

THE WEEKLY PILOT

Published every Friday morning
by the Pilot Printing Company.

STACY BREWER, Manager

Entered at the Postoffice at Vass,
N. C., as second-class mail matter

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1922.

COWS, SOWS AND HENS

The cotton co-operative movement is putting forth many arguments in behalf of more prosperity for the cotton man, and one of the things proposed is more cows, more sows, and more hens on every farm. The farms of this state are working far too much to raise or to buy feed for mules, and too little to make things for the family to eat and use.

A mule is a necessity to furnish power for the farm, but unless more can be realized from the mule than a little cotton and not enough corn for its own feed farming is a delusion. The first thing every farm should have in sufficient abundance is chickens, and good chickens at that. Eggs and poultry will go a long way to supply the farm table. With plenty of poultry the cotton crop will not need to pay for so much food at the store.

With two or three pigs to kill in the winter another big item of expense is cut down, and less cotton will be needed for that, and with a cow or two to make milk and butter another big item of table cost is cut out. With any reasonable amount of meat, milk, butter, eggs and poultry the farm has small need to buy so great a proportion of its stuff for the table, and that means less effort and energy devoted to cotton. The table that is provided by things grown on the farm is much better served than the one that brings its rations from the store.

North Carolina does not use enough milk and butter and poultry products to be healthy and thrifty. No matter how much we may boast of our diet and our cooking the red cheeks of the young folks up in the dairy section of Minnesota and Wisconsin show the decided difference between health of young folks in a country where milk and butter enter largely into the daily food. Red cheeks from the milk bucket are a different type than those from the drug store, and they are just as easy to get, and much more attractive. A pocket book in the dairy section is also plumper and more healthful. More cows, more sows and more hens would make North Carolina a land of more and more health, and better home life, and these latter are worth more than money.

OUR CURIOUS WINTER

One of the boasts of this part of the country is its days of sunshine during the year. Last year the days of sunshine were far too many and winter came with a great deficiency of moisture in the ground. Sunshine is valuable only comparatively,

for rain does not fall on sunshiny days. Last year the sunshine was so extended that the rainfall was only two-thirds of what it should have been. We went into the winter with the ground dry, the wells and springs exhausted, and prudent men were apprehensive as to what might be the fate of the farms this year if no surplus of rain should fall. Since the first of January the sunshiny days have been fewer in number than has ever been recorded in North Carolina. But even at that, and with a rainfall that is far in excess of normal for the two months, the ground is still not saturated to the point it should be to assure a sufficient supply for the spring and summer. We are about twelve or fourteen inches behind the rainfall we should have in the last twelve months, and while the ground is filled for a short distance downward from the surface it is still dry below, for the wells are not yet flowing as they should be.

Human influence has nothing to do with the rainfall and the sunshine, which is just as well, for no doubt some of us would all the time be butting into the weather arrangements if we could. As it is we take what comes, kick as much as we feel disposed and then put up with what we get. But in spite of the fondness most of us have for sunshine, if we had not been given the rainfall we have had since the beginning of the year we would probably sing a different song before the middle of summer, and even as it is there is no surplus of moisture in the ground yet for a confident feeling as regards the crops.

EARNING HIS WAGES

Last week Frank Page, acting for the state, bought one of the largest consignments of cement ever shipped into North Carolina. He bought it direct from the manufacturers, and in doing it he was beset by the cement agencies to allow them to supply cement and get a seller's commission. Frank Page said no. He buys the cement from the factory, and because he buys in greater quantities than many of the selling agencies do he can buy at the bottom price. He secures for the state the benefit of his low prices, and probably he will make for the state more money in the purchase of cement than he gets in his salary.

But that is not exactly the point. Mr. Page is holding in view the single aim of getting the most mileage of good roads for the least cost to the people. He is not jobbing out contracts to provide profits to men who can offer no useful service to the work. And anybody who knows Frank Page realizes that there is no room in his department for any man who wants something that he does not give the state value for. It is a little odd that business men should undertake to get him to consent to any step that would absorb to an intermediary any part of the cost of building roads unless the service given is worth the

amount of money paid. Mr. Page can buy the cement at the factory as low as anybody else can, for his department is one of the biggest buyers now in the market. That he should permit some one else than himself to act as buyer of the material, giving a profit to the buyer is hard to conceive. The goods the state highway department buys will be bought with the one purpose in mind and that is to serve the people of the state as a whole.

Moore county folks are not surprised at the result of the interview with Mr. Page by the cement selling agencies. He would fool the folks down here at home if he had done anything else than just as he did.

THE WOODPILE AS A CROP

The people of Moore county are gradually approaching a condition that wisdom would suggest we look at rather carefully before it overtakes us, and that is a failing wood supply. Fifteen years ago a carload of coal in Moore county was something of a novelty. Today the wood supply has been so drawn against that coal is a common fuel, and wood has gone so high in price that coal mined so far away that nearly two-thirds of the cost of the coal here is freight is supplanting the wood. That is another mistake we are making in Moore county, for we are letting go of our money for fuel when we should be making our fuel in the county and keeping the money at home for something not so easy to produce.

At Southern Pines wood is selling for five to seven dollars a cord, and coal is up around ten dollars a ton. Wood at two or three dollars used to be regarded as high, although it was too low

for the man who sold it to profit any by its sale. But wood at five or six dollars is not so bad, and it is a good staple to have at hand, for fuel is one of the necessities. Wood can be sold in this country in the future as long as it can be produced. It can be produced indefinitely if those who own land will take some care of the wood crop. In the past we have given little heed to the wood that is to be the supply for the days that are ahead. We have had such abundance that we have been content to cut what we need for the present and let the future take care of itself. We have about reached the end of that course, for we have picked out the abundant part of the crop and neglected to provide for a reforest station, and unless we begin right away to figure for the future wood is going higher, and we will depend for our fires on West Virginia mines.

The wood lot is a valuable asset of every farm, and if it is given a little care so that the young trees that may be coming on are made to do the best they can the wood crop will continue to meet the supply, and at far more satisfactory prices than that received for what we have let go. Growing towns in the county are going to need more fuel. A system of farm forestry that will make a wood crop that can turn off a few cords a year for sale will help supplement the other crops, and with boll weevil ahead it is possible that proper diversification may include a wood crop as well as any other sort of substitute.

Every farm can study this a little, for the day is past when wood has to be sold for a song. Wood in the towns is now one of the vital questions, and it will be more so every year.

CAROLINA THEATRE PINEHURST No. Carolina

PICTURES EVERY NIGHT

MONDAYS at 8:15 P. M.

TUESDAYS at 8:30 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS at 8:15 P. M.

THURSDAYS at 8:30 P. M.

FRIDAYS at 8:15 P. M.

SATURDAYS at 8:30 P. M.

MONDAYS :: WEDNESDAYS :: FRIDAYS

Reserved Seats

TUESDAYS :: THURSDAYS :: SATURDAYS

General Admission. Popular Prices

:-: MATINEE :-:

Every MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY at 3:00 p. m.

On account of the necessity of discontinuing the management of the Princess Theatre at Southern Pines, the TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY pictures will be transferred to Pinehurst.

CHAS. W. PICQUET.

PERSONALS AND B

Mr. Geo. P. Thompson ret
Yemassee, S. C., Tuesday.

Miss Edith Cameron was
ford Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. P. T
spent Monday in Sanford.

Mr. J. R. Thomas, of Raleigh
been at home for a while.

Mr. N. A. McMillan spent
day in Sanford.

Mr. C. L. Tyson passed Su
home.

Mr. Donald J. Blue, cour
supervisor, was in Vass Mon

Mr. Byrd, of Virginia, is
section master for the S. A.

Messrs. W. B. Graham an
Brewer went to Cheraw Mor

Mr. Leland Person, of C
spent a few hours in Vass

Miss Pearle McNeill, of L
was in town Tuesday.

Mr. Richard Griffin came ho
Hamlet for the day Wedne

Mr. Poe, of Durham, was t
of friends here Sunday.

Mr. J. T. Bynum, of Hop
visited his mother, Mrs. M. A.
recently.

Mr. R. L. Oldham has
from Chatham county where
a while with relatives.

Mr. Marion W. Wall, our
county agent, was in Vass
day for a few hours.

Mrs. John Caviness, of L
spent Wednesday with her at
J. H. Oldham.

Mr. and Mrs. N. N. McLe
rented rooms from Mr. J. H.
and moved there this week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hem
Rogers City, Mich., are stop
the Hotel Vass.

Mr. L. F. Hartsell, of
passed a short while in Vass
day.

Mrs. T. C. Gaddy has ret
her home in Cameron after a
her daughter, Mrs. Alcy Th

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Matthe
G. B. Laubscher and Mr. Cla
thews visited Miss Vivian M
at the C. C. Hospital Sund

Mr. T. C. Bynum of Hop
and Mr. Frank Bynum of Da
S. C., visited their grandmot
M. A. Bynum, recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cashion
nelius, were the week-end g
Mrs. Cashion's parents, Mr.
J. R. Thomas.

Mr. H. P. Kelly, of Wenc
a visitor in Vass Sunday. M
is now publisher of the G
Farmer.

Miss Hattie Smith, of Raef
in town Sunday on her ret
a short visit to her mother,
A. Smith.

On account of the illness
J. W. Bradley, the M. E.
which was to have been h
week has been postponed un
13th.

Miss Vivian Byrd, of A
arrived last Friday to spend
with friends and relatives.
Byrd is the house guest of
Mrs. G. W. Griffin.

Mr. Sowell, road master f
A. L., was in Vass yesterda
nection with the plan mapp
the community club for be
the right of way of the r
said that the railroad will a
way to improve the present c

The University News I
Feb. 22, gives a table of the
in illiteracy of males 21 y
and over, in the different co
N. C., in which Moore coun