

# The Chatham Record

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## CUT COTTON COST, GROWER IS TOLD

National Fertilizer Chief Cites Need in Farm Short Course.

THAT the east cotton belt acreage is valued by farmers west of the Mississippi river was the outstanding statement made by J. C. Pridmore, director of the Southern Division, National Fertilizer Association, in a talk for the Radio Short Course over WSB, Atlanta, a two-weeks' course conducted by Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation in co-operation with the Fertilizer Association.



J. C. Pridmore.

"Speaking of the economic situation prevailing over the southeastern states, it is absolutely essential for cotton growers in this territory to avail themselves of every possible means of reducing the cost of growing cotton," said Mr. Pridmore. "Let me give you a picture of the expansion of cotton acreage west of the Mississippi river, where we now have approximately as much land devoted to cotton as the whole belt had five years ago. Not only is this true, but in that section it is possible for the farmers, through the use of machinery, to cultivate large areas and, thereby, make cheaper cotton than is possible in the southeastern states."

"To meet this situation and to grow cotton in competition with the farmers west of the river it is apparent that the southeastern growers must use every possible means of making big yields per acre, which is the way to produce cotton at a low cost per pound. We not only must practice those methods known to influence yields, but fertilize more wisely than ever before. We must feed the cotton plants liberally to get a profitable harvest. The fertilizer must contain those plant foods that will meet soil deficiencies and supply crop requirements and furnish the three elements—phosphoric acid, nitrogen and potash—in proportions to constitute a 'balanced ration.'"

## Test Farmers in Radio Course

Asked 10 Questions Vital to Southeast's Agriculture in Better Farming Campaign.

CAN you answer any of these ten questions? Well, these are what the farmers of the southeast are expected to answer in the Radio Short Course, which closed its sessions January 14—a course broadcast over WSB, Atlanta, through Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation in co-operation with the Soil Improvement Committee of the National Fertilizer Association.

The questions are: 1. What constitutes a safe cropping program for the southeastern cotton farmer? 2. What are the outstanding defects in the one-crop system of farming? 3. What is a sound live stock program for the average cotton farmer? 4. What other cash crops than cotton can be grown successfully in the southeast? What in your community and why? 5. What are the advantages of high-acre yields? 6. Why are legumes and other organic matter valuable in improving the soil? 7. What plant food elements are carried in commercial fertilizers? 8. How are plant food needs of crops determined? 9. Why use pure-bred seed? 10. Assuming you are Judge of the court in "The Trial of the Soil Robber," what would you require the defendant to do to restore his land to such fertility that he can grow crops profitably?

The course comprised seventeen discussions on farm problems by leading agricultural authorities of the southeast and it is estimated that 1,500 listened in from fifteen states. The final program consisted of a mock court, "The Trial of a Soil Robber," who was declared guilty of soil robbing. The radio students enrolled in the course are to write answers to ten practical questions covering the two weeks' course and those who submit the best 25 sets of answers will be awarded prizes, to be given by the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation. First prize is \$15; second, \$10, and third, \$5. In addition, two leading southern farm textbooks will be sent to the writers of the next best 25 papers. These 25 winners may choose from "Live Stock and Poultry," "Horticulture," "Southern Field Crops" and "Farm Crops." All examination papers must be mailed to reach the Foundation headquarters at Atlanta by Saturday, January 29. Announcement of the winners will be made over radio station, WSB, at 8:15 o'clock Monday night, February 7, during the regular Monday night Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation radio hour.

## PLANS MATURING FOR Y MINSTREL SAYS W. J. HOBBS

Costumes Have Been Ordered from Van Horne of Philadelphia.

### PROGRAM OF THREE PARTS

Minstrel, Professional Review, and Cabaret to Be Presented; Comedy Sketches Between Main Acts; Jelly Leftwich in Charge of Music Numbers.

By THOMAS SHUTT

According to W. J. Hobbs, of the Y.M.C.A. cabinet, plans are rapidly taking shape for the presentation of the minstrel show the Y cabinet is sponsoring.

The plan of the program includes three divisions and between the acts of the main features comedy sketches are to be presented. The first number of the program is to be the minstrel, this to be followed by a professional review and the third act is to be a cabaret after-piece. While the stage is being arranged for the second and third parts of the program the management expects to keep the audience in entertainment with novelty comedy acts, character sketches, and other special features in dances and songs.

Mr. Hobbs and the other members of the committee request that everyone who has an idea in regard to some sketch that might be presented or formed for presentation to let such idea be known and the cooperation shall be thoroughly appreciated. This fact was especially emphasized as being very important and a good response is expected.

The costumes for this program are to be furnished by Van Horne of Philadelphia.

A committee from members of the faculty, to be announced later, will censor the acts to be given and cooperate in forming the program.

The play is under the direction of Mr. Hobbs. R. C. Finley is in charge of sketches, and George W. Leftwich will have charge of the music.

## BROWN MEMORIAL TO BE NEXT WEEK

Few, Soper, Bruton, and Bradshaw Will Be Speakers in Memorial Services.

Memorial services for the late Joseph G. Brown, for ten years chairman of the board of trustees of the University, will be held Wednesday morning of next week at ten-thirty in Craven hall. President Few will preside, and the religious exercises will be in charge of Dr. E. D. Soper, dean of the school of Religion. The address on behalf of the trustees will be given by Col. John F. Bruton, of Wilson, who was a life long friend of the deceased, working with him in much that had led to the University.

Dr. Mike Bradshaw will also have a part in the program, as will representatives of the alumni and the student body. Special music will be rendered, and it is thought that the program will last for an hour after which the board of trustees convene at a special meeting.

It is understood that the election of a chairman to succeed Mr. Brown will not be at this meeting of the board but will be carried over until the next meeting of the board in June. Since his death many resolutions of respect have been passed by various organizations with which Mr. Brown was affiliated. Mr. Brown had been a member of the board of trustees for over thirty years and served as chairman for ten years.

Mr. Brown died January 30th at his home in Raleigh.

## NEW COLLECTION ADDED DUKE BIOLOGY MUSEUM

Dr. Bert Cunningham has received several new and interesting specimens from the National Museum of Mexico for his collection here.

The most interesting item in this new collection is a stuffed Iguana which is a very large lizard. It is a near approach to the reptiles of prehistoric days. There is also a stuffed crocodile, a preserved boa constrictor of eight feet in length, and a peculiar specimen of turtle which has a toenail on the end of its tail.

This collection is to be added to the already interesting museum of the Biological department where one may see all sorts of skeletons, snakes, dead fish, and stuffed birds and animals.

## "Hunger Signals" Tell Crop Needs

IF PLANTS like cotton, alfalfa and soy beans develop rust, they are sending out "hunger signals" for potash, was the striking statement made by R. W. Hamilton, acting chief agronomist, Clemson college, S. C., in telling how crop needs are determined in a talk for the Radio Short Course over WSB, Atlanta. This course was conducted for two weeks by the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation in co-operation with the Soil Improvement Committee of the National Fertilizer Association.

"Every farmer can learn in a general way something about the deficiencies of his soils," said Mr. Hamilton. "When his crops do not make sufficient stalk growth, and the plants have a yellowish cast, he may know the crops have not had enough ammonia. If the crops are not fruiting as they should, and if they are slow in maturing, this is evidence they need more phosphoric acid."

"Fortunately, for the southeast, there are great areas that show similar responses to fertilizers, so it is unnecessary to recommend a different fertilizer for every slight variation in the soils. Carefully conducted tests on various soils afford the only safe information on how to feed crops profitably. Recommendations can be made that are broadly applicable to the coastal plain, the Piedmont soils, mountain lands or limestone valleys. Intelligent fertilization is necessary to produce large yields and the quality of crops that will bring the greatest returns to the farmer. To accomplish this the farmer must rely largely on the recommendations of the experiment stations and agricultural colleges. Higher acre yields are essential to greater farming success in the south, and the efficient and wise use of fertilizers is one the major factors contributing to higher acre yields."

## SOUTH DEPENDS ON FOUR CROPS

Bledsoe Advises Farmers on Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation Short Course.

### HOW TO IMPROVE SOIL

"FOUR crops of the southeast occupy 90 per cent of the land and produce 80 per cent of the value of all crops grown. These crops are cotton, corn, small grains and hay. It is upon the successful production of these four crops that the agricultural prosperity of the southeast depends. All other crops are of minor importance, although certain restricted areas one or more of them may be of great importance."

This was the message carried to the farmers of the southeast by R. P. Bledsoe, a agronomist, Georgia Experiment Station, in a talk for the Radio Short Course over WSB, the Atlanta Journal station, a two weeks' broadcast make possible through the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation in co-operation with the National Fertilizer Association.



R. P. Bledsoe.

"A study of the latest statistics for 1926 shows the average Georgia farmer lost from eleven to twelve dollars on each acre of cotton or corn and from one to two dollars on each acre of oats or hay," said Mr. Bledsoe. "Either the cost per acre must be lowered without decreasing yields or prices must be increased, or yields per acre must be increased without unduly increasing the cost per acre."

"As to soil improvement, no rotation will fit the needs of every farmer, but the following will give the farmer a basis on which to work: First year—cotton, followed by vetch plowed under for green manure; second year—oats, followed by vetch to be plowed under. This rotation would have a winter cover crop on the land every year to prevent washing. There would be three legume crops to supply nitrogen and two green manure crops to furnish organic matter. To make this system a success the farmer must fertilize liberally. The main difficulty with this rotation is that two-thirds of the land must be plowed in the spring. Farmers with tractors generally do this, but those without had better plant only one-half of their cotton and oat land to vetch, and in this way decrease their spring plowing. While this will mean slower progress in soil improvement, it is better than undertaking more spring work than can be handled. Another change which will lessen spring plowing is to add another year of oats and le-rume hay."

## DUKE MUSICIANS WIN POPULARITY ON RECENT TRIP

Presented Program At Charles B. Aycock High School Thursday Evening.

### MUCH APPLAUSE GIVEN

Henderson People Highly Pleased With Performance; Hatcher and Hobbs, As Usual, Make Hit With Their Comic Skits; Glee Club and String Club Good.

The Duke musical clubs returned Friday from a trip to Henderson where they appeared at the Aycock high school on Thursday evening. The glee club, the symphony orchestra, and the string club numbers were received with hearty approval. Hatcher and Hobbs, comedians, delighted the audience with their character skits, and received several encores. Richard Salisbury, piano soloist, was greatly applauded.

The Blue Devil orchestra, under the direction of Jelly Leftwich, gave a number of popular selections which were received with hearty applause, being encored a number of times. Leftwich has built up an orchestra well deserving of the popularity which it has gained.

Henderson people greatly appreciated the appearance of the clubs there, and much favorable comment has been received. This trip, along with the regular fall and spring trips, has demonstrated to the people of the state the musical talent which Duke boasts. The trip was acclaimed a great success.

## ANNUAL MISSIONARY INSTITUTE MARCH 2

Program Arranged by School of Religion Officials Will Last Through Two Days.

The Missionary Institute, an annual affair held at Duke university will be conducted March 2 and 9. The Missionary Institute is a program arranged by the Duke University School of religious education. All classes of the Bible departments will meet in the Y. M. C. A. half at their respective class periods and will be addressed by men of the faculty and visiting speakers.

The School of Religion has arranged for several prominent men to be present for this occasion. The program is expected to be an overwhelming success.

The schedule has been arranged as follows:

Wednesday, March 2

8:30 A. M. Opening statement and address by Dr. E. H. Rawlings, Educational Secretary, Board of Missions.

9:30 A. M. Dr. E. D. Soper, of Duke university.

10:30 A. M. Chapel hour 15 minutes inspirational address to student body by Dr. Rawlings.

11:00 A. M. Dr. O. E. Goddard, Foreign Secretary, Board of Missions.

12:00 A. M. Mr. N. C. Newbold, State Department of Education.

Intermission 1 to 3 P. M.

Interviews 3 to 5 P. M. by Dr. Rawlings.

7:30 P. M. Y. M. C. A. Hall address to Ministerial Association and others in the Pastor and Modern Mission.

Thursday, March 2

8:30 A. M. Dr. O. E. Goddard.

9:30 A. M. Dr. E. H. Rawlings.

10:30 A. M. Chapel Hour, Dr. O. E. Goddard.

11:00 A. M. Dr. J. W. Moore.

12:00 M. Dr. D. L. Mumpower, Medical Missionary.

### Moncure Has Compensations

A trip to Moncure Saturday was pleasant and profitable. The little town has had a hard blow or two recently, but it has compensations in the building of three big bridges in the immediate section, which affords employment for some and furnishes a considerable payroll to the enterprising merchants of the town. The Avent Ferry bridge is considerably advanced, at least in the foundation work, though it will be abuilding probably till late fall. This is across the Cape Fear, a bit below the confluence of the Deep and the Haw. The bridge across the Haw at Haywood is also in process of construction. The contract has only recently been let for the construction of the Deep River bridge at Lackville, but work is expected to begin at an early date. Thus Moncure will see spent within a few miles probably \$300,000, which is certainly fortunate for the plucky little town.

Mr. Richardson, chief mechanic in the Riddle Iron Works, has moved his family here. After March 1 they will occupy the J. D. Womble residence, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Womble expecting to move back to Sanford at that time. The Richardsons are domiciled with Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hamlet at present.

## CUT COTTON LAND, EXPERT ADVISES

D. W. Watkins of Clemson College Tells Farmers Need of Reduction.

### ALTER TENANT SYSTEM

THERE should be a decrease in the total cotton acreage to restore a balance to our farming system, according to D. W. Watkins, assistant extension director, Clemson college, S. C., who discussed the "Cutting of the Cotton Acreage" in the Radio Short Course over WSB, Atlanta. This two weeks' course for farmers of the southeast was conducted by the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation in co-operation with the Soil Improvement Committee of the National Fertilizer Association.

"Not only should there be a decrease in 1927, but in future years," said Mr. Watkins, "but when it comes to saying who is to do the reducing we find there are several different classes and conditions of farmers with which to deal. There are the farmers, all too few, who own their land, farm intelligently and while they are set back in years like 1926, manage to keep their heads above water and continue their independent, self-supporting way. This class already produces 80 to 90 per cent of their living on the farm. They do much of their own work and utilize labor saving machinery. They will not have to reduce as much as others."

"It is the duty of the landowners and others responsible for financing agriculture to bring about a different tenant system. Tenants should be led and required to give more attention to producing a living for themselves and to soil and farm improvement. This will automatically reduce their cotton acreage and will be beneficial to themselves and landowners."

"The light is at last beginning to dawn on all of us in the southeast, that we must be more self-contained and less dependent on one source of income. The southern farmer must learn to have his fields covered with a green crop every winter. Our mild, open winters permit of the loss of more soil fertility than is removed by crops. Northern soils are frozen and not subject to this loss. All these things have a direct bearing on the acreage in cotton in the southeast. The grower who follows these policies can continue to grow cotton, and after providing for a self-sustaining system of diversification, may in four out of five years produce cotton at a profit."

"The year 1927 is not a year to gamble on cotton production, but for the grower who uses the best seed and the best methods and the best side lines and who reduces acreage and cuts production costs, there is hope for 1927 and thereafter in cotton growing. Such a farmer cannot be put out of business because he is the veteran and expert who puts the other kind of grower out of business."

## Farmers Give Own Diagnosis

Radio Course Listeners Tell What Is Matter With South's Agriculture.

"GROW less cotton—more cows, sows and hens" is the new found creed of the southeast farmer, according to the first answers received to the "final exam" given at the close of the first radio short course in agriculture broadcast from WSB, Atlanta, by the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation in co-operation with the Soil Improvement Committee of the National Fertilizer Association.

Ten questions submitted to the students at the close of the course show that the farmer of the south Atlantic states has been won away from the idea that he must grow just one crop—cotton. "Grow diversified crops that will feed the family, the live stock and the land; let cotton be grown as a cash crop and not made to support the entire farm," is the way in which one of these radio students sums up the situation.

It was the aim of the short course to sell the farmer of the southeast the idea of raising enough live stock at least to feed his family, raising enough grain and hay to feed the live stock, and enough cover crops to replace in the soil the elements which are taken from it year by year by the continuous growing of crops.

The answers to this radio examination indicate that the farmer of the southeast has learned to pin solid faith in the advice of his county agent; that he is getting tired of gambling with one crop farming, and that he is going in for pure-bred seed, as well as pure-bred cows, hogs and chickens.

Three cash prizes are to be awarded to the three best examination papers submitted to the Foundation, and announcement of the winners will be made from the Atlanta radio station February 7.

## TOWN AND COUNTY LOCALS

J. W. Womble and Rowland Steadman say they actually got lost in looking for Moore's Mill with which location they have been familiar these many years. They ascribe the aberration to marked changes in the road, but others might suggest another reason.

There will be a box party at Rives' Chapel school house Saturday evening, Feb. 19, 7:00 o'clock. Everybody invited. Proceeds go to benefit of school.

Little Cora White had the misfortune to get her arm broken last week at school.

Slippery walks are dangerous. Fannie Lea, colored, slipped a few days ago and broke the little bone in her leg. There is a place on the walk from Blair Hotel to the school building that is a slick proposition such weather as we had Saturday night.

Col. J. Dan Dorsett, seen Monday in Siler City, was in his usual health, which is remarkable for one of the few surviving members of Chatham's most gallant company of Confederates. The veteran is a colonel on the general staff of Confederate veterans and is already planning to go to Tampa to the reunion April 5. Colonel J. Dan lived in Florida for a number of years after the war. He was at Apopka, 12 miles from Orlando. At that time the postoffice building of the now famous city of lakes was a log contraption. James Giles, who has since served Orlando as mayor and probably ranks as a millionaire, worked for Col. Dorsett in those days of auld lang syne.

Mr. R. E. Little comes this week to take the place of assistant cashier in the Page Trust Co., at Siler City, relieving Mr. Dewey Dorsett, who becomes manager of the Oval Oak factory. Mr. Little is a native of Catawba county, but has served as cashier of the Bank of Biscoe for some time.

Rev. Ernest Clegg and Prof. D. H. Lashley came down Saturday from Leesville, Caswell county, to see the former's aged father, Mr. H. C. Clegg, and to take a hunt. The editor formerly knew Mr. Lashley as a teacher of Newton Grove, Sampson county.

### REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF MONCURE P. T. A. HELD

The regular monthly meeting of the P. T. A. was held Friday night, the eleventh, in the Moncure High School Auditorium. In the absence of the president, Mrs. W. T. Uley, the vice-president, Mrs. O. C. Kennedy, presided. The ninth grade room won the attendance prize again for having the largest percent of parents present.

After the business session a short play on "Thrift" was presented by several of the pupils under the supervision of Miss Mamie Sockwell. Prof. W. R. Thompson then made a short talk on thrift. He also discussed the county-wide eight months school term.

A large number was present and much interest was manifested in the meeting. The next meeting will be held Friday night, March the eleventh. We hope each member will come and bring some one with you.

### MERRY OAKS ITEMS

Miss Treva Auman, of White Hill, spent the week-end with her sister, Miss Thelma Auman, of Merry Oaks.

Mr. and Mrs. Lindo Garner spent Friday night at Moncure with her sister, Mrs. Clyde Maynard, who is very sick.

Miss Lola Speagle and brothers, Cecil and Dan, spent Saturday night with their grandmother, Mrs. Frank Speagle, near New Elon Church.

Mrs. W. T. Edwards and Miss Elva Gunter visited in Holly Springs Friday and attended a play at the school building.

### "If You Were a Bear"—"Bang"

"If you were a bear, here's the way I'd shoot you"—"Bang," and the "bear" had a mangled calf, and not an imaginary calf either. Dr. Chapin was called to dress the serious wound made by the "empty" gun. Julius Dark's leg was badly shot up, and weeks must elapse before the "bear" can travel about.

It was Sunday night at the home of Lee Perkins, colored, and Junius Dark was bathing when David Perkins, aged eight, pointed the "empty" shot gun at Junius with the aforementioned remark and following "bang," and presumable howl of the sorely wounded "bear." Dark is nearly grown.

### Young Lady Visitors

Pittsboro had three charming young lady members of the Moncure school faculty as visitors over the week-end—Misses Bell, Sockwell, and Strickland. They were guests of Mrs. R. P. Johnson. Miss Strickland, by the way, is one of the cultured daughters of our good friend, Sam Strickland, of Sweet Sampson.