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SWEET POTATO INDUSTRY IN CATAWBA COUNTY

Some Interesting Facts in Regard to the Sweet Potato Crop Taken From the Southern Field.

The current issue of The Southern Field, a monthly publication of the Southern Railway, contains several photographs of farm and good road scenes near Hickory, and speaks in glowing terms of the sweet potato industry in Catawba County.

It says in part: "In that great section of the Southeast, traversed by the Southern Railway, one of the biggest 'money crops' is that of sweet potatoes. In the nine states, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky and Tennessee, three-fourths of the sweet potato crop in the United States is annually grown. In fact, these states supply the yam and practically all the sweets used in the country.

"The average yield per acre during last year was about 100 bushels per acre. This, of course, is for the entire country. But in the Southeastern states the yield often is as much as 200 bushels per acre, while one man in North Carolina cleared \$2,000 on ten acres, getting an unusually large yield as well as an unusually high price because of his method of curing and packing his crop.

"In some sections of the Southeast raisers' associations have been formed for the purpose of marketing the crops. A notable example is that of the Catawba County Sweet Potato Growers' Association with headquarters and offices located at Hickory, North Carolina. The county annually produces about 200,000 bushels of sweet potatoes. The association was organized during the past year and has a membership of about 75. At the meeting of the organization it was explained by experts that the Jersey variety could be grown in Catawba county, but that the yield would not be quite so large as that of the yam variety. It is probable that some farmers will plant Jerseys in the future. It is expected that the new association will market about 175,000 bushels during the year.

"It is the intention of this association to have the farmers grade and pack their own crops. Then the association will market them to the best advantage and after the cost of selling is subtracted return the profits to the farmers.

"The average yield in Catawba county is about 200 bushels to the acre. This is the highest average in the state, although in isolated cases the production has been much larger. The potatoes are marketed at various times during the winter months, the period extending from February to May. Little of the crop is sold before the cold weather starts. That part of the crop that is not marketable, the smaller tubers, is not sold but is fed to stock and makes an unusually nutritious food during cold months.

"Boston, Pittsburg and Cincinnati are the best of the Northern markets. The average price received is about \$2.25 per crate, or about 75 cents per bushel. The co-operative organization expects that the cost of marketing the crop under the new conditions will be about 10 cents per crate.

"Mr. W. J. Shuford, a member of this organization and one of the leading men of the community, thinks that the land in and about Hickory will produce nearly as many bushels of Jerseys as it will of other varieties. He thinks that a sweet potato canning plant might also be operated there with profit.

"Growers in this section estimate the cost of cultivation and harvesting at about 20 cents per bushel. The largest producer in this section is Jay Wilfong, who markets about 2,500 bushels per year. On account of the manner in which he cures and markets his product he gets the highest price for his crop. On his farm last year he had 10 acres in yams from which he cleared about \$2,000.

"Another large grower is J. L. Ingold who marketed about 2,600 bushels during the past year. Mr. Ingold's profits are large because he does all the work with the assistance of his family. His methods might be termed intensive. Mr. Ingold last year planted about 10 acres. On his farm he has a big curing house which has a capacity of about 3,000 bushels. In order to reduce the cost of marketing his crop, Mr. Ingold has installed

a small saw mill near his house where he cuts the lumber from which he makes the crates for his crop. With his sons he is able to market the crop almost without any hired labor.

"Other growers in this section are: Noah Propst, who raises about 1,000 bushels; H. P. Lutz, 1,000 bushels; Dutch Dairy Farm 1,000 bushels; Enloe Yoder, Cope Dietz, and Colon Yoder.

"Land on which such crops can be produced are valued at anywhere from \$25 an acre to \$150 an acre, the latter for highly improved places near town. Most of the land can be bought, however, at about \$50 per acre. It requires little mathematical calculation to show that it will require but a short time to pay for land that cost \$50 an acre when the land itself produces crops valued at probably \$100 a year. Here sweet potatoes is a crop which is always sure and unaffected to any great extent by droughts or any other climatic variations. And it is a fact that is verified by the bankers of Hickory and Newton that those farmers who engage in the cultivation of sweet potatoes have money in the bank and are prosperous tillers of the soil in the community."

Cutie's Clothes.

(Going the rounds of the Alaska Press.) Little maid, you look so small, Don't you wear no clothes at all? Don't you wear no shimmy skirt? Don't you wear no petti-skirt? Just your corset and your hose; Are them all your underclothes? Little girl, when on the street, You appear to be all feet. With your dress so very tight, You are sure an awful sight. Nothing on to keep you warm; Crazy just to show your form. Little girl, you won't live long, Just because you dress all wrong. Can't you wear more underclothes Than your corset and your hose? Pretty soon I do believe You will dress like Mother Eve!

Married.

At the home of Esq. J. P. Sides last Saturday evening at 5 o'clock, Mr. Madison Cline to Miss Bessie Isenhour, Esq. Sides was the officiating magistrate. We wish the young couple a long and happy life. They are making their home in Hickory.

In Burke County at the home of Esq. H. A. Adams, the officiating magistrate, last Sunday, Mr. Plato Young to Miss Fannie Rhoney, both of Catawba county. The ceremony was attended by a number of friends and relatives.

Store Changes Hands.

Mr. J. A. Dinglehoef of Statesville, has bought the Knox 5 & 10 Cent Store and took charge of the business Wednesday. Mr. Dinglehoef is an experienced business man and the business will no doubt continue to grow and flourish under his management. His wife is now in Greensboro for medical treatment and as soon as she is able will come to Lenoir with their child and they will make this place their home.—Lenoir News.

Postmaster Indicted.

Spencer, Nov. 21.—Postmaster Stonewall Smith at Porters, Stanley county, has been charged with rifling the mails and was on Thursday placed under a bond of \$500 for his appearance in Federal Court. The arrest was made by Inspectors Lemen and Hodgkin who have been working on the case. It is stated marked mail matter sent for the purpose of trapping the postmaster were found on his person.

Boy Accidentally Killed.

Salisbury, Nov. 21.—By the accidental discharge of a shotgun in the hands of Will McKinney a 13 year old white boy, a negro boy of the same age was killed at Jerusalem, Davie county, Thursday. The killing occurred in the home of Mr. George Hendrix and was witnessed by Mrs. Wood, who lived there. The parents of the McKinney boy are visiting in West Virginia and were notified of the accident.

Nervous and Sick Headache

Torpid liver, constipated bowels and disordered stomach are the cause of these headaches. Take Dr. King's New Life Pills, you will be surprised how quickly you will get relief. They stimulate the different organs to do their work properly. No better regulator for the bowels. Take 25c. and invest in a box to-day. At all druggists or by mail. H. E. Bucklen & Co. Philadelphia and St. Louis. adv.

A SURE PROHIBITION WANTED IN THE STATE

Superintendent Davis Says Next Fight Will be For This Purpose Before Legislature.

Daily News, 22nd.

That the next fight by the prohibition forces of North Carolina will be to prevent absolutely the shipment of liquor into the state, was a statement made last night by Superintendent R. L. Davis, of the Anti-Saloon league, who had just returned from attending the national convention at Columbus, Ohio. The purpose of Superintendent Davis, and his efforts, will be to this end: for the present time till the convening of the next legislature when the fight for absolute prohibition will be waged.

He is optimistic of the outcome, and believes that with a thorough organization of the prohibition forces of the state, and a careful moulding of public opinion the fight before the legislature will be decisive. Five counties of North Carolina already prohibit the shipment of whisky into them, and one township.

Superintendent Davis declared there was a great display of enthusiasm in the national convention, and that plans were set under way for securing national prohibition. A resolution was passed to this end, and on December 10th a meeting of 1,000 men appointed by the convention will be held at Washington. Twenty-five representatives from North Carolina will be present. Respects will be paid to President Wilson and Secretary Bryan, and a banquet will be held to which the representatives and senators who voted for the Webb bill will be invited.

Is Pleased With The Commission.

High Point, Nov. 20.—In an interview today, Mr. Fred N. Tate, President of the Just Freight Rate Association of North Carolina, stated that he was highly elated over the appointments made by Governor Craig, of the members of the Special Commission to sit on the Interstate Freight Rate Bill, and that in his opinion, better selections for membership on the Commission could not have been made. Mr. Tate's statement follows:

"With regard to the appointment made by Governor Craig of the Special Commission to pass on the justice rate bill, I desire to say in just a few words, that in my humble opinion, if the Governor had taken a whole year instead of a few days, in which to make his selections for membership on this most important commission, he could not have found three men better equipped for the duties to be performed, than the gentlemen appointed. They are all highly qualified and adequately endowed to perform the arduous task which confronts them by dealing intelligently and honestly with this great problem. I think these gentlemen are to be commended and that they are entitled to the thanks of the people for their willingness to serve the State in this capacity.

Caldwell Live Stock Show.

Much interest is now being centered in the live stock show for Caldwell county, to be held in Lenoir on Wednesday December 17. Chairman Ned Jones, of the committee, is arousing interest in every section of the county and it is expected now that the show will surpass the expectation even of the most sanguine. The schools of the county will be asked to give a holiday, in order that the teachers and pupils may attend the show. A big picnic dinner will be spread, and to the township taking off the largest number of prizes a banner will be given, and it will be known as the banner township of the county.

A Consumptive Cough

A cough that bothers you continually is one of the danger signals which warns of consumption. Dr. King's New Discovery stop the cough, loosen the chest, banish fever and let you sleep peacefully. The first dose checks the symptoms and gives prompt relief. Mrs. A. F. Mertz, of Glen Elder, Iowa, writes: "Dr. King's New Discovery cured a stubborn cough after six weeks' doctoring failed to help." Try it, as it will do the same for you. Best medicine for coughs, colds, throat and lung troubles. Money back if it fails. Price 50c. & \$1.00. All druggists, by mail, H. E. Bucklen & Co. Philadelphia or St. Louis. adv.

Honor Roll in the Hickory Schools For November.

NORTH SCHOOL.

First Grade—Mordecai Barker, Donald Cilley, Lee Duncan, Roy Duncan, Albert Kiser, Clyde McRee, Bruce Menzies, Locke Russell, Clement Seagle, Connelly Sechrist, Francis Thompson, Elizabeth Abernethy, Louise Boyd, Virginia Burns, Mary Dellinger, Louise Holder, Irene Huggins, Doris Keever, Louise Knox, Leah Miller, Frances Seaboch, Nancy Sherrill, Margaret Sigmon, Maureen Starnes, Mary Polk Wootten, Aileen Whitener.

Second Grade—Kearney Pearce, Charlie Lohr, George McRee, Joe Wells, Claude Deal, Robert Menzies, Wesley Starnes, Charles Getner, Richard Foard, Lonnie Foard, Inez Little, Mary Louise Cline, Helen Mitchell, Hilda Locke, Katherine Setzer, Elizabeth Wolff, Nita Mosteller.

Third Grade—Isa Morton, Ellen Stuart Menzies, Nina Frye, Mabel Miller, Kate McGalliard, Elizabeth Harris, Katherine Cline, Julia Mitchell, Roy Sublett, Harold Boatright, Robert Boatright, Arlege Boyd, Robert Sigmon, Lester Leonard, Virginia Clarke.

Fourth Grade—Thurston Kiser, Robert Shuford, Manly Whitener, Frank Sigmon, Frankie Burns, Eva Knox, Etta McRee.

Fifth Grade—Hazel Crouch, Annie Ford, Glenn Russell, Steadman Council, Mary Blount Martin, Edgar Thompson, Harvey Huggins, Grace Ramseur, Colon Clarke, Lois Fry, Dorothy Ivey, Kathleen Keever, Charlotte Garth.

Sixth Grade—Virginia White, Edward Clement, Clay Campbell, Donald Hutton, Jacob Getner, Mary McGalliard, Pamela Starnes.

Seventh Grade—Aileen Aiken, Ina Huffman, Alex Menzies, Jesse Patrick.

Ninth Grade—Jesse Rhodes.

SOUTH SCHOOL.

First Grade—Wright Williams, James Kerr, Ernest Thompson, Paul Miller, Myrtle Mosteller, Willie Etta Click, Nellie Harris, Mary Miller, Constance Chester, Margaret Hefner, Maggie Mae Sox, Ada Mae Groves, Elizabeth Hall.

Second Grade—Nancy Hall, Marguerite Pollard, Albert Odum, Blanche Harris, Grace Sigmon, Essie Pope.

Third Grade—Adelaide Chester, Ruth Setzer, Blanche Dietz.

Fourth Grade—Mary Louise Hill, Sherman Groves, De Witt Messick.

Fifth Grade—Blanche Burns, Katherine Fritz, Ruth Campbell.

Sixth Grade—Daphne Ruth, Gladys Hefner.

Seventh Grade—Mary Doll, Mildred Bowles, Norma Stevenson, Ethel Messick. Era Propst, Jack Davis, Gordon Messick.

VIRGINIA CITIES WILL FIGHT AGAINST NEW RATE

Would Give North Carolina Merchants Better Rates to the West—Hurts Virginia Jobbers' Business.

Washington, Nov. 23.—The "larger Virginia cities" fully alive to the fact that with the inauguration of the new proposed freight rates to North Carolina towns from the west millions of dollars of annual business will slip away from Virginia jobbers, and be handled directly through western merchants, propose to fight the new rates and postpone their effective date as long as possible.

Their objection is based mainly on the contention that the new rates destroy the whole present relationship of rates to southeastern states, and if North Carolina is granted lower rates, Virginia should also be favored.

"VIRGINIA CITIES."

The "larger Virginia cities," as they are known to the interstate commerce commission for purposes of rate building, are the cities of Richmond, Roanoke, Lynchburg, Petersburg and Norfolk. Through their attorneys in Washington they watched with interest the negotiations between the railroads, the North Carolina corporation commission, and the special session of the legislature which reached the agreement regarding a new set of rates, and then notified the commerce commission that whenever the proposed new rates were filed with the commission they wished to have a hearing. Following the filing of the new rates by the railroads and Commissioner Travis last Friday, the attorneys for the Virginia cities notified the commission that they proposed to object to the new rates and wished to be given a hearing before the rates were approved by the commission.

The commission has also been advised by shippers in states adjoining North Carolina who do a large annual business with merchants in North Carolina, because they can obtain more advantageous rates from the west than the Tar Heels, that they also intend to oppose the new rates.

The attorneys for the Virginia cities followed up their protest today by filing with the commission what is known as "a petition to be allowed to intervene." This petition contains 135 typewritten sheets and goes into the whole rate situation. It claims that to allow the new rates would change the whole relationship of tariffs to the southeast, affecting Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky and Georgia.

It urges that if the commission intends to grant the new rates to North Carolina it should withhold action until similar reductions are allowed to Virginia cities. It will take the commission some time to go into this question and even if the plea of the Virginia cities is finally denied it must entail considerable delay in the granting of approval to the railroads to put the North Carolina rates in effect.

Andrew Joyner is Given Fine Position.

Washington, Nov. 21.—Andrew Joyner, sr., the veteran newspaper man of Greensboro, has been offered a position paying \$3,000 a year with the Panama exposition at San Francisco. The place was offered to Mr. Joyner by his old friend, Thomas J. Pence.

CAN YOU DOUBT IT?

When the Proof Can Be So Easily Investigated.

When so many grateful citizens of Hickory testify to benefit derived from Doan's Kidney Pills, can you doubt the evidence? The proof is not far away—it is almost at your door. Read what a resident of Hickory says about Doan's Kidney Pills. Can you demand more convincing testimony? H. C. Sigmon, 820 Ninth Ave., Hickory, N. C., says: "I procured Doan's Kidney Pills at Moser & Lutz's Drug Store and used them for lame back and weak kidneys from which I had suffered. I got more relief than from any other preparation I had ever tried."

FOUR YEARS LATER.

When Mr. Sigmon was interviewed on March 6, 1912, he added: "All I said several years ago, recommending Doan's Kidney Pills, still holds good. They are reliable kidney remedy." For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's and take no other.

Granite Falls Items.

(Cor. of The Democrat.)

Granite Falls, Nov. 24.—The good roads campaign will close next Saturday evening with a rally in our city. A number of good speakers will be on hand to dispense some interesting data relative to the movement. With between four and five hundred voters registered, it is freely predicted that the bond issue will carry.

The Ladies Aid Society gave an oyster supper last Saturday night for the benefit of some personage indebtedness. Quite a nice sum was realized, besides having a good time.

Mr. C. A. Teague, who has been working at Azalea, was taken sick last week and came home to rest up a few days.

Dave White died suddenly last Thursday morning. A neighbor went to his home to get some bacon and while Mr. White was coming from the smokehouse with the bacon, he remarked to the neighbor that he felt blind and queer. Immediately he fell and expired in a few minutes.

Rev. Mr. Carver of the M. E. Churches of Granite Falls and Hudson is attending conference at Charlotte this week.

Messrs. Warlick & Sherrill are building an addition to their shop which will give them more room. They will install another large glue press.

Swindler Jailed in Greensboro.

Greensboro Daily New, 22nd.

Capt. C. M. Bowers, native Englishman and formerly of Statesville, was brought to this city Wednesday morning and lodged in the county jail to await trial on the charge of using the United States mails for fraudulent purposes. Bowers was brought to this city from New Orleans, La., where he was arrested, by United States Deputy Marshal E. M. Kinler.

It is alleged that Bowers, through a fake English estate scheme, swindled E. C. and Parks Deaton, of Statesville, and other Ireland people out of \$8,000, and thereby committing the offense against the postal laws. There had been a tradition in the Deaton family that one of their ancestors, a wealthy Englishman, had left a large amount of estate in England, which rightfully belonged to the heirs now living in this country. Bowers, it is said, knew of this tradition and, being an Englishman, made plans to commit the deed with which he is charged. Bowers claimed to know of the estate above mentioned and therefore the Deaton family fell an easy prey to his fake scheme.

Bowers went to England and left the impression that he was suing for this estate and that he was using high-priced lawyers. His scheme began about four years ago. When he made his last trip to England, about a year ago, he sent cable messages to the Deaton family concerning the suit, and finally sent a message that the suit had been successful. All during this time he had made calls for money, which was sent him, and which amounted in all to about \$8,000.

After his message stating that the case was successful Bowers became very quiet about the matter, and at this time the Deatons became suspicious, and finally Parks Deaton made a trip to England to investigate the matter. Deaton on this trip is said to have secured a large amount of evidence against Bowers, and upon his return he reported the matter to the government postal authorities, who found a bill of indictment for fraudulent use of the mail in a recent term of federal court held in Statesville.

It is also thought that Bowers was traced from England to Canada and from Canada to the western part of the United States, and that he was finally located and arrested in New Orleans.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh That Contain Mercury

As mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is tenfold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, contains no mercury and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, O., by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by druggists. Price 75c per bottle. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Cures Old Sores, Other Remedies Won't Cure. The worst case, no matter of how long standing, are cured by the wonderful, old reliable Dr. Foster's Antiseptic Healing Oil. It relieves Pain and Heals at the same time. 26c, 50c, \$1.00.

CITY MANAGER PLAN IS ENDORSED BY NATIONAL MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

Commission Government at Present Rules More Than 7,000,000 People In 300 Cities and Towns—Advantages of City Manager Plan Pointed Out by Committee.

Toronto, Canada.—The "City Manager Plan" of the municipal government was explained and heartily endorsed at the nineteenth annual meeting of the National Municipal League by the special committee appointed two and a half years ago at the Richmond meeting to study the problem of the commission government and its developments.

Commission government at present rules more than 7,000,000 persons in 300 cities and towns. The supporters of the plan are divided as to whether commissioners should be elected for specific posts, as in Lynn, Mass., or on a general ticket with power to divide the departments among themselves after election, as in Galveston and Des Moines. The majority of the committee, however, reported that neither solution was as sound as that offered by the plan of electing a commission purely representative and legislative in function, permitting the members to give only part time to municipal work and receive only nominal salaries or none and leave the chief executive work to a city manager hired by the commission from anywhere in the country and holding office at its pleasure. The manager appoints and controls the remaining city employees, subject to adequate civil service provisions.

The first city manager plan was embodied in a charter prepared for the city of Lockport, N. Y., in 1911. The proposition, however, failed to get the approval of the State legislature. The plan was first adopted by the legislature of South Carolina for the city of Sumter, and went into effect there on the first of the present year. Since then it has been adopted by Hickory and Morgantown, N. C.; Dayton and Springfield, Ohio; Lagrange, Ore.; Phoenix, Ariz., and Morris, Minn.

The advantages of the plan were pointed out by the committee in its report, as follows: "It creates a single-headed administrative establishment instead of the five separate administrative establishments seen in the Des Moines plan. This administrative unity makes for harmony between municipal departments since all are subject to a common head.

"The city manager plan permits expertness in administration at the point where it is the most valuable, namely, at the head. "It permits the chief executive to migrate from city to city, inasmuch as the city manager is not to be necessarily a resident of the city at the time of appointment, and thus an experienced man can be summoned at advanced salary from a similar post in another city.

"While giving a single-headed administration, it abolishes the one-man power seen in the old mayor-and-council plan. The manager has no independence and the city need not suffer from his personal whims or prejudices since he is subject to instant correction or even discharge by the commission. Likewise, in the commission, each member's individual whims or prejudices are safely submerged and averaged in the combined judgment of the whole commission, since no member exerts any authority in the municipal government save as one voting member of the commission.

"It abandons all attempts to choose administrators by popular election. This is desirable because— "It leaves the line of responsibility unmistakably clear, avoiding the confusion in the Des Moines plan between the responsibility of the individual commissioners and that of the commission as a whole.

"It provides basis for better discipline and harmony, inasmuch as the city manager cannot safely be at odds with the commission, as can the Des Moines commissioners in their capacity as department heads, or the mayor with the council in the mayor and council plan. "It is better for large cities than the Des Moines plan.

"In very small cities, by providing the services of one well-paid manager instead of five or three paid commissioners, it makes possible economy in salaries and overhead expenses. "It creates positions (membership in the commission) which should be attractive to first class citizens, since the service offers opportunities for high usefulness, without interruption of their private careers."

The committee on commission government making this consists of Richard S. Childs, secretary National Short Ballot Association, chairman; Professor Charles A. Beard, Columbia university; Professor William Bennett Munro, Harvard university; Clinton Rogers Woodruff, Philadelphia; Dr. Ernest S. Bradford, Washington, D. C., author of "Commission Government in American Cities."