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Stokes County Farmers' Institute

TO BE HELD AT LOCUST HILL FARM, I. G. ROSS', ON JULY 27.

AN IMPORTANT MEETING

Speakers Of State Reputation Will Be Present, and Discussions Of Great Importance Made.

Raleigh, N. C., June 18.—Announcement was made today of a long list of farmers' institutes to be held during July and August by department officials and workers under the auspices of the state department of agriculture, special institutes for women to be features in connection with the institutes in many of the appointments announced.

Some of those who will take part in programs for the various institutes will be Col. R. J. Redding, ex-director of the Georgia experiment station; Dr. W. McLendon, of Anson county; T. E. Brown, Hertford; N. A. Layton, of Bladen county; T. B. Parker, Raleigh; Dr. J. A. Campbell, of Alamance; Dr. Tait Butler, state veterinarian and director of the farmers' institutes; Horticulturalist W. M. Hutt, Entomologist Franklan Sherman; C. D. Williams, in charge of the crop and fertilizer experiment work on the state farms; Prof. C. M. Conner, of the chair of agriculture, A. and M. College, Prof. F. L. Stevens and J. S. Jefferies, the latter in charge of the poultry experiment work of the state department of agriculture.

The Stokes County Farmers Institute will be held at I. G. Ross' farm, on July 27th. Every farmer in Stokes county, with his wife and daughters, should attend, as discussions will be made of great importance and money value.

PINNACLE ROUTE 3.

Pinnacle Route 3, June 15.—Most of the farmers are about done setting tobacco in this section.

Messrs. Green Edwards, Woolsey Ring, Tyra Davis and Misses Carrie Wright, Minnie Westmoreland and others were the guests of Misses Mary, Tennie and Jessie Edwards Sunday. Guess Misses Mary and Tennie Edwards and Miss Carrie Wright are all smiles as their best fellows went home with them Sunday night from preaching.

There was a large crowd at the ice-cream supper Saturday evening at Mr. Joe Brown's store. A good time reported.

GUESS WHO.

FRANCISCO.

Francisco, June 15.—There was a large crowd at State Line Sunday. Guess Mr. Fletcher C. enjoyed himself allright Sunday, as he went home with Miss Willie Wright from State Line.

Mrs. Lizzie and Mary Beasley are not any better yet.

They have been confined to their bed for some time.

Think Mr. Grover F. and Miss Nannie F. will get married soon. I will side track as this is the first.

BILL.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

OPPOSED TO A BOND ISSUE

Mr. C. R. Helsabeck Thinks the Better Method To Pay As We Go.

Rural Hall, June 17.

Mr. Editor:

I see in the Reporter of June 13th that you would like to vote a bonded indebtedness of \$200,000 on the people of Stokes county for the purpose of building good roads.

Now, I agree that some of our people are too afraid of taxation, and sincerely regret the fact, but to make such a statement only scares them the more.

We all know that good roads are indispensable to the growth of a county, and I am not trying to refute the idea whatever of building them, but in my judgment the people of Stokes county will never agree to be taxed with a \$200,000 bond issue for that purpose.

Now, let us consider what it would mean to our county if we should put a debt upon it like that. You issue \$200,000 in bonds and if you could get 100 cents on the dollar, which is impossible, it would, at 6 per cent. interest, start a debt of \$12,000 to be paid every year. Now, how much would that interest alone raise our tax per one hundred dollars valuation? Do you not see that in less than seventeen years it would amount to more than the principal? Or if we pay \$24,000 each year it would take over ten years to pay the indebtedness, which would result from a \$200,000 bond issue.

No, Mr. Editor, it does not make our hair stand on ends to discuss this question, but we do not want a bond issue—every muscle, fibre and nerve of the patriot cries out no! against a bond issue of \$200,000. Interest money is the hardest money in the world to pay, and the people of Stokes county do not want a big dose of it every year for the next twenty years.

Well, you might ask what are we going to do—let the good roads proposition stop without any demonstration whatever, and consider our people inert to the subject only to kill every hypothesis that is advanced? No, we do not mean that at all, but we do want the best method of working our roads with the least cost possible.

There never was a period in our history that so much money was in circulation as now, and what is the use of issuing bonds to be paid twenty-five or thirty years from now, knowing what the status of the country will be at that time? Why not while the times are good and everything so prosperous, pay for our roads being macadamized, streams bridged, etc., and not put it off until some future day? If we vote the \$24,000 on our people to be spent each year on the roads, in ten years it would amount to \$240,000, and I dare say the result would be greater than to issue \$200,000 worth of bonds to be spent extravagantly in trying to fix our roads so quickly. Of course if the \$200,000 would macadamize the roads and bridge the streams of Stokes county, so that one horse could pull 2,500 pounds over them, then I would say vote your bonds and vote them quickly. But I do not believe it possible for that sum of money to fix our roads and grade them as level as those of Mecklenburg, Guilford and others of the leading counties of North Carolina.

Some people in this part of the county seem to think it a good idea to let each township have its own work done thereby getting the work more evenly distributed over the county, but I will not give my views on that method yet. I will say however that probably there is a good hypothesis advanced in that proposition.

CHAS. R. HELSABECK.

ABOUT CORN CULTURE.

The Farmer Need Not Expect Fine Yields Unless He Knows Something About the Habits Of the Corn Root.

The "soil" is that portion of the field actually occupied by the roots of plants. It may be five feet deep or it may be six inches or even less, depending mainly on the skill and intelligence of the farmer or the man who cultivates the field. The corn roots, if they have a chance, will occupy every inch to the depth of from three to five feet, and the yield of corn will depend on the completeness of this occupation. The feeding-ground, or, in other words, the corn-root pasture, depends mainly on the preparation and cultivation of the soil.

THE PASTURE OF THE CORN ROOTS.

It may be limited in many ways so that the farmer, instead of using from three to five feet of his field as soil, will use only a small portion of it. If the land is not properly drained, either naturally or artificially, the corn roots penetrate into the regions saturated with water, for the water shuts out the air. If hard-pan comes near the surface the corn roots cannot reach into that, and he may be cultivating but six, eight or ten inches of the field as soil. If the land be heavy and plowed wet, full of lumps on the surface or resting on the plow pan or bottom of the furrow, the corn roots cannot utilize these, and hence his soil is limited. If he has plowed under in a dry time coarse manure, so as to shut off the supply of water from below, the corn roots are again limited. It is, therefore, about as necessary for the farmer to understand corn roots and their habits and ways as it is for the surgeon to understand the anatomy of the system, where the bones lie, and where the arteries, veins, nerves and muscles are hidden under the skin.

The depth at which corn should be planted varies with the season and the soil. In a clay soil and a cold spring, and with plenty of moisture, it may be planted near the surface, but in a light soil it must be planted deeper, in order that it may have moisture and heat; and again, it may be planted too deep in any soil. Other things being equal, the deeper the plant can be established in the ground the better its chance for withstanding drought.

THE APPLICATION OF THESE FACTS.

What has all this to do with cultivating corn say in June? Much every way. The corn plant has no tap-root. The first roots start out from the seed grain and go down. After this the roots are sent out in whorls of from two to ten. As the plant advances toward maturity, these whorls rise closer to the surface. The first roots thrown out immediately above the primary roots run sideways and occupy ten or fifteen inches below the surface. These lateral roots throw out fibrous or feeding roots, which run in every direction through the soil and occupy every inch within a radius of from two to five feet.

In fact, if the ground is well prepared, plowed deep when there is no danger of cutting off the roots, the only thing the farmer need have in view during the latter period is the maintaining of that mulch of dry dirt of which we have so often spoken. The farmer who cultivates corn without any general knowledge of the habits of the corn roots is very much like the surgeon who would operate without knowing the location of the veins, arteries, nerves and muscles.—Dr. Henry Wallace, Editor Wallace's Farmer, Des Moines, Iowa.

Great Raid Made On Smithtown

TWENTY-SEVEN REVENUE OFFICERS DESTROY THIRTEEN STILLS AND CAPTURE TEN BLOCKADERS.

CHARGE MADE AT BREAK OF DAY

Officers Held Their Ground All Day, Though More Than 200 Shots Were Exchanged With The Moonshiners--Nobody Killed, But Several Hit--The Biggest Raid Ever Made In the State, Engaging Nearly the Whole Revenue Force of the State.

(At four o'clock last Wednesday morning a determined raid was made on Smithtown by twenty-seven United States Internal Revenue officers. The moonshiners were caught napping, and before they could rally thirteen blockade stills were destroyed and ten men captured.

(The prisoners, who are now in Dobson jail, under bonds of \$1,000 each) are as follows: Frank Carlwell, John Young, J. T. Griffin, J. D. Williams, John W. Williams, Oscar Williams, Zeb Frazier, Oscar Smith, Logan Chambers and J. G. Shelton.

The officers who took part in the raid were as follows: Revenue Agent J. H. Surber, in charge of the district; Revenue Agent H. B. Taylor, Deputy Collectors McCoy, Atkins, Dawning, Poole, Shepherd, Miller, Sisk, Harkins, Hendrix, Roberts, Albright, Norman; Deputy Marshals Wright and Carroll, and special officer King; besides ten others whose names could not be learned.

RAID BIGGEST EVER MADE IN THE STATE.

(The raid is considered one of the biggest ever made in the State, and in it were engaged almost the whole revenue force of North Carolina.)

It was reported here that there were 54 of the officers, but this has not been confirmed.

It was reported that the raid was led by two United States secret service detectives, who had been in the Smithtown neighborhood, working up the situation, for two weeks, but this is denied by Revenue Agent Surber, who in an interview says that the attack was planned and executed by the North Carolina officers alone.

The officers gathered at Mount Airy Tuesday night. Deputy Collector Norman, of Dobson, being familiar with the situation, was one of the leaders. The men had a long ride through the night, Smithtown being about 40 miles from Mt. Airy. They reached Smithtown about 4 o'clock Wednesday morning. They were armed with Winchester rifles, revolvers and the heavy axes used for destroying the coppers.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARRESTED, AND THE BIG BELL CAPTURED.

The stills were taken unawares, and many of them were arrested before they had opportunity to offer resistance. A number of women and children were placed under guard, to prevent them from spreading the alarm. It is said that a big bell is located in the center of Smithtown, which is rung by the moonshiners on the first approach of danger. This was put out of commission by the officers at the start.

The still houses captured were burned. A lively exchange of shots soon began between the officers and stillers, more than 200 guns being fired, but as far as can

be learned no one was killed, though several were reported hit. One stiller was reported shot through the ear. None of the officers were hurt.

OFFICERS HELD THEIR GROUND.

The officers stubbornly held their ground, and it was late in the afternoon when the thirteen stills had been captured, and ten men placed under arrest. Then the retreat began. The prisoners and the destroyed stills were carried to Mt. Airy in wagons. The prisoners were given a hearing before a U. S. Commissioner and in default of \$1,000 bonds each, were taken to Dobson jail where they will await trial at the next term of Federal Court at Greensboro.

John Young, one of the moonshiners arrested, being a cripple, was turned loose by the officers. Young then procured a gun and waylaid the officers, shooting into them once or twice, but none was hit. The officers returned Young's fire, one ball penetrating his ear. He was re-taken and sent off with the other prisoners. Young is well known to the Stokes authorities, having spent much time in jail at Danbury for retailing.

"SMITHTOWN."

"Smithtown" is a town only in name. It comprises a big territory covering some 5 or 6 miles square, and lies two or three miles north and west of Sandy Ridge and is about ten miles northeast of Danbury.

There has long been a refuge for much lawlessness, and it is generally reported that from 25 to 50 illicit stills do business day and night, and have been at it for a long time. The revenue authorities know of the existence of these stills, and have known it for a long time, but they have feared to make the attack, as the blockade of the Smithtown region are known to be desperate and dangerous characters. Recently their traffic has become to be so large and bold that the Washington authorities probably took cognizance of the notorious violation of law and ordered the State forces to make the raid which has so long been dreaded.

JUDGE BOYD'S RESOLVE.

Judge Boyd has said that he is going to break up the blockading business of the State, and it may be that this is but the beginning of the crusade that will end in the complete cleaning out of the still-infested region of Snow Creek township which has for forty years been known and dreaded by the revenue officers as the toughest spot in the State.

A FORTUNATE TEXAN.

Mr. E. W. Goodloe, of 107 St. Louis St., Dallas, Texas, says: "In the past year I have become acquainted with Dr. King's New Life Pills, and no laxative I ever before tried so effectually dispenses of malaria and biliousness." They don't grind nor gripe. 25c. at all druggists.