

KNOW TIMBER VALUE BEFORE SELLING TREES

"Some years ago, Oliver Stanley, of Wilkes County sold a boundary of timber near the Wilkes-Ashe county line. The buyer was allowed to take all the trees above a certain diameter limit but included in the purchase was a big Yellow Poplar, five feet in diameter," says E. C. Turner, Jr., county agent of Ashe County, in a recent conversation with R. W. Graeber, extension forester at State College.

"This poplar had a defect in its side and was considered worthless by the purchaser," continued Mr. Turner. "Then again in 1928, Mr. Stanley sold a crop of timber from the same land to Millard Goodman of West Jefferson. Mr. Goodman went to work promptly and had finished his cutting when he too noticed the old poplar. He decided it was no good but in passing struck his axe into the tree. To his surprise, he found that the grain showed a beautiful curly figure.

"When you strike a tree like that, it is like striking gold. Mr. Goodman immediately began to look for a buyer. Several bids were made him. The tree was cut into five beautiful 12-foot logs and finally a veneer company of Bassett, Virginia, paid \$650 cash for the lot. A buyer from an English firm arrived just after the deal had been completed and offered \$1,000 cash.

"Which just goes to show that it pays to know the value of the trees on the farm. The first buyer lost considerable money by not knowing the worth of his yellow poplar and so did Mr. Stanley, the owner. It was only by accident that the second buyer discovered the beauty of the grain and the true value of the tree."

Commenting on this incident, Mr. Graeber says that farmers of the State must learn the value of boundaries of ordinary timber as well as of individual trees of high or unusual price.

BUILD MORE TERRACES TO CONTROL EROSION

The only known method of controlling erosion on fields planted to cleanly cultivated crops like cotton, tobacco and corn is to build terraces.

"Terracing is economical and effective," says A. T. Holman, agricultural engineer at State College. "It seems strange that within the last few years, farmers of the southwest have terraced as large a percentage of their farm lands as has been accomplished in the southeast in half a century. Nearly 50 years ago, P. M. Mangum, a progressive farmer of Wake County, constructed a system of terraces which had a wide base and a low ridge. Water flows with slow velocity above each terrace to a suitable outlet. This type of terrace is now found over the entire South and has been tested for two generations and found practical. It is recommended for all sections of North Carolina where erosion occurs and the slope of land is not greater than 15 feet in 100."

Mr. Holman says that erosion is unquestionably the biggest, costliest and most serious problem on North Carolina farms today. A state-wide program to help fight erosion would consist of the following points:

1. On forest lands, keep out fires and reforest.
2. On idle, barren, eroded lands, develop permanent pastures.
3. Eliminate gullies by constructing dams of brush, stone or concrete and plant honeysuckle, Bermuda grass, kudzu or trees.
4. In grain and stock sections, practice rotations of crops including

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—A LIVING TOMB—



Our photo shows an old oak tree near Nobdantz in Thuringia, in whose trunk Hans Wilhelm von Thuemmel, a cabinet minister of the former Grand Duchy of Saxe-Gotha-Altenburg was buried in 1824. A small iron door leads to the inside of this queerest of burial places. (Herbert Photos, New York.)

legumes for hay, pasture and soiling. 5. On cotton, corn and tobacco lands, build good terraces.

These five things will do much to prevent the rich soil of North Carolina farms from washing to the rivers and sea. The farmer who wishes to have exact information about how to build terraces can secure a copy of Extension Circular 173 which discusses the question in detail.

KILL PEACH TREE BORERS.

The article on killing peach tree borers by E. B. Morrow, which appeared in the October 1, 1929, issue of The Southern Planter, should be of interest to everyone growing peach trees.

In this article Mr. Morrow states: "Kill the peach tree borers by applying a dose of paradichlorobenzene. This chemical has a long name, but it does the work much more effectively than a man can do it with a knife and wire. It gives off a vapor heavier than air which is poisonous to insects but not to man and animals.

"Use three-quarters of an ounce per tree on trees four and five years old and one ounce on trees six years and above. Injury may occur to the bark and trunk if used on trees under four years of age. On trees under four years of age the borers should be dug out with a knife and wire.

"In most parts of the South the material should be applied during the last days of September or the first week in October. Remove all grass and trash and level the soil around the base of the tree. Then apply the material about one and one-half inches from the trunk in a continuous band about one and one-half inches wide. If the crystals are allowed to touch the tree, injury may occur to the bark and trunk. Cover the material with several shovels full of soil, mounding the soil up around the tree trunk.

"To avoid any possibility of the paradichlorobenzene injuring the trees, tear down the mounds five or six weeks after making the application."

BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Little Miss Mary Lois Webb, attractive daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Webb, celebrated her third birthday on Thursday entertaining a member of her little friends. Mary Lois and her mother met the guests as they arrived and the gifts were taken by her grandmother, Mrs. Mary Webb.

Games were enjoyed by the children supervised by the mothers who were there. Later in the evening stories were told and soon the children were invited into the dining room. The table was lovely with a large white cake decorated in pink roses and three pink candles burning. From the chandelier, streamers of pink crepe paper came to each place where cream, cake and an attractive souvenir was for each child. Soon the birthday cake was cut and much merriment was had over who got the dime, thimble, ring, button, etc.

The little guests went away wishing Mary Lois many more happy birthdays.

Six hydraulic rams for a home water supply will be installed by Orange County farmers who inspected the ram owned by R. E. Paschall.

GET PEANUT SEED BY FIELD SELECTION

Since the tariff on peanuts will probably reduce importations, growers of the large seeded varieties will benefit most from the tariff by producing large nuts of high quality.

"It is as important now to pay as much attention to the quality of the peanuts as it is to the acre yield secured," says P. H. Kime, plant breeder at State College. "The wise grower will attempt to produce the kind of nuts in greatest demand. Most of the important peanuts now sold in competition with ours are the large varieties which correspond to our Extra Large Virginia Shelled and No. 1 Shelled. These grades come largely from the Virginia Bunch variety and some from the Jumbo Runner variety."

Mr. Kime says that many fields of Virginia Bunch peanuts produce fairly good yields but bring a low price because the nuts are small. Only a small percentage of the better grades of shelled nuts can be secured from them. This small size may be due to poor seed, little fertilization, poor cultural methods or improper handling.

However, the size and quality of the nuts may be improved by the use of better seed and by the field selection of seed this fall. The best plants may be selected rapidly if a considerable area is plowed up and the vines shaken so that they may be inspected. Only those plants which have a large number of well-filled pods, uniform in size and shape and containing two large well-developed seed, should be selected. The plants should be of about the same stage of maturity. Those which shed many pods and show diseased stems or rotted pods should not be considered.

The selected plants should be stacked to themselves and the stacks marked so that they might be threshed separately.

Field selections need to be made each year to improve the quality of nuts, declares Mr. Kime.

PAYING POULTRY FLOCK IS DEVELOPED CAREFULLY

Developing the spring-hatched pullets from the time the chicks leave the incubator until the pullets are placed in the laying house is the pathway to profits in the poultry industry.

"The object of this development is to have pullets of stamina, bone and vigor and fully up to the standard weight of the breed," says R. S. Dearstyne, poultryman at State College. "At first the proper mash is needed until finally the laying mash containing 20 percent of protein is given. The young pullets must have an abundance of succulent green feed especially as the grass on the range gets old and tough. When placing birds in the laying house, do this about two weeks before they start laying so that they may become accustomed to their surroundings. The house should be made ready for occupancy, however, before the birds are brought in."

This means new nesting material, runs cleared of litter, perch poles scraped and freed of mites and the birds examined for internal parasites. A minimum of four feet of floor space to each bird is needed in the house and at least two feet of perch pole for each three birds. Dampness in the house and damp litter is to be avoided if the birds are not to have roup and colds. Fresh, clean water is necessary and the mash hoppers are to be kept filled at all times. Oys-

ter shell and grit needs to be kept before the birds and grain fed twice each day with the heaviest amount at evening.

Mr. Dearstyne says that the poultryman will do well to spend about ten minutes each day in general observation of his flock. This will help him to find any lack of thriftiness or any indication of disease. Birds roughly handled, irregularly fed and watered, infested with parasites or neglected in other ways will not prove profitable.

FINDS UNMARKED GRAVE OF REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER

The unmarked grave of a giant Cleveland county soldier who fought at Kings Mountain with Col. Isaac Shelby and Col. Benjamin Cleveland was located last week by Mr. J. Cullen Mull while he was searching for unmarked graves of Confederate soldiers.

The grave, the history of which has been kept by descendants of the soldier, is located on a hill near Bens Knob in the mountain section northwest of Shelby. There shortly after the fight for freedom was buried James Cook, who was seven

feet tall and one of the largest men, according to tradition, in the Revolutionary army. Very few people lived in this entire section at the time, but the soldier told his wife shortly before his death that he wanted to be buried on the hill near their pioneer home. His wife, descendants of Cook say, intended to disregard his wishes and have his body buried out in some settlement, probably in Catawba county. However, a heavy snow fell on the night of the giant soldier's death and it was impossible to remove him. With the aid of the only two neighbors within more than a score of miles the widow buried him at the spot requested.

As the years passed other members of pioneer families were buried near Cook's grave, and after many other years had passed a church was established there. This church is now known as Olivers Grove and the cemetery centers about the mound where Cook was buried. Practically all of the Cooks in this and adjoining counties are descendants, it is said, of the seven-foot soldier.—Cleveland Star.

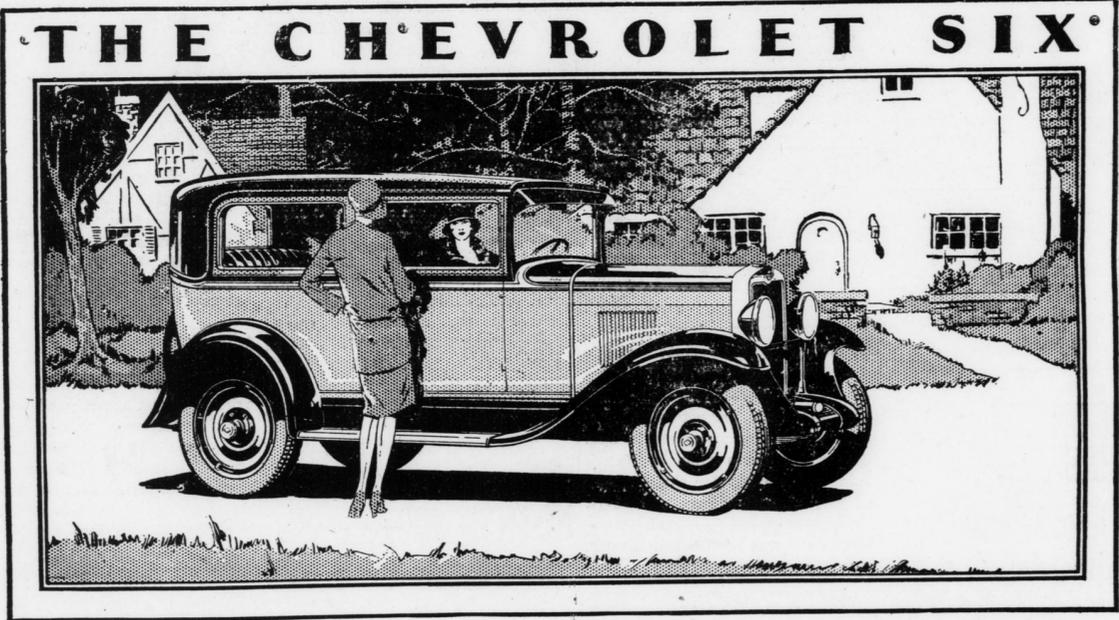
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