

# POLK COUNTY NEWS

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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.

### Various Factors Influence Frost Injury in Potatoes

Jarring and rough handling when at a low temperature greatly increases the damage to potatoes by freezing, according to investigations made by the United States Department of Agriculture. It was also found that potatoes freeze more quickly when exposed to a rapidly diminishing temperature than when the temperature diminishes slowly. There are two general classes of frost-injured potatoes—those frozen solid and subject to collapse immediately on thawing and those that show evidence of injury only on being cut open.

Frost injury seems to be the result of actual ice formation within the potato tissues. It was found that where the temperature of the storage place was reduced gradually it could be carried to several degrees below freezing point before actual freezing took place, and that it was possible gradually to warm the potatoes and restore them to normal without their suffering injury. The actual freezing point of potatoes was fixed at from 2 to 3 1-2 degrees below the freezing point of water.

The effect of jarring upon undercooled potatoes is considered extremely important to growers and shippers, since under some circumstances it would be entirely possible that a lot of potatoes, or even other products, might be undercooled considerably below freezing point and escape injury if they remained undisturbed until their temperature was above the freezing point. If it should be found necessary to move such a lot in order to protect them from low temperature, this should be very carefully done, having in mind the danger of freezing as the result of jarring or jolting.

### Methods of Preparing Pork Products on the Farm for Sale or Home Use

Every farmer can well produce the pork and pork products which are consumed on his farm, for selling hogs and buying pork involves profits, but not to the farmer engaged in the practice. The point is brought out in Farmers' Bulletin 1186, published by the United States Department of Agriculture, which tells how hogs should be killed and describes different methods of curing and canning pork on the farm. Highly nutritious and palatable pork products for home use are easily made, says the bulletin. Pork can be cured and canned in a number of ways, and the variety of products affords a supplement to the daily meals.

A hog of medium condition, gaining rapidly in weight, yields the best quality of meat. A reasonable amount of fat gives juiciness and flavor to the meat, but large amounts of fat are objectionable. Smooth even, and deeply fleshed hogs yield nicely marbled meats. The meat of old hogs will be improved if they are properly fattened before slaughter, but young hogs from 8 to 12 months old are best for furnishing the home meat supply.

The bulletin emphasizes especially the importance of selecting only healthy hogs for slaughter and of thoroughly cooking all pork products used for food.

Even if the hog has been properly fed and carries a prime finish, the best quality of meat can not be obtained if the animal is not healthy. There is always some danger that diseases may be transmitted to the person who eats the meat, particularly if it is not thoroughly cooked.

Hogs intended for slaughter should not be kept on full feed up to the time of killing. It is better to hold them entirely without feed for 18 to 24 hours prior to that time, but they should have all the fresh drinking water they want. It is essential to have the proper equipment for rapid and skillful work at killing time. Such equipment includes a straight sticking knife, a 14-inch steel to keep the knives sharp, a hog hook for holding the animals, a beef-shaped stick scraper, a gambrel for holding the hog to facilitate cleaning and cutting the meat, and a meat saw. If the hog is not too large, a barrel is a convenient receptacle for scalding.

Complete directions for killing and cleaning a hog, properly cutting the portions of meat, rendering lard, making sausage, smoking cured meat, and home canning of pork products are described in the bulletin, copies of which can be obtained free on application to the Department of Agriculture.

### Progress in Sweet Potato Storage and Conservation

The work of the United States Department of Agriculture for better utilization of the Nation's sweet potato crop by better storage and disease-preventive method, has aroused widespread interests throughout the sweet potato producing States, which include more than 20 of the 48.

The department has published three farmer's bulletins useful to those interested in the production, harvesting, storage, and marketing of sweet potatoes, which can be had on request. They are No. 970, Sweet Potato Storage; and No. 999, Sweet Potato Growing; and No. 1059, Sweet Potato Disease.

### Polk

Area 250 square miles. Population 8,832. Formed in 1855, from Rutherford and Henderson. Voted with Rutherford until 1868. Named for Col. William Polk, of Raleigh, of the Revolutionary army, who was wounded at the battles of the Brandywine, Germantown and Eutaw Springs. County seat Columbus, named for Christopher Columbus, the discoverer on America. The first court house was built in 1855, of wood; a temporary structure for use until one of brick was finished in 1858. This is yet in use. There have been no fires or losses of records. There have been only four clerks of court since the county's formation—R. S. Alexander for 31 years; N. B. Hampton 8; S. B. Edwards 4; John P. Arledge 23; a total of 66 years. The first will book begins 1855 and the second one is now in use. The first deed book begins in 1855.

### Notice of Sale.

The Board of Education of Polk county will sell at public auction on the school site, the old Edwards school building. Sale to begin at one o'clock p. m., Dec. 3rd. E. W. S. COBB, Clerk, Board of Education.

### Small Sized Cards and Envelopes.

During the holiday season large quantities of very small envelopes and cards are put into the mails with the result that all postal work is very much retarded and mail disfigured and mutilated.

This is not generally known to the public and we want you to help us do a little educating. The minimum size of cards and envelopes should not be below 2 3/4 by 4 inches for the following reason:

1. Addresses will be obliterated by cancellation mark.
2. Too small to be run through facing table, necessitating three extra handlings with consequent delay not only this but other mail.
3. Delay in cancellation because of awkwardness in putting through cancelling machines.
4. Delayed through difficulty in sorting.
5. Liability to loss or damage as small sizes do not fit letter packages and can not be tied securely.

These odd and diminutive sized pieces of stationery have come into use in the past few years and only appear now in any quantities at Christmas time when the whole postal institution is keyed up to top speed and trying to keep on top of the load.

We will greatly appreciate, therefore, your cooperation in helping us to get the public to use stationery of the proper size in order that the handling of all mail may be expedited.

### Christmas Placards.

FIRST ASST. POSTMASTER GENERAL, Washington, November 5, 1921.

Placards urging patrons to "Mail Early for Christmas" are now being distributed to all first, second, and third class offices. Requisition for additional placards should be made, as the supply will be exhausted when the distribution is completed.

At the larger offices it is believed that a sufficient number have been furnished to enable their display in the larger department stores, etc., as well as on mail wagons and automobiles.

When not too badly damaged or soiled, these placards should be taken down immediately after Christmas and preserved for future use during the holiday season.

### For Sale.

On November 29 I will sell 1 horse, 1 buggy, 1 one-horse wagon and harness, 100 bu. corn, and other things too numerous to mention. MRS. J. M. LEWIS: Mill Spring, N. C.

### Auto Thief Captured.

J. P. Miller of Polk county, was brought here Tuesday night and placed in jail. He is charged with stealing the Ford sedan of Mr. M. Georgion about a month ago. The man and car were captured in Jacksonville, Fla. Arthur Harrill and E. C. Carver went after the man and car and drove it here in three days.—Rutherford Sun.

### Notice.

The board of Education of Polk County will receive bids at the Dec. meeting for the material to build a new school house at Mill Spring. The bricks and the lumber may be considered together or separately. The contract for furnishing the above named material will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. If you are interested be present at the next meeting of the Board of Education, Dec. 5th, and submit your bid. E. W. S. COBB Clerk to Board of Education.

### Town Council Meeting.

Some few things were done that were badly needed. The old dilapidated barn on the lot of J. B. Livingston on Trade street, which for so long has been an eyesore, was ordered removed at once. Also a fence was ordered erected at once in front of excavation between the Lockhart and Ballew stores.

The Southern Railway asked permission to change crossing approaching Godshaw Hill, which when done according to present plans, will do away with the dangerous curve in the street just beyond the railroad.

A special act was ordered drawn and have our representative present same to the special session of the legislature, which convenes next month; giving Tryon the power to issue bonds for paving purposes.

The Southern Railway was ordered notified that their time of grace was almost up in regards to toilets at their station. We are hoping to have an addition to our depot at no late date.

### Red Mountain

Irie Corn carried his son, Garland, to Rutherford Hospital to have his tonsils and adenoids taken out.

Messrs. E. C. Lynch and N. L. Whiteside are anxiously waiting and hoping for a recovery of their mother. Mrs. N. L. Lynch, at Sunny View.

Miss Bertie Waldrop, our primary teacher, is on the sick list.

Rev. J. J. Ruppe filled his monthly appointment at Cooper Gap Sunday.

A few of the patrons attended the program given by the Red Mountain Literary Society Armistice day. This society has its weekly meetings each Friday. Why not come out some time, patrons, and see what your children are doing?

We are very sorry to hear of the illness of Solon Biddy. We hope to tell you next time he is very much better.

Messrs. Charlie Brown, Lawton Wilson and George Ruff motored to Spartanburg Saturday.

J. B. Wilson spent Sunday with his father, O. L. Wilson, near Big Level.

Mrs. Jackson, mother of Mrs. I. P. Corn, is reported sick. Here's hoping for a speedy recovery.

Stop! Look! Listen! Look at our school house; painted a color that greets you far and near. Listen for the bell that calls every child in the district and (I won't tell the rest which will happen in a few days) something every school ought to have; and we will pretty soon be one of the few public schools in Polk county that owns it. Perhaps you will find out next issue.

### Holy Cross Church.

Holy Communion.....7:30 a. m.  
Sunday School.....10:00 a. m.  
Morning Prayer and Sermon 11:00 a. m.

### Week Days

FRIDAY  
Christian Healing Prayer Circle, 4:30 p. m.  
Litany.....5:00 p. m.  
Saints Days, Holy Communion, 1: a. m.

England Welcomes Virginia Clover. To many people the Virginia creeper seems like rather a lowly and modest plant, and yet it has received a warm welcome in England, where it is grown freely, rambling over buildings, rocks and walls, just as much at home in English soil as in America.

### Early Mesmerism.

Braidism is an old name for hypnosis, derived from James Braid, who invented this species of mesmerism in 1843.

## FROM OUR FRIENDS IN THE COUNTRY

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

### Saluda.

The senior class of high school entertained their friends with songs and an impromptu original class play last Friday night in Library Hall. Much merriment was occasioned by the play.

The Union Thanksgiving service was held this year in the Baptist church. The collection went to the various orphanages. Frank Bishop went to Asheville Tuesday.

The oyster supper given by the Ladies Aid of the Methodist church Saturday night was a success.

Miss Marvin Patterson has gone to Raleigh to attend The State Teachers Assembly.

Dr. G. R. Little has returned from Florida.

Mrs. Jack Cotman of Hopewell Va., is visiting her father Eugene Hill.

Evelyn Nabers who is attending school at Round Hill is home for Thanksgiving.

R. M. Hall and family are visiting relatives at Lucknow S. C.

Saluda school closed from Tuesday till Monday for the Thanksgiving holidays.

The revival services at the Baptist church are held at 8 p. m. and 7:15 p. m. The singing led by Roy Bennett of Hendersonville is enjoyed by all. While the sermons by Rev. Orr of Campbello are instructive and soul stirring. Every body is invited to these services.

### Fires on Wires.

There was a rare occurrence in Saluda last Saturday when the telephone wires were seen burning. It seems that the electric wires of high voltage were crossed with the telephone wires in some way and the telephone wires were ignited. All of the telephones were put out of commission. But by the prompt efforts of Manager Hall and his helpers "Central" was soon on her job giving every one good connection again.

### Mill Spring

We gladly welcome the bright sunshine once more.

Every body is talking new roads these days, we are proud over the old look of course.

The leading citizens of Mill Spring have organized a Law and Order Society. Those who are for prohibition come and join. We want to clean up our community and stop the whiskey dealers.

Mrs. J. M. Lewis, her son Claud and little daughter Melva, left Saturday for a few days visit in Rutherfordton.

Rev. Roy Lewis left Saturday for his home in Broken Bow, Neb. after a brief visit his homefolks.

Little George and Sallie Briscoe delightfully entertained a number of their little friends Saturday evening.

We are glad to report that we are having a good school this year under the wise supervision of our teaching force. Improvements are being made on the ball ground. Just wait 'til we get our new school building then watch us.

Of course last Sunday was a blue day but let's make our Sundays bright by attending Sunday school, whether we have preaching services or not you will hear

interesting talks made by the leading Sunday school workers.

Let's each one remember Thanksgiving Day. What have we to be thankful for? Stop and think.

### Fishtop

We have had summer weather the past week instead of winter, as all had predicted. Only two frosts this fall.

Misses Evelyn and Estelle Pace and Emma Newman returned home last week from school to spend Thanksgiving.

It has been so long since my items have gotten space in the News, I think to change and give some of the unusual if not very rare things this week.

First, Lewis Bradley has a sow which gave birth to 16 nice pigs a few days back, and Joseph Price's dog gave birth to 17 pups some years back. A Henderson county man says he had a cow to go crazy one night and next morning she had bitten off some eight or ten inches of her tail and was in her right mind.

Miss Flora Bradley has a grown chicken that stands erect and walks like a "dodo."

We have had an unusual lot of fish, game animals and quail this season with an equal amount of fishermen and hunters from different parts who fish and hunt without permission; and some of them disregard the Sabbath and take fish from the trap and corn from the field, which is not so unusual, but the unusual part is they actually got caught in the act.

If the weather permits there will be preaching at Mountain Valley church on Thanksgiving by Elder Sherfey, also singing; and that will be an unusual occurrence here, as there are aged people here who have never heard a Thanksgiving sermon.

Although the weather was unfavorable, T. W. Bradley sang for the Silver Creek folks Sunday.

### Tryon Route 1.

By the time we read this, probably Thanksgiving day will be over. Hope our thoughts were of things other than turkey and mince pie and amusements. Our great fault should be the feast of love and righteousness and when every heart should be raised to the Father on high, For there are none of us but what have something to be thankful for. Let us remember our Pilgrim fathers and not lose sight the true meaning of Thanksgiving.

Mr. James Page's baby fell in the fire and was badly burned, but not seriously, we hope.

Glad to report Butler Champion much better of pneumonia.

Tom Rice and wife were on the route looking after their home and things, Charley Pardon will move into their residence shortly. Fox Mountain school children enjoyed a "stunt" afternoon Friday last.

We are thankful for a few correspondents, but would be more thankful if correspondents would gather up news from each vicinity. Just think how interesting our county news would be.

### Ancient Wines Perfumed.

Greek and Roman wines were perfumed generally by steeping the leaves of roses or violets in the liquor until it had acquired the odor of the flowers.