

THE MONROE JOURNAL

PUBLISHED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

VOL. 22. NO. 11.

MONROE, N. C., TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 1916.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

THE SOILS OF UNION COUNTY

Map of the Survey Made Last Summer is now Completed—Whole County Capable of Great Improvement.

Washington, D. C. March 6.

A report of the soil survey of Union county, recently concluded by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, has just been published by the Federal Department. This report covers 38 printed pages and includes a large map in colors showing the various types of soils found in the county, and also location of railroads, highways, rivers, streams, churches, schools, etc. The variety of soils, says the report, topographical position and healthful climate of Union county are favorable to the development of a highly diversified agriculture. The clay subsoils found throughout the county permit of the land being built up to a high state of productiveness and maintained in that condition. At the present time cotton is the principal crop in the county with corn next in importance. A number of minor crops, however, also are grown chiefly for the local markets.

There is no system of rotation generally practiced throughout the county. A system followed by some farmers, however, with good results is as follows: first year, cotton with crimson clover sown in the fall; second year a small grain crop with cowpeas sown at the last cultivation; third year, a small grain crop with cowpeas sown again after harvesting. Soil treated in this way shows steady improvement. Many farmers, however, alternate corn and cotton, with no winter cover crop. Where this is done, the best results are obtained by deep fall or winter plowing followed by spring plowing and frequent shallow cultivations.

The slate and granite soils, in general, produce good yields of corn, cotton, oats, wheat, cowpeas, rye, and where lime and inoculated seed have been used, of clover and vetches. Rye does best on the Georgetown and Cecil series. The light sandy loams are best for sweet potatoes, peanuts, and early truck crops. The Cecil and Georgetown soils are particularly good for fruit and the Durham soils for the production of bright tobacco.

More and more commercial fertilizer is being used in Union county each year. For cotton, application of from 200 to 400 pounds per acre are used. Many farmers buy cottonseed meal, phosphate, and kainit or muriate of potash and mix them at home in the desired proportions. The soils throughout the county are prevalently light in color, an indication of deficiency in organic matter.

Soils.

All of Union county, with the exception of a narrow strip along the western border and small areas in the southwestern and southeastern corners, is underlain by slate formations, the county being a part of what has been called the "Carolina slate belt." The weathering of this slate has given rise to the two most important soil series in the county—the Georgetown and Alamance. Together, the various types of these two series comprise about four-fifths of the total area of the county.

The Georgetown soils are characterized by the gray to red color and predominantly silty texture of the surface soils and by red silty clay subsoils. Four types are found in Union county—the silt loam, the gravelly silt loam, silty clay loam, and the slate loam. These soils are recognized as the strongest in the county.

The Georgetown silt loam is found in numerous areas scattered throughout the county, especially to the south and northwest of Monroe, south of Pleasant Grove church, and in the vicinity of Beulah church. By far the greater part of the type is now under cultivation, being used for production of corn, cotton, oats, clover, cowpeas, sweet potatoes, fruits, and vegetables. The yields are about the same as those obtained from the gravelly silt loam; but, in the opinion of some, the silt loam requires more careful handling than the gravelly type in order to prevent baking or drying out.

The gravelly silt loam is one of the most extensive types in the county. It is predominant in the northeastern section and also is frequent in the central part. It is used principally for the production of corn and cotton. Corn yields 15 to 40 bushels and cotton 1/4 to 1 bale per acre. Satisfactorily yields of sorghum can also be obtained, but the color of the sirup is not quite so bright as that produced on the Alamance soils. The silty clay subsoil of this type enables the soil to be built up to a high and permanent state of productiveness. The incorporation of barnyard manure or any vegetable matter has a lasting effect and burr lime is beneficial. This is also true of the Georgetown slate loam, which is closely related to the gravelly silt loam, however, is so rough that only a small percentage of it is under cultivation.

The Georgetown silty clay loam, locally called "red land," is found over extensive areas in the western part of the county. It is the heaviest of the slate soils and requires strong teams and heavy machinery for its most profitable and best development. Cotton is grown to a small extent on it and the yields are usually low. Wheat does well on this soil but it is not grown at present. More thorough plowing, frequent shallow cultivations, and the addition of organic matter and lime would build up this type to a high state of productivity. The Alamance series, of which three types are found in the county—the silt loam, gravelly silt loam, and slate loam—is characterized by the white or light gray color of the surface of soils and the yellow color of the subsoils. For this reason the land is some times known as "white land." Both soils and subsoils are prevalently silty in texture and possess a smooth, floury feel.

The Alamance silt loam is the most extensive of all the soil types in Union county. Typical areas lie to the south of Monroe and along the Seaboard Air Line Railway between Bakers and Stout. All of this type has a surface highly favorable to farming and all kinds of improved farm machinery can be successfully used on it. The soil, however, is remarkably deficient in organic matter and is inclined to run together and puddle when wet. The poorly drained areas are also in need of lime. Where the soil is properly supplied with vegetable matter, however, good yields of cotton, corn, oats, and other crops are obtained. The shallow phase of the Alamance silt loam, which is extensive and occurs in small bodies scattered throughout the eastern half of the county, is considered a much less desirable soil for farming than the main type.

The Alamance gravelly silt loam is found principally north and south of Marshville and Wintate and around Benton Cross Roads Church. The areas which it occupies are intermediate in character between the gently rolling ones of the Alamance silt loam and the more hilly areas of the slate loam. The type is naturally well drained and the presence of gravel and finely broken slate particles diminishes erosion. The principal crops grown on the Alamance gravelly silt loam are corn, cotton, wheat, oats, clover, sorghum cane, rye, sweet potatoes, and garden vegetables. Certain varieties of fruit do well when they receive proper care. The yields are perhaps slightly higher than those obtained from the Alamance silt loam and the soil needs less cultivation and has a higher capacity for retaining moisture. It is, however, in need of vegetable matter and lime.

The Alamance slate loam, the largest area of which lie in the vicinity of Macedonia Church, south of Marshville, and along Beaver Dam and Lanes Creek, is excessively drained and crops suffer from even ordinary droughts. The areas of this type, however, are generally so small that it is seldom sold except in association with other soils.

Next in importance to the Alamance and Georgetown soils are those of the Cecil series. Of these there are three types—the sandy loam, the fine sandy loam, and the clay loam. The sandy loam occurs in many small areas to the south and southwest of Waxhaw and in the vicinity of Wellington and Antioch Church. Practically all of this type has been cleared, the principal crops being cotton, corn, oats, clover, cowpeas, sweet potatoes, watermelons and garden vegetables. It is the best trucking soil in the county, but trucking is not followed extensively upon it. Sweet potatoes do remarkably well, giving large yields of a also flavored product. Watermelons are also grown in large quantities for the local markets. Commercial fertilizers are applied to practically all of the crops, but cotton receives the heaviest applications. Deep plowing, thorough pulverization of the soil before planting, and frequent shallow cultivations have enabled some of the farmers to more than double their yields. As a general purpose soil, the Cecil sandy loam is regarded as one of the best in Union county.

The Cecil clay loam is also susceptible of great lasting improvement. Deeper plowing, preferably in the fall, occasional subsoiling, breaking and harrowing in the spring, and frequent shallow cultivations are the means adopted by many farmers to increase their yields.

In the first bottoms along practically all of the streams of the county are found areas of the Congaree silt loam. The surface soil of this type is a brown silt loam underlain at a depth of about 8 or 12 inches by a brown subsoil, which in texture approaches a silty clay loam. The Congaree silt loam is without doubt the best corn soil in the county and in dry seasons produces good yields of cotton and small grains. None of it is sold, however, except in conjunction with the adjoining uplands. All of it is subject to overfrequent periods of heavy rainfall, but by straightening and deepening the natural drainage ways and digging lateral ditches leading into them, it can be greatly improved. Good yields of corn and grasses are also secured on the Wehadkee silt loam which, like the Congaree silt loam, is found in the first bottoms. It is not so extensive, however, as the Congaree type.

Why Will Thy Not Learn?

Concord Tribune.

It seems a pity to have to throw away a news letter that is worth printing after somebody has gone to the trouble to write it, but we can't help it when the writer fails to let us know who he or she is. Raft Swamp items sent in by somebody from Buie under date of the 23d ult., fell thus by the way. We should have been glad to publish these items if the writer had just made known for the information of the editor his or her name—Lumberton Robesonian.

The statement that newspapers cannot publish letters or items sent to them without knowing who wrote them, has been published a hundred times or more in every paper in the country; and yet not a week passes probably, during which every paper does not receive just such a letter. Why is it that people will not learn this very simple thing?

GOT THE GOVERNMENT PENNED

Steel Trust Can Make Any Price It Wishes for Armor—Why it can. Correspondence of The Journal.

"Every little bit helps," when it comes to throwing more light on the country's greatest—if not its only real problem. Recently the war department purchased a new supply of armor plate. This last purchase was considerably higher in price than seemed good to our rulers, and there was some little kick on the part of a right respectable bunch of them.

They said: "Confound the steel trust. We will never stand for \$400 per ton for armor plate. Its too much. We will build an armor plate plant of our own and defy the present gang who are robbing us. Accordingly they introduced a bill to this effect and Senator Penrose got up and told them that he was in possession of inside information which led him to believe that if the government should establish its own armor plate plant that the manufacturers would raise the price still more—

even to \$600 a ton. Now do you get the idea? We have been thinking for some time that governmental control of public utilities was one avenue of escape from the present reign of terror in which there was hope of relief. But, according to Mr. Penrose, this is not true. If then, Mr. Penrose is right in his surmises, whose country is this anyhow? If the government of these "benighted" States can't put up an armor plate factory without the steel trust defying it, which is the most powerful, the country as a whole or the steel trust as one of its units?

But maybe you want to know why we can't build our own armor plate plant and produce our own material for building our own ships? Well, this is why. The steel trust has a corner of the major part of the raw materials out of which armor plate is made and the government is not able to produce armor plate from saw dust. So its up to us. We can pay the trust \$600 per ton if it sees fit to ask us that much—and no doubt it will or see—for the finished product, or we can build our own plant at enormous expense and pay the trust \$600 per ton for the raw material and have the fun of producing the finished article ourselves.

Now a condition like that reminds me very much of a certain book that gained some notoriety a few years ago. The title of which was: "In a Devil of a Fix."

If the steel trust is bigger than the government, how come it so? If the government is the biggest, how come it hasn't any material out of which to make things?

This is a question from which we may get tons of information for less than \$400 per, and the information when assimilated will be worth more than \$600 per. Let's make use of it.

It's easy to see in this case that the government has woefully blundered in letting the natural resources of the country get into private hands.

If we are in all the danger that these same steel trust magnates would have us believe we are in—which of course, we are not—we will still have to submit to high-handed robbery in order to protect ourselves against invasion. If we must be robbed and plundered, I for one, would prefer to have it done by a foreign invader than by the steel trust.

The hypocrisy of a program of this kind is too glaring to deceive anyone except one of the kind that "Barnum" said was born every minute—a sucker—and surely such high-handed, outlandish procedure will cure some of the victims of this class.

If a man wishes to be deceived and loves to be made a dupe of, he certainly ought to cease loving it when the fun has all been knocked out of it, and if there is any more fun in this regime, it is certainly not on our side of the board.

But let's get back to the source. Suppose the government had not allowed the steel trust, the oil trust, and the lumber trust to monopolize the country's natural resources; if this had not been done, then the government could build an armor plant and get its raw materials from its own possessions. But since the government hasn't any possession containing these raw materials it finds itself at the mercy of one of its pets. Who is so ungrateful for past abundant favors that it holds up the very agency that has made it and defies it to make an effort to help itself? This is as if a starving wayfarer should find himself on the brink of an abundance of the very things for which he were dying—the things that were once his very own and he through generosity had given them to a friend—and because of the lack of the price, he can never reach them, he must die in the presence of plenty. Die a victim of his own folly in parting with the things which nature had provided to sustain him. Yet we call ourselves Christianized, civilized, and highly progressive people. I wonder if we don't blaspheme.

NOVUS HOMO.

Hot in Texas.

Dallas (Tex.) Dispatch, March 5. Temperature rose by leaps and bounds in the Southwest in the last 48 hours. Gainesville, Texas, sweltered in a temperature of 95 degrees, a rise of 63 degrees in 36 hours. The mean temperature in North Texas today was 83 degrees, the highest ever known at this season of the year, according to local weather bureau records.

The temperature here at 4 o'clock was 66 degrees. Saturday morning freezing weather prevailed. Oklahoma City reported 12 degrees above zero Saturday morning and 84 this afternoon.

THE HONORED NAME OF SMITH

No Throes-off in this Matter as the First Smiths Were Kings' Favorites and Mighty Men. Correspondence of The Journal.

Rockingham, March 4.—It may be of interest to some to know the origin of one our most popular names of people that we have today. "Smith" (Mr.) is a very prevalent name, but like other sir names, its origin is not known to everybody. Smith is a very old and time-honored name coming from England from the time that English history opens.

In the days of long ago when the mighty crowned monarchs of the ancients were mere savages and roaming over the forests, and over the fields, hills, and valleys in the pursuit of war, one tribe after another, it was convenient for the monarch to have along with his clan a man who could forge swords out of the metals such as bronze and iron. These people who could make swords were called "Smiths" and they were always the favorite of the king because so valuable to him in time of war. In the Anglo-Saxon period of history, the "Smith" was indeed a wonderful man. He sat at the king's royal table, below the court chaplain and above the court physician. Special laws guarded the safety of this person. Once a Scottish smith committed a crime for which the penalty was death, but so precious was the services of this man to the king and the clan, that the king ordered that two weavers be hanged in his stead. In this one case you can see how the "Smith" was honored. He who could forge swords like the sword "Excalibur" of King Arthur and the sword "Joyeuse" of Charlemagne, weapons which were themselves regarded as inanimate warriors, must, thought the Saxon churl, be endowed with magical powers. Henry Ferrers, the smith that accompanied William the Conqueror's train, is almost as renowned as the conqueror himself.

In the middle ages of England, the smith became the most important factor in high society life. And in villages the smithy was the favorite retreat for those that wanted to gossip and keep up with the latest news. The smith was in most cases a learned man and could explain the topics clearly, hence he was popular in that way. One writer says that he became "the rivet which held society together." The smith was thus "the very eye and tongue of the village."

Now in these early times the surnames of men were often derived from their calling, and as the smith was the earliest and most highly considered of all men who worked with their hands, so the name of Smith became, and has continued to this day, the most frequently met with of all English surnames. Not only is it true of English names, but in other tongues we find that an equivalent of "Smith" is more common than other names. "Schmidt" in German, "Cowen" in Scottish, "Fabri" in Italian, "Lefevre" in French, mean the same as Smith does in English.

The modern "Mr. Smith" of today need not blush when titles are hurled at his surname, for his is an ancient and much honored name. He can boast of an ancestry revered and honored when the ancestors of England's most powerful and haughty nobles, and America's proudest families, nay, when the ancestors of even the mighty crowned monarchs, were mere savages, roaming about in the forests and robbing and turning rude civilization into desolation; destroying beautiful domains and plundering and burning villages. Your name, Mr. Smith, is an aristocratic name and it is as old as the hills, and it came from an honored occupation. Your ancestors were the royal favorites and they sat at the royal tables of crowned kings and queens and partook of the royal stock of wines that no one else except those connected with the royal family was allowed.

Mr. Smith, your ancestors were with Alexander the Great when he conquered the world; they were with Hannibal when he made his mighty tour across the snow-capped Alps; they were favorites of the Egyptian King Cheops when he constructed the most notable of notable structures—the Cheops pyramid beside the lordly Nile; and Rome was saved to mature its fruit by your ancestors; it would have been ransomed with gold but for the bravery of one man who said: "Rome shall not be ransomed with gold, but by the sword—the product of your ancestors. So you see in all the past your name has ever been held in the highest esteem by the most esteemed people that the world has ever produced. And today it remains with you to keep your line honored and world-famed name free from that which would bring disgrace and dishonor to yourself and to your ancestors that have long since gone to join that silent majority whose realm under earth is bounded by the sides of the grave." And remember, Mr. Smith, that your forefathers in Scotland forged the most famous sword that has ever been made or ever will be, the sword of Damascus. That sword is famous in song and story and there is not a school boy or girl that has not heard the name "Damascus" and when it is mentioned they will think of a "Smith" and a great sword.

Now to get up a good lively discussion between anybody, and a good statement based on facts, I will give you the cue. So here it is: There is a natural substance given us, that constitutes the basis upon which the greatest discoveries and inventions are built up. Here you are now: Novus Homo, Borrower, Mr. Editor (if you have time for a shot), and any other scribe

The Congress—President Situation.

On Saturday the Senate overwhelmingly voted to table a resolution requesting Americans not to travel on armed ships of belligerents, thus "standing by" the President. The resolution comes up in the house today, and while the majority will not be so great as that in the senate, it is thought that the house, too, will "stand" by the President. Many of the biggest men in the house are in favor of telling Americans to stay off of such ships.

News from Belks.

Correspondence of The Journal.

Belks, March 5.—We are glad to say that Mrs. T. B. Davis is improving.

Mr. Adam Clontz is seriously ill at this writing.

Mrs. J. A. Dees has been very sick, but we are glad to say she is improving.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Davis spent Saturday night with Mr. H. M. Mangum.

Mr. Clyde Griffin of Mt. Pleasant community, spent last Saturday night and Sunday with his brother, Mr. Hoyt Griffin.

Mr. W. P. Davis spent Sunday with Squire T. B. Davis.

Mr. Willie Green visited his father-in-law, Mr. J. C. Simpson, Sunday.

Mr. H. G. Davis and Mr. W. G. Davis spent Saturday in Pageland on a business trip.

Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Mangum spent last Friday night with their son, Mr. Jessie Mangum.

Mr. Jim Mangum, overseer of route eight public road, is now working it up in good condition.

Mr. W. A. Baker visited Mr. Earl Mangum last Saturday.

Miss Esther Davis visited Mrs. Mary Rollins last Saturday night; returning Sunday morning, accompanied by Miss Rollins.

Mrs. J. T. Lowery, and little son, of Mount Holly, spent Sunday with Mrs. L. A. Dees.

Messrs. J. R. Rollins, W. A. Baker, and C. W. Mangum motored to Union last Saturday night, where they enjoyed seeing the play given by the Union school.

Hurrah for Belk school! We are glad to know that it is prospering. The teachers are Misses Sarah Parks, and Amy Baucum. They gave their students a good time last Saturday evening by treating them to a contest and candy pulling. The "prize" winners were Misses Maudie and May Rollins. We certainly appreciate the efforts of our teachers. SAMBO.

Serious Fights Between Whites and Blacks.

Lumberton Dispatch, March 5.

Feeling against negroes at St. Paul in this county is running high and fear is expressed that race riots will result from trouble which began this morning when Officer Townsend, of St. Paul, was overpowered and beaten by several negroes when he went to the home of one to make an arrest, and reached his height this afternoon when three negroes who were engaged in the earlier trouble were shot in a pitched battle between a posse of citizens and the negroes.

About 10 o'clock this morning Townsend, and Tew, another member of the St. Paul police force, went to the home of one of the negroes to quell a disturbance reported by neighbors. Townsend entered the home to make arrests and was intercepted by several negroes, who overpowered him, took his gun and beat him viciously about the face and head. While that was going on other negroes covered Tew with pistols and prevented him from rendering assistance.

After disarming the officers the negroes escaped but were soon pursued by several hundred citizens. They were overtaken at Lumber Bridge, several miles away, but, when ordered to surrender, fired upon the posse, all of their shots going wild.

The pursuers returned the fire and two of the fugitives fell, the others running away. A little further on another skirmish resulted in the wounding and capturing of a third negro. A fourth was captured without bloodshed, and the quartet is now lodged in Robeson jail.

No one of the wounded negroes is considered to be in danger from his wounds.

Stewart School (Jackson Township)

Honor Roll for February.

First Grade—Robert Boyce Huey.

Second Grade—Bonnie Simpson, Charles Henry Walkup.

Fourth Grade—Bettie Flow, Stacy Huey.

Seventh Grade—Maudie Flow, Paul Flow, James Huey, Lester Parks, Bundy Simpson, Jennie Lind Walkup.

Miss ANNIE GREEN, Teacher.

That will join and tell us what this is.

Study all the natural resources of the country well then let's hear from you. It will be interesting. I have my side chosen, but I may be on the bad side again as Mr. Homo would say.

THE STUDENT.

Farmers Union Meeting.

Union County Farmers' Union will hold a mass meeting for members only, in the courthouse at Monroe on Saturday, March 18th, at 12:30 p. m. Every member in the county is urged to be present at this meeting.

J. Z. GREEN, Pres.

E. C. RUSHING, Secy.

Wise is he who selects an obedient daughter of a good mother for his wife.

MR. PAGE WILL QUIT

Can't "Stand By the President" and Will Not Be a Candidate For Congress Again.

"To the Democratic voters of the Seventh Congressional District of North Carolina:

"Many patriotic citizens of North Carolina are writing me and wiring me to support the President in his diplomatic controversy with European countries. Many just as patriotic are telling me to support a resolution warning American citizens against taking passage on armed vessels of belligerent countries. The Constitution vests in the President all diplomatic questions, and I as a member of Congress am willing that he should exercise this prerogative. I do not think the Congress, or any other large body of men, can successfully negotiate matters of diplomacy with other countries. When the President demanded that Congress pass upon a resolution warning American citizens against taking passage on ships of belligerent Nations I suggested the following resolution:

"Whereas, the Constitution vests in the President all matters of diplomacy; resolved, that the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled, hereby express confidence in the President in the exercise of this prerogative for the protection of the lives and liberties of American citizens and the honor and peace of the Republic."

Shifts Responsibility.

"The President is not satisfied with an unreserved expression of confidence on the part of Congress, but demands a vote upon the warning of American citizens to refrain from using armed vessels of belligerent countries, asking that it be voted down. This shifts to the consciences and convictions and members of Congress a responsibility that the Constitution imposed upon the Executive. Having the responsibility thrust upon me, I claim the right to exercise my own judgment and convictions and not have them dictated by some one else. I do not believe that an American citizen should insist upon the exercise of an abstract right that will jeopardize the peace of this country. To vote against a resolution of warning places on me the responsibility of the death of all Americans who, in the absence of such warning, may lose their lives by the destruction of an armed vessel of some one of the warring Powers and therefore plunge this country in war. I cannot gain the consent of my conscience, much as I would like to gratify the President, and meet what seems to be the demands of my constituents, regardless of my conscientious convictions, to in every matter vote as the President requests, thereby assuming responsibility for the loss of a single American life, or even indirectly stain my hands with his blood. In this instance I am sure that I am in possession of facts which a partial press has kept the people I represent in ignorance.

"Where Treasure Is."

"Jesus Christ never uttered a more profound truth than when He declared, 'Where your treasure is there will your heart be also.' The loan of \$500,000,000 to England by American capitalists, to say nothing of the profits of munition manufacturers has destroyed the semblance even of neutrality in the United States, and will probably lead us into war. I have no pro-German, or pro-anything sentiment or inclination other than pro-American. I realize very fondly my obligation and responsibility to my immediate constituency and to the American people. I will not stultify my conscience or stain my hands with the blood of my countrymen; neither will I do violence to my conscientious convictions of duty, thereby forfeiting my self respect.

"And now, while so far as I am informed I would have no opposition for re-nomination in the approaching primary, I desire to announce that I will not be a candidate for the nomination.

"I can never express the depth of my gratitude to the Democrats of the Seventh District for their support and friendship. I would not be in any degree worthy of it if I did not maintain my self-respect and intellectual integrity by retiring instead of remaining your Representative, without either.

(Signed) "ROBERT N. PAGE."

Union County Man Lost In Florida.

For some days there has been a persistent rumor that Mr. Sam Griffin, who has been living in Florida, at Dunedin, for the past four years, had mysteriously disappeared. He was preparing to come back here to spend this year with his father, Mr. W. G. Griffin, of Buford township, and had made his arrangements to that effect. He was last seen on Friday a week ago. His clothing, trunk, suit case, and other belongings are at his boarding house, and he had some money on deposit in the bank which had not been withdrawn. But the man himself had completely disappeared. There seems to be no theory to explain the situation other than that in some unaccountable way he has met foul play. Mr. W. G. Griffin left yesterday for Florida to see what he could find out about his son.

Reciter's for County Commencement

The following are the names of the young ladies who have been chosen reciters in the county commencement contest:

Misses Lula Helms, Alma Smith, Lizzie Simpson, Louise Short, Wilma Harkey, Edna Long and Thelma Lee Norwood.

R. N. NESBIT, County Supt.

Swat the fly.