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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, FEB. 1, 1940



The Weather

The weather during the past week has been the main topic of conversation and it just as well be a subject for an editorial. However, we have no editorial criticism or recommendations because such tactics would not accomplish any results.

The idea that it takes all kinds of weather to make a year is not amiss. The weather has been unusually severe but perhaps it has been a blessing in disguise.

Old timers continually tell us that we need rough weather to kill insects. While we do not profess to know the scientific facts back of their argument, we would say offhand that during the next year we should enjoy more freedom from insects than we ever have before.

But it is a known fact that precipitation (rainfall) has been sorely needed in this part of the country for months. Beginning in August we experienced one of the driest fall seasons in history. The rainfall was so little that the underground supply has been curtailed. Creeks and rivers reached low water levels. Springs and wells yielded less water.

This means that if the water situation is to remain sufficient to care for the needs that we must have precipitation in the form of rain or snow or both this winter. So far the winter season has been doing very well along that line.

That snows and freezes are beneficial to the soil is a fact that is known without poring into scientific books. Freezing pulverizes the soil and puts it in condition for cultivation. There is no better natural pulverizing process.

The severe weather has been tough but perhaps it has its blessings in disguise.

Highway Clearing

Some things we are accustomed to accept as a matter of course without realizing just how they are accomplished.

On Tuesday of last week snow fell all day and late into the night, reaching a depth of from six to eight inches. But when we got out of our homes on Wednesday morning, started our cars and started out on the highways we expected that the snow would have been dragged off—and it was.

But few of us thought anything about the labor and effort necessary to keep the snow off the roads. It meant that highway workers were up all night dragging the snow from the road surface as it fell. It meant that they did without sleep during the night and worked in the intense cold that we might be able to travel on the roads.

Of course, the men received pay for their work and while we do not know how much they received we venture to say that none of them get wages much in excess of what the average worker receives in comparative comfort in an industrial plant where facilities are provided for their comfort and convenience.

The highway workers deserve commendation for their good work under most unfavorable conditions.

War Ravages Here

Last year fire loss in this country ran to nearly a million dollars a day—the grand total was around \$313,000,000. This is a big country and it can carry tremendous debts and losses without being bogged down. But three hundred million dollars is no paltry sum even here, when you think of the lives, jobs and intangible loss involved, for which no insurance can compensate.

Three hundred million dollars would pay a substantial share of our proposed record-

breaking naval building program. It would pay for thousands of the costly airplanes now needed by the army. To make a more peaceful comparison, it would build 100,000 homes costing \$3,000 each. Or it would build fine hospitals to care for countless thousands of sick people, and ameliorate ghastly suffering.

Last, but not least, is fire's destruction of life. According to news reports, Finland lost only 258 civilian lives by air raids in the first six weeks of its war with Russia whereas the United States loses over 10,000 lives by the ravages of fire alone in an average year, or nearly 200 a week.

Agricultural Milestone

E. H. Jones, Commissioner of Agriculture of Vermont, recently said: "Nothing in the agricultural history of 1939 was more notable or more important than the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court upholding the constitutionality of milk control laws and the subsequent successful operation of milk marketing orders in Eastern markets."

The Court decision simply held legal, laws whose primary purpose is to encourage the formation of farmer-owned, farmer-controlled marketing cooperatives. Never in its history was selling cooperation so well organized in agriculture—never was it so loyally and aggressively supported by producers.

The signs all point to more significant progress in marketing cooperation this year. That means progress for all agriculture.

Borrowed Comment

SOCIAL HYGIENE
(Oxford Public Ledger)

Thursday, February 1, has been designated as National Social Hygiene Day, the fourth the nation has observed as a part of the intense campaign for control of syphilis.

No state in the nation is doing a better job and no county in the state is conducting a more effective campaign in the control of venereal diseases than is being carried on in Granville by the Health Department.

It is only fair to admit that the North Carolina campaign and that in many counties of the state, is being implemented with funds from the Reynolds Foundation. The nature of the disease and the continuing treatment necessary to effect a cure make the campaign an expensive one when calculated in dollars and cents, but inexpensive when calculated in terms of better health, longer life and safer contacts of society.

There are nearly 500 citizens of Granville county at the present time receiving treatment for venereal disease. There are many others who should be receiving treatment who are not because the Health Department is without access to make tests and order treatment.

Venereal diseases are more prevalent among citizens of low living standards. Many of these people, because of their lack of earning capacity, are not able to obtain for themselves better living standards. They can, however, be taught the dangers and encouraged to safeguard themselves against disease. That is the part the employers or prospective employers of these people can have in making National Social Hygiene Day one of accomplishment—by insisting upon health certificates for employees, particularly domestic servants.

Your Health Department can reach only so far in its social hygiene work. It must have the support of the public and National Social Hygiene Day is an opportune time to pledge that support.

After former President Herbert Hoover has completed his relief work for the Finns, it is hoped he will embark on a similar project for Republicans.—Joplin, Mo., Globe.

Bund Leader Fritz Kuhn doesn't care much for the Stars and Stripes. He will have a little experience with the latter, however.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A dreamy Strauss waltz over the car radio conveys the spirit of the occasion, while waiting to come out of the long skids at the icy intersection.—Detroit News

The American consul in Mexico who resigned because he wanted to marry a foreigner is cited as an example of true love. On the other hand, the cynics will tell you that diplomacy sometimes leads to war.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

Japan's dreadful birth rate increases the population 1,000,000 a year. The solution is not addition of territory or division of wealth, but less multiplying.—Ex.

MODERN PIONEERS

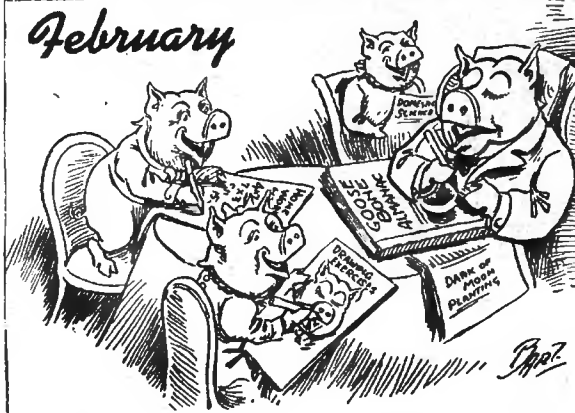


NEWS ITEM: MODERN PIONEERS TO BE HONORED IN FEBRUARY COMMEMORATING 150th ANNIVERSARY OF PATENT SYSTEM.

THE STUDY MONTH

On The Farm and in The Home

February



Each lengthy February night, Bolivar and his family Gathered around the cheerful light. All just as busy as a bee, And in all practical respects, They sure improved their intellects.

Present conditions mark 1940 as a year of uncertainty for North Carolina farmers. Because of this situation, State College specialists are urging growers to plan and plant wisely.

During February, the Tar Heel crop growers will find it to his advantage to follow these eight rules as laid down by C. B. Williams, veteran State College agronomist:

1. Select those fields on the farm, insofar as possible, for the growth of major crops that have soils and natures best suited to the growth of each of the crops.
2. Decide upon the best quantities and analyses of fertilizers that should be used for each crop for the greatest per acre returns.
3. Do not use fertilizers which fail to meet the requirements for your crops grown on your particular soils.
4. Do not let someone talk you into using mixtures you are not sure will best meet your conditions and needs.
5. Use improved seed best suited to your locality and conditions.
6. Handle your land so that it will be a little more productive each succeeding year.
7. As far as possible, arrange your major crops in rotations, with at least one suitable legume in each rotation to be plowed under for soil-improving purposes.
8. Break your land early and plant promptly on a good mellow seed bed after the season opens. Delayed planting frequently leads to decreased yields.

Now, jumping from crops to livestock farming, here are a few suggestions from Dr. John E. Foster, associate in animal husbandry investigations for the Experiment Station at State College:

Breed sows that are to farrow in February should be provided with plenty of minerals and vitamins. If winter pasture is not available, furnish Vitamin A by feeding yellow corn or small amounts of bright green leafy legume hay.

Have your ewes in a strong thrifty condition before lambing. If some are poor and run down, separate them from the remainder of the flock and give them extra feed and care.

Save out some good quality legume hay for the weaned baby calves and nursing cows. The lower quality roughage can be fed to the older cattle and dry cows. Don't neglect the weaned colts. Keep them growing all winter by providing sufficient good quality hay and concentrates.

For the poultryman, Roy S. Dearstyn, head of the State College Poultry Department, offers these suggestions: Start chicks from blood-tested

For knowing what there is to do is just to make a proper start; Before a job is carried through, Some other questions play a part. How, when, where, why to do the thing Calls for a heap of studying.

fully done, reduces the chances of pullorum disease to a minimum.

Never start over two chicks to the square foot in the brooder house. Provide two half-gallon drinking founts and two mash hoppers 4 inches high by 6 inches wide and 5 feet long with reel for each 100 chicks started.

Overheating kills more chicks each year than chilling. Be sure to provide adequate ventilation of the brooder house without direct drafts. Provide a good chick starting mash and maintain rigid sanitation.

Bailey Blasts Lewis' Attack On Roosevelt

Washington, Jan. 29.—Senator Josiah W. Bailey blasted back at John L. Lewis today for his attack on President Roosevelt and the Democratic party.

"Lewis is a rule or ruin man," the senior North Carolina senator asserted.

"He could not rule the American Federation of Labor and now he seeks to ruin it. He could not rule the Democratic party and now he seeks to ruin it. He could not rule President Roosevelt and now he seeks to ruin him."

Bailey said Lewis was fixing to go back to the Republican party.

the senator declared. "Lewis in 1932 was the worst test of a Republican. "Lewis is on his way back to voting for a Republican in 1940 and so far as I am concerned the Republicans can have him."

Bailey said he had always regretted the Democrats accepted a loan from Lewis in 1935.

Referring to Lewis' statement that the President and the Democratic party had been ungrateful to labor, Bailey said:

"Everyone knows Mr. Roosevelt has done more for labor than any other president in the history of our country. What Lewis expects is a president who will sell out to him, look, stock and barrel."

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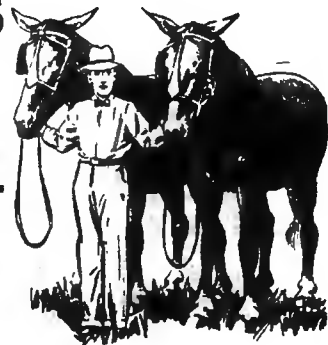
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