

SOME ANCIENT HURRUGS

(Concluded from page five)

experiment on the New York Central, and Vanderbilt took offense because Westinghouse thought the Commodore was fool enough to believe a train could be stopped with wind.

Perhaps the can crowd has gone far enough so that it is safe to consider their achievements. It is interesting enough to go over the Vass cotton mill and note the filled warehouses that have gathered from the Sandhill farms the supply of cotton to run the mill through the year. From all around this section an excellent quality of cotton goes to the mill, and it affords one of the cleanest farm propositions on earth. The farmer makes his product, and close by his door is his market and warehouse. His product is converted into a finished goods and that operation of conversion adds to the industry of his neighborhood, making a market for the smaller things of the farm. The mill community engages the other lines of trade, and so the farm and the factory and the village interlock, and are cordial and sympathetic, all factors in one bigger operation, and there is more of harmony between farm and town than in many places.

A PEACH PRECEDENT

Moore County is growing into an extensive fruit section, and will continue in that direction, for the quality of the products of the orchards of the county is high. The reputation of the fruit products is such that Sandhills stuff always finds a ready sale at good prices. This reputation is pretty well established in all markets. Probably Moore County peaches contest with peaches from the best orchards of the country for first place with greater success than any of the rest. Right broad claim, isn't it? But the best feature about a claim is that you can always investigate it before you accept it, you know. Moore County is destined to be a famous fruit county because its product so far has won a prominence among fruit buyers. You can't very well stop a thing of that sort after it gets under way. The orchards of the county are multiplying every season now, and the trouble has reached such a stage that people have forgotten to inquire whether they can or can not raise fruit. They notice other people meeting with success and they simply go ahead and set more orchards. That factor has begun to work automatically. Peaches, dewberries and grapes are established beyond a question, and in about the order named. It will not be surprising if this comes to be one of the foremost peach producing sections of the United States, as the peculiarities of the soil and climate seem to be peach peculiarities. The dewberry appears to be another uncommon success, and the limits of its production cannot be told. It would perhaps seem that the dewberry plantation will be extended just as far as labor can be found to handle the crop. There are no soil and climate limitations so far as can be seen. No matter how truthful a man may be if he tells a tale that looks too big it is likely to get him a rating as a liar. The dewberry record in the country is so big

that the fellow who tells of the yield of the best acres wants to have the affidavit of the station agent. To take a crop of five hundred dollars from either an acre of dewberries or peaches in the country does not excite any remark. The record of figures go considerably above that and can be had from those who are interested.

Moore County is always going to be an interesting cotton country. Mills are convenient to all parts of the country, and if the local mills do not want the cotton it is always in demand with local buyers who want it for mills in other counties or for shipment for Northern mills or for export. Cotton is a simpler crop to raise. It is a simpler crop to market. It continues its good work as it goes through the local mill. It is a maker of prosperity all along the line. It will expand in its relations toward the county. More of a development of mill and factory will follow yet. The increasing production of cotton and the increasing use of cotton products will increase the manufacture of cotton goods in the county, as here is an ideal place for cotton manufacture. The climate and surroundings make the Sandhill country a desirable place for operatives to live. The desirable place to live is always a desirable place to work. The things that make life agreeable make work more or less agreeable. The scattered mills giving to each farm group its factory center will make of this factory project a rural one of many small units, instead of a big and congested unit, crowding people into cities with their drawbacks and difficulties. One of the reasons why the cotton mill is certain to continue its rapid growth in the South is its more wholesome location in the open with ample room for its people to live in more natural conditions and to escape that unnatural style of life which is compulsory always in the city.

I am of the opinion that the men who claim the Pinehurst region can make crops are going to have the decision. You go right ahead doing things, no matter who says you can't, and the result is bound to be that you will. That is about where the farm proposition has arrived in Moore County. It was not really that they could not make crops here, but that they were doing something else and just concluded farming was not practical because men were not interested enough to try.

We have a lot of information about soil fertility now that was not known when this section was condemned and repudiated. We have learned that climate is a great factor in farming, and that rainfall is a great one, and that fertility is largely a question of caring for your farm. Twenty years have reversed some things and put some horses before the cart where prior to that the cart was before the horse. Around Pinehurst the horse seems to be finding his proper geography.

Minstrel Show

The students of the Farm Life School gave a private theatrical performance at the Community Hall last Saturday night for the benefit of the school. There were over a hundred tickets sold and a very pleasant evening spent by all concerned.

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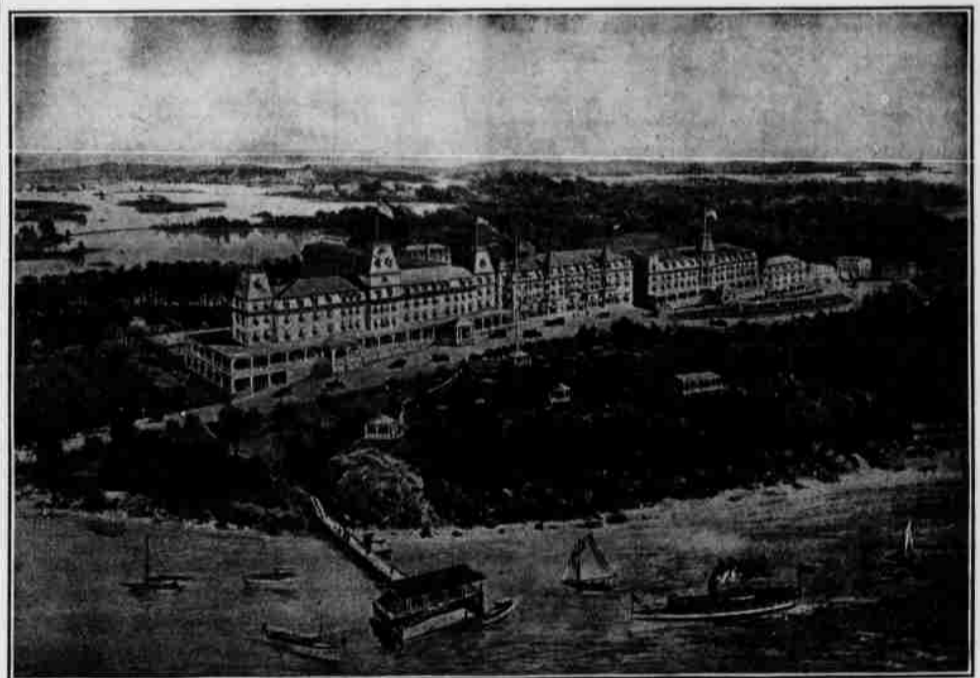
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