

**Farm Demonstration Agent's Column**

Contributed by **EARLE BRINTNALL**

**TOO MANY HENS**—We heard the other day, that a certain one stated that the county agent had built the poultry business to the point that the product could not be sold, that the market was glutted. This is news to us. We might admit that the local market, even the Asheville market was receiving all the poultry and eggs that could be used. However we can not admit that there is no market for the poultry and eggs raised in Madison County.

Were the farmers of this county to depend upon the local and the Asheville market when selling their produce it is very probable that the market would be glutted. It is also true that not 1 farmer in 100 in this county could have the privilege of raising poultry as a money or cash crop. It would mean that a favored few would be the only ones that could expect to sell their poultry and eggs.

However we are not working for the favored few, we mean to work for as many of the farmers as will use our services. To do this we cannot depend upon the local market, or the Asheville market, to take all the poultry and eggs that can be raised, and that we hope will be raised, in Madison county. We must get to the point that the surplus can be shipped to the large markets. Then we

will be well started in growing poultry and gathering eggs.

**A GLUTTED MARKET!** This is news to us. There is not more than one half the number of eggs in cold storage this spring that there was one year ago. There is not as many pounds of dressed poultry in cold storage as there was a year ago. There are not as many eggs going to market as there was a year ago. There has not been as many young chickens started this year as a year ago. In other words the market is not as well supplied as in 1927 and there is a very good chance that there will not be a large supply of poultry and eggs the coming winter. Then he who has stuck to it will have his innings. The IN-AND-OUTER will never make a success at anything.

**TOBACCO SPECIALIST VISITS THE COUNTY**—During the past week Mr. E. Y. Floyd, State Extension Tobacco Specialist, was with the county agent locating several tobacco demonstrations.

Mr. Floyd was successful in persuading the Chilean Nitrate of Soda people to furnish the materials for enough fertilizer for 8 1-2-acre plots. The raw materials for this fertilizer were purchased and then mixed at the warehouse. This enabled Mr. Floyd to secure the

fertilizer of the analysis that he desired, a 12-4-6 mixture. From the previous demonstrations carried on in the county it is believed that this will suit the needs of the Burley tobacco crop in Madison County.

Other than these eight plots another firm has furnished enough of a new concentrated fertilizer, a 30-15-15, for 5 half acre plots of tobacco and a couple of acres of corn. This material should be of interest to the Madison County farmers, especially those who live many miles from the railroad. It is nearly four times as strong as an 8-4-4 mixture. In other words to secure enough of this fertilizer to equal 400 lbs. of 8-4-4, the farmer would need to haul home only 100 lbs. What a saving in labor this would mean. How much more simple would be the getting of the fertilizer on the hill lands.

Three of the plots of the concentrated fertilizer will be placed side by side with three of the plots in which the 12-4-6 has been used. The intent is to compare the two fertilizers, to discover their effect upon the yield and the quality of the tobacco. If this proves successful it will mean a great deal to the farmers miles from the railroad. Undoubtedly it can be used with other crops than tobacco, as corn, wheat, with success.

Mr. Floyd is much interested in his work in this county. There is no definite data on fertilizing burley tobacco. Every farmer has his own way. There is hope of securing something worth while from these tests and we hope that the farmers will watch them during the year. Later we will give the location of each plot.

**CEMENT WORK**—We do not know whether this is timely just now or not. We do know that many people are making more and more concrete work in the county. The Portland Cement folks sent us some of what they call 'Newspaper Shorts for County Agents'. We are copying some of those most interesting.

1. What happens when you put some water in glue? The glue naturally loses strength. The same thing happens when too much water is put into concrete. The portland cement and the water form a paste which holds the sand and the pebbles together. The more water you add, the weaker you make this "paste."

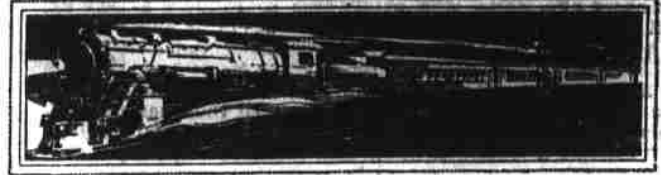
2. In order to make uniform concrete, all materials used in it, including water, must be accurately measured. Sand and stone can be easily measured by the use of a bottomless box made to hold exactly one cubic foot, two cubic feet, or any other desired amount. The box is placed on the mixing platform and filled. It is then lifted, and the material remains on the platform. It is not necessary to measure portland cement, as each sack contains one cubic foot. Water can be measured in a pail, the inside of which is marked off for gallons and half gallons.

3. While rats have sharp teeth, they cannot chew thru concrete. When they meet a concrete floor of a concrete

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oundation, they know they are not wanted.

4. The mixture of sand and pebbles taken from a gravel run may be used in making concrete, if the sand is first separated from the pebbles by screening. The materials are reportioned when concrete is made. Most bank run gravel contains either too much sand or too many pebbles to be suitable for use without first being screened.

**DEATH OF MRS. LAURA HUNTER**

Mrs. Laura Hunter, age 74, died at her home near Laurel Branch Tuesday afternoon at five o'clock, after an illness of about three weeks.

Mrs. Hunter joined the Missionary Baptist church at the age of fifteen years, and later joined the Free Will Baptist church at Sexton. She was a devoted Christian until death. She leaves seven children and a host of friends to mourn their loss.

Funeral services were at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at the Hunter Cemetery near Marshall conducted by Rev. A. P. Rich of Asheville, assisted by Rev. J. N. Watts of Mars Hill. The pallbearers were: W. B. Ramsey, H. G. Sparks and Frank Keith of Marshall; C. E. Davis and C. B. Williams of Asheville.

The deceased is survived by five daughters—Mrs. Geo. Briggs, Mrs. John Rice, Mrs. Bartley Guthrie and Mrs. Geo. Banks of Marshall, and Mrs. Geo. Rolls of Weaverville; and three sons—Geo. Hunter of Marshall and John Hunter and Leonard Hunter of Weaverville.

**From PAINT ROCK**

Mr. Henry and Willie Lamb spent Sunday with their sister Mrs. Helen Ward at Alexander.

Mr. Unie Wyatt moved to Shutin Creek Monday.

Mr. S. C. Myers and family attended Paint Creek Sunday School last Sunday.

Mr. J. C. Ward and family spent Sunday with his son Mr. Willie Ward at Alexander.

Mr. Rube Shipley is hauling pulp wood.

Mr. G. C. Myers and family spent Sunday afternoon with his daughter Miss Viola Myers at Dorland-Bell school at Hot Springs.

Mr. Oscar Morris is planting corn for Mr. G. C. Myers.

"I'm going to give you this violin." "An out-and-out gift?" "Absolutely! No strings to it!"

**CARD OF THANKS**

We wish to thank all the people and friends for the kindness shown us during the illness and death of our loving wife and mother, Mrs. C. S. Black, also for the beautiful floral offering.

MR. J. N. BLACK  
And Children.

**MRS. C. S. BLACK PASSES AWAY**

Mrs. C. S. Black, wife of Mr. J. N. Black, died at her home last Tuesday morning, May 8, at five o'clock. She had been sick almost eleven months and the last two months were of intense suffering from cancer. She was sixty-five years, six months and nine days old. Although being in a serious condition, she bore her suffering faithfully until the end. She told her many friends that came to visit her that she was just waiting for Jesus to

come and receive her in His arms. The last night she was with us she told her friends that she had found the way and was going and for them to come.

Her place in the home is vacant and can never be refilled. She is gone but not forgotten. Her soul is at rest in the arms of Jesus our dear Saviour. We wish to thank all her dear friends as she would if she were here for the kindness shown us during her illness and death.

Funeral services were held at the Seminary Baptist Church at 10:00 o'clock, Wednesday, May 9th and was conducted by Rev. H. L. Smith of Marshall. Interment followed in the cemetery.

Mrs. Black is survived by her husband, two sons: Mr. Rome Black, of Rice, Va.; Mr. George Black of Marshall; five daughters: Mrs. Nannie Melton, of Lockport, S. C.; Mrs. Cordelia Frisby, of Marshall; and Misses Dorcas and Lillie Black of Marshall and several grand children.

Written by two loving daughters and grand daughter, Mrs. Cordelia Frisby, Misses Lillie and Hester Black

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