

POTATOES VS. SWEET POTATOES

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Irish potatoes, as they are known in the South, comprise about 25 per cent of the food of European and English-speaking people. Back in 1911-12 the United States imported large quantities of potatoes from Europe. The crop of 1911 was a good many million bushels short of the needs of the nation. However, no such condition now prevails. On the contrary, there is an unusually large crop of old potatoes awaiting distribution, and reports received from the commercial early and intermediate potato areas indicate that the commercial acreage for harvest in 1935 will be only slightly less than the heavy acreage harvested in 1934.

While sweet potatoes are one of the common crops grown on Southern farms, this crop has not been commercialized to any considerable extent, and, therefore, it is treated with indifference by all but a few individuals who have discovered that a nice profit is possible from the sale of this crop, almost every year.

I am familiar with three places located in the Carolinas, only a few miles apart, that have shipped so far this season 140 cars of sweet potatoes. I do not have record of sales to truckmen.

At the time this article is being written the demand for sweet potatoes is said to be slow. Southern sweet potatoes in bushel baskets are selling in Baltimore for 85c to \$1.00; Washington, 75c to \$1.00; Pittsburgh, \$1.25 to \$1.50; Boston, \$1.40. New York and Philadelphia for the moment show no potatoes on those markets from the Carolinas. Louisiana Porto Ricans, in bushel crates, are selling in Pittsburgh for \$1.75 to \$1.85.

With the soil conditions prevailing in the Eastern Carolinas and the larger number of tobacco barns available for curing and storage, it is a mystery to me why it takes such a lot of preaching to get groups of farmers interested in growing sweet potatoes for market.

It can no longer be said that there is no demand for moist sweet potatoes outside of the South. The demand is ample in the East and in several large markets in the Central West. In fact, the demand far exceeds the usual supply.

For twenty years I have hammered county agents, state horticulturists, marketing agents, farmers and others to make sweet potatoes a money-crop. If it had not been for my enthusiasm for the subject and my confidence in the soundness of the project, I would have given up long ago in disappointment. But instead of worrying over the white potato acreage, I am going to let those farmers who want to go broke planting more potatoes than can be marketed at a profit, go broke planting more potatoes than can be marketed at a profit, go broke; while I continue, from time to time, to wield my pencil and use my voice in the interest of a larger and better cared for crop of sweet potatoes for shipment, in carlots, to bring back home some dollars from some of the markets to which our cotton, peanut and vegetable crop dollars are magnetically drawn, season after season, year in and year out, until we are left "busted" most of the time.

Timely Questions On Farm Answered

Question: How and when should rose bushes be pruned?

Answer: There are four different kinds of out-of-doors roses and the method and time of pruning for each are different. For the dwarf hybrid perpetuals pruning should be done early in the spring before growth starts and only four or five of the most vigorous canes left. These should be cut back to a height of about three feet. The dwarf growing teas should be pruned about the same time but not so heavy. Climbing roses should be cut back soon after the blooming season but the pruning should be very sparing. Hybrid teas are pruned in early spring when the buds are swelling with all shoots shortened to stand from four to eight inches. Extension Circular 200 gives this and other valuable information in the culture of roses and may be had free by writing the Agricultural Editor, State College.

Question: What is the best fertilizer for Irish potatoes?

Answer: For light sandy and dark loamy soils in Eastern North Carolina 2,000 pounds an acre of a mixture containing 5 percent nitrogen, 7 percent phosphoric acid, and 5 percent potash is recommended. In the Piedmont and Mountain sections 1,000 to 1,200 pounds of a 5-3-6 or 5-7-5 mixture is best. The nitrogen in these mixtures should be one-third organic from cottonseed meal, dried blood, fish scrap or high grade tankage and two-thirds inorganic from ammonium sulfate, or nitrate of soda, or a combination of two or three of stable manure and

more inorganic compounds gives best results.

Question: How long will it take to get good hatching eggs after the males are added to the breeding pens?

Answer: There is some variance in time but, in general, the eggs will be fertile within three days. As a margin of safety, however, it is best to wait one week after the males are penned before saving eggs for setting. Only young, well bred, and vigorous birds should be used in the breeding pens.

START THE GARDEN FOR EARLY VEGETABLES

Early gardens started in February will supply fresh vegetables in March, April, and May, says Robert Schmidt, associate horticulturist at the N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station.

Early garden vegetables are those which will grow well in cool weather, such as cabbage, lettuce, onions, spinach, kale, turnips, mustard, beets, carrots, peas, and Irish potatoes.

Some of these, especially lettuce, spinach, mustard, and kale, must be planted early, Schmidt says, for they will begin to send up seed stalks when the long hot days arrive. Late planting has caused most of the difficulty in growing head lettuce.

Most of the early spring vegetables for this State are of the green leafy types which require rapid and unchecked growth to attain the desired high quality, Schmidt points out, and therefore should be planted on the best soil available and fertilized heavily.

high grade commercial fertilizer, together with thorough preparation and tillage of the soil, will pay big dividends.

Well hardened cabbage and lettuce plants and onion sets should be planted early in February in eastern North Carolina. February and March is the time for the other vegetables listed above.

For central North Carolina the season runs two or three weeks later and for western North Carolina the season is another two or three weeks later, depending upon weather conditions.

Under normal weather conditions, Schmidt adds, mustard should mature in 40 days, spinach in 50 days, beets in 55 to 65 days, and carrots and lettuce in 75 to 85 days.

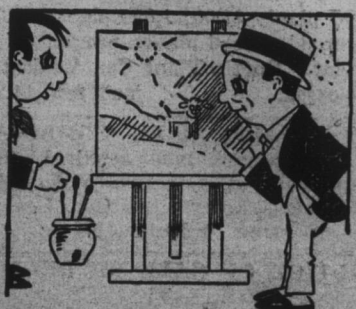
Edentonians 50 Years Ago

J. R. B. Hathaway

This is another sketch in a series of write-ups about prominent Edenton people 50 years ago, taken from "Historical and Descriptive Review of the State of North Carolina," published in 1885:

The above, one of those men who sustain the financial well-being of this section, started in his present line of business five years ago, though he was long well known to the people as he had done a large trade in general merchandise ever since the war. In his present business he enjoys an extensive patronage, his relations for collection and other purposes extending to Plymouth, Jamesville, Williamston, Hamilton, Windsor, Colerain, Harrellsville, Gatesville, Winton and Hertford, in which places he has resident correspondents. Besides his general collecting and business agency, Mr. Hathaway is preparing to buy and greatly enlarge cotton receipts at this point. He is a man, capable of doing this, as he has a fine grasp in business matters. He is one of the oldest families in Edenton, having been born here in February, 1841. He is now serving his fourth term as Mayor, in which post he has gained a solid popularity; he held the office in 1866, in 1880-82 and 1885; he is a member of the Methodist Church, married in Hertford, has a family of two, his eldest having just graduated from the Louisville Medical College. Mr. Hathaway is a man of shrewd, marked and safe business talent, and his reliability is like Caesar's wife, "above suspicion."

CER-TAINLY



Friend—What is that picture intended to represent?
Artist (absent minded)—Board and lodging for six weeks.

EVERY COUNTY SEAT TO HAVE LOAN AGENCY

Institutions Which Will Operate Under Title II of Housing Act Included In All Sections

It is the intention of the Federal Housing Administration to extend the benefits of the mutual mortgage insurance under Title II of the National Housing Act to every urban community, and in particular to every county seat in the United States, it was learned from Federal Housing officials.

Under the regulations, a lending institution authorized to extend mortgage loans insured by the Federal Housing Administration "must be located in an urban community which has a trading area embracing a contiguous population of not less than 6,000."

There are many counties in the United States which have no towns of 6,000 census population, including county seats.

Notwithstanding the initial limitations in the Federal Housing Administration's regulations covering mutual mortgage insurance, it is the intention of the Administration that no urban communities in general, and in particular no county, be denied the benefits of Title II of the National Housing Act. It was stated officially that the administrator will approve, upon application, at least one bank if "responsible and able to service the mortgage properly" in each county seat, regardless of present requirements as to capitalization and population. The regulations do not restrict approved lending institutions from offering for insurance eligible mortgages on property located in any area where they are otherwise permitted by law to lend.

Member banks and other lending institutions not eligible because of the requirements as to capital or domicile may nevertheless function as correspondents, brokers or agents for the lending institutions which are approved mortgagees.

Under the original regulations, an institution applying for approval as a mortgagee (lender) had to be located in a town or city with a population of not less than 6,000 and had to have a paid-in capital of not less than \$100,000.

Under the present general regulations, the lending institution must have a combined unimpaired capital and surplus of not less than \$100,000, of which at least \$50,000 is unimpaired capital. This means that if an institution has only \$50,000 of unimpaired capital, it must have at least \$50,000 of unimpaired surplus. However, if its unimpaired capital amounts to \$75,000, for example, an unimpaired surplus of \$25,000 would suffice.

Appraisal fees to cover cost of appraisal by the Federal Housing Administration of the property covered by a mortgage to be insured are fixed at the rate of \$3 per thousand dollars of the principal amount of the mortgage. If an application is refused without an appraisal being made by the administration, the fee will be returned to the applicant.

Under the original regulations, the lending institution had to be, under the supervision of the governmental agency from which its charter powers were derived. Now the institution has merely to be "subject to supervision satisfactory to the administration, by some governmental agency."

All national mortgage associations which may be created under the National Housing Act are automatically approved by the Federal Housing Administration as mortgagees.

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the Federal Home Loan Banks and similar governmental agencies are approved as mortgagees in accordance with the act. Any other institution must apply direct to the administration at Washington for approval as mortgagees.

Oldest Skyscraper In U. S. Reroofed

The oldest skyscraper in America, the Great House of the Casa Grande in Arizona, has been given a new roof by the United States government. Built more than 500 years before the landing of Columbus by a race that has since vanished completely, the ruins of what was once an imposing four-story structure were gradually being destroyed by sun, rain and wind until the government stepped in and covered it with a modern roof.

The new roof in no way detracts from the looks of the ruins, being supported on a new structure at some height above the ancient walls. Whoever built Casa Grande, built well, for these walls that have stood for centuries were made out of ordinary mud.

ATTEND E. T. SCOTT OPENING IN NORFOLK MONDAY NIGHT

Mr. and Mrs. Howard C. Jackson, accompanied by Mrs. H. A. Thorson, Miss Anne Johnson and Don Neirling, of Greenville, motored to Norfolk, Va., Monday night to attend the opening held by E. T. Scott, who has recently moved into larger quarters.

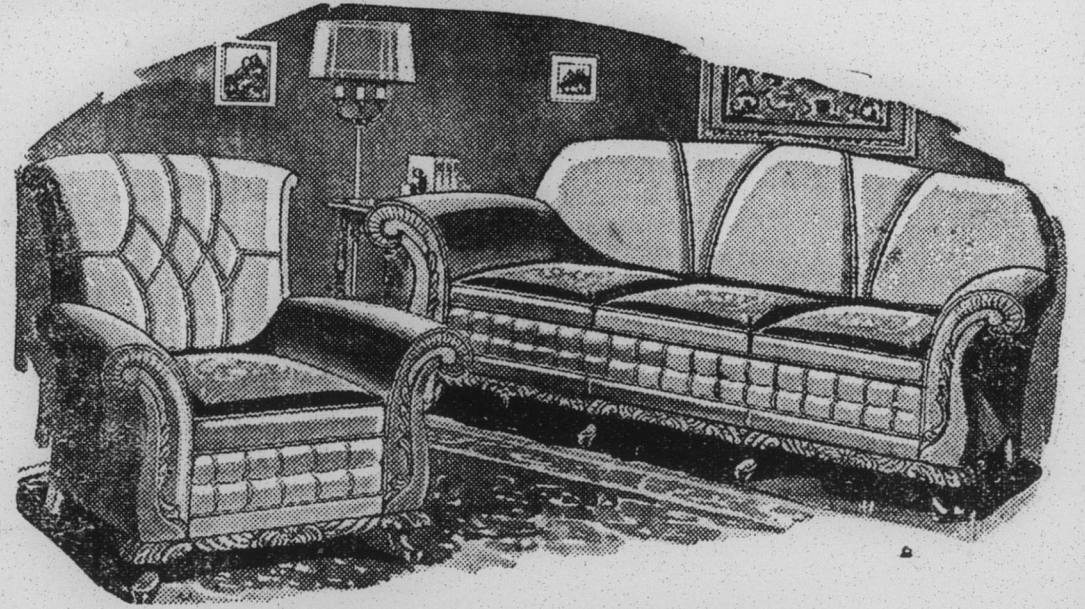
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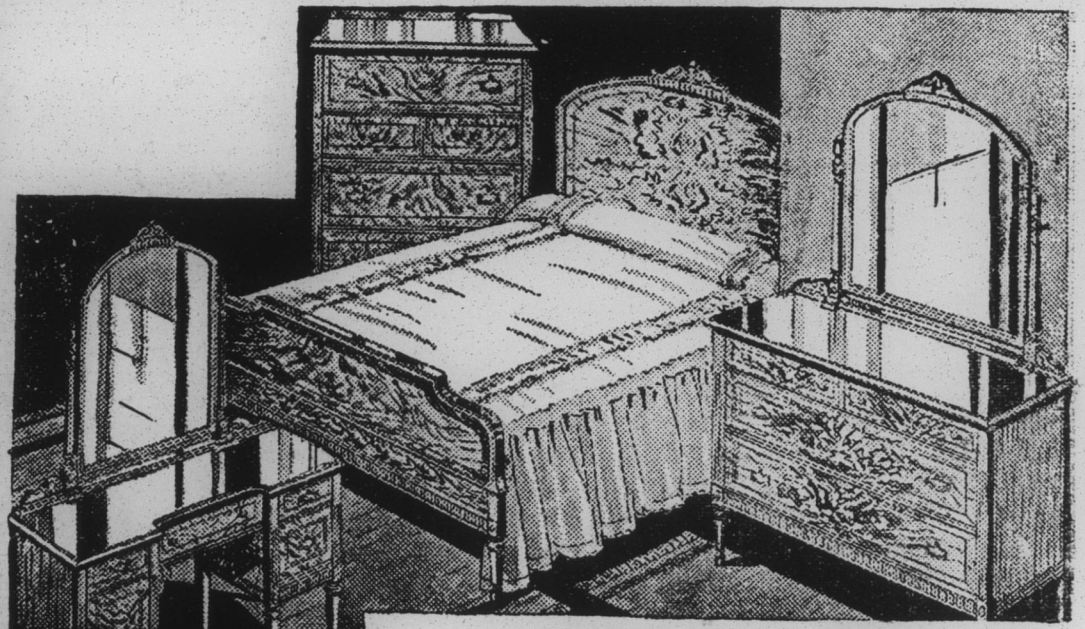
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3 Bed Room Pieces at **\$49.95**

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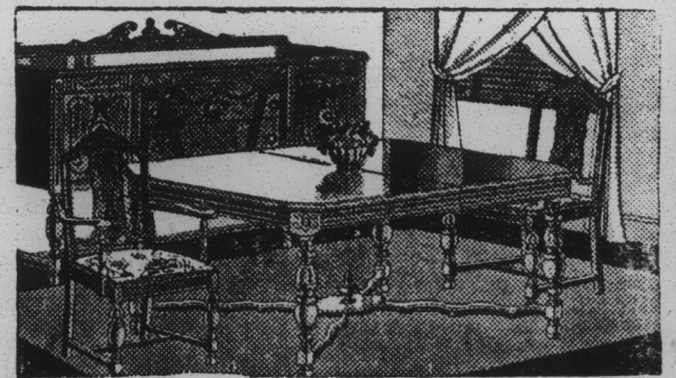
The Bedroom Suite shown above is one of the outstanding 'buys' of the month. Full walnut veneered, well constructed, and priced temptingly low for this sale only!

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