

# The Duplin Times

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To be honest, to be kind, to earn a little and to spend a little; to make upon the whole a family happier for his presence; to renounce when that shall be necessary and not to be embittered; to keep a few friends, but those without capitulation; above all, on the same grim condition, to keep friends with himself—here is a task for all that a man has of fortitude and delicacy.—R. L. Stevenson.

### GOLDEN GLEAMS

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."  
 Psalm 23:12.

### SAVING MILLIONS FOR THE TAXPAYERS

Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, has been subjected to numerous attacks by advocates of municipal power plants because he evidently cannot be the logic of building such plants in towns already efficiently and economically served by private systems.

That attitude on the part of the official who has charge of the vast PWA fund should be praised, not attacked. If the more fanatical advocates of municipal power had their way, every town in the country, large or small, growing or backsliding, would be given a publicly-owned electric plant, regardless of any need for it. Tax-free, subsidized competition would destroy the investments of millions of citizens in private systems. Great deficits would be saddled on the already overburdened taxpayers, and the millions privately-owned utilities now paid in taxes would be lost to the public treasuries. Worst of all, one of our most essential industries would become a plaything of municipal politics—which is usually inefficient, almost always wasteful, and frequently corrupt.

Mr. Ickes is adamant in holding to the principle that PWA funds should be used for projects that benefit all the people—that are useful—and that are needed. Every citizen should support him in that.

### BACK TO THE FARM

Two recent surveys cast new light on the current status of agriculture.

There has been a small but encouraging rise in value of American farms. Between March, 1934 and March, 1935, values rose in 30 states, declined in but five and remained unchanged in the other 13.

"Back to the Farm" is becoming a reality. Where a few years ago, the farm population was being depleted by an exodus to the cities, the trend has completely reversed and streams of people are going from urban to rural areas. A number of reasons lie behind this, such as industrial unemployment, the development of profitable specialty farming, and the desire of immigrants to leave the cities for the land.

In addition, the number of individual farms is on the increase. In New England alone, there were 162,000 producing farms on January 1, 1935, in contrast to 125,000 on April 1, 1930.

All of this speaks well for the future of agriculture and is self-supporting citizenship. It is natural that people should win their living from the land. And the great progress made in developing more scientific farming methods—largely due to the efforts of large agricultural cooperatives—is immeasurably improving the farmers' opportunity to till the soil at a profit. All in all, it is safe to say that the agricultural situation is basically better now than at any time since depression set in.

### THE RAILROADS HAVE DONE THEIR PART

It has been claimed that railroad difficulties are traceable to their failure to effect economies that would help adjust outgo to income. That is untrue.

The best measure of efficiency in railroad operation is the lowered cost of handling a ton of freight. The figures show that in 1920 it cost the lines \$10.66 per 1,000 revenue ton miles of freight moved. In 1932 the cost was \$6.48—a reduction of 39.2 per cent.

Unless this single saving had been made it would have cost over a billion dollars more to move the 1932 traffic, compared with 1920.

The greatest railroad difficulties are entirely beyond the lines' control. A harsh and unrelaxing policy of railroad regulation has been pursued while other carriers have been permitted to go unregulated or half-regulated. Great facilities and to jointly use freight houses, tracks stations, bridges, etc. At present, the law prevents this being done—and, if some lawmakers have their way, railroad operating costs will be increased tremendously by legislation limiting size of trains, the 6-hour day and similar measures.

In addition, government has directly and indirectly subsidized railroad competitors. Tremendous sums from tax funds have been used to benefit commercial motor vehicles and taxpayers have furnished more than \$780,000,000 for subsidizing waterway competition.

The railroads have cut costs enormously in the face of great legislative obstacles. The creation of a reasoned and equitable transportation policy, which would penalize, no carrier and treat all alike, would be of immense benefit to the entire nation.

### SAVE THE CONSTITUTION

In the face of all the theorists who would like to subject the United States to fascism, communism, collectivism, and what-not, the Lone Star State seems to still believe that the Constitution, under whose guidance we grew from an unimportant pioneer nation to a world power within a century, is still good enough.

On June 8th, the Young Democrats of Texas went on record as being aggressively opposed to any change which would "destroy the Constitution." At the same time, the organization went on record as favoring abolition of child labor, state codes of ethics to cover working hours and wages and other reforms of a social character, which shows that the Young Democrats are not opposed to change which can be achieved within the limits of the Constitution. They simply realize that the kind of reform activity favored by many present-day office-holders would mean the end of State's rights, the rise of a virtual political autocracy, and the destruction of individual liberties.

On the same day, Democratic Governor Murray of Oklahoma who "always has taken his coffee black and his democracy straight," said: "The United States will disintegrate unless the constitutional safeguards of liberty are preserved. . . . We are already going to Washington for everything. The trend toward centralization of government will lead ultimately, unless checked, to centralization of wealth and privilege and the establishment of only two classes of citizens—the very rich and the very poor."

The statements from the Young Democrats and from Governor Murray will be seconded by other states. The issue is not one of partisanship—it is one of Americanism. Those who would destroy the Constitution and discredit our Supreme Court, would destroy all that the founders of the country fought and died for, and left us as our most precious heritage—personal liberty unshackled by official tyranny.

# Blakemore Variety Is Firmly Established Improved Berry In N. C. Strawberry Section

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The Blakemore strawberry was first tested at the Coastal Plain Station near Willard, N. C. in 1928. In the seven years since then it has succeeded each year in a wider region of the country and the commercial success of the variety has fully justified its introduction. The U. S. Department of Agriculture and the North Carolina State Department of Agriculture both recommend it as the best variety for North Carolina except possibly in a small region about Chadbourn.

Although the variety has proven so successful generally, it has failed in the hands of certain growers and it is believed that this may be due to a lack of understanding of the variety and its difference from other varieties previously grown rather than to local soil or climatic differences. When the variety was introduced it was stated that it was very vigorous, made plants freely, and that care should be taken to avoid having too many plants crowded together in the row.

The Coastal Plain Station at Willard mailed with each lot of plants sent out a circular stating that the variety responded excellently to the hill system of culture in contrast to the matted row system. Nevertheless, because the matted row system has been so generally practiced in eastern North Carolina the growers have not always heeded this advice. As a result they have had small plants crowded together competing for sustenance, and yielding accordingly a small crop of undersized berries which tend to be soft and to decay under the dense foliage.

The largest yields of Missionary seem to come from the matted row system, but with the Blakemore the plants must be kept well separated and distributed in the row if it is to be successfully grown.

The Blakemore strawberry originated from a cross of Missionary X Howard 17 (Premier) made in 1923 at the United States Plant Station, near Glenn Dale, Md. Because the results of tests have so far shown many points of superiority and no weaknesses as compared with the Missionary it is recommended for growing in the eastern North Carolina section.

The Blakemore has succeeded under a wide range of field conditions. It has been grown on a clay and on a sandy loam in both New Jersey and Maryland and on rather light, medium, and fine sandy loams in North Carolina. It may not succeed well on the lightest sandy loams, but it has grown well on the other soil types.

The value of a new variety may be most readily estimated by comparison with the standard variety or varieties of any section. Hence, in this article the characteristics of the Blakemore are compared with those of the Missionary and to some extent with those of the Klondike.

The plants are somewhat more vigorous than those of the Missionary, with foliage as resistant to leaf spots. The common leaf spot sometimes occurs on this variety but not usually has it been serious, while the variety is very resistant to leaf scorch which is so serious on the Klondike and at the end of the picking season is sometimes serious on the Missionary. Dr. George M. Darrow, Senior Plantologist, United States Department of Agriculture, warns that new plantings should be set from fields which were carefully rogued the

previous year for the yellow plant. The roguing should be done during May and June in newly set fields so that just as far as possible the new planting be set from fields without any of the disease. Apparently there is a small percentage of plants which sport to the yellow plant each year, and if there is an accumulation of the yellow plant it may become serious. Runners are produced fully as freely as by the Missionary. The blossoms are perfect, the stamens containing more pollen than those of the Missionary. Neither this variety nor Missionary produces stamens and pollen as freely at the beginning of the blossoming season as does the Klondike.

In North Carolina the Blakemore is earlier than the Missionary, in 1928 being four to six days earlier. It is also a little earlier than the Klondike. Under conditions so far tested in the Carolina section it has been somewhat more productive than the Missionary and much more productive than the Klondike. The berries are bluntly conic, not long conic like the berries of the Missionary. There are far fewer white-tipped berries such as are common in the Missionary under some conditions. Moreover, the berries color on the underside better than either Missionary or Klondike. The berries are a bright light red, which does not change on holding, as do the Missionary and Klondike colors. Because of this its color is much more attractive in the market than is that of either the Missionary or Klondike, especially after the berries have been held several days. The berries are much firmer, and the skin is not as easily broken as is that of the Missionary or Klondike and Blakemore berries do not shrivel on standing as do the Klondike and Missionary berries. Because of its firm flesh and relatively tough skin the Blakemore has proved considerably superior as a market variety. It is easier to pick and to cap than most varieties. The seeds are slightly smaller and usually closer together than those of common varieties. It is an acid berry of the Missionary and Klondike type, though not as acid as the Klondike; it has a higher pectin content than standard varieties and it has a better dessert quality than the Missionary and Klondike. Its easy picking and capping qualities, its bright light-red color, tough skin, and firm flesh, solid center, acidity, high pectin content

and excellent flavor make it very desirable for preserving.

Under conditions so far tested the berries are larger than those of the Missionary or Klondike, although under some conditions they probably will not average as large as the latter variety.

Technical Description of The Fruit Form, a slightly blunted conic with broad shoulder, and a slight neck; size medium, pubescence on pedicels ascending, calyx reflexed, medium size; apex ripens uniformly; surface slightly glossy; color bright light red; seeds yellow or greenish yellow, small, even with surface; flesh light red, texture tender, firm, rarely with cavity, juicy; shipping quality excellent; flavor acid, aromatic; dessert quality slightly better than Missionary season slightly before Missionary in North Carolina.

The information in this article was culled from Circular No. 93, September 1929, United States Department of Agriculture "The Blakemore Strawberry" and from The Bulletin of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, March 1934; "The Culture and Handling of the Blakemore Strawberry". Nothing in this article should be construed as a recommendation that growers of the Klondike variety in the Chadbourn section would find it profitable to switch to the Blakemore. Chadbourn has for years been recognized as a Klondike berry growing center and the buyers who have been coming to this market year after year for more than a quarter of a century come to buy Klondike berries and usually pay a premium for this variety. However, on the Wallace market during the 1935 season, Blakemore strawberries, according to Government market reports, brought from 25 to 50 cents per crate premium over Missionary berries, day after day, during the season.

### Cypress Creek News

Miss Ruby Jones of Cypress Creek is spending this week with relatives at Beulaville.

Those visiting Misses Beulah and Julia Jones Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jones of Raleigh, N. C. Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Jones and children of Beulaville, N. C. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Jones and children of Fountain, N. C., Miss Rhoda Jones of Beulaville.

Miss Reba James of Cypress Creek is spending her vacation

with her mother at Beulaville. Mrs. Walter James and children, Norwood and Purcella spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. G. E. James.

Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh James of Beulaville spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Russell James. Mr. J. I. Frazier and son of Gilsonville, N. C. spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Hunter.

Mr. Lewis Williams carried a number of people of this section to White Lake Sunday.

Mr. Gilliam James of the Richlands section spent Sunday with his brother, Mr. David James Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kayner and

children spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Moore.

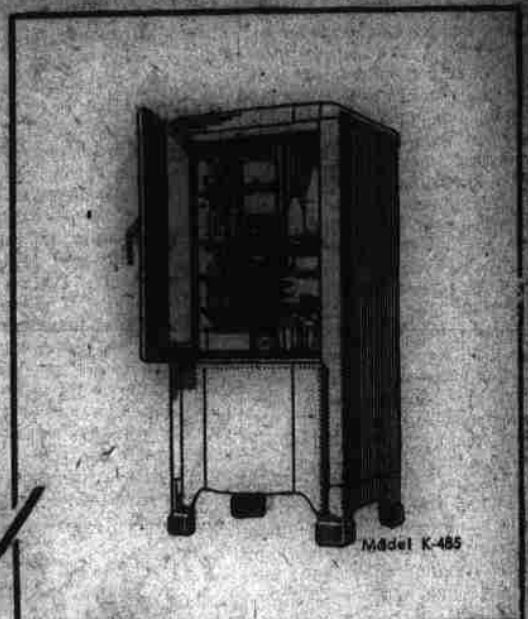
Mr. and Mrs. Albro James and children, Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Feltre and children visited at Beulaville and Goldsboro Saturday and Sunday.

The farmers of this section has begun housing tobacco.

Mr. Oscar Grady of Beulaville spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Russell James.

Mr. Norwood James of Beulaville is spending this week with Mr. Hilbert James.

Mrs. Ellen Canavagh of near Pin Hook is spending sometime with her sister, Mrs. Charlotte Murray.



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