

County Correspondence

Farm Federation News and Reviews

By P. C. Squires

Saturday morning was cold, with threatening weather indications but County Agent J. R. Sams who never forgets an appointment nor stops at the weather was on hand promptly to take us to Saluda where a lettuce planting demonstration was held.

The writer has made many trips thru the famous Berkshire hills of Massachusetts and the White mountains of New Hampshire but there is no mountain scenery in New England in his estimation that will approach in scenic beauty the mountains of North Carolina when clothed in their gorgeous autumnal foliage, and there are few more delightful motor trips than the river road to Saluda.

It is a pleasure to conduct a demonstration when those around us are interested, and it was more than a passing interest that led the farmers who were present to give their close attention as the commercial lettuce bed was prepared and planted in Saluda. In some sections of the county the lettuce crop and its cultivation has been held up as of trifling importance, and some details as practiced by us which we consider of the greatest importance have been looked upon as trifles.

Michael Angelo was a great sculptor, and also something of a philosopher, if he has been correctly quoted in the following lines, "Trifles make perfection, but perfection in no trifle." That which is worth doing at all, is worth doing well and details which may seem as trifles often prove of inestimable value.

California is the biggest state in the Union considered from the standpoint of big acreages of fruits and vegetables and big movements of these commodities across the continent. Southern California is now making preparations to handle the greatest orange crop in the history. The latest estimate is 70,000 to 75,000 car loads and every car load will be sold thru co-operative associations. The Iceberg lettuce crop grown in the famous Imperial Valley required 7,000 refrigerator cars to move it to the eastern markets, and this also was sold co-operatively. The first fruit auction bidding by wire in the four markets from coast to coast ever seen, opened initial sale last Monday at Los Angeles. The time required averaged two minutes per car, yet every buyer in the city, Boston, New York, Pittsburg and Chicago, had ample time before the telegraph instrument clicked the warning, "last call", which was instantly announced to the audience in each city by the operator, a moments rest, then came the sharp "sold", with price and name of city, which in turn, was quickly posted on the big blackboard. Every car sold was rolling east for diversion at the time the bidding was going on. Included in the sale was a number of cars of Idaho Iceberg lettuce. They do big things in California.

CELERY

We have seen bottom land in various parts of the county which we are confident would, with proper manuring and treatment, produce the finest grade of celery.

Just outside the corporate limits of Tryon is soil which with the unusual facilities the location offers for irrigation from the mountains, would delight the heart of Kalamazoo celery grower. Such land could be made to produce easily one thousand dollars worth of celery per acre. Not in 1924, however, has a preparatory crop would have to be planted this fall and a legume in the spring, to be plowed under next fall, followed by a liberal top dressing of precipitated lime.

Come to the Federation Warehouse and get as much unbleached cotton as you will need to cover your lettuce bed. Better have it sewed together and fitted to your bed so as to have it ready in case of severe weather.

SOIL TEST

We have often of late been asked the question "How much lime should be applied to the acre?" This depends upon the nature of the soil and how deficient in lime. Heavy clay acid soils should have from one and one-half to two tons per acre; while one ton per acre on light soil would be a very good application. The More-Crop precipitated lime which is being used extensively in this county at the present time, can be used freely as it will not injure vegetation or harm the soil.

We have used lime with good results in the eastern counties of the state, but have seen marvelous re-

sults from the use of the precipitated lime on the soils of Polk County. While this form of lime may be used any time, we have found it more profitable to spread on the land in the fall of the year.

If you want to find out if your soil is sour get a slip of blue litmus paper from the drug store. Then take a good handful of the soil to be tested, from a depth of three or four inches and moisten if necessary, and then work into a ball by rolling it in the hands. Split it open with a knife, lay the blue litmus paper in the cut, press the two sides back together for five to ten minutes. If the blue litmus remains blue, the soil is not sour; if it turns red, it is sour.

Polk County Agent J. R. Sams Department

TO THE POLK COUNTY FARMERS AND TRUCKERS

We are in the heart of a campaign to grow head lettuce in Polk County as a cash crop. We believe it can be grown at a profit; if truckers and farmers will follow instructions.

Mr. P. C. Squires, at the Farmers Federation Warehouse, Tryon is there for that purpose. He has on hand now the proper seed to be sown and will give full instruction relative to preparing and sowing plant beds. These plant beds should be prepared and sown at once so the plants will be ready for transplanting at the proper time which will be next February or March. This crop requires rich land.

Old garden land that has been used as such for years will make good lettuce.

I have a bulletin by Mr. A. F. Vass, Experiment Station, University of Wyoming on production of head lettuce, which is recognized as one of the best papers ever written on this crop. He gives the price of N. C. head lettuce for 1918 at \$2.04 per hamper 1919, \$2.62; 1920, \$2.74; 1921, \$2.61; and 1922, \$2.50. Colorado lettuce runs the same years at practically the same price, while California lettuce runs considerably below for the same years according to this bulletin. This bulletin is published by Wyoming experiment station, written by A. F. Vass, Designated as circular No. 19. Clear Water Wyoming. Any farmer may have a copy by making application.

Now in conclusion let me appeal to the loyalty of every stockholder of the Farmers Federation in particular and to every farmer generally to try the growing of Iceberg head lettuce this next year. Let those who have had experience in growing truck, grow an acre or more. Let those who have not had such experience, try it on a smaller scale, even down to one square rod; but try it, and by so doing we will learn to grow and market crops cooperatively. Get in touch at once with Mr. Squires at Farmers Warehouse Tryon, N. C.

TO THE MERCHANTS AND BANKERS OF POLK COUNTY

We are trying to promote the growth and marketing of head lettuce in Polk County by truckers and farmers of the county.

If grown successfully, which we believe can be, it will put money in the pocket of farmers at that time of year when their patronage at the store and bank will be highly acceptable. I am calling your attention to these facts that you may take notice and govern your selves accordingly, by giving encouragement right now in sowing plant beds and later on transplanting and caring for this crop which we believe will prove very profitable.

WHAT I SAW IN PEA RIDGE.

Well I saw so many interesting things that I scarcely know where to begin; but stopping for a few moments with Mr. Granville Thompson, I saw some very fine Portorican sweet potatoes, which he was transferring from his wagon to the seller.

Mr. Thompson already has a beautiful home but he readily agreed to join in our Better Home and School Campaign and see how much more beautiful and attractive he can make his home.

Mr. James Phillipps was away having some cotton ginned to be sold by the North Carolina Cotton Grower's Association. He was also having manufactured some fine home made sorghum. Looking around, every thing looked prosperous, and I am sure Mr. Phillipps will join the Better Home Campaign.

Mr. John Fowler just a little further out in Pea Ridge had just helped his boy gather his corn club acre, which produced right at 75 bushels of corn per acre. He is preparing tures which will be heard from later.

tures which will be heard from later. He, also means to join in the Better Home Improvement Campaign.

Then my circuit called me by Mr. Vance Newman's who was so far away on his broad acres that I had not time to hunt him up, however, his corn field near by shows that he has caught the spirit of times. It looks as if a real farmer had been around. Then in the back yard stood a new Fordson tractor which had just been demonstrating what a tractor can do. I was told once that there was more blockade whiskey made in Pea Ridge than any other place of its size in N. C. But I did not believe it, and to see the white fields of cotton and waving fields of corn, one would know that if this was once true that it is untrue today.

No section of the county has brighter boys and girls, and their father and mothers are as ambitious as those in any other part of the county to make the most possible of their children.

WITH OVER ONE MILLION BALES NORTH CAROLINA RANKS SECOND TO TEXAS AS COTTON PRODUCER

By (Frank Parker)

Raleigh, Nov. 8.—That North Carolina has come into her own is evident by the million bales of cotton reported by the United States Department of Agriculture. This enviable production places her in the second rank among the states in this commodity. In spite of the boll weevil, the final condition of 70 per cent of a normal crop, indicates 280 pounds yield per acre and a gross value, of 28 cents, of about \$143,000,000 for the lint alone.

This state is wonderfully blessed this year in its agriculture, which is a basis of prosperity for all other interests. With the market price of cotton at 30 cents a pound, our cotton farmers will be in much the same position they were in 1919 when the first large cotton crop was made. According to the Crop Reports Service findings from all parts of the state, the cotton rows this year were 43 inches apart, the plants averaged 12 inches in the row with 8 bolls per plant and the picking on October 25th was 83 per cent completed. This would put the ginnings on that date about two-thirds of the year's production. The abandonment since June 25th has been insignificant.

The United States crop has taken a considerable decline during the past month, resulting in a loss of almost a million bales. This leaves the prospective crop at 10,248,000 bales as compared with 9,762,000 last year and 7,954,000 two years ago. The estimate is lower for this year than was expected by the trade, resulting in a considerable advance of the market price. The belt's condition of 47.8 per cent, forecasted a yield of 128 pounds per acre. Last year's condition at the same time was 42.3 per cent of a normal crop. By "normal crop" is meant one that is produced under favorable conditions throughout its growing season and does not mean an average of former years. (Asheville Citizen.)

FISHTOP

A much needed rain came Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Bryant, the teacher, returned home Saturday evening.

N. Case and T. W. Bradley returned Saturday from Spartanburg where they took a load of tomatoes. They will ship or haul another load this week.

Nice warm weather still prevails.

The Mexican weevil made its appearance here this summer. No boll weevil reported but the cucumber and squash bugs and tomato worms played havoc with the cucumber, melon and in some instances destroyed the tomato crop.

Cole Jones has just finished his crop of syrup making which was over three hundred gallons.

Corn is generally good. Better than last year.

There are green tomatoes and beans still in the fields.



STRAND THEATRE
FRIDAY
RUPERT HUGES
Presents
COLLEEN MOORE
IN
"COME ON OVER"
SATURDAY
Wm. S. HART
IN
"THE TWO GUN TERROR"
One Of Hart's Best
MONDAY & TUESDAY
WILLIAM FAIRBANKS
IN
"THE DEVIL'S DOORYARD"
Coming Soon
IN
"SALOME"

THREE BIG Auction Sales

Two New Ford Cars Given Away.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 9 and 10

Nearly 1200 acres of Polk County Farm Lands and 15 Building Lots and Two Residences in Columbus, N. C.

FIRST SALE

15 Lots and 2 Residences in Columbus

Sale of these lots will begin at 10:30 A. M. November 9th. This property is located in the town of Columbus, Polk County, N. C. Columbus is the county seat, a fine health resort, five miles from Tryon and on hard surface road. State high school, churches and ideal community in which to live. Terms on this property same as on farm lands.

SECOND SALE

November 9th at 1:30 P. M.

The 450 acre tract, known as the Rev. G. P. Hamrick land. This property has been sub-divided into 15 farms ranging in size from 15 to 50 acres with wood and water on every tract, including three tenant houses. Also several hundred thousand feet of saw timber. Strong productive land, suitable for Corn, cotton, tobacco, grains, grasses, etc.

On this property there is a fine spring with a flow that would fill a four inch pipe. Mr. Lee Tallant at Columbus will show anyone interested over this property before the sale. Located only one mile from sand clay road, 2 1-2 miles from state high school and churches.

THIRD SALE

The 600 acre Tract at Auction Saturday, November 10, at 1:30

This property is also known as the Rev. G. P. Hamrick or Williams property, located in one big body on the Columbus-Chesnee improved road. This property has plenty of wood and water, school and church and road advantages. Several thousand feet of good saw timber on this property. This property has also been cut into small farms and will be sold for the high dollar. Your price is our price. Mr. Lee Tallant will show this property to anyone. Watch for the big road signs at this property!

Two Brand New Ford Automobiles to be Given Away at these Sales. Also Cash Prizes

TERMS:

1-5 Cash; balance in one, two, three and four years. Possession given at once on all uncultivated land, balance January 1st, 1924.

Remember the Ford Cars and Cash Prizes to be given away. Ladies and children especially invited. Good music by Cliffside and Avondale Bands.

W. H. Haynes, Mgr., Cliffside J. C. Nolen, Sales Agent, Avondale

SALE CONDUCTED BY

England Real Estate & Auction Co.
OF GREENSBORO, N. C.