

"CIVILIZATION BEGINS AND ENDS WITH THE PLOW"

THINGS TO PLAN TO THROUGHOUT COMING YEAR
The Farmers' Day at the test farm at Swannanoa on May 17, 1928.

- Poultry loading depot with facilities for grading eggs.
- An annual poultry show.
- Monthly livestock sales.
- Farmers' own line of delivery trucks.
- Purebred sires and seeds.
- Guernsey cattle association.
- A semi-annual seed exchange day.
- A Harvest Carnival one day of the bread and butter show.

Farming As She Is Done In Macon

Field Crops

There is going to be more soy bean hay grown in Macon this year than has been grown in the last five years before.

And what's more, a lot of that is just being planted to turn under for the land's sake. You take fellows like C. C. Cabe and Charlie Henderson and they come along and buy 12 bushels of beans of big, rank, coarse variety, such as the Mammoth Yellow, and then in the next breath say "I want about 6 or 8 bushels of Virginia or Lareda" and you ask them what in the world they are doing that for, and they say "Oh, I'm going to turn under all that coarse stuff for the land and the other I am going to feed to my dairy cows."

There are others—dozens of them—but I just happened to remember these two fellows in particular, because they had planned out exactly what they thought they needed and knew exactly the reasons for what they did.

Despite all the howling about the "can't do it's" and all the "it ain't no good's" about 150 of the good farmers of Macon county have already signed contracts to grow stuff for the cannery. They have investigated and found that commercial canneries are paying \$10.00 and \$12.00 per ton for tomatoes, 45 cents per bushel for potatoes and 2 cents per pound for beans, and getting all they can can; and the farmers living around those canneries are growing all they can plant.

Furthermore, the farm buildings of these said cannery crop producers are all painted and in good repair; the fences are in good shape; their stock is fat; their kids are rosy-cheeked; the wife is smiling; the family car is well painted and repaired, and taxes are paid on time.

Poultry

We have had to change the loading day for poultry from Wednesdays to Mondays. Don't forget this: Poultry loading will be every other Monday, beginning the 12th of this month. That is, Monday at Franklin and Tuesday morning early at Otto. The next sale will be next Monday, March the 12th. Prices to be seen elsewhere on this page.

It has also been arranged that we get the prices every Wednesday before the sale on Monday in time to get them in to The Press.

Marketing

Mr. H. C. Hurst, Franklin, Route No. 1, has for sale: 4 bushels Virginia soy beans.

Miss Fay Franklin, Franklin, N. C., Route No. 4, has for sale: 10 pounds pumpkin seed.

Hogs for sale:—Charlie Dills, Franklin, N. C., Route No. 1.

Mrs. R. A. Patton, Franklin, N. C., Route No. 1.

C. W. Cabe, Franklin, N. C., Route No. 4.

W. A. Norton, Dillard, Ga., Route No. 1.

Arthur Mashburn, Franklin, N. C., Route No. 1. (Poland-China pigs.)

Charlie Rhodes, Rainbow Springs, N. C.

Bees for sale:—Joe Corbin, Franklin, N. C., Route No. 4. (5 colonies.)

Jesse Carpenter, Otto, N. C.

Poultry for sale:—6 Tancred Strain White Leghorn Cox. Mrs. Shelby, Route No. 2.

Silver Laced Wyandottes: Frank N. Norton, Dillard, Ga., Route No. 1.

Milk cow for sale:—J. T. Cabe, Franklin, N. C., Route No. 2. (7 years-old Jersey.)

Soy beans for sale:—J. D. Welch, Franklin, N. C., Route No. 3, has 29 bushels for sale at \$3.00 per bushel.

Who's got something else for sale? let us know.

KEEP YOUR FARM AND IT WILL KEEP YOU AND YOURS

MANY MINERALS FOUND IN STATE

(Continued from page one)

color. Ruby colored corundum and some small rubies have been found at the Miney mines, Macon county, and the Grimshay mine, Transylvania county.

Emerald, Beryl, Crystals

Beryl is a mineral that varies in color from emerald green, pale green and sea green to yellow, golden, light blue, and colorless. The emerald green is due to the presence of a minute amount of chromium and is the variety that is most highly prized as a gem when clear and free from flaws.

Emerald Beryl—The beryl commonly sold at the present time, the oriental or true emerald (the green variety of corundum) being one of the rarest of gems. North Carolina has furnished some very handsome emerald beryl crystals of splendid color, some of which have cut very fine stones. The largest stone cut weighed 4 23-32 carats and was of a somewhat light green color. The most celebrated crystals are still uncut and are in the hands of museums which unfortunately are outside the state. Perhaps the finest emerald beryl crystal found was from near Hiddenite, Alexander county, and is 8 1-2 inches in length and weighs 9 ounces. It is now in the Morgan-Bement collection in the American museum of natural history, New York.

Hiddenite is the most noted locality in the state for beryl crystals. The first emeralds that were obtained from this locality were found in the soil, but in 1881 when the Emerald and Hiddenite Mining company was organized, systematic mining was undertaken. The beryl occurs in a biotite gneiss in pockets or lens shaped cavities, in quartz and feldspar veins, but which are continuous for many feet. Crystallized with the beryl in these cavities are beautiful crystals of quartz, rutile, muscovite, dolomite, calcite, pyrite, tourmaline and hiddenite.

On Crabtree mountain between

county, emerald beryl is found in a pegmatic vein associated with tourmaline, quartz and feldspar, some of which heat good gems up to 3-4 carats in weight. Its chief value as gem material is when cut en cabochon, showing sections of the green emerald and the white quartz and feldspar which makes a very pleasing combination and is known as "emerald matrix."

Aquamarine

The aquamarine variety of beryl is found very commonly in many of the pegmatic dikes that have been worked for mica, the most important of which are in the vicinity of Spruce Pine, Mitchell county, at the Ray mine, Yancey county, and the Littlefield mine, Macon county. In each of these localities aquamarine beryls have been found very abundantly and have furnished material from which many beautiful gems have been cut. These beryl crystals are found ranging in size from the very minutest transparent crystals to those of more than two feet in length and as much as 7 inches in diameter. These larger crystals are generally bluish or greenish in color but opaque and are of only value as mineral specimens.

Aquamarine beryls have also been found in considerable quantity at the emerald locality of Alexander county.

Blue, Yellow and Golden Beryl—In the mica mines near Spruce Pine, Mitchell county, blue, yellow and golden beryls have been found in fine crystals which have furnished many very beautiful cut stones. The blue beryl is the equal in its coloring and brilliancy of the Brazilian stone. The Wiseman mica mine has been one of the chief producers of these beryls.

The Hiddenite Gem

The hiddenite gem is a variety of the mineral spodumene, and is of a deep green color, and thus far has only been found at the emerald locality near Hiddenite, Alexander county. Many of the crystals have a uniform green color, while others are yellow at one end and graduate through yellowish green to emerald green at the other.

The first hiddenite crystal was found in 1879 and was confused with the emerald, beryl and it was not until two years later that the mineral was found to be a new gem and was named hiddenite after William E. Hidden, a noted mineralogist. In 1881 he organized the Emerald and Hiddenite Mining company which worked the gem area for several years. The property was worked quite extensively for a few years and then operations ceased until 1907 when the mine was reopened and operations conducted by the American Gem Mining Syndicate, who, however, only continued operations less than two years. The mine then remained idle until 1926 when it was leased by the Hiddenite Mining company, a North Carolina corporation, which have operated the properties for about a year and have taken out about 450 car-

The farm pages of The Press are edited by the county agent in collaboration with the editor.

ats of the green hiddenite. The finest crystal that has been obtained from this mine measured 2 3-5 inches by 1-2 inch by 3-4 inch, with one end of a very fine green emerald color, which would probably afford a gem of 5 1-2 carats if cut. This crystal is in the American Museum of Natural History, New York. The crystals obtained by the hiddenite Mining company were emerald green color throughout the crystal and they represent perhaps the best group of crystals ever obtained from the property.

Carolina Garnet Gems

The name garnet is used to describe a group of minerals which have many identical and similar physical properties and similar chemical properties but varying in specific gravity and color according to their chemical composition.

The different garnets vary in color or from colorless, through the different shades of red to almost black. The rarest color is green of the uvarovite, the chromium garnet. Garnet is one of the most widely distributed minerals and is found in many of the crystalline rocks. It is commonly occurring with mica in pegmatic dikes and often is abundant in gneiss and chists. The three varieties that are of gem value occurring in North Carolina are rhodolite, almandite and pyrope.

Rhodolite—This variety of garnet is remarkable for its color and beauty is a gem. This rhodolite has a variety of shades of color, which for the most part are similar to the delicate rose-like tinge with that of the diamond. Most of the varieties of garnet are only beautiful by transmitted light and otherwise exhibit dark shades of color, but rhodolite gives most striking effects of beautiful and varied coloring by reflected light. When first discovered the rhodolite was mistaken by many

not until they had tested it would they believe otherwise. The rhodolite has only been found in North Carolina, and in a very limited area, which includes the gravels of the streams that rise in Mason mountain, Macon county. This variety is peculiar to North Carolina and was named on account of the similarity of its color to the rhododendron. The largest rhodolite found gave a gem stone weighing 43 1-2 carats.

Almandite and Pyrope—Besides the rhodolite referred to above the almandite and pyrope varieties of garnet have been found extensively in many sections of the state. Pyrope is a deep red garnet, while the almandite has something of a pinkish tinge. Good gem material of these varieties has been found in Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Lincoln, Macon, McDowell, Mitchell and Yancey counties. The best colored and most transparent material has been obtained from Alexander and Yancey counties. Many of the mica mines in western North Carolina, particularly in Mitchell and Yancey counties, contain garnet crystals that are found flattened out between the foliage of the mica. These are often transparent and some have been found thick enough to cut into gems.

Quartz Gems In Many Colors

The mineral quartz is very varied in its occurrence and is found in many colors and formations furnishing many varieties of gems. The most important of these gem varieties are as follows:

Rock crystal, a perfectly colorless transparent quartz has been found in many beautiful crystals and masses near White Plains, Surry county, Hiddenite, Alexander county, and Chestnut Hill, Ashe county. Smoky quartz, or cairngorm stone, occurs in many shades of brown from very deep (almost black) through varying rich tones and fading into limpid white. While it makes lines of fiery brightness which are very effective in artificial light. Some of the most beautiful specimens of this gem mineral have been found in Alexander and Iredell counties. It has also been found to less extent in Catawba, Burke and Randolph counties.

Citrine or Spanish topaz, is a yellow variety of quartz that has been found in Burke, Alexander and adjoining counties, but is seldom of a rich deep color. It makes a striking gem when the color is good and is much esteemed as a gem.

Rose or pink quartz of gem quality has been found in Alexander and Macon counties. In the Hiddenite mine some very beautiful crystallized pink quartz was found associated with the hiddenite. The crystals were extremely small but very brilliant.

Aventurine is a quartz containing inclusions of other minerals as specks or thin flakes which are very brilliant and give the crystals a

spangled appearance. These inclusions are usually of a yellowish mica mineral hematite. This variety of quartz has been found in Iredell and Alexander counties.

Opalescent quartz has been found very sparingly in the state, the best samples have been found in Cabarrus county, which have very fair results when cut.

Many quartz crystals of both the amethyst, smoky and rock crystal varieties have been found containing bubbles of water or liquified carbon dioxide. These make interesting mineral specimens.

Amorphous quartz occurs widely distributed in the state. Chalcedony, from colorless to a pale greenish color in association with many of the peridotite rocks in western North Carolina.

Chrysoprase, a green to greenish-white amorphous quartz occurs in gem quality in Macon county.

Agate has also been found in several localities in the state and some suitable for cutting has been found in Cabarrus and Mecklenburg counties.

Moss agate has been reported from orange county.

Carnelian and jasper have also been found in the state and occasionally of suitable quality for cutting.

Other Gem Minerals

Moonstone is obtained from the digelose variety of feldspar which occurs in the pegmatic dikes of Mitchell and Yancey counties. The best moonstone was cut from a piece of digelose from the Hawk Mine, Mitchell county. Feldspar also furnishes material from which sunstones are cut. The best samples of this feldspar were found near Gold Hill, Rowan county.

Opal has been found in this state as the variety hylite, the transparent colorless variety which has the appearance of dewdrops. The best samples have been obtained from the Corundum Hill, Macon county.

Pearls of this fair quality are occasionally found in fresh water mussels in certain of the creeks and

Rutile, a beautifully crystallized has been found near Hiddenite, Alexander county, of suitable quality for cutting into gems that resemble black diamonds.

Cyanite occurs abundantly in many localities in North Carolina but only at a few is it found in fine blue crystals of gem quality. Such crystals of cyanite occur on Yellow mountain in Mitchell county and near Micaville, Yancey county. A grass green variety of cyanite of gem quality has been found near Spruce Pine, Mitchell county and is the finest sample of this variety of cyanite thus far known.

Zircon which occurs in somewhat transparent crystals throughout the monazite region of North Carolina has occasionally been found of sufficient size to cut small limpid white gems. Although zircon of good red color occurs in these deposits, no specimens have been found of sufficient size for cutting. Zircon crystals up to an inch in diameter (not transparent) have been found in some of the pegmatic dikes.

Spinel, staurolite, peridot, lazulite, serpentine, malachite, epidote and tourmaline are among the other gem minerals that have been occasionally obtained in the state.—The Charlotte Observer.

KEEP LAMBS GAINING FLESH

Fat spring lambs are the ones which make money for the farmer. By the time this is printed in your county agent's column in the local paper, many lambs will be frisking about over greening pasture lands and rye fields.

But as lambs must be seal fat to bring the top of the market, it might be well for the farmer to give them a small portion of grain feed daily. C. C. Flanery, Tennessee Division of Extension, has this to say on this important subject in the SOUTHERN AGRICULTURIST:

It should be kept in mind a very small amount of feed should be given at the beginning, and that the feed left in the trough be taken out each time that new feed is added. This need not be wasted, as the old sheep will handle it. The trough should be swept clean each time feed is added. The feed given should be free from bad odors, and feed that has been run over by chickens or rats is often objectionable.

When a lamb is 30 days of age it will consume about 1-4 pound of grain if it was started on feed when about 10 days of age. The amount of crushed grain consumed just before going to the market will amount to about 3-4 pound daily. Occasionally a lamb will consume 1 pound daily. At this time corn is never worth more than about 2 cents per pound, while lambs, gaining 1 pound daily, will be worth around 15 cents per pound.

The more of the right sort of

THINGS TO PLAN FOR RIGHT NOW

- That cream check every two weeks.
- That cannery check every time you come to town.
- Fat hog sale in March.
- Poultry sale on Monday, March 12th.
- Bread and Butter Show next fall.
- Encourage the 4-H Clubbers.
- Big Farmers' day next fall.
- Local Curb Market.
- Breed sows so that the pigs will go on the market in March, April, August and September.

Just About the Farm

Where, oh where, are the howlers that say farming "ain't no good now?"

They should have been in Franklin last Monday and seen over 600 farmers—old and young—at the Farmers' Day meeting.

Such meetings as you all pulled off last Monday sure puts your county agent on his mettle; and I just want to say right here that I am more convinced than ever that we have got the best bunch of farmer citizens to be found anywhere.

Now, As we have got started, what about each individual one keeping this pep up right on?

I will begin myself by asking every one of you right here: Have you a particular little pet problem that we could jump onto right now and try to solve?

Nearly every man has something that he would like to try out and

man is just a little bit in the dark as to where to start. And nearly every man, again, has about as good an idea on that question as any other man, but he just needs the other man to back him up a little bit before he gets started and puts the thing over.

For instance, let us suppose that you have chickens, hogs, cows, corn, etc., and etc., out of which you are making your living. Now, question No. one is: Have I got the best variety? Question No. 2 is: Have I got the right amount of said variety? Question No. 3 is: Am I working them right? Question 4 is: If not, why not? Question No. 5 is: How and what to do to get it right?

Its just the above questions plus the question "Am I doing my part" that makes up the problems of farming.

Do you KNOW how much your eggs, pork, butter fat, etc., are costing you? I mean exactly what I said. Do you KNOW what it is costing you?

To put it another way—what proportion of the cost is attributed to the following things: Investment, feed, labor, depreciation, up-keep, spares, renewals, equipment, taxes on investments, etc.?

What I'm getting at is this: One of the best things I know that could be done in Macon county right now is for one man in each township to analyze his business as it stands; ascertain his costs and then let him and me work out a plan by using just the equipment he has and the amount of investment he has, and everything just as it is; except his methods, and see if we couldn't, by the end of the year, have made as much over and above his usual income to more than defray his taxes.

This is just a dream I have got—and I can hear the howlers howl "Yeah, by heck and that's as far as it will git—that I hope this summer to be able to find a farmer in each township who has the same kind of dream, and we can hit on a practical plan and work it out.

green feed the lamb has, the less grain it will consume. There is often a period of two to four weeks in the life of the spring lambs in Tennessee when they seem to care nothing for it, and are inclined to be indifferent about eating grain. This is when many feeders quit, and it is a mistake. In just a few weeks the green stuff begins to get woody and does not suit the lambs so well, or make them gain so fast, and it is with extreme difficulty that lambs can be made to go back to their feed. In the early period lambs need to be fed, as the grass is too watery for the right sort of gains.