

Just About the Farm

Three cheers for the Macon county folks. The delegation from this county that went to the Special Dairy day at the test farm at Swannanoa was the third largest of all in the western district. Madison and Buncombe counties were the only counties that had a bigger delegation. Already this has begun to bear fruit. When I opened the mail after being away ten days there was a lot of stuff for the dairy farmer. Those that did not attend this meeting sure missed a treat. If you do not believe this ask any of the fellows that went.

Folks, listen—here is a thing that is not as it should be. Clay county is sending more cream to the creamery than Macon county is. That's almost a disgrace. The only explanation that is available right now is that the cows in this county are not running up to test. There are too many sorry cows. We will have to test our cows to check up on this. If this goes on its only a matter of time till the creamery as a business proposition to the owners will not be a paying proposition and we will be the sufferers. Let's test our cows right away. Why, Mr. Clarence Poe, when suming up the dairy situation in the western part of the state last week at the Dairy day, did not think enough of this county to mention it when going over the figures of the various counties. There is something wrong. Let's ferrit it out.

Over in Athens, Tenn. last week there was a wool sale and the farmers brought in 4,000 pounds of wool. They all reckoned it was money from home.

There is another thing that was very noticeable as one rode along past the fields. There was no rye in the wheat fields and no oats in the rye fields and vice versa. Some different from this part of the country.

Another thing. There was hardly anywhere a shabby run-down barn. They were all built for service and kept in a servicable condition. Its things like this that the passerby judges a country by. Also there well kept fences around all the fields. And paint was more in evidence there on the farm buildings than it is here.

North Carolina is the eleventh state in the Union in the production of rye and ninth in states east of the Mississippi. Yet it is the hardest kind of thing to see a field of pure rye in this county. There are all sorts of other grains mixed in it. We cannot hope to get the most out of our rye crop if we cannot guarantee its freedom from an admixture of other seeds. And it sure will pay to take advantage of the opportunity of being rated so highly in the rye production of the nation and have stuff of quality to offer. The first rule is standard seed and the second is pure seed.

The United States reporting service has this to say in regard to the general agricultural situation: "North Carolina has been blessed this spring in comparison with many other sections of the country. The spring has been fairly early and the moisture conditions have been fairly good, except recently in a few eastern counties where truck has suffered. Altogether the spring farm conditions are up to normal if not ahead. Certainly the conditions are much better than those that prevailed a year ago. While truck crops, except strawberries may not be as good as desired, yet the price secured more than offset the shortage in production. Strawberries have been good in production and prices.

"The spring work generally over the United States is backward, with unfavorable weather conditions prevailing in many states. The Mississippi flood conditions are well known. Tornadoes have done considerable damage in the west. The far west have experienced severe snow storms and low temperatures with wide spread damage to fruits and grains. The rains in the western spring area have been helpful to that area. Some of the states to the north of us have been too dry for good soil preparation and abnormally warm temperatures alternated with frosts.

"The most recent information indicates the greatest decrease in the farm population for many years. The net movement away from the farms was estimated at over 1,000,000 during the past year. The losses since the 1920 census provide a factor of more consequence than all shifts of weather, production or prices. This is absolute proof that farmers are more nearly against the parting of the ways than members are of any other industry. Its going to be the survival of the fittest, and that means the survival of the thinking farmer.

They say that brevity is the sole of wit—the time that some farmers put in on planning is almost funny.

The same intelligence that has made American industry the most prosperous in the world now turns to the agricultural problem.

Are you planing to leave your farm business in such a shape that your boy or boys can take it up where you left off and not being under a handicap?

The crying need of our Macon county soils after intelligent crop planning, is lime lime lime. Lime is a great boon to diversified agriculture, but a very bad thing where the proper crop rotations are not practiced. But we are a diversified county.

The establishing of a cannery gets closer and closer. In the language of the orator, "The psychological moment has almost arrived when we may dispense with further circumlocution and get down to brass tacks."

The best is none too good for the farmer. Wouldn't it be a great thing for us to make as much as we do now with four to six hours per day actual labor? More farm thinking will surely bring this about.

Interest on money works while we worship, sleep, play or ride in our flivver, and on Sundays too. Cows, hens and hogs do the same thing, but, Lord! what a difference in the final out-come.

A hick farmer: The one that plans just a head of his nose and thinks that things will "come out."

An efficient marketing scheme for this county will be the salvation of a lot of things and folks. How about you yourself thinking on this a little and giving us your ideas?

The day is coming when the thinking farmer will be able to do all his work in four to six hours and then have the rest of his time to put into making of himself a better citizen.

Macon county—the county of thinking farmers. —LYLES HARRIS, County Agent.

Save Best Roosters But Remove From Flock

When the hatching season is over, remove the male birds from the flock but take good care of them if they are to be used next season.

"Infertile eggs are no better as food than fertile eggs but the infertile eggs keep better in hot weather," says Dr. B. F. Kaupp, head of the poultry department at State College. "When a fertile egg is subjected to high summer heat for a period of time, it will begin to develop a young chick. If this development goes on long enough and then the egg is placed in lower temperatures, the germ dies and a blood ring is left. This ring of blood settles at the lowest point of the arch of membranes which cover a part of the yolk."

Dr. Kaupp states that just as many eggs will be laid when the males are removed from the flock and so it is a good practice to take away the males from the hens as soon as the breeding season is over. Those birds not wanted for breeding another year may be placed in a lot where they may be fattened for the pot or for market. Those needed next year should be placed in a house with ample run where they may forage for bugs and worms and green feed. To shut up a desirable breeding bird in a small, dry lot with poor housing facilities, is to reduce his health and vigor and make him worthless for the next season.

Then, too, Dr. Kaupp advises selecting out the best of the early hatched young cockerels and keeping them for breeding purposes. Those that are square and blocky and crow early are most desirable. Early development means the transmission of high qualities of egg production and health. Such selected males should get plenty of green feed, mash in which there is animal feed and the regular grain feed. Grain alone is not sufficient if best results are wanted.

Iotla B. Y. P. U.

The Iotla B. Y. P. U. is progressing nicely and is now working for an A-1 Standard union.

Since the organization of the union at Iotla the church has been filled with more young people than it had for some time before.

We hope the work done by the B. Y. P. U. here will cause the young men and young women to see the great need of learning to work for our Lord and master. The B. Y. P. U. is the best place we have for young people to learn to stand up to the world and fight the battle for Christ.

We realize more and more as the days roll rapidly by, that what the world needs most today is more young people for God, who will faithfully, willingly and repeatedly proclaim a risen Savior's undying love to the faithless and unbelieving.

By working in the B. Y. P. U. we will be able to work in the harvest field for God.

All of the young people are invited to the B. Y. P. U. at Iotla on every Sunday evening at 8:00 o'clock. Not only are the young people invited, but the older ones as well. We realize that we cannot make the union success without the co-operation of the older people.

Come out next Sunday evening and bring a friend. "Come thou with us, and we will do thee good."

BETHEL WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The Woman's Methodist Missionary Society of the Bethel church met with Miss Emma Gribble at the home of Mrs. Jake Palmer Saturday afternoon May 7.

This Auxiliary was organized by the Pastor, Mr. Daniels some months ago, and though it is difficult for the women in the county to get together, they make the effort at Bethel and have a very active organization under the leadership of Mrs. Spahr, president.

Miss Gribble had a "Sock Party," sending out invitations in the form of a small sock and asking each to bring in money, the size of shoe they wore, "hoping the shoe would be immense." About ten dollars was realized in this way, besides a most enjoyable social hour at the beautiful country home of Mrs. Palmer, facing a bend of the Cullasaja, from a high ridge. There was a large attendance of grown and young people and several ladies from the Franklin Auxiliary enjoyed getting acquainted with the Bethel ladies.

Mrs. Hattie Jones gave a report from the Annual Missionary conference, which met in Greensboro last month.

Beside the members and visitors present, the "Palmer girls" came home for the occasion, from Clayton, Ga. and Penland, N. C.

Gatherings of this kind are really Home Mission work within themselves. We are glad Miss Emma had the vision, and hope others will follow her example.

Dr. E. R. Gilbert, of Highlands, who had an operation at a local hospital about six weeks ago was again in Franklin last week for further observation and treatment.

The May 1 issue of the Cullowhee Yodel, published at the state normal, contains the picture of Miss Harriette Brendle, who was one of the debaters representing her school in the debating contests.

Mrs. H. M. Jones, formerly of Pittsburg, and son, H. M. Jr., have moved to Franklin and have taken an apartment at the home of Mrs. C. D. Baird.

Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Gore, of Miami have arrived to spend the summer at Franklin. They have leased Summer Hill, the home of Mr. John Sewell.

Their niece, Miss Julia Wasson, who join her relatives here in the near is attending school at Asheville will future.



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