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LUMBERTON FU RNITURE STORE.

### COMMENT

HOME MARKETS NEGLECTED.

In a recent Robesonian mention was made of the fact that while this is almost in the heart of the best strawberry producing section it is out of the question to get strawberries for the local market, and inquiry was made as to why somebody does not raise berries for the home market. As good prices could be obtained for to pay, the same, is absolutely unberries in Lumberton and other towns fair. There is nothing right about it. throughout this section as are obtained from the Northern buyers-in fact, as suggested below, if the home markets were cultivated better prices could be obtained from those who buy for the Northern markets.

One trouble is that the dealers in small towns hereabouts have left the field for the Northern markets. If they would get together and put a buyer out to bid for berries in large quantities they could perhaps get all the berries they want.

But this mention mer.ly brings in the following from the Conway, S. C., Field, noted in Friday's Wilmington

"Last week we attended the Methodist district conference at Dillon. While there we were struck by the absence of strawberries. Here in Horry we are shipping them out by the carload and delighted to get 10 and 20 cents a quart for them, while over in Dillon and Marion counties you hardly find any, and such as you get costs 25 cents a quart. We have a great home market close at hand that would take almost our entire output if our people would only take a little trouble to organize properly for it. If we would cultivate the home market we could practically dictate prices to the Northern markets. In other words they would have to pay us gilt-edge prices or get no berries."

And The Star, commenting on the above, adds:

nearby are not supplied while those far away are glutted? It must be the fault of local dealers who do not keep in touch with producers. Certainly class day exercises; 2:30 p. m., meetthe producers would only be too wil- ing of executive committee of board ling to sell in the home markets as of trustees; 3:30 p. m., musical enwell as abroad. It might also be said | tertainment of college orchestra and that the producer does not look glee club; 8:30 p. m., re-union of litaround him for the markets that he erary societies-alumni orators: Philcan get nearer home.

to the effect that while potatoes were Society, Dr. J. E. Mills, Columbia. rotting in one Maine county the people were paying exhorbitant prices in another county of the same State. Producers and consumers will have to find some way of getting closer together. Producers will have to give 8:30 p. m., oratorical contest between more attention to looking for customers, and consumers will have to give more thought to the source from which they can secure what they need. So far as the local markets are concerned the middlemen seem to be asleep. So do the producers in failing to have a co-operative marketing sys-

## AN UNJUST TAX.

Robeson county's new road law becomes effective on the first of next month. Whatever may be its merits or demerits otherwise, The Robesonian has been convinced all along that its provision for alabor tax is unjust. It calls for only 4 days' labor or \$2 Webb camp of Confederate veterans in lieu of labor, but reverting to this in Durham county, engaged in a fistiold custom, which is "more honored in cuff in the court house. It seems that the breach than in the observance," is a step backward, no matter how few days of labor are required. It is true, too, that the majority of the sentiment expressed at the meeting held in Lumberton before the bill was framed to instruct the county's representatives in the Legislature as to what was wanted was in favor of a labor tax, but it is also true that the people upon whom this tax will fall most heavily were not represented at that meeting-they were at work earning their small daily wage and could not afford to come to the meeting and let their representatives know ployed the parish clerk to versify what they wanted.

Commenting upon this most unjust method of taxation The Progressive Farmer says:

"The Progressive Farmer recently uttered a righteous protest against the ancient but not time-honored plan -for no length of time can honor such a vicious system-of confiscating a week's work from poor men every year for the upkeep of roads, whereas the only correct plan is to have each man pay only his proportion to what he owns. It is an outrageous system that takes a whole week's labor or earnings annuall from the poor man, who perhaps owns ,little or nothing, and who needs the proceeds of his week's labor much more than does some business man earning \$50

to \$500 in a week's time. If the poor man earning \$1 a day must give six days a year to the roads, then the rich man earning \$25 a day should give \$150 to the roads. We are glad to find that valia good-roads fighter, Editor H. B. Varner, of Southern Good Roads, speaking out on this subject as follows:

"'There is nothing more unjust than the labor tax. How long will our people submit to it? Any law which taxes the poor man \$9 per year and the man with property, who is able Not far from where I live I have in mind now a man who ownshorses, buggies, and wagons and big farms, who does not even pay one cent towards the upkeep of the roads, because he is more than 45 years old. The chances are that he will continue to use the roads daily for 30 years vet. Every tenant he has on his farms with the exceptions of two or three, are still subject to the labor tax. They must work six days in the year on the roads. He is worth many thousands of dollars. His tennants are comparatively poor men. Where is the justice of it?"

#### Commencements of Southern Presbyterian and Davidson Colleges.

The seventh annual commencement of the Southern Presbyterian College and Conservatory of Music at Red Springs will be held from the 18th to 21st inclusive. The baccalaureate sermon will be preached Sunday by Rev. E. R. Leyburn, D. D. of Durham; senior class day exercises will be held Monday evening at 8 o'clock; Tuesday at 11 a. m. will be held the meeting of the board of trustees and the annual business meeting of the alumnae; at 4 p. m. reception and art exhibit; at 8 p. m., annual concert; Wednesday, Commencement address Dr. Jas. A. MacDonald of Toronto, Canada, introduced by Hon. Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy.

The seventy-sixth annual commencement of Davidson College at Davidson will be held May 25-28. Sunday, May 25, baccalaureate sermon by Rev. J. S. Lyons, D. D., of "Whose fault is it that markets Louisville, Ky.; 8:30 p. m., annual sermon before Young Men's Christian Association by Rev. D. H. Ralston, Charlotte. Monday, 26th, 10 a. m., anthropic Society, Dr. Henry Elliott "Recently we published a statement | Shepherd of Baltimore; Eumanean Tuesday, 27th, alumni day, 11 a. m., annual address by Mr. Wm. T. Ellis, Swathmore, Pa.; 2:30 p. m., annual meeting of the general alumni association; 3:30 p. m., senior orations; literary societies; 10 p. m., alumni reception. Wednesday, commencement day, inauguration of president-elect Wm. Jos. Martin, addresses graduating exercises, etc.; 4:30 p. m., gymnastic entertainment; 8:30 p. m., receptions by societies, fraternities and student

#### Veterans Fght-Gen. Carr and Maj. Hamilton Mix it Up.

Durham Dispatch, 10th.

A sensational incident featured Memorial Day exercises here when Gen. Julian S. Carr, millionaire tobacconist, and division commander of the United Confederate Veterans, and Major Hamilton, commander of the the trouble between General Carr and Major Hamilton grew out of difference of opinion cencerning the line of march for the veterans. Following a meeting of the veterans at which Maj. Hamilton presided General Carr ordered the Major under arrest. After the fight Gen. Carr picked up the Major's glasses and handed them to the Major and reminded him that he was still under arrest. The men later "made up."

An UnGentle Queen.

Baltimore Sun.

The following is told of Queen Elizabeth upon her visit to Falkenstone. The inhabitants had emtheir address and the mayor being introduced mounted a three-legged stool and commenced his poetical declamation thus:

"O mighty Queen, Welcome to Falkensteen!"

Elizabeth burst out in a loud roar of laughter, and without giving his worship time to recover himself she replied:

"You great fool, Get off that stool.

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