety has been named the Glory Figured Walnut. Authorities state that under favorable conditions black walnut will grow as much as one inch in diameter of trunk a year. This for seedling trees, propagated trees will do better. It is said that an acre of hardy nut trees is worth \$2,000 at the age of ten years and is worth eight times as much when twenty years old. No one should delay planting black walnuts of the varieties now to be had. There are thousands of acres of swamp and waste land in Bertie County that could be planted in such trees. Many generations would be benefitted because they will live and bear for 150 years. Keep this article and think about it and investigate it.

### LABOR QUESTION OF TODAY COMPARED WITH 30 OR 40 YEARS AGO

(By "Old Farmer" Across the Way)  
Editor, HERALD:

I will undertake to show to the majority of the wage earners of today the difference between the present and 30 or 40 years ago, when man labor was at 40 cents a day, and extra good man at 50 cents a day, and women from 25 to 30 cents a day. They worked from sunrise to sunset.

Let us see what they could buy with that amount; say one day's work: meat, 8 to 10 cents per pound, lard 10 cents, meal 80 cents per bushel, flour 3 to 3½ cents a pound, sugar 6 to 7 cents, syrup and molasses 25 to 40c, coffee 10 to 15c per pound, potatoes 50c per bushel, corn \$4 per barrel, peas 75 to 80 cents a bushel, fish ½c each; and there were other articles in proportion.

Let the wage earners see what those laborers did. They lived and

saved money. How did you know about what they did in those days, may be asked by many hoboos, sitting back blowing the smoke from cigars, with monkey rum on their breath.

Mr. Editor, I was with the boys in those days, and let me tell you, labor was to be depended upon; it was first class. It was labor worth employing, and, Mr. Editor, again the young man in that day and time, or many of them, after laying by a good little purse, decided to settle down, perhaps. Now, one of the first things, he buys a piece of land and builds himself a house, and he starts to farm the first year to get something for support.

Then he looked for a sweet woman to share the battles of life. Mr. Editor, he makes this by hard work and using economy. I have some today in my mind who are wealthy farmers and some of those did not prefer farming, went in business and have

done well. I just speak of the way young men did in that day and time by hard work and economizing.

Now, Mr. Editor, I will call your attention to today. The laborer in this country gets all the way from \$1.50 to \$5.00 and quite a bunch of them do not care to work for that price. Sir, it was a rare thing for a young man back in the times I speak of to be called up before the bar of justice. Why? Because he was at his business; he had too much pride to stoop so low, to be looked down upon. Please sir, how is it today?

Notice: good wages, yes, oh yes. Work? no, not many; they prefer to loaf. Steal? yes. Get drunk and scrap. Oh yes. It seems that many had rather live smutty lives—beat high prices, when they can buy double and treble more for the day's labor than 30 or 40 years ago.

I say, young man go to work. Be a man and have something. In my

younger days I remember there was an old colored man that said white folk has got something and I want something, too; and so he did, by his honest toil. He worked for it and he made it. The old man has now gone on to his reward. He set a good example for others of his race. Oh, young men, go to work and mind your business. I approached a bunch of young men some time ago, when I wanted some work done and needed one or two helpers.

As I approached, the first word was by their spokesman, "What do you pay?" I asked them, "how much do you want?" His reply was, "We do not want to work." I walked on.

Mr. Editor, if labor gets much worse, sir, solve the problem for us. Many more will look at the chain gang. Young men, I say get out and go to work; be a man. What will support pride and laziness, when the old folks pass out from under them

and they have to go on their own resources. I mean both white and colored. Be men, for your old mammy's sake.

Come on, let's go. I am one of the Old Boys. Just follow me, and you will do a day's work. I will make you feel good.

We are indebted to Mr. Joseph H. Etheridge, of Bertie county, for the foregoing article. Only a few issues back one of the "Old Farmer's" letters dealt largely on the advantages of planting pecan trees. Both articles are worthy of serious consideration, since the time is here when forest conservation, propagation, and preservation demands immediate attention.

Mr. Etheridge has stood in the forefront of time urging his people to study the whys and wherefores of things that pertain to a higher and better condition of things.

The columns of the HERALD are open to Mr. Etheridge, for he habitually wields an effective pen.—The Editor.

### EXECUTORS' NOTICE

Having qualified as executor of the estate of Berry Joyner, Jr., deceased, late of Hertford County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Roxobel, North Carolina, on or before the 10th day of October, 1924, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 10th day of October, 1923.  
REV. P. A. BISHOP, Executor.  
10-19-23-6t.  
of Berry Joyner.  
E. R. Tyler, Attorney for Executor.

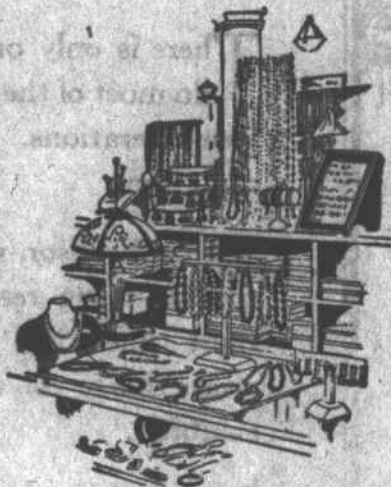
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