

VOTE OFTEN

One Lady will get \$50 One Lady will get \$25 One Lady will get \$10. Three Ladies will get \$5 each at the close of Penns Pleasing Contest which ends 1 P. M. Dec. 20.

Just two more weeks in which to secure votes or to vote for your favorite in Penn's Pleasing Contest. Make each day count and deposit the votes in Ballot Box every opportunity. You know you want your Favorite to share in the Grand distributing of \$100.00 at end of Contest. You know Penns satisfying Products are the best that your money can buy. You know all the better dealers of Mt. Airy and vicinity sell Penns Tobaccos. You know the best is none too good for you so why shouldn't you VOTE OFTEN. The following shows the order in which the Contestants stand relative to votes polled up to last Saturday night.

- Miss Ella Doss
- Miss Allie Marshall
- Mrs. G. M. Sparger
- Miss Lillian Brannock
- Mrs. W. A. Chappell
- Miss Alice Ayers
- Miss Sarah Banner
- Miss Viola Nichols
- Miss Alma Banner
- Miss Dinkey Mourer
- Miss Briggs Prather
- Miss Mary Fulton
- Miss Aline Galloway
- Miss Myrtle Tilley
- Miss Minnie Stack
- Miss Mildred Richton

Many of the Contestants are putting forth much effort at this time. Everyone who loves Real Money must get busy and poll votes the few remaining days of the Contest. One lady will get \$50.00, one Lady will get \$25.00, one Lady will get \$10.00 and three ladies will get \$5.00 each. There is no way of obtaining votes except from Penns No 1, Sun Light Sun Cured, Red J Chewing and Queen Quality Smoking tobacco. Each and every 5c piece carries one Vote. Your friends and relatives doubtless use one of these clean tobaccos. Get their votes and see that "Your Favorite" gets one of the Grand Awards just mentioned.

VOTE OFTEN

OUR STATE FARM

News and Observer.

Raleigh, Nov. 30.—North Carolina certainly has every reason to be proud of the management of her State convicts. In fact this management has become an object-lesson, and some States have sent experts here to look into it. There has been a most fortunate avoidance of cruelty to convicts, or even the suspicion of it, and in only one case has this charge ever been made and in that one it was shown to be without foundation.

The writer ten years ago, at the request of the then Governor Charles B. Aycock, wrote the story of the penitentiary, from its inception in 1867 to that date. As a matter of fact, while the general opinion has been that the penitentiary of North Carolina was originated by the Republicans, it was really due to two men, one of them a North Carolinian, Governor Jonathan M. Worth, the other a New Yorker, Gen. Daniel E. Sickles, U. S. A., then in command of this military district. That was before the days of reconstruction, but the penitentiary was in full swing, this establishment following the recommendation of Governor Worth, who was of the old regime, though in new times. There was graft in the very earliest years of the penitentiary, that is for a year or two, but there was never cruelty to convicts. The first idea was to employ all the convicts on contract labor in the great prison at Raleigh, but happily this plan was at a very early day abandoned and the use of convicts in the construction of railways began in 1873. It is interesting to note the fact that, so far as the writer can discover, this was the first use of State convicts for this purpose in the United States. The convicts graded the North Carolina part of the Asheville & Spartanburg Railway and practically all of the Western North Carolina Railway between Old Fort and its terminus. They have done a world of work on

the railway grading, covering a third of all the railway mileage in the State. They have been employed to some extent to other work at large, under contract, but their control has never passed away from the prison authorities and this is the secret of the absence of improper treatment of this class of prisoners. The penitentiary in the old days, say from 1868 to about thirty years ago, received all the convicts, but at that date the system of county convicts came into vogue and since then the penitentiary has been, so to speak, very much legislated against, because the convicts in about seventy-five counties are sentenced to work on the public roads, and thus over 1,800 are employed. Naturally the counties take the pick of the flock and so there are sent to the penitentiary very many of the sick, the afflicted and the aged, and only those who cannot be used on the roads; of course excepting the long-term convicts, who must be sent to the penitentiary. Thus it comes about that of the penitentiary population about one-fourth are decrepit, yet with this very remarkable drawback the remaining three fourths are so usefully and so profitably employed that they give the State a net profit of \$100,000 annually.

How do they do this? is the question the reader naturally asks. There are about seven hundred of them, and while a good many are employed on railways, about four hundred are employed on the State farm. This property, embracing 7,000 acres, was purchased from the Futrell family. It was originally one of the farms belonging to the richest man in North Carolina, or for that matter the entire south, James C. Johnson of Edenton, who by his will left it to Mr. Futrell. The State paid \$67,000 for the farm, issuing bonds to cover this amount. It may truly be said that the State never made a better investment, for the farm is a remarkable

dividend payer. For the past three years it has been under the direction of the superintendent of the penitentiary, Capt. J. J. Laughinghouse, and it is no flattery to speak in highest terms of his management, and to say he has been assisted by most zealous and capable men in direct charge of the farm. Ten years ago, in a great freshet, many miles of the dyke, which was reared mainly before the civil war, was swept away and 2,500 acres of land rendered useless. This land has grown up in young trees and undergrowth. Three thousand acres of the farm are in cultivation and now that the great dike has been rebuilt the land thus reclaimed will be added to the farm. It is interesting to know that the State is the largest farmer in all its boundary. There are 2,000 acres of the land in timber, most of it of the finest type, and a saw-mill, well equipped, furnishes from it all the needed lumber of every kind.

It is interesting to go to this great farm and see what a model it is. Just as the central prison at Raleigh is the admiration of every visitor for its cleanliness, good order, the fine behavior of the convicts, their appreciation of what is done for them, and the good treatment given them, just so does this penitentiary farm impress itself in every way upon all who see it. To show how great a farm it is it may be stated that there were this year 1,500 acres in cotton, 1,000 in corn, 400 in Spanish peanuts, 150 in oats, 60 in clover, 15 in sweet potatoes, 15 in vegetables, etc. There are three cotton gins on the farm and these turn out from twenty-five to thirty bales daily. Everything is as neat as a pin, not only showing skill, in cultivation but the results of a study of hygiene, discipline and all things which make for the betterment of prison life. The writer has spoken of the farm being a notably fine investment, and here are some things which show what this dividend-payer means to the State. As already said, it brings into the State treasury \$100,000 annually. It used to be a fact that the penitentiary was a thing which pulled hard upon the public teat, but all this is now but a memory. When the writer asked what the farm was worth at

this date, the reply was made that it practically represented a million dollars to North Carolina as a dividend-producer. There has been expended upon it in the rebuilding of the dyke, in their seven and a half miles of length, \$30,000, convicts doing the work, and now the dykes along the five-mile frontage of the farm on the Roanoke river are twenty feet in height, the other two and a half miles being branch dykes, and of these two miles are to be raised eighteen inches higher. Today the dykes have a greater height than ever before. Then, too, there has been expended during the last three years \$50,000 for permanent improvements, in the way of buildings, etc., and there has been a splendid installation of the very best type of machinery. Yet the reader should bear in mind that of the 400 convicts on the farm, at least one-third are weaklings, for the reason stated at the beginning of this article, namely, that three-fourths of the counties send to the penitentiary the "rejects" because they are unable to do any hard work. It should be borne in mind that the penitentiary management has put on the farm the very best horses and mules to be had, and the number of these is now 175, to be increased by next spring to 200, as 2,500 acres of reclaimed land will be in cultivation and added to the wide stretch of the farm. It is no wonder that Governor Kitchin is very proud of the record of the penitentiary in general and that of this farm. Just think of the crops grown there, gentle reader, and look at these figures. This year there will be at the very lowest estimate 5,000 barrels of corn, 1,300 bales of cotton, 20,000 bushels of Spanish peanuts, quantities of oats and clover and vegetables

applied all the year round, and 30,000 pounds of pork. The herd of hogs now numbers 500 and there are 150 cattle, part of these being in a dairy, new and up-to-date, with the best machinery, etc. To show what good farming, thoughtful farming, head-work in every way means, it may be stated that while 120 convicts used to operate 120 single plows, now 60 cultivators, each drawn by two mules, do far more than the work of 150 plows, and the sixty men operating them do the work of 150 ordinarily. Thus in this matter alone a saving of \$100 a day is brought about. The farm is a sort of a world in itself, with its complete equipment, and the new buildings impress an observer immediately, including model stables, barns, repair shops, machinery, sheds, dairy, etc., and it is seen that not only has the \$50,000 been well invested but that an object-lesson of high class has been set before the farmers of the State. In fact it can be truly said that this farm has a definite value in this one particular, along with the State test farms. Last winter the Legislature sent a committee to investigate the farm. It is interesting to know that this committee reported that the true value of building improvements had been considerably underestimated by the management and it said the only things needed to make the farm absolutely complete were an electric light plant, a water supply plant and a railway to Tillery station, on the Atlantic Coast Line Railway. The penitentiary management is on the point of making arrangements for the construction of this railway, the grading to be done of the four miles of line by the convicts; the road to be equipped and operated by the Atlantic Coast Line. As a matter of fact, there is a great amount of freight from the farm as may well be imagined. The penitentiary management is also considering the electric light and water supply plant questions. On the farm are forty miles of roads and these are very attractive. Gasoline engines are used in many ways, and these prove to be a great labor-saver. A careful study is made of every means of utilizing machinery and of making every convict, by means

of such machinery, do the work of from two to three men, easier and better than they could do.

Now then, the practical side of life and management on this farm has been looked at quite closely and the gentle reader's attention is directed to the very great care of the health of the convicts employed there. Physicians who practice in that section, largely among the negroes (so a true basis of comparison might be had) were asked to make reports as to the mortality among citizens made this year, cover 430 persons, and show that among these there were seventeen deaths. Within the farm boundary, out of 400 convicts and sixty employees, there were only two deaths in 1909, the same number in 1910 and three in 1911, of these three in 1911 two being men over 75 years of age. It should be borne in mind that the convicts have all been inspected for hookworm, all infected treated, this disease eliminated, and as Superintendent Laughinghouse puts it in his earnest way wonderful results have been brought about. It was found that twenty per cent of the convicts on the farm had hookworm. It is easy to see why the convicts have such small percentage been given to the water supply, the only drinking water being from driven wells and it is frequently tested for purity; the prisoners are inspected every day and those sick are immediately given treatment and exactly the proper diet. For example one of the farm sights is a pigeon-house, in which there are 2,000 of these birds, the squabs being used in the hospitals, of which there are two. Outside of the prison grounds if a negro is taken sick, say with pneumonia, and if the physician says he must not be given any solid food, his family will, nine times out of ten, say they have nothing but ordinary meat and bread (hog meat and corn bread) to give him.

From what has been stated with absolute frankness about this greatest of all farms in North Carolina, it is easy to see that it stands not only for the best there is in farming, but for the best there is in the treatment of convicts. The plan of handling convicts in so many countries and in so many States in this Union is to keep them locked up in a prison sometimes under the silent system, by which they are never allowed to speak, while in North Carolina the convicts get fresh air and outdoor life, for in the penitentiary at Raleigh there are only a handful and these are looked after with a care and thoughtfulness which merits the highest praise. No outsider in the state knows as much of the management of North Carolina convicts as the writer, and very naturally so, for he has for thirty years seen these people and has watched every stage of development and management. It can certainly be said that convict labor under contract in buildings is wrong. In other States, where this method prevails, light is breaking and it is certainly very gratifying to know that North Carolina saw that light so early and that it has done so well by its convict population. If one goes to the penitentiary itself or the farm and talks privately to the prisoners, as the writer frequently does, it does not take any time to make the fact plain that the convicts appreciate what is being done for them, and it ought to make Superintendent Laughinghouse, Warden T. P. Sale and the officers in charge of the farm very happy men to know the part they are taking in letting the world know and the prisoners know, too that though a man is a convict he is yet a man. So the conditions at prison and at farm alike tend to develop manhood. It will pay any farmer to make a visit to the penitentiary and see how admirably everything is ordered and how many good points he can discover; points which will be of real value to him.

FRED A. OLDS.

LYNCH BOYS GET TEN YEARS.

Ernest and Marshall Lynch Tried at Stuart and Sent up For Ten Years For Killing John Inscore.

The trial of Ernest and Marshall Lynch for the part they played in the killing of John Inscore last summer was held at Stuart last week and occupied the Court's time from Monday until Friday. A young man named Sam Greenwood is yet to be tried for his part in this unfortunate affair. The Lynch boys were each sent to the state prison for ten years.

The Lynch boys are young men and up to the time of the present trouble there had never been aught against them. One Saturday afternoon last summer the young men who played a part in this sad tragedy came to this town and started for home. Inscore was here with a load of lumber and was on his way to his home just over the line in Virginia. The Lynch boys had had some trouble with him about a neighbor girl and we understand that for some time both young men had been paying their respects to her and that this was the cause of the trouble. Anyway there was bad feeling between them. The Lynch boys were batching it on a farm on the North Carolina side, and had begun a tobacco crop. They left town on the Saturday afternoon in question before young Inscore left, and when he came along they were by the roadside on the Virginia side. Sam Greenwood was with them. Inscore's friends claimed that they had had gone over the line and were waiting for him. Anyway when he came along on his wagon the Lynch boys are said to have raised the question of their trouble and a fight followed in which one of the Lynch boys advanced on Inscore with a stick. Inscore in his wagon drew his pistol and shot the young man through the arm. At this stage of the fight the other Lynch boy drew his pistol and shot Inscore through the heart, killing him instantly. The Lynch boys quit their crop and dodged the officers for weeks. One night last summer they had a meeting planned at which they were to make arrangements for leaving the country. They were to meet at their old bachelor quarters and lay plans for the future. They talked to some of their supposed friends and their plans were given to the officers. Deputy sheriff Oscar Monday was on the spot before night and when they came in after dark and were sitting in their lonely quarters planning for the future he suddenly appeared on the scene and upset all their plans for freedom. They were lodged in jail and their trial resulted as above stated.

Honor Roll For Rusk School.

Requirements of pupil to be on Honor Roll:
Average daily grades 90 percent.
Attendance 100 per cent.
Department 100 per cent.
First grade:—Charlie Dunigan, Vernie Phillips, Maud Draughn.
Second grade:—Maude Key, Ramon White.
Third grade:—Bessie Phillips, Jessie Bass, Virgie Draughn, Bertha Layne.
Fourth grade:—Lela Phillips.
Fifth grade:—May Draughn, Clyde and Grace Cockerham.
Sixth grade:—Lola Bass, Stella McMickle.
Seventh grade:—Paul Burch, Etta Draughn.
Nora Atkins and Margie Cox, Teachers.

County Union Meeting.

The Surry County Union will meet at the Court House in Dobson, Friday night and Saturday, December 22 and 23, 1911. It is earnestly requested that every local in the county send a full delegation as there is much important business to come before this meeting. Officers for the coming year are to be elected.
Fraternally,
J. M. Brinkley, Sec.