

SURRY COUNTY FARM AND POULTRY NEWS

By H. E. WHITE,

Surry County Farm Demonstration Agent

Klondike Wins

Friends of the Berkshire are rejoicing that the herd of Klondike produced one of the big winners at the International Livestock Show at Chicago. The Grand Champion Boar, Klondike's Upstart and the Reserve Grand Champion Sow, sister of Upstart came off with the big winnings. With these two champions to their credit Berkshire breeders should feel encouraged and boost their breed with renewed energy. This breed is proving very popular in this county. The County Home Farm has recently secured some pure bred Berkshires which indicates that this farm is getting rid of the scrub stock and is getting on a pure bred basis. The farm now has pure bred hogs and Guernsey cows and it is now planned to get some pure bred chickens. The County Home Farm is gradually working on a better basis and it is to be hoped in a few years that much progress will be made.

Use More Lime—It Pays Big

During the past year as near as can be found out the farmers of Surry County used 32 cars of lime on their soils. This is an increase of 12 cars over the amount used last year. This is a good increase but we should use as much lime as we do fertilizers. Lime seems to pay big on tobacco and I think every farmer should lime an acre or two so he can find out on his own soil if it pays. Jess Fulk, Dobson, used two tons of lime on a area slightly smaller than two acres. He used 8 bags of 8-3-3. He sold 2825 pounds of tobacco which brought him \$682 clear of warehouse charges. Mr. Fulk believes that the lime nearly doubled his yield this year. He is planning to use more next year. Think this over and talk to Jess about it. Lime is not a fertilizer but it does wonderful things in improving the physical conditions of the soil.

United States Farms Not Wearing Out

Among the many complaints we hear is the wearing out of the soils. Here is a quotation from the Official Record "Department statistics show

that in 45 years the combined average in corn, wheat, oats, and potatoes has been expanded about 52 per cent. The total production of these four crops has increased 77 per cent. This means that a third of the increased production is the result of a better yield per acre. Contrary to general belief, most of the increased yields have occurred in the older farming regions east of the Mississippi River, thus disproving another erroneous impression that farms in the older area of the United States in general have become worn out. In the case of corn, Virginia, Maryland, the New England States, Iowa, Minnesota, are named as states recording gains of from 6 to 14 bushels in the average yields per acre. In the course of time, says B. O. Weitz, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, as farming communities become accustomed to the possibilities of their fields, they develop suitable strains of plants, learn profitable use of fertilizers and wise crop rotations, acre yields in the humid northeastern portions of the United States may approach the present standards in northwestern Europe."

Can Sex Be Determined by Factors Of Environment?

Quoting from the Official Clip Sheet, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. Sex, its nature and origin, provides some questions of the deepest interest not only to biologist and breeders but to the lay public as well. It is believed generally by biologists that sex is uniformly "determined" when the eggs is fertilized. But three scientists of the United States Dept. of Agriculture in the course of recent experiments have attained results which seem to throw a doubt on this uniformity, and seem to indicate that, in some cases at least, sex is determined by environment, and that the environment may be changed to cause the egg to develop into an individual of a sex opposite to that for which it was destined originally.

N. A. Cobb, G. Steiner, and J. R. Christie, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, have been experimenting for some time with parasites of the grasshopper. One of these is a nematode, *Mermis subgrisea*, sometimes called hairworm. These hairworms lay eggs on plants. The grasshoppers eating the plant tissues sometimes swallow the eggs of the hairworms. A few hairworm eggs are not necessarily immediately fatal to the grasshopper, but when as many as 50 are swallowed and hatched it results in the death of the grasshop-

per. In trying to discover the lowest number likely to cause the death of a grasshopper these researchers grew the eggs and fed them.

In examining thousands of grasshoppers they had discovered that the average number of hairworms per infected grasshopper in nature was from one to three, always females. In giving barely subfatal doses of eggs they observed that the result was always all male parasites. They observed, further, that while small doses hatched as females and large doses in a single host hatched as males medium doses produced a mixed brood, with the proportion of males roughly dependent on the size of the dose. The writers believe that by appropriate experiments they "have excluded other possible explanations of these results. There is no apparent escape from the conclusions that we are dealing with cases where environment is a sex 'determining' factor, a factor which becomes potent not during the early embryology of the animal but after a well-developed, highly differentiated larva has been formed."

The three researchers hope that their discovery will lead other experimenters to follow along what they consider a most interesting and suggestive line of physiological research with the hope of learning more of the nature and origin of sex.

Notice Trustee's Sale of Land

By virtue of authority vested in the undersigned trustee in a certain deed of trust executed by John Johnson and wife Ada Johnson for John Sobotta on the 16th day of Nov., 1925 to secure an indebtedness of \$210.00 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Surry County, N. C., in book 73 page 73, default having been made in the payment of the note therein secured and at the request of the holder I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, at public auction, in front of the Bank of Mount Airy, Mount Airy, N. C.,

Saturday, Dec. 31st, 1927, at 1 o'clock P. M.

the following described real estate: Beginning at a planted rock in John L. Worth's line and runs west one hundred and fifty feet to the south side of a street that runs by Mrs. Davis and where Sam Gant now lives. Then with said street N. seventy-five feet to a planted rock, then east one hundred and fifty feet to John L. Worth's line, thence south with said line seventy-five feet to the beginning.

Sale made to satisfy an indebtedness of \$210.00 principal, interest and cost of sale to add.

This the 26th day of Nov. 1927. Edw. M. Linville, Trustee.

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The stamina demonstrated by 25,000 miles in less than 23,000 minutes insures years of satisfactory service—long life, low maintenance cost and superlative performance.

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Mt. Airy Buggy & Auto Co.

City Property At Auction

All of the N. W. Dobbins Property to Be Sold Friday, December 16th

Sale starts at 10:30 a. m. on Taylor St., 2 p. m. on South St. 2:30 p. m. on Wilson St. and 3 on Spring St.

14-room brick residence on Spring Street, two modern 7-room residences on Wilson Street, 4-room residence on South Street, three houses on Taylor and one on Hay Street.

A Number of Choice Building Lots on Taylor and Hay Streets And on Pender Avenue

Very Easy Terms

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Music By Our Rag-Time Band

The owner of this property is moving to Gainesville, Fla., and this property will be sold at absolute auction. Your price our price. This is an unusual opportunity for both the homeseeker and the investor. The buying public rarely has an opportunity to buy property of this class at auction.

The future of Mount Airy is assured, so there is no element of chance when you buy real estate in the Granite City.

Remember the Date, Place and Hour.

MAN IS SECURE WHO OWNS HIS HOME. The man who owns his own home has a happy sense of security. He will invest his hard earned savings to improve the house he owns. He will develop it and defend it. No man ever worked for or fought for a boarding house.

HOME OWNERSHIP IS THE FIRST STEP TOWARD GOOD CITIZENSHIP AND INDEPENDENCE.

You buy at "your own price" when you buy land at one of our PUBLIC AUCTION SALES. Think of the Profits Made in the Past by Thousands of land Buyers, AT AUCTION.

If You Are of a Mind to Buy a Home or An Investment Don't Miss This Sale.

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and Geo. W. Sparger, Jr., Mount Airy, N. C.

(Member of N. C. Real Estate Association)

G. D. GURLEY, Gen. Mgr.

CHAS. F. SWAIN, Auctioneer.