

Devoted to the Upbuilding of Vass and Its Surrounding Country

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.00

VASS, N. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1921

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Jackson Springs

Either the correspondent or printer made a mistake in our last week's items in saying that the road between here and Eagle Springs was being repaired. A road is being built. The road branches off about a half mile from here from the clay road to McKeithen's bridge and follows about the same line of the old Flours road to Old Stores where it comes into the main road leading through Eagle Springs, Hemp, west end, and other places. This makes a nearer route to Eagle Springs, Hemp and other points north. This road is traveled lots, but the road beds are deep in places where there has not been a new road cut out to dodge the sand. We are glad the mistake was made for it reminds us that nearly all of our sand-clay roads need repairing. A few years ago our roads were kept up. As traffic has increased the work on roads has decreased. Our good roads are known all over the states. Unless more work is done by organizing the roads after rains, and the many bumpy places are filled we will be advertised as having rough roads.

Mrs. Julia McNeill Cameron and Miss Annie McFadgen spent the week-end in Raleigh.

There will be an old Fiddler's convention at the school auditorium on Friday night of this week. Old fiddlers and banjo pickers are invited to come and bring their instruments and enter the contests. Everybody is invited to attend. The proceeds are to go towards putting lights in the school auditorium and dormitory. Prizes will be given.

Mr. D. A. Blue spent Sunday with his people in the Eureka community.

"Farm Talk," the play presented by the faculty of our school before the holidays will be given at the school auditorium in Ellerbe Saturday night of this week. A number from here will go over to see this play again for it was enjoyed very much when it was given here.

Mr. Duncan Patterson of Hamlet, spent the week-end with home folks.

The Derby Memorial boys were defeated in a basket ball game by the Ellerbe High school boys by the score of 13 to 9 on Wednesday afternoon on the Ellerbe lawn. This game was not a bad one for the Derby boys for this is their second game and their second season playing, while Ellerbe has had more experience. This was the first trip from home for the Derby boys and

with one of their forwards out of the game they put up a hard fight.

North Carolina produces one-fourth of the nation's tobacco. In 1920 the farmers raised 58,000,000 more pounds of tobacco than in 1919 and have got \$53,000,000 less money for their crop than they did in 1919. We are glad the farmers of North Carolina are organizing for better marketing conditions, and the reduction of acreage to one-third. The farmers made the large 1920 crop at a great loss. Some of the farmers in this section have been carrying their tobacco to Winston-Salem markets. A glance at the season's record of the tobacco markets shows me that the Winston-Salem markets averaged only two cents more on the 100 pounds than the Carthage markets. If those carrying their tobacco to Winston-Salem are getting a better price for their tobacco or the Sand-Hill tobacco is superior to that in the old tobacco belt around Winston-Salem. The Carthage markets had a better average price than Wilson which again led in the sale of pounds of tobacco.

North Carolina dropped from fourth to sixth place in the value of farm products in 1920. But the state leads the world in the manufacture of whiskey according to Collector Bailey. The legislature may organize a state constabulary to supplement the forces of the federal prohibition agents. If some of the state's ex-football men were put in the revenue officers' places they would probably catch more blockaders.

On Saturday afternoon the interest of people was aroused by the appearance of five officers with arms in display and two white men, a still in a sack, gallon of whiskey, also had a hoe an axe. This was unusual for the still usually moved before the officers get to the spot, or the men at the still leave for the parts unknown. This was not the case with these men. One was a visitor at the still apparently and can boast of being one of Moore's tallest men with legs in proportion to his body, but his long legs did not move far before he fell in a faint from fright. The other men of Scotch descent was too hospitable to go far before he went back and took all the blame off his guest. Both men were given bond. They are farmers that any landlord can be proud of always making good crops. Each has a wife and several children.

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Vass Route One

Mr. J. A. McLeod is more fortunate than the average famer—he is gathering his first crop of corn for 1921.

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. McLean spent the week-end with Mrs. W. McC. Blue.

Mr. N. W. Wall, county agent for Moore county, spent one day last week in our community.

Mr. and Mrs. Dock McKenzie of Pinehurst, were at Mr. A. A. Ray's Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. McC. Blue spent Sunday with relatives near West End.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. McCaskill went to Jackson Springs one day last week.

Mrs. Cliff King, of Asheboro, is spending some time with her mother, Mrs. W. D. Ferguson.

Mr. Claude Ferguson who has taken a course in civil engineering at A. and E. college has come home to accept a position with Mr. Francis Deaton, chief engineer of the Knollwood project.

The Philothesmian society of the Farm Life School held its regular meeting Saturday night. All the members were present and a very interesting programme was rendered. The topic of discussion was "Southern Poets." A splendid sketch of the life and character of John Charles McNeill was given.

Tuesday, January 18, was the 82nd anniversary of Mr. N. C. Blue. Mr. Blue is a veteran of the Civil War, having served the entire period with Company B, 49th regiment, Ransom's Brigade. During his struggle with the "Yankee" he received only one slight wound. Mr. Blue's health record has been very unusual. Only a few slight illnesses have marked his path and at the present writing he is well and extremely capable considering his years.

There are two other old veterans in Eureka community beside Mr. Blue, these being Mr. Noah Deaton and Mr. A. A. Ray. Mr. Deaton served in Company H, 26 Regiment. He went through the four years fighting and was in some of the thickest battles. He was taken prisoner during "seige around Richmond" being in Bristol Station prison at the time of the surrender. Mr. Deaton is now 86 years old and has had good health all his life except for a few unavoidable falls. Age is beginning to take its toll now though, as he is getting right feeble.

Mr. A. A. Ray is 83 years of age. He served through the whole period and was appointed Lieutenant just before the chose. He was captured and held in prison at Elmira, New York, being there when the war closed. Part of the time, Mr. Ray served under Captain MacBlue. He has been a sturdy, jovial, old gentleman, and until last week, was never sick in bed. He is thought to be convalescing now and the attending physician holds out good hopes.

Build Terraces Right

Land that has a fall of 3 to 15 feet in 100 feet should be terraced. In most cases where the land has a fall of more than 15 feet it should be converted into pasture land and sodded to a permanent grass.

The general terraces will run usually from 3 to 6 feet and this will give a distance of 40 to 100 feet between terraces. The most fall ever allowed is about 6 inches to 100 running feet of the terrace. The upper end should be flatter, or a less fall and the outlet allowed a few inches more. There may be a few exceptions but this will guide as a general rule.

A broad terrace should be built about 18 feet wide. The top of the terrace should be from 15 inches to 2 feet high, depending upon the grade of land. After the terrace has been laid out, a two-horse plow should back furrow this line for at least 8 feet wide, throwing soil as high as possible in center. Then each additional furrow of plow should be followed with a Martin Ditcher or V shape drag, throwing dirt to center. This should be followed until approximately 18 feet has been taken. The weak places should be strengthened and after the first big rain the terrace should be thrown up again in the same way. If terraces are built in this way and maintained the water should flow off gently in a wide shallow sheet leaving soil behind. After the first year the average terrace can be cultivated the same as any other land in the field. Two men with two horses, plow and ditcher can build from one-fourth to a thir of a mile of terrace a day.

M. W. WALL,
County Agent.

Mrs. Alton M. Cameron and little daughter are on a visit to her father, Dr. J. F. McKay, of Buies Creek, N. C.

Mr. Neill McLean was a visitor in Raleigh Thursday on very particular business.