

WILKINSON'S DRAINAGE WORK

(Continued from last page) DRAINAGE—FOUR

new people who will find better farming conditions will also give outlet to the fish and oyster market at Belhaven.

The sea food and truck here make living cheaper than far inland and the proximity to the farms to the thriving and enterprising town of Belhaven with its school and the conveniences of city life are additional attractions.

The magazines and newspapers of the country have for the past three years devoted much space telling of the work of the Wilkinsons as it has advanced from one stage to another.

That they have taken a flooded country and so transformed it that there can be no overflow after the long rainy spells that have visited the country for the past few years, that the porous soil yields up this water to the canals and gives to the crops only the proportion needed for proper growth shows that the Wilkinsons' faith in the soil has been rewarded.

They have opened up this land that will from the time of its settlement double and treble in value within the next year. Day and night their labors and the labors of the hundreds of employees, three locomotives, two dredges and five skidding machines have been wiping out the forest and transforming the great Albemarle Swamp and now there is another picture that attracts the eyes of the whole country.

The Washington Post tells of the statement of the Agricultural Department of the National Government that this section will be so fertile that the results will surpass Iowa and in an editorial last September on the subject: "What One Man Can Do."

John A. Wilkinson lives at Belhaven, N. C. He was born on a back woods farm, seven miles from his present residence. That was before Belhaven came into existence, for Wilkinson has built that prosperous town of four thousand people. That section of North Carolina which lies between Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds was practically a swamp in the early life of Wilkinson, and wrestling a livelihood from his father's clearing resolved itself into a battle against the much moisture. The family victories were often near defeats with tragedy always in the offing. When Wilkinson had grown into young manhood a railroad was built into the section for the sake of the lumber it contained, and the young native son made a fortune in lumber in the fifty years that followed. Incidentally he sold lumber the country over and got the viewpoint of the great outside. He began to think of applying what he had learned to the lands of his native chath. Scientific agriculture, practical drainage offered opportunity for experiment. He tried these on the farm of his boyhood. The result was such crops as Illinois never

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Wilkinson determined to bring the possibility of the yield to that 500,000 acres of land that skirted the coast between the two sounds. He called upon the National Department of Agriculture investigate its soils establish its levels and tell him the manner in which it should be drained and farmed. The soils were found to be ten feet deep with the vegetable deposits of ages, the lands high enough for drainage and the matter of farming merely an application of principle of thoroughness. Wilkinson secured legislation which authorized the formation of drainage districts to bond themselves for their own improvement upon a vote of three-fifths of the acreage. He gained control of the necessary amount of land to drain the whole region and today his dredges are plying great canals through the forest covered swamps twenty feet wide, eight feet deep, and but a mill apart. His men are felling the timber in tracts of 5,000 acres at a time, a match is being set to it which dry and, without cultivation, corn is being planted in the loose loam and a crop raised among the charred logs and stumps that pays for the whole operation. This accomplishment is multiplying the value of the land by twenty and its productiveness by one thousand. It is converting the most despoiled region in the United States into a farming community which Willet M. Hayes, assistant secretary of agriculture says will surpass Iowa. It is making wealthy echoes hunting companions of the youth of the man who is doing this work. It is feeding the multitude and building a monument to its moving spirit that will endure forever. Yet, men have been growing up in this section for three hundred years and missing its opportunities. The possibilities were not apparent. Similar chances rest latent in a thousand communities for the men who are able to see them."

Shortly after the appearance of this article in the Washington Post and similar articles rendered his section in other large newspapers. The Manufacturers Record sent S. G. Wilmer to Belhaven to see the great work and tell the story of what he Wilkinsons had accomplished.

In May, that magazine appeared with photograph illustrating the work of reclamation and showing the remarkable crops that were being raised on this fertile land.

This is the story of the reclamation and the transformation of the rich region where the Wilkinsons were born. Just as the Manufacturers Record, The Washington Post and other publications have told the story so it is told again, and again by every visitor. The richness of the soil, the advantages of the climate, the proximity of the water transportation and the fact that labor is on the ground today will appeal to those who are far-sighted enough to take advantage of the

Secretary Coburn states that a grover in southern Kansas who harvests about 1,800 tons of alfalfa per year and is working with it nearly every day from the second week in May until Nov. 10 finds that alfalfa under the same conditions of rainfall is much easier to save in fair feeding condition than red clover—Kansas Farmer.

The first Edgemoor lighthouse was finished in 1850 and destroyed in the dreadful storm of Nov. 27, 1908. A wooden one by study was then built by order of parliament, which was burnt Dec. 4, 1905. Another wooden structure was burnt later, which was replaced by stone. The foundation of this one giving way, a new structure was designed, the foundation stones of which were laid in 1879. The cornerstone was placed in 1881, and the first light flashed out over the waters May 18, 1882.

What the Knife Said. "Some folks want funny inscriptions engraved on their silver," said the jeweler. "Take wedding knives. Many wedding cakes are such mountainous affairs that a special knife is required to cut them. One of last month's brides cut her cake with a knife that was a present from her aunt. I guess not many of the guests got to read the inscription; if they had they would be talking about it yet. Those knives are supposed to be used for cutting the bride's cake and then laid on the shelf for the rest of time, but the aunt couldn't distinguish, apparently, between wedding and birthday cakes, for she made us engrave on the knife, 'May I serve thee well and often.'"—New York Press.

An Appreciation. An old sea captain was turning over the leaves of a friend's album when, coming to the photograph of a young lady of whose acquaintance the family was rather proud, he was asked what he thought of her. "Aweel," was the old sea rover's reply, "if I were goin' to make a rare stroke o' business I'd buy that girl for what she was worth an' sell her for what she thinks she is worth!"—Ideas.

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Master Baled Brooks, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Brooks recently operated on at the Washington Hospital is critically ill. The reports from his bedside today is that while he is holding his own his condition is still precarious. His playmate and friends wish for him a speedy recovery to health.

The different banks of the city will be closed next Monday on account of it being Labor Day. Patrons will please govern themselves accordingly.

Mr. Edward Mathews and family moved to the residence on Market street formerly occupied by Mr. Harrell.

The military store of Madam Litter on West Main street is being repaired.

Extremely Low Rates to Norfolk Va.

On account North Carolina Confederate reunion at Norfolk, Va., the Norfolk Southern Railroad will sell round trip tickets September 4, 5 and 6, limited to September 16, at following rates: From Washington, N. C. \$2.90 From Greenville, N. C. \$2.65 From Wilson, N. C. \$2.90 Stations between Goldsboro and New Bern \$3.65 Tickets good on all regular trains. E. T. LAMB H.C. HUDGINS, Pres & Genl. Mgr G. P. A.

Eleven cars of material arrived on the Norfolk Southern last evening for paving the streets. The work of paving will start tomorrow morning. The first thoroughfare to be paved will be Water street.

"UP AND DOWN BROADWAY" MUSIC.

William Jerome and Jean Schwartz have written a clever song for the new musical comedy "Up and Down Broadway," which is making such a hit at Shubert's Casino. The title of this rollicking, frolicking song is "My Operatic Samson." Every reader of the New York Sunday World will get this song free next Sunday. Words and music complete.

Entirely Right. Tess—Oh, yes, I feel pretty sure of him. I rejected him when he proposed first because I was positive he'd try again. Jess—And you were right. He did try again, and I accepted him.—Stray Stories.

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When you want to take out honey, do not all the while and leave the dark for the bees. Bees will make just as much honey in a box hive as they would in a costly patented one. Sprinkle salt under and around your hive to keep away the moths, the enemies of the bees. The bees' business and strikes every one freely. No product now wanted can be more easily saved than honey which bees work up into honey.

The question is frequently asked why extract honey is sold cheaper than comb honey. It is because the comb is of more value than the honey. It requires twenty pounds of honey to make one pound of comb.

To hive bees when they swarm throw water on them while they are swarming and they will not leave or settle high. If it is a large hive they settle on a sheet and let it fall on a sheet, then sprinkle them with water, so they won't swarm again, and pour them in hives and let them set until dark.

Alfalfa Better Than Red Clover. Secretary Coburn states that a grover in southern Kansas who harvests about 1,800 tons of alfalfa per year and is working with it nearly every day from the second week in May until Nov. 10 finds that alfalfa under the same conditions of rainfall is much easier to save in fair feeding condition than red clover—Kansas Farmer.

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THE COLONIAL EXHIBIT—A play, a thrilling story of Indian fighting on the frontier.

THE BAD MAN'S LAST DEED—Monday—A typical Western drama.

CHILDISH ESCAPADES—A pleasing comedy.

REMIKO ITHIMATOGRAPH OR SLEEPING SICKNESS—A valuable educational film.

THE HANNET'S WIFE—Monday—A dramatic Western picture.

MOTION PICTURES AT THEIR BEST.

The subjects carefully selected and including the work of the leading American and European producers. Visit the Gem tonight, Washington's old reliable play house.

ADMISSION 5 AND 10 CENTS.

The North Carolina COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND MECHANIC ARTS

The State's College for training industrial workers. Courses in Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; in Civil, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering; in Cotton Milling and Dyeing; in Industrial Chemistry; and in Agricultural teaching.

D. H. HILL, President, West Raleigh, N. C.

RIGGS HOUSE WASHINGTON, D. C.

The hotel "par excellence" of the National Capital. First-class in all appointments. Opposite the U. S. Treasury; one block from the White House. An illustrated Guide to Washington will be mailed, free of charge, upon receipt of two 2-cent stamps. O. G. STAPLES, Proprietor.



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R. H. HUDSON



Cool Kitchen Perfect Cooking. The housewife with years of experience—the woman who knows how to cook—finds after practical test and hard trials, the gas stove is her idea of what a cook stove ought to be. It requires less attention, costs less to operate, and cooks all food better than any stove she has tried. ONLY \$15.00 WILL INSTALL ONE IN YOUR KITCHEN.

Washington Light & Water Co.

THE BINGHAM SCHOOL, Asheville, N. C., has granted \$100,000 to the State of North Carolina for the purpose of establishing a school for the deaf and dumb. The school will be located in Asheville, N. C., and will be opened in the fall of 1910. The school will be a day school, and will be open from 9 o'clock in the morning to 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The school will be a free school, and will be open to all deaf and dumb children of the State of North Carolina. The school will be a day school, and will be open from 9 o'clock in the morning to 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The school will be a free school, and will be open to all deaf and dumb children of the State of North Carolina.

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GRAND AUCTION SALE

ONE HUNDRED CHOICE RESIDENCE LOTS

ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1910, AT 2 P. M.

On The Grounds, Washington, N. C. This Property is known as "NICHOLSONVILLE" and is desirably located in the best section of the town.

This property has been consigned to us to sell each and every lot that is offered, regardless of price. Don't fail to attend and buy one of these lots. We sell at the rate of one a minute. Rain or shine. Your rice will be our price.

Suburban Realty and Auction Co., Raleigh, N. C.

American Realty and Auction Co., Greensboro, N. C.