

STRAWBERRY SEASON OF 1911

Annual Review of Crop by Carolina Truck & Fruit Growers' Journal. Great Value of Industry to This City and Section.

Reviewing the strawberry season for 1911, showing the number of crates and carloads moved out this year as compared with 1910 and 1909, the prevailing prices this season as compared with previous years together with the amount of money distributed already among the growers and the value of this industry to Wilmington and this section, the Carolina Fruit & Truckers' Journal of this city, will say in its issue today:

The ending of the present week will doubtless witness the close of the strawberry season for 1911 in many respects it has been a most remarkable season and a most successful one from a financial standpoint. In other particulars it has been a partial disappointment for throughout the season we have experienced the most serious drought in the history of the trucking industry. The returns, however, on the crops as a whole are unquestionably ahead of any year's results on record. From those in position to know whereof they speak it is estimated that the crop has averaged from \$3 to \$3.25 per crate the season through. The total number of cars by the refrigerator people up to and including yesterday is 1,193. Of this number 709 moved out from the Chadbourne section and five cars went out yesterday and the Fruit Growers' Express has advised that Chadbourne will continue to ship in carload quantities during the balance of the present week, which will doubtless run the movement up to something over 1,200 car loads by the refrigerator service.

The express shipments to date amount to 40,518 crates. On the basis of 236 crates to the car this would amount to 171 carloads which added to the 1,193 makes a grand total to date of 1,364 cars, against 1,570 cars in 1910 and 1,316 in 1909. The estimated average value of berries in 1910 was \$2.25 per crate, with \$2.15 as a basis of average values in 1909. These estimates compared with \$3.25 for this season make a most gratifying showing for the growers. On yesterday 592 crates moved out by express from points along the W. & W. railroad and it is safe to say that more or less shipments by express will continue from that section each day this week and it is not improbable that a few crates may go out next week. The close of the present week, however, will practically see the end of the shipping season.

The Chadbourne section ships almost wholly in refrigerator cars and the Fruit Growers' Express stated to the writer yesterday that they are having requisitions for an average of three refrigerator cars daily in that section with the outlook favorable for a continuance of this movement throughout this week. It is safe to say that nine-tenths of the growers, if not 19-20ths are more than pleased with the result of this season's operations. While the acreage in berries on the first of the year justified the prediction that the crop would reach 1,600 or 1,700 carloads, the shortage in quantity has been more than made up in the quality and value. Had there been any reasonable weather such as we have had during the past three or four years no one will be found who is at all conversant with the situation but who will say the crop would have reached the 1,600 carload mark.

Reduce 1,364 carloads to crates on the basis of 236 crates to the car, and we have 221,804 crates. Valued at \$3.25 per crate, and we have a grand total of \$720,889.20. Distributed among the strawberry growers alone in Eastern Carolina covered by a territory within 100 miles of Wilmington. To the strawberry receipts should be added the cash brought in here from the bed and field lettuce crops which have this year amounted to approximately \$150,000. The Irish potato crop will likely yield \$100,000, while green vegetables, tomatoes, huckleberries, dewberries, plums cantaloupes, melons, etc., should round out another \$150,000 making a total of receipts from the strawberry and vegetable crops tributary to Wilmington of \$1,435,889.20.

With such a back country to draw upon and surrounded by a soil yielding such substantial returns, our support should grow and expand at a far more rapid rate in the future than we have ever known before. Let our people arouse themselves to the importance of the hour, grasp the innumerable opportunities knocking at their doors, every day and force to the front with a united effort for a Greater Wilmington.

The vegetable growers will now have their innings and the ruling prices of Irish potatoes, beans, etc., are such as to justify the hope that values in the vegetable lines, although not expected to equal those of strawberries, will be profitable to the growers. That remains to be seen, however. Rain is needed, worse and worse every day and vegetables are suffering badly. In fact, rain is needed so badly that unless it comes soon the vegetable crop will be cut short one-half or more.

DEATH OF YOUNG WOMAN.

Mrs. Very Register Wooten Died Yesterday of Malarial Fever.

Mrs. Very Register Wooten, the bride of Mr. J. A. Wooten, died at the Fourth residence, No. 1009 North Fourth street, at 11:20 o'clock yesterday morning, after a short illness of malarial fever. Many friends will learn with deep regret of her sad and untimely death. She was only 19 years old and was married only a few weeks ago. She was a daughter of Mr. Adolph Register, of Bladen county. Brief funeral services were held at her residence at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, conducted by Rev. J. S. Crowley, and the body was taken on the 3:49 o'clock train to Rosindale, her former home, for interment.

A Burglar's Awful Deed may not paralyze a home so completely as a mother's long illness. But Dr. King's New Life Pills are a splendid remedy for women. "They gave me wonderful help in constipation and indigestion," writes Mrs. M. C. Dunlap, of Leadhill, Tenn. "If ailing, try them, 25c at R. R. Bellamy's."

ANNUAL MASONIC BANQUET

Brilliant Event Given Last Night by St. John's Lodge—Col. Wm. F. Robertson, of Charlotte, the Speaker.

One of the most brilliant and pleasant affairs in local Masonic circles in many a day was the annual banquet last night of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, A. F. & A. M., given in the banquet hall of the Masonic Temple, and attended by an unusually large number of members of the craft. The feature of the festive occasion was an address by Col. William F. Robertson, formerly a prominent citizen of Wilmington, but now a resident of Charlotte, which he removed a short time ago from Chattanooga, Tenn.

Col. Robertson is a pleasing speaker, always has something of interest to say, but his discourse last night was of unusual excellence and he was listened to with the greater interest by the large number of his brethren gathered around the festive board. Another most enjoyable feature of the evening was the musical selections, both vocal and instrumental, a very pleasing programme being carried out. The Masonic Temple Orchestra, is composed of Messrs. C. F. MacRae, 1st violin; W. A. Martin, flute; E. C. Craft, cornet; Edward Johnson, cello; Geo. L. Johnson, piano, while the vocalists for the occasion were Messrs. Joseph E. Fenley, 1st tenor; Greene Fenley, 2nd tenor; Harry R. Bates, 1st bass, and Cecil C. Butt, 2nd bass, and Edward H. Munson, accompanist. Supper was served shortly after 8 o'clock, the menu being as follows:

- Green Peas, Mashed Potatoes, Rois, Biscuit, Lettuce Salad, Coffee, Cream and Sugar, Strawberry Ice Cream and Cake, Cigarettes.

Worshipful Master E. P. Bailey acted as master of ceremonies and fulfilled the duties of this position with his accustomed grace and dignity. The following are the committees which had charge of the arrangements for the evening: Entertainment, John S. McEachern, chairman; A. S. Holden and Edwin A. Metts, Music, Harry R. Bates, Reception, F. A. Merritt, Stuart R. Keyes, J. W. Fleet, W. B. Muse, W. R. Doshier, Wm. Struthers, Jr., E. M. Henry, D. W. Loring, A. L. Doshier and W. A. McChrt.

The officers of the lodge are: Worshipful master, Edward P. Bailey; senior warden, Benj. A. Merritt, P. M.; junior warden, Charles H. Holsonback, treasurer, J. Houghton James; secretary, A. S. Holden; senior deacon, John W. Freeman; junior deacon, Rich. G. Kankin, Jr.; senior steward, Stuart F. Hixson; junior steward, Wilbur R. Doshier; Tyler, Asa W. Allen; chaplain, Rev. J. A. Smith. The living Past Masters of the lodge are: E. E. Martin, W. E. Storm, J. E. Matthews, J. C. Stout, S. G. Hall, R. C. Merritt, H. Fackler, B. A. Merritt, C. L. Winger and John S. McEachern.

After the magnificent address of Colonel Robertson, several short talks were made, among the number being Rev. R. W. Springer, chaplain at Fort Caswell; Rev. J. S. Crowley, of Wilmington, and C. Ed. Taylor, Esq., of Southport. The event came to an end about 11 o'clock with the singing of the Lord's Prayer by St. John's Quartette, composed of the following: W. R. Doshier, 1st tenor; A. L. Doshier, 2nd tenor; W. A. McChrt, 1st bass, and W. B. Muse, 2nd bass.

Colonel Robertson was introduced by the master of ceremonies in a short but appropriate speech. The former townsman was greeted enthusiastically as he arose, and was given most careful attention throughout his discourse.

Col. Robertson opened his splendid address by saying that it required a more skillful manipulator of words, an apt speaker than he to adequately express the pleasure he felt at being once again with his good Wilmington friends. When the invitation came from the always energetic and active secretary, justice to them and a ready realization of his limitations urged him to decline, but true friendship and heart inclination, victoriously strong, urged him to accept. So his presence was accounted for, first as a most hearty tribute to Wilmington's renowned hospitality and to the kindly remembrance of one who spent many happy years in Wilmington, and second—here he was going to smash a time honored tradition—it was a case of good old Clarendon water!

The late Lord Young of the Scottish bench, he said, was responsible for enlightening many a dull case. One of the brightest remarks that ever fell from his lips was the reply to a counsel who urged in behalf of plaintiff of decidedly intemperate appearance.

"My client, my lord, is a most remarkable man and holds a very responsible position; he is the manager of several water works."

After a long look the judge answered: "Yes, he looks like a man who could be trusted with any amount of water."

"I believe you found it safe to trust me with the large amount of water in the years gone by," said Col. Robertson, by trusting me to properly fill the position as chief speaker upon the occasion of your annual banquet surely testifies your very large—I was about to say, reckless—confidence in me, bound to you by the ties of long friendship."

"I presume that such an occasion should largely tend to convivial fellowship, and what is spoken should be strewn with brilliant flowers plucked from the garden of humor. I am led to such a conclusion by the memory of a statement once made in this hall, that on the minutes of this historical lodge, dated some seventy-five or a hundred years ago, it appears that a lodge officer failed to execute properly some official duty, and the recorded and doubtless popular penalty, indicative of a festive meeting ahead, was that he be ordered to preside at the next meeting as a first-class apricot. Having had the pleasure of a close acquaintance with many of your old and enthusiastic members, I am at a loss to under-

stand why such penalties have fallen in his case."

Col. Robertson told several other first-class anecdotes after which he said that seriously he had come too far to waste such an opportunity in a strain which would little help either of the parties to the engagement and it was his intention to speak as best he might in reference to the "Self Elevation of Brotherhood." He wanted to advance as earnestly as he could that the man who faithfully practices the precepts of fraternity vastly raises his own mind and life and soul to a nobler, happier sphere of existence. Without considering the spiritual feature, such practice inevitably confers the high and desirable title of Gentleman. No man can daily practice in a practical and enthusiastic way the tenets of this ancient order and fail to have his conduct fit truly into the definition of a gentleman—a member of Nature's nobility. "Gentle in our bearing through life; gentle and courteous to our neighbor; gentle in dealing with his follies and weakness; gentle when meeting his opposition; deferential to the old; kindly to the poor and those below us in degree—for people above us and below us we must find, in whatever hemisphere we dwell, whether king or president govern us, and in no republic or monarchy that I know of, is a citizen exempt from the tax of befriending poverty and weakness, of respecting age, and of honoring father and mother." All these represent the practice of simple virtues, most of them instinctive, yet the sum total make up the coveted life squared and plumbbed to the lofty principles of brotherhood. It is nature calling man to the highest and best that is in him. "The daily command of the ever kind Fatherhood, for as the dominion of night wanes, and fades, and one by one the stars grow dim in the light of coming day, then nature lists to the masonic command of the universal Architect, Let There be Light, and wharft the eastern sky is spread the crimson orfame of heaven awakening and notifying a sleeping world that a new day—a new life for each—has begun, bringing new opportunities, new possibilities; sternly warning each with the light of its beaming splendor: Awake, thou that sleepest, put on new life, and let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify and emulate your helpful example. The masonic chart, right and true, is inscribed upon our hearts—is one of our solemn, guiding obligations. Let it lead us into a life made glorious with gentleness and honor and chivalric kindness, for it will then little matter how lowly or how prominent the vocation life has called us to, it will be a privilege to hold your hand and know that one is in touch with the soul that's good and a heart that's true. For no matter what honors a man may achieve, no matter how great wealth he may amass, if his heart and life be not headsprings from which flow kindly consideration for his fellowman, despite the magnitude of his attainments, his life, measured by the only true standard, is a miserable failure, a pitiful mockery, missing much that is best here, and finding no peace in the end. Despite intellectual and material enhancement, the life that is distinctly selfish is also distinctly contemptible, to be sooner or later so branded by the scorn and isolation that relentlessly camp upon its dark and lonely trail.

"The times and manners more positively call us to this higher and less selfish life. Conditions have grown generally commercial and material in the pursuit of inordinate gain is grim and unrelenting; the wild dogs of material war are let loose; mercifully and without shame they pursue their quarry, debauching legislation and righteously tramping down the soul and ambitions of the weaker ones who unhappily cross their dark-stained track. It has been history that at such times, in other nations, selfish policies, infected civilization, the beacon light of fraternal life became dim, and disaster followed. Shall we allow the strength of brotherhood to fall away? Shall we allow the pollution of selfishness and indifference to creep into our minds and hearts like vipers to poison us against all the higher and holier ambitions and purer ideals of human existence? Is it not incumbent in such an age, as a balance and safeguard, to be the righteous and pure of fraternal life, grafted in our hearts, strongly courageous, that the avicious tendencies of the times will be deprived of direful results, that mercy and truth and peace shall reign triumphant, entrenched as the guide and beacon of our lives, so that no shipwreck of national good shall be possible in our beloved land?"

But is this desired increase of kindness, braver, more generous more "divine hearts to be renewed at some particular time and fixed date of the nations who you possess these qualities? You remember the story of the agreement between all the men of earth that a certain named moment each would shout his loudest in order to ascertain what volume of sound would result from the united voices. Came the appointed hour; there was an ominous silence, a stillness as if all life had ceased. Each one had decided not to shout in order that he might better hear the great expected sound. If we men desire to put forth a stronger fraternal life, that consummation devoutly to be wished will not be effected by pre-arranged combination. It is entirely a matter of individual resolution. It will bring its reward. Put into execution with heart and soul, the uplift must come. Our lives will find no better time than tonight for such earnest resolve. Now is always the time to get at things.

Yesterday is dead—forget it. Tomorrow does not exist—don't worry. Today is here—let us use it. Just as well make the decision here and now that our fraternal light shall henceforth shine before men and brighten the path of many a wayfarer and sufferer along life's high-way.

It has been said that every man has price. The plain falsity of such statement needs no demonstration. But we do know that every effort worth while unflinchingly has its price. If energy and loyalty do not abundantly exist, if this great order does not continue in its onward triumphant

march, let us be frank and admit that we men have not been willing to pay the price. Every object of high import, every ambition not beyond human consummation, will be attained when, and only when, we decide that we will forget self and pay the price.

Often one hears in lodge management the question: What can we do to arouse interest, to bring out the membership? Many different solutions are advanced, many different suggestions offered, most of them flying wide of the real trouble to be remedied, which in our hearts we know to be the simple fact that the individual member is not willing in personal sacrifice to pay the price. Should every member of the great orders determine that from this night he would know the names of the brothers of the lodge; that henceforth in street or home or sick room, he would show in a warm fraternal interest in the lives and well-being of these brothers; that, at least once each month, he would attend lodge meeting and assist the officers in their work and show a willingness to share their responsibilities, such resolutions, simple as they are and so easy of execution, actively carried out, would revolutionize for good the fraternal and social life of the nation, banish distress from thousands of the hopeless, and bring to each of us a peace of heart, sweeter and holier than any the world can give. Surely not a great price, but its payment cannot be evaded if the goal of success be reached. Would you not go far and sacrifice much to favor prince or ruler? This you can do each day by kindness to the unfortunate, patience with the little flowers God has planted in His human garden, gentleness to the old and infirm, providing for the widow and orphan. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brothers, ye have done it unto me."

Is there not a heart call in each urging us to make this little investment in happiness, helpfulness, and peace? To do these things that tend so inevitably to build up and strengthen our souls can be no costly sacrifice. No great thing is ever accomplished by the building up of human character which has not its roots deep down in sacrifice, and draws its inspiration and nourishment therefrom. No soul can be greatly strengthened and purified except it pass through the fire of sacrifice. It is the love you give away that stays in your heart to make life sweeter. Glory won by sacrifice has shone in splendor down the ages since One so loved the world that He voluntarily gave His own life as a ransom for many, thus laying the mighty cornerstone of brotherhood upon which will come time the structure of fraternity.

Shall we demolish the hard and sordid casing about our hearts, and sacrifice some of our time and leisure and comfort others less fortunate may be lifted up and lifted with good things? Or shall we, as useless dilettantes, wallow in the mire of our admiral existence, tainted with the slime of complacency, and the sum of selfishness? Or shall we, throw aside every weight and live the life that in our hearts we know to be the only right life, exemplifying daily that his order—ancient and honorable—is a living active force to uplift and bless mankind?

Choosing such kindly career, we will go to our homes at eventide, weary and content and undishonored, master of our passion, and of our soul, accepting each day as our new battlefield; throwing valiantly our efforts into new and higher resolves, winning real triumphs in whatever station of life our lives may be. There is no failure when one does his best each day. Let us then make each day our best, fight the fight, pay the price, and at last gain the sure reward.

Let us not wait for some great opportunity. It may not come. Live in kindly fashion the life that is given you, and you will be equipped to meet the great call should it come in proportion to the honest effort you have put into the making of the work of a humble life efficient and useful. Remember that a cup of cold water can be given to the glory of God. Take cheerfully then life as He sends it; fill it with love and kindness and sacrifice, and a power and glory will be yours, lifting you high above doubt, disappointment and failure.

Col. Robertson concluded his masterly address with a fine peroration in beautiful description of the sublimity of the Ideal Life, closing with a thought from Burns: "May Freedom, Harmony and Love Unite you in the grand design. Beneath the omniscient eye above, The glorious Architect divine! That you may keep the unerring line. Still rising by the plumb's true law, Till order bright completely shine, Shall be my prayer when far away."

TARGET PRACTICE IS OVER. In Progress for Three Days at Fort Caswell—Three Companies. The annual target practice has been in progress at Fort Caswell for three days and has been carried out satisfactorily in every respect. Capt. Corput, from the post, was in the city yesterday and stated that the practice this year was very interesting and was participated in by all three companies at the fort. Practice was carried out with 12-inch mortar guns, eight-inch rifle and three-inch rifle. Some good scores were made during the three days, which will be announced later. Usually at Caswell target practice is held twice a year, but this time the men of the post fired the whole year's practice in the past three days.

The Southern National Bank, Wilmington, N. C.

THAT BIG WHITE BUILDING ANOTHER THING If you deposit your money with the "People's" now, it will draw interest from June 1st, and will receive FOUR MONTHS interest on October 1st. A Small Account here receives the Same Careful Attention as the Large One. OLD AND STRONG THE PEOPLES SAVINGS BANK H. C. McQUEEN, President. F. W. DICK, Cashier. M. J. CORBETT, Vice-President. J. HOLMES DAVIS, Asst. Cashier. CORNER FRONT & PRINCESS

Interest Quarter All money deposited before June Second will draw three months interest on September First. If you are not already a depositor, we hope you will arrange to become one and take advantage of this quarter. The Wilmington Savings & Trust Company 110 North Front Street.

A QUICK RUN. Mr. Thomas E. Cooper Visited Mullins, S. C. in His Auto. The following from yesterday's Mullins, S. C., Enterprise will be read with interest by the many friends in this city of Mr. Thos. E. Cooper, cashier of the American National Bank: "Thos. E. Cooper arrived in Mullins last Saturday about noon, having made the trip from Wilmington in his new automobile. He left Wilmington early in the morning, and made several stops along the way. At Chadbourne he rested for an hour or so, shaking hands with his numerous friends, and taking in the strawberry sales that were going on. Coming on down to Fair Bluff, he again stopped over with his friends, visited the bank and shook hands with his friend, Frank Rogers, and others, exchanged ideas about bank matters, for if there is any one thing that Tom has his heart on, it is bank matters. Unlike many other men in the pursuit of making money, however, Tom differs materially. He believes in enjoying and making his friends happy. He never gets too busy to take a pleasure trip with his friends, and frequently plans an outing on the river, to which he bids them welcome. He is a wholesome boy, and makes others happy by his philanthropic ideas of what true life means. The world would be brighter and happier if there were more men of the type of Tom Cooper."

Ladies' Lace Dresses, New and Attractive prices right. The C. W. Polvogt Co. "The Store That's Always Busy." 100 Pieces New Matings, prices made very attractive.

Our May Sale Was a great Success, we sold lots of goods, and yet lots remain. We have made attractive prices on some odd lots of merchandise. Call to see them. THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL 69c Satin Foulards Special for Monday and Tuesday 39c. \$1.25 and \$1.50 Fancy Parasols, see window display, special this week 98c each. \$1.00 White Hemstitched Parasols special this week 69c. \$1.75 Fiber Suit Cases leather trimmed special \$1.29. \$5.00 Leather Suit Cases special this week \$3.50. \$12.00 Ladies Pattern Hats this week \$8.00 others at same attractive reductions. Porch Screens--green painted--all sizes & prices. THE C. W. POLVOGT COMPANY