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MANUFACTURING SWISS CHEESE IN NORTH CAROLINA SUCCESSFULLY

Success of Cheese at Cove Creek Factory a Dead Certainty

"Climatic Conditions Ideal" says Government Expert. Work to be Resumed on Larger Scale. Great Future for Watauga in Dairying.

[By Jean Lea Clarke]

It is a well established fact of national renown that the mountain section of North Carolina is richly endowed in scenic beauties and possesses a marvelous climate which attracts summer tourists from far and wide. The poet with his pencil, the painter with brush and palette, the physician with his ailing patients have capitalized these great natural gifts, but by a recent discovery of a new phase of industrial life the captains of industry have heard the call of the hills. A date of great importance in the economic history of the state, nay of the South, is December 21, 1921. It was then that the first Swiss cheese south of the Mason and Dixon line was made at Sugar Grove, N. C. This spot of future fame is located in Watauga county, nine miles from the beautiful little town of Boone, named for and settled by Daniel Boone, of pioneer history.

A few Swiss immigrants came to the United States some years ago in search of a desirable location for the manufacture of the famous Swiss cheese. They settled in Wisconsin and Minnesota attracted no doubt by the pre-eminent position occupied by these states in dairy products. The United States government sent department experts to study the situation and assist if possible in the development of the processes. The government unbalanced by this tactility sent men to Switzerland to make investigation. Again the Swiss evinced indifference to imparting the secrets of their national industry to outsiders. But America with characteristic persistence refused to be baffled, only growing more determined to succeed, so Dr. Sherman, of Washington, D. C., analyzed the cheese itself, isolating the bacteria, or as the cheese man's vernacular has it, "the bug" that produces the cheese.

The industry then began to develop in phenomenal rapidity in Wisconsin. It was necessary to use a chemical known as eye culture here, although it was not known in Switzerland. The government recommends its use in North Carolina, in order to be sure of satisfactory results.

Only recently officials of the United States Department saw the wonderful possibilities for the successful manufacture of Swiss cheese in North Carolina. Mr. J. A. Arey, of the State Department, assisted Mr. H. L. Wilson, of the United States department in a survey of the situation. Mr. Wilson, who is eminently known as an expert in the Swiss cheese line, was stationed at Sugar Grove as father of the factory. It was through his initiative and effort that the enterprise originated here. In December of last year the first cheese was made under his supervision. He is enthusiastic as to the prospective development of the Swiss cheese manufacture in North Carolina. Having had every opportunity for the study of the factory and farm conditions in Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, he makes the following climatic comparisons favorable to this section:

"We believe climatic conditions

are ideal for the manufacture of Swiss cheese in the mountains of North Carolina. An exceptionally fine quality of milk is necessary for the manufacture of the queen product of the dairy realm. The abundant grass on the loam soil of this section produces the highest possible grade of milk. An unlimited supply is grown on the magnificent mountains rising tier on tier, covered with verdant grasses. The cattle can be turned in pasture in April and remain till Christmas. The heavy rainfall and the absence of scorching heat—the temperature is seldom over 85—makes this forage supply of economic importance. The nights are always cool and on every farm are found springs of almost ice cold running water for keeping the milk cool, which gives this section a signal advantage over Wisconsin where the farmers have only pumps and no means of satisfactorily cooling the milk. There during July and August operations must be suspended as a result of the heat, here there has been no temperature high enough to prohibit the successful manufacture of the cheese. It is conceded that the Swiss cheese is most sensitive to climatic conditions, in fact it is the most dairy product made. In Wisconsin the altitude is 900 to 1,000, in Boone it is 3,333 feet. Conclusively geographic conditions here are very similar to those of Switzerland, the home of the cheese. With the great mountain hinterland the industry only needs the impetus of interest and co-operation to develop rapidly."

The industry is so entirely in its infancy here that presumably the processes of manufacture might be interesting. Fifteen hundred pounds of milk are required to make one cheese, tho the imported Swiss cheese usually contains two thousand pounds. Two curing rooms are necessary, one cold room at 55° Fahrenheit, a warm room at 60 to 70°. The cheese must remain in the cold room for a period of fifteen days, in the warm room from four to six weeks. Then they are carried back to the cold room for curing. Here they must be flopped and washed every other day. The output is graded as fancy, and numbers one and two. Fancy is the superior cheese sold on the market. Number one is poorer quality, and number two, known as nistlers, is still more inferior. The last two named are used locally, only the fancy being placed on the market. An interesting group of statistics from Sugar Grove prove the experiment a success financially. The factory produced 23 cheese in December, January and February, and one cheese a week has been and will be produced weekly since then. The average weight of these cheese was 100 pounds. Three thousand seventeen gallons of milk has been manufactured, out of which 2,097 pounds of cheese have been made. The cheese is an excellent quality and has been sold for an average of 41 cents a pound. The patrons have been paid 20 cents a gallon for milk. Labor here is

Our Old Home Town

People may knock our town, critics may criticize our town, and fools may laugh at our town, but every citizen of Boone should be a Boone booster notwithstanding. This town and county of ours is something of which to be proud; standing without a pier in education, churches, citizenship, and health giving climate. Rich in undeveloped resources and wonderful scenery? If you are not a booster, don't be a kicker. Remember that it's your "Old Home Town."

BISHOP JOHN C. KILGO DIES AT HIS CHARLOTTE HOME.

Charlotte Dispatch 11th to Greensboro Daily News.

Bishop John C. Kilgo, of the Southern Methodist Episcopal church, died at his home here at 11:45 this morning, after having been extremely ill since last Sunday when he suffered a severe heart attack.

Bishop Kilgo has been gradually sinking since Thursday afternoon and his death has been expected by his physicians and family hourly. Since Sunday little or no hope had been entertained for his recovery.

The aged minister had never entirely recovered from the severe attack suffered last Spring on his way home from the general conference which forced him to remain under treatment in a Memphis hospital for several weeks, finally being brought home in the private car of Fairfax Harrison, president of the Southern railway, of which Bishop Kilgo was a director.

He regained sufficient strength however, to leave his bed and several times took rides about the city with members of his family. He made one trip to Baltimore, where he was under treatment of a specialist for several days.

Bishop John Carlisle Kilgo was born in Laurens, S. C. July 22, 1861, son of James T. and Catherine Mason Kilgo. He was educated in the schools of his native state and received the honorary degree of D. D. from Wofford and Randolph-Macon colleges and Tulane university.

He was united in marriage with Fannie Turner, of Gaffney, S. C. In 1882 he was ordained a

100 per cent efficient. In the near by section all fancy cheese output could be sold at the resort hotels, with Linville and Blowing Rock in close proximity. Asheville, Hendersonville, Hickory and other towns easily accessible. The cheese made have been sold at Boone, Blowing Rock, Hickory, Hendersonville, Greenville, S. C., and two at Brown's cafe in Charlotte.

Correlating comparisons and statistics we deduce that without a doubt North Carolina will furnish the South with Swiss cheese which has formerly come from Wisconsin or has been imported from Switzerland. The industry that has brought Wisconsin in first rank in the United States in dairy products in the past 10 years is destined to place the old North State near the top if we will only grasp the opportunity that nature so lavishly offers, where the breezes kiss the Blue Ridge and the waters carol their songs to the eternal hills.

minister in the Methodist Episcopal church south, and served several pastorates in the South Carolina conference until 1889, when he was called to Wofford college as professor of philosophy and financial agent. In 1894 he was elected president of Trinity college, Durham, where he served until 1910, when he was elected bishop of the Methodist church at the conference in Asheville.

He was a delegate to the general Methodist conference in 1894, 1898, 1902, 1906 and 1910; delegate to the Ecumenical Methodist conference in London in 1901. He was a fraternal delegate to the general conference of the Methodist church in Los Angeles in 1904, when he made a speech advocating the union of the northern and southern branches of the Methodist church.

PEACOCK AND HIS KIND,

Report comes from Raleigh, says the Statesville Landmark, that plans are being made for the release of Dr. Peacock, the Thomasville physician who was adjudged insane after he had murdered the Thomasville policeman and who is in the criminal insane department of the State prison, where he is likely to remain until there is special legislation in his behalf. One important fact that causes many public to view with suspicion the insanity pleas as a defence for crime is that the plan usually is to show temporary insanity only. That is, that the defendant was insane at the time of the commission of the crime but subsequently recovered. That was the idea in the Peacock trial, but the alienists balked. They were willing to say that Peacock was insane at the time he killed the policeman, but they insisted on saying that he was still insane and unfit to run at large. That wasn't what the defense wanted but it was better than the electric chair, so it had to be accepted. Now an issue is to be made of Dr. Peacock's case. Either an attempt will be made to show that he has recovered and should be released, or it will be contended that he should not be held in the criminal insane department of the State prison; this department, it is alleged, is not a hospital but simply a place of detention and the insane committed there are really being punished by confinement in the State prison, notwithstanding they have been illegally adjudged insane and are not criminals at all.

If this matter is to come up for discussion it is just as well to keep the facts in mind. Some years ago the Legislature passed

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GOVERNOR CAMERON MORRISON ADDRESSES LARGE CROWD IN A. T. S. AUDITORIUM

Governor Highly Pleased With this Section of Mountains

Speaks Most Interestingly on Education and Good Roads. Governor and Party Motor Over Boone Trail Road to Tennessee Line in Afternoon.

[By Col. Fred A. Olds]

The visit of Governor Cameron Morrison to Boone, Aug. 9, was an event of importance to the town, the county and all this section of the mountains. He made a superb address, met many people and saw some of the greatest beauties of the country and at the same time the effects of the highway which are so dear to his heart.

A committee visited Blowing Rock and invited the Governor to Boone. His visit began at the Appalachian Training School, the auditorium of which was packed with people. Before his arrival the usual chapel exercises had been held, Fred Olds had told a story and Sherman Brockwell, the Fire Marshal of North Carolina, had made a most practical and interesting talk.

Mr. B. B. Dougherty introduced Capt. E. F. Lovill, chairman of the board of trustees of the Appalachian Training School, and the latter presented, most gracefully, the Governor to the audience.

His Excellency described in graphic fashion the real duty of a State to its people and said that we had been far too much in the habit of making a great ado about a State's rights and had not put the proper emphasis on a State's duties or obligation, to the people. The United States has certain rights and these are absolutely necessary for the general safety and many other purposes in this great republic, but many vital things are left entirely in the jurisdiction of the states themselves; a most solemn obligation.

He told how North Carolina has undertaken to carry out these obligations, one among them education, to give every child a six months school, and to bring this about the State has set apart a great sum as a loan fund to the weak counties, and seventy of the one hundred of these are aided by this fund. Great provisions have been made for the enlargement of the universities and the colleges, to meet the tremendous needs and opportunities. For the wards of the State, the insane, epileptics, feeble-minded, deaf-mutes, blind, and for the moral delinquents, noble and proper appropriations have been made.

North Carolina, like the United States, raises its funds not by taxes upon property but from licenses, inheritance taxes, income taxes, etc., and thus sets a fine example to less progressive States.

As to highways the State took a bold step in provision for the issue of fifty million dollars in bonds and gets ready credit in the greatest money markets, at the low rate of four and a half per cent interest. Thus it is building by far the most wonderful system of highways in all the South, and opens the door of opportunity to counties which have never known a real highway. It makes the state for the first time homogeneous; the mountains and the rivers no longer barriers. The United States government appreciates this grand development; the whole country is responsive to it. But there is no tax upon the people to build these

splendid and enduring roads. They are paid for by automobile license tax and a tax of a cent a gallon on gasoline.

Thus North Carolina shines like a star in the constellation of Southern states. It leads these in great forward movements and it will not take a single step backward. The stimulating effect of what is being done is felt throughout the State and no longer will any part of it be remote. A new life opens and this wonderful mountain region will come into her own for the first time as a haven of rest to the nature lover and the health and recreation seeker.

The Governor was given the heartiest applause throughout his address and at its conclusion. With him in the auditorium was Insurance Commissioner Stacy Wade.

His Excellency dined at the Critcher House and in the afternoon was escorted over the Boone Trail Highway to the Tennessee line at Zionville. With him were Capt. Lovill, B. B. Dougherty and Fred A. Olds, and Mr. W. F. Sherwood joined this group on the way. In other cars were insurance Commissioner and Mrs. Wade, Prof. and Mrs. Carroll Mann, and Fire Marshal Brockwell, all of Raleigh.

The Governor expressed his unbounded delight at the wonderful scenery, the rich farms, the cattle dotting the hills, and was delighted to be told that Watauga with 13,477 people has 9,000 milk cows, which furnish milk not only for the people but for eight cheese factories in operation.

The fine grade of the Boone Trail won compliments and the Governor gave assurance that it would be properly surfaced and made a notable highway. A stop was made at Zionville so the Governor could see the people who had gathered to meet him. Another stop was at Mr. Sherwood's and a third at Mr. N. L. Mast's, where exquisite flowers and lawn made a lovely setting for the home. There the Governor was given magnificent dahlias, which he took to his little daughter, Angelia, who is at Blowing Rock. Returning the party passed through Boone and went on the Wilkesboro section of the Boone Trail as far as Rutherford view, which the Governor admired greatly.

The Governor and party were supper guests of the Appalachian Training School, and afterwards went to the school auditorium, where a program very attractive in character was put on, Miss McCauley, of Chapel Hill, conducting the music, and Sourwood Mountain was sung in very fine style by the chorus. Mrs. Carroll Mann recited; her charming little daughter, Caroline, danced; a quartet of local negroes sang some of their characteristic ballads; Mr. Brockwell gave a talk on the Negro in song and story, interspersed with songs; Miss Rankin contributed a piano solo; Misses McCauley and Dodson played some popular music on the piano, and there was a fine finish of the program by community singing.

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