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WM. H. STEWART, EDITOR.

HELPS CORN AND COTTON PLANTERS.

Something Along the Line of the Farmers' Cooperative Cotton Demonstration Work.

The past winter has been so wet that there has been less than usual opportunity to prepare the land for this year's crop. The rains have continued so late that many fields are still very wet. These conditions make it the more necessary that the soil be well prepared before planting. In the In the impatience to commence planting the temptation to plow before the land is dry enough is very great. Against this we issue a word of warning! There are few more injurious farm practices. Land plowed wet at this time is injured for the whole season. Such land is more than likely to be cloddy, and a clod in the field is of little use to plants. Cloddy land is hard to work and seldom gives a good stand. It furnishes a minimum of food to the plants and is exceedingly subject to drought. While it is desirable, especially in the boll-weevil sections, to plant cotton as early as possible, yet there is nothing gained by placing the seed in the ground before the latter is warm enough to germinate and grow; or before the soil is thoroughly prepared. This was strongly illustrated last year in boll-weevil sections. Where the land was properly prepared before planting, even though this preparation caused a delay in putting the seed into the ground, the yield was much better than where attention was not given to this detail. A thorough preparation is more than half the cultivation. Do not plant either cotton or corn before the land is worked into a fine seed bed even if planting is a little late.

Last spring a great amount of trouble was experienced in securing stands, especially of cotton. This was primarily due to a late wet spring; but there were other contributing factors, including poor preparation of land, improper depth of planting and poor seed. The farmers seem fairly well aroused to the importance of good seed. To be good the seed must not only be from a good variety but must have been carefully selected and so cared for that they have strong vitality. Be sure the seeds planted have not been damaged from any cause. Prepare the land thoroughly and sufficiently in advance of planting so that there is a firm seed bed. Then avoid one of the most common causes of loss of stand—that of planting too deep.

With well-prepared land good cotton seed, if properly planted, will germinate even in a dry spring when covered to no greater depth than one-fourth inch. Many of the cotton-planting machines on the market are faulty in that it is almost impossible to gauge the depth at which the seeds are placed in the ground. This defect is only increased if the seed bed is loose. Further, while they may not actually be covered to a great depth, many leave them in a trench with hills of loose dirt on each side. The first good rain washes dirt into the trench and buries the seed too deep. This should be avoided. A light roller should always follow the planting so as to press the ground close to the seed.

It is best even where it is not necessary to plant upon beds, to place the seed upon a slight ridge, especially in planting early. This insures drainage and warmth and consequently a good stand. There are more stands lost in planting cotton by using too much than too little seed. When a bushel of seed is used it is very often a detriment, because the seeds are so close that when they germinate they lift the soil in the whole top of the row. If dry or a little cool weather follows the soil immediately around the young plants dries or is chilled by the cool nights, and the plants die. If this does not occur the farmer is obliged to thin the cotton when very young, while the plants are delicate and are easily

THOSE LIQUOR PRESCRIPTIONS.

Sold About Thirty Times as Much Liquor as Now Sold By Drug Stores.

Rev. A. R. Shaw, pastor of Tenth Avenue Presbyterian church, gave out a statement regarding the liquor prescriptions in Charlotte, a report of which was published some ten days ago, which he has requested The Observer to reproduce. It is as follows:

"The average monthly number of prescriptions for the year 1907 was about 3,200; prescriptions averaged between a pint and a quart; this would make about six hundred gallons a month sold by the drug stores. It is estimated that each saloon that sold liquor in the City of Charlotte averaged about 50 gallons daily. Just before Charlotte went dry there were eighteen places where liquors were sold in the city. The sale by prescriptions a month is about what one saloon sold in ten or twelve days. We had 18 liquor places selling about 50 gallons daily for 26 days in a month. This does not include what the drug stores sold while the saloons were in operation. The population of Charlotte is about 35,000. The prescriptions are filled for a population of the city, county and surrounding sections of perhaps 100,000 people or more."

"The fruits of prohibition in comparison with saloon towns in North Carolina are as follows: In the same month which Charlotte had 188 recorder's court cases and 19 drunks, Asheville, with a population of about 28,000, had 482 cases and 388 drunks, Winston, with a population of about 15,000, had 440 cases and 220 drunks, Asheville recently voted dry by a vote of three to one. "The saloons sold about forty times more liquor a year than were sold by the drug stores."

"Prohibition has helped business and is a great blessing to the community."—Charlotte Observer.

injured. Perfect stands of cotton have been obtained with four pounds of seed and if the seed has been properly selected and preserved it should never require more than a peck per acre, provided the land is in good condition and the seed is properly planted. Prepare the land thoroughly before planting.

Use selected seed of known parentage and good quality. Plant shallow—not over 1/4 inch in depth on a firm bed.

Follow planting with a roller and use care that the seed drill is not in a trench.

Be sure the seed bed is well drained. With these precautions there should be no difficulty in securing a stand of either cotton or corn this year. These directions are for normal conditions and are applicable with all ordinary seasons and soils.

WIDTH OF ROWS AND DISTANCES OF PLANTS IN THE ROW.

Owing to the differences in soil fertility and varieties of cotton, it is impossible to give any general rule for distances between the rows and for spacing of the plants in the row. However, as some guide we give the following:

On good uplands ordinarily producing one-half to three-fourths of a bale of cotton per acre, plant in rows four feet apart and give not less than sixteen inches space between in the row. On rich bottom lands where excessive stalks are produced, plant in rows not less than five feet apart and give two feet space between plants in the row. Increase or decrease these distances (rows and spaces) according to the strength of the soil and the usual size of the cotton plants.

On post oak flats and alluvial land like the Mississippi bottoms, give full distance between rows so as to make a broad ridge for the plants and provide for surface drainage. D. N. BARROW, Assistant in Charge of Instructions. Approved: S. A. Knapp, In Charge.

STATESVILLE AND IREDELL COUNTY.

A Thief Who Loves Butter. Cotton Drops. A Spring Fish Tale.

Statesville Landmark, March 17.

J. K. Morrison & Sons are building a brick store room, 20x40 feet, on the site on south Center street from which a small frame building was recently removed.

Cotton dropped under 11 cents on the Statesville market Saturday for the first time in quite awhile. The price yesterday was 10.48. While the crop is short the business depression has affected the cotton manufacturers so that many of the mills are running on short time while others have shut down. The manufacturers say they are at present unable to sell their product at a profit and this of course affects the price of raw cotton.

A refrigerator which had been left unlocked for years on a rear porch at the home of J. H. Hoffmann, on West End avenue, and had never been molested, was robbed most of its contents Saturday night. The thief secured a nice dressed hen, several pounds of steak, ten pounds of butter and a bottle of milk. He evidently had more than he could carry for he left two pounds of butter and his walking stick lying near the ice box.

The Landmark is asked to complain of children who invade private premises, pull flowers and break shrubbery and fruit trees. A case was reported from south Statesville yesterday. The fault is of course with the parents who allow the children to run at large and do as they please.

The school at Harmony was transferred to the new academy building yesterday. The new building is now complete. It cost about \$2,000 and is best one of the buildings in the county. The public high school at Harmony is increasing in numbers. The school will continue about three months.

A shipment of fresh fish was being opened and placed on sale at one of the fish stands on Center street Saturday when a bystander pointed to a big drum and addressed the crowd: "How'd you like to pull out one like that?" One of the spectators, William Triplett, who lives on Jas. Sharpe's place in Sharpsburg township, replied by remarking that he caught a carp in South Yadkin river one day last week that tipped the scales at 7 1/2 pounds. And the fishing fever seized the crowd.

Chas. E. Long, the young deserter from the Marines who surrendered to Deputy Sheriff Deaton at Mooresville about ten days ago and was placed in jail here to await information from the army officials, was released last week. Long deserted from the Marine barracks at Annapolis, Md., and returned to his home at Concord, this State. He got short of money and desiring to return to the service he went to Mooresville and surrendered to Mr. Deaton, who immediately notified the proper officials. Mr. Deaton received notice last week that the government would only pay a reward of \$20 for his delivery at Annapolis and realizing that this small amount would not pay the railroad expenses, Mr. Deaton notified Jailer Connolly to explain the situation to Long and turn him loose. When Long left the jail he told Mr. and Mrs. Connolly he was going straight to West Virginia, where he had been offered a job that would pay \$3 a day.

While out duck hunting Tuesday afternoon Dr. C. B. Mott had a narrow escape from a serious accident. The left-hand barrel of a fine shot gun the doctor was using burst near the breech of the gun, throwing small fragments of metal into the air with terrific force, laying open the portion of the barrel which holds the shell and otherwise damaging the gun.

Fire did slight damage to the woodwork of the Bostian railway bridge yesterday morning. A re-

ALBEMARLE AND STANLY COUNTY.

A Merchant Arrested for Selling Beer. Stanly Man has a Menagerie.

Stanly Enterprise, March 19.

The automobile craze has struck Albemarle, and it looks now if our little city will soon have several autos before the season advances far.

Mrs. Addie B. Ramsay and little son Edgar are visiting Mrs. Sallie Smith, J. M. Coggin and Miss Lizzie Ramsay also came Saturday, returning Sunday.

Friends here of F. N. Patterson and Kemp Alexander of Lexington, regret to hear of their heavy losses last week by fire, and these energetic young men have these sympathy of every who knows them.

Jethro Almond is adding several monkeys, parrots, and animals of the curio type to his collection, and his home is a veritable menagerie. He expects to join a carnival troupe this season.

Last Saturday night in the Love's Grove community, D. F. Mann was shot by some unknown person in a mysterious way, and very badly injured. One load took effect in the head, the other in his body. When brought home here Sunday evening he was thought to be in a doubtful condition, but Monday Dr. Yow extracted three shrapnel from his head and he is now doing well.

The Parker Little Furniture Company have the contract placed by W. T. Huckabee for supplying the Central Hotel with interior furnishings, and have already supplied a number of the rooms with nice felt mattresses, springs, the stairway with carpet, and the hotel is beginning to take upon itself the air of many necessary and desirable improvements.

The new carriage works recently opened up here by Messrs. Bolich and E. E. Snuggs is already doing a splendid business. Mr. Gills, the finisher, is an expert at the business, and when a job is ready to leave the house it looks just like new. The town needs a good plant of this kind, and those in need of repaired vehicles can do no better than to patronize this good firm.

Rev. Byron Clarke, pastor of the First Presbyterian church at Salisbury is preaching an interesting series of sermons at the Presbyterian church here, preparatory for the communion services next Sunday. Services will continue through the week, at 10 o'clock in the morning and 7.30 in the evening.

Henry, the 3-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Snuggs, shows a wonderful capacity for remembering pictures that he has once seen. A collection of Souvenir post cards of twenty-seven of the different State buildings was given him, and the child remembers the name of each State represented. He speaks the name of the State distinctly, and it is impossible to fool the little fellow in trying to confuse him.

Officers J. E. Klutz and Sheriff Love on Thursday night caused the arrest and imprisonment of Charles Morton on the charge of retailing. Morton had evidently got to Salisbury and had five barrels of beer on his wagon. Mr. Klutz purchased four bottles from him, had the beer "sampled" and adjudged as the real article, and then swore out a warrant against Mr. Morton. The latter claims that it was not beer, but his store, back of Morrow Brothers & Heath Company, has been the scene of so much nightly disturbance that suspicion has been resting against him for some time, and it is believed that more than beer has been sold from his store.

port reached town a little after 6 o'clock that half the woodwork of the bridge had been destroyed by fire, but this was not entirely true.

John Hudspeth, of Catawba county, ferryman at the Long Island ferry, was in town yesterday with a load of fine river fish—suckers. They sold rapidly at 8 cents a pound. The load brought the rise of \$80.

A GREAT PROHIBITION RALLY.

JUDGE SHAW AND JUDGE PRITCHARD SPEAK.

Large Audience Composed of Farmers, Business Men, Mechanics and Ladies Present Both Morning and Evening. Much Enthusiasm.

Probably the largest rally in the cause of temperance ever held in Salisbury took place here Saturday, the opening day for the temperance campaign in Rowan county. Men in all walks of life were present and gave the closest attention and frequently applauded the telling points made by the orators. Nothing seemed to elicit more cheers and create greater enthusiasm than the expressed belief that Rowan would give a rousing majority for prohibition. The court house was well-filled and had the weather conditions been more favorable no doubt hundreds would have been turned away. During Judge Pritchard's speech there was hardly standing room, the audience was fairly well sprinkled with the fairer sex.

Judge Shaw, of Greensboro, spoke in the forenoon and was introduced by A. H. Price, Esq., and Judge Pritchard in the afternoon and was introduced by Hon. John S. Henderson. The morning meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. J. M. L. Lyerly, Ph. D., of Crescent Academy and Business College.

Mr. Price's introductory remarks were particularly appropriate and leaves little doubt as to where he stands on this great moral question. He said:

"It is extremely distressing to the intelligence and combined morality of North Carolina that there should be any opposition to a movement tending to advance the public welfare.

"It is fundamental and axiomatic that the safety of the people is the supreme law.

"Never before in the history of our Commonwealth, has the public conscience been so aroused against evil of every sort and kind, and never before has there been such concerted action on the part of God-fearing men and women to oppose these evils.

"There is a public determination evidenced by State-wide unrest, that influences tending to pervert the public mind and to deprave the public morals, shall be stamped out by the will of the people, expressed in legislative enactment or by the ballot.

Gambling has been prohibited; prize-fighting has been prohibited; the sale of dangerous and harmful drugs has been prohibited; crime of every sort and kind has been prohibited;—then, why, I ask, should an admitted evil grow and spread under the protection of the law.

"It is well that the people of this State shall have public discussions of this measure, so vitally affecting their well-being, and it is fortunate that we have with us today, a man so well qualified to submit such observations as he feels appropriate for this occasion.

"He is a man favorably known throughout the length and breadth of North Carolina, and a man who has well served the State.

"He practices what he preaches, and lives up to his professions.

"I bespeak your very earnest consideration of what he has to say.

"I have the honor of presenting to you Hon. Thomas J. Shaw, of Greensboro."

JUDGE SHAW'S SPEECH.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: I consider it a privilege to be present with you on this occasion. I am here by invitation of the Anti-Saloon League of your county for the purpose of discussing a bill, known as the prohibition bill, which the last legislature directed should be submitted to the people of the State for their adoption or rejection. I come here realizing that this prosperous and growing

Continued on page five.

LEXINGTON AND DAVIDSON COUNTY.

Yadkin Hosiery Mill is Destroyed by Fire. Big Revivals Close. Some Personal.

Lexington Dispatch, March 18th.

D. K. Cecil, the contractor, left Monday morning for Colemees, where he is building an addition to the Methodist church and doing other brick work in that place.

Moyer Sink, manager of the Lexington Steam Laundry, went to Columbia, S. C., Sunday night to attend the Laundrymen's Association, which convened in Columbia Monday. Mr. Sink was called home Monday by a telegram announcing the sudden death of his wife's brother, Lonnie Harrison, at Salisbury.

The Lexington Ice and Fuel Company will start to making ice for the summer season the latter part of this week. W. B. Clijnard, the manager, has been here for several days overhauling and improving the plant and he promises much better ice this season than last. A meeting of the stockholders of the plant will be held here tomorrow.

Monday morning about 11 o'clock fire was discovered in the basement of the Wennonah cotton mills No. 2. A lot of trash and waste caught fire, just how is not known. The blaze was quickly extinguished by the employees. No alarm was given, and up-town people knew nothing of the fire until after it was extinguished. Had the fire occurred at night, the mills would probably have been burned.

A recent ordinance allows the commissioners to pay firemen \$1 each for services at any fire. Nineteen firemen of Co. 1, and 12 firemen of Co. 2, responded to the alarm and rendered service at the fire at the knitting mill last Thursday morning and 14 members of Company 2 were present at the fire at the Wennonah cotton mills Monday morning. Each fireman was allowed \$1, making a total of \$45.

The building committee of the Methodist church met Monday night and discussed the plans and specifications of the new church soon to be built here. A picture of the new church has been received and it is in keeping with the progress of the town. Already building material is on the grounds and the church will be completed before the year closes. The Methodist congregation is deeply interested in the building of their new church and when it is completed it will be one of the handsomest churches in the state. Work will begin on the church in about two weeks.—Thomasville note.

Fifty-three new members were received into the First Methodist church here Sunday night, thus marking the close of a series of revival services which have been conducted in that church for the last fifteen days. No more remarkably successful revival has been held in Lexington for many years, if at all. In all there were about one hundred professions of faith and reclamation. The interest in the meetings has been unusual and the attendance has been very large, the church being well filled every morning and crowded to its capacity at the evening service. The stores and places of business, including some of the factories, have been closed each day for the morning service, this step being taken at the suggestion of the pastor, Rev. A. L. Stanford. Rev. A. B. Hunter, of Merryville, Tenn., lead the song service, which was very good. Miss Sallie Sue Ellis and Mrs. J. M. Harkey organists during the meetings, and performed their duties well. All the local churches joined heartily in the meetings.

Thursday morning about 8 o'clock Lexington people were awakened by the fire whistle, and soon the other plants were making the night hideous with their whistles. The plant of the Yadkin Knitting Mill Company was found to be on fire. Although

MOCKSVILLE AND DAVIE COUNTY.

Cupid's Dart Strikes Cripples. Colemees Man asks Important Question.

Mocksville Courier, March 18th.

O. D. Lefler, of Colemees has a brand new boy baby at his house. We congratulate the Squire on his good luck. We understand that the Squire is very careful as to the health of this youth, and he would like to know if it would imperil the child's health for him (the Squire) to eat turnip greens and smoke a pipe. As we are not posted on such matters, we hope some kind reader will give the Squire the desired information.

Quite an interesting marriage was celebrated at Courtney, Friday night, the contracting parties being Frank Henderson, a no-legged man and Miss Annie Seabolt, a clubfooted woman. Mr. Henderson came here Friday in the baggage car on a roller chair and was taken to Courtney by private conveyance, where he met his bride. The marriage ceremony was performed immediately upon his arrival. Many people were present to witness the unique ceremony and from appearances they seemed to be a very happy pair. It seems that this incident of marriage came about through a matrimonial bureau.

J. A. Lefler who lives a few miles on this side of Colemees had the misfortune to loose his house, and contents that were up stairs, by fire Sunday afternoon about four o'clock. The house caught from a spark that came from the chimney and lighted upon the roof, setting fire to the dry shingles. No little amount of work was done to extinguish the flames and save the building, but to no avail. This is a great loss to Mr. Lefler as there was no insurance upon the property.

Two small white boys, Paul Jacobs and Donnell Williamson, eleven and fourteen years of age, were arrested by policeman Current Tuesday morning. The boys said that they ran away from their homes in Winston and were on their way to Spencer, but on arriving here, tired, sleepy and hungry, after walking the whole distance, decided to spend the night, and slept along beside the railroad. Mr. Current was notified about the boys and put them under arrest but later made up some change to satisfy their empty stomachs and sent them back to Winston. They were satisfied to go but the smaller one said he dreaded that whipping he had coming when he got back home.

A. T. Grant, Jr., of Mocksville, and Miss Helen Brewster were married in Raleigh Wednesday afternoon at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. W. R. Bishop. The marriage was a quiet one on account of a recent death in the bride's family.

Charley Hege, who was accidentally shot by his sweetheart, at Advance sometime ago, and was reported dying of consumption, has improved much and is able to be out again.

It was raining and had been raining all night, a good many people turned out to see the spectacular blaze. The fire began in the rear of the plant, and within 80 minutes little was left of the splendid and comparatively new factory. The total loss on building and stock something like \$21,000. There was no insurance on the building, and the loss is \$8,000 on that. The \$13,000 or \$19,000 worth of machinery and hosiery and yarn had \$11,000 insurance on it, so that the loss is about as much as the insurance. The plant was by C. M. Thompson, Geo. W. Montcastle, Ed L. Green, F. N. Patterson, who was manager, Kemp Alexander, who was superintendent, O. A. Hunt, Jr., J. D. and T. J. Grimes. It was located on Foster street, near Depot street, and manufactured hosiery. The stockholders have not as yet definitely decided as to whether they will rebuild, but it is very probable that they not do so at present.