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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 The Farmers of Polk County

What now? Yes, let us all think seriously what we should do right now and about what may happen during the next year. First of all we should think of the ten thousand blessings we have and are enjoying every day we live. We should think how much worse our condition might be. We should think that much worse times have come to our forefathers in the south and they weathered the storms, and let us take courage and do likewise. We should think that all hard times in the past preceded the most prosperous days the county ever witnessed. So let us look forward with that buoyant hope that will bring the better days. Now as to what will happen in the future will depend on what we think about at present. So let us quit thinking and growing about hard times hereafter and the way to get out of the present depressions. Now I am not going to give a prescription to alleviate present pain and guard against future pain but I am going to give you a synopsis of Dr. Tait Butler's orders before the meeting of the State Livestock Association at Salisbury, N. C. He said we in the south should never abandon growing cattle, but that we must grow it in a safe and sensible way, that no county can thrive on a one crop system. He further declared and reaffirmed that no county could grow and sell crops from the farms and maintain the farm fertility except through growing and feeding livestock and returning crops in the form of manure to the land. He said now don't anybody go off and quit all kind of crop growing and go to growing livestock alone for that would prove as disastrously as the one crop of any thing else. Again he said, again I warn you to not try to grow livestock until you prepare pastures for grazing and grow hay and grain on which to feed them. He further said the south is compelled to become a stock grazing county whither we want it to be or not. People in Polk county have called me a grass crank, pasture crazy and perhaps much more, to all of which I plead guilty and more besides, but if you could have heard the great address of Dr. Tait Butler, before the State Livestock Association you would have concluded that I couldn't hold a candle for Dr. Tait Butler to talk crazy talk about grass, pastures and good livestock.

The time is coming and already here outside and away from the boll weevil that we must change from the all clean crop system. We must as Dr. Butler said, whether we like it or not go to covering our hilly lands with grass and grow cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry more than we do. So let us look to the farm program published a few weeks ago and get busy 1st to build up our soil, 2nd keep it after it is built, 3rd grow legume and sod crops, 4th as these things come along grow more livestock to feed more crops to make more manure to go on the land to produce more feed, to feed more stock, "ad libitum"

Polk county farmers are advised that soy beans now on the market are lower than at any time during the last two years, and those who desire to plant

this crop next spring will do well to procure their seed as early as possible. This is one crop that should be more largely grown both for the sake of the land and for the sake of the milk cow that supplies the home with milk and butter.

The seed corn show for Polk county will not be until the 1st. Monday in February. All farmers who have good seed corn and those who have bad are invited to save seed for home use and for neighbors and bring samples to the seed corn show on the 1st. Monday in February. We want to make this a real day for Polk county farming. A good corn crop for 1921 should be the aim of every farmer and now is the time to prepare seed and also to prepare land, tools and everything necessary to insure a good crop.

Write for seed catalogues. Select all seeds, field, grass, clover, garden etc. buy and be ready to plant when the time comes.

Have the plow ready with keen new paint all snug in the dry and plow every suitable day this winter and have that much of spring work off.

Keep those stalls well littered with straw and other leaves from the forest to insure a big crop of manure for the garden and field next spring.

Remember that manure applied to grass and clover sods will pay you better than applied any where else in the long run. Now is the time to think over your poultry plans and decide just what you mean to do next year, get in touch now with a good near by poultry man for your eggs for setting and for stock.

Orchard men should see that their spray machinery big or little is in tune and that all spray materials for the dormant spray is on hand. February will soon be here.

Those who desire to grow their own hop vines should procure their cuttings now. Cut to three buds. Tie in convenient bundles and bury below the freezing point and they will be ready for planting in rows in the spring.

Grafts and grafting wax may be prepared any time and be ready when spring arrives for insertion. Grafts may be cut and buried as the grape at any time from now till January 10th.

Now whatever you don't do don't neglect the proper care of your milk cow and hens. House them all well and feed them properly and they will in turn feed you and your children on the best human food that the earth can produce.

Lest I forget it, let me tell you another thing I saw last week and it was a ghostly sight I saw a good woman send 8 lbs. of as fine butter as a Jersey cow ever made to one of the largest merchants in Tryon, and it was returned for the reason that said merchant had on hand 50 lbs. What if he had 200 lbs. Is it not the merchants place to find a market both ways? Let the merchant ship on to larger markets when the home market is over supplied is the way to build a town and county.

While this is not the main time of year to do work on the pastures still much may be done now of otherwise idle days—bushes, briars and stumps may be re-

moved and put in gullies, straw, cane stalks from the molasses place and litter hauled from the woods may be applied to the thin places in the pasture and a little grass seed scattered on the ground before spreading these materials, and just see what it will do. Don't forget that work done in the pastures will bring greater returns than applied anywhere else on the farm.

Remember that according to principals worked out by Dr. E. V. McCullon, of John Hopkins University, milk, butter, eggs and garden vegetables contain the necessary elements to make healthy babies and children and strong men and women in a higher degree than can be found any where else. This information should urge every farmer to keep more dairy cows, better flocks of poultry and make better all the year around gardens. The milk cows should be fed, sheltered and cared for better than they generally are. The flock of poultry on the farm should be housed and properly fed. You would not expect your hog to fatten without feed, your cow to give milk without feed. Then why should you expect your hens to lay without feed. Come let us reason together and be consistent.

Throwing corn to the hens three times a day is not feeding poultry for eggs, this only maintains life. Hens need at all times to have animal protein which they get in worms, bugs and insects of different kinds during the warm season, but during the winter they get little or none from this source. Hence they should have bone meal, beef scrap, blood meal or plenty of buttermilk through the winter and plenty of all the mixed grain grown on the farm, cane seed is alright but always remember that to feed cane seed with corn does not give variety—oyster shells or lime in some form would generally give good results as lime in Polk county is short everywhere.

Hillcrest

Misses Martha Hickman and Ruth Brian have returned to the Woman's college at Due West, S. C., after spending the holidays at home.

Revs. R. N. Hunter and G. H. Kidd, went to Charlotte last week to attend a prayer meeting conference.

Mrs. G. H. Kidd and little daughter, Agnes, have returned to their home after an extended visit with Mrs. Kidd's parents near Staunton, Va.

Lewis F. Camp has returned to Charlotte, after spending the holidays at home.

Robt. Crawford and Jack McKinny, of Chesnee, spent several days last week hunting with O. E. Wilkins and J. T. Camp.

Miss Alma High, of Spartanburg Co., visited Miss Carrie Greenway during the holidays.

John Clark Gray has returned to Wofford.

C. E. Gray is reported better this week.

Howard Brian has returned to his studies in Cincinnati, Ohio, after a short visit with his parents.

Miss Carrie Johnston's friends regret that she will not return to Hillcrest this term on account of illness in her family.

Heat

"I don't have ter preach long in de winter time," said Brother Dickey. "Wen de church stove gets red hot I jes calls de attention of de sinners ter it, and dat's all de preachin' what dey needs!"—Pittsburgh Gazette-Times.

Our Saluda Department.

S. A. NABERS, Editor

P. H. Bailey spent Tuesday in Spartanburg.

Dr. Little was a visitor in Asheville Tuesday.

Mrs. Louise Salley and children, have returned after a pleasant visit in Greelgyville, S. C.

Fred Bailey and wife, have taken rooms with the Culliphers.

Henry Corwith and family have returned from a pleasant visit with relatives at Maryville, Tenn.

Doran Fisher took the first degree in Masonary last Friday night it being his 21st birthday.

There will be a birthday party at Ryder Hall next Friday night for the benefit of the Athletic Association of Saluda Seminary. Everybody is invited.

Doran Fisher went to Landrum last Sunday.

James Kerr, of Asheville, is now with the Saluda Pharmacy.

T. A. Bishop spent Monday and Tuesday in Asheville.

"Daddy" Hart is still doing a thriving parcel post business with butter.

Rev. Frederic Hollister led prayer meeting at the Methodist church last Wednesday evening using as his subject the christian training of children.

Miss M. E. Hunt spent the week-end in Asheville in the home of Dr. Elias.

Lucile and Earline Noble, of Newport News, are now students at the seminary.

Ralph Swafford, of Cowpens, is now at the boys' dormitory.

The following new students are at the seminary: Bruce Holden, Glyn McIntosh, Elizabeth Morris, Annie Byrd and Carrie Head.

The Epworth League will meet with the Christian Endeavor at Ryder Hall next Sunday night.

Saluda's greatest need is a graded school building.

Carries Home His Bride

Mr. Eugene Ransom, special agent for the fish and oyster people of Norfolk, Va., came to Saluda this week to claim his bride, Miss Meta Cullipher the charming daughter of J. B. Cullipher, the popular post master of Saluda.

The couple were married at Hendersonville on Tuesday Jan. 11th, and left on No 10 for Norfolk, Va., where they will make their home.

Gifts of The W. O. W.

The W. O. W. at their regular meeting Tuesday night gave \$10 to each of the four churches of Saluda and also to each of the neighboring churches which are: Friendship, Mountain Page and Macdonia. Besides giving \$10 to each of the seven churches they sent a check for \$25 to the American relief for the starving children in Europe. The W. O. W. also presented aunt Lou Pitts, with a check for ten doars.

At The Congregational Church.

Rev. W. A. Black, A. M. Pastor. Bible School Sunday morning at 10.

Public Worship and Sermon at 11.

Bible Studies in Matthew Wednesdays at 4 p. m.

Tourists and all citizens cordially welcome.

One Short

Children's minds have childish worries. A little girl, on hearing that a baby sister had just arrived, making six children in the family, complained: "Oh, dear, now one package of gum won't go 'round."—Boston Transcript.

FROM OUR FRIENDS IN THE COUNTRY

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

Melvin Hill.

A mixture of weather has prevailed here for the last day or two in which we had rain, sleet, hail and snow.

School was resumed here Monday morning which had been closed for the Christmas holidays.

There has been a few weddings in this vicinity. Will Tate and Miss Edna Honcutt; also Stephen Jolly and Miss Cora Westbrook were married during the holidays.

Will Toney of Collinsville and C. B. Sanders of Green River were in this town on business recently.

Mrs. Gallie Johnson and children have moved back to their old home down on the branch.

Sames Horn had several narrow escapes on Christmas day when the car he was driving overturned two or three times.

Foster Head and family, have moved to their new home which was recently built on their estate.

There has been a new bridge built across the stream that runs through Melvin Hill.

Prof. and Mrs. Kreider attended a teachers meeting at Greens Creek High school Friday.

Mrs. Martha Johnson who had her hand bitten by a pig has got a dog bite now on the same hand or rather on the wrist of the same. The last bite was a mere scratch however and we hope will not give so much trouble as the former did.

Mrs. Huntley (grandma) had the misfortune of falling and injuring her hand very badly but fortunately escaped other injuries.

Prof. and Mrs. Kreider gave an entertainment at the school and had a beautiful Christmas tree and presents for all the school children and most of the patrons. There was a large crowd out and all enjoyed the occasion.

Mrs. G. A. Brownscom has been quite poorly for some time.

The many friends of the Kilpatricks, who moved from here to Texas three years ago, will be glad to know that they are still living and well.

Columbus

The death angel came to the home of Tom Greens Sunday and claimed their little daughter Addie Lee, four years old. Their loss is Heavens gain. The friends and neighbors extend their sympathy to the bereaved family.

Mrs. Lillie Weaver Haynes and two children, are visiting relatives and friends in Columbus.

Miss Carrie McNeely's sister visited her at the dormitory Saturday night.

We are sorry our music teacher Miss Orphie Sherard, of Stearns High School, has not returned to her work.

Who says Columbus is not improving? Three new families have moved into the village in the past ten days and more want houses. The Prince family, Wings family and Lynch family. We are glad to have these people and think they will be a great help to our school and community.

We have a wide awake principal Prof. W. D. Loy. Now let's study hard and make our parents,

and teachers and the county be proud of us.

Earnest McMurray and Archie Feagan returned last week to W. N. C. Misses Vada McMurray and Marie Burgess returned to Elon College and Thelma Mills to Greensboro.

Roone Arledge left last Wednesday for Hendersonville to practice law.

Mrs. A. L. Pitman and Mrs. L. H. Cloud were shopping in Landrum, S. C., Wednesday.

Robert Landis is improving fast from an attack of pneumonia.

Messrs. Cloud, Hill, Ormand, Burgess and Clark brothers have been quite busy the past week repairing the house which is now occupied by Mr. Lynch and family.

A. L. McMurray, wife, and two lady teachers of Lynn, motored to Greens Creek Saturday.

John Denton who has been in U. S. service the past fifteen years is visiting his people on Tryon, Route 1.

Mrs. E. W. Dedmond has returned home from a visit with her daughter at Kings Mountain.

Mill Spring Route 1

Father time has ushered another year in for us all to face. The year 1920 is a thing of the past, it's mistakes, sorrows, joy and successes are all gone forever. Let's look to the future and resolve to make this our best year. If we will only get right ourselves many things will happen this year.

W. W. Womack and wife, L. L. Womack and wife, spent Tuesday at the home of A. A. Womack.

J. L. Gilbert spent Saturday night with friends in this section.

Messrs. Fletcher and Benson Edwards, also their sister, Ellen, students of Brevard Institute, returned to resume their school duties Wednesday.

Misses Letha Barber and Minnie Womack, spent Tuesday at the home of J. L. Edwards.

Misses Cora Scoggins and Ellen Edwards spent Monday afternoon with Mrs. Jerry Jackson.

Sorry to note that Mrs. A. A. Womack is on the sick list. Hope she will soon recover.

Walter Elliott made a business trip to Rutherfordton Wednesday.

Much success to the News and it's large family, is our New Year's wish.

John Owens, of Rutherfordton, visited at the home of V. B. Hyder last Saturday.

A. A. Edwards made a business trip to Columbus Saturday.

Talmage Allen spent the week-end in Spartanburg.

V. B. Hyder and wife are rejoicing it's a girl.

Mrs. R. J. Walker visited her parents Friday.

A. A. Edwards is gathering his corn on Broad River this week. We suppose he will gather two crops in 1921.

It seems more like winter to have a little snow like that of last Monday.

Want of sleep is a common ailment for what of water in a week for want of sleep in ten days.