

## GROWING PECAN TREES FOR PROFIT

**In the South Should be Largely Increased---Roanoke Lowlands Will Produce Fine Nuts---Fortunes in the Nuts if Properly Cultivated.**

The pecan tree is not a native of North Carolina, though, like many other introduced species, it shows itself to be very much at home in the eastern part of our State. It is a native of the Southern Mississippi Valley; just across the Blue Ridge Mountains from us. In geographical distribution the pecan seems to thrive wherever cotton does. More recent observation and experience show that the pecan is more hardy than cotton and thrives considerably north of what is commonly considered the cotton country. The pecan is found growing wild in Iowa and Illinois, and recent reports have been made of large trees found growing along the Wabash River as north as Vincennes, Indiana. Last year, at the meeting of the National Nut Growers' Association, a fine collection of native nuts was exhibited from this region. In Virginia pecan trees are found growing all over the coastal region. Many large trees are to be seen that give evidence of having been there close to a century. In Virginia two seedling trees have been found of such exceptional merit that they are being extensively propagated as named varieties. These are the varieties Mantura and Appomattox. With such northern-grown varieties it is probable that the northern limit of pecan production will be greatly extended. On the Eastern Shore of Maryland many pecan trees are found growing which have been produced from planted nuts. Some of these are of enormous size and produce small though well-formed nuts. The southern limit of the geographical distribution of the pecan tree is not definitely fixed, though it is known to extend into Mexico. In Texas the pecan grows wild in great profusion, especially along the river bottoms of the numerous water courses flowing into the Gulf of Mexico. It is in this region that the great bulk of commercial pecans are produced. In the deep alluvial soils of Louisiana the pecan grows wild in the forest and is one of the largest and finest timber trees. From the Mississippi Valley trees and nuts have been carried to the east and the pecan has become naturalized throughout Georgia, Florida, Alabama and the Carolinas.

Besides the home plantings of pecans for shade and family uses there are excellent opportunities in the South of enhancing farm values by the utilization of much waste land that is now producing nothing but 'possum' persimmons, sassafras and briars. Such plantings would not even encroach on land now used in other crops. There is more or less of such waste land on every Southern farm that could be profitably cultivated in pecan trees. Some of the richest and most productive lands in the South are those lying within the overflow regions of rivers. There is a great deal of such land in Eastern North Carolina that is periodically enriched with a layer of alluvial mud. These lands could produce the finest crops of corn and cotton, but the rivers so often claim the crop that their cultivation has been abandoned. Such lands would raise the finest pecan orchards, for they are benefited rather than injured by the overflow. There are thousands of acres of such lands in Eastern North Carolina, now worth nothing, that if planted in budded pecan trees

would soon become the most valuable lands in the State.

A pecan orchard under proper conditions and given good care is a safe and profitable investment. It is one of an enduring nature that can be handed down from father to son. It yields a product for which there is an unlimited demand with no prospect of an over-production. Nut growing is a pleasant as well as a profitable business. It gives large returns from a small investment of money and patience. It gives a product of large value in small bulk. The yield of a pecan orchard needs no expensive harvesting, fancy packages or cold storage.

The alluvial lands along the Roanoke River are adapted to the cultivation of pecans, as the yearly overflow enriches and the soil furnishes sufficient moisture. At 60 feet apart it would require but 12 trees per acre. Paying as high as \$2.00 per tree the cost would scarcely exceed the cost of setting an orchard of peaches or apples.

### A TURKEYLESS THANKSGIVING

#### The Story of three Birds That Were Three Times Won and Lost.

When the railroad builders invaded the great northwest, not seeking a passage to the Pacific coast, but rather anticipating the development of an agricultural empire, which must have arteries of steel, they were quickly followed by the same class of hardy settlers that had moved westward since the early days. Through the generations that movement has proceeded slowly at first, but ever increasing in speed and volume. Over the Alleghenies, among the woodland and meadow stretches of Ohio and Indiana, across the prairies of Illinois and Iowa, through Wisconsin and Minnesota forests to the valleys of Dakotas and on to Puget Sound. The descendants of New Englanders have always been noticeable in the advancing tide of home makers and fortunebuilders along these parallels of latitude.

Thanksgiving day as an annual November celebration marked by family reunions and feasting is one of the good things that have persisted among transplanted New England customs. It is now a national event, most generally honored. And the distinguishing feature of this feast day is the tragedy of the royal fowl, the turkey. A Thanksgiving day without turkey is a church service without lesson, music or benediction. There are makeshift collations, of course, that pass for dinners with those not to the manor born, but the sons of the sons of New England realize their hollowness. Not one of these but would rather go through trials by fire and water rather than endure the absence of that glorious head-piece from the Thanksgiving board.

In the first years of the 80's two great rival railroad companies were hastening to secure for themselves in eastern Dakota the rich fields of a traffic yet to come into being. Both had entered the wonderfully fertile James river valley from the east, and as one turned its line northward from Huron the other turned southward from Aberdeen, and the near approach of winter and the close of active operations found the two competing construction camps only a few miles apart. With the advance of the railroads or a little preceding them had come settlers upon the government domain, and though farmers and wheat raisers were in the van, such nomadic and adventurous spirits as land agents and townsite boomers, traders and newspaper men could be discovered even more easily. Early in November work upon the railroad lines halted, and the builders retired to await the opening of

## ROBERSONVILLE NEWS ITEMS

**Local Happenings and People who are Coming and Going Here, There and Yonder, as Gathered by Our Regular Correspondent**

MISS NINA ROBERSON

A. R. Dunning was in town Monday.

Mrs. W. H. Everett was in town Sunday.

Mr. E. Bodenheimer is visiting in town.

Frank Cobb, of Bethel, was in town Sunday.

Linwood Perkins spent Wednesday in Everetts.

J. W. Perkins returned from Roxboro Monday.

Miss Clyde Tripp is the guest of Miss Lena Parker.

W. A. James, of Williamston, was in town Friday.

L. S. Thompson, of Richmond, was in town Sunday.

P. D. Jones, of Rocky Mount, was in town Sunday.

Joe Eddie Harper, of Parmele, was in town Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Barnhill spent Sunday in town.

Miss Louise Rives is visiting relatives in Williamston.

L. T. Roberson, of Ayden, spent Sunday with his family.

Miss Lida Bullock, of Suffolk, is visiting relatives in town.

J. C. Andrews and son, Jasper, went to Norfolk Thursday.

Messrs. Laura and Willie Manning were in town Sunday.

Mrs. M. J. Ward left Wednesday for her home in Wilson.

Mrs. Henry Norman is spending some time in Roanoke Rapids.

Mrs. Everett is spending some time with Mrs. J. G. Barnhill.

Mrs. R. J. Nelson and little son, Robert, spent Monday in Bethel.

Rev. Mr. Howard filled his regular appointment here Sunday.

spring. At the terminus of each road a little settlement had sprung up, less than half dozen structures marking the site of what was hoped to be and already was heralded as the metropolis of the valley.

Upon such a situation steadily but surely crept the Thursday which the president of the United States had chosen as the annual day of thanksgiving and at the distance of only one short week the fact suddenly dawned upon the clustered intelligence of these two Dakota towns that there was not a turkey in the great Jim valley north of Sioux Falls, and that eighty miles of wind swept prairies lay between a more hopeful field of possible supply at Watertown, near the Minnesota boundary. There is material for a volume of adventure in the account of the two rival expeditions dispatched simultaneously yet with all secrecy on a journey of 160 miles for fowls to furnish forth a Thanksgiving dinner, but this story must omit the details. One party returned hilariously successful with the three turkeys that eloquence, strategy and money combined were able to procure in Watertown; the other, bowcast, dejected and pessimistic, came back empty handed.

To emphasize their victory the successful town announced a prize turkey shoot at which all but Redfield marksmen were barred, a turkey dinner at the hotel, and a grand ball in the railroad warehouse. This was calculated to make its rival, Aston, either swell with rage to bursting or wither away in self abasement and despair.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Everett spent Sunday with Mrs. J. A. Rors.

Thomas Roberson, of Hamilton, spent Sunday here with his parents.

R. B. Brown and family, of Washington, were in town Sunday.

B. T. Cowper, of Williamston spent several days in town last week.

Messrs. Harvey Roberson and Jim Taylor spent Sunday in Gold Point.

Messrs. Tom Andrews and Marvin Blount, of Bethel, were in town Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lector Mayo, of Bethel, were the guest of Mrs. J. A. Cotfield.

Miss Ora Taylor spent Sunday in town the guest of Mrs. A. S. Roberson.

Misses Nina Roberson and Isabella Morton made a flying trip to Bethel Wednesday.

Messrs. Wainwright and J. D. Harper, of Parmele, were in town Friday night.

Frank Hargrove, of Tarboro, spent a few days here last week on a hunting trip.

Linwood Moore, of Everetts, spent a few days in town last week visiting relatives.

J. T. Barnhill and J. D. Everett went to Norfolk Thursday and returned Saturday.

Mrs. D. R. Chandler and son, Wilmer, are visiting relatives in Roanoke Rapids this week.

Little Miss Margaret Roberson spent several days last week in the country with her grandmother.

Misses Bessie and Faye Beverly spent Sunday in town the guests of the Misses Bland and Nina Roberson.

The Pilgrims and The First Thanksgiving Day

By Daisy Manning

Many good people in England wished to worship God in their own way, but King James wanted them to be members of the Church of England. They said if they could not worship as they pleased in their own land, they would go to some other country. They did not wish to bring up their children where religious freedom could not be enjoyed. So they determined to go to Holland.

Fearing the King's officers, they made all their plans secretly. They placed on board the ship everything most needed and were ready to sail, when the officers boarded the ship. The master of the ship had betrayed them, and gave up to the officers, who searched all the goods to see if any money could be found. The officers placed them in prison where they remained a month. After being released they made other plans for leaving.

A Dutch vessel was secured and anchored between Hull and Grimsby for fear of the English officers. The first boat load had been taken from the shore, when a mob armed with guns and sticks attacked the Puritans, beating and driving them from place to place. The Dutch master of the ship becoming frightened, went away with the one boat load, leaving the others to get out of trouble as best they could. The men on the ship had left their wives and children, but the master would not stop, so took them on to Holland. Those left behind had no shelter, and there were no jails for them to seek food in. But after awhile the people began to respect them, and in 1607, they were permitted to leave for Holland.

There they lived for twelve years, and in 1620 secured two ships, the Mayflower and Speedwell, and prepared for a voyage to America. The Speedwell was deemed unseaworthy and no September 6th, the Mayflower started alone. They were on the ocean sixty-five days in a ship we would be afraid to trust three miles from shore. During the voyage one little boy was born and named Peregrine, and one person died, so there were one hundred and two persons to reach Cape Cod Bay and land on Plymouth Rock on Monday, December 21st, 1620. When they landed upon the shore, they knelt down and blessed God. Seven log houses were built at first and all the Pilgrims lived in these houses. The Indians treated them kindly.

During that winter many of them sickened and died. At one time food was so scarce that they had only five grains of corn for each person per day. Think how hungry those twenty-eight little children must have been! But a kind Indian named Squanto showed them how to plant corn, and when summer came, their crop grew and everything was plentiful once more with the Pilgrims.

They determined to have a great rejoicing and give thanks to God for keeping them alive through trials and temptations. They invited their Indian neighbors to attend the great feast. The Pilgrims killed turkeys and other wild game, and the Indians brought venison, corn bread, cranberries and also pop-corn. They had pumpkin pies, beans, wild grapes and nuts which grew in the forest. For three days they feasted, and it was in this way that they began the celebration of Thanksgiving Day.

When a cold becomes settled in the system it will take several days' treatment to cure it, and the best remedy to use is Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It will cure quicker than any other, and also leaves the system in a natural and healthy condition. Sold by Saunders & Fowden and all dealers.

Try them. 25c. at All Druggists.

## UNIVERSITY MEN AT BANQUET

**Happy Evening for Alumni and Their Guests--S. Justus Everett Toast Master--Every one True to His Alma Mater and Her Best Interests.**

(Reported)

The Williamston Alumni Association of the University gave its annual banquet on Thursday evening at the Atlantic Hotel from nine to twelve o'clock. University men lead in whatever they undertake, and in planning this banquet they showed the remarkable training for activity along any line, which they had received at their alma mater, and the occasion marks one of the most brilliant and high-toned functions that has ever been held in Williamston.

The remarkable flow of sparkling wit, the interesting reminiscences of college days, the courageous spirit with which each man looked into the future, and the strong feeling of comradeship which existed, showed that each man was in truth a University man, and that he had the interests of the institution at heart.

A very pleasing feature, and one which was out of the ordinary for college affairs, was the presence of the ladies who represented the cream of Williamston's society, and the flower of the womanhood of the State. Each alumnus was allowed to bring a lady, and some came with their wives, some with their sweethearts, and some with their sisters. The presence of the ladies added a distinctive charm, and hereafter they will be invited to be present at the alumni banquets in Williamston.

Mr. S. Justus Everett, chairman of the committee for the banquet, and the only man present who had won one of North Carolina's most precious gems, acted as Toast Master. Mr. Everett presided most graciously, and he asked the gentlemen to speak on the following subjects: Rev. W. J. Gordon spoke on "The Greater University, its Past and Present." Mr. Z. H. Rose, on "The Relationship of the Literary Societies to the University." Mr. Harry A. Biggs on "The Social Life at the University," dealing with and defending fraternities, Dr. Joseph H. Saunders spoke on "The personal influence the University had on its Students," Mr. J. Paul Simpson on "An interesting Event in his College Career," which dealt with his first night on the "Hill," Mr. Charles Hassell gave a sketch on "University Life." Misses Mary Hassell and Nannie Smith, for the ladies spoke on the "pleasure and pride of being Daughters of the University."

During the evening while the sumptuous menu was being served, an Italian orchestra discoursed music which lifted one out of the every day world, and made him feel that he was indeed in a higher and purer atmosphere. While seated at the table the entire party sang many familiar songs, and many of the University songs.

The following were present: Mrs. S. Justus Everett, Misses Nannie Smith, Carrie Biggs, Elizabeth Gordon, Mary Hassell, Nora Fowden and Messrs. S. Justus Everett, J. Paul Simpson, Z. H. Rose, Harry A. Biggs, Charles Hassell, Dr. Joseph H. Saunders and Rev. W. J. Gordon.

### Young Girls Are Victims

of headache, as well as older women, but all get quick relief and prompt cure from Dr. King's New Life Pills, the world's best remedy for sick and nervous headaches. They make pure blood, and strong nerves and build up your health. Try them. 25c. at All Druggists.