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SERICIA EXPOSED BY PHILLIPS

STOKES' REPRESENTATIVE IN THE LEGISLATURE WHO IS HIMSELF A FARMER TELLS ABOUT THIS FAKE LAND IMPROVER.

Editor Reporter:

To some of the readers of the Reporter it may be of interest to give some first-hand knowledge about the legume which has been advertised so widely in recent months, and known as "sericia."

Last year a friend of mine ordered out of Charlotte some seed of the sericia plant, and it had high recommendations as a soil improver and hay plant. (What better combination do we citizens of Stokes need than these two characteristics in a plant?) The seed were sown and treated just as instructions were given, but sad to say never a plant has been seen to this day on the proposed pasture, and the high price paid for sericia seed has gone its way to line the pockets of a highly successful stealer.

This year one of our successful farm papers has column after column of ads giving prices on sericia, and I am sure that when the seed have been sown (this term means that the seed have so been treated as to make them easy to germinate), and a few stalks have matured, that the seed make up the greater part of the value of the plant—especially when there are enough buyers of high-priced seed who do not know the habits of this plant. It is surprising that a dependable farm paper would carry an ad even if paid for such service, when they are in position to find out the facts about the seed. It is the same old story of gaining a dollar even when this small grain means taking ten dollars out of the farmer's pocket.

While trying to serve Stokes county in the General Assembly, I took the occasion to get direct and reliable information concerning sericia, and these facts are passed on to those interested in land improvement, and here are the facts:

1. That it is a worthless plant for hay, having a woody stalk, but with lots of seed.
2. That the seed will not germinate unless scarified. (In other words, if the seed are blown through a sandpaper pipe till the hull is practically worn through, then the seed might have a chance to sprout.)
3. That all the excitement about sericia being a plant of untold possibilities referred mainly to the possibilities of having buyers of seed at fabulous prices.

Just because lespedeza (common, Korean, Kobe and others) are fine and will do wonders for land improvement at a next to nothing cost, this sericia has been listed in the same family, and advertised as being superior to all other classes of lespedeza. A man, high in the field of plant knowledge, claims that he would not have sericia on his farm if you would give him the seed; and if we Stokes citizens are looking for richer lands and better homes, then let's have more of the Korean and other types of lespedeza mentioned above, and let the seed-selling cam-

CHECKING UP ON STILL BILLS

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REQUIRE PROOF OF BONA FIDE CAPTURE BEFORE PAYING ACCOUNTS — MEETING OF BOARD LARGELY CONFINED TO ROUTINE MATTERS.

The county board of commissioners in session here Monday made an order that all bills turned in before the board for the capture of stills should have appended a receipt from Jailer Flinchum or Sheriff John Taylor that the still had been duly received by them, or either of them, its size, kind, etc. Otherwise, no bills for still claims would be honored by the board.

The commissioners were present in their regular monthly session, J. A. Joyce, chairman; F. P. Stone and H. H. Brown.

No matter except of a routine nature came up for consideration, except that the board extended a lease to the State Highway Commission of the land on which is located the State Highway convict camp, near the county home. This tract comprises 10 acres, and the State was given another 2-year possession, with privilege at that time of renewal.

Quite a number of petitions for relief from indigent persons were considered, and some claims paid.

Altogether it was a rather perfunctory meeting, with nothing important being considered.

Harry Saunders Killed in Virginia

News is received here of the fatal shooting of Harry Saunders near Martinsville, Va., where he conducted a filling station. The slayer was a woman. Mr. Saunders formerly lived at Walnut Cove.

Meets Death While Bathing

Morehead City, July 3. — James F. Fowler Jr., 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Fowler, of Greensboro, met his death from a heart attack while in bathing near Morehead Villa at 4 o'clock Monday afternoon.

Young Fowler came here with a party of friends from Greensboro on a week end fishing trip to Havelock and planned to spend the Fourth at Morehead Villa.

The party decided to go into swimming today in Bogue Sound, near Morehead Villa. While swimming back to the shore, Fowler was taken with a heart attack and suddenly went under.

Work on the surfacing of the Buck Island-Virginia line road begins this week. Messrs. Feaster, superintendent; Quattlebam, foreman; Hammond and Palen, who are engaged in this work, have arrived and are at the King hotel here.

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A. R. PHILLIPS.

SALES TAX NOW IS FUNCTIONING

PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING NOW SUBJECT TO DUTY TO THE STATE.

Raleigh, July 1 — The three per cent, general sales tax went into effect at the stroke of 12 o'clock tonight as North Carolina entered another biennium of its history.

Virtually every article sold at retail in the state must now carry its share of the tax, which will run higher than three per cent. in some cases due to the impracticability of levying exactly three per cent. on certain small sales.

Exempted from the tax are a few commodities: meats, sugar, lard, meal, flour, molasses, milk, coffee, salt, machinery sold to industries for manufacturing purposes, and cotton and tobacco sold by other than the producer to a third party for manufacturing or processing.

Over the protests of thousands of merchants, the sales tax was imposed by the 1933 General Assembly in their task of finding a new source of revenue which would balance the state budget without involving drastic curtailments in state expenditures.

Governor Owen, who has no love for the tax, but did request the assemblymen to enact it in order to "preserve" the functions of government and provide the state with a "decent school."

Due to the eleventh hour passage of the biennial revenue bill in the legislature, rules for collecting the sales tax were left to A. J. Maxwell, commissioner of revenue.

Provision was made that whatever rules he should promulgate would be given the status of law.

After conferring with the numerous merchants and studying the matter extensively, Maxwell abandoned the plan of collecting the tax by affixing stamps to each article of merchandise.

To meet the exigencies of different mercantile conditions, Maxwell prepared four schedules whereby different classes of merchants could collect the tax most expediently.

In the schedules, merchandise is placed into brackets according to price and the tax levied alike on all articles in each bracket.

For example: In schedule two, no tax will be levied on sales under 16 cents. Sales of from 17 to 33 cents a tax of one cent; from 34 to 66 cents, two cents tax; from 67 to \$1, three cents tax. On sales running over \$1, the rate is straight three per cent, with fractions of cents being determined in favor of the major fraction.

The merchants must pass the sales tax on to the consumer, but they are given their choice as to whether they shall include it in the total price of the article, or show it as an extra charge.

Authorities on taxation have estimated that the three per cent. levy on sales should yield \$9,000,000 a year to the state.

"WILD GINGER" AT LAWSONVILLE

AN ENTERTAINMENT FOR NEXT SATURDAY NIGHT BY THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF SANDY RIDGE — PLAY WELL SPOKEN OF.

"Wild Ginger," a comedy-drama in three acts, will be presented at Lawsonville School Saturday night, July 8, at 8:00 o'clock by the young people of Sandy Ridge community.

The play was previously given at Sandy Ridge June 17, with much success. People who saw the play spoke of it as, "A play of much worth," "well balanced with comedy and drama," "an interesting and gripping plot," "well presented."

A list of the characters follow:

- Jake Tallman, A miserly old pinchpenny, Glenn Dodson.
- Geoffrey Freeman, Young man of hero type, Louis Joyce.
- Sanford Lakey, Man of extravagant habits, Cranford Priddy.
- Marwood Lakey, Sanford Lakey's son, Paul Blair.
- Wuzzy Walker, A would-be chiropractor, Clarence Martin.
- Mr. Peterson, The village grocerman, Richard Brown.
- Virginia Tallman, Jake Tallman's daughter, Nicknamed "Wild Ginger," Nannie Belle Dodson.
- Miss Rachel Lee, Ginger's best friend, Vivian Mays.
- Miss Stanley, A health conscious, Nestine Hawkins.
- Miz Walker, Wuzzy's mother, Annie Ruth Thornton.
- Bonita Lakey, Marwood's sister, Virginia Hall.

The price of admission will be 10 cents. String music is to be an added feature of the program. You are cordially invited to come for an evening of fellowship and wholesome recreation.

On The Death Of A Valuable Cow

Mr. Lon Sisk is the recipient of many expressions of sympathy over the loss of a very valuable cow. The Reporter was in error in stating the loss of this cow last week at \$100,000. The death of the animal being very sudden, Mr. Sisk was frustrated at the time, and was not capable of placing a true valuation on his loss, which now after careful consideration he estimates at \$500.00 to \$1,000.00.

This, it appears, was a very unusual and precocious quadruped. It did not need a pasture fence, as Mr. Sisk says he could blaze a way through the woods and turn the cow in and it would never cross the trail, or he could plow a furrow around the field and the animal would not go over the furrow under any circumstances.

This cow gave between 10 and 12 gallons of milk each milking, and it was very rich milk, and immediately after milking it would back up to the barn and by a novel contrivance which Mr. Sisk had arranged in connecting his churn with a pulley at the barn the cow would churn the milk with the switches of its tail. From three to four pounds of butter was realized from each gallon of the milk.

SANDY RIDGE MARRIAGE JULY 1

MISS LORA MILDRED CARTER BECOMES BRIDE OF JOHN WESLEY NELSON — HAWKINS FAMILY REUNION AUGUST 6 — DELIGHTFUL ENTERTAINMENT

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Carter, of Sandy Ridge, announce the marriage of their daughter, Lora Mildred to John Wesley Nelson of Madison, Route 3.

The wedding was solemnized in Martinsville, Va., Saturday, July 1, 1933 at 4 o'clock. The bride is the attractive daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Carter of Sandy Ridge. She is a popular member of the young or social set of her community and has a host of friends who wish her much happiness.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Nelson of Madison, Route 3. He holds a position at Taylor's Warehouse in Winston-Salem during the winter months while he farms during the summer.

The friends of this young couple extend their wishes to them for a long and happy life.

The fourth annual reunion of the Hawkins family will be held at Oak Ridge Baptist church near Sandy Ridge August 6. All relatives and friends are cordially invited to attend. Everyone bring a well filled basket to help make the day more enjoyable. To save and delight, Mrs. Odel Vernon entertained a number of her friends at a birthday party given in honor of her brother, Theodore, Saturday night, July 1. Interesting games were enjoyed throughout the evening after which delicious refreshments were served. Everyone enjoyed the occasion.

An ice cream supper will be given by Durward Joyce at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Joyce of Madison, Route 3 Saturday night, July 8. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Only Half As Many Drunks

Police Department statistics of arrests provide shrewd facts, even if they do not always convince men against their will.

The post hoc, propter hoc argument is often treated with contempt when it fails to support preconceived convictions, but nevertheless, it has a good deal of weight with persons of a judicial frame of mind.

According to the Baltimore police the number of arrests in the Central Police District for drunkenness prior to April 7 last averaged between six and eight a day during a considerable period.

On the date mentioned, beer of 3.2 per cent alcoholic content made its debut in the city. It was welcomed with enthusiasm and was consumed with avidity.

Since that date arrests for drunkenness have averaged only three a day.

Whatever others may think, Magistrate James R. Cadden of the Central Police District says:

"There is no doubt that the return of beer has been responsible for the falling off in arrests for drunkenness." — Baltimore News

USE OF SCHOOL BUSES RESTRICTED

MAY NOT BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE THAN HAULING CHILDREN TO SCHOOL — BASKETBALL AND OTHER FREE PARTIES OUT.

School buses may not be used for any other purpose than that of transporting children to school and that during the prescribed school day, according to orders from the state school commission. In other words, the school buses may not be used by children to go to basketball games in the afternoon, or to commencement exercises in town. Neither can they be used for the transportation of the 4-H boys and girls to the Raleigh short course as has been the case heretofore in North Carolina.

Another ruling that comes from the school machinery act is that buses are not required to transport the children more than one mile and a half from a school. That if it is inconvenient for a bus to travel more than the mile and a half, it does not have to go. The pupil must be present at the nearest mile and a half point on the route of the bus. The law from the machinery act governing this provision reads as follows:

In all districts where transportation is provided, provision shall be made for transporting all children living more than two miles from the nearest traveled route; and unless road conditions or other reasons make it inadvisable buses shall be routed so as to get within one and one half miles of all children entitled to transportation in said districts.

Baptist Sunday School Services Sunday

The children of the "Little Helpers" and Junior classes of the Danbury Baptist Sunday School were entertained at a Jig Saw Puzzle contest by their teachers, Mrs. A. J. Fagg and Miss Edith Fagg, Friday June 30th, at 5 o'clock.

Tables and chairs seating 24 of the older children were arranged in the basement of the church, which was attractively decorated with garden flowers. The beginners were seated at a small table and simple puzzles and games arranged for them.

Prize winners in the Jig Saw contest were Jean Priddy, Elizabeth Booth, David Alley and Junior Alley. Those winning in other contests were Sara and Jean Flinchum and Thelma Flinchum.

Following the games, ice cream and lemonade were served by the hostesses assisted by Mrs. S. A. Flinchum.

Those present were: Lena and Jean Priddy, Sara and Julia Flinchum, Frances Alley, Nina Smith, Elizabeth Booth, Luvenia and Ethel Goins, Maizie Duggins, Louise Nelson, Thelma Flinchum, Nellie Mays, Marie Goins, Jean Flinchum, Alice Ruth Priddy, Davis and Junior Alley, Elwood Priddy, Jack Duggins, Clarence and Vance Alley, Harvey Fagg, H. G. Alley, Max and John Alley.