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WHOLE NO. 2632

FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

Held in Lumberton Tuesday—Interesting Practical Talks on Best Methods of Farming—Soil Building—How to Use Fertilizers—Best Methods of Cultivation—Seed Selection—Corn Exhibits and Prize for Best Ears.

The farmers' institute held in Lumberton Tuesday at the court house was fairly well attended—though the crowd was slow in gathering and at first it seemed that the attendance would be very slim indeed—and those who were present were well repaid for coming. All the talks were practical and helpful and no farmer who paid close attention could have failed to carry home some suggestions that will help him in his daily work. The institutes are held under the direction of the State Department of Agriculture and the institute here was conducted by State Entomologist Franklin Sherman; Mr. Frank Parker, son of Mr. T. B. Parker, recently appointed assistant State Agronomist (Webster defines an agronomist as one versed in the management of land, or a student of rural economy, Mr. C. R. Hudson, who is in charge under Dr. S. A. Knapp, of the National Department of Agriculture, of State demonstration work; and Mr. T. J. W. Broom of Union county, also connected with farm demonstration work. Mrs. F. L. Stevens was also here to conduct an institute for women, but there were not enough women in attendance to hold an institute.

SOIL BUILDING

At the morning session, which began at 11:20, 50 minutes later than the time set, 10:30, on account of the slowness of the crowd in gathering, talks were made by Messrs. Hudson, Parker and Sherman. Mr. Hudson talked on soil handling. He defined soil as sand and clay mixed with vegetable matter and said that it is the business of the farmer to see that the proper amount of vegetable matter is put in—he must plow up and pulverize and put in vegetable matter. He emphasized the importance of deep plowing, but said that it must be done at the proper time—that is, in the fall or early winter; if done in the spring it is hard to find the top soil and the clay beneath in the proper condition at the same time after the winter rains, and it may do more harm than good. The soil is just the depth you make it. A shallow soil and low yields go together. The average depth of soil is less than 4 inches. In every instance where a man has doubled the depth of his soil he has doubled his yield of corn. There must be deep plowing to regulate the supply of moisture. Corn is produced in this State at 25 cents per bushel and in some instances it has been produced at 10 cents and even 5 cents per bushel, yet some farmers pay \$1 a bushel for corn. A money crop is one that keeps money from going out as well as a crop that brings money in, and so corn should be regarded as a money crop. We are not growing enough cow peas and soy beans. There should be something growing on the land all the winter, for if left uncovered the land may lose more during the winter months than is put into it during the crop season. Not enough time is spent in preparing land.

USE OF FERTILIZERS

Mr. Parker made an interesting talk on fertilizers and the interest in his subject was evidenced by the number of questions asked at the conclusion of his remarks. The sum of \$13,000,000 was spent in North Carolina last year for fertilizers and he contended that at least one-fourth of that should have been saved. Much of the fertilizers used is thrown away because it is not adapted to the particular

soil upon which it is used. He had a chart showing experiments that graphically illustrated this. This chart showed the results of tests made at several different test farms. The tests made at the farm at Goldsboro were used principally because of the similarity of the soil in this county and there, both being Norfolk sandy loam. First the amount of corn raised without fertilizers was given, then the amounts raised with different combinations of fertilizers. With some fertilizers the yield was increased manifold, while with one element the yield was actually less than with no fertilizer at all, showing that that particular ingredient acted as a poison to that particular land; while that same ingredient increased the yield on other kinds of soil. Another chart showed results from using different amounts of fertilizers, average yields of tests extended over 5 years. In some instances it was shown that by using only 200 pounds of fertilizers cotton was produced at a loss, while an increase in the amounts of fertilizers gave increased profits. He said that about 600 pounds is the amount that it is considered gives the best yield, while any amount above that does not materially increase the yield but adds to the land for the next crop. Mr. Parker also discussed home mixing of fertilizers and said that from \$2 to \$5 per ton is saved in this way; and besides the saving, one can get just the combinations one wants for any particular sort of land. In buying fertilizers one pays freight on dirt that is used as a filler and sometimes this filler is actually harmful to the land. He also discouraged the buying of prepared lime, because in doing so one is buying a great amount of water.

Mr. Sherman, who followed Mr. Parker, explained in reference to the charts showing yields at the test farms, that it is not the purpose at these farms to make fancy yields but to find out what is best adapted to different soils and so in many instances small crops are raised while experiments are being made. Mr. Sherman made a short talk on insect pests and how to cope with them. Special information along this line may be obtained by writing to Mr. Sherman's department at Raleigh—as, indeed, special information along any of the lines discussed may be obtained from the different departments connected with the State Agricultural Department.

CULTIVATION.

At the afternoon session, which began at 2 o'clock, Mr. Broom began with a talk on cultivation. He declared that many farmers plow up their corn and cotton in cultivating by plowing too deep. All cultivation should be shallow, fast, frequent, and should follow every rain. It is a great mistake to do deep plowing in corn and cotton.

SELECTION OF SEED.

Mr. Hudson followed Mr. Broom. He said that the kind of corn we plant has a great deal to do with the yield, so the farmer should be careful in the selection of seed. It pays to breed corn just as well as it pays to breed cattle. If he wanted to grow seed-corn he would get the best local seed and improve it. Seed-corn should not be grown in rich soil, for its not likely to do well on poor land. We lose about 14 per cent of corn yield by allowing barren stalks to grow in the fields; tassels should be cut out of barren stalks. Seed should be kept dry. A big ear of corn is not the best; a medium-size cob with lots of corn on it is best for seed. It is best to plant as early as possible.

CORN EXHIBITS.

Mr. F. F. Purvis of Orum won the prize of \$1 offered for the best 5 ears of pure-bred corn. The following also had exhibits of 5 ears each, and they were all good: Mr. Jeff Taylor, who lives near Lumberton; Messrs. J. L. Duncan and Ira A.

The greatest danger from influenza is of its resulting in pneumonia. This can be obviated by using Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, as it not only cures influenza, but counteracts any tendency of the disease towards pneumonia. Sold by Dr. McMillan & Son and Pope Drug Company.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

New County Hearing 24th—Bill For Home For Widows of Veterans—Other Bills.

The Ewart bill to ratify the Federal constitutional amendment for the income tax came up for final passage in the House Monday and was made a special order for the 25th inst. A bill by McGill of Cumberland appropriates \$5,000 for a building at the soldiers' home for wives and widows of veterans and \$5,000 for maintenance. The House Monday passed the bill to empower the State Fair Association to hold \$150,000 instead of only \$50,000 property.

Raleigh correspondence, 16th, Charlotte Observer: The hearing of the proposition to create Hoke county out of parts of Robeson and Cumberland, with Raeford as the county seat, is to be heard Tuesday, January 24, by the joint legislative committee on counties, cities and towns. A number of prominent citizens from Lumberton here on some other matters say that there is really no probability of the proposition getting a favorable report, much less going through the Assembly. Every member of the Legislature from that section, they say, except Senator McLaughlin, who lives in the proposed new county, is fighting the proposition to divide the county. Sentiment among the members of the Legislature, it is said, is not much inclined toward the creation of any new counties at this session.

Senator A. H. Boyden of Rowan introduced a bill Tuesday providing for a million-dollar administration building for the State, to occupy the square north of Capital square, a part of which is now the site of the agricultural and Supreme Court buildings, which are to be torn away to make room. The bill authorizes the State Treasurer to issue not exceeding \$1,000,000 4 per cent, 40-year bonds and if the bonds cannot be sold at satisfactory terms he is to negotiate temporary loans. Representative Ashley Horne of Johnston introduced a duplicate bill in the House yesterday. The House committee on judicial districts decided Tuesday to report favorably the bill for readjusting the pay of superior court judges so that they get pay at the rate of \$100 per week for the days of court actually held, and at the end of the year if they have not held courts enough to make the present salary of \$3,250 the balance is to be paid by the State Auditor. McArthur of Robeson introduced a bill Tuesday for the maintenance of the Croatan Normal School.

A petition was presented yesterday in the Senate by Cob and in the House by McPhaul from the Robeson Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy urging the erection of a fireproof State building for preserving historic records. The bill asking the Legislature to provide for the establishment of farm life schools will be reported favorably. It provides for an appropriation of \$2,500 by the State in each county that raises a like sum. A joint meeting of the educational and agricultural committees of the Senate and House and the officers of the Farmers' Union, which organization is behind this proposed legislation, will be held next Monday night to further consider the bill.

M'White, all of Howellsville township; and Mr. G. H. Floyd of Fairmont.

Mr. Broom announced that Mr. T. B. Parker, who is in charge of the boys' corn clubs, is anxious to have more boys from Robeson county join the corn club.

It is to be regretted that the institute was not more largely attended. It was helpful and practical all the way through, every moment of it. The men who are conducting these institutes are practical farmers who have studied their work and they are very much in earnest in trying to help improve farming conditions in the State.

Heavy, impure blood makes a muddy, pimply complexion, headaches, nausea, indigestion. Thin blood makes you weak, pale, sickly. Burdock Blood Ritters makes the blood rich, red, pure—restores perfect health.

Stockholders' and Directors' Meetings—Over \$23,000 in Dividends.

The sum of \$23,550 in dividends has been declared by Lumberton banks and cotton mills within the past few days, as follows: Lumberton Cotton Mills, 5 per cent, quarterly, \$8,750; Bank of Lumberton, 5 semi-annual, \$5,000; Dresden Cotton Mills, 2 semi-annual, \$4,000; National Cotton Mills, 3 quarterly, \$3,300; First National Bank, 5 semi-annual, \$2,500.

Some of the meetings at which the dividends given above were declared have already been reported in The Robesonian. Tuesday the quarterly meeting of the directors of the Lumberton Cotton Mills was held and the regular quarterly dividend of 5 per cent, was declared. Yesterday the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Dresden Cotton Mills was held and the old board of directors and president and vice president, Messrs. R. D. Caldwell and A. W. McLean, were re-elected. At the subsequent meeting of the directors the regular quarterly dividend of 2 per cent, was declared and Messrs. H. B. Jennings and F. P. Gray were re-elected secretary and treasurer and assistant, respectively.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Jennings Cotton Mills was held this morning and the old board of directors was re-elected, this board re-electing the same officers. H. B. Jennings is president and treasurer, F. P. Gray secretary. The mill will be put in operation in about 2 months.

An Interesting Lecture on Catholic Belief.

Among the items crowded out of Monday's paper was mention of services held at the opera house Sunday at 8:30 a. m. and 3:30 p. m. by Rev. Father Hayden of Wilmington. At the afternoon service Rev. Father Hayden delivered a most interesting and instructive lecture on what Catholics believe. He answered some questions that had been dropped in a box that was placed at the door for that purpose, and both in his answers to these questions and in his lecture he showed, in a most fair-minded and tolerant way, the fallacy in some popular conceptions about the Catholic belief. His lecture was a treat to non-Catholics, of whom there was a good number present, as well as to those of his own faith, and all who heard him are glad to know that he will give other lectures here along the same line. He will conduct services here the third Sunday in March and will deliver a lecture here some time between now and then, announcement of which will be made later.

Union Meeting of Robeson Baptist Association.

The next union meeting of the Robeson Baptist Association will be held at White Pond January 27-29.

Program.

FRIDAY.
11:30 a. m. Sermon—C. G. Wells.
1:30 p. m. How should a pastor be called?—J. J. Scott, J. M. Fleming.
2:00 p. m. The relation between the local church and the association and convention.—E. C. Nye, R. T. Allen.
2:30 p. m. Giving as an act of worship.—A. A. McClelland, K. Barnes.

SATURDAY.
10:30 a. m. Are our churches doing their duty in training the new converts and younger members?—R. E. Sentelle, L. E. Tyner.
11:00 a. m. Sermon—D. P. Bridges.
1:30 p. m. Miscellaneous business.
2:00 p. m. The harvest fields and prayer for more laborers.—F. Prevatt, V. P. Hedgepeth.

SUNDAY.
10:30 a. m. The weak places in our Sunday-school organizations.—C. K. Singletary.
11:00 a. m. Sermon—C. S. Cashwell.

All those who go on the train will buy their tickets to Marietta. Arrangements have been made by the members of White Pond church to meet the trains Friday and Saturday at Marietta and provide conveyances for the delegates from the station to the church.
C. H. Durham, for the Committee.

Many persons find themselves affected with a persistent cough after an attack of influenza. As this cough can be promptly cured by the use of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, it should not be allowed to run on until it becomes troublesome. Sold by Dr. McMillan & Son and Pope Drug Company.

Club Smoker Postponed—Next Thursday Evening the Time.

The smoker which the Lumberton Commercial and Industrial Club planned to have this evening has been postponed to Thursday evening of next week on account of circumstances which make it impossible for Mr. W. T. Corwith, secretary of the Greater Charlotte Club, who was to address the meeting along industrial and town-building lines, to be present. By postponing the smoker until next Thursday evening there will be a greater treat, for both Mr. Corwith and the president of the Greater Charlotte Club, Mr. C. O. Kuester, are expected to be present at that time. The object of the smoker is to put new life into Lumberton's town-boasting forces.

Mr. Jas. D. Proctor Doesn't Want Position of Substitute Recorder.

Mr. Jas. D. Proctor of Lumberton is named as substitute recorder in the bill which has been introduced by Senator Cobb creating a recorder's court for Robeson county. Mr. Proctor says Senator Cobb has never mentioned the matter to him and that he would not qualify in case the bill should become a law. He says that he is opposed to the establishment of the court because he does not believe that it would accomplish any good but that it would further inconvenience the people and would greatly increase the cost to the county in the administration of criminal justice. As has been mentioned in The Robesonian, the recorder's court and other matters of proposed legislation will be discussed in a meeting which will be held in Lumberton at the court house at 11 o'clock Saturday.

Robeson Now Leads The State With Fifty Special School Tax Districts.

Two elections for special school tax were carried in Robeson Saturday, bringing the number of these districts in Robeson to 50. Last month it was stated that Robeson led the State with 48, her nearest competitor being Guilford, with 47, so that if Guilford has made no gains since then Robeson has 3 more than any other county in the State. District No. 5, White House township—the Marietta school—voted special tax of 30 cents on the \$100 and 90 cents on the poll, but the commissioners will be asked to levy a tax of only 25 and 75 cents. The registered vote was 47 and 39 votes were cast for the tax, only one being cast against. District No. 3, Britt's township—Center school—voted a tax of 20 cents on the \$100 and 60 on the poll. The registered vote was 22, 20 being cast for and none against. On the same day district No. 3, Thompson township—Centenary school—voted on a tax of 30 and 90 cents, and it was defeated simply because of a misunderstanding. The registered vote was 46 and 21 votes were cast for and none against. It is understood that practically all the voters in the township are in favor of the tax, but it requires a majority of the registered vote and not enough people voted to carry it. It is understood that a petition for another election in this district will be presented to the commissioners at once and Supt. Poole is certain that it will be carried.

Presiding Elder W. L. Cunningham, of the Raleigh district, died at his home in Raleigh Tuesday night of pneumonia. He was for many years secretary of the North Carolina Conference and was one of the best-known Methodist preachers in the State. He was 55 years old.

Matthew Love Connor, a young white man, is charged with having married Miss Emma Ward of Columbus county when he has a wife and 3 children living at Abbottsburg, near Wilmington. The alleged wife No. 2 is only 15 years old. Connor was arrested in Wilmington and held in jail in default of bond for trial today.

For a mild, easy action of the bowels, a single dose of Doan's Regulents is enough. Treatment cures habitual constipation. 25 cents a box. Ask your druggist for them.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

—The banks of the town are closed to-day, observing Lee's birthday.

—Licenses have been issued for the marriage of Adeline Blount and Frank Purdie; Mary C. McCaskill and Angus M. McNair.

—Mr. J. C. Barnes, of route 3 from Lumberton, left home last Friday night and returned Monday with a bride, who was a Miss Byrd of Harnett county.

—For the third time the regular monthly meeting of the town commissioners has been postponed, bad weather and the mayor's health interfering. It will be held next Tuesday night, D. V.

Mr. A. H. Perry of Parkton is among the visitors in town to-day and talking about pigs. Mr. Perry killed two Tuesday that were no slouches. They were just 15 months old and weighed 250 each, dressed—that is, naked, inside and out.

—Lee's birthday is being celebrated here today by the veterans and Daughters of the Confederacy and the Daughters served dinner to the veterans in the commissioners' room at the court house. A meeting of the Farmers' Union is also being held here today.

—The Raweis, native New Zealanders, presenting in song and story native life in the South Sea Islands, with a setting of primitive costumes, curios and scenery, will hold the boards at the opera house tomorrow evening. This is the fourth number of the Lyceum course.

—Mr. Frank P. Humphrey, of route 2 from Lumberton, underwent an operation at the Thompson hospital Tuesday night. Mr. Humphrey has been unwell for some time and was brought to the hospital Tuesday afternoon. His condition this morning was as good as could be expected.

—Deputy Sheriff J. A. Kitchin, of Maxton, placed Make Johnson, colored, in jail here Monday on a charge of assault and carrying a concealed weapon. Johnson, who has been dodging the officers for several months, the charges having been made by the grand jury, was arrested in Blue Springs township Sunday by Deputy Kitchin.

—Oscar Edwards was tried before Mayor Rowland Monday for interfering with Policeman Strain about a month ago in making an arrest and was bound to court in a \$100 bond, which he gave. The negro who was to have been tried yesterday for running over little Edith Barker last Saturday was dismissed, the child's father, Mr. C. M. Barker, being satisfied that it was purely accidental.

—Dr. W. L. Grantham left Saturday for McIver, near Danville, Va., in response to a message announcing the illness of his infant son. Mrs. Grantham and the baby have been at McIver at the home of Mrs. Grantham's parents for a week or so. Mr. C. P. Grantham, of Fairmont, was in town yesterday and said that he had just received a letter from the doctor, his son, stating that the child has pneumonia and is very sick, and Mrs. Grantham is also very unwell.

—Messrs. J. H. Balfour and J. M. and C. H. Phillips, who came to Robeson county two or three years ago from Edinburgh, Scotland, and who farmed last year near Rennert, moved the first of this week to Mr. J. A. McAllister's farm about 4 miles from Lumberton on the Creek road. They are keeping batch, none of them yet having fallen to the charms of a Robeson county lassie, and one of them cooks for the three. They tried truck farming last year but Mr. Balfour, who was in town Tuesday, says they are going back to corn and cotton this year.

At a representative meeting of the townships of Lee county Monday a committee was appointed to draft a bill providing for an election to vote a \$100,000 bond issue for good roads.

Stops itching instantly. Cures piles, eczema, salt rheum, tetter, itch, hives, herpes, scabies—Doan's Ointment. At any drug store.