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Seventeen Year Locust This Year.

According to an announcement by the United States Department of Agriculture, North Carolina is to have a visitation of the "Seventeen year" locust this year. The formal announcement follows:

"The year 1919 is likely to be one of the worst 'locust years' on record. But entomologists of the United States department of agriculture see nothing alarming in the prospect.

"The periodical cicada, the real name of the insect commonly called 'locust,' will appear this year in the following states. Alabama, District of Columbia, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, North and South Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

"The injury done by the periodical cicada consists almost wholly in chiseling grooves in the branches of trees for depositing eggs. This injury always appears to be greater than it actually is. Popular alarm is usually out of proportion to general damage.

"Young fruit trees are sometimes killed by cicada. The precautionary measures are: Defer putting out young fruit trees till next year; postpone budding operations, do not prune this winter or spring.

"When the insects begin coming out, hand-pick them from young from your fruit trees or spray them with pyrethrum powder, kerosene emulsions or a solution of carbolic acid or acetic acid.

"Later, when the insects are ready to begin laying, spray your fruit trees with whitewash. It was added:

"Every 'locust year' is, in some sort, a year of fear and dread. It appears to have been so with the savages and has remained so with their civilized successors, notwithstanding the fact that the cicada has been under investigation for well over 200 years, and the appearance of the swarms are foretold by entomologists as accurately as eclipses of the moon are foretold by astronomers. People have fancied that they could detect in the cry of the cicada a resemblance to the name of the monarch, Pharaoh, that persecuted the Israelites, and that occult belief or fear added to the somewhat dolorious sound has served to make the cry of the cicada generally an unwelcome one. Very long ago some superstition attached to the dark bars of the filmy wings. These bars are always in the shape of the letter W, but few people remember that through a period of 13 or 17 years and great significance is attached to it at each recurrence. Some prophet has arisen always to announce that the W on the locust's wings means 'war.' Since this outbreak will come just at the conclusion of the greatest war, and when even the imagination of the rural prophet could hardly conjure up the likelihood of another one, some new explanation will apparently have to be found this time. But no doubt the cicada will, as usual, be greeted as a harbinger of disaster, and as usual, there will be reports of deaths caused by stings of the cicada, a belief that has persisted in spite of positive proof that the cicada has no sting, that only by the extreme accident could it inflict a wound either with bill or ovipositor, and that it could not, in any case, inject a poison.

"Inasmuch as the coming 1919 brood of locusts may be one of the largest on record, it is par-

Uncle Sam Holds Insurance Record.

The United States has written \$12,000,000,000 more of insurance than the combined insurance outstanding of all commercial life insurance companies in the United States, says Mr. Horace R. Dowell, Insurance Expert of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance.

"Insurance written by the Government has reached the astounding total of \$39,232,257,500—about \$12,000,000,000 more than the combined insurance outstanding of all commercial life insurance companies in the United States. The average insurance carried by men in the service is \$8,750.

"The bureau, however, is still writing insurance. Applications are coming in by the hundreds daily. Yesterday's receipts of applications were more than \$1,400.

Plans are being worked out and a system perfected for the conversion of the war risk insurance into other form of insurance. Although this insurance may, within five years, be converted into other forms of insurance, it will still be government insurance. More detailed information regarding the plans of the government will be given later.

The policies into which the present war-time insurance may be converted number six. Ordinary life, twenty-payment life, thirty-payment life, twenty-year endowment, thirty-year endowment and age sixty-two." Mr. Dowell explained.

"In each of the six policies, clauses are included which provide for the continuous payment of allowance in event of total disability of the insured during the life of the policy.

"The policy-holder will draw the regular allowance although payment of premiums may have stopped, it is explained.

"Such provisions have been attempted by a few commercial companies. And where they have included them in their policies, the premium rates have been prohibitive, officials here say.

"The new Federal policies also are planned to include participating dividend features, officials said. Reserves of the Government bureau—if a proposed amendment to the Insurance act passes Congress—will be invested in government securities, insuring a fund upon which to draw as "profit." It was indicated the reserves would be invested in bonds of the farm loan banks which, at present, are yielding about 4 1/2 per cent.—Dispatch.

ticularly important to allay excessive fear of destruction to timber as well as to have people on guard, so that the few preventive measures possible may be applied. The belief that the 1919 brood will be exceptionally large is based on the fact that the 17-year brood coming out this year is brood 10, perhaps the largest of the 17-year broods, and that brood 18 of the 13-year old family comes out at the same time. The year 1868 was the greatest locust year in history. In that year brood 19, the largest of the 13-year broods, appeared in conjunction with brood 10, the two combining to make an unprecedented infestation. The coincidence of the largest 17-year brood with a smaller 13-year brood this year will not bring about conditions reproaching those of 1868.

"Brood 18, the 13-year brood that comes out this year, is comparatively a small brood and is made up of scattered colonies rather than of the dense and compact swarms that mark the larger broods. Five states are affected by it."

The Mountain Counties.

One thing that is bound to make an impression on everybody who realizes it is the unanimous movement among the mountain counties for good roads, and for the right kind of good roads. Every once in a while some stray from up in the enlightened northern states drops into the North Carolina mountain counties and goes back home with a tale of woe and missionary necessity concerning the mountains of this state. This thing has been worked so often that some who do not know the mountains believe it. But those who know the mountains best see in the delegation in Raleigh from that part of the state the real mountains best sentiment and type.

The biggest unit that has come to back the roads is from the mountains. The people up there have more expensive roads to build than are required down in the coast country or the Piedmont, but the mountain folks are not concerned in the cost, they are figuring on roads, and on roads for all their end of the state.

It is in the mountains that sheep are making headway, and from there comes the force that has put the dog in hock this winter. It is in the mountains that dairying and cheese-making are developing. The mountains are leading in many things, and the mountain example of advertising the country to the people of outside states has been the best illustration of what North Carolina has to offer that any part of the state has undertaken. The money that Asheville has spent for advertising has been a substantial help to all of North Carolina, and probably Asheville has brought more strangers to North Carolina than any other section of the state has.

The rating of the mountain country is good in the state. It is only among those who know the mountains least that the missionary impression prevails. It is probable that with its summer resorts, its religious resorts, its farm development, its farm specialty work, its road-building, its forestry work, its water power development and everything else that goes to make a country desirable to live in, the mountain country of North Carolina is keeping as well in the front of the procession as any other part of the whole United States.

It is a good thing the mountain delegation has taken up the road proposition in such emphatic earnestness. It is going to have a good influence on the rest of the state, and when the good roads have been started and the work is progressing in every county it is not too much to predict that these mountain hustlers will be properly accredited for the part they have taken in the work.—Raleigh News and Observer.

Card of Thanks.

We wish to extend our most sincere thanks to our friends and relatives for their untiring help and sympathy, during the long illness, death and burial of our dear husband and father. May God bless each one who helped. MRS. J. C. HENSON & CHILDREN. Amantha, N. C.

So Germany is trying to forget that she was licked to a frazzle by the allies, eh? Well does Germany remember what happened to the man who yelled 'nuff' and then changed his mind. History can repeat. High Point Enterprise.

Ray Dog Bill Adopted by Senate.

The State Senate on Feb. 13 safely piloted to final adoption the Frank Ray bill to regulate and restrict dogs throughout the state, not however without some amendments most of which add "teeth" to the measure. The vote on the bill was 53 to 5.

One of the amendments, offered by Harding, of Pitt, provided that taxes collected by the law should be placed in the school fund and used for building and maintenance purposes. It is possible that dogs will, in this way, furnish revenue for painting practically all North Carolina schoolhouses.

An amendment by Gray, of Forsyth, which was adopted, provides dogs must be properly licensed and tagged except when on owner's premises. Failure to wear this tag while visiting will result in their detention, while owners would be punished.

Dogs under six months old will be exempted from tax. The bill provides for license tax of \$1 on males, \$2 on females and contains other plans for preventing their destruction of life and property.

Early Irish Potatoes.

(Progressive Farmer.)

"I wish to plant early Irish potatoes for market. Tell me what variety is best; when to plant, what fertilizer and how much an acre. My land is sandy loam in a high state of cultivation. How many bushels are needed to plant an acre?"

The variety now most generally planted for the early market is the Irish Cobber. The best fertilizer is an equal mixture of cottonseed meal and acid phosphate used at the rate of 1,500 per acre, well mixed in the furrows. From ten to twelve bushels are needed per acre, depending somewhat on the size of potatoes used. They should be cut to two eyes and the furrows three feet apart and the pieces dropped 15 inches apart. Lap furrows from each side, and before the potatoes come up, harrow the ridges level. Plant as early in February as you can get the soil in order. Spray with Bordeaux mixture as soon as well up to ward off early blight. When the bugs appear mix 1 1/2 pounds of lead arsenate in 50 gallons of the Bordeaux mixture and spray with this. Cultivate rapidly and lay by with furrows to each side of the rows.

The Story of a Merchant Prince.

There was an old geezer and he had a lot of sense; He started up a business on a dollar-eighty cents. The dollar for stock and the eighty for an ad Brought him three lovely dollars in a day, by dad; Well, he bought more goods and a little more space And he played that system with a smile on his face. The customers flocked to his two-by-four And soon he had to hustle for a regular store Up on the square where the people pass He gobbled up a corner that was all plate glass. He fixed up the windows with the best that he had And he told 'em all about it in a half-page ad. He soon had 'em coming, and he never, never quit, And he wouldn't cut down on his ads one bit. Well, he's kept things humming in the town ever since And everybody calls him the Merchant Prince. Some say it's luck, but that's all bunk— Why, he was doing business when the times were punk. People have to purchase and the geezer was wise— For he knew the way to get 'em was to advertise. —Exchange.

The Huns relied on mass formation, and now they rely on mess formation.—The Wilmington Dispatch.

JOSEPH HOLLINGSHEAD.

Mr. Hollingshead, was married to Miss Mattie Isaacs, of Watauga on the 7th of Sept., last and died at his home at Etawah Tenn., on Jan. 15, and the paper of that town prints the following to his memory:

Joe Hollingshead died at the home of his grandfather, J. B. Kirkland, Jan. 15, 1919, after a short illness of influenza and pneumonia. Age 21 years. He and his wife had come here on a visit when he took the flu followed by pneumonia and was confined to his bed a week or more when on last Wednesday evening Jan. 15th, God said "It is enough Joe, come up higher," and his soul took its flight back to the God who gave it. His wife, mother, and other friends were around his bed a short time before he died. His mother and wife were weeping when he told them not to worry that he was going home and as he drew his last breath said: "Sweet home," and dropped asleep in the arms of Jesus. The burial took place at Cog Hill Thursday and on Friday Jan. 17, 1919 the death summons came for his elder brother, Jas. Hollingshead who had been sick a few weeks with pneumonia at the home of his sister in Etawah. He did not know that his brother Joe was dead, but told them he saw Joe and his little darling baby which he had given up only two weeks before, and that they were waiting for him to come home. He told his mother he had come to the river of death and took her by the hand and asked her to go before him when she told him she could not go then, but she would follow. He then crossed his hands on his breast and giving his wife his right hand and his mother his left, and called to the last for them to go with him, that he was going home. We cannot understand why these two brothers were taken from their loved ones in such a short time, but we know that it is all for the best as God doeth all things well. They were all laid to rest in the Cog Hill grave yard to await the resurrection morn. They leave to mourn their death two young companions and a father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Hollingshead, one little brother and two sisters who have the sympathy of all in their bereavement.

pd adv.

Old Booze.

Old Booze is dead, so toll the knell for this old maudlin knave; the mourners raise a joyful yell as they stand by the grave. Old Booze hung on with teeth and nails, he tried to dodge the tomb; he hoped to sell his gins and ales until the crack of doom. He hoped to do his ancient task till Father time is gone; but we've outgrown the jug and flask, outgrown the demijohn. Old Booze is dead, at rest he lies, cashed in beyond recall; he never helped a man to rise, but made a million fall. Old Booze will sleep beneath the loam until the bright sun pales; he never built a toilers home, but he filled many jails. Old Booze has crossed the great divide to see what's doing there; and well have less of suicide, and less of black despair. And we'll see less of women's tears, of children needing bread, of wages gone for foaming beers, since Old Man Booze is dead. He'll dish no more the poison drink to knock the good man down; his funeral would make you think a circus is in town. The sextons chortle as they work and dig the clammy clay, and in the shadow of the kirk the pastor yells "Hooray!" The undertaker is on hand, with festive lilt and runes, and by the fence the village band is playing ragtime tunes.—Walt Mason in News and Observer.

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

Mount Olive, N. C. is preparing to lay 25,000 yards of pavement.

Will Britt, second son of former Congressman J. J. Britt of Asheville, N. C. died in France on Feb. 3 of pneumonia.

It is reported that a Russian war flotilla laying off Kronstadt is commanded by German officers wearing Russian uniforms.

Gen. March and nine other officers of the American army have been awarded with decorations of the French Legion of Honor.

Nomination of Maj. Gen. Enoch Crowder to be judge advocate general of the army for another term of four years has been confirmed by the senate.

Bolshevik forces who resumed operations near Archangel the 11th, were beaten back by the British and Russian forces. The fighting still continues.

The Influenza quarantine which has been in effect at Statesville, N. C. since September has been lifted and unless another outbreak should occur the ban will stay off.

Soldiers are returning from France in a steady flow. Since the signing of the armistice 287,332 have embarked for America and over one million have been mustered out.

Harry Lauder, noted Scotch singer will appear in Wilmington sometime during the month of March. This is the second time he has appeared in North Carolina.

Thomas A. Edison, the electrical wizard celebrated his 72nd birthday on Feb. 11. Mr. Edison is in perfect health, and he says that he feels as young as he did 50 years ago.

The U. S. S. George Washington arrived at Brest, France the 18th to carry President Wilson to the United States. An escort of twenty destroyers will join the George Washington on her return to the Azores.

According to a press dispatch from Geneva, the German Government is preparing to raise a large loan in the United States as soon as peace is signed, the money to be used to pay for expected raw materials from allied countries.

Rear Admiral Archibald Scales United States Navy, has begun his duties as superintendent of the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis Md. He has heretofore been commanding officer at the Great Lakes department.

Twenty-seven thousand strikers, workers of Patterson, N. J. silk mills, who went on strike early this month in an attempt to enforce a 47-hour week returned to work on the 12th, on the 50 hour basis, which prevailed before the walkout.

Judge Michael H. Justice, aged 75 years, of Rutherfordton, N. C. died at his boarding house in Asheville, Wednesday morning. Judge Justice had been a leading member of the bench in North Carolina for the past 18 years and was presiding over court at the time of his death. His body was taken to Rutherfordton for interment.

Glenn Young, special agent of the department of justice, captured the three heavily armed outlaws who are wanted in Georgia to answer to the charges of murder or desertion from the army Monday evening, the 10th inst. Young, unaided, captured the men between Murphy, N. C. and Knoxville, Tenn.