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# 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.

### A Good Meeting.

The writer attended a community meeting at Saluda, N. C., on the evening of Aug. 13th, which was of extraordinary interest. Several important topics were discussed at greater or less extent.

1st. The educational question which is ever present was discussed at length. The plucky little town has at last caught the vision that money invested in their children's brains and character is the best of all money investments, and to this end, they are preparing to build a public school building, second to none in the county. And the beauty in their movement is this; the town is taking the unselfish stand that I am my "My Brother's Keeper" and instead of building in the center of the town, they have incorporated a large school house district, covering a good big rural community and will build the school building outside of the corporate limits of Saluda. This is ideal and shows a fine spirit, and I doubt if there is another town in N. C., that can show such a fine spirit toward the poor country children that must wade mud ankle deep at times in order to reach even a small country school so much to the everlasting credit of the town of Saluda, and I am sure that in a short time the sort of community spirit will result in a feeling of brotherly kindness between town folks and country, that will be commendable and beautiful, such should be the ambition of every community club.

At this meeting good roads, play grounds for children, law and order regulations were discussed. And if this community keeps on, Saluda will be one of the cleanest and best places to live in all North Carolina, and that means in all the world.

Respectfully

J. R. Sams County Agent.

### Fair Work.

The Polk County and Community Fair Premium lists are out and in the hands of the fair secretaries. This printing was done at considerable cost and is charged up to a single individual. The directors in each township who are collecting funds to meet expenses of these fairs, will please send in, to F. B. Blanton, Tres. Columbus what funds you have on hand, and go ahead and get more.

We want to make our next County Fair truly a Polk County Fair. We want the outside world to see what we can do in Polk County, and to this end we want each Township to do it's best.

It has been suggested that as all our Community, or Township Fairs, come off the week before the County Fair; that we ask the officers of these Township Fairs, to have them each brought to Columbus to make up the County Fair. Each township making it's own display. And what about a prize to the township making the best exhibit? A cash prize to be added to the school fund of the schools in the township that wins the prize—of course such a prize would be little from the money stand point, but would mean much from the Agricultural and educational standpoint.

I will start the list for such a prize at \$5.00, provided enough to make it respectable will join

in such a movement, or if my suggestion is not a good one, some one suggest something better, what I want, is to stimulate every township to have the best fair possible, and to help make the County Fair the greatest show possible. Every citizen of Polk County who will cooperate along this line please drop me a card stating the amount you will contribute for this purpose.

Ye men conducting Fairs in Polk County had better take notice, the women of Columbus who are running the things in Columbus township, will run the "Shoat" over you if you don't get on your job and keep on it till the Fairs are over.

### Cover Crops—Their Importance.

Now is the time to think and prepare for winter cover crops. Here are some of the most important, wheat, rye, oats, (winter) barley, bur clover, crimson clover, hairy or winter vetch. The grains are valuable either for their grain and straw, or to plow under for their humus content, the grain cover crops do not draw free nitrogen from the air, but the grains may be sown in connection with the legumes, and working together will supply nitrogen, humus and other valuable elements necessary to plant growth, and prevent leaching, erosion, and keep land in fine condition every way. Bur clover in the cotton section is one of the best if not the very best of all the soil building legumes, and here is the way to get it all over your farm. I will first tell you how not to do, now don't go and buy high priced seed and sow all over your poor old fields where the humus is all burned from growing cotton and corn continuously by the aid of "guano" that's the waste fuel way and the way to failure, but here is the way and the best and about the only way to succeed with bur clover, take a small lot of real rich land say 1-8, 1-4, 1-2 or one acre of such land and get fresh bur seed right from the field and sow at laying by of corn or cotton applying about 12 lbs. per quarter acre, which ought to give a good stand the first year this will produce seed forever afterward, to stock the entire farm, now don't take my word for it just go along and try it out yourself, and be your own hero and if the first year should by any possible means fail just repeat the operation the next year. Now let every farmer get busy and sow some kind of cover crop get in the habit and keep it up and see how your farm will improve from year to year. Right in this connection let me say from now till Nov. 1 is the time to sow winter vetch. It can be sown over a longer period of time than any other legumes, and, by the way, if you have not arranged to have all the roughage for your work stock next summer, plant vetch and oats or later on rye and vetch to be made into hay early next spring. This will do a double service, act as a cover crop this winter, and make a good crop of hay next spring, but if you have provided fully for the hay crop for the lands sake sow cover crops.

### For Curtain Rod.

In inserting a rod in curtains if a thimble is placed over the end of the rod it will run easily through the heading. This eliminates the possibility of tearing and saves a great deal of time and patience.

## To The Directors Of The Polk County Fair

Gentlemen, and ladies, you may not think so but, the success or failure of the Polk County fair is right in your hands, and on your shoulders, so please get out of your "Rip Van Winkle Sleep" and make the things go, nothing can run successfully without oil.

The premium lists have been published and distributed and not paid for yet. Please each one of you raise your quota and send it to F. B. Blanton, treas. of the Polk county fair association Columbus, N. C. so expense bills can be paid as they are incurred. The entrance cards are now ready for the printer, but the printer refuses to do the work until paid for, so please send in what cash you have collected and collect and send in the balance at once.

There must be some pens for pigs and other live stock purposes and it can not be done until you men act. If the fair is a success the directors will have most of the glory, if a failure likewise the shame will be theirs, so lets all, from president up, bestir himself and herself, and see to it that there will be no shame to be distributed, but that all connected with the fair may have a good share of the glory when glory shall have been achieved.

### Our Fairs.

North Carolina during the last seven years has moved up from 23rd among the states of the Union in agricultural values, to 4th only three states ahead. North Carolina also stands ahead of all other states in the amount of fair work, and especially community fair work this largely accounts for this rapid advance in agricultural products. Last year we conducted four successful community fairs in the county. This year we desire to have six, one in each township five of the townships are already organized, all but Tryon and we hope to have Tryon to come across in a few days, of course Tryon township can not afford to be the tail end of Polk County from the agricultural stand point Tryon can hold a splendid fair if she tries. We want every township to hold a community fair during the week preceding the county fair which will be October 13 to 14th and then let these township fairs bring their best products to Columbus and have a great big round up county fair and show what we can do when we half try. You see it's this way our county commissioners appropriated \$250.00 to be given as prizes for excellent exhibits at the county fair. This money was paid by all the townships, and the way for each township to get back its share of this tax money, is to be on hand at the county fair with your good farm products, stock and etc.

### To Make Transparent Paper.

To make transparent paper, dilute one part of castor oil with two or three parts of alcohol, dip the paper into it and hang it in the open air to dry.

### Secret of Leadership.

The secret of the world's leadership is right in our keeping. To understand men we look at ourselves. To know what is without, we must study what is within. To lead others we must lead ourselves. Our power will soon grow. So will our influence.—Exchange.

### True Lotus and the Lotus of Poetry.

Neither the true Lotus of ancient Egypt nor the sacred Lotus of the Orient must be confused with the plant referred to in Tennyson's poem, which was the jubebe, a prickly shrub bearing fruits resembling a plum or date, and much used as a dessert. Homer describes the wandering Ulysses as arriving at the coast of Libya, where many of his sailors partook of the jubebe fruits and immediately lost their desire to return to home and friends.—Journal of the New York Botanical Garden.

## Hampshire Swine Meeting and Community Fair.

The next meeting of the Hampshire Swine Breeders Interstate Association, will be in Missildine Hall on Tuesday, August, 31st at 10:30 a m all members are hereby notified and the business men of Tryon and Polk county are respectfully desired to be present, also the farmers, and business men of Tryon township regardless of whether town or county, are requested and urged to attend this meeting, and before the adjournment of the same we want to determine whether or not we shall have a community fair at Tryon, N. C. every other township is arranging for one. Saluda on one side and the progressive town of Landrum on the other are bending their efforts, and mean to show the world and themselves what they are doing. Will Tryon sit stonily and fail to let the world know she is on the map agriculturally? I call attention to this matter to Tryon business men, and if they refuse to cooperate and act now, then I'll see what Lynn will do in this respect. Tryon is the logical place for the Tryon community fair.

### MICKIE SAYS:



## FARMER AND GOOD HIGHWAYS

Has Become Hard Working and Voting Enthusiast for Improved Roads Because of Many Benefits.

The biggest booster for good roads in the country today is the farmer. A few years ago he felt that the portion of his taxes used in the construction of permanent highways represented a benefit only to the motoring tourist and the city automobile owner, writes H. W. Slauson in Leslie's. The farmer argued that he was paying for their pleasures, and the result was a superstition against the good roads movement.

Now, however, when the farmer finds that his land has trebled in value: when the merchandise for which he has telephoned in the morning can be delivered by noon of the same day; when the market for his own produce is brought hours nearer; when the winter and its following spring thaw possess no terrors for him—all this because of the improved highway which makes his farm only a suburb, as it were, of the nearest city—he naturally becomes a hardworking and hard-voting enthusiast for good roads.

## GRAVEL GOOD FOR HIGHWAYS

When Properly Handled It Can Be Traveled Over All Year—Dirt Road is Different.

While gravel, as a rule, does not make the best type of road, that is not so much the fault of the gravel as of the way it is put on. It is usually not evenly spread or leveled down, nor are the holes kept filled. If properly handled a gravel road can at least be traveled on any time of the year, which cannot be said of a dirt road.

The NEWS, \$2 per year.

## FROM OUR FRIENDS IN THE COUNTRY

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

### Mill Spring.

Revival services closed at Bethlehem Sunday night. Rev. J. M. Barber, the former pastor helped the present pastor, many souls were saved and fourteen united with the church. As a whole the meeting was one of the best ever held in the church.

Mrs. C. M. Dicus and children, are visiting her mother Mrs. T. C. Gibbs.

The play given at the school house the 7th was quite a success, owing to the unfavorable weather \$9.00 was realized as the fees and presented to the school.

James Edgerton, left Tuesday for Mars Hill school.

Several of Mr. J. M. Barber's sons, have visited him in the last week.

Rev. Roy Lewis, is home for a vacation. He is at Columbus this week helping Rev. E. J. Jones in the revival. They will begin a series of meetings at the Baptist church here Sunday. Let us hope for a successful week and work to that end.

Misses Eva and Mollie Edgerton visited relatives near Rock, Spring last week-end.

The singing school at the Baptist church closed last Saturday.

Misses Malissie and Mabel Pack, visited friends in Inman, last week.

Messrs Roy and Claud Lewis, attended a family reunion near Rutherfordton, Sunday.

Christain Endeavor at Bethlehem, next Sunday p. m. at 5 o'clock, leader Edward Barber, topic "seeking things worth while" Lets attend these meetings and realize some good from them.

Don't forget about the community and county fair, we want to make them the best this year.

### Fishtop.

We have some hopes of fair weather now.

Miss Avaree Jones spent a day or so in Asheville last week, having her eyes tested.

We have just learned while Claud Gilbert was home on a furlough he and Miss Laura Case daughter of Jess Case, were married on the 9th. He has returned to camp and has something over two more years to serve yet.

We saw Jess Case working on the road Saturday, something unusual you may know roads are in a bad condition sure enough when you see Case working them.

We sure need that road J. R. Sams spoke of last week, it will open up Coopers Gap township one of the best if not the best township in the county and she has five of them all good

### Melvin Hill.

The school here is progressing nicely, under the management of Prof. Kreider who has charge of the advanced grade, and Mrs. Kreider who has charge of the primary. Another large blackboard has been installed, and the advanced pupils are making good use of same in their study of mathematics.

Messrs Otho Head and Claud Gilbert have gone to Columbus, Ohio, for the purpose of bringing in a new car, which the former has recently purchased.

Mrs. G. A. Branscom, Miss Robb and Frank Branscom, at-

tended church at Brooklynn S. C., Sunday.

Misses Amamda and Etta Jones of Brooklyn, S. C., attended Sunday school here Sunday.

G. C. Feagan and wife made a business trip to Chesnee, Monday.

Dewey Laughter who got hurt with a base ball is getting better now.

There was quite a crowd out last Saturday night to hear the divorce question discussed. We heard some good speaking. The affirmative won the decision.

The next debate will be resolved that the commercial fertilizers is detrimental to the success of farmers in the southern states. Speakers are J. W. Stacy, W. B. Feagan, J. Burnett, G. C. Feagan, J. W. Walker, and W. H. Kreider. All farmers should attend this debate as they might hear something to their interest.

### Cross Keys.

We hope the rain will hold up for a few days so our roads will get so we can get over them with out sticking up.

Mr. Z. B. Rodgers and a number of others have gone to Virginia to see if they will like that country well enough to move there.

Barnett Blackwell of Spartanburg is visiting his parents near here.

Mrs. R. L. Collins went to Asheville one day last week to have an operation performed on one of her eyes.

Miss Lela Barnett of Spartanburg is at home with her parents for a few days.

A large crowd attended the B. Y. P. U. at Greens Creek Sunday, P. M.

Earl Whiteside and wife spent Sunday with T. A. Pendleton and wife.

### Sandy Plains.

Mrs. Price from Clifside, N. C., is visiting at Ruben Barnett's.

Roscoe Hall and wife spent Sunday evening at D. R. Williams's

Mr. Gold, Will Pianter and Zeb Rodgers started for Virginia Sunday, going to Chase City and Bershire.

Miss Fannie Dickson is spending a few weeks at J. T. Camp's.

Mrs. Maryann Smalley spent the week-end at her daughter's, Mrs. Williams, at Slide, N. C.

Rubin Collins spent Saturday night with Grady Flynn.

Joe McDowell was a caller at J. T. Camp's Sunday evening.

W. E. Walker has gone on a business trip to Shelby.

Henry Jackson was a visitor at A. E. Hall's Saturday.

Marshall Chitwood went to Clifside Sunday evening.

We are all glad to see the News again.

### Common Superstitions.

Most people are superstitious. With some the breaking of a looking glass means a gloomy foreboding. Peacock feathers were formerly considered bearers of sickness. The Greeks and Romans of ancient times put implicit trust in omens and never undertook enterprises of any moment without consulting the oracle.

### Earth Still Growing.

In the early days of its history the earth grew rapidly by the addition of meteoric matter. It is still growing in the same manner, though scarcely to an appreciable extent, for the mass of meteoric matter added yearly is reckoned to be only 20,000 tons.