

"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, 1923.

- 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.

Just About the Farm

Seeds

Within the last few weeks there have been several inquiries from seed dealers for a supply of seed from this territory. Incidentally, I might mention that all have mentioned that they "have seen by The Press" that we are taking interest in better seed in this county.

If there is any one interested in making contracts for growing pure seed for sale, I would be very glad to get their names so that the necessary contacts might be made for them. Any seed that is grown will have to be guaranteed as to purity and several other things, but nothing beyond the bounds of reason.

One seed man that handles retail, every year and knows this region well, says that his opinion is the seed from this territory would be better than the average by far.

The best way, so far apparent, would be to make definite contracts to plant so much acreage to a given variety of seed and sell them on competitive bidding or at a flat rate a head.

This opportunity is too good to let pass. For we cannot ship ordinary field crops from here and not every

stock to use all the crops that we may grow.

We have 200,000 tomato plants at the cannery. For information see John Jennings at Franklin Furniture company warehouse next to cannery.

Markets and Marketing

One great need of our county is a market. The above is one sure outlet for our stuff. Its too late this year, but now is the time to begin planning for next year and getting the right seed to plant.

Cannery-Blackberries

There seems to be a lot of berries coming on this year. Wilkes county sold over fifty thousand dollars worth of berries to its cannery the last good berry year. What is the matter with our county doing the same.

It may appear that the price offered is low but the people of Wilkes county tell us that they made an income of two dollars and a half a day picking berries at that price.

Its like every thing else where there is a doubt. Its worth trying and find out for ourselves.

Sweet Clover

The dozen Sweet Clover demonstrations that we put out early in the spring are all doing fine.

It is well worth any ones time to go to the nearest place and see for themselves what it is doing.

The names of the farmers on whose place these demonstrations are to be seen are as follows: Messrs. Lee Crawford, John Gribble, Bill Higdon, Horace Hurst, John Thomas, Bert Slagle, Lawrence Ramsey, Albert Ramsey, and Mrs. Wilkie.

Bees

Mr. Sams, state bee specialist of State College, will be here on June 30, or longer if we need him. If there is any one that would like Mr. Sams to visit their apary please leave word at the Farm Agent's office.

Mr. Sams is nationally known as a bee man and it will pay anyone to get him if they have any problems that they think will need his attention.

There are several things that need attention at this time. Among them might be mentioned, swarm control, division, changing queens, etc., etc. Ten hives of bees on every farm will materially increase the money income. One hive of bees has been known to make a hundred and fifty pounds of honey in a year where they were properly looked after.

Twenty-five dollars per month increase in money income for the average farm of this county will materially assist in paying for the new car to take the missus and kids out for an airing.

Flowers

It is not generally known that there is a law against the pulling of wild flowers.

This law carries a fine of fifty dollars for any conviction.

Just by way of a remark. There are far too many of our very fine farms on which flowers are far too conspicuous by their absence.

There is to be had for the asking at the Farm Agent office, bulletins

KEEP YOUR FARM AND IT WILL KEEP YOU AND YOURS

on a dozen or more flowers for the farm home.

Poultry

The sale on the 18th of this month will be the last one for some time.

Therefore it is not out of place to mention that now is the time to get rid of all roosters whose usefulness has passed and also those old hens that will not pay their keep till sales open up again.

Plans have been made to keep the prices of poultry circulated throughout the county for the information of any that may have poultry for sale. Mites and lice are trying to play heck these days and will be worse as the days get warmer.

For mites there is hardly anything better than a pint of crude carbolic acid in a gallon of kerosene. Spray this well all over the roosts—into every crack and crevice.

For lice some of the lice powders at the drug store or one ounce of Sodium Fluoride mixed thoroughly with two ounces of flour dusted well into the feather of all birds will prove effective.

Hay Crops

In a wet year weeds take a great hold on grass meadows. In traveling about over the county it is to be noticed that this is the case here this year. The best way to handle this situation is to go over the meadow with a close cutting mowing machine. Then rake this rubbish off to get it out of the way of the good cutting later.

The wise farmer will harvest only as much hay as he will need for his own stock. The rest he will turn under for his soil's sake.

Beetles and Bugs

Have you got your insurance against these? If not why not? You will sure need it. By way of repetition, this insurance is one pound of Calcium Arsenate mixed with eight pounds of slack lime or flour—then dusted on the vines of course—and well on the under side.

This insurance may be had at the Farmers Federation or at either of

price.

Small Grain

Why is it that one so seldom sees a pure field of grain in this county? Nearly every one is fouled with some other grain.

We sure will not be able to supply pure seed to the trade at this rate. And there sure is a market for pure seed grown in this locality.

Especially is this true of rye, barley, wheat and cane seed. For seed taken from here and planted in the lower altitudes are stronger and more verile than seed grown there.

Another good thing about these seeds is that they may be grown in the winter, thereby enabling you to get two crops a year, where now there is only one.

Think of the good grazing your cream cow would get—and it makes the grain better too—if all your fields were in winter grains.

As I said before, the opportunity has been brought about. Its up to you. I will say this, that if you do go into this it will have to be done in a systematic manner so that the buyer may buy with confidence—then he will pay more.

Hogs

How many of our hogs are going to swelter the rest of the summer in close pens? They cost more that way.

A field of rape will be a god send to both your pocket and the hog. One acre will keep in good condition from five to ten sows and make it cost a whole lot less.

Any time we can make our livestock "gather their own" it means less work and more profit for the owner. This brings us down to fences.

Fences

How the farmers wish, since this cold wet spring has kept things back so—all but grass and weeds—that they had had more fences so that the stock could have "gathered their own" and kept the weeds down for us too.

There is one kind of fence that I have not seen in this county that it looks to me would be very useful. It is the hurdle fence that can be moved from one place to another as occasion demands. It is not expensive to make and is a mighty useful thing.

There is a bulletin about it if you want it. Speaking of bulletins. It has been said that they are all theory and that the reading matter in them does not apply to our farm needs. Here is one answer to that. If you were writing to some one away from here that wanted to know how a certain thing was done on the farm, would it not seem to him that what you said was "just writing." Of course you would tell him the truth and try to give him a picture of just what he wanted to know.

Farmers bulletins are simply letters from men paid to do these things in the field and report to you in writing just what is what.

And like the friend you might write to about how a certain job was done, you will find something in them that you cannot use but at the same time, other things will be suggested to you

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

that you can use to advantage.

The bulletins are here for you but I have no way of knowing what you would want if you do not let me know, either by writing or by coming and getting them yourself.

Dairying

Now that grass has come in good, give the cows a rest from cottonseed meal.

Now is the time to plan to not feed so much next winter. A patch of rutabegga or turnips, as you have waited too long to plant any stock beets will go a longway toward preventing so much sickness among the cows. There was far too much last winter owing to an excess of cottonseed meal being fed.

When a pasture is good enough for the cows to get their fill in a couple of hours and lie down in the shade some where, the pasture may be said to be a good pasture. There is nearly the same feeding value, considering the difference in volume, in good green forage as there is in cottonseed meal.

Any one that has good soy beans to harvest this winter will, if they will have these ground into meal, have a protein feed that compares favorably with cottonseed meal. And there is no freight to pay on it either.

When is some one going to put in that feed mill that we all need so badly? With as many little hills as there is in the county, it looks like they would put in cow and chicken feed grinding and mixing as one of their main jobs. I will gladly give the mixture to any one interested.

Most all of the successful feed mills that are working on a large scale today are the ones that began on small sized scale and worked up as their brand grew.

There is pig feed and chicken feed and cow feed that needs to be ground

and fed in the right proportions for the best results.

Any business farmer that tries a good balanced feed will stay with it for he will easily see wherein it is a paying proposition.

We, of necessity—and it is a mighty good necessity too—have to grow our own here because of freight rates. Therefore, it would appear that a mill near us that would grind our feed on the same way that now grind our meal would be a mighty handy thing to have in the neighborhood. Especially would this be so if the miller kept the bought concentrates on hand and supplied them for us to take home and mix ourselves, or if he mixed the whole thing at a nominal charge.

This latter way would be as good as any. For there is a very few farmers that do not have to hire some help at some time during the year. And the most economic kind of help to hire is help at a fixed price for a fixed piece of work. Most of the neighborhood mills have small overheads and would do this work much cheaper than any of the large commercial mills that ship in from a distance.

A Commentary

Statistics inform us that 20 per cent of the cleared farm lands in this county are lying out as run down, farmed out land. This is a sad commentary in two ways. First it shows that the farmers that went before were miners and not farmers. Second it shows that taxes are being paid on a non-earning proposition. Some business that.

Verily, it doth appear that tax reform has more angles than one.

Macon county, the land of Super-Farmers that Think—Perhaps.

LYLES HARRIS, Macon County Farm Agent.

BIG TEN

The following are the "Big Ten" on cream delivery the last check day:
C. L. Ingram.....\$81.43
Fulton Bros.....77.00
E. W. Howell.....69.60
A. L. Ramsey.....65.96
C. W. Culver.....53.12
Lee Crawford.....52.48
T. N. Norton.....51.95
C. H. Norton.....51.36
A. B. Slagle.....50.44
E. N. Keener.....50.43
The total amount of butter fat sold by farmers in Macon county for May was: Butter fat 7,669.50. Amount paid for same \$3,306.95.

THE OX WARBLE OR CATTLE GRUB

(C. H. Brannon Extension Entomologist)

The ox warble (or cattle grub) is a very injurious pest of cattle. The adult fly, often called the "heel" fly, lays eggs on the heels of cattle in the early spring. The young grubs which hatch in several days bore immediately into the skin (where the egg is laid) and begins boring its way to the back of the animal. From 9

to 11 months is spent in the body of the animal. The first grub usually reach the back of the animal in November. The grub cuts a hole in the skin soon after reaching the back, remaining in the back about a month after which they drop to the ground and change to flies.

Control

Benzol or carbon tetrachloride can be injected into the grub hole with an oil can with a slender, curved point.

Pyrethru mor iodofom can be used as an ointment.

Pyrethrum ointment:
Pyrethrum powder.....1 part
Petrolatum.....2 parts

Iodofom ointment:
Iodofom.....1 part
Petrolatum.....3 parts

The ointment should be applied over the grub hole taking care to press some of the ointment into the hole. Warble oil has given good results. This material can be obtained from drug stores or insecticide dealers.

Make treatments when grubs first appear at the backs of the animals (usually first noticed in November). At least four treatments should be made not over 30 days apart.

Grubs may be extracted by hand by pressing the sides of the grub hole. Forceps can be used to extract the grubs.

To be most effective the entire community should co-operate in controlling the cattle grub.

For more detailed information about this pest write to C. H. Brannon, State College Station, Raleigh, N. C.

COCCIDIOSIS

By Allen G. Oliver, In Charge of Poultry Extension, North Carolina State College.

The following questionnaire on coccidian diarrhea should be of a helpful nature to all interested in poultry and especially to members of poultry clubs. In studying same they should be able to know definitely some of the effects and causes and how to

prevent the disease.

Question: What is coccidian diarrhea?
Answer: A disease of chicks affecting mostly the intestinal tract. It is also found in mature domesticated fowls and in some wild birds. It is caused by a germ commonly known as coccidium avium and is classed in the animal kingdom.

Question: At what age are chicks affected?
Answer: It is found in chicks more frequently between the ages of two weeks and three months.

Question: What are the sources of infection?
Answer: The droppings of affected chicks containing the germs contaminate the runs or lots, brooder houses, utensils used for feeding and drinking.

Question: Do climatic conditions or seasons have any bearing on this disease?
Answer: In the summer months the disease is more prevalent as a rule. Early hatched chicks seem to be less affected. In a dry spring or summer there is less trouble from same.

Question: Does moisture have much influence in growth of germs causing the disease?
Answer: Dryness and sunshine prevent the life of this germ outside the body of the chick. Moisture is most favorable to its growth.

Question: What outstanding characteristics does this germ possess and is it an important factor in controlling this disease?
Answer: When the germ causing this disease passes with the droppings of an affected chick it has to pass a part of its life cycle outside the body of the chick before it can infect another chick if it should consume it. This takes at least forty-eight hours under the most favorable conditions for this change to take place and it has to be supplied with warmth and moisture for favorable growth. Another way of explanation—if we were to feed the droppings or contents of the blind pouches of a chicken that had just died from coccidiosis it would not produce the disease. But let the droppings from an affected chick be exposed to the air for a week with a favorable temperature and sufficient moisture and then feed it and it would produce the disease. Therefore, one of the most important factors in controlling the disease is to remove the droppings that may be laden with the germs that pass from an affected chick in the brooder house where the temperature is just what the germ wants. One of the very first chores to do in the morning is to clean up the droppings in each brooder house, especially those under or close to the brooder where the chicks slept. With the night droppings removed promptly we will go a long way in controlling coccidiosis. Sanitation first!

Question: What are the symptoms of the disease in chicks?
Answer: They vary according to the severity of the infection and the age

of the chicks. In very young chicks the disease develops very rapidly once it has a foothold. Generally there is intestinal disorder such as diarrhea which will vary in consistency from a semi-fluid to a liquid. Color will vary from a grayish with a little brown mixed with it in the early stages to a dark brown streaked with blood or even passing a lot of blood in very acute stages. Feathers become ruffled with drooping wings, loss of appetite and chicks stand around sleeping most of the time.

Questions: What are the post-mortem findings?
Answer: When chicks that die from the acute form of coccidiosis are opened up you will find that the contents of the blind guts contain blood. In the less acute cases the contents are of a brownish color. In the chronic cases you will sometimes find a solid rotten mass and when this is taken out the gut will adhere to it. Chicks that die in the acute stages are usually in fair flesh, while those in a chronic stage show a wasting away.

Question: How may coccidiosis be prevented?
Answer: The brooder houses should be kept thoroughly clean and droppings removed each morning. Disinfecting same at regular intervals using 4 per cent solution of some good disinfectant is necessary. Boiling hot strong soap suds will do very well. The day this is done it should be warm that chicks may be shut out of brooder house most of the day. The feeding and drinking vessels should be disinfected regularly and so made that chicks cannot soil either feed or water. Chicks that show symptoms, do not look good, are pasted up behind, should be immediately removed from the brood. There are in most every lot of chicks a few weaklings and it is best to take the bull by the horns, kill and burn these as soon as noticed. A stitch in time saves nine so we are told and know it to be a fact. If possible use new ground for chicks, build brooder houses on skids that same can be moved every now and then by the use of the farm team and this is possible on our farms. Keep the

brooder warm but do not try to

it is nothing more or less than a hen under which any chick can go at any time to be warmed up a little. Fresh air with no drafts is necessary and the chicks should be allowed outdoors as much as the weather will permit.

Question: Is feeding important in controlling the disease?
Answer: Yes, most important. Chicks not to be fed until they are 48 to 60 hours old. The feeding of sour milk or buttermilk has proved to be one of the best. Give all they will drink. Cod liver oil assists in building up a strong system. If you do not have milk one can buy semi-solid or dried buttermilk. In flocks that are infected it is best to take away all grain food as they have a tendency to irritate the intestinal tract. Feed up to forty per cent dried milk in the mash or give all they will drink, and moisten the dry mash with same. This and sanitation, new soil, etc., will check the disease with few losses in most instances. Do not crowd too many chicks under one brooder, prefer never to have over 300 in any one flock in any one brooder house.

Question: Are drugs of any value in preventing or treating the disease?
Answer: Yes, but drugs will not do it all, nor will they be better than the above methods. Catechu has proven fairly effective using it in the drinking water at the rate of one-third teaspoonful to the gallon. Sulpho-phenols are valuable intestinal antiseptics and can be used in the water or milk. A light dose of Epsom salts every two weeks when the disease is present will be found effective. Sour milk and a plenty of it stands out as the one best thing to grow good chicks and do it in a very short time and at the same time control coccidiosis and other minor digestive troubles in chicks.

NOTICE

Agricultural Pictures

The following agricultural moving pictures will be exhibited at the Idle Hour theatre without any extra charge on the following dates:

June 16th, "Co-operative Marketing in the United States."

June 23rd. Name to be announced later.

June 30th. "Mother Takes a Vacation."

July 7th "Brooding Chickens."

July 14th, "Men Who Build the Road."

July 21st. "The Family Goes to College."

July 28th. "Roads in Our National Parks."

A further program will be announced later, the intention being to have a farm picture at the Idle Hour theatre every Saturday.

This is made possible by the very generous co-operation of Mr. Harley Lyle.

LYLES HARRIS, County Farm Agent.