

# HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF HARNETT COUNTY PRIMARILY, AND OF THE STATE GENERALLY.

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR—5c COPY

Lillington, N. C., Thursday, December 27, 1923

"If it Concerns Harnett, It's in THE NEWS"

## SAYS DANGER OF DESTRUCTION BY WEEVILS NOT OVER

### State Entomologist Fears That Farmers Are Beginning to Feel Too Safe—Wet Year Would Favor Bugs

Raleigh, Dec. 26.—There is no doubt but that our cotton growers are optimistic, and most of them are not yet much dismayed by the boll weevil," says Prof. Franklin Sherman, entomologist for the State College and Department of Agriculture, who is now assembling opinions of county agents on this subject for the close of the year 1923.

Prof. Sherman says: "Here is the county agent of one of our southern counties who says he fears the majority of his farmers now believe the weevil's bark is worse than his bite, but that a wet year would correct that impression. That agent has had experience in a state farther south and knows how variable the weevil damage is from year to year, and how bitter the disappointment of those who become unduly careless about the weevil.

"Here is another agent in one of the upper counties who knows some thing of the dust poison method who says that during the 1923 season he did not see occasion to urge the use of this method. His opinion is in line with our usual experiences and observations in his section, but this same agent goes on to say that their first bad weevil year over the whole county is still to be looked forward to. He hates to see it come, but he knows that it will come eventually.

"Another county agent of experience in a section which was due for only light injury in 1923 writes to commend the advocacy of the cultural methods of using good seed of good varieties, and proper fertilization and tillage. This has been stressed at all our boll weevil meetings in the past and will be stressed at our meetings through the northeastern counties in January and February.

"But perhaps the most completely satisfactory testimony that I have yet received is from an agent in a county well to the eastward where many fields were quite severely hurt by weevil in 1923. This agent reported that some fields where no efforts were made to control the weevil made fair yields, but that other similar fields were badly damaged by weevil, the infestation being spotted and irregular. All careful observers know how true this is, and how easily one may be misled by it. This same agent went on to say that in fields where well selected seed of chosen varieties was used side by side in the same field with ordinary seed, and approved cultural methods followed, that the yield was so much greater as to be very convincing—and that when, in addition to this, ample proper dust poisoning was done, the yield was still further increased to a highly profitable degree.

"One agent remarks that a considerable number of farmers are inclined to the idea that a little poisoning is all they need to do to control weevil damage—and their ideas as to how and when to poison may be hazy and incomplete at that.

"All of this testimony from county agents of the Agricultural Extension Service is in line with our own experiences of 1923 and it should be surely sufficient to convince farmers that we must expect years in which weevil injury will be much worse than it was in most localities during the past season. The safe and reasonable thing to do, therefore, is to give studious attention to the whole subject of crop improvement, the culture and protection of the cotton crop. We should not allow ourselves to be carried away by an exaggerated idea that any one little thing alone will solve the weevil problem. The boll weevil meetings which we hold each winter are designed to present just such a balanced and complete program for farmers to follow. There should be a large attendance at all of the meetings which are scheduled for January and February in our northeastern section."

Forester H. M. Curran reports a new industry for the mountain section. A farmer of Cherokee cracks black walnuts and sells the meats. From 6 to 10 pounds of salable meats are secured from each bushel of walnuts and certain dealers are eager for the product.

### A Rat That Didn't Smell After Being Dead for Three Months

"I saw it was dead three months," writes Mr. J. Sykes (N. L.). "I saw this rat every day; put it in a box behind a barrel. Month after month, my wife looked behind the barrel. There it was—dead! Rat-Snap sells in three sizes for 35c, 65c, \$1.25. Sold and guaranteed by Husko's Hardware Store, Tugwell's Drug Store.

## SOUTH IS PROSPEROUS.

"Undoubtedly prosperity prevails in the South," says President Fairfax Harrison of the Southern Railway Company. The Southern is handling more traffic than ever before, handling it smoothly and without congestion, and at lower average freight rates than have obtained for several years. In the first eight months of 1923 the Southern's freight revenues were \$70,022,046, as compared with \$55,635,052 for the same period of 1922. Passenger revenues increased from \$19,543,802 to \$22,239,660.

## WILLIAMS URGES FARMERS TO HAVE SOILS EXAMINED

### Need to Know More About the Soils and Their Adaptation to Various Crops—Examination is Free

Raleigh, Dec. 26.—Most soils of the state are deficient in one or more of the plant food constituents essential for successful crop production. Farmers having learned this, have developed into users of commercial fertilizers to meet these deficiencies. Notwithstanding the fact that fertilizers are used with as great care in this state probably as in any other section of the country, yet in almost every community there might be some improvement made with profit to users if they knew a little more about the weak and strong points of their particular soils.

The Division of Agronomy of the State College and Department of Agriculture is now prepared to render this service in a rather definite way. "The Division will largely form its judgment of the needs of a particular soil from the results of carefully conducted experiments with different crops carried on through a number of years on several local farms and on the experimental farms of the College, where some of the soils are quite similar to yours," says C. B. Williams, chief of this division. "One of the workers of the division was told by farmers of one county at a field meeting recently that the results of a test conducted there this year will be worth tens of thousands of dollars to the cotton and corn growers of that section alone because of the more intelligent re-adjustment of their fertilizer formulas to better meet their soil needs. This and similar specific information with reference to the needs of North Carolina soils we have and can utilize to the advantage of farmers of the state in making recommendations with reference to the fertilizer and other needs of their soils for the most profitable production of crops like cotton, tobacco and corn for next year."

Mr. Williams states that the information is obtainable without price. All that is necessary for the farmer to do will be simply to draw a sample of his soil, according to instructions which will be supplied upon application, and forward it prepaid to the Division of Agronomy, North Carolina Experiment Station, State College Station, Raleigh, N. C.

"Our workers are fully convinced that in many cases a material saving in the fertilizer bills of farmers can be made, or else mixtures recommended may be expected to give larger and more profitable yields," says Mr. Williams. "The cost of fertilizer is one of the big cost items of crop production in this state, especially with cotton and tobacco. If the Division can help farmers of any community to effect a saving in their bills, or get better results for the same expenditure for next year, it will be serving its purpose."

Those who expect to use fertilizers or lime of any kind next year, who are not fully satisfied with results secured in the past should avail themselves of this service. This Division has, in all probability, more definite information with reference to the fertilizer and other needs of North Carolina soils and how to meet them than is available in any other southern state.

Give your farm a short, easily-read name and one that is worthy of being maintained from generation to generation. It gives the farm a business atmosphere, creates pride in its possession, and molds stronger ties between the family and the scene of its toil.

Farmers of Alamance county have saved more than \$3,000 over the retail price of explosives by cooperating in the ordering of a carload of sodalite through the county agent. A good many farmers in Harnett are saving money this way.

### LAND POSTERS for sale at The News office. Post your land and protect your birds as well as your timber.

## AUTOS COLLIDE AND FIGHT TAKES PLACE AS RESULT

### Clovis Wicker Gets Stabbed Twice and Will McAuley Receives Cut on Hand and Blow on Head

Monday night as Clovis Wicker and his brother, whose first name is not learned, were enroute to Sanford from Duke, they met Sam and Will McAuley traveling towards Lillington. Both parties were journeying in Ford cars and in some way a collision occurred. Not much damage resulted to the cars and the Wickers went on their way, it is related.

Sam Mims came along in his car a few minutes afterward and stopped at the scene of the collision. The McAuleys then, it is said, got into Mims' car and followed up the Wickers and, overtaking them, engaged a general fight in which Clovis Wicker received a stab just above his right kidney and a bad gash in his left jaw. Will McAuley was cut across his left hand and, it is said, when his brother attempted to lift Clovis Wicker with an automobile jack, the blow descended upon the head of Will McAuley, inflicting an ugly wound.

The wounded ones were brought to Lillington and their hurts were given medical and surgical attention by Dr. J. W. Halford. They afterward returned home. The whole bunch were served with warrants and are out on bond. The Wickers live in Duke. The McAuleys live in Upper Little River township.

## NEW YEAR'S DAY OPENS LILLINGTON SCHOOL FOR TERM

### Spring Term to Begin With Beginning of Year—Heating Plant in Girls' Dormitory Has Been Repaired

Lillington High and Farm-Life Schools will open their doors for the spring term on New Year's Day—Monday. Superintendent McBroome makes the following announcement: "The schools will begin next year with the year, January first. By that time the Christmas spirit will have spent its force, and it is hoped that all will be present ready for a good term's work."

"The furnace at the girls' dormitory has been repaired so that it will heat the house as well as it ever did, but the workmen have promised to so fix it that it will heat both ends of the house and all the rooms better than ever before. They agreed to do the work this week, which if done will make the dormitory more comfortable than it has ever been."

## MAMERS NEWS.

Hor many friends are glad to welcome Miss Pearl O'Neal back in our midst to spend the Christmas holidays. Miss O'Neal taught the intermediate department of our school the last two sessions, and has a host of friends here.

There was a nice Christmas tree at the Methodist church Monday night. Old Santa Claus was very jovial and afforded much fun for all present. A splendid program was rendered by the children.

Mrs. C. C. Hall of Duke spent Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Patterson.

Our B. Y. P. U. assembled on the night before Christmas and went to a number of homes singing Christmas carols which were enjoyed immensely by those who heard them.

Miss Zona O'Quinn, who is teaching in Onslow county this year, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. O'Quinn.

Miss Bessie McNeill, from near Broadway, is spending Christmas with friends and relatives in this section.

On Christmas night a beautiful Christmas tree was enjoyed at the Baptist church. A splendid program was rendered by the Sunbeam Band assisted by the B. Y. P. U. A real good time was present, and a general good time is reported.

It is not the size of the poultry flock but the way it produces that determines profits from hens, state poultry extension workers of the State Department of Agriculture. Therefore culling and good health are essential.

### "Do Rats Talk to Each Other?" Asks Mr. M. Butty, R. L.

"I got five cases of Rat-Snap and threw them around feed store. Got about half a dozen dead rats a day for two solid weeks. Suddenly, they got fewer. Now we haven't any. Who told them about Rat-Snap? Rats dry up and leave no smell. This size: 35c, 65c, \$1.25. Sold and guaranteed by Husko's Hardware Store, Tugwell's Drug Store.

## LOCAL COTTON MARKET.

Quotations furnished The News by Alexander & Co., Lillington buyers.

Middling	33 1/2c
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## GREAT PROGRESS BEING SHOWN IN STATE'S INDUSTRY

### Many New Enterprises Pointing to Improvements and Progress Reported From Almost Every Section

Following is a partial list of the enterprises being carried forward or projected the past week:

Concord: Erection of new Robeson county cottage at Jackson Training School at this point to begin at once.

Greensboro: North Carolina College for Women awards contracts for erection of new buildings calling for expenditure of \$538,366.

Old Fort: Bancroft: Bancroft Co. to establish bleachery plant here representing total investment of \$30,000,000 giving employment to two thousand persons.

Burlington: Contract to be awarded for erection of new \$300,000 hotel.

Durham: New alumal memorial gymnasium at Trinity College completed.

Duke: Clearing ground for new cotton mill proceeding rapidly.

Winston-Salem: New modern urban passenger station to be erected in eastern part of city.

New Bern: Bayboro highway completed and open.

Newton: 10,050 bales cotton were given in Catawba county prior to Nov. 14.

State Highway Commission awards contracts for 18 projects totaling 121 miles road and costing \$2,500,000.

Wilmington: New \$1,000,000 Cape Fear Hotel under construction.

Wadesboro: Charlotte highway under construction.

Charlotte: Improvements being made on local Baptist Hospital.

Lumberton: Installation of 600 new looms in new weave mill of Maasfield Mills Co. completed and in operation.

Andrews: Murphy road to be built, contract awarded.

White Oak: New Rankin School building to be erected at this point soon.

Lumberton-Hamlet road under construction.

Black Mountain: 2,600 acres land in Swannanoa river valley in this vicinity purchased for conversion into rock crushing plant.

Andrews: Stockholders of Black Mountain Lumber Co. purchase Carolina Lumber Co. here; \$15,000 involved in deal; operations to continue.

Greensboro: New Guilford Tuberculosis Hospital in this vicinity practically completed.

Fayetteville: Plans under way for erection of new Cumberland county courthouse.

Spruce Pine: Spruce Pine Mica Co. incorporated at this point with capital of \$100,000 to develop mineral resources of Mitchell county.

Greensboro: Plans under way for erection of new city hall.

Salisbury: Salisbury Bank & Trust Co. increasing capital stock from \$100,000 to \$500,000.

Wilmington: New radio broadcasting station opened at this point.

Robersonville: Harrison Oil Co. buys local oil company with plans to enlarge business operations.

Pittsboro: New school auditorium completed.

Spray: Carolina Cotton and Woolen Mills constructing new storage warehouse at this point.

Rutherfordord: Erection of new consolidated high school building planned.

Spindale: New Baptist church under construction.

Rutherfordord: 11,700 bales cotton ginned in Rutherfordord county prior to Nov. 21.

Atkinson: Contracts awarded for erection of two new Pender county school buildings, one at this point and one at Long Creek, at total cost of \$100,000.

Wilmington: 60-room addition to Seashore Hotel at Wrightsville beach under construction.

America Cotton Association has placed final estimate of cotton crop at 9,450,000 bales.

Hendersonville: Contract awarded for erection of 75 new cottages at Balfour mills.

## LILLINGTON PRODUCE MARKET

Quotations furnished The News by J. A. Marsh:

Young chickens	25c
Green chickens	24c
Eggs	40c
Butter	35c
Hams	58c
Shoulders	18c
Sides	18c
Beef on foot	65c

## MASS MEETING OF PATRONS OF BULES SCHOOL IS CALLED

### Great Effort Being Put Forth For Success of Gymnasium Movement—Friends Rallying to the Cause

Messrs. F. H. Taylor, T. H. Stewart and Z. T. Kivett, school committee of Bule's Creek school district, have mailed out cards calling for a mass meeting of the patrons of the school district tonight at the Academy at 7:00 o'clock.

The importance of securing the necessary \$2,500 to match the tendered gift of a like amount by a friend of the Academy for building a gymnasium, overshadows all other school endeavors at Bule's Creek just at this time, and the patrons and friends of the institution are bestirring themselves to make the proposition a success.

Already there have come to Dr. Campbell a number of offers from friends who wish to see the Academy gain the benefit of the magnificent gift of half the cost of the gymnasium. Some have been sent in from a distance and nearby patrons and friends of the institution are responding handsomely. It is not even hinted that there may be failure in the effort of those working for the success of the proposition.

The untiring energy of the Campbells is proverbial; so also is the zeal and enthusiasm of well-wishers of the school. The forces in co-operation have accomplished wonders in the past. It goes without saying that they will come out victorious in the present effort.

## NEW JUDGE TO SIT HERE JANUARY 7 SUPERIOR COURT

### T. M. Pittman of Henderson, Recently Appointed Judge, to Hold First Spring Term Harnett Court

Judge Thomas M. Pittman of Henderson, appointed to the bench by Governor Morrison to fill the unexpired term of Judge E. B. Kerr of Warrenton, who resigned to accept election as Congressman, will hold Superior Court here beginning January 7th and lasting for one week, for the trial of both criminal and civil cases. Usually the criminal docket is so heavy at the first spring term that all civil matters are crowded out and go over to the February term, which holds for two weeks on the hearing of civil matters exclusively.

Jury list for the January term of court was drawn at the December meeting of county commissioners and has been published in The News.

The coming of Judge Pittman in place of Judge Kerr reminds that the judicial district is covered by the resident jurist in five years. It was at the January 1919 term that Judge Kerr began his last district sitting here.

## FARM AGENTS ORDER SODALITE

Raleigh, Dec. 26.—During the first week in December orders from seven counties for 181,300 pounds of sodalite were forwarded to the Bureau of Public Roads by Assistant Director J. M. Gray of the Agricultural Extension Service. Stany county led with an order for 34,700 pounds to be distributed to more than two hundred farmers. This brings up the total amount of sodalite brought into the state, since the first of October, to 238,650 pounds.

"To my mind this is one of the best indications of the determination of North Carolina farmers to use the best methods possible for fighting the boll weevil during 1924. Blowing stumps not only upsets the winter quarters of the weevil and leaves them without good protective cover in the field, but also makes available more good land for next year's crop and greatly reduces the cost of cultivation. Increased production and decreased cost of production will in many cases pay for the cost of blowing stumps," says Mr. Gray.

County Farm Agent H. A. Edge of Harnett reports that a good many farmers have placed orders through his office for sodalite.

Tom Tarheel says: A real community leader is a priceless article. He puts into action his own and others' thoughts and soon the community is a better place in which to live because of the group energy of its people.

Typewriter paper, envelopes, land posters, chatted mortgages, second sheets—At The News office.

### LETTER, LAWYERS!

Best grade second sheets \$1 per 1000 The News, Lillington, N. C.

## GIRL SCOUTS TRAINED.

Girl Scout leaders are trained in regular courses at about 90 institutions for higher education in twenty-seven states. More than half of these courses are given by instructors under the supervision of the education department of the Girl Scouts (Inc.) and the rest by regular faculty members or by representatives of local Girl Scout troops. In the courses offered by the Girl Scouts the classes are conducted, as far as possible, in the form of scout troop meetings.

## DEPUTY SHERIFF RECEIVES LOAD OF SHOT IN RIGHT HIP

### A. A. Cobb, Deputy at Angier, Wounded in Searching For Liquor at Home of Everett Messer Near Angier

Deputy Sheriff A. A. Cobb of Angier received a load of shot from a breech-loading gun Sunday night while he was searching the home of Everett Messer, about three miles east of Angier. After firing upon Cobb, Messer made his escape while other deputies engaged in the raid were attending the wounded man.

It seems that Deputies Cobb, A. B. Curran, Milton Denning and the chief of police of Angier went to Messer's house to search for liquor. Versions of the affair relate that Messer gave his consent to the search. After looking through the front portion of the house, the deputies turned their attention toward the kitchen. In the meantime Messer had secured his shotgun and as the officers were going toward the rear part of the house he fired, the load taking effect in Cobb's right leg beginning at the hip and ranging down.

Cobb received medical attention and his wounds are not thought to be dangerous. Messer is said to be a brother of Cyrus Messer, who has served a sentence on the county roads for handling whiskey. At last reports Everett Messer had not been apprehended.

SMOKE SMALL PROTECTION TO ORCHARDS AGAINST FROST

A smoke cloud is of small advantage in retarding radiation of heat in an orchard on frosty nights. This conclusion was reached by the Weather Bureau of the United States Department of Agriculture after a series of experiments at Edgewood Arsenal, Md. Investigations were carried on jointly by the Weather Bureau and the Chemical Warfare Service of the Army to establish, if possible, the feasibility of this method of frost protection.

There seems to be a conviction in the minds of many who have had to do with smoke screens, such as were used during the war to hide the movement of troops, that orchards and tender vegetation could be protected from frost by this means. It has been thought that a chemically produced smoke cloud would furnish a cheaper, cleaner, and perhaps more effective frost protection than is obtained from burning crude oil or other fuels in small heaters.

In the experiments a field was covered with dense smoke by burning white phosphorus on nights when conditions favored frost. The temperatures were carefully measured under and in the smoke and also in a nearby field free from smoke. Results showed that while the smoke cloud decreased the rate of cooling about one-half, it had little effect on the air temperature, probably because of an interchange between the air under the smoke and that outside. The cost of maintaining a dense smoke cover over a field by burning white phosphorus, which was the most economical material available, ranged from \$125 to \$376 per hour for a 40-acre orchard or \$3.15 to \$9.40 per acre per hour, whereas the average annual cost of protecting lemon trees by the heater method is known to be about \$79 per acre with an average of 16 heatings per year, or \$5 per acre per night. The phosphorus is difficult to handle safely, as it ignites at 113 degrees F.

The experiments confirm previous conclusions that the most efficient and economical method of frost protection is to heat the lower layers of the air by burning some form of cheap fuel.

Tom Tarheel says he is going to plan his crops this next season with the idea that the boll weevil will hurt his cotton. If the season is favorable to the pest, then the other crops will produce food, feed and some money.

## MILLIONS OF CABBAGE PLANTS.

Early Jersey and Charleston Wakefield, Succession and Flat Dutch now ready. Want to say to my customers and friends that I have a five-acre bed to select from this year, therefore I can give you choice plants. McD. Marks, Bule's Creek, N. C.

## HOLIDAY SPIRIT IS FEATURE CHRISTMAS SEASON HERE

### People Enjoy Yuletide as Time for Rest and Recreation With No Elaborate Celebration of Any Kind.

As has been the case in former years, the Christmas season of 1923 has been taken as a time for rest and recreation by people hereabouts, with no elaborate celebration of any kind that would tend to break away from the quietude that harmonizes with the real spirit of the occasion. At the various churches there were held Christmas exercises with trees and gifts; the religious organizations and societies met and gathered together armloads of presents to be distributed to families of the less fortunate; and with a feeling of duty well done in the due observance of the Christ-birth anniversary, families gathered their members together for the festivities of the fireside, content upon the glorious occasion that draws the absent ones back to the family shrine if even for only a short season. Many of the younger men and young ladies who were away at institutions of higher learning were at home for the holidays, and the happiness of the youths was matched by the joy of their parents in celebration of family reunion. What with the giving of gifts and gatherings at the festive board, Christmas has been the occasion when folks hereabouts sought the pleasure of the home circle. It was a home-spending Christmas, and those who did not find the strongest home ties in Lillington journeyed to the places where "home is home" to them—where father and mother live in the old homestead.

Inquiry at the postoffice revealed the fact that the 1923 Christmas season saw more greetings going through the mails than ever before. On postcards and in the big white, linen envelopes, personal greetings carried their messages of friendship and good cheer from friend to friend and from relative to relative, from business firm to customer and vice versa. The mail has been very heavy indeed, states Postmaster Atkins and he with his assistant, Mr. Clyde McKinney, have had, instead of a lessening of work, a heavier burden. Parcel post business, as it increased in volume, also took on heightened color with the myriad kindnesses of old Saint Nicholas packed all over the gift bundles. Mail for the most part bore away from the sedate business firm and assumed a much bickered "Merry Christmas" attitude.

"Wishes" being turned into realizations, recipients would never again want for anything.

Only an instance or so was reported of any disorder. Spirits of the liquid order found their way into the systems of some few to their undoing, and these were mostly in cases where drivers of automobiles became disaffected with the orderly put-put of engines propelled by John D. Rockefeller's product and poured into their speaking tubes additional stimulant in the form of H. C. C.—commonly known as Harnett County Corn—with the usual results.

All in all, it has been a very quiet Christmas, minus the noise that in larger communities makes the welkin clatter. Not even the oldtime popcracker gained favor. Sounds of the explosions were few and far between, so few that no one noticed it as an attempt at celebration.

Christmas here was peaceful, and people seemed happy and cheerful because of it.

## PRIZES FOR BABY BEEF.

The Central Bank & Trust Company of Asheville has offered a first prize of \$250, a second of \$50, and a third of \$25 for the best exhibit of baby beef shown at the next annual Hereford show and sale held by the Farmers' Federation of Western North Carolina. The calves entered in the contest must have been dropped on or after April 1, 1923. The judges will be selected by the Animal Industry Division of State College and Department of Agriculture. The contest is statewide and open to all breeds. The bank is offering this prize money in the hope of stimulating interest in the production of more and better baby beef in Western North Carolina.

To study the effect of sunlight in treating tuberculous children the London city council last summer conducted an experiment in which 35 boys attended an open air school wearing very little clothing, so as to allow their bodies to be browned by the sun. As a result of a few weeks of treatment the boys appeared to be more alert, more energetic, and happier, according to the report of the headmaster of the school.—School Life.