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POLK COUNTY NEWS

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Tryon Business Men Back Federation

An enthusiastic bunch of Polk County Boosters assembled at the Chamber of Commerce last Thursday afternoon to discuss ways and means of obtaining the services of P. C. Squires as manager of the Polk County Farmers Federation for another year.

Members and directors of the Federation from various parts of the county voiced their opinion concerning the excellent work accomplished by Mr. Squires in putting Tryon Iceberg lettuce on the market and explained why the crop had not proven a financial success.

Mr. Corwith, the apple king of the county showed what the Federation had done in promoting the farmers but the business man as well. The organization has bought property here valued at \$2500 and erected a modern ware house with sufficient storage space to take care of the present business.

Mr. Corwith stated that Mr. Squires work had proven satisfactory in every way and that it would be a good investment for the community to keep him.

Mr. McSwain stated that Mr. Squires had proven a valuable leader and that without him to direct the marketing it would be hard to induce farmers to continue planting lettuce and other cash crops.

J. N. Jackson approved the work of the Federation and stated in plain words that it was squarely up to the business men of the county to give all the cooperation needed to retain Mr. Squires and started the ball rolling by offering to contribute 1-36 of his salary in the name of Jack & Jackson.

"Polk sends out too little and brings in too much—we cannot have prosperity on that basis. These men are producers of wealth and they should have encouragement and support".

Grant Miller, President of the Federation asserted that the only support required was a subscription of stock. "We are selling shares to all takers at \$50 per share. A stock subscription of \$3000 will put us in a position to guarantee Mr. Squires salary—and we believe the stock will eventually pay dividends".

Chas. Lynch, theron made a motion that the business men present go on record as desiring to retain Mr. Squires pledging themselves to underwrite sufficient stock to guarantee his salary for the coming year. Motion seconded by W. F. Little, Cashier of People's Bank and Trust Co.

B. L. Ballenger, president of the Chamber of Commerce called for a vote and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ballenger suggested that every business man purchasing stock should assign a proxy to some boni fide farmer so that the voting power might remain in their hands and this was agreed.

County Agent Sams of Columbus explained that the farmers were beginning to realize their interests were identical with those of the business men and that both farmer-banker and merchant should cooperate to promote the best interests of all.

The executive committee of the Federation composed of Messrs Corwith, McSwain and Miller then selected committees to represent Columbus and Saluda while Mr. Ballenger appointed J. N. Jackson, C. J. Lynch, and C. M. Howes to represent Tryon in the drive to dispose of Federation stock.

R. B. Station, G. R. Little and A. D. Turner will compose the Saluda committee while the ence Elliott, E. W. S. Cobb and Fred W. Blanton, will in the Columbus territory.

All in all it was the most enthusiastic meeting held in the Chamber in many moons and there seemed to be a spirit of loyalty to the community and its best interests which speaks

Up to the hour of our going to press the Democratic convention held in New York had failed to nominate a candidate for President. More than forty ballots had been taken with McAdoo still leading.

DIXIE MANUFACTURERS DISPLAY REAL INTEREST IN SOUTHERN EXPOSITION

It is gratifying to see southern states taking such a prominent part in the plans for the great Southern Exposition which is to be held in New York in February of next year. This exposition is designed for the purpose of impressing upon the people of the North and East the manifold accomplishments of the South, particularly in an industrial and commercial way, and if the present plans are carried out it will be the most effective advertisement of the South's advantages ever presented to the nation.

It pays to advertise the development and resources of the South and as Dr. Pratt of Western North Carolina, Inc. says The Tarheel State should have full representation. 7500 feet of floor space has been allotted Dixie exhibitors and we hope to see it all taken.

ATTEMPT TO ROB CAROLINA STATE BANK

Burglars attempted to rob the Carolina State Bank at Saluda last Monday night, entering the front door by breaking the glass in the door and turning the night latch. The safe was damaged but no money taken. This we understand is the second robbery there within the past month. Three suspects were locked up by Chief of Police Newman.

Presbyterian Church Notice

The pastor, Rev. George W. Sheffer, will preach at Columbus, Sunday morning and in the Methodist Church at Tryon Sunday night. Owing to the revival services at the Baptist Church, and the Boy Scout Camp at Hendersonville services were not held in the Tryon Church the third and fourth Sunday in June. Services may be expected each first and third Sunday night and each second and fourth Sunday morning in Tryon during the summer as the pastor does not contemplate being away over Sunday during July and August.

Subject for discussion Sunday night: Is There a Hell?

METCALF-PANTHER

Miss Nell Metcalf daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hart Metcalf and Mr. Roy Panther, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Panther, both of Lynn were married at Chesnee, S. C. on Saturday last.

Both bride and groom are natives of Polk County, having spent practically all of their lives at Lynn, being neighbors and friends from early childhood.

That the high cost of living does increase may be easily proven by looking over the advertising of a quarter a century ago. In an issue of the Polk County News dated July 27, 1897 a Columbus store quoted men's fine worsted suits at \$7.25 and 9.00; all wool tweed suits at \$5.00; all wool pants at \$1.95 and cotton trousers at \$1.00 per pair. Gee whiz!

Mrs. Richard Carpenter who has been confined to the house for a long time receives her friends and makes them happy in spite of untoward circumstances.

well for the future prosperity of this section of North Carolina.

Iceberg Lettuce for 1924

There are abundant reasons why Iceberg lettuce should be grown in Polk County in 1925. One very good reason is that you Polk Countians should not in the incipient stage of your money crop allowed yourselves to be classed with the hot and cold variety of farmers, blowing hot one year and cold the next. If you will take notice, you will find that few farmers of this class have a checking account at the local bank. My friend J. W. Woody of New Hanover County, who has each year for the past fifteen years planted 30 acres of lettuce, made no money on lettuce this year but as he in not of the hot and cold class he will plant his usual acreage next year, while many of his neighbors will drop out for a year. By sticking to lettuce year in and year out he has won out and is considered well to do and has built a beautiful home within a few minutes drive of Wrightsville Beach, and if reports are true has also built for himself a substantial bank account in one of the banks of Wilmington. But to return to my text—There are two very special reasons why those of our farmers and town people who have abundantly fertile soil should grow Iceberg lettuce in 1925, and with very reasonable expectation of unusually good profits. Because lettuce marketing conditions have been extremely unsatisfactory in all the lettuce growing sections on the Atlantic seaboard, from Fla. to Massachusetts hundreds of thousands of dollars have been lost on the crop this year. The losses to lettuce growers in the Wilmington section alone will probably amount to a quarter of a million dollars and will result in hundreds of lettuce growers dropping out of the game entirely or cutting down their usual acreage. The same can be said of the South Carolina lettuce section and also of the Norfolk trucking district. Another very good reason why we may expect high lettuce prices in 1925 is that the lettuce seed crop is almost a total failure this year. This information came to me only a few days ago and is authentic. My informant is a seed expert connected with a fifteen hundred acre Iceberg lettuce seed farm in California.

The Iceberg lettuce seed I have used for past three years came from the farm mentioned and while I believe it is the best strain of Iceberg lettuce that can be had I have been particularly desirous to obtain if possible a supply of seed grown from selected and long standing heads of same variety and strains, and for such selected seed I would gladly pay double price.

In reply to my inquiry my seed growing friend informs me that we will be extremely fortunate to secure a supply of any grade for the 1925 planting and advised me to have our order booked at once and sufficient for our requirements.

He also informs me that there is as great a shortage of the Big Boston lettuce, a variety more largely grown in the south than the Iceberg. At least one hundred acres of lettuce should be grown in Polk County next year. With thorough soil preparation this fall and a season that will permit February setting of the plants one hundred acres should produce with a good growing season close to 100 car loads of lettuce. A car load to the acre is considered a minimum crop in the lettuce districts. I have ordered and made myself personally responsible for Iceberg lettuce seed sufficient for fifty acres, but we should not stop at this acreage, but should double it.

If the reasons I have given are not sufficient inducement, surely the flattering expressions I have received concerning the quality of our lettuce should be an incentive to our growers to stick to the ship and grow Iceberg lettuce in 1925.

Extracts from letters received

at the Federation. Asheville N. C. June 6th, 1924. Polk County Farmers Federation Tryon N. C.

Dear Mr. Squires:

We wish to acknowledge with thanks the lettuce which arrived this morning. The quality is certainly something in which you may rightly take pride. We have placed it on exhibition in our window with a large sign saying it was grown by members of the Polk County Farmers Federation. Western North Carolina Inc. is intensely interested in the further development of this industry and stand ready to assist you in any way possible in encouraging the growing of lettuce. With best wishes, we are

Yours Very Truly

Western North Carolina Inc.

Linville Falls N.C. June 5, 1924 Mr. P. C. Squires Farmers Federation Tryon, N. C.

My Dear Sir:

The samples of Iceberg lettuce sent us was misdirected and arrived tonight. While damaged somewhat by delay we could see that it was extraordinary lettuce when it left your hands. In fact, we have never seen, any where, better, lettuce, and only rarely any so good.

We are much interested in head lettuce and have observed it in many places, including California. If you can produce lettuce a good as this you ought to have a highly profitable industry, AS SOON AS YOUR PRODUCT BECOMES KNOWN. One of the severest tests of the quality of head lettuce is to taste the heart, or core. Your heads had some of the sweetest and tenderest cores I have ever seen.

I hope you will have great success in establishing this important industry in Western North Carolina. Thanking you for the delicious lettuce.

Very Sincerely Yours

Frank W. Bicknell.

Brevard, N. C. June 7, 1924

Mr. P. C. Squires Farmers Federation Tryon, N. C.

Dear Mr. Squires:

Samples of lettuce received, and must say that it is hard to beat for size and also quality. I have grown lettuce in the West, North and South East, but I have as yet to see any that can beat yours, and I thought I had grown lettuce in Arizona that was good enough for anybody.

Your success in growing lettuce gives us a feeling to join you if it is not too cold here. Well here's to Polk County Federation and its great work in this part of the State. May you succeed.

Sincerely Yours

Lewis H. Ammon, County Agent.

Newlands N. C. June 6, 1924

Mr. P. C. Squires Farmers Federation Tryon, N. C.

Gentlemen:

I received the head lettuce in good condition you were so kind as to send me. I am glad to congratulate you as pioneers in this project, which I feel will mean a great deal not only to your county, but the western part of this state.

The lettuce was the finest I have ever seen.

Very Sincerely Yours

C. B. Baird County Agent.

TRYON ROUTE 1

Several from our vicinity attended the quarterly meeting and Sunday School, at New Hope Sunday and in the afternoon some good singing was rendered by the Lebanon choir.

The Epworth League gave a social, on the bermuda bottom of R. G. Hamilton's pasture, all time on the beautiful, moonlight night of last Friday. A lot of new games were played. Music by Edison and Greens Creek musicians. Afterwards mash-mallows were toasted

MILL SPRING R 1

There has been so much rain in this section the farmer's crops are getting in the grass.

Mrs. J. R. Hardin and children, Leona and Hugh also her neice, Miss Louise Womack of near Forest City spent last week end at the home of Rev. W. W. Womack.

Messrs D. C. Sheehan and Pete Gaines of near Tryon spent a short time last Tuesday at the home of A. A. Edwards.

Miss Maggie Sue Edwards spent Friday with her friend, Miss Arkansas Jackson on Route 2.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Dyer on last Sunday, a fine boy.

Mr. Hix Nanney and Miss Rutherfordton spent Sunday afternoon at the home of Mr. Q. M. Powell.

Mr. Buddie Camp spent Friday and Saturday at Asheville.

Mr. Bert Edwards, motored to Mt Pisgah Sunday.

Mr. J. T. Edwards spent Sunday near Rutherfordton.

Many from here went to the singing convention at Pleasant Hill last Sunday.

Mr. V. B. Hyde and family spent Sunday on Pearidge. There was a Baptist rally there. Others went from here also.

Misses Dosha Davis and Evelyn Cole of Greens Creek spent Sunday afternoon with Mrs. Fletcher Edwards.

Mr. D. J. Burnett and family spent Sunday at Melvin Hill.

Mr. Buddie Camp and Miss Gilreath Edwards spent a very pleasant afternoon last Sunday.

and served by the League to about seventy five present.

We are glad to learn our Sub Carrier is improving after undergoing a dangerous operation.

Misses Thelma and Jettie Heague were Sunday guests of Miss Barbara Voorhies also Misses Clara and Irene Edwards of Misses Bessie and Grace Hamilton.

Now as our Iceberg lettuce shipment swept the county like a storm, we extend congratulations to the fortunate, also the less fortunate which was left in its wake. Cheer up and consider what we learned by experience, and the pleasure we have had in watching the beautiful crop mature.

Mr. John Ford cut off one of his fingers while cutting stove wood Saturday last.

Mrs. Katherine Citton is visiting with her sister, Miss Sallie Carpenter.

Misses Clara Edwards and Bessie Hamilton spent Sunday afternoon at Laurel Park, Hendersonville.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Edwards and family enjoyed the day of last Sunday with the formers brother and family, Mr. S. A. Edwards, at Hillgrit, N. C.

Mr. Loren Toney was given a surprise birthday party, last Sunday.

The refreshing showers have been very acceptable in our vicinity.

Mrs. T. L. Rice and little son, Bill Sam, of Canton spent last week with Miss Sallie Carpenter.

Masdamess W. C. Hague, E. B. Edwards, E. H. Edwards, E. W. Taylor, H. C. Freeman, R. G. Hamilton, J. T. Waldrop and Miss Lizzie Dalton, attended the District Conference of Women's Missionary Society at Forest City. Also had the pleasure of hearing talks given by our Miss Tuttle (missionary) from China who is at home on a furlough of two months.

Miss Young from Africa. Thrilling and inspiring talks were given and much enjoyed by each and every one.

Mr. and Mrs. Shehan are rejoicing over the arrival of baby, "Mollie Ruth".

Misses Clara Edwards and Bessie Hamilton entertained their Sunday School classes, on the bermuda bottom at the

FISHTOP

Nice growing weather last week.

Some sickness, J. W. Bradley is quite ill. Mrs. Dalton called Dr. Salley, of Saluda, to visit her one day last week.

And one man is complaining; he thinks he got too warm one day last week while plowing; says he actually sweated.

Some complaint of a bad stand of corn, but cotton looks fine.

I hear of one man who has sowed his cane seed and thinks will have a stand, as he has sown three-fourth of a bushel of seed on a plat 10x10 feet.

Jess Case says he killed three copper head snakes last week.

We hear of many swarms of bees passing from one mountain to the opposite mountain.

A much needed rain came just in time to save gardens last week.

The Mexican bean beetle is here in considerable number.

Rattlers not as plentiful as expected for as warm season as this.

Bees have quit swarming and gone to storing honey.

A few weeks back when bees were swarming, one swarm came to T. C. Laughter's home and entered between the boarding and ceiling of the house while all were absent and all efforts to dislodge them proved futile, as they seemed to say we are at home and expect to stay and if you dont like us as your neighbors we suggest that you sell out and move.

Quite a lot of people attended the singing at Silver Creek Church Sunday.

J. C. Laughter has gone to market with a load of beans, apples, etc., this week.

Early Cobbler Potatoes

The Cobbler potato crop in Polk County is so much later than that in Eastern North Carolina we cannot expect to compete in the Northern markets and I believe it will be to the best interests of our growers to hold their potatoes for a week or ten days longer and then ship to southern markets.

The prospects are very good, as old potatoes are now entirely out of the market and South Carolina is about done. I am advised that Eastern North Carolina will finish shipping in another week.

The total daily shipments from all shipping points in the United States is around one thousand car loads at the present time.

Last Saturday the total shipments for the country reached eleven hundred and thirty five car loads. This means that more than a half a million bushels of potatoes are leaving southern shipping points every day.

We are already lined up with produce dealers in the far South and they advise us that their markets will be in better shape to handle our potatoes to advantage around the middle of July and later.

I will call on the growers not later than July 10th and will then advise when to dig, and how to grade and pack their potatoes.

latters home wading, games and music were enjoyed after which refreshments were served.

Mrs. Thompson and baby of Texas (daughter of Mr. Tom Hampton a former Polk boy) visiting relatives in our restful clime.

Mrs. Frank Edwards has returned from Charlotte where she has been visiting relatives. A little neice accompanied her and will spend a while enjoying the country.

A large crowd of young people enjoyed dinner and afternoon at the home of Miss Clara Edwards Sunday.