

MARSHALL MAN WRITES OF WORK HE IS DOING IN MADISON COUNTY

(SECOND ARTICLE)

How the North Carolina Soil Survey Is Being Used To Help Farmers

At the present time a great many definite and serious problems are confronting farmers of North Carolina. But perhaps none other is of as great economic importance in the long run as is that of the conservation and building up of the productivity of their soils in the most economic way. In order to carry on soil fertility investigations systematically and logically in the state, it is necessary to have the different types of soil mapped and examined. The mapping and analyzing of the soils as a basis to soil investigations as is the carrying on of the field experimental work, because it will not be possible to put out, and conduct the field work intelligently and then apply the results secured rationally unless one knows the soil conditions in the different localities of the state. The soil survey furnishes the very data that is needed in applying the results of the field investigations.

North Carolina was one of the first states in the Union to take up the study of its soils in a systematic way. In this state all experimental work in soil fertility and crop improvement is conducted strictly with reference to soil type. At first, the larger and more important types of soil were selected for the location of the branch station farms and outlying experimental fields. Later on, as rapidly as funds are made available for carrying on the work the investigations are to be extended to a study of the needs of other agricultural soil types of the state that occur in less extended areas. It can readily be seen that working under such a plan that after definite information has been secured from the field, the results may usually be applied to most all the farms located on the same type of soil. It matters not how widely separated within the state the soils of the same type may be from the one on which the experiments were conducted.

The following are some of the ways in which the work of the Soil Survey has proven valuable in the agricultural work being carried on by the State and Federal governments in North Carolina.

1. It provides research workers, county agents and extension workers with definite first hand reliable information with reference to the kinds of soil and the general agricultural conditions existing in the county and section in which they are working.

2. It provides all agricultural workers with a definite and safe basis on which to apply results that have been secured in experimental work on different types of soil. For example: Let us suppose that John Smith buys a farm in Scotland county. On referring to the soil survey map of that county he finds that the type of soil on which his farm is located is Norfolk sandy loam. From the soil survey report, he will learn too, what crops have been found and are considered to be best adapted to this type of soil. He may also get a very good general idea from the report as to the best system of crop rotation to adopt and of the methods of cultivation and fertilization to use with the different crops he may be planning to grow. By inquiring of the Department of Agronomy, of the State Experiment Station, Raleigh, he will find that on this same type of soil in Edgecombe county, a branch station farm has been established and that fertilizer and other experiments are being conducted there. In fact, have been going on there for a good many years. From bulletins issued, giving results of these experiments, copies of which may be secured upon request, without cost, he will be able to learn what are the general deficiencies of his soil and what he had best use in the way of commercial fertilizer mixtures in order to secure the best paying results. — for in-

stance, with cotton and corn which are two main crops being grown on the Norfolk series of soil at the present time in the state. In addition to this information which he may secure from the publications mentioned, he may also obtain other publications from the same source, giving the results of variety tests of corn, soybeans, peanuts, cotton, small grain and other crops that are grown generally in the section in which he has recently located.

3. Frequently the farmers have met who were living on a certain type of soil and who were spending their time and money experimenting on some problem which had been worked out many years before by some one connected with the Experiment Station. Both of these might have been saved had they known that certain results published by the Station for their types of soil had been obtained and were directly applicable to their farms.

4. Many times a farmer in writing to the Department of Agronomy for information wants to describe his soil. If a soil survey report for his county is available, it is invaluable in this respect. Where a soil survey report has been made of the county from which an inquiry comes, it is not only possible to tell the type of soil if the location of the farm is given, but it is also possible to advise intelligently and reliably with reference to the best plan to follow in the treatment and management of the land in the growth of different crops. Because workers of the department of Agronomy will know by looking up the location of the farm on the map, not only the type of soil but also what it contains and what its fertilizer requirements are since, if it is one of the more important types of soil, they will have results from carefully planned and carefully conducted experiments to guide them in making their recommendations. All there will be to do then will be to apply the particular case with any particular crop the results which have been thus far secured in field experiments on the same type of soil with these different crops.

5. Farmers are demanding definite information at the present time from research and extension workers. The soil survey reports, together with available station publications, are the only published sources of this information. Agricultural workers must not only refer the farmers to these publications, but in many cases it is up to the worker to interpret and help the farmer to apply the information they contain. For example: if the data secured from chemical analysis in soil survey work shows that the Cecil sandy loam type of soil of the Piedmont area of the state contains less on an average than 1,000 pounds of nitrogen per acre in the surface soil 6 2-3 inches deep, it is up to the workers to make known the fact to the farmer that the best producing soils of the United States contain much more nitrogen per acre than this, some of them running as high in content of nitrogen as 7,500 pounds, and to tell him actually what this figure tells about the stock of this constituent in the soil. Tell him whether his soil is well or poorly stocked with this constituent. Not only this, but, being familiar with the results secured in field experiments that the one chief requirement of this soil, as well as for other unimproved Cecil soils is for an application of nitrogen for such crops as corn, cotton and small grains in order to get the largest and best paying yields.

6. It will be not only the business of the agricultural workers to help the farmer understand the conditions existing in his soil and its primary needs, but to help him to better understand how he may handle his farm in such a way as to most quickly and economically secure the required nitrogen either from the use of commercial fertilizers, manures, and by the growing and turning under of leguminous crops grown in rotation with his major crops.

THE FIRST SNOW

"The snow began in the gloaming,
And busily all the night
Had been heaping field and highway
With a silence deep and white,
Every pine and fir and hemlock
Wore ermine too dear for an earl,
And the poorest twig on the elm tree
Was ridged 'neath deep white pearl.
From sheds new-roofed with carrara
Came chattering the muffled crow,
The stiff rails softened to swan's
down,
And still fluttered down the snow."
—James Russell Lowell.

specialized truck or farm crops an idea as to where they may find these same soils in their own communities or elsewhere in the state should they desire to extend their operations or move from one section to another. Not only this, but it supplies the Department of Agronomy of the Experiment Station with information to use in advising with reference to why certain communities or sections are specially adapted to the growing of particular crops. Extension or other agricultural workers may take this information contained in the soil survey reports and use it safely and intelligently.

It may therefore be seen from the above that without a soil survey it is neither possible to properly locate experimental farms or outlying fields nor to intelligently apply the results from the field experiments being conducted for the benefit of the farmers of the state; and that without reliable data from properly conducted experimental fields as fountainheads, the extension or other agricultural worker is more than likely to become a talker in generalities. The farmer who knows what the soil type or types of his farm are, which has been determined for him by the soil survey, will be in a position to avail himself with available information with reference to its potentialities, its plant food and cultural needs, and its peculiar crop adaptations. This information will enable him to crop and handle his soil in such a way as to get the maximum net annual return in the production of crops and at the same time to look after its future economic productivity in the most intelligent manner.

Mars Hill College and Madison County

Professor Hoyt Blackwell

ARTICLE II.

At the close of our article in last week's NEWS-RECORD, we stated that we hoped in this week's issue to set forth ways by which the citizens of the County could greatly help in our Enlargement and Endowment program. Before carrying out this promise we pause to say one or two things by way of appreciation. We gladly take this opportunity to thank those who have spoken so kindly of the articles which have appeared in THE NEWS-RECORD in the interest of Mars Hill College. We further desire to express profound appreciation to all those, and they are a goodly company, who have already pledged and paid so generously. We must also give public expression to our feelings of deep gratitude to those who are now giving so freely of their time and thought to ways and means whereby our College may be able to more adequately serve her constituency.

Mars Hill College makes no apology for witnessing by word and deed that her campus is Christ-centered and Christ-controlled. She rejoices that it is her privilege to live and move and have her being in Him. Quite naturally then, the first thing we call attention to is the fact that every citizen of the County who prays, and surely everyone does, has the sacred privilege of remembering the School in his devotions day after day. Those of us who are closer to the College, indeed all of us, earnestly desire that her spiritual prosperity may ever be greater than her material prosperity. It is also the privilege of each citizen to direct students to Mars Hill. Within the bounds of reason these may pay in kind. But in this Movement the College is seeking gifts of money, pledges to be paid immediately or in two, three, four, or five year installments, wills, annuities, life insurance policies, real estate, and farm products. There are many in the County who are in position to contribute through one or more of these channels. There are, we believe, a host of farmers who for the asking will be glad to dedicate the income from a definite plot of ground to Mars Hill for a period of five years or longer. Others still will be glad to send mail,

TO A WINTER BIRD

O, little chickadee
I heard you call,
I saw your cap of black
And coat of gray,
I saw you bounding lightly
Through the air
A scrap of joyousness
Though bleak the day.
I throw these crumbs to you
In thankfulness
To you—who bring me cheer
On valiant wing—
And gratitude to Him
Who placed a song
And heart of gold, in such
A tiny thing.
—Norma B. McEnhill.

flour, apples, potatoes, and a variety of other fruits and vegetables, canned or otherwise, in quantities sufficient to lessen our heavy food bill considerably. Credit will be given on pledges for produce in suitable quantity.

In one sentence the above would be: In the interest of Mars Hill College the citizens of Madison County can pray, patronize, advertise, and pay. Two churches in the County have set the worthy example of putting Mars Hill College in their budgets for appreciable sums.

In next week's Record, we hope to give concrete examples of what some have done to help the College in the above mentioned ways.

Services To Be Held At New Caney Fork Church

There will be a meeting at the new church at New Caney Fork, on Little Pine, February 8 and 9 at 2:30 p. m. A business meeting will be held Saturday, the 8th and all members are urged to be present.

The pastor, Rev. Everett Sprinkle, will preach both Saturday and Sunday.

It will be recalled that the old building of the church was destroyed last March by the hurricane. Mr. J. Henry Roberts tells us a concrete block building is now nearing completion. The building is a one room structure, 30 by 40 feet.

MARS HILL

Among the new students registering at the college during the past week, for the second semester was Miss Dorothy Sanderlin, of New Bern, who was wounded last fall on the day of the bank robbery just after the opening of school.

Rev. Nane Starnes, of Asheville, preached at both services here, last Sunday. Next Sunday, Professor Stringfield is to have charge of the morning service, which is to be the regular communion service. Eddie Leberman will speak at the evening service.

Mrs. W. F. Robinson visited relatives at Mocksville over the week-end. Mrs. W. C. Taylor and Master John McLeod who have both been ill since the holidays are able to be up again. Mrs. Mitchell Griffin, who has been quite ill for several weeks, is still in a critical condition.

Miss E'bel Gregg, teacher in the English department of the College, who was prevented from returning in the fall because of illness has returned to resume her work at this time.

High School Contest Held Last Friday

ALMA JARVIS AND ROBERT RAMSEY ARE WINNERS

Miss Alma Jarvis, of the Mars Hill high school, and Robert Ramsey, of the Walnut high school, were adjudged winners of the county-wide reading and declamation contest for the schools of Madison county held in the auditorium of the Beech Glen high school last Friday night.

Second place in the girls' contest was awarded Miss Lynelle Ponder, of the Beech Glen high school and the boys' contest went to Ray Frisby, of the Marshall high school.

The contest, sponsored by the county Schoolmasters' club, was one of a series of events being held monthly in the various county units. Grover L. Angel, chairman of the county extra-curricular activity committee and Beech Glen high school teacher, presided at the contest.

Parent-Teachers' Association Met Tuesday

The Marshall P. T. A. met January 28, in the high school auditorium at 3 o'clock. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Reports from the following committees were given:

1. TREASURER (Finance Com.) There was a balance of \$37.37 in the treasury.
 - (a) \$25.00 given to Mr. Rhodes to buy library books.
 - (b) \$1.05 given to secretary to subscribe for P. T. A. Magazine.
 - (c) 25c for nicture.
2. MEMBERSHIP: Mrs. Guy Roberts. Urge for more members.

Motion was made and seconded that 15c per capita be paid to keep affiliation with National and State organization.

3. LIBRARY: Mrs. Blankenship. 192 books added to fiction shelf from recent "Book Week" movement.

In addition to this, there were many reference books brought to the High School library.

The grades that brought the greatest number of books were:

- (1) 10-B—Mrs. Blankenship.
- (2) 9-A—Mrs. McLean.
- (3) 8-C—Mr. Wilkie.

LUNCHROOM: Mrs. Ella Redmon. More undernourished children are to be fed. Will need donations of food for this.

The president gave a report of the Christmas Seal Sale. Almost \$24.00 was made from this sale. \$6.00 sent to Mr. McBrayer.

\$50 Mrs. McLean's room (9-A) for the remodeling. Also must.

\$50 Pain Sprinkle, the student selling the most.

Mr. Rhodes gave a brief talk on "Citizenship and Character Education". He discussed the projects of different teachers in school.

Mrs. Blankenship's room (10th) got the prize for the best attendance. Meeting adjourned.
Virginia McClure, Sec.

Fiddlers' Convention Saturday Night

Don't forget to come to the old time fiddlers' convention to be held at the Walnut High School auditorium Saturday night at 7 o'clock. This contest is open to everyone in Western North Carolina. Cash prizes to be awarded to winners of the following: Best string-band, best fiddler, best banjo player, best guitar with singing. If you wish to enter this contest please communicate with Dr. J. H. Hutchins, president of Walnut P. T. A. Admission will be 10c and 15c.

Two Literary Groups Formed At Beech Glen

Two literary societies were organized this week at the Beech Glen high school. The new organizations are to have weekly meetings, under faculty supervision. Regular programs are to be presented and the societies are to enter county and State contests fostered by debating and public speaking clubs.

The Platonian society, whose name was chosen from the famous philosopher, Plato, elected the following officers: Lot Randolph, president; Lois Duck, vice-president; Lucy Robinson, secretary; Joe Hensley, treasurer; Marie Jamerson, critic; Katherine Carson, chaplain, Lloyd Ray, chorister and Helen Love'ite, press reporter. The new organization chose "Now or Never" for a motto, and adopted blue and orange for society colors, and the violet as a society flower.

The orator, Demosthenes, name was adopted as the name of the other society and the group elected the following students to carry on the work of the organization: President, Frank McIntosh, vice-president, Lynelle Ponder; secretary, Lucille Ray; Treasurer, Carlisle Rice, critic, Bill Clouse; chaplain, Henrietta Ray; chorister, Martha Roberts; and press reporter, Augusta Jarvis. "We're on our way; watch us climb" was selected as the motto, and black and gold as the colors, with the yellow lily as the society flower.

Membership in the newly-organized groups has already reached a total of 60 students, more than double that of any other extra-curricular activity in the local school.

Mars Hill To Play Oak Ridge Friday

The Cadets from Oak Ridge Military Institute will invade Mars Hill Friday night for the first basketball game of the season between the two quints. This will be the first time an Oak Ridge basketball team has ever played on the Mars Hill hardwood. The game is scheduled to start at 7:30.

Both teams will be seeking revenge for defeats of other days. Oak Ridge suffered in basketball last season at the hands of the Lions. Mars Hill will be seeking revenge their only defeat on the gridiron last fall, a 13 to 0 shelling administered by the Cadets.

Boy Scouts

A new interest is being shown among the Scouts. Among the boys we have 2 First Class Scouts, 4 Second Class Scouts and 6 new scouts. It is hoped that the new boys will be able to pass their Tenderfoot test this week. As soon as we have 8 who are beyond the Tenderfoot test with the registration fees paid we can then mail our application for the troop charter.

The troop is sponsored by the Civitan Club of Marshall. Rev. Paul P. Throver has been appointed Scoutmaster and Mr. Joe Eads, Assistant Scoutmaster. Rev. J. R. Duncan, who has assisted in Scout work for a number of years has expressed a warm willingness to be of service to our troop.

We invite former Scouts to return present in the hall above the Telephone boys over 12 years of age to join the troop. We are meeting at the phone Exchange. Thursday will be our meeting nights. At 7 o'clock the door will be opened for games. The meeting is called to order at 7:30.

"Aunt Mary" Ball Taken by Death

Mrs. Mary Ball, known to her many friends as "Aunt Mary", passed away at her home on Caney Fork, Route 1, the cause of her death being influenza. She was 99 years old her last birthday. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Jake A. Martin at 10:00 o'clock Wednesday morning at the Ball cemetery.

She is survived by one sister Miss Sallie Freeman, of Marshall Route 1, and the following children: Mrs. Matilda Marlor, Mrs. Julia Cook, Mrs. Emeline Clark and Tom, Henry, and Logan Ball, all of near Marshall.

13 Madison Students At Cullowhee

Thirteen Madison county students are attending Western Carolina Teachers College during the winter quarter according to the latest report.

It ranks as the fifth county in the state in this respect.

Walnut Defeats Marshall High, 43 to 21

The Walnut High School quint trampled the Marshall high school five last Wednesday night on the Walnut court, 43 to 21. Most of the Walnut scoring came in the first half. This was Marshall's first game of the season. R. Ramsey with 13 points led the Walnut team with Henderson second, with 11 points. Nix caged 9 points to lead the Tornado.

In an all-star game following this, the Walnut All Stars defeated the Marshall All Stars, 39 to 21.

Marshall High Loses To Cedar Creek, 29-12

Cedar Creek, Tenn., defeated the Marshall High court, 29 to 12 on the St. James Court, last Friday night.

Highsmith was outstanding for the local team. The Cedar Creek team displayed wonderful team work and accurate passing.

HONOR ROLL

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The News-Record

Beginning with our issue of October 17, we are publishing below the names of people who subscribe or renew their subscriptions to The News-Record within the last week. By keeping your subscriptions paid up you will greatly help your local paper. Of course, those whose subscriptions are paid in advance are already on our honor roll.

D. S. Fender, Flag Pond, Tenn.
Eastman, Scott & Co. Atlanta, Ga.
Austin Faulkner, Marshall r-3
M. K. Roberts, Woxley, N. C.
A. L. Buckner, Big Pine, N. C.
Mrs. Wayne Fisher, Marshall r-2
W. D. Davis, Marshall r-3
Mrs. S. E. Wilds, Marshall r-2
B. C. Cargile, Marshall r-2
Eva Kate Smith, Oteen, N. C.
McKinney Washburn, Lakeland, Fla.