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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.

Having just completed a trip through the entire county, I am pleased to report the county in good condition for a forward movement, notwithstanding the little money pinch we are passing through. It is well sometimes to halt and consider what are the best things of life. Money properly used most assuredly is a good thing; but like water and fire when improperly used becomes a great curse. It is true that money just now is a little scarce and hard to come at, even for legitimate and needful purposes, but money is not the best things of life. We have an abundance of meat and bread in Polk county to enable us to make more meat and bread for next year. We also have plenty of cotton for next year and a good start even for the needs of the new year. So now is the time for every farmer to do some real good sober thinking. By all means we do not want the surplus hold over cotton to grow larger by making a large, or even a normal cotton crop this year. Let me then again warn and insist that the cotton crop this year be cut at least one third. Let every farmer diversify his crop more than he ever has before. Begin now and as a rule prepare to make a little more corn, not necessarily by putting in more acres; but by making and applying more manure. Sow more oats, grow more sorghum cane for molasses, make better pastures for your milk cows. There never was a better time than now while farm crops are low, to prepare and make better pastures on every farm. Build poultry houses and take better care of the farm poultry. Then by all means look after the garden. See to it, that you make the best garden of your life this year. Don't plant just a handful of onions and sow a nickel package of lettuce and mustard and coax yourself into the belief that you have planted a garden. Order a catalogue from a good reliable seedsman. There are plenty of them and they have beaten the record in getting out attractive ones, and select largely and make an all the year around garden. Do these things and begin now, only a few more days and January will be gone, and you know that February has only 28 days this year which will pass as the flight of a bird and old blustry March will be with us rushing and pushing us along whether or not we are ready for farm operations. I am glad, yes more than glad to give testimony that I never saw farmers in a more hopeful mood than at present. While business is a little dull just now; they know and accept the responsibility that is now upon them. They understand that the farmer is the great conservative master when in our economic and social machinery. They also know that in every great crisis; they are depended upon to break the ice and put things to going. So it is up to farmers to again show the world that they are capable for the great task of bridging the great reconstruction chasm caused by world war which has just closed. The crisis is upon us. The farmers must meet it or civilization will disappear from the face of the earth. Are we able to stand the test? Yes, in

God's name we will go forth to the battle and in His name and by His blessings will achieve the greatest victory ever won when the crops are harvested next fall, and on the 24th. day of next November which will be our next annual Thanksgiving; we will have the greatest occasion for Thanksgiving ever known in the history of our state and nation. Now every man and woman on the job and just watch us do it.

Watch Mrs. J. W Newman's garden. She is rushing the plow this morning January 24—and the onions and other forward vegetables will be in the ground and the average farmer will be wondering why Mrs. Newman is ahead with onions, beans roast-ingers, etc. Can anybody wonder if they will just watch her garden? Somebody else should do that way.

Last Friday Jan. 21, I visited Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Black and found them in the garden—a burly colored man rushing the plow planting irish potatoes. Do you see why they always have plenty of something good to eat? They keep right on improving a pasture for the family cow.

George Foster up in Saluda township had a dream one night. He dreamed he was walking in his sleep one night and stumbled over the bank of a great gully out on his farm that had been washed out by improper farm methods. He dreamed that his neck was almost broken and his shoulder dislocated and both shins badly skinned, when he awoke he was so thankful it was not so; but when he saw some awful gullies just above his house, he began to reason and concluded that unless those gullies were stopped his dream might come to pass. So you just ought to go up and see how he is after those gullies—and other Polk county farmers had better get after theirs, lest their dream comes true to them. Now lets make this a gully filling year in Polk county.

Everybody watch Pea Ridge. Vance Newman will mow the best demonstration piece of hay grasses in Polk county about June 1. He has promised to let me do the mowing.

James Phillips and Wm. Fowler are double teaming and mean to do some extra plowing, and they are hauling litter from the woods and making heaps of stable manure and are going to beat the record at the next fair for best yield and best quality of corn. Now just watch them.

George Edwards is preparing to sow more grass seed this spring. His grass lots are so valuable he says he must have more. His cattle know where to go and where to stay. Even a cow knows a good thing when they see it.

Saluda's Opportunity and Need

Every growing community has many needs and opportunities. And the one distinguishing characteristic of the live, up-to-date and progressive community is that it seeks to meet its needs and improve its opportunities. And this meeting of needs and using of opportunities. And so long as a community continues to meet its needs and take advantage of its opportunities it continues to grow.

That Saluda is a growing community with wonderful possibilities we are all agreed. A brighter day seems to be dawning upon our God favored village. But the new day brings not only increased opportunity, but also many pressing needs. Opportunity and need go hand in hand through life, and are very difficult to separate. No individual or community has ever had any great opportunity offered, but that there was some need or condition that had to be met before the opportunity could be realized. This is especially true of Saluda at this time. She has had great and promising opportunities, but also many pressing needs; and we can't realize on the opportunities without meeting the needs. As stated above opportunity and need go hand in hand and are, therefore, better understood if considered together; or, one discussed in the light of the other. So before naming Saluda's greatest need let us notice a few of her most promising opportunities.

Only a few miles west of Saluda a great corporation has invested more than two million dollars in the development of one of the greatest electric power plants in Western Carolina. The lake from this power company's dam is the largest and clearest body of fresh water in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Already roads have been constructed around this beautiful lake, which is to be stocked with fish from the government fisheries. It takes no prophet to see that Lake Summit will be one of the leading mountain resorts. And it is in Saluda's door. Saluda is not only the nearest town, but the most accessible. With the building of three miles of hard surfaced road she can almost claim it as her own.

Another great asset of Western North Carolina that is destined to make great strides within the next few years is its fruit industry. The growing of fine apples will be the delightful and profitable occupation of many. Saluda is already known as the place where the apples grow the largest and are of the finest flavor. The soil and climate seem to suit them just a little better than elsewhere. When this is generally known, as it will be in a few years, our vast acres of unused forest land around Saluda will be set to orchards.

For many years Saluda has been known as the most restful and recuperative summer resort in the mountains. Hundreds come here each season exhausted by excessive work or business cares, and after a few weeks rest in Saluda's delightful climate, return feeling several years younger on account of their restored strength and vigor. Mothers bring their children here delicate and pale, and carry them away in the bloom of health. Throughout South Carolina and Georgia many of the leading physicians' favorite prescriptions for children is; "Carry them to Saluda." Even John Hopkins hospital in Baltimore

sent a child patient here last summer. The singular success of Dr. Smith's Baby Hospital is winning many mothers' hearts for Saluda, and places another great opportunity at her door. But instead of being open for only a few months during the summer, this hospital should be open throughout the year, and a good hotel built for the accommodation of the mothers.

Spaces forbid further mentioning of her long list of opportunities. But the thoughtful reader will readily see that the three already mentioned have in them wonderful possibilities for the future growth and development of Saluda. As already stated Lake Summit is going to attract many summer tourists. Many cottages, and possibly boarding houses and hotels will be built on the grounds; yet many who delight in boating, fishing and swimming will prefer living in our quiet village, which is free from the morning fogs, and convenient to station, post-office, banks, stores and churches, and drive out to the lake for enjoyment of such sports. It will not be more than ten minutes ride by auto. Saluda and Lake Summit may be mutually helpful if the right spirit is manifested. When the horticultural advantages of this section are known men of money will come in and help us develop our apple industry. While the orchards will be of necessity, in the country; yet if we will make our community life what it should be, we can attract these good citizens to our town, and influence them to make their residence in Saluda. Many fond parents, who are now living in low altitudes, are looking unto the hills from whence cometh health. When they learn of the wonderful benefits other sick and delicate children have received from Saluda's health giving climate, they will come seeking the same blessing for theirs.

(Continued next week)

Mill Spring.

Wonder how everybody is enjoying this real winter weather. We are sorry to note that F. A. Coggin's little son, J. D., is real sick. We hope he will soon recover.

Miss Letha Barber returned to her school at Lebanon this morning, after spending the week-end with home folks.

Messrs. Robert Foster and Minter Barber, went to Rutherfordton last Tuesday morning and was caught out in a snow storm, they had to spend several days in town.

Little Mary Hackney was the pleasant dinner guest of Jennie Barber Sunday.

Miss Sallie Carpenter was a dinner guest of Mr. Hackney and wife Sunday.

Miss Mabel Pack spent Monday night with Miss Carrie Barber.

J. M. Barber has gone to Greenville, to see his son, who is in the hospital there on account of an automobile accident.

Ernest Smith was a pleasant caller of Miss Bertha Splawn Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. J. M. Barber was a guest of Mrs. J. R. Foster Sunday.

Miss Mabel Pack has been almost a nurse for the little sick boy here.

Success to the News.

Black Dog Most Edible.

Among the Chinese a particular species of dog is reared for the table. The flesh of black dogs is preferred to that of animals of another color, on account of nutriment it is supposed to possess.

FROM OUR FRIENDS IN THE COUNTRY

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

Mill Spring Route 2

The snow of last week blocked travel in this community. The preacher's name was misspelled in last week's items, it should have been Liner and not Tiner.

Mr. Ogle and family have moved to his place.

R. L. D. Gilbert moved from his place, to his daughter's on Broad River. We are sorry to have him go.

The Polk County Sunday school Convention will meet with Big Level church the 5th. Sunday in May.

Tryon Route 1

On the morning of the deep snow, did we push aside our many cares, and turn to the great outdoors where mother nature in all her prodigality had planted a garden incomparably beautiful, and which we could all enjoy. 'Twas the deepest, finest, softest snow we have had for years. There was no sled riding for the children, but could have the finest ice cream galore.

A little bird spent Wednesday night with the Hamilton children. He knocked on the window pane was let in, all enjoyed a nice time. Also three little lambs were added to the sheepfold during the deep snow.

J. M. Lewis and wife, spent last Sunday afternoon at the home of W. B. Edwards. We are glad to know they have decided to stay with us.

Oh! our mail man as well as the rest of us would like to know what is being done on the hard surface road question.

We had a strange mail distributed throughout this vicinity Sunday. It was seed catalogues with no prices. Whether the carrier went through the mud or air we do not know.

Sunny View

We are having some snowy weather these days.

Mrs. Ralph Jackson and Mrs. Ed Dimsdale, from Kansas City, Kan., are visiting their sick brother Fred Gibbs this week.

J. D. Carpenter visited J. L. Jackson Friday.

Miss Clara Edwards and I. V. Cathey, are visiting Miss Edwards' parents this week.

A. J. Dimsdale has gone to see his grandson, G. D. Coggin, who is very ill.

Birch Jackson made a business trip to Asheville.

There was an interesting debate here last Friday afternoon. It was, resolved that country life is more use than city life, and of course the affirmative won.

King Stepp and daughter, Ethel, visited her mother Sunday.

Fred Jackson and wife, visited at H. P. Jackson Sunday.

Misses Maggie and Arkansas Jackson, called to see Mrs. A. J. Dimsdale Sunday.

Ruben Wilson, of Whitney, is visiting relatives here this week.

been very poorly for some time. There is only about one case of mumps here now. They have been very mild this time.

Mrs. Mary Prince of Chesnee is spending some time with her mother Mrs. Emeline Henderson who is sick.

Prof. Kreider is having the school building fitted up with fine new window shades, which is a great improvement, and will be highly appreciated by the students and parents.

There was no school for several days last week on account of so much snow. The children couldn't go through it.

During the month of January there fell between 5 and 6 inches of rain here, counting the sleet and snow, but we have had two or three nice warm spells, so the month has not been so bad after all.

Lynn

Last Sunday being the 5th. Sunday we had no services except Sunday school which was well attended.

Next Sunday being the 1st. Sunday we will have no services, but on the 2nd. Sunday Dr. Pratt and Rev. Caldwell will fill their regular appointments.

Miss Essie Williams, of Rutherfordton, is the guest of her sister, R. B. Cannon this week.

H. C. Rhodes, of Anderson, week.

Miss Sallie C. Parker made a business trip to Hendersonville last Saturday.

Some poles have been put on the ground for extension of the electric light wire. Good, let us have more light.

A community working is planned for by local committee on Saturday morning February 19, for the purpose of doing some badly needed work on the school grounds. It is to be hoped that this will be a hearty cooperation of the whole community. The school and community will be just what the people make it.

Prof. Cobb and J. R. Sams, will meet with the Local Committee and others on Saturday Feb. 5, at 2 p. m. for outlining, formulating plans appointing committees for the community work Saturday 19.

Irish Language.

The Gaelic language is the original and historical language of the people of Ireland, though most of that country's inhabitants speak English. Gaelic is now taught in the national schools, Catholic parish schools and colleges in Ireland, as well as at Harvard university, Notre Dame university and the Catholic University of America at Washington. There has been a revival of the use of Gaelic through the efforts of the Society for the Preservation of the Gaelic Language.

Salt May Be Cause of Cancer.

Dr. Joseph De Stephano has recently advanced the theory that the use of salt may be the cause of cancer, and he quotes some instances that seem to indicate that such is the case. Some other physicians, however, take issue with him and the statement is made that in Italy where salt is eaten in great quantities there is very little cancer.

No Singer.

The house-sparrow, which, though allied to singing finches, never sings when in natural conditions, has been converted into a songster by bringing it up in company with piping bullfinches.

Squeaking Shoes a Good Omen.

Theatrical people have many superstitions and they cling to the profession closely, one being if an actor's shoes squeak, ever so little, as he makes the first entrance, he is assured of a welcome from the audience.