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and

The Highlands Maconian

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Franklin Needs a Park

FRANK H. HILL, of Horse Cove, who recalls Franklin as it was fifty years ago, when hogs were allowed to wallow on Main street, looks at Franklin today and suggests an improvement.

Mr. Hill observes that when people come to town from the country they can't find any place to sit down. The two hotels would be overrun if everybody tried to pack into them. And as it is now, the streets are crowded with standees every Saturday afternoon. Mr. Hill suggests a city park.

The idea, it seems to us, is sound, and lends itself to development. Not only would a park, with benches and attractive shade trees, be a welcome meeting place for townspeople and their county friends, but it would attract more tourists. And more important than that, there should be in this park a community centre for the women of Franklin—for the Women's Club, the League of Women Voters, the Red Cross.

To be candid about it, Franklin's hub, with a jail on one side of the square and an unscrubbed courthouse on the other, and a couple of filling stations in between, is far from attractive.

Mr. Hill's idea can't be materialized overnight, of course. But let's try.

Simple Arithmetic

AS USUAL, it was Walter Lippman who first stated the soldier bonus problem in its clear fundamentals. Following Mr. Lippman's line of reasoning, let us look at it this way:

Suppose you owed a man \$100 which you had agreed to pay him in 1952, twenty years from now. And suppose this man came to you and said: "Why not pay me the \$100 now? You owe it to me, I need the money, and you can afford to pay it."

You would take out your paper and pencil and show this man a little simple arithmetic. You would say: "Yes, I owe you \$100—in 1952. But let's see just what \$100 means. If I invest \$100 now at six per cent, compound interest, it will yield me in twenty years \$220. In other words, I shall have \$320 instead of only \$100.

"In asking me to pay my debt now, you are asking me to pay not \$100, but \$320. I would be a fool to pay the \$100 now."

Consider this simple arithmetic when you consider paying the soldier bonus. Consider the obvious fact that the government would lose hundreds of millions of dollars by paying that bonus now. And don't make the mistake of considering the government as an outside agency with which you have nothing to do. When the government has to pay, you have to pay. You are the one that will pay three times as much in taxes if the bonus is paid now.

A Triumph in Towncraft

THE dignity of its deliberations threatened by personal differences over the route of Highway 28, the board of aldermen of the town of Franklin was one week ago split in serious schism. Their differences were very real. Highway 28 is an arterial roadway, important economically to the town of Franklin. Its route deserved thoughtful consideration.

Some thought that the highway must be routed through Main Street, arguing that to route it elsewhere was to divert certain patronage to other towns. Others said that the town would lose nothing financially by the suggested Palmer Street route, and that the town should gratefully accept from the state the expensive gift of another paved street.

Today, the opposing theorists have, by generous compromise, reached a full understanding and have settled all their differences. This reconciliation is, to us, a little miracle of towncraft. Our people will be grateful that the affairs of their community are in the hands of leaders capable of forgetting personal differences for the best welfare of the town.

Considering the importance of this highway and the scores of influential persons whom it directly affected, the town council ended its dispute and reach-

ed an agreeable compromise in remarkably short time.

Certainly, the opportunity to get a street paved at no cost should not have been neglected. Highway 28 through Palmer Street will give the town such a street and should, instead of deflecting business, bring more of it here. And with Highway 285 and U. S. 23 to remain as now located through Main Street, fears of business men along this street are abated.

Patent Medicine Fakirs

EASILY within the span of most of our memories is the recollection of standing awe-stricken, twiddling our bare toes in the dust, before the platform of a traveling patent medicine show. An iron voiced magician, like as not, did incredible tricks of black magic, or perhaps there was a full-blooded Indian Chief emitting vastly satisfactory war whoops and grunts that made shivers run up and down our youthful spines. Or maybe there was a loose-footed nigger with his banjo, dancing a shuffle in the flare of the gas jets.

It was a grand show, as typically American as corn on the cob or apple pie. Somehow we feel a faint nostalgia for those old medicine shows, for they are symbols of a gone era, an era a credulity and homeliness fled with the advent of radio and lipstick and other modern gadgets.

Of course, when the entertainment was over, the medicine men sold the crowd many bottles of dark brew guaranteed to cure anything from epilepsy to ingrown toenail. And of course, the dark nostrums were nothing but harmless, bitter-tasting herbs stirred up in a bucket by the medicine man the night before. They never cured anybody, and probably the purchasers themselves never thought they would. Odd, but the American people have an incurable penchant for getting gypped.

Most of big shows of the patent medicine docs are gone, disappeared with bustles and chaperones, but, to our surprise, we learn that the Federal government still considers the patent medicine man a threat to the health of the nation. And perhaps rightly. To our amazement, there appeared on the square in Franklin during court week several fakirs, barking the guaranteed health in each bottle of their brew. To our further amazement, several persons bought the stuff.

One medicine man described the content of his bottles, and though we were never more than a passing fair student of chemistry, we're willing to bet a dollar and a half that if his medicines had really contained what he said they did, the mixture would have exploded in spontaneous combustion and blown the roof off the courthouse.

Queer people that we are, we are willing to pay good money for swill offered by unknown and highly suspicious salesmen, but unwilling to consult the family doctor or to take his advice when we do have to consult him.

"When We Were Very Young"

SINCE publication of that editorial, "Drown the Old Men!", so many protests have been hurled at our heads by vigorous old gentlemen that the editors of The Press have aged twenty years, and now look back on the days of their youth, a week ago, with mixed emotions of amazement and tolerance. What messianic youngsters we were, indeed!

And yet, now that we are twenty years older, we remark with some pride that we were precocious kids those seven long days ago. We were on the right track, although we expressed ourselves with juvenile frenzy and succeeded in hoisting ourselves on our own petard. Yes, now that we are very old, we look back on Life with jaundiced eye, and wonder if it was All Worth While. Age has brought us neither fame nor fortune. Age has brought us naught but toil and tribulation. Age has brought us no wisdom to rearrange and settle the economic and social questions we fretted our young heads about last week. Age has taught us, alas, that Life is not a bowl of cherries.

We have consulted other old gentlemen, and they too have no solution. Most of them tell us that they'd give a lot to start all over again. Most of them say, "Now, if I was just a young fellow again, I'd—" All of them, if they were just young fellows again, would make this a vastly sweeter world to live in.

And so we close on a note of dank despair. The boys were right. We are ancient, and no good, and certainly unfit to edit a newspaper. Bring on your sack and drown us.

Clipped Opinion

Trivial Good News Overplayed

The danger of over-doing the publication of the evidences of reviving business is not serious but it is very real. Clearly indices are being played out of proportion to their significance. The slightest hint of optimism in business—the increase of the hours of employment in a factory, the addition of a few to the payroll, a slight increase in the rate of pay—all these break into print and are published all over the country.

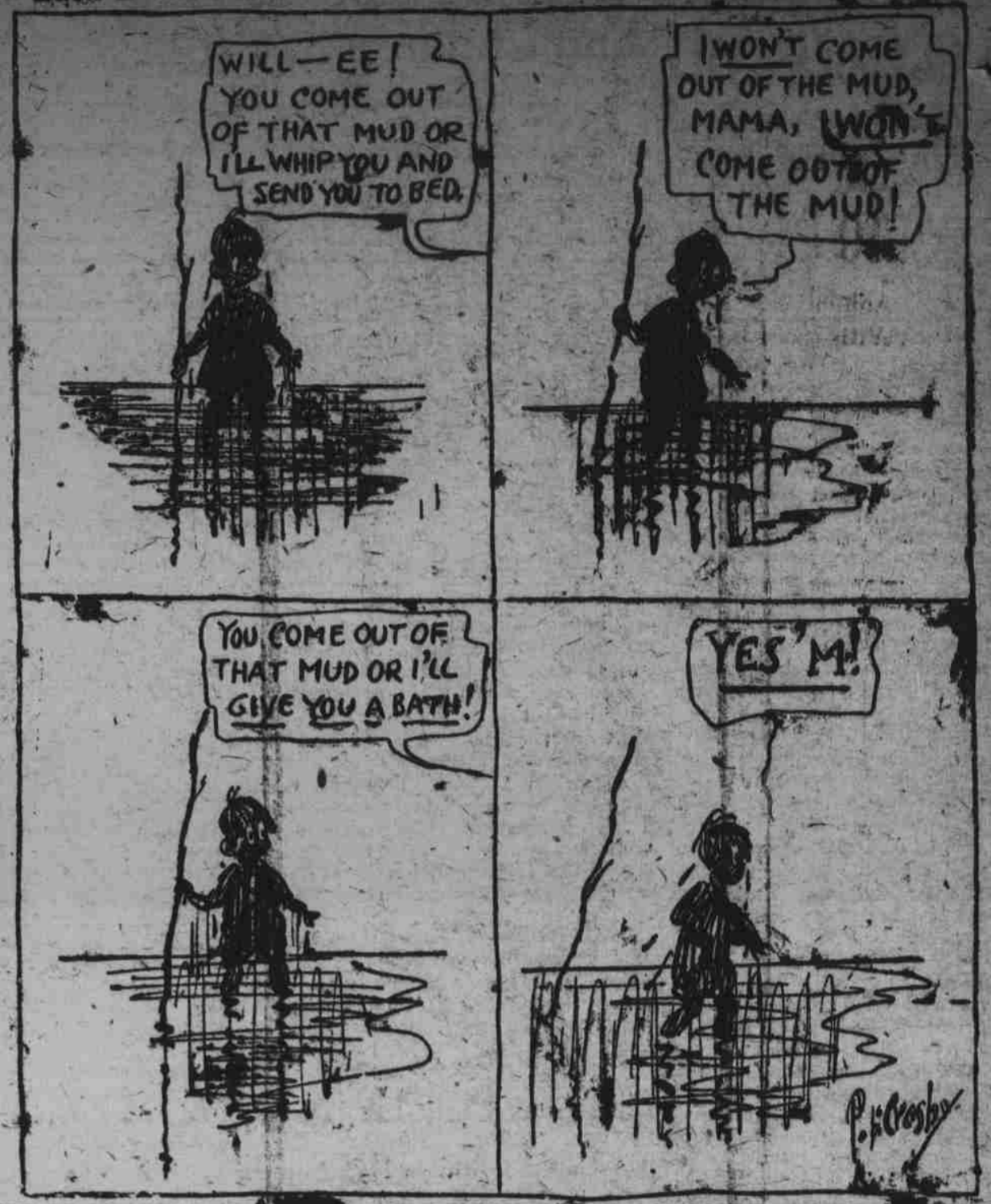
They are the items that are put on the trunk line wires of the As-

sociated Press, a news gathering agency that would spare the idea of being propagandist, but that is beginning to take so seriously its responsibility for saving the country that it may be in danger of trying to save it in some way.

Everybody welcomes real news of the progress of business out of the slough, but ballyhoo sometimes can be so pitched as to kill confidence in the claims of the ballyhoo man. It is to be hoped that the over-emphasis of the trivial in this kind of news will not result in weakening public confidence in the revival effort. —High Point Enterprise.

Back O the Flats

By PERCY CROSBY



Your Farm - How to Make It Pay

Plant Now For Greens

FOR a supply of green, leafy vegetables this fall and winter the year-round gardener must make final plantings this month.

"Collards and turnips are the most popular of these vegetables but for variety a few other crops such as kale, spinach, broccoli salad, and tendergreens should be added to the plantings," says A. B. Morrow, extension horticulturist at State College. "The last two mentioned are new additions to our list of greens but are proving popular with growers and consumers."

Plantings of kale, broccoli, and tendergreens should be made early in September and again about the latter part of the month or early in October, states Mr. Morrow. These plantings will furnish a leafy vegetable for the greater part of the fall and winter and will also give a welcome change of the diet.

"While spinach is not as popular with Southern gardeners as the other greens it is probably the tenderest of all and should have a place in every garden," says Mr. Morrow.

The first planting of this crop should be made early in September with another planting about the first of October. The Virginia Savoy variety has given best results in this State and Mr. Morrow recommends this variety for both plantings.

Mr. Morrow says that it is now a little late for most root crops but that early varieties of turnips such as White Milan, Purple Top Strap Leaf and other early maturing varieties may be planted with fair assurance of a good crop.

Radishes may also be planted once each week up to within five or six weeks of the first killing frost. For early spring sales Mr. Morrow recommends the Norfolk Queen and White Pearl varieties with plantings in the third or fourth week of September.

Control Field Mice

With the damage by field mice and other rodents to orchards in North Carolina running into thousands of dollars annually, fruit growers should take steps at once to control these pests.

"All orchards should be inspected at intervals during the fall and winter months to determine if these pests are present in destructive numbers," says A. E. Oman, rodent control specialist at State College. "This can readily be determined by looking for the openings and tunnels which are the home of the mice."

Since these pests feed at night or on very dark days it is impossible to see them unless the tunnels are shined up and it is necessary to make close inspection of all orchards.

According to Mr. Oman, there is very little damage from the pine mouse or the field mouse in clean cultivated orchards. Grass mulch or other artificial mulch, however, furnish an ideal feeding place for the pests and at the same time protects them from pre-

The Farmer's Question Box

Timely Questions Answered by N. C. State College Experts

Question: Grain mostly and weeds are usually had in my acreage now. How can I get rid of weeds?

Answer: Certain disjunctive grasses on top of the grain will control these weeds. When the grain is to be used as feed the mixture may be poured directly on top but where it is to be used for seed the carbon disulfide should be placed in pans on top of the grain. In both cases the mixture evaporates and the fumes settle to the bottom. For best results, the bin or storage room should be kept tightly closed.

Question: Is one worming of young guinea fowlings to rid them of worms or will the dose have to be repeated?

Answer: This will depend upon the degree of infestation but, if you will carefully call out these birds that are diseased or run down, one worming should be sufficient. A careful check should be made, however, on all birds that die or are dropped by beekeepers after the first worming is completed. If there is still a fair infestation, the dose should be repeated. Directions on the worm tablet package should also be carefully followed.

Question: What can I do now to insure good, healthy bee colonies next spring?

Answer: First see that all colonies are headed by a young, vigorous queen. This will add young bees for the winter and will also build up the colony next spring. The bees must have plenty of food and at least fifteen pounds of honey should be allowed for each colony. In some cases most of the honey is removed with the supers and as a result brood-rearing is restricted. This means a small colony with poorly developed bees. Check all colonies and see that at least fifteen pounds of honey is reserved for winter feeding.

datory birds and other animal enemies, he states.

An effective method of control is to expose the poisoned grain bait in glass bottles near the trees. In this way the bait is protected from the weather but is constantly exposed as a preventative to re-infestation. Specially constructed stations made of sheet iron and boards may also be used.

This bait may be made by mixing one-eighth ounce of powdered strychnine with the same amount of ordinary baking soda. This mixture should be spread over one quart of steam rolled oats and

For Spring Grazing

BY PLANTING temporary pastures this fall for use early next spring, cows may be kept from the permanent pasture until it is ready and the milk they may be maintained.

"As a usual thing, dairymen have little surplusage after the first of March. Especially in this condition true no farms without silos and where a few cows are kept for cream production," says John A. Aray, dairy extension specialist at State College. "When a cow has passed the winter on dry roughage, her system desires an appetizing, succulent food such as may be obtained by temporary pasture. Such feed is not only appetizing and nutritious but is also one of the most economical milk producers the dairymen can provide. Abruzzi rye or a mixture of this rye with other small grain, clover and vetch fill the bill nicely."

Mr. Aray believes it is wise to plant a mixture of the small grain and legumes with Abruzzi rye, as this will give better grazing an acre. He recommends a mixture made up as follows: one-half bushel of Abruzzi rye; one-half bushel of beardless wheat; one bushel of Norton oats; one bushel of beardless barley and 10 pounds of crimson clover or 15 pounds of hairy vetch. This will plant one acre.

To assure early spring grazing, this mixture should be planted by the middle of September. If fall growth is good, it may be necessary to mow in the late fall to prevent the rye and barley from winter-killing. Two tons of ground limestone as a soil applied to the land before seeding would help in growth as would a small application of commercial fertilizer.

Care should be exercised, says Aray, in grazing such a pasture when the soil is too wet.

stirred constantly to insure an even distribution of the poison.

"The grain bait is then put in self-feeders made of glass bottles or old pieces of tile or even a small trough and placed under every other tree, with some loose grass or weeds as a cover for the containers," says Mr. Oman.

Walter Burch of Clay county has increased his corn yield during the past ten years from 19 to 40 bushels an acre. Red clover and peas get the credit and County Agent Nordrich says that other crops on the farm have been increased in the same ratio.

Farmers in Jackson county who planted the Canadian Green Mountain variety of potatoes this year will harvest from 200 to 250 bushels an acre. The plants are unusually free from disease, reports County Agent Vestal.

More trench silos are reported from Caldwell county. C. O. Shively, of Granite Falls started one from which to feed 16 cows for 125 days. The silo will be 40 feet long, eight feet wide and six feet deep.