

THE CARE OF THE FARM WOOD LOT

With Proper Care, the Wood Lot Can Be Made One of the Best Paying Parts of the Whole Farm.

The woodlot is one of the most important portions of the farm. It supplies wood for cooking and for warmth, protects the farm from washing rains and erosion, enhances the value of the property, and, properly handled, provides a continuous money crop, supplying work for the idle periods when other farm work is impossible. It is important, therefore, for the owner to give some attention to the protection and proper handling of the woodlot.

The following simple rules will, if observed, improve the woodlot and increase the revenue from it.

1. Don't attempt to use the woodlot as a pasture. Very little forage is found for cattle in the wooded area. Usually only young trees are available as forage and these supply very little nourishment. Cattle, sheep and hogs in the woodlot absolutely prevent young growth by eating the acorns, or seeds, nipping the tops from young seedlings and packing the ground so hard as to prevent sprouting of seeds or stumps. Therefore decide whether the land is to be used for pasture or woodlot and use it for that purpose exclusively.

2. Cut inferior trees first. Don't cut out the best trees and leave the poorer, crooked or inferior ones standing. Use the crooked, dead and defective trees for firewood. Hickory makes excellent firewood but is not well suited for any other purpose. Crooked dead and down timber make as good or better firewood than tall, straight, green timber. Old and defective trees produce seed that are likely to produce defective young growth or be incapable of reproducing.

3. Where young growth is well started and thick, remove all the old mature timber. Old trees grow slowly, take lots of space, exhaust the food from the ground, and shade the young timber so that it cannot grow rapidly and healthily.

4. Cut chestnut as closely as possible. There is great danger of losing all chestnut from blight within the next ten years. Even if chestnut is not blight killed it is well to keep it cut close because it grows rapidly, reproduces well from both seed and sprouts and will produce a money crop more quickly than any other species.

5. Cut low stumps and use as much of the material in each tree as possible. Sprouts coming from high stumps will break off and die much easier and quicker than those coming from near the ground. By cutting low stumps more material is gotten out of the tree, making it more valuable. Laps will rot quicker, allowing young growth an earlier start if the large limbs and butts are removed.

6. Don't cut timber as you come to it. Thin the stand evenly throughout, so that there will always be partial shade on the ground and trees standing to produce seed. Properly thinned stands of young growth will produce as much actual timber as heavier stands where the individual trees are crowded. It is the same principle as hoeing corn, leaving the stalks all spaced properly.

7. DO NOT BURN THE WOODS. This is the most important of all rules regarding the handling of the woodlot. Those leaves from last year are the food for this year's timber. They rot, sink into the ground, and are drawn up in the form of sap in this year's growing season, forming the fertilizer for the timber. They also form a blanket on the ground, holding excess water, preventing quick run-off, protecting the ground from erosion, and providing a rich, black soil for the seed to sprout in. Fire not only burns the fertilizer, but kills the young trees that will form the next crop. Fire burns through the bark at the base of the old trees, causing hollow butts, allowing insects and disease a chance to get into the tree, and holds back the growth of the tree by killing some of the fibres that carry the food into the limbs and leaves. It exposes the mineral soil, allowing the sun to bake it, and thus preventing moisture from soaking through the roots of the tree.

Remember that timber is a crop, just as corn is a crop. Timber actually brings more money into the county than corn. Timber is easier to grow than corn. Timber plants itself, hoes itself, and plows itself, and a little attention from the owner of the woodlot will repay him better than any time he spends on other work.

Fire is timber's greatest enemy. Keep it down.

Death of Fred M. West.

Editor of the Press: Usually the mere announcement of the death of an individual is about all the reading public, in this busy age of the world, cares to take time to read; but conceding that there are exceptions to most, if not to all, rules, it sometimes happens that there are marked traits of character, predominating characteristics, great qualities of mind, and heart, and soul, exhibited in the lives of certain individuals, that it were well for the public to emphasize and ponder.

These qualities of mind, and heart and soul, and these traits of character seen in the lives of their possessors at once make their own lives worth while, and furnish the bases for lofty ideals in lives of others with whom they come in contact in life by inspiring them with high aims and noble purposes for their life-work.

The life of the subject of this sketch, Mr. Fred M. West, furnishes a very worthy example under this head, and very forcibly illustrates this great principle.

Mr. West was born at West's Mills, Macon County, North Carolina, January 14th 1894, and very early in life began to show signs of more than ordinary intellectual endowment.

He professed religion and joined the M. E. Church, South, at Snow Hill, near West's Mill, at quite an early age, thus throwing the weight of his example and influence on the side of morality.

He seemed to love the Church and was loyal to it and its institutions all through his short life.

He was always in regular attendance upon the Sunday School, and gave respectful attention to its lessons.

He received his early training in the Cowee High School near his home, graduating from that institution in the spring of 1913; and, after helping his father, who was then in declining health, to put over the summer's work on the farm, he entered the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Raleigh in the fall of the same year, and started upon a four year's course—taking among other things Mechanical Engineering. In the meantime the death of his father within three months from the time he entered College threw him upon his own resources; and he had to work his way through College with but very little help. But he had the necessary energy and grit, backed by a robust manhood and an invincible determination fired by a holy ambition to succeed—the best capital a young man desiring to accomplish something in life can call to his aid.

He did not hesitate, but put his whole energy into the work—taking such work as the College could secure for him during the summer vacations to enable him to attend the next term in College.

This completed, the College secured him a position with some people at Hopewell, Va., which position he filled with such satisfaction to his employers as to win promotion, and his wages were increased four times during the time—nearly two years—he was with them.

He was offered a better position as he thought with the Bethlehem Steel Company of Bethlehem, Pa., a position offering more opportunities for advancement; and since Progress was his Motto, and Success by honest achievement was his goal, he accepted this position in the latter part of 1918, and served this Company for nearly six years—till the tragic end of his life.

Such was the confidence in his ability, and such the esteem in which he was held by the Company, that in 1920 they sent him to Cuba to oversee the building, re-establishment, and installation of a Plant that had been destroyed during the war.

This done they called him back to the United States in 1921, to take his position in one of the Company's largest Plants in Bethlehem—in fact it seems he had the oversight of three of the largest Plants of the Bethlehem Mines Corporation as Master Mechanic and Electrical Engineer, both in construction and operating capacities: for by dint of hard study by night after hard toil by day he had finished up his Course in Electrical Engineering by mail, and had climbed the ladder of Mechanical Engineering to the rung of Master Mechanic.

He had also taken a course in Higher English, and was taking

French and Spanish, and a Course in Public Speaking by mail—in handling so many men in the works this all seemed necessary,—if for no other reason to couch his orders and instructions in the plainest terms and the fewest possible words.

Fred, as we all familiarly called him, seems to have improved all his opportunities, and turned them to good account for he was a constant student, and a diligent and hard worker.

Whether for the purpose of knowing human nature and understanding the mental bent and capacity of his men better, or to satisfy his own inquiring mind, and desire to know himself fully, we cannot tell; but his library and work shows that he was taking or had taken a course in Psychology, and at the time of his death he was taking a Course of Medicine—presumably by mail from a list of questions asked by a leading physician.

He was whole-souled, liberal-hearted man, who found no time to idle; but by diligent application and study he had climbed high in the scale of his profession. From the time when he began to earn money he helped his widowed mother to finance a large family. He assisted his brother J. Lyle West, in getting through a Dental College in Atlanta, was helping his youngest brother, Harry West, in the Cullowhee State Normal, at the time of his death.

His employers, his schoolmates, and all who knew him bear willing testimony to the cleanness of his life, his fidelity to every trust, and his loyalty to every worthy cause, and especially to all who trusted him.

Being of a very pleasing personality, he had many social traits of character that endeared him, not only to members of the home family and his schoolmates, but to all who knew him.

Fred loved his work, and loved his men who worked under him; and that his men loved him is evidenced by the fact that they wired a fund of over sixty dollars to Asheville to buy flowers for their leader's grave.

He was killed in Bethlehem, Pa., about May 8th last, by whom and for what reason we know not—the certificate tacked on the box enclosing the casket by the undertaker assigning suicide as the cause of his death; but an examination of his body here before burial by the most skillful physicians revealed the fact that he had been shot in the back of the head and also in the temple, in addition to having a cut in his forehead—all of which would render the theory of suicide impossible.

He was buried in the cemetery at Snow Hill Church, near his old home in the presence of a very large and sorrowing congregation, on May 16th, 1924—the Masonic Fraternity, of which Order he was a thirty-two degree member, having charge of the ceremonies.

Thus ends a life of promise of great future usefulness—a life of comparatively short duration; but rich in achievements—a life of which his friends and relatives may well feel proud, and to which those who come after may be signaled for high ideals and success.

Sincerely,
W. J. JENKINS.

Cloche Continues to Be Fashion's Favorite



That Madam Fashion is not fickle is evidenced in this little cloche, for this bonnet-like type continues to be her favorite. The advent of this season of gay silk print into the millinery field, such as covers the brim and bands the crown of this model, adds to the charm of many a chapeau. Note also the hand-dyed and hemstitched silken scarf about the neck. Everybody's wearing them!

All Kinds of Legal Blanks For Sale at the Press Office.

WILL SAVE YOU MONEY

If you knew that you could get several dollars back for every dollar you invested it would not take you long to decide, would it? You would invest at once.

Well, that is just what you can do by investing in the subscription price to your Local Newspaper. It will be the means of saving you several dollars during the year if you will allow it to do so. It is the best investment you can make for the money.

Say nothing about the local news it carries but consider it just as a business proposition, a money saver. It carries the advertisements of the local merchants, and by keeping track of these from week to week you will be able during the year to save yourself many times the cost of the year's subscription in buying the things you need and want. All you have to do is to watch the advertising columns and the bargains offered by your home merchants will allow you to supply your wants at the bargain prices they offer.

This helps in another way. It helps the local merchant to keep up his stock if you buy at home and makes his a better store for your community. It helps the newspaper business, which is boosting your home town every week. Both of these help you as they help to make your town a little better and that means increasing the value of your property.

You get the idea? Take your home newspaper as an investment, not as a sort of act of charity, but because it will be worth real money to you. You can make it worth more or less, just as you use it. But if you depend on borrowing it instead of having it sent direct to you, there will be many times when it gets around to you too late. Those who subscribe for it and get it right away will have taken the bargain you may want. Get your name on the list right away.

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It's Up To You.

You may be a big man in the business world. Your properties may represent many good round, hard dollars. You may take an interest in politics to the extent of complaining about taxation, too much legislation, useless regulation of industry, etc. You may send your boy to college and your daughter to a finishing school. You may be a "successful" American business man.

But do you take an interest in the government which protects your property? Or are you merely one of the kickers who complain about the "radicals"? Do you go to the polls and vote for men and measures you believe sound or do you instead, go out and play golf on election day and let the fellow about whom you complain do all the voting.

Don't kick unless you are willing to do your duty as a citizen at the polls. No matter how "big" you are your vote is worth no more than the poorest bum in town.

The "bigger" you are, the more necessary it is for you to vote, teach your children to vote and your wife to vote.

Don't leave somebody else to do your voting and then kick at results. "Your" government will be just as good as you help make it, and no better.

FROM A TROUBLED HEARTED GIRL

Dear Readers of the Franklin Press: I hate to write this for fear of disturbing some of your friends, but the time has come when I must ask your judgment on a very serious question, the contemplation of which has caused me nights of restlessness and corresponding days of anxiety. You will understand in my writing regarding a matter of importance when I tell you that many homes and hundreds of lives have been upset by similar trouble! Still I felt you should know the worst of it at once, for in all sincerity it may mean life or death to me. I dare not communicate this state of my mind to any other friends but you, for they are not to be relied upon. So in my distress and troubled state of mind I can only come to you friends, I know I'm asking a great deal of you, but by your friendship, loyalty and confidence, will you tell me from the bottom of your heart, Will Andrew Gump ever be President of the United States? Please let me have an answer soon, for you know what a troubled state of mind I'm in.

"AUNT DINAH."

A FEW AMONG MANY

You Will Find in My Store a REAL BARGAIN Any Time You Come.

One lot of nice Assorted Chambray at 10c per yd.

Fast Color Dress Gingham, best grade, 15c yd.

One lot good grade Dress Gingham, 15c yd.

Bed Spreads, each \$1.20.

Hand Towels, 20c kind for 15c.

15 Ladies' Silk Dresses and 25 Voile and others, 25 per cent off.

Don't forget my Hosiery Department. Many other things that will please you. I appreciate your trade. In doing so I will give you real value for your money or no trade.

JOS. ASHEAR