

**RAMBLING SKETCHES OF OAK GROVE NEWS**

(By Mrs. William Wright)

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Blanton and children and Mrs. Janie McMurry o. Shelby were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Osley Lovelace.

Mr. and Mrs. James S. Weir spent Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Everette Sperling of Fallsston.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Bell and children, Misses Pauline and Virginia Ware spent Sunday in the mountain of Western North Carolina.

The writer, husband and son, Stokes, attended services at Macedonia Baptist church of Kings Mountain Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Everette Ford and family, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Lovelace and Culp Ford, were Sunday afternoon visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Greenberry Lovelace of Paterson Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. Quiser Philbeck and children were weekend visitors of Mrs. Mayme McKimney and family.

Mrs. T. A. Champion has been suffering with an infected arm.

Master Bobby Gaudin has been ill for the past few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Erb McCraw and daughter, Estelle, Mr. and Mrs. Ruth Write spent Sunday visiting relatives in Cliffside.

The relatives and many friends of Mr. John B. Ware, a former resident of this community, but now of Washington, D. C., want to join him in wishing Mrs. Ware a speedy recovery. We just learned of Mrs. Ware, undergoing a very serious operation in a Washington hospital recently.

**Fertilizer In Bands Increases Potato Yields**

Tests conducted on eleven different farms with the early Irish potato crop in 1938, indicate that placing the fertilizer in bands to the side of the seed piece will give definite increases in the acre yield.

"Our results this year showed an increase of from 2 to 23 of the hundred pound sacks to the acre or an average of 11 sacks for the whole series of field demonstrations," announced L. P. Watson, extension horticulturist, at State College. "This average of 1,100 pounds increase per acre is not so outstanding as the results secured last year but growing conditions in the early part of this season were almost ideal and thus danger from fertilizer burn to the young plants was reduced to the minimum."

Mr. Watson secured increases of 2,475 pounds to the acre in the demonstrations conducted in 1937.

The band method of placing the fertilizer was used in the demonstrations. This was accomplished by the use of a machine which plants the seed and at the same time distributes the fertilizer in two narrow bands two inches to each side and slightly below the level of the seed piece. In each division, one acre was planted by this band method and a check plot of one acre was planted alongside using the methods commonly followed by the farmer. At digging time, the two plots were dug separately and the potatoes carefully graded and measured.

Mr. Watson said the demonstrations this year were conducted by farmers under the supervision of county agents in Camden, Carteret, Beaufort, Pitt, Wayne and Tyrrell counties. A large number of potato growers are planning to adopt the new method of placing fertilizers as a result of the tests.

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