

# Wads Creek Proves Farming Can Be Profitably Done in Moore County

**Pinehurst Project There Pointing Way to Better Agricultural Practice for Section**

By Bion H. Butler

People some times say that an optimist is crazy, and that he sees so far above the mountain tops that he is always in the clouds and that his vision becomes the impossible. Possibly. But I have a liking for optimists. One of the tribe, Struthers Burt, in a fit of optimism set out to get the road signs. He aroused a sentiment that has extended over the state, and by his persistence he has awakened a new viewpoint regarding roads, and in the course of a not very long time, backed by other crazy optimists, he is going to see the chief roads of North Carolina resemble avenues in the parks and a new beauty emphasizing every outdoor improvement.

Leonard Tufts is an optimist who has for one if his crazy dreams the advancement of agriculture, and he has made North Carolina conspicuous for its Ayrshire cattle and Berkshire hogs, along with many another thing his enthusiastic confidence in progress has done. Over on Wads Creek and Little River he has another optimist, G. T. Ragsdale, a Virginian, from the big Curlsneck farm near Richmond. Ragsdale is optimistically working out some farm problems for the Moore county farmer, and he is not staying awake nights wondering if the farmer is to die ultimately of starvation. He has a notion in his head that Moore county can make a living from the ground and is proving up some notions that are likely to attract attention and work out with profit and with marked advancement in the fortunes of Moore county as a whole.

Ragsdale is introducing yellow corn with a purpose. He says yellow corn contains more vitamins than white corn, and is therefore a better food product, so he is planting freely of Reed's Golden yellow, aiming to make better feed for his stock and better table product. He also plants Boone County Special, a white one-ear variety, and he says one-ear corn yields the better crop. The two-ear types suffer more from dry weather than the one-ear corn. Over at Curlsneck they had about 5,000 acres in their farm, and Mr. Ragsdale picked up a lot of notions there about farming. He came to Wads creek farm an optimist, and continues to be one. He has a lot of chickens, and says chickens are an essential on a farm. They use up some of the small resources of the farm, and god chickens sell for money at a time when a farmer needs a little money, but they do far better, they feed the farmer and give him much better food for no cash outlay than almost anything else he can produce.

**Cattle Dot Hillsides**

Gradually the Wads Creek farm is extending. It is now cleared out so it can be seen clearly from the Carthage-Southern Pines road, and the big bunch of stock dots the hills and low ground like a farm from the stock belts of the west. On the land south of the river a large herd of young Ayrshire cattle are grazing where hay and silage have been taken off. This is the old McLean farm, one of the substantial farms of the county for generations. It has been well handled and is a good farm. It is mainly devoted to hay and forage crops, and the cows range there after the harvest. About fifty are on the pastures at the present time. North of the river hogs, goats and horses range the fields. Goats are clearing out the brush and the undergrowth. Sheep would be better to range the new grounds, but dogs make that impractical. Goats pay a little profit, but their chief purpose is the work they

## Enthusiasm Prevails

**Weather is Taken Cheerfully By Crowds Who Find Much To Entertain Them**

The weather has failed to dampen the ardor or diminish the good sportsmanship of a big crowd of Christmas vacationists in Pinehurst for the Midwinter carnival. The snow that has prevented the golf program from going forward has been accepted cheerfully by one and all of the links folks, especially the amiable throng of young collegians who might be expected to be a little gloomy about being kept from their golf. Gay parties of riders, shootists, ping-pongers, and terpsichorean trippers are laughing the weather man to scorn, and having a good time in spite of him.

do. Just ordinary goats like Abraham brought up from Ur when he came to Canaan, but they are workers. Some horses run the pastures, a dozen or more, some of them work horses and some saddle horses when they are not in the barns at Pinehurst during the season. Pasture is a big factor for the work stock. Big animals, in thrifty condition, but during the summer while they are working every day and full time they are run on pasture at night, and they pick up their feed with little or no help from the stables. Wads Creek does not freight in from the feed store the supplies for its work stock or anything else. Funny to tell some of the Moore county farmers that Mr. Ragsdale works his horses all day, works them, remember, and then lets them pick up their feed at night, but they thrive on it and do a real day's work all summer long and keep fat and fit. The point is the pastures are pastures. They are not simply European hotels where you get nothing but a place to sleep.

**To Raise Hogs**

The farm was made on Wads Creek chiefly to provide for the Pinehurst hogs. Forty brood sows are there, and they expect to produce a litter twice a year. This means many hundred little pigs which will be raised on the place. The basis of raising hogs at the farm is pasture, and here the success of the various grasses sowed proves the soundness of the optimism Mr. Ragsdale shows. The grasses are carpet grass, Dallas grass, red top, blue grass, lespedeza and Dutch clover. These succeed each other from early season until late, and few sections can show such a long growing season for pasturage, and so much grain for the stock. This year was a dry one, and not as good as might have been under more natural condition, but it was still good enough to enable to provide for six months the sole feed for the cattle, and most of that time for the sows, horses, and goats and an ample supply for all of them. Nothing is underfed there at the big farm, for that is not its purpose. Seventy-five acres can now be regarded as developed pasture, although 125 acres of ground is now cut down and in time a couple of hundred acres will be devoted to hogs. The McLean farm section will produce hay and silage for the young cattle, and pasture after the crops are taken off. Much roughage from the grain crops is taken off for feed, and readily eaten by the stock.

Mr. Ragsdale's conclusions are that on much of the land of Moore county pasture can be grown with decided profit, that every farmer should have a couple of cows, with a couple of heifer calves coming on to replace the cows as they grow old, these cows

to provide milk and butter for the family, and with the surplus of milk to feed the hogs, chickens especially the small stuff. Poultry and hogs will then help to provide the family table and reduce the murderous outlay of money at the stores for home supplies. Feed for all the farm stock should be made at home he says because it is just as profitable to make feed as to make something else to buy it. He says all this takes more or less of the farmer's time, but to afford that time he believes less time given to cotton and similar crops will be better utilized, and only enough time devoted to cash crops as is needed to earn the cash that must be had for expenses, but not enough to get cash that is used to buy stuff that can be just as well made at home and

in greater supply than any farmer can afford to buy. A somewhat different farm psychology is necessary to develop in much of Moore county to get the farmers to raise more of the money saving-crops, but Mr. Ragsdale is optimistic enough to say that if the farms will look into the pasture proposition a little farther and get pasture on all the low ground that will make pasture, and then make other crops a case-producer on the side and the home production of home supplies the chief function of farming Moore county farms will thrive. What can be done on Wads creek on a bigger scale can be done on other farms on a smaller scale. Moore county farming is all right if it is done in the right manner.

produce a quality product. In marketing eggs, careful grading is of utmost importance yet few of our local poultrymen pay any attention to this. Therefore, they place on the market, eggs of a wide range in size, shape, shell color, and shell texture. Then too these mixed eggs go in any kind of container that may be handy. When these local eggs are placed side by side with those produced by the large out-of-state concerns, the locally grown product looks bad."

It is not alone that the eggs must be packed in attractive containers and be well graded, they must also be consistently good, says the poultryman. They ought never to be over

48 hours old and preferably infertile. One bag egg slipped into a container by accident might ruin the trade of a valued customer. Then, too, fresh eggs are used largely in the diet of babies and invalids. Those purchasing for such purposes rightfully expects consistency in products. The same fundamental reasoning applies to marketing broilers locally, says Mr. Williams. The grower must study the demands of his market and endeavor to meet them. The season of best prices should also be studied. Milk-fed broilers, finished in good shape, when everyone else is not selling them, will return a good profit to any local poultryman.

## Pinehurst Paragraphs

The younger generation are returning from their various schools by the trainload. William Fuller arrived yesterday to spend Christmas with his aunt, Mrs. N. S. Hurd.

Miss Annabelle McNab has returned from Simmons College in Boston to be at the Pine Crest for the holidays.

Among others who have joined their families for Christmas are Forbes Wilson, Arnold White from Duke University and George Dunlap, the famous young golfer.

Miss E. A. Askew of Bryn Mawr, Pa., who is staying at the Carolina is entertaining her sister, Mrs. H. L. Barton of Detroit and her daughters, Miss Mary and Miss Elizabeth, at Christmas dinner in the Carolina.

Joseph Higgins of New York is a guest of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Meehan in their new home, Thistledu.

Miss Julia Scott Butterfield left Saturday night for Detroit to spend Christmas. She accompanied her father, W. S. Butterfield, who has been spending several days at the Carolina.

Mr. and Mrs. Livingston Biddle entertained friends at the Pinehurst club Friday night and afterwards attended the movies.

Miss Cora Swoope has joined her mother, Mrs. H. B. Swoope at Red Gables for the Christmas holidays.

S. Leonard Lacks of Pinehurst and Charles Stevick of Southern Pines, both freshmen at Duke university, are spending the holiday vacation with their parents at home.

Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Footman are spending Christmas with friends in Charlotte. Mrs. Footman plans to go on to Fountain Inn, S. C., for a visit of several weeks there with her parents.

Cecil Adair and Herbert Ehrhardt, first year students at U. N. C., arrived Saturday for the holidays at home.

Miss Elizabeth Rountree, student at Columbia University, is with her mother for the holidays at her home on Midland Road.

Mrs. Ralph Page and her daughter, Miss Carey Page, who spent the past several months in Boston, returned home Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Stutts spent Christmas with Mrs. Stutts' sister, Mrs. Breeden, in Fayetteville.

The Rev. and Mrs. Murdoch McLeod and little daughter, Dorothy Shaw, will spend this week with Mrs. McLeod's parents, Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Shaw at their home in Sumter, S. C.

Walter Page, who has been the guest of his cousin, Anderson Page for a week, left on Tuesday for his home in New York.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Hennessee have have as their guests this week their daughter, Miss Olive Hennessee and Miss May Dalton, of Bridgeport, Conn.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Hardin and sister, Francis Adair, left Tuesday ville, Ga.

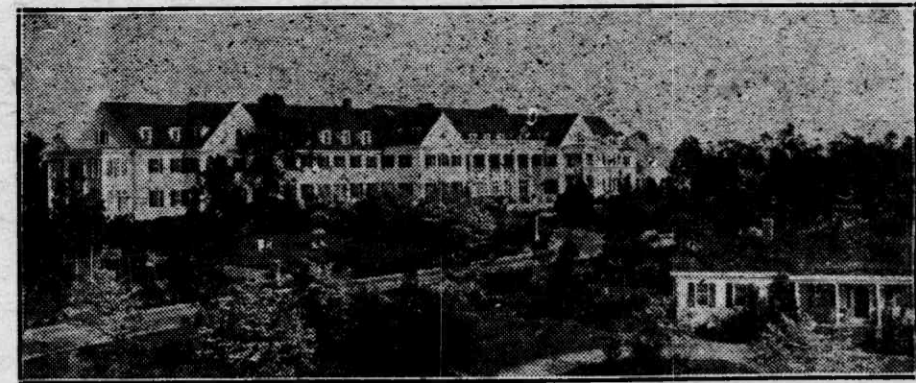
Mrs. W. H. Coffey of Lakeview, was a week end guest in the home of her daughter, Mrs. Raymond Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Thompson returned on Sunday from Norwood where they had been called by the illness and subsequent death of Mr. Thompson's mother which occurred December 17.

The girls and boys at home from the different schools for the holidays are: The Misses Verdun Shaw, Elizabeth McDonald, Lenora Sally, Thelma Bliss and Peggy Brawley; Roderick Innes, Herbert Ehrhardt, Thomas Henderson and Cecil Adair.

Maxwell Rush, who is spending the winter with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. W. Picquet, went to Greensboro this week for a visit of several days in the home of Mr. F. Sykes.

The closing day of the public school here was a very happy one for the children, not only for the vacation, but there were two other reasons that added much to the gayety of the girls and boys. As usual Mr. and Mrs. Cheatham had arranged a very beautiful Christmas tree which yielded a gift for every one present and



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### DEVELOP LOCAL MARKET FOR POULTRY PRODUCTS

There is no valid reason why North Carolina markets should buy a large part of their poultry and egg supplies from outside of the State. Present importations are large and therefore the opportunity exists for poultry growers to develop local markets in a profitable way.

"Local growers may capture these markets if they take the same pains as their competitors to produce a quality product and do a little judicious advertising," says N. W. Williams, poultryman at State College. "It is most important, however, to



## Season's Greetings!

At this Holiday Season we extend to you, not as a customer alone, but as a friend ... The Season's Greetings and Heartiest Good Wishes!

Last-Minute Suggestions for Your Christmas Shopping -

<b>CHOCOLATES</b>	Del May Assorted	5 lb. Box	\$1.39
<b>RAISINS</b>	DEL MONTE Seeded or Seedless	3 pkgs.	25c
<b>MIXED NUTS</b>		lb.	25c
<b>MINCEMEAT</b>	bulk	lb.	19c
<b>SPARKLE</b>	The New Gelatin Dessert	4 pkgs.	25c
<b>CANDY</b>	Cream Drops Gum Drops Liberty Creams Cocoanut Bon Bons etc.		lb. 19c
<b>Walnuts</b>		lb.	33c
<b>Brazil NUTS</b>	OR		
<b>Almonds</b>		lb.	25c
<b>Cigarettes</b>	Lucky Strike, Camel, Chesterfield, Piedmont, Old Golds	CARTON (10 lge. pkgs.)	\$1.19
<b>Pitted Dates</b>	pkg.	22c	
<b>Layer Figs</b>	pkg.	25c	
<b>Layer Raisins</b>	lb.	12 1/2c	
<b>Stick Candy</b>	2 1/2 Pound Box	35c	
<b>Hershey Kisses</b>	lb.	39c	
<b>Cider</b>	gal jug	59c	
<b>Fruit Salad</b>	DEL MONTE No. 1 Can	23c	
<b>Flour</b>	A&P PLAIN OR SELF-RISING lb. Bag	24	75c
<b>Lard</b>	Finest Compound - Carton	lb.	11c
<b>Bread</b>	Grand-mothers Full Pound loaf		7c

**SUGAR lb. 5c | EGGS Selected Doz. 27c**  
**CRANBERRIES lb. 17c**

**Oranges** Florida Assorted Sizes doz. 11c to 25c  
By the Crate, \$2.95  
**TANGERINES** doz. 12 1/2c to 20c  
**TURKEYS**, lb. 33c  
**CELERY** 10c | **LETTUCE** 10c

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