

The Mount Airy News.

VOL. XXXIII

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 1913.

NO. 51

The Cultivation of Corn.

County Demonstrator, J. W. Johnson, was in the city the first of the week and requested that we publish the following article for the benefit of the farmers. The cultivation of corn is an important matter to the farmer since the price of corn has advanced to what it now brings.

Successful corn culture depends as much upon the "know how" as does success in any other business. Of course, a deep, humus-filled soil is the first consideration, but much depends upon the cultivation given the corn after it is up. The farmer who understands and practices the best principles of corn growing, who knows the root system, the movements of soil moisture and the uses of soil mulches, will make a good crop in spite of adverse seasons of rainfall and drought. The one who does not understand these things attributes his failures to the wet weather, the hot weather, the cold weather, or something else the effects of which he should be able to obviate. In the Farm Demonstration Work last season some big crops of corn were made where no rain fell from the time the corn was planted till it was mature. Yet the yield of corn in this country are more dependent upon rainfall during the growing season than upon any one thing else. This should not be.

But let us see that we understand what proper cultivation does. Every good farmer knows that cultivation is to save the moisture, to destroy germinating weed seeds, to liberate plant food and to warm and aerate the soil. If the first two are accomplished the others are too. The successful farmer never allows his soil to become crusted over because he knows that it is then losing moisture. To prevent this crusting also destroy weed and grass seed that may be coming up in the soil. So we see that all that is necessary is to cultivate often enough to keep the soil loose on top. One of the Experiment Stations has found that during very dry hot weather a single corn stalk will take from the soil and evaporate as much as ten pints of water in one day. It requires about 300 pounds of water to produce one pound of dry matter. So we learn that corn is a crop that requires immense amounts of moisture. Yet, throughout this section, we have sufficient rainfall every year to produce two or three corn crops on all our land. The wise farmer is he who has learned how to catch the rainfall and keep it in the soil until it is needed.

As to depth of cultivation, we must remember that corn belongs to the grass family and therefore has a fine, fibrous, extensive root system. By the time corn is a foot high the roots may be lapping between the rows. The roots grow outward through the soil from two to four times as fast as the stalks grow upward. To destroy these roots in cultivating is to cut off the feeding powers of the corn. It very often happens that the soil needs a rather deep stirring while the corn is small and before the roots get out far. If this is the case, it should be given, but care must be taken not to cultivate deeply later. The Indiana Experiment Station has shown that corn cultivated about two inches deep yielded 42.36 bushels; that cultivated three inches deep yielded 42.56 bushels; while that cultivated four inches deep yielded only 37.92 bushels. Another station found that shallow cultivation yielded 81.8 bushels per acre, but

deep cultivation gave only 74.1 bushels.

As to the number of times to cultivate corn, this will depend upon conditions. The thing to keep in mind is to keep a mulch on the surface until the corn has fully tasseled. In many cases it will pay to cultivate until some of the "silks" begin to turn brown. It is a critical time with corn when it is maturing the grain. It should not be neglected then.

C. R. Hudson,
Raleigh, N. C.

Tried to Bribe Senator.

Santa Barbara, Cal., June 14.—C. Ercanbrach was arrested today on a federal indictment charging him with an attempt to bribe United States Senator John N. D. Works. Ercanbrach wanted the appointment of postmaster here and he is alleged to have written a letter to Senator Works offering to pay \$1,000 if the appointment was made in his favor. Ercanbrach's letter was turned over to the department of justice at Washington by Senator Works and sent to U. S. District Attorney A. J. McCormick here.

An indictment was returned by the grand jury. Ercanbrach is a carpenter, who is considered fairly well to do. He admitted he had written to Senator Works and added: "But I didn't know it was a crime to offer to pay a congressman for getting a political job. I thought that was the common practice." He was taken to Los Angeles tonight.

Fine Panama for the President. New Orleans Picayune.

President Wilson is to have one of the finest Panama hats that the makers can fashion or money buy. The order was received a few days ago by a local dealer and he has forwarded the specifications to Ecuador, where it will be manufactured. The President wears a No. 7 hat, at least the Panama will be that size. It will be composed of a weave of straw of the finest texture obtainable and its fabrication is estimated to take three months' continuous work, which is about half the length of time ordinarily required in the making of a high-grade Panama. The order for the dispatch was given with a view of having the hat in the President's hands in time for him to use it during his contemplated visit to the isthmus next summer and to expedite its manufacture a double force will be put on. The value of the hat in the United States would not fall short of \$250.

None of the genuine Panama hats are made in this country and how the word "Panama" became attached to them has never been clearly explained. The best explanation given is that the greater part of the shipments from Ecuador, the home of the true Panama, have been made via Panama city and in this way hats acquired the name. Several years ago the Panama Government established a school for making Panama hats at a little town called Arraijan, but it was not a success. Colombia and Ecuador practically control the hat-making industry, but the superior grades all come from Ecuador, and those with the highest reputation from a small town in the Providence of Manavi, named Montecristi. Cuenca is another important hat-making center in Ecuador, but the product does not command the price of the Montecristi hat.

Hot After Pool Players.

Fayetteville, June 14.—A sequel to the gambling cases stirred up by the arrest of W. R. Smith, the 17-year-old youth who declared he had gambled away money he had stolen, came this afternoon when Major Von C. Bullard, prosecuting attorney of the recorder's court, had a warrant sworn out for R. H. Buckingham, a director of the State prison, on the charge of allowing boys under 18 years of age to frequent the Lafayette Hotel pool room, of which he is the proprietor.

Mr. Buckingham is traveling in the western part of the State with the prison commission.

All the young men before the recorder were charged with having gambled in the Lafayette pool room. One of them, who was acquitted, is Mr. Buckingham's nephew and works in the pool room.

In the trial of the eight young men who were charged with gambling by W. R. Smith, Recorder J. A. Oates this morning announced a decision on a point which he said has never been passed on by the State courts when he declared the playing of the game of pool where the loser pays for the game to be gambling, regardless of whether any other stake is put up.

In pursuance of this ruling Layton Harrington was fined one dollar for betting on a game of pool and required to appear before the recorder on the second Monday in December of this year and the second Monday of June, 1914, and show that he had not been guilty of a similar offense. There was no evidence that R. J. Brindle had ever played pool at all, and he was consequently discharged.

\$2.50 for Stake of 25 Cents.

Evidence was brought out that during the last two years S. A. Lambert, Tom Parker and W. M. McNeill had played pool at one time for a stake of twenty-five cents, and the recorder fined them each \$2.50 and costs and issued the same order as to their appearance before him within six months and a year to show that they had since desisted.

As to the three young men who pleaded guilty yesterday, Henry Crumpler, R. D. Crawford and Bill Sheets, judgment was suspended upon payment of costs, and the same order made as to their appearance before the court.

Attorney Terry A. Lyon, representing the five young men who pleaded not guilty, explained to the court that a misapprehension was in the minds of all eight of the defendants on yesterday morning when entering their respective pleas, none of them having consulted counsel and the impression prevailing that the charge was that of gambling with Smith at some recent date. Only to the last three defendants questioned on yesterday morning was the question propounded as to whether within the last two years they had played the game of pool where money or other valuable property was at stake, and therefore their plea was guilty.

When the court intimated what his ruling would be as to what constitutes gambling, Mr. Lyon stated that if his clients were to be tried on a charge of this kind, he saw little use of making a fight, as three-fourths of the population, he said, could be gotten on the charge of playing pool with the understanding that the loser pays, as all pool rooms are run on this plan.

W. R. Smith, the young man

who started all the trouble, was bound over to the Superior court on the two charges against him, that of embezzlement and larceny and housebreaking, in the sum of five hundred dollars.

When Law Was Fierce.

Statesville Landmark.

The Landmark learned within the past few days that Judge Walter Clark, in his recent address before the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs at Newbern, said that it is a matter of record that in Iredell County a woman was sentenced to be quartered and burned for the murder of her husband. The date at which Judge Clark fixed this event has not been learned and the records of Iredell do not show it. However, the records of the county, except an old book of wills which dates back to 1800, were burned in the fire which destroyed the old court house that stood in the square. If this sentence was passed before Iredell was formed in 1788, the records of Rowan County, of which this territory was then a part, should show it.

Under the old English law persons were often sentenced to be "hung, drawn and quartered," but it will be news to most people that in Iredell County a woman was sentenced to be burned and quartered. The Landmark isn't anxious to have the fact established, but since the matter has been brought up it would be interesting to know from what record Judge Clark quotes. This isn't intended as a denial of the statement, for Judge Clark is well posted and unusually accurate in matter historical, but The Landmark is seeking information.

Drank Up the Evidence.

Some time between Sunday and Monday morning some person or persons, very dry person or persons, it would seem, broke into the office of the clerk of the recorder's court and stole a number of bottles of whiskey that were being held as evidence in cases appealed to superior court. Saturday a brand new lock had been put on the door, to safeguard the whiskey from just such a fate, but thirst laughs at locksmiths, windows or all other barricades, and yesterday morning Clerk Hogue found his evidence had vanished. The commissioners have ordered a vault prepared, for future evidence and hereafter whiskey will be put where the thirsty will have some trouble getting to it.—Wilmington Star.

Woman Shoots Doctor to Death.

Savannah, Ga., June 16.—Dr. Guy O. Brinkley, a local physician, was shot to death in his office here this afternoon by Mrs. Eugene H. Whisnant, formerly Miss Kate Kittle, a widow, who fired six shots at Dr. Brinkley, saying the last for herself.

The bullet pierced her temple and she fell across the body of her victim.

The police seek an unknown woman who is said to have accompanied Mrs. Kittle to the doctor's office.

Dr. Brinkley was about forty-five years old and unmarried. No cause has been assigned for the tragedy.

The shooting began in the doctor's private office, the doctor fleeing to the porch followed by the woman and back to the office, where he fell dead.

Mrs. Whisnant was married in Charlotte, N. C., in 1906, when Mr. Whisnant became ill with fever, from which he later died, and since then she has lived with her mother here.

Goes to Be Governor of Distant Island.

Raleigh, June 14.—Alex. Stronach, prominent attorney of the local bar, has accepted the appointment of Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, to the judgeship of Samoa, and will leave a week hence for the long sail.

Mr. Daniels offered the appointment several weeks ago and Mr. Stronach has had it under advisement. A few days ago he wrote his acceptance and July 1 will set sail on the Pacific for a cruise of 5,000 ending in the American Samoa.

Before leaving, Mr. Stronach will go to Washington, arrange his passage, discuss the post with the government and leave June 24 for San Francisco. He will spend June 30 there and leave the following day. It will require fourteen days of fast sailing to land him on the mid-Pacific and in making the trip he passes through the remainder of the north temperate into the torrid zone.

Samoa is somewhat like ancient Gaul, divided into three parts, one of which a few hundred Americans and seven or eight thousand native inhabit. Though south of the equator and in the heart of the torrid zone, it has even North Carolina beaten for temperateness of climate and is a producer of the coconut and banana, orange and all tropical fruits. Mr. Stronach's young son has already picked out his coconut tree, which he means to climb as soon as the boat lands.

The American Samoa is under the direction of the naval department of the United States and a naval officer is governor of the island. Mr. Stronach's duties make him secretary of affairs, though to nowise the clerical aid of the governor. He is also judge of the district court and to him will be referred the legal matters that come up. He is not a trial justice and does not have to sit on minor offenses. It is a responsible position and it carries large salary with it.

The appointment takes with him his family, of course, and it means their absence, perhaps four years. Mrs. Stronach and the children have gone to Virginia and are visiting there. They will join Mr. Stronach in Charlottesville and cut across the continent to San Francisco. They will make two stops momentarily on the trip, seeing a little of Honolulu on the way. They go within 2,300 miles of Sydney, New South Wales, and see about half the world on the long trip.

They find in the town in which they live about 200 Americans, and among these will be Paul Tinsley Check, of Orange county, 1898 University man, who has been made superintendent of schools of Samoa. He is now in the Pacific and will soon land. The island is not without its social features and the health of the place is good.

Mr. Stronach has lived in Raleigh his entire life and has always held place among lawyers who value integrity above everything that a lawyer may have. He has stood with the forces that worked for a clean town and as police justice made a good record. He held that position two years. During his earlier years as a lawyer he was nominated for the General Assembly of 1894 but went down with the wreck of the State and the crash of political matter.

Mr. Stronach's appointment by a Raleigh man to high position even so far away, will be gratifying to those who wish him for-

tune wherever he goes. The single regret is that it takes him and his family in truth to the furthestmost parts of the earth—and sea.

Maiden Trip of the Largest Vessel in the World.

Hamburg, June 11.—The Hamburg-America Company's new liner Emperor sailed today on her maiden voyage to New York. An enormous crowd congregated at the dock and along the waterfront and with loud cheers gave an enthusiastic "bon voyage" to the new "Goliath of the Ocean." The big vessel, which is a triumph of marine architecture, steamed gracefully out of the harbor, carrying a complement of more than 4,000 passengers, among whom were many well-known Americans. It is expected that under ordinary circumstances New York will be reached next Tuesday evening or early Wednesday morning.

When the Emperor ties up at her dock in the North river next week New Yorkers will have an opportunity to inspect the largest vessel in the world. She has a gross tonnage of 50,000 (or nearly 5,000 tons greater than the Olympic) and is of the same general dimensions as the great Aquitania now nearing completion for the Cunard line. There are eleven decks on the liner. The promenade deck is a quarter of a mile long, so long in fact that a person standing at one end could not recognize a person at the other end. River steamboats of average size could sail lengthwise through one of the giant funnels of the Emperor.

One of the novel features of the big vessel is a roomy swimming-pool in a beautiful Pompeian hall. Among other luxuries with which the vessel has been fitted are a great entertainment hall two stories high, three electric elevators, a completely equipped gymnasium, a "cottage" cafe, a winter garden and a Ritz-Carleton restaurant. The main dining salon is 300 feet long.

To Enable Senator Bacon to Vote.

Washington, June 9.—Senate Democrats are anxiously looking to the Georgia Legislature, which will convene June 25, to enable Senator Bacon to vote, with unquestionable right, upon the tariff bill when it shall reach the final roll-call. His present legal status is that of membership in the Senate on sufferance, since the adoption of the constitutional amendment providing for direct election of Senators makes his temporary appointment at the hands of the Governor of doubtful legality.

The program arranged in Georgia is that the first bill to be passed by the Legislature shall be one calling an election for Senator, to be held in July. The returns will be canvassed by the Legislature before its adjournment, and since Senator Bacon is the only candidate he will be chosen and qualified before the tariff fight is settled.

Georgia, which promises to elect the first Senator by vote of the people, is one of the few States which refused to ratify the direct election amendment.

A Disasterous Mule Kick.

Dillonvale, O., June 16th.—A mule kicked a wire in the No. 3 of the Jefferson Coal Company today and the contact of the shoe with the wire caused a spark to fly to a keg of powder, resulting in an explosion that injured four men, all probably fatally.