

Farm Demonstration Agent's Column

Contributed by EARLE BRINTNALL

A CROP OF TOBACCO.—Wm. Spencer Rice was in the office Monday and mentioned the fact that he had been offered 42 1-2 cents a pound for his tobacco, all grades included. The tobacco in question was grown on a trifle more than a half acre of ground just below Mr. Rice's house on Barnes Branch. The county agent saw the patch while the tobacco was yet standing. It was at that time one of the most promising crops of tobacco that he had looked at. The plants were nearly shoulder high, the leaves were broad and long, almost completely covering the middles, there were no very small tips, and the quality that is looked for in high grade tobacco was in evidence.

Mr. Rice was asked how he grew this crop, and it is a crop, nearly 800lb on about a half acre of land. Mr. Rice informed us that he broadcast nearly 300lb of superphosphate (16% acid) on the ground previous to laying it off. Also there was spread on the ground 3 wagon loads of stable manure, 300lb of chicken manure, and 400lb of dry wood ashes. It was fertilized better than the average patch of tobacco right at this point. Mr. Rice was not satisfied however. He cowed a sack of 8-4-6 in the drill before setting. At the first working nothing was added but at the second working he distributed another sack, almost, of 8-4-6 in the middles. There was almost another sack sowed in the mid-

dles at the third working. At the time of the fourth working no more fertilizer was added.

We have had many farmers tell us that as much as a thousand pounds of fertilizer could not be used on an acre of tobacco. A thousand pounds is what Mr. Floyd, the Tobacco Specialist, is using in his test plots. Mr. Rice, on this half-acre, had nearly 900lb of commercial fertilizer. Other than this there was 300lb of chicken manure, a very concentrated nitrogenous fertilizer. There was 400lb of dry wood ashes, a material that carries a considerable potash and which forms, when the ashes have been stored carefully and protected from the air, an important source of potash. It would have equaled what Mr. Rice used on this half acre.

The fertilizer and the manures and ashes which were used on this patch of tobacco would approximate very closely in analysis the fertilizer used under the demonstration fields of tobacco last spring. The yield is right at the yield which has been obtained on the demonstration plots. We have no definite check on the quality but it would seem that there was a similarity there for a warehouse man looked at Otis Chandley's tobacco, grown over the 12-4-6, and pronounced it 40 and 50 cent tobacco.

SOME FACTS ABOUT COUNTY EXTENSION.—Next week and the week following we in-

tend to ask Mr. Story to print the annual report that was written during the last week of November to be sent to the State and National Extension offices. We want to give a few facts here that will be of interest to the readers of the county paper.

LIMESTONE.—When we came here three years ago one of the complaints brought us was that clover would not grow as it used to. We investigated and then suggested that limestone be applied to the ground. To be a little more sure a couple of demonstration plots of a half acre each were put out. Last fall and spring 11 more plots of around 3 acres each were placed. Limestone was used on these in varying amounts. This fall where limestone was used a crop of clover was cut; land adjoining and receiving no limestone did not grow clover enough to cut. Three cars of limestone were used this fall as a direct result of the limestone demonstrations. These three cars would spread a ton to the acre on 100 acres of ground. If there is grown a ton and a half of clover to the acre on these 100 acres it is worth even at \$15 a ton, \$2,250 to the farmers. The cash outlay was not over \$420.

TOBACCO.—Last year's tobacco demonstrations on which 1000lb of fertilizer was used mixed according to Mr. Floyd's directions yielded right at 1800 pounds to the acre of a very good grade of tobacco. Our plots this year is equally promising. This 1800lb is at least 1000lb more than the average yield in the county. Those who used a high grade fertilizer and have used it in amounts recom-

mended by the extension office have had yields and quality of tobacco approximately as has been secured in the test plots. Could we secure an increased yield on the average acre of tobacco of even 500lb it would mean at an average price of 25c per pound an increased income of \$125 to the acre. At 20c per pound this increase would be \$100. The increased fertilizer would not cost more than \$10.

CORN.—The test plots this year on corn were damaged by the weather in many instances and no record of any value could be secured. However, in one instance, secured 100% increase in the yield of corn fertilized with 300lb 16% acid, 50lb potash, and 300lb of soda to the acre. The fertilizer used cost \$16.65 making the corn cost about 55c per bushel. Other than this corn there will be a residual effect of the fertilizer noticed in the grain and grass which will follow.

CREAM.—During the year ending October 1, 1928 there was sold from Madison County 29,940lb of butterfat worth \$9,706. This was new money entirely, no cream had been sold prior to the coming of the county agent to the county. This was an increase over the previous years cream sales of over 50%.

We have farmers that during a period of six months during which they tested their cows have had a net income over cost of feed, allowing for pasture rent, of from \$37 to \$60 per cow. The net cream sales for five months starting with May brought an average of \$1,227 to Madison county each



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month. What would it mean to Madison County if 1,000 farmers were selling cream instead of 50? Just about \$25,000 a month.

CHICKENS.—Last winter we had a few parties keep records on their poultry flocks. These records ran for from 4 to 6 months, one for a year. The flocks averaged from 20 to 140 hens each. There was received for eggs during this time a net income of about 50 to 60 cents per hen above feed cost. This would equal an income for a 12 month period of from \$1 to \$1.50 per bird and the bird left to sell. One party netted for the year for eggs sold over feed cost \$2.18 per bird. A thousand flocks of hens of 100 each would bring into the county, at a dollar a hen profit, \$10,000 a year. At \$2.00 a hen profit \$20,000 a year. What about it?

RECORD CONTEST.—Have you given any thought to the record contests being sponsored by the banks. You might not win the \$50 award for the best record but there are two other chances. There is also an award that you will win that is worth far more than \$50, that is a record of your farm work for the year. There are some record books in the county agent's office. Call in and talk it over. **ASK YOUR BANKER ABOUT IT.**

FROM SANDY MUSH

The S. S. at Chestnut Grove was small last Sunday. There was 44 present in our S. S. last Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Surratt took dinner Thanksgiving with their son Mr. Frank Surratt. Mr. and Mrs. Denzil Surratt accompanied Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Surratt home Thursday. Miss Oro and Bertha King called on their grandparents Thursday, Mr. and Mrs. M. O. King. Mrs. O. W. Surratt, Mrs. D. L. Surratt and four children, Mrs. Frank Surratt called on Mrs. T. T. King Thursday. Mrs. Jesse H. King is on the sick list.

FROM WALNUT

The ladies of the Methodist church will have a bazaar on Saturday, Dec. 8. There will be a sale of fancy work and eats. Supper will be served from 5:30 until 8:00. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Drumheller and two children were visiting Mrs. Clyde McClure a few days last week. Mrs. Martin and her little grandson, James, spent the day in Marshall Monday. Mrs. Clyde McClure and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Drumheller and children spent Thanksgiving in Black Mountain with Mrs. R. C. Lieb.

What's wrong with Odessa writer? Good news, let's hear from you. Come on Cross Rock give us some good news let us hear from you. Please don't kill that 'Office Kat.' He's a pretty good old fellow, but I am afraid he's going to freeze out this winter, aren't you. Maybe he won't, though, if he keeps close around the fire.

We were glad to have Rev. Mr. Arrington with us at Grove church, Nov. 16. We hope he will come back again soon. We were sorry to see him leave as he is one of our best friends. Rev. Mr. Frank Leatherwood delivered an interesting sermon at Grove Church, Nov. 11.

Mr. Leatherwood will fill his appointment at Chestnut Grove next Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 8th and 9th at 3 o'clock and Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. Everybody please remember to come and hear him. He is a good man, a humble man of God and has made many friends in this community.

The people of our community are busy gathering corn.

Miss Annie Hawkins who is teaching at Cross Rock spent last week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Hawkins.

Mrs. L. H. Clark was visiting her friends Saturday.

Mrs. E. T. Duckett is able to be out again after a recent illness.

Masters Clifford and Wilburn Surratt were visiting their grandparents (Saturday, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Surratt.

Little Julia and Dorothy King were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Harris Saturday afternoon.

Mr. Oliver King and Mr. and Mrs. Denzil Surratt motored to Canton Saturday.

Mrs. George Sluder, Miss Gene King and Mrs. Effie Huninger of Alexander were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. M. O. King last week end.

Mrs. Ethel Birchfield and little daughter spent Thanksgiving with homefolks.

Mr. Wiley King has purchased a Chevrolet car.

Mr. R. H. Surratt of Forks of Sandy Mush was visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Harris Saturday.

Misses Geneva King and Ora King were the guests of Misses Annie and Ida Hawkins Sunday for dinner.

Mrs. Lee Harris was the guest of her parents Sunday.

Miss Gertie Harris had company Sunday for dinner.

Mrs. Maggie Surratt called on Mrs. Denzil Surratt Sunday.

Mrs. Meda Ward was visiting her friends Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. T. T. King and daughters visited Mrs. King's parents Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Surratt.

Miss Annie Hawkins was in Asheville Saturday.

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Advance Showings

The Outstanding Chevrolet of Chevrolet History will be displayed in a series of advance showings in the cities listed below:

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- Los Angeles, Dec. 1-6, Ambassador Hotel Auditorium . . . San Francisco, Dec. 8-13, Civic Auditorium, Larkin Hall . . . Cincinnati, Dec. 8-14, Hotel Sinton . . . St. Louis, Dec. 8-14, Arcadia Ballroom, 3515 Olive St. . . . Atlanta, Dec. 18-22, Auditorium—Armory . . . Dallas, Dec. 18-22, Adolphus Hotel, Junior Ballroom . . . Portland, Ore., Dec. 18-22, Public Auditorium.

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The PHAETON . . .	\$525
The COUPE	\$595
The SEDAN	\$675
The Sport CABRIOLET . . .	\$695
The Convertible LANDAU . . .	\$725
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