

Polk County Citizens are Losing Money Every Day Because of Poor Roads. Why do We Stand For It?

POLK COUNTY NEWS

C. BUSH, Publisher

The Only Paper Published in Polk County A Live Clean Paper for the Home

Price 5 Cents

Volume XXVI No. 39

Tryon, N. C. April 1, 1921.

\$2.00 a Year

OUR COUNTY AGENT'S DEPARTMENT

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

What I Saw in Green River Cove

You know Green River Cove reminds one of a cistern dug out in the ground in the shape of a jug with winding stair way down into it.

The Auto-mo-high-brow way down the mountain into the cove proper, only makes twenty-two turns back and forth till you reach the bottom. Last Tuesday March 22, the writer undertook this zig-zag descent and the first thing I saw looking from the crest of the mountain was Green River, about two thousand feet below the point of observation. Of course this was no unusual sight; but before I passed the eleventh turn in the winding stairway; rain began to descend in torrents and a yellow river of muddy water was racing down the roadway under my buggy wheels. When I reached Tom Pace's I was wet as a drowned rat and as cold as a polar bear. The first thing I remember seeing there was a good cracking wood fire in a good old fashioned fire place. About the next thing I saw was Tom out feeding that splendid flock of Rhode Island Red hens and roosters—and what a joke I did get on Clayton Pace, you know that's Tom's boy who has been chief clerk or something of that kind way down in Panama and a boy who has been that far away ought to know better; but his daddy that stayed right at home in Green River Cove beat the fillin' out of Clayton buying roosters. So here is the joke on Clayton. He thought he would cut the whang in the improvement of the Pace poultry farm and ordered a cockerel from High Point, N. C. or some other point, paying the sum of \$10 for a cockerel to preside over Mrs. Pace's flock. Well, here is the difference, Tom went out and found a man on his way to market with some Rhode Island Red cockerels, just such as are being grown all over Polk county that came from the state farm West Raleigh, N. C., and purchased two of these youngsters for the sum of \$1.50 which have developed into two roosters easily worth, each one much more than Clayton's \$10 rooster. This is what Clayton got into by not looking around in Polk county for a bargain before sending his money away. I also saw a boy down there who is easily worth \$10,000,000 and I wouldn't be afraid to bet a goober that his mother would not take a hundred million dollars for him. Here is what that 14 year old boy has done and means to do: He now has one acre of the finest grass and clover pasture in Polk county and as fine as can be found in any county in the state to its age, which is just since last spring. He also has three calves to put on this acre of pasture and is preparing to make more pasture to keep more calves. He says he means to have fifteen acres of just such pasture just as fast as he can make it. This boy's name is Taft Newman, and his postoffice is Fishtop, N. C. I am not a prophet nor the son of a prophet; but should I make a prophecy concerning this boy; I would predict that 25 years hence he will be shipping fat well bred cattle from Polk county while many an old moss back will be breaking his back working at the all cultivated crop

system and their land washing away while Taft Newman will be living in a well painted house, shipping his fat cattle to market and depositing his cash in some Polk county bank, helping to increase the wealth and standing of Polk county. I also saw on a young Mr. Henderson's farm young figs large as bird eggs, Irish potatoes eight inches high and alsike clover and grass fourteen inches high by actual measurement. But of all the interesting sights I saw while in Green River Cove, was at the breakfast table this a. m. It was a heaping dish of fried Rhode Island Red chicken fat and plump right out of Mrs. Pace's home flock. And just by the side of this enticing dish was another heaping dish of as fine fresh water fish as was ever taken from a mountain western North Carolina stream. My little friend Taft Newman slipped away the evening before and brought them around for my special benefit. Who can blame me for wanting to go to Green River Cove, or believing it to be one of the greatest and best places in the world. All it needs is a road from Saluda through the cove, via Cooper Gap, Mill Spring, Columbus, Lynn, Tryon, back to Saluda and you would have a county worth while developed, and Saluda would have an asset worth much more to her than the great lake that is being developed near by. And this road must be built. This and much more was the vision I caught while in Green River Cove.

Three Years in Polk County.

The writer was in Greens Creek township last week on the farm of W. B. McSwain and through Mr. McSwain got some definite information relative to his work right in the cotton fields of the Piedmont section of Polk county, where it was declared by all that is both good and bad that grass would not grow. Here is what Mr. McSwain has accomplished since October 1917, the first fall of my stay in this county. In October 1917 Mr. McSwain planted a mixture of permanent pasture grasses for winter pastures. The land being poor west land sown to rye at that time. The winter of 1918 the field (4) acres was not used as pasture. The winter of 1919 it was used for pasturing six head of calves and yearlings almost continuously through the winter. On the first day of last November, 14 head of cattle ranging from yearlings to milk cows were turned on this four acre winter pasture and kept there without any other feed, except the milk cows, till January 1, 1921. At this time all these cattle but five were removed to another winter pasture that was one year old and kept there until March 13 1921, when they were removed to the regular summer pasture where they have grazed without feed since and are in fine condition. The remaining three were still on this four acre pasture March 19, when I was there. I rejoice at Mr. McSwain's success, not on my account because I can say, "I told you so" but on his own account being rewarded for his faithful work and the value which his work will be in the future development of Polk county. Now what McSwain

has done hundreds of other farmers in Polk county could have done. Some farmers have told me they mean to catch up with McSwain; no you can't do that, you are three years behind him and there you must stay. There is no such thing as catching up, you can mend your way, you can go to McSwain and discuss the matter with him and start in as he did three years ago; but it will take you three years to get where he is, and then he will be three years "yonder". Do you see the point? But if you wait another year before you start, then you will be four years behind. Many are making a brave start this spring and I trust many others will not delay. Time is precious and it takes time to build permanent sod for summer and winter pastures. I want to serve everybody; but that is impossible. I am now aiding farmers who are willing and will do something, and more are calling on me for aid than it is possible for me to help. Now if farmers from all parts of Polk county will visit McSwain's farm and see what he has done and is doing and let him tell you how he did it, will do you immensely more good than for me in my weak manner to try to tell you how to do it. Now I plead with farmers to make a visit to McSwain's farm and see for yourselves what he has done. He has not done any great marvelous thing. Just what any simple minded industrious farmer can do on any farm and what every farmer should do. Now don't look green eyed at McSwain because he made use of an opportunity when you all have had the same opportunity; but just simply go and discuss the matter with him and then visit your neighbors and go around behind the barn and kick each other and call each other Jackasses because you have not done as he did. Then face about and resolve deep down and go to work along the same lines which McSwain did, and you can do the same thing; and instead of working yourselves to death through spring, summer and fall to feed your stock through the year. Your stock will gather their own feed the year around so far as roughage and the growths of young cattle hogs and poultry are concerned.

Meeting of Advisory Agricultural Board.

Those who have been appointed as members of the agricultural board for Polk county will take due notice of meeting on the 1st. Monday in April, which will be the 4th day 1921, and govern themselves accordingly. That is, be on hand at 1 o'clock sharp p. m. at the court house, Columbus, N. C., for organization and work.

Those who sowed pasture mixtures last week and week before. J. W. Fowler \$15, J. T. Barber 8.76, Eli Paty 4.26, E. B. Edwards 18.32, Mrs. J. R. Smith 12.00, B. F. Gibbs 9.34, K. N. Hines 9.94, J. E. Morgan 200 lbs. at 30c per lb 60.00. Besides very many who have ordered and done their own sowing, and many others who have their orders for seed out.

Honor Roll For Second Grade.

Helen Leonard, Florence Moore, Mary Sayre, Mary Morgan, Roy Blackwell, William Fischer, Marshall Streadwick, Walter Wilhelm, John Rollins. Deserving honorable mention. Inene Monroe, Meredith Lankford.

Saluda's Park.

On Wednesday interested citizens assembled on the new park site. These two acres which formerly belonged to R. S. Tanner is an ideal location. It is in along side of the Southern and will in the future have its influence upon all travelers. The place is a natural park as far as the lay of the land is concerned. It has a goodly supply of shade trees and an unlimited supply of young white pine and other coniferous trees.

Wednesday interest was manifested by young and old alike. Good stout men with mattoxs began the work. Members of the park committee were on hand to direct the work. All trees and bushes not tagged were grubbed out.

Besides the mattox brigade there were other good workers using as occasion required the following implements: axes, hoes, rakes, pitchforks, ladders, rakes, saws, shovels, mauls, iron wedges and tooth picks.

The members of the park committee are: Albert Salley, H. P. Corwith, P. H. Bailey and Mesdames H. P. Corwith and H. L. Capps.

Importance of Good Seed.

It has scarcely dawned upon any of us what it means to select the very best of all seeds planted in the gardens and in the fields. For instance all farmers and especially those who grow livestock know the value of a fine heart girth in breeding horses, cattle, sheep and hogs. You want heart girth because it indicates vitality. It also in the human structure shows vitality to have plenty of lung and heart room. While this is true in the animal kingdom, it is just as true in the vegetable kingdom. Take the grain of corn; if it has a small short shriveled heart, you will certainly have a weak slender stalk of corn, that will produce a small insignificant ear. The larger, broader and fuller the heart of the grain of corn, the more vigorous will be the stalk and the ear on the stalk. Not only is it true in animals and corn; but it holds good throughout all nature. If you want good turnips, cabbage, clover, alfalfa, or anything that grows. Select good plump seed and if it is anything that shows the heart propensities, look for a strong heart, "For out of the heart are the issues of life".

I speak of this, because this is the beginning of the great planting season of the year, and it behooves every farmer and gardener, both large and small to look well to the quality of seed you plant. Some people are of opinion that seed continuously planted on the same farm or garden will "run out." It runs out because you run it out by unwise selections.

The fact is, seed continuously planted in the same community will constantly improve by wise and scientific selection from year to year; because climatic differences cause seed to behave differently when moved from one climate to another. I have been agitating the importance of better seed selection ever since I have been in Polk county and I trust that farmers will make it a study and look around among yourselves and find the best seed corn possible and procure the best you have from each other and thereby standardize your corn and other crops.

Why not every citizen become a booster for a bigger and better Polk county?

FROM OUR FRIENDS IN THE COUNTRY

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

Saluda

The orchards near Saluda celebrated Easter by a display of lovely blossoms. It seemed that nature realized the sacredness of Easter tide and did homage to her Maker. A finer or more beautiful bloom is rarely seen, and there is a great possibility of a great fruit crop.

Lee Hart on last Monday shipped by parcel post thirty dozen eggs, thirty pounds of butter and one hundred sixteen pounds of ham.

Misses Grace Farewell and Neomi Phoenix, spent the week-end in Spartanburg.

L. D. Capps, Horace Nabers and Lawrence Traxler attended the Vesper song service in Spartanburg Sunday afternoon.

Floy Lankford, of Spartanburg, spent the week-end in Saluda.

Easter services were observed in the churches of Saluda with appropriate songs and exercises.

Dr. E. M. Salley and wife, Mary Salley and Mrs. Jones and Katharine attended the Vesper service at Bethlehem church in Spartanburg Sunday afternoon.

Eunice Sonner and Hettie Nabers went to Spartanburg Sunday.

Marvin Patterson spent the week-end in Whitney.

An interesting meeting of the citizens with the board of trade was held at the Odd Fellows Hall last Tuesday night.

M. A. Pace is having the old Carver house over hauled preparatory to the summer visitors. Lila Mae Guice spend Easter at home.

Roy Ellis was a visitor at the seminary Sunday.

Miss Helen Wettle, of Asheville, was a recent visitor in Saluda.

Fred Bishop and his sister enjoyed a trip to Stoney Mountain Sunday.

George Foster is sick at his home.

Mack Salley spent Easter with his parents.

Fred Pace, son of Bale Pace is suffering from a broken collar bone and other injuries received when a clothes press fell upon him. The accident occurred when Fred was swinging upon the clothes press in his play.

Egg Hunts

Egg hunts have been the order of the day lately in Saluda.

On Good Friday the fourth and fifth grades enjoyed an egg hunt at Breeze Point.

On the same afternoon the children of the second and third grades played games in the yard of the Charles Hotel, and hunted for eggs.

On Monday afternoon there was another double header when the pupils of the Baptist church searched for eggs and enjoyed other refreshments near the Pace house, while the children of the Sunday school were happy in their thorough inspection of every shrub, stump and bunch of grass in the rear of the church.

The Episcopal Sunday school also gave their pupils a good time in searching for the beautiful Easter egg.

Fishtop.

Another week of fine spring weather has passed.

C. C. Jones has a considerable

lot of corn planted.

Bedding sweet potatoes will be part of this week work.

You ought to see Mrs. T. E. Pace's young chicks hovering around their artificial mother.

J. R. Sams (our demonstrator) spent a few days in this section last week.

Harrison Arledge and wife, visited his father-in-law, J. W. Bishop, Saturday and Sunday.

Lewis Levi and wife of Tuxedo, visited his father and family last week-end.

Taft Newman visited Posey Henderson Sunday.

J. and Posey Henderson, T. W. and J. B. Bradley and Ewert Levi, went to Saluda for fertilizer Saturday.

T. C. Laughter went to Saluda on business Saturday.

Ewert Levi has gone to Zirconia for sweet potatoes.

The people here are glad to read in the News of the improvement of Mrs. J. L. Jackson.

What about the new leak in the prohibition dam.

John Barlycorn is a hard guy alive or dead.

T. W. Bradley sang for the Mountain Grove people Sunday.

Melvin Hill

The farmers in this section were glad to see the rain last week, as the ground was getting hard where it had not been broken.

John Cantrell, of the Sandy Spring settlement, is quite sick of pneumonia.

Mrs. Webb, of Boon, Tenn., visited her sister Mrs. Julia Wills last week.

There was an interesting debate here last Saturday night in which the abolishment of the divorce law was fully discussed pro and con. The affirmative won the discision.

Born to Lee Stacy and wife on the 22nd. a girl.

A certain farmer in this place planted two and a half bushels of potatoes and the next day he dug eight bushels of good large well matured potatoes. who can beat it?

The debate next Saturday night will be resolved that the world is growing better under the present preaching and teaching. Affirmative; G. A. Branscom, W. B. Feagan and J. W. Stacy. Negative; G. C. Feagan, Clarence Ridings and W. C. McGinnis. Everybody invited out.

Miss Robb called on Mrs. Mary Head Sunday afternoon.

G. A. Branscom and wife visited Joe Henderson and wife of Cross Keys, Sunday.

Mr. Huntley and wife visited the latter's mother, Mrs. Henson, of Holly Springs, who is sick, Sunday.

We had an interesting Sunday school on Easter Sunday here, also services at night and will be every Sunday night for a time.

Shock Frequently Does Good. Keep fear out of your system, but don't be troubled at a little fright. Anything in the nature of a shock or a jolt is helpful if it doesn't come too late. It is the only way that three-quarters of the inhabitants of this earth can ever be made to realize the necessity of doing what is right to do.—John Blake in Chicago Daily News.