

POLK COUNTY NEWS

C. BUSH, Publisher

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

Price 5 Cents

Volume XXVII No. 10

Tryon, N. C., September 16, 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.

Over Polk County and a Little Out

The writer left Columbus at 4 o'clock Monday afternoon September 5th and was in the vicinity of Tryon that P. M. and spent the night with Judge J. J. Gentry just across the state line in S. C. we drove by Grant Miller's place but did not have time to arouse him from his evening nap, but saw wonderful sights in the way of excellent pasture, live stock etc. to be seen in Polk County. Mrs. U. G. Speed's Hill Acres farm received attention and is in good condition.

We called on the president of the Board of Trade of Tryon and the Editor of the Polk County News and found out some excellent things about Tryon, and this is the one of most general interest to Polk County farmers. From what I could learn, Tryon has undergone a full moult and putting on a complete crop of new feathers for the coming duties she will be called upon to perform in the coming days of world reconstruction. She has reorganized her Board of Trade on broader principals and with a greater vision than ever in the past thought or dreamed of.

An Agricultural Committee has been added to their list of committees which will extend a friendly out-stretched hand to Polk county farmers not hitherto known in the past, not only will the hand of helpfulness and friendship be extended to farmers but to all the sister towns in Polk county to see who can best work, plan and agree on the best ways and means for general county betterment.

While Judge Gentry is a South Carolinian by birth and location at the same time that big heart of his is in full sympathy with Polk county movements and he is carrying out some demonstration work on Bird Mountain Farm that will ere long revolutionize some phases of farming both in North and South Carolina. Keep your eye on Bird Mountain Farm.

Our visit to Greens Creek this week was caused by an invitation to visit Perry Cantrell and some of his neighbors relative to pasture renovation and building, I found Mr. Cantrell very enthusiastic and he is pretty well supplied with much better than the usual Polk county pastures, but is anxious to make improvement on what he has and means to do so. He is also preparing to plant a piece of oats and vetch on improved plans and to improve his plan of growing corn which is already a good one.

G. J. Scoggin and many other farmers in that community are not satisfied with preset methods of farming and doubtless great progress will be made in their community at once. See along the roads every where in county one can see marks of progress along agricultural lines, people are thinking more than heretofore and putting their better thinking more in practice.

Now just watch ahead what is going to happen in Columbus and White Oak townships in the neighborhood of John Carpenter and Elias Edwards. They have caught the grass fever and are laying plans and starting things that will make for progress in Polk county. R. G. Hamilton has done some splendid pasture renovation work, which has just opened his own eyes to the great possibility of what can be done

with little money and labor; but it does take some work; but not much if applied at the right time and in the right way. Of course W. B. McSwain, I consider the pioneer and first convert to grassology and pasture building in Polk county, with Mrs. John Smith a close rival; but at present there are legions of converts who are making good headway. And I am made glad in my soul as I see the good work advancing with such increased momentum as the cottou boll wevil certainly is in Polk county, because at Walker Arledge's place Landrum route 3, we certainly did find one of this tribe snugly tucked away in a little boll of cotton. The dinner bell called me and Mr. Arledge from further investigation; but I certainly did find one cotton boll wevil infested boll, if I never see another one in Polk county. So this is why my heart leaps for joy when I see farmers preparing to get away from the all cotton system, to a system of farming that will keep the corn crib, the smoke house and the pantry full of family supplies the year around and a surplus of everything to put upon a well thought out marketing plan that will give the farmer better returns for his hard earned products, and at the same time give them to our beloved cousins and essential friends in the towns and cities at more reasonable rates than they have hitherto been served.

Now what we want is for Polk county to arouse from her long protracted slumber and every class of citizens strive with every other class to see which can out race the other in doing good work, and seeing which can out do the other in best service to build up everything that is good in the county and lend all possible aid in helping suppress that which is evil. To this end let us all pray and work with our best efforts of heart, brain and bodies physically.

Soil Improvement.

Now don't anybody cry out nonsense about talking so much about soil and soil improvement; because soil either good or bad seals the destiny of any country. If the soil is poor, then crops will be poor, livestock will be, and as a result the people of that country will be poor. But on the contrary, if the soil is rich then the crops will be bountiful. Livestock of all kind will be well kept and fat and the people will be able to educate their children. So after all the matter of soil marks the destiny of the community. In Polk county and in all the Piedmont sections of the south, the lands have been cleared and cropped in a way that the natural humus and what little nitrogen there was in the soil has been taken out and the land left in a condition to be washed away easily by the heavy rains we have especially in Polk county. So we cannot be reminded too often of the importance of good soil which is needful to grow crops, good livestock and good people. No farmer can expect to draw continually from his soil and replace nothing taken from the soil and expect good results. A farmer may have a good stiff bank account but if he continually draws checks upon it, it will only be a question of time, if he does not make some deposits, when

his checks will be returned for non payment. So it is with the soil. If we draw on the soil continually without placing something back it will be meager or no returns for our labor. And the soil is worse to deteriorate than funds in a bank. Because funds in a bank will stay there until checked out; but plant food deposited in the soil is subject not only to be taken out by growing crops; but by being washed out by heavy rains and carried away by evaporation after every rain, and also by leaching or nuderground deterioration through imperfect subsoil. The greatest thing for Polk county farmers to look after is the washing away of their soil from the surface, and this can be looked after at any time during the year; but through August and September is the very best time to do this work. 1st. Because at this season vegetation has just completed its year's work and bushes, briars, weeds etc., are apter to not send up sprouts to be removed one year hence. Then 2nd. These bushes, briars etc., at this time have their leaves on and when placed in gullies and on bare places, they are decomposed quicker and become humus and available in the soil much sooner than when the leaves are off. So this is one way to build or rather rebuild your depleted soil and then build up run down soil that is not washed into gullies, by sowing cowpeas, soy beans, velvet beans, vetch and clovers of all kind and turn them under and use some lime and 16 per cent acid with all legumes and watch your soil, crops, and livestock grow and then your bank account will grow also.

About Alfalfa

Many inquiries have come to me lately about planting alfalfa. Now alfalfa is one of the greatest hay crops, if not the greatest that can be grown; but our soil is not naturally adapted to the growing of this crop. So in order to grow it successfully several things must be observed necessarily to the successful growing of this crop. 1st. The land must be well drained. Alfalfa will not thrive long on low bottom land. 2nd. The land must be rich. It should be rich enough to grow 60 bushels corn per acre. 3rd. It should have thorough, deep preparation. 4th the land should be free from weeds and grass seed, by growing winter and summer legume and cover crops. 5th. The land must be made sweet by the use of from 3 to 5 tons ground limestone per acre, applied two or three months, or longer in advance of sowing. 6th. It must be sown at the right season and that is in August, when all things are favorable, preparation of seed bed and season. 7th. use 400 lbs acid phosphate or basic slag per acre before sowing, and the same amount of cotton seed meal. 8th. Sow when there is a good season in the land and finish by using a cultipacker or land roller to press the soil and seed close together. 9th. Order bulletins and read all you can get on growing alfalfa. But better still, visit some good farmer who has succeeded in growing this crop and ask him how he did it, and go do likewise. The foregoing is only suggestive, about the only way to grow alfalfa successfully is to make up your mind to do it. Then go at it, after getting all the data possible and as you fail study and

fail, study and find out the cause of failure and go ahead until success comes. Anyone can grow alfalfa who wants to grow it bad enough to pay the price in properly preparing his land and properly treating the growing crop after planting.

That Wheat Crop Again.

Now is the time to prepare for wheat sowing. But don't sow wheat unless you do it right. Don't waste good seed wheat unless you are willing to do something like the following. 1st. Select good rich well drained land. 2nd. Thoroughly prepare the seed bed in advance of sowing, and let it settle and be firm. 3rd. Select good reliable seed. 4th. Drill this good seed in and don't broadcast. 5th. Sow, not too soon to be damaged by the Hessian fly, and not too late to be frozen out by winter freezing. 6th. if the land has sufficient nitrogen to grow a good strong straw; then use plenty of 16 per cent acid say 400 lbs per acre. If these requirements are complied with, there is no reason why almost any farm in Polk county might not grow some wheat profitably.

Notice to Greens Creek Farmers.

There will be a meeting of all committees of Greens Creek community fair at Greens Creek high school on next Saturday, Sept. 17, at 3 o'clock p. m. or immediately after church service that p. m. Don't forget nor neglect to come. BURLIN WHITE, President

J. R. SAMS County Agent.

Lynn

Rev. Pratt filled his regular appointment last Sunday.

Vance Newman ex-service boy is in the government hospital for treatment at Asheville.

Coline Rippey who was reported last week as one of the teachers has withdrawn and will return to college, (a wise move)

T. W. Cannon spent last week-end in Spartanburg.

Mrs. Chas Williams, of Inman, run up to visit her mother, Mrs. J. B. Panther, last week.

W. T. Hammett run down the line last week-end.

The Lynn Sunday school has prepared a collection of card, books, paper etc., to send to China children which will go by parcel post.

The piano, violin and cornet added very much to the congregation singing at Dr. Pratt's services last Sunday.

The many friends of Jacob Justice are indeed sorry to hear of his death. He was taken to the state hospital at Morganton about ten days prior to his death. He leaves a wife and four children who have the sympathy of the whole community.

Alright Fishtop, just let your fiddle tails or rattlers cross over on the Thermal belt side and they will be extinguished by the squirrel hunters and moonshiners.

Hello Columbus glad you have connected yourself again with the world. If we only had a telephone we might tell you something.

Faulty Arrangement.

In some countries only fat women are considered beautiful, but they are poor countries even for fat women.—Exchange.

The Repeating Rifle.

The repeating rifle was known and accepted in sporting circles as early as 1840, but was not adopted by the United States army until 1884.

300 Women's Clubs.

In the Philippines there are more than 300 women's clubs.

FROM OUR FRIENDS IN THE COUNTRY

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

Melvin Hill.

Mrs. Mary Morris, of Cliffside, is visiting relatives and old friends and neighbors here this week.

Quite a heavy rain fell here Friday night.

Word reached here that an electric storm at Cliffside last Friday destroyed two barns and some livestock, a mule and a cow or two.

Tilden Higgins has gone to Yancy county on account of the serious illness of his son-in-law, Willard Bennett.

Joe Henderson, of Mill Creek, attended church here last Saturday.

G. C. Feagan and wife, were shopping in Spartanburg last Friday.

Ed Johnson, wife and babies, visited the former's mother, Mrs. Callie Johnson, Sunday.

J. A. Morris and family, of Cliffside, visited at the home of Miss Candace Calvert Sunday.

Elder S. P. Jones, of Brooklyn, S. C., attended church council here Saturday.

Fishtop.

A nice shower came Friday which we were actually needing.

More nice fodder has probably been saved than for several years and there is more grass and pea hay that can be saved if weather permits than would.

A right lively time has been going on with a cow brute which Russel Arledge chased for two days before he captured it. He then took it to Saluda and sold it to Wm. Pace for beef. A few minutes later it broke loose and quite a crowd tried to capture it but it made its escape and went into the cove and got in Miss Newman's pasture, meanwhile T. E. Pace offered a reward for its capture. Rome Hill with some help succeeded and took it back to Saluda and delivered to Wm. Pace who failed to make it secure and in less time than it takes to tell, it was on the way back toward the cove with a score or more after it, but all efforts were vain and the last we have heard of it, it was going in the direction of Chimney Rock and reports say that Robert Price is gone somewhere, and it is suggested by some that he is chasing the animal and will eventually return with his prize.

We are sorry to hear of the death of T. R. Stepp who lived near Landrum. He formerly lived here and has quite a lot of acquaintances in this section.

Surveying out the new cove road leading to the Mills Gap road has begun today with a Mr. Fitzsimons as surveyor. Hurry up you Cooper Gap folks with your subscription if you want it continued through your township. The county proposes to pay one half the expense, so now is your time.

T. W. Bradley went to Sunday school at Mountain Grove Sunday.

E. Laughter hauled a load of apples to Asheville last week.

C. Hill's twin boys hauled a load of apples and figs to Hendersonville last week.

The Levi boys and Posey Henderson went trading at Saluda Saturday.

Mrs. Posey Henderson and children and Levi went to Saluda one day last week.

T. W. Bradley and Jesse Case hauled a load of pears to Saluda last week.

Lewis Levi visited home folks here last week.

We hear of one good cabbage patch only, E. W. Bradley's in the Silver Creek section.

There seems to be plenty of sweet potatoes and some Irish but few turnips.

J. B. Bradley is done his fodder and is plowing in rye in the corn which is good, his peas are needing picking now he has prepared his clover seed for fall sowing, Mr. Sams you would be pleased to look over his farm and see the improvements made.

Columbus

The Columbus community fair extends a cordial invitation to all the other community fairs in the county to come to Columbus October 10th and spend the day with us.

Misses Stockwell, Station, Stikes and Campbell ass't. nurses for the state clinic held in Tryon a few days ago, spent Tuesday at Prof. Cobbs.

Miss Pearl Keepon spent the week-end with the Misses Mills.

Misses Minnie Arledge and Bertha Kelz spent the week-end in Hendersonville.

Fred Blanton and Prof. Cobb spent Saturday in Asheville on business.

Prof. W. D. Loy and sister Kittie, spent the week-end in Shelby.

Oma Reynolds has returned home from a visit with friends in Charlotte.

Sallie Lynch accompanied by her friend Miss Clark has returned home after an extended visit to her old home place near Chimney Rock.

The Good Time Club gave a roast Friday honoring Misses Burgess and McMurry who left Sunday for Saluda where they will teach the coming year.

Tom Lynch Jr. is spending a few days in Rutherfordton.

Stearns high school is coming fine. It being one of the largest and best in the county.

Court commences soon. Lets get together and clean things up, pick up the old papers around in your yard and street, take the stumps off and cut the weeds—every body is cleaning up—why not you? Lets make this one of the prettiest little towns in the country.

By No Means a Dude.

The speaker was energetically orating in behalf of a candidate for congress. "What we want," spoke up a man in the audience, "is a man from the rank and file as our representative; a man from the common people, not one of these dudes that don't know anything but how to wear a long-tailed coat." "And that is just exactly what my candidate is," the speaker came back; "one of the common people. And by no stretch of the imagination could you call him a 'dude.' Why, his idea of dressing up is to button his vest."

Removes Impurities.

For home use an electrical device to exorcise water and remove all impurities, which can be operated from a light socket, has been invented.

History.

History is the first distinct product of man's spiritual nature, his earliest expression of what can be called thought.—Carlyle.

Object Achieved.

One object aimed at in changing styles is to make the old photographs look ridiculous.—Toledo Blade.