

A New Way to Awaken Interest in Agricultural Education.

Professors Stevens and Connor Make a Tour of Wake County Lecturing to the Public Schools on Agriculture—State Fair Offers a Prize for Best Exhibit of Agricultural Teaching.

Something of an innovation in the methods of agricultural education has been made by the Agricultural and Mechanical College in the sending of Professors Stevens and Conner throughout Wake County to meet the people of the county for the purpose of explaining to them the meaning, breadth and scope of agricultural education.

These men traveled in a buggy, visiting the schools of the county, Professor Conner going through the

a better stand than that raised by their fathers.

Announcement was also made by the lecturers of the offer by the State Fair of a prize of \$25 for the best exhibit of methods of teaching agriculture in the schools.

Teaching Required in All Public Schools.

It is sometimes said that the parents oppose the introduction of a new subject in the school, and particu-



AGRICULTURAL CLASS AND TEACHER OF OLIVE'S CHAPEL SCHOOL, WAKE COUNTY, N. C.

The teacher is Mr. A. T. Holleman and the pupils are Hubert Williams, Ernest Mann, Vernon Welch, Ralph Branch, Walter Olive, Lida Olive, Ethel Upchurch, Pearl Goodwin. This is only half of the class, the larger boys having already left school to work in the fields.

northern half of the county and Dr. Stevens through the southern half. Three schools were visited each day: one in the morning, one soon after dinner, and one at night.

Kind of Education the People Wanted

In every instance, the coming of these lecturers had been well advertised by the teacher and a most hearty welcome was accorded them everywhere they went. In many instances the school exercises were suspended and half of the day made a picnic occasion, and the people of the community, pupils, mothers and fathers, and everyone were in attendance.

To the friends of agricultural education the great interest manifested by all was very gratifying, and the speakers were encouraged by comments of their listeners to the effect that this kind of education was the kind desired by country people. The whole atmosphere of every meeting seemed to be full of sympathy for the teaching of agriculture in the schools.

Lectures Had a Practical Bearing on Farming.

What this agricultural teaching should consist of and how it should be taught was explained by the speakers and the practical nature of such teaching was made apparent. One point dwelt upon in each lecture was the value of testing seed corn, as was recently described in the columns of The Progressive Farmer. The talk upon this subject at this time of the year, just corn-planting time, was especially to the point, and in nearly every school pupils agreed to make tests this year at home, to see if they could not by using better seed obtained in the methods described by the lecturers, secure a corn crop having

larly that they sometimes oppose and even ridicule the teaching of agriculture in the schools. The experience of these two lecturers on these trips makes it unquestionably certain that if the real nature of agricultural teaching be explained to the farmers of any community, agriculture in the schools will then receive in that community a most hearty welcome.

It is only to be regretted that it is not possible to have someone visit every school of the State and thus meet the people of each community and explain to them the value of such agricultural teaching.

Agriculture is at present taught in many of the rural schools of North Carolina. It is required by law to be taught in all of the rural schools and it should be taught in all of them.

New Use for the Road Drag.

Messrs. Editors: The drag is as necessary from an agricultural standpoint as a harrow or roller. Run it over a field just once, and the most skeptical are convinced that no farm implement will fill up the holes, level the land, and crush or mash down more clods than this inexpensive contrivance. H. H. WILLIAMSON, Rockingham Co., N. C.

Unless the matter has been forcefully called to the attention of the small dairyman, he has very little idea of the outward appearance of what a good dairy animal should be. Most farmers like large, slick well-rounded animals in keeping with the appearance of the family driving horse, while in fact all surplus flesh and tendency to lay on fat is objectionable, for in just so much is she lacking as a dairy cow.—J. C. Kendall.



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