

# POLK COUNTY NEWS

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## OUR COUNTY AGENT'S DEPARTMENT

Some Timely Talks to Polk County Farmers, and others, on Timely Subjects, by County Agent, J. R. Sams.

### Sow Cover Crops On Every Farm.

Before the great war progress had been made toward getting some kind of cover crops sown each fall on Southern farms. County agents and other extension workers stressed their importance and each year thousands of demonstrations gave proof of their value. Following the outbreak of this war, however, there was a great decrease in the acreage sown to such crops. This was due to labor shortage, high priced-seed, unsettled conditions, and particularly to the stress of food production.

We should now endeavor to regain the lost ground and again stress suitable cover crops as part of the farm system for the South. Let us try to make the early slogan of the Farmers' Co-operative Demonstration Work, "Cover Crops on Every Farm" a reality in every country in the South this year.

Winter cover crops has a special value on Southern Farms. They protect the land from washing, prevent loss of plant food by leaching, furnish grazing for livestock during the winter months, and in the spring may be plowed under to the great benefit of the soil, or left for harvest for hay, grain or seeds.

The small grains and the clovers are the most satisfactory crops for this purpose. They are all adapted to Southern conditions and soils. In most of the Southern states oats is the most important small grain. Not over 75 per cent of the amount needed for home consumption is now grown. The acreage in fall oats should be greatly increased. They can be produced cheaply, mature early, and can be followed in most of the States by corn and cow peas, cowpeas for hay, sweet potatoes, or other fall crops. Rye is better than fall sown oats in the northern tier of States of the southern group.

Oats, rye, wheat, bur clover, crimson clover, and the vetches, sown with oats are all valuable as cover crops. The choice will depend on your soil and location and the County Agent or the Agricultural College will advise you.

### Soil Conservation Campaign.

Why not set a week in which we will all work together for a whole week, at the same general purpose. Just think what could be accomplished in one week, if every body would get on the same job and keep at it for a solid week, you see a week only has six work days, and how fast they run off when we are doing good honest faithful work.

Suppose we set aside the second week in August, beginning Monday August 8th, to Saturday evening Aug. 14th inclusive as a time for work on Soil conservation. Why not use that week in cutting bushes, briars, weeds, etc. and placing them in gullies and on bare places on the farm of Polk County. This will be the right time of year to clean up the pastures and do such work. Begin now and plan to give that week entirely, if possible to that kind of work. If you love no gullies on your individual farm, then you are fortunate. But what about that pasture, is it clean of bushes, briars, and weeds? What about those miserable yellow blooming stick weeds that promise to take Polk County? Have

you any of them? If so get after them that week you need not cut them down, nothing but the grubbing hoe will meet their needs they must be grubbed, they are the worst Polk County weeds we have, they propagate from root stocks and seed. Please every body do make war on this weed enemy. Don't wait until that week, begin now and destroy every one you can every day. Then on that week make a special effort, and all the week following make it a point to destroy ever one possible. We should lose no opportunity at all times of the year to improve the soil and pastures, but every year we should devote at least a whole week in in August for this purpose. Try it for three years and see what a difference it will make in the appearance, and looks of Polk County farms. There are scores of beautiful farms in Polk County made unsightly, by ditch banks and road sides being grown up in weeds and briars. Then so many so called pastures all grown up in pines, bushes, briars, etc. until poor milk cow can't get what little sedge grass there may be for them. This is why I am making this plan for pasture cleaning and soil improvement. It takes clean rich land to make good pastures, just as it does to make good corn. But your land if allowed to grow Japan, hop and white clover after years will become rich enough to grow good blue grass and other valuable grasses. Now I know that the time is speedily coming that I must go from Polk County. It may be that this may be my last year, be it as it may, my heart is with Polk County. I want the farmers of this Country, the wives and children, to live more comfortable and easier than they do, to do so there must be a radical change. No country ever lived easy by an all cropping system of farming. The pasture and hay crops and the growing of live stock, must be encouraged and built up. The soil lies at the bottom of all human happiness, and contentment. Then why are we so reckless and wasteful with our soil. Why not spend the whole 52 weeks in the year instead of one in studying, working, and planning to build up and better care for our soils? Try on your way you will never build up your farm soil, except through sod crops, farm crop rotation, pastures, live stock and intelligent use if well hollowed? fertilizers and lime. So just let us open up our "Think Boxes" and bestow more intelligent thinking upon our farm operations and old Polk will blossom as the rose, our young men will be joyful, our our young women will be sweet, and content, and old men will grow yonger, and our old women will become the salt of the earth. Because by so farming that the very best cattle will browse on the best pastures, the full milk pail will so gladden their hearts, that the aged women will become a young girl and their cheeks will blush with rosiness, and their hearts will sing the melodies of youth again, and every home will burst with joy and delight.

Respectfully  
J. R. Sams County Agent.

The NEWS, \$2 per year.

### FIRST WEEK.

J. F. Owens  
Jno. C. Fisher  
P. H. Ward  
P. W. Arlidge  
A. J. Ballard  
G. T. Gosnell  
J. H. Rhodes  
S. W. Kendall  
Jno. McMurry  
Robt. McIntire  
A. L. Hill  
D. H. Miller  
J. T. Waldrop  
U. G. Jones  
T. P. Womack  
J. E. Carswell  
S. S. McMurray  
G. C. Turner  
W. H. Belcher  
Eugene Hill  
O. L. Feagan  
Jno. W. Edwards  
J. O. McKillip  
W. B. Arledge  
W. F. Paek  
J. G. Corn  
R. E. Sellers  
L. B. Roach  
E. J. Bradley  
T. J. McDowell  
S. C. Lawter  
J. W. Gregg  
A. A. Womack  
W. E. Cole  
J. R. Phillips  
E. W. Bradley

### SECOND WEEK

B. E. Dimsdale  
C. M. Howes  
J. C. Metcalf  
G. A. Gash  
Quency Powell  
E. W. Ballew  
J. C. Thompson  
W. C. Robertson  
John Arledge  
W. G. Greenway  
H. E. Thompson  
S. H. SlUGHTer  
James Lankford  
R. R. Walker  
J. H. Holmes  
O. D. Gilbert  
G. O. Womack  
E. C. Lynch

### Birthday Party.

Little Miss Cordelia Williams entertained 23 guests at a birthday party on Thursday last. The little folks had a most enjoyable time playing games. Frances Ardell Harper won first prize in the peanut hunt and Bettie Selwyn the prize for pinning the tail on the donkey. Dainty refreshments were served from a table decorated in pink and ferns. Every body had a real good time.

### FINANCIAL Report.

#### Tryon Graded School District for year 19-20.

RECEIPTS	
Balance June 30, 19.....	\$ 242.06
Local Tax.....	2643.16
From County State funds.....	2990.00
Sale Glass Ballenger Co.....	24.00
Total.....	\$5899.22
DISBURSEMENTS	
Total Salary to Principal.....	\$1275.00
Total Salary to Teachers.....	3187.50
Repairs.....	126.50
Fuel and Janitor.....	218.30
Insurance.....	42.50
Interest on bond.....	676.32
Census.....	6.00
Supplies.....	158.77
Other expenses.....	62.35
Bal. on hand June 30.....	145.98
Total.....	\$5899.22
J. A. Steelman, Sec.-Treas.	

How Seeds Are Distributed.  
Among the most curious methods of seed distribution are those seeds which are carried through the air on wings, such as the maple, which has two wings, and the catalpa, the elm, the ash and the pine. These seeds do not flap their wings like birds, but depend altogether upon the force of the wind to carry them along. Other floating seeds are the milkweed, this  
tle and dandelion.

### SOME POLK COUNTY FIGURES

Following are a few figures giving the number of bushels, tons, bales, etc., of some of the products of Polk county farms. These figures do not include the grapes, apples, small fruits of all kinds, sweet potatoes, etc.

During 1919 Polk county produced corn to the amount of 260,100 bushels which had an average value of \$1.85 per bushel, or a total of \$481,182.

Our hay crop can, and ought to be increased greatly, but we raised last year on Polk county farms 673 acres grains cut green and 7 acres of clover, 650 acres cow peas, 57 acres soy beans, 300 acres crab and other hays all of which made an average yield of 1.6 tons per acre. Also we produced 2,800 tons of corn fodder. Our hay crop had an average value of \$30 per ton and a total value of \$167,670.

According to the U. S. cotton reports Polk county does not raise one pound of cotton, yet little old polk in 1919 marketed 665,000 pounds of that staple which sold at an average price of 36 cents per pound and put the neat little sum of \$239,400 into the pockets of Polk county farmers.

We do not cut much of a shine when it comes to wheat, but we measured out 2,030 bushels that sold for \$4,973.50.

Polk county farmers harvested oats to the value of only \$665.38. Our crop of rye proved to be a little better as an agent to swell bank deposits. 6,070 bushels of this grain brought \$15,175.00. While our crops of tobacco, soy beans, etc were so small they were included under the head of "all other," our crop of cow peas that was not "plowed under" gave us 5,292 bushels worth in honest to goodness money \$3.00 per bushel.

We evidently had a sweet tooth last year for we produced a total of 40,850 gallons of sorghum and it sold for an average of \$1.10 per gallon.

Our production of sweet potato considerable money into circulation, just how much we do not know. Our Irish potatoes added to our wealth \$9,970.50.

The above does not include all of our products and some of the items omitted sold for considerable sums.

The average prices paid for our products were Corn, \$1.79; wheat \$2.45; oats, 1.03; rye, 2.50; Irish potatoes, \$1.85; sweet potatoes, \$1.53; apples' (bbl) \$7.60; hay per ton, \$30; cotton, 36c; butter, 51c; live chickens per lb, 27c; sorghum per gal. \$1.10.

Not so bad for a small county like Polk—the best place in the world to live.

### Tryon Methodist Church.

Mr. P. Morris, Superintendent of Sunday School.

Rev. J. O. Cox, Pastor. Service for August 8th as follows: 9:45 a. m. Sunday School. All who are not members of other schools are cordially invited to attend.

8:30 p. m., Preaching by the pastor. Subject: "What Shall I do with Jesus?" A cordial invitation is extended to all to come and worship with us. Epworth League meets each Wednesday evening at 8:30.

### Air Power.

An Italian inventor has produced a scheme by which vehicles of wheels and carriages and springs are to be propelled by air. According to the accounts, the scheme is to have huge tanks by the wayside holding vast quantities of compressed air. Locomotives and automobiles and tractors and motorcycles can run alongside and connect their tanks to the mother tank, get a lot of compressed air on board and run to the next stop.

## FROM OUR FRIENDS IN THE COUNTRY

Items of Interest Gathered From Various Sections of Polk County by Our Corps of Faithful Correspondents.

### Warrior Mountain.

We are glad to have the Polk County News once more.

Crops are exceptionally good in our section.

Mr. J. Spurgeon Arledge is at home, from his work in Virginia.

Miss Dora Edwards of Tryon is spending the week with relatives here.

Mr. Ned Anderson's sister has returned to her home after an extended visit.

Mr. Bonnie Bishop visited his father at Horse Shoe Friday.

Mr. Hoyt Thompson was the guest of his sister Mrs. W. B. Arledge last week.

Misses Alice, Ada, and Pearl Tallant, of Columbus motored up to their sister's, Mrs. Hosea Arledge last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Green of Silver Creek are visiting their daughter Mrs. F. D. Arledge.

Misses Mattie and Pearl Tallant are in our burg for a brief visit.

### Tryon Route 1.

We were exceedingly glad to have the Polk County News enter our home again get busy all correspondents, and let us make it (as a returned prodigal) a most welcome guest to all, by putting on it, the very best raiment we know how to make.

Mrs. T. P. Rice is taking a rest and recreation, at Lake Junaluska this week.

Mr. J. T. Waldrop recently enjoyed the blue ridge breezes at the beautiful Lake Junaluska attending the teacher's training school held there for Sunday school workers.

Little Gwendolyn, daughter of Mr. S. B. Edwards who has recently undergone a serious operation, is getting on nicely, and will return home this week.

Mrs. Murphy Mull, and little son, of Cincinnati, Ohio, are making an extended visit on Tryon Route one among her many friends and relatives.

Mr and Mrs. Jack Guffy are spending a fortnight on Route, 1, keeping house for the latter's God mother while she is away at the hospital with baby Gwendolyn.

Mr. Shaford Edwards, after spending a couple of weeks with his aged father Mr. Watson Edwards and two brothers, returned to his home in Texas. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Holbert a son.

News was wafted, that Mr. Bill Pack was married Sunday, perhaps we will learn who he married by next week.

Protracted meeting at the M. E. church at Mill Spring begins Sunday next.

### Fishtop.

We seem to take new life since the News has made its appearance again. We did not know neither did we realize how much the News (the best paper ever published here) until deprived of it. Now lets all rally to its support and show the Editor that we do sympathize with him in his as well as our great loss we sustained.

Crops are not as good as might have been had the season been more even.

J. B. Bradley probably has the best lot of corn in the country.

Mr. J. R. Sams please visit and see us when going around.

More money has been realized from early tomatoes from this section than ever before.

Doc Pace has been running his saw mill for some time, turning out some fine lumber.

There has been too much rain for snakes so far, but few have been killed.

Mrs. N. A. Price visited James Mills family Sunday.

Joseph Price has returned from camps with an honorable discharge.

Curtis Newman visited Posey Henderson Sunday.

Jasper Henderson is on a visit in Henderson county for a few days.

David Paty has just recovered from a severe case of mumps.

Louis, T. W. and Miss Flora Bradley visited Dr. Lindsay at Fingerville, S. C. on last Wednesday for medical treatment.

The coveites were plentiful in Saluda taturday trading and swapping jokes.

E. J. Bradley has been very sick for quite a while but is much better now.

Miss Myrtle Pace has gone to teach school at Buleah.

C. C. Jones got a telegram recently stating that his mother Mrs. A. C. Jones who resides at Lynn was very ill.

T. W. and J. Bradley went to the singing at Mt. Lebanon Sunday.

Hurrah for the news and all of its readers and correspondents.

### Lynn.

Rev. Dr. Pratt will preach here next Sunday at 8 p. m. His many friends will be pleased to hear him again.

Rev. Mr. Black made a very interesting talk to the Sunday school folks last Sunday morning and accepted an invitation to preach for them on the fifth Sunday.

Rev. A. S. Caldwell preached in the unfinished church building last Sunday night, temporary accommodations being furnished.

The Board of Education is making some very valuable improvements on the school building.

We are informed that all the teachers for our school have been secured and that school will begin September first.

T. C. Westall, of Flat Rock, is charge of the work on the school building.

If the census of the dogs in Lynn was taken just now we would not doubt the fact that this was sure enough dog days.

It is said that some will gladly pay 35 or 40 cents for a drink of booze and kick on paying a dime for a good refreshing coca cola. The inconsistency of man hath no limit.

The Polk County News took a long sleeping spell, the longest in its lifetime. We are glad to see it wake up and take on new life. It is to be hoped that its future may be brighter and more profitable to itself and the people it comes in contact with.

Once more we would ask, what has become of the money that was appropriated to repair the old macadam road?

Mrs. A. S. James is very sick. Her many friends are very anxious concerning her.

(Continued on page 4)