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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.

To my friends in Polk county. To those of you who may not know where I am, to let you know is a partial reason why I am writing, but the main reason is to tell you from impressions of what I have seen and heard, what is going on in the old north state. Ten years ago it was generally believed and accepted as a fact that farmers in Piedmont and eastern Carolina could not grow permanent pastures and live stock like the mountain section of the state. But this session of the farmer's convention has once for all disabused the farmer's mind, if he kept his ear opened and his understanding alert. For one time the subject permanent pastures in N. C., and their importance and ease, with which they can be had was handled just to my notion. If every editor in North Carolina, religious, political and what not, would preach pastures permanent summer and winter pastures for every section of the state, within the next ten years an agricultural millenium would come to the old north state. You farmers in North Carolina, who love and cherish your precious old bibles, go right now and get that old dusty copy laid away unused so long, and turn to the first chapter and the eleventh verse and see what God commanded us to do. For fear you will not do as requested let me quote, Genesis 1, 11. And God said let the earth bring forth grass, He did not say make the earth bring forth grass but let it, and for all these years we have been fighting straight against the plain command of the all wise loving Father. Now suppose we turn about just cut the old field scrubby pines and other bushes, briars and weeds, and place them in gullies and on galls and bare places and give that Japan clover a chance and see what it will do for you, if it is not already started, then sow 4 or 5 pounds per acre, because you can't afford to wait for it to start spontaneously, then when this Japan clover gets a good start sow about two pounds white or Dutch clover and 6 to 10 lbs. red top per acre. Then keep right on adding first one grass and another until you get just as good a pasture as you want. Now of course I am not giving instructions for the preparation and seeding of good fresh rich land. This is for any poor "cuss" who has some old fields and too trifling to go ahead and till his land before seeding or too infernally stingy to put his already good money into soil improvement to insure the best and richest pastures from the very start. What the cotton sections of the south needs most of all, is to convert the old forsaken lands that do not pay for cultivation into valuable pastures, by just the simple inexpensive way outlined. A visit to Mr Keith's place near Anderson, S. C., will convince the most skeptical on this point. He has converted an old run down cotton farm of 76 acres, badly washed land, without any preparation whatever into excellent pastures by the above method. When there last May I saw 62 head of cattle grazing and doing well on this 76 acres of pasture built up, just by cutting off the pines, briars and etc. and without preparation of any kind adding grasses and clovers to the Japan clover that already had a start. Now if you

have the cash and labor then go at it as you please, if you have not the capital and labor then go at it as you can, but by all means get at it and stay at it until the thing is done. What we want all over the south is men who will do the thing they think can't be done. Do you know a thing that can't be done is done? well here is the way it is done, some fellow who don't know it can't be done undertakes it, and the blamed fool don't know it can't be done he just keeps right on till he does it. There is a pasture campaign on in N. C. Shall old Polk lag in this battle for agricultural betterment, or shall she be the first county in the state to boast a good permanent all the year around pasture on every farm in the county? J. R. SAMS.

That Fair in October.

What can I do to help make it a success? Well I can talk it up from now till then, but talk alone won't make a fair that is true, but no talk at all will end in no fair just the same, so it takes some good friendly enthusiastic talk and some down right good hard work to make a success of a fair of any kind. We are very fortunate in every township in Polk County in procuring real hustling presidents and sec. and they have selected working committees. Now the fair is on in each township which will get that \$25.00 prize for the best exhibit and best arranged fair at the county fair at Columbus Oct. 13th and 14th? Each township fair organization will see that their community fair is carried to Columbus on the 13th. for exhibition and judging on the 14th at which time I guarantee the \$25.00 to the township making the best all around and best arranged fair. This \$25.00 will meet the states \$25.00 for the next year's fair, in addition to the honor it will bring the successful township. Now all get ready and pull for the prize.

Another thing just now for farmers to think about and do is that same old thing you have not done that should have been done fifty years ago, that is that hay and pasture crop, just call on Capt. Lindsey Tryon, N. C., and ask him where he buys his hay and you will find a barn loft full of fine hay all the year round, his horse slick, fat and no hay bought at \$60.00 per ton. You ask where does he get that hay right there on a little piece of land some what larger than an army blanket, which he mows three times per year, besides it keeps the land from washing and affords a lot of grazing for horses and milk cow in addition to the hay. Why should not every farmer in Polk county determine right now that he will begin with preparing at least an acre for a hay crop next year? I don't mean oats and vetch, I mean a permanent meadow that will last several years, of course that oat and vetch crop is all right and should be attended to but that is always an emergency project, so if you have a cold dry May that will make your regular meadow hay crop late or a failure. you will have the oats and vetch which ripen in May. Now please don't forget these important things until it is too late. The time for both these farm enterprises is right now on for this season; still another thing to keep in mind is that community club

MICKIE SAYS:

FRIENDS, THERE'S A LOT OF YOU WHO ARE READIN' THIS PAPER WHO ARE LOOKIN' ME IN THE EYE RIGHT NOW WHO ARE DUE TO GIVE US THE CUSTOMARY SIMOLEONS THIS WEEK FOR ANOTHER YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION, ONLY YOU'D HAVE FORGOT ABOUT IT BUT FER ME, IN BEING AS HOW I'VE REMINDED YOU, I HOPE YOU'LL ALL KICK IN SOON SO I WON'T GIT IN BAD WITH FRIEND BOSS



fair, work school work and betterment in general can be done best through a community club. I was at Mill Spring last Wednesday evening and enjoyed a perfect feast in hearing the program of the evening executed; really it would have been creditable for a large town—showed talent intelligence and executive ability and it was their own work, I had nothing to do with it neither did any town folks come in to show them how to do it. Mill Spring club meets twice a month, and if you don't believe they do things just call around. You need not think your presence will scare them out or even embarrass them they will deliver the goods just the same. Coopers Gap has one also and are doing excellent work. Saluda will be heard from. Some good ladies are getting hold of this thing and in connection with a lot of good men who mean to transform Saluda into one of the most progressive towns in touch with her agricultural environment that will mean great progress for town and county alike. Old Columbus is coming, she has taken the preliminary step and next Monday evening will complete her community organization. Greens Creek and Tryon will follow suite, Tryon has just enjoyed a chautauqua which cost a lot of money, with a community club well and wisely organized local talent could be brought in to action that in point of real whole entertainment, would beat the traveling show out of hollow, because it would be home grown and the receipts if any charged would stay at home and help build Tryon or any other community that rendered them besides the community would be richer and better because of the mental and spiritual effort to bring such things into realization. In other words we would be studying art, right in the chimney corner at home. Yet one more little thing and that is winter is just out ahead again, and all out houses should be over hauled, especially the roof on the barns, cow houses, hen houses, tool sheds and etc. And what about those high priced farm tools laying around in the rain and sunshine when it does shine, my word for it, the rot and rust, from crop time to crop time again does much more damage than the annual wear and tare.

Now pull for Polk County or pull out. The man or woman who kicks his county or town, should get out and find more congenial quarters. Which township will get that \$25.00 prize

offered for best community fair carried to Columbus Oct. 13th and on exhibition Oct. 14th? Here are the conditions, 1st the competing township must carry their farm and all other articles grown or manufactured, in their township to Columbus and have them entered and on exhibition by 11 o'clock Oct. 14th 1920. 2nd any white man or woman, boy or girl from any competing township may enter anything for exhibition which may produce in said township whether shown in community fair or not, if entered before 11 a. m. as above stated. I am guaranteeing this prize myself, but if any farmers or business men desire to join me or will aid in making it \$50.00 or \$100.00 just send along the cash and full credit will be given through the columns of this paper.

Columbus

Mrs. Lindsey Swafford of Spartanburg, S. C., is spending some time with her parents before leaving for Montgomery, Alabama.

Miss Margaret Cantrell has returned to her home at Landrum, after spending a few days with friends.

Messrs. Edgar Newman and Frank Elliott of Washington, D. C., are spending a few days with relatives.

Avery Elliott of Akron, Ohio is visiting his family here this week.

John Sneider who has been substitute for Prof. for the past week returned to his home at Columbia, S. C., Monday.

Miss Myrtle McQuinn is visiting relatives at Big Level.

Misses Eva and Estella Pace, Bernice Smith, Makle Lynch, Ruth Byers, Alice McCrain, Elma Newman, Messrs. Phil Head, Spurgeon Bishop, Frank Green, William Edgerton, are among the new students enrolled in Stearns high school this year.

M. P. Mills of Spartanburg, spent the week-end with home folks.

Ray Arledge of Greensboro, N. C., spent a few days with relatives recently.

A. P. Moore has sold out his stock of goods to Lambright & Co.

Dr. H. H. Edwards is in Charlotte on business this week.

Attorney R. Arledge is spending a few days in Hendersonville.

Miss Ellen Erwin of Rutherfordton, visited friends here last week.

Misses Alice, Ada and Mattie Tallant, Mrs. L. H. Cloud and Mr. John Gilbert, attended the childrens day at Sandy Plain Sunday.

Mrs. Ben Green spent one day last week in Tryon.

Miss Eula Jackson of Mill Spring is visiting friends here.

A. Y. Arledge of Hendersonville spent Monday here on business.

Miss Nellie Brown of Clinton, S. C., visited relative here last week.

Fred Blanton and wife visited in Lincolnton last week.

The Columbus betterment club will tender a reception to the faculty and patrons of Stearns high school Tuesday night.

Born to M. P. Spears and wife on last Saturday a girl.

Preaching Sunday morning at Columbus Baptist church. Important business conference after service. E. J. JONES, pastor.

M. P. Spears returned last week from a trip to Monroe, N. C., where he tried the case of Henry Spears vs. Talksee power Co. for personal injuries, and reports he received a verdict of \$5000.

FROM OUR FRIENDS IN THE COUNTRY

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

Tryon Route 1.

Do we appreciate the beauty of these September mornings as we should?

Rev. Mr. Hackney and family spent Sunday afternoon at Walnut Grove.

B. F. Nance and family, visited F. B. Nance and family Sunday afternoon.

J. M. Barber and wife, were pleasant visitors at Miss Sallie Carpenter's Monday.

Mesdames S. B. Edwards and Mull were charming visitors at Walnut Grove Monday.

Born to Ray Edwards and wife a wee girlie Evangeline Sue, on Sept. 2nd.

There will be an ice cream supper at Fox Mountain school house Saturday evening Sept. 18th, for the purpose of raising our community fair funds for premiums everybody come.

Lee Green is spending his vacation with relatives on route 1.

Mrs. Robert Pitman is very ill with paralysis at this writing.

Melvin Hill.

The protracted meeting is still in progress here with a good attendance and increasing interest. There has been several added to church by baptism, also several by letter and reclamation.

A few of the farmers have begun pulling fodder in this section.

There was no debate here Saturday night on account of the meeting which is in progress here.

Joe Morris of Cliffside, passed through Melvin Hill last Sunday.

Mrs. Etta Branscom received the sad news last Thursday of the death of her brother, Oliver Reed, of Dayton Ohio, and she only is left of her family of parents brothers and sisters.

J. W. Stacy has been making some repairs on his residence lately.

J. P. Henderson and wife also Misses Minnie and Ethel Henderson of Mill Creek has been attending meetings here for a few days.

Absolom Jackson and wife of Rutherfordton, are spending a few days in this town.

G. C. Feagan and wife also Mr. Kreider and wife took a little spin in and around Aboline, Sunday afternoon.

Simp Johnson who was in a critical condition sometime back, is very much improved now—says he is feeling fine.

Misses Lula and Dela Johnson have the prize flower yard in this place, and Mrs. Stacy comes second, with a profusion of petunias, crimson balsam, phlox and asters. Mrs. S. S. Lawter has the best arranged front yard, with a young hedge well started, and borders of violets, also plenty of flowers.

The Misses Jones of Brooklyn, S. C. attended worship here Sunday night.

The debate here next Saturday night will be a joint debate between Melvin Hill and Green River and will discuss pro and cons of the equal education of women with men. Everybody come out and hear some good speaking.

To Clean Beeswax.

When sewing-room beeswax begins to look dingy, it may be melted and remolded. The grime drops off at once when the wax is melted on the surface of boiling water, and gives a clean piece of beeswax when remolded.

Lynn.

The series of meetings closed in the unfinished church last Sunday night quite a good attendance all through the meeting, 4 or 5 accessions. The ordinance of Baptism will be administered next Sunday at 3 o'clock by Dr. Pratt pastor.

Dr. Pratt will preach Sunday night it being his regular appointment.

Rev. Langley and wife leave this week for their home, Little Rock S. C.

About \$300 was obligated last Sunday night for the church building fund.

A nice little complimentary purse was gathered up by some of the ladies of the church for Rev. Langley. Its to be hoped they will likewise remember their pastor.

A. N. Kunkle is visiting his old home, Newton, N. C. this week.

D. G. Martin and daughters Miss Kate Masten of Grove, N. C., also Mrs. Bridges of Blocksburg, S. C. were visiting N. W. Randall and family last week.

Stanley Swann and family of Fort Peirce Florida are visiting his father D. H. Swann and other relatives this week will leave last of week to visit a brother and sister somewhere in Illinois.

Last Monday was Labor Day. Next holiday will be Polk County Fair—will have two holidays. Get ready. We noticed Tryon will have a community or township fair, looks as if they might pull off a good one.

The Lynn school will open next Monday the 13, with the following teachers: Prof. Edward H. Crain, principal; Miss Ada Tallant, primary; Miss Lee Jackson, 2nd 3rd grade; Mrs. L. W. Pesson, 4th 5th grade Miss Lizzie Cole, 6th 7th grade and high school, Miss Sallie C. Parker domestic science and music.

Fishtop.

One more week of good weather past.

J. W. and T. W. Bradley, visited the Henderson family Sunday.

Walter Burgess was in this section Sunday.

T. W. Bradley stepped on a large rattler one day last week. When he got off he was scared worse than hurt, but soon recovered and killed his snake.

The protracted meeting was discontinued at Silver Creek on account of bad behavior so we hear.

We understand that Doc Pace will resume work at his sawmill this week.

R. C. Jackson went to Saluda one day last week with a fine beef. Pastures are fine and cattle are doing well.

Aunt Betsey Jones' strawberry bed is the talk of all. She has ripe berries every day.

T. W. Bradley has bushed out about one mile of road and it makes such a change surely some one will help and finish the Cove road.

Women sufrage is not cutting muck ice here.

Some Consolation.

For the encouragement of men who are prone to call themselves hard names when they have done something unusually foolish, the wise man has said "Those who never make mistakes never make anything else."