

# THE PINE KNOT.

LIGHTED FOR THE ILLUMINATION OF TAR HEELS, BOTH NATIVE AND ADOPTED.

VOL. I.

SOUTHERN PINES, N. C., OCTOBER 9, 1886.

NO 3.

## THE PINE KNOT.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING AT

Southern Pines, Moore Co., N. C.

B. A. GOODRIDGE, EDITOR.

TERMS—\$1.00 Per Year in Advance.  
Single Copies 5 Cents.

ADVERTISING RATES promptly furnished upon application.

JOB PRINTING of every description done with neatness and despatch, and on reasonable terms.

CORRESPONDENCE on all topics of general interest invited. Write only on one side of the paper; be brief and to the point. Sign your name and state whether you wish it published or not.

Entered at the Postoffice at Southern Pines, N. C., as second class matter.

We wish to call attention to the following communication from Prof. Dabney, State Chemist.

The importance of such a service as is herein set forth must be obvious to every one, and it is to be hoped that sufficient funds may be raised at once for the purchase of the necessary instruments. Let us not allow this matter to go by default.

The editor of this paper will undertake to provide competent observer and display-man and to contribute a fair proportion of the fund necessary for the purchase of instruments.

RALEIGH, N. C., Sept. — '86.

Editor Pine Knot:

DEAR SIR: We take the liberty of applying to you for assistance in establishing a *Weather Observing and Signal Station*, in connection with our State Weather Service, at your place. For the workings and benefits of such a service, we ask you to refer to the accompanying paper. If we are to give your community the immediate benefits of this system there are two duties which will have to be performed there.

1st. We will want a reliable and accurate, educated man or woman there who will take charge of the instruments—thermometers and rain-gauge—, keep a careful record of their readings and report the same to us once a month. It must be a person who goes into it to stick and will be regular in it. This person is called the Voluntary Weather Observer.

2nd. The R. R. or telegraph agent or some person with them is to be designated to receive the daily—8.30 a. m.—weather indications and warnings, and to put up the signal flags. This is the Displayman. If convenient, the first person may do this.

This is a purely *volunteer* enterprise and we have no funds to expend for it. We will supply instructions, blank-forms and stationery,—franked envelopes to mail reports to us, and we will secure the instruments and flags for you at cost.

But we will only be able to extend the benefits of this system to your community in case you can get the services of the above persons and can raise the sum of twenty-five dollars to

be expended for instruments and flags to be used and kept at your place. Sometimes the observers prefer to own their instruments, costing about \$17.00. Often the money necessary is provided by the town or raised by private subscription. In some cases the money is raised at a public meeting called for the purpose.

If you can provide these things, we are prepared to telegraph you, free of cost, the daily weather indications, including the "Farmers Bulletins," frost and storm warnings.

We urge you to call attention to this matter and let us hear promptly what you can do.

Yours respectfully,

CHAS. W. DABNEY, JR., *Director.*

It is hard to believe that anybody could be such a depraved worshipper of his own stomach as to sacrifice mocking birds to it. But it seems that the insatiable pot hunter spares not even these. For shame! Is there too much joyous music in the world? Is the momentary tickling of some gourmand's palate to be accounted of more worth than the life of one of God's sweetest singers? The man who would eat a mocking bird deserves to be choked to death by the first mouthful.

### THE STATE WEATHER SERVICE.

Many times a year the U. S. Signal Officer at Washington sends out what are called "Farmers' Bulletins" like the following:

#### "COLD WAVE COMING.

Cold wave flag has been ordered up at— and the temperature will probably fall— degrees in the next twenty four hours."

Many a time this means frost and the destruction, or injury, of vast amounts of fruit, vegetables, tobacco, etc.

At how many places in North Carolina have these "Farmers' Bulletins" been received, and how many farmers have ever derived any benefits from them? Certainly very few indeed. And this is through no fault of the Signal Officer or any one else. This officer cannot be expected to send this information to every point in the country and to publish it to the farmers at every such place. The U. S. Government does not supply him with funds necessary to do this, and if it did it would be impossible to do it effectually from his bureau in Washington.

This illustration is cited to show that a local, or adjunct organization is necessary in order to deliver this and all other similar information to the people in an efficient manner. It will also be evident to the thoughtful reader that such a local or State Weather Service can, besides applying the knowledge obtained in an effectual manner, do much to collect detailed local statistics, the basis of future work, which a general office could not get.

This explains the necessity for a local or State Weather Service, whose twofold duty should be:

1st. The collection of accurate, sufficiently detailed weather statistics, and 2nd: the dissemination, widely and efficiently, of the practical information, weather "indications" or warnings which are secured by a scientific study of such statistics.

It would seem eminently appropriate that the Agricultural department of the State, should undertake to collect these statistics and to give out this information. Through the agency of the Agricultural Experiment Station the Department has undertaken this work and intends to push it just as far as the means at hand and the facilities of communication will permit.

Some of the benefits of such a Weather Service may only be briefly touched upon here.

1. It will bring the benefits of the weather "indications," storm warnings, flood warnings, "Farmers' Bulletins, etc., to bear directly upon the interests and daily lives of a great many more of our people. If the system is carried out as we desire it shall be, after a sufficient time for organization and experience, it should bring the knowledge of an expected cold wave, for example, twelve hours in advance of the cold wave to all the people of the State who are within six hours' time by the ordinary means of one of our branch signal stations.

We desire to have such a signal station at all telegraph stations six miles and over apart. This is what we shall strive to attain; but it is evident that it will take a considerable time and very general assistance from the public at large, the town, the railroad and telegraph companies, before this can be accomplished.

2. It will be the means of securing much better knowledge of the meteorology of our State, which, for one thing, will give us the data for making better predictions of weather changes etc.

4. It will give the people of all parts of the State reliable standards for temperature, rainfall, humidity, wind-velocity, etc., which are sources of varied, useful information.

4. It will put within the reach of local agricultural clubs and thoughtful individuals the means of accurate observations upon the relations of the weather to our crops. Without a weather record in figures, our conception of what the weather was during any particular season are sure to be very wild and unreliable.

5. It will educate the people at large on the subjects in science which have the most important bearing upon their interests, comforts and lives. Wherever possible we desire to connect the local observing stations with schools so that their teachers and pupils may be induced to form habits of observing these natural phenomena.

This is to be all purely voluntary labor. The Chief Signal Officer at Washington does all he can to help

us, the towns or communities raise a small amount of money sufficient to purchase the necessary instruments and signal flags, the railroads forward the daily weather warnings and the observers keep the records and report monthly—all for the general public good and without charge.

The central office will be at the Experiment Station in Raleigh. The preliminary arrangements for observing stations and flag stations are being made as rapidly as possible. We are now prepared to organize the stations along the line of the Raleigh and Augusta, and Raleigh and Gaston system of railroads. We expect to make the necessary arrangements with other railroads and extend the system all over the State within three or four months at the latest.

*N. C. Agricultural Bulletin.*

### IMPORTANCE OF CLEANLINESS.

Keeping the pores of farm animals open is as essential to their thrift as bathing is to our health. The skin performs an office more essential to life and health than even digestion; and it is even more important that the horse be thoroughly groomed than that he be fed. Thorough grooming does not mean only the removal of mud and manure from the hair with a comb; it means that thorough brushing and rubbing which will clean the hide, removing all obstructions from the pores. It is more necessary to groom the horse than any other farm animal, because he is the last to groom himself. Cattle will groom themselves to a certain extent; yet there can be no more profitable work than brushing them, though it is so rarely done. The hog, the dirtiest of all farm animals, is really the most cleanly, and if allowed to do so will keep his hide clean. This he does by first putting on a coat of mud. This he scratches off and with it removes the impurities which have adhered to his hide and which the wet earth has loosened. Wallowing not only contributes to the comfort of swine, but is of the utmost importance to their health.—*American Agriculturalist*

The Fayetteville Observer and Gazette gives the information that Messrs. A. S. Huske & Co. have shipped immense quantities of the Scuppernong grape this season. These shipments have been made to New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Massachusetts, Richmond, Va., Greensboro, Durham and other points in North Carolina. The grapes are shipped in the cheap splint baskets which are sold so extensively throughout the country, and answer the purpose admirably. In taking hold of the enterprise Messrs. Huske and Co. contemplated only a small business, but they find that the demand is limited only by the supply, and they have orders to ship all they can get.

Come South, young man! Come!  
—Ghost of Horace Greeley.