

# 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.

### Precautions To Observe in Growing Cotton This Year in Boll Weevil Territory.

By C. B. Williams.

In many of the lower counties in the southern and southeastern portions of the State, the boll weevil has arrived in all probability in sufficient numbers to become an economic factor to be dealt with. Cotton growers in the infested section no doubt have been, and are still thinking over what will be the best thing for them to do this year in the growth of cotton. From all the information we have, it would appear to be the part of wisdom to decrease the acreage on each farm devoted to the growth of cotton to a point so that the precautions given below may be followed, and followed closely and promptly. Of course, the amount of reduction in acreage is one that after all will have to be determined by each individual cotton farmer. There is no question, however, but what in these particular sections of the State this year, the acreage on many farms, if not most farms, should be a material one, especially on the farms where cotton in the past has been the chief crop and has been all that could be handled, because it will not be possible for farmers to grow cotton properly and observe the precautions necessary to be observed in order to reduce the damage from boll weevil.

For those growers in the boll weevil territory it will be advisable, too, after good and suitable land has been selected in the way indicated in a previous article, to break it now as soon as conditions will permit, in order to give it time to settle fairly well before running the rows. It has been found in states to the south of us that if one has fairly firm seed-bed that the cotton will ordinarily grow off much more quickly from the start than when planted on a bed, the land of which has just been broken; the latter plan leaving the land too loose for best results under boll weevil conditions. It should be clearly in mind that it is highly necessary that the planting should be as early as the soil and the weather is warm enough to germinate, the seed promptly. Too early planting, of course, before the ground and temperature of the air are sufficiently warm, is not best as the cotton seed would not germinate quickly and satisfactorily. At the proper time, the rows should be run and the seed planted in about 4 feet rows, being sure to use something like 50 per cent more seed than is ordinarily used. One cannot afford not to get a good thick stand from the start. As soon as the cotton is up and ready to chop; no time should be lost in thinning to a stand at least 50 per cent greater than is ordinarily maintained, for it is found that the thicker stand is one factor in hastening the fruiting of the cotton. From the time of chopping until about the first of August, the cultivations should be kept up promptly at sufficiently close intervals to maintain at all times as nearly as practicable, a dust mulch on the land. Usually every week to ten days, and as soon as the land will permit after rains the cultivations should be given. These cultivations should be given. These cultivations should be con-

tinued ordinarily from ten days to two weeks later than the average date for finishing up the cultivation.

In the fertilization of the crop it will be well, ordinarily, to put on a fairly good application of fertilizer at planting time. For the average Coastal Plain soil, in good average condition, an application of at least 600 pounds of fertilizer containing 8 per cent to 10 per cent phosphoric acid, 4 to 5 per cent nitrogen and about 3 per cent potash to the acre will give good results.

Of course, seed of the best varieties for boll weevil conditions should be used. It should be remembered that to a large extent so far as the cotton grower is concerned, the effectiveness of the methods he may use will be based upon his prompting a rapid, early and heavy growth and fruiting of his cotton crop before the boll weevil has multiplied in sufficient numbers in his fields to become a material factor in reducing his yields. Ordinarily, the crop of squares that come on after the first of August will be destroyed by the boll weevil under complete infestation. In order to reduce the number of boll weevil adults that survive during the winter, which of course will be the parents of the boll weevils of the following year, it will be necessary to destroy as much of their fall food as possible in the early fall. For this reason, it is very necessary that the cotton be picked early as it can be gotten from the field, and that the greep stalks and leaves shall be turned into the soil early. Where this plan is followed, the boll weevils will be starved out and otherwise destroyed in large numbers, and if the hedgerows and other harboring places at the end of the rows and around the fields are destroyed there will be a minimum number of weevils to survive the winter, so far as the individual farmer is concerned, to produce weevils for the following year. Generally in many cases, in fact in most cases on every farm a certain portion of this broken land should go into cover crops of such a nature as provide some for grazing, some for soil improving purposes, some for forage.

The most favorable conditions for the development of the boll weevil is a mild winter followed by a damp, rainy season during the time which the cotton is fruiting most rapidly. There cannot be too much emphasis placed upon the importance of having the crop start early in the spring and to grow off vigorously from the first and throughout the season. Coupled with this is the great necessity of having the cotton set its fruit rapidly. In order to do this it will be necessary for the cotton to set its fruit fairly low, thick, rapidly and early on the stalks.

### Church of the Holy Cross.

Holy Communion..... 11 A. M.  
the first Sundays  
Morning Prayer..... 11 A. M.  
all other Sundays  
Sunday School..... 10 A. M.  
Friday  
Liteny..... 4:30 P. M.  
Intersessions for the sick  
..... 4:50 P. M.

The best residential town in the mountains—Tryon.

## The Congressional Hike



### "Commencement at Columbus."

Commencement exercises marking the closing of the Stearns High School for the term will begin Wednesday evening at seven-thirty, April 26th and will extend through the following Monday evening.

The lower grades will have charge of the first evening, their program consisting of short plays songs and recitations. The next exercise which will be Thursday evening, will be the recitation and declamation contest at which time, members of the high school will recite and declaim in contest for a medal. On Friday evening the eleven members of the senior class will read their thesis in contest for a medal given by County Supt. E. W. S. Cobb, Saturday evening. Members of the high school will give a play "Safety First." This play is a general mixup from beginning to end, and at no time does it cease to be full of fun.

Sunday at eleven o'clock Rev. W. A. Murry, pastor of the Presbyterian church, of Shelby will preach our commencement sermon. Monday afternoon at three o'clock the seniors will hold their class day exercise, then at seven o'clock of the same evening, Rev. Mr. Beaman, pastor of the Methodist church of Asheville, also former principal of this school will make our commencement address. Diplomas and medals will also be delivered.

The public is cordially invited to each of these exercises. There will be an admission fee of fifteen cents for visitors for the high school play. All other exercises are free.

The News, \$2 a year

### Columbus

The small children's class of the Baptist Sunday school enjoyed an Easter egg hunt Saturday with their teacher Miss Vada McMurry.

Supt. and Mrs. E. W. S. Cobb delightfully entertained the faculty and seniors of the Stearns High School Monday evening at their home. Music was a feature of the evening. Memories of this delightful evening will remain with us.

There was no school Monday at Stearns High School from eight o'clock until noon, the entire commencement program, which begins April 26th and continues through May 1st, was rehearsed. In the afternoon a hike to the lower falls and returned with many beautiful flowers.

The Stearns G. G. baseball team played a returning game at Saluda Friday. The score was very close being 8-9 in favor of the Saluda team. A third game was played on the Columbus diamond Saturday. The score stood 10-13 in favor of the Columbus team.

An Easter program was given by the Presbyterian S. S. Sunday. The music was very much enjoyed by all. A short address was given by Rev. A. S. Caldwell after the program.

Miss Odessa Mills has returned home from Mill Spring where she has been teaching.

Ralph Green was in Rutherfordton Wednesday.

Misses Estelle and Eva Pace spent the week-end with Miss Nellie Jackson.

J. R. Shipman wife and children also Roone Arledge spent Easter, with J. P. Arledge.

Miss Ruth Byers spent the Easter holidays with Miss May-Cantrell.

Misses Glenna Jackson and Mayme Morgan spent the week-end with Miss Sallie Wingo at Inman, S. C.

Carbide for your Colt Generators. Prices are right. Drive over with your truck and load up. At either Tryon or Columbus. E. D. DEDMON, Columbus, N. C.

### "New Comic Feature.

Laugh and the World Laughs with You;

Weep and You—"But Why Weep?"

The work of three of the most competent and popular comic artists has been combined in the feature which greeted readers of the Tryon News last week. The feature includes a cartoon by Mr. Kettner, whose pictures are in great demand from coast to coast; a comic by Charles Sughroe, creator of "Mickie, the Printer's Devil," and a comic by L. F. Van Zeim, who has made a ten-strike with his series, "Aw, What's the Use?"

This is a feature which in its class compares with the best presented by any newspaper, and we are confident that readers of the Tryon News will appreciate it to the extent that its quality justifies.

### Farmers Market

WE WANT

Eggs	24c
Chickens	16 to 18
Corn per bu.	.90
Peas per bu.	\$1.75 to \$2.00

One Short.

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

## GIRLS TAKE UP STUDY OF RADIO IN COLLEGE CLASS



The introduction of the telephone a half century ago offered an open field to man. Not so limited is the newer radiophony of today. Women and girls have taken to the study of wireless in an energetic way, resulting in many colleges for women installing the course. This picture shows a girl class in the radio room at Radcliffe College, Boston.

## County News

### Saluda

Horace Bomar Jr. of Spartanburg spent the Easter holidays with Bobbie Little.

Horace Nabers visited his brother Mills in the U. S. Hospital in Biltmore Monday. Mills has an attack of the appendicitis.

I will be in Saluda every Thursday and Friday to do your watch and jewelry repairing. Leave orders at Saluda Pharmacy, W. L. TUCKER. 39-4w-pd

The children of the Baptist Sunday School enjoyed an egg hunt near the Pace House last Saturday afternoon.

Jas Heatherly and son James are visiting in Bristol Tenn.

Miss Burgess of the high school faculty was called home Tuesday on account of the death of her grandfather.

Mr. Cadoo and wife who have been spending the winter in New York are at the Charles Hotel for the summer.

The children of the Episcopal church were given a party on Tuesday afternoon by the Sunday school teachers.

Rev. Thomas Johnson, Rector of the Episcopal church at Fletchers held Easter Service Sunday evening at the church of the Transfiguration. The special music by the vested choir was enjoyed by the large congregation.

A play called "Mrs. Tubbs of Shanty town" is to be given at Library Hall on Monday evening April 24th. The young lady teachers of the high school and their pupils are putting a lot of fun and pep into this play. Some good acting will be done. Be sure not to miss this treat the young people are offering you. Everybody is invited.

Born to F. A. Whitaker and wife on April 12th, a son.

FOR SALE: White Wyandotte eggs from the very best strain in the United States. The best layers of the Asiatic breeds, only \$1.50 a setting of 15 eggs.

A. DEVERE TURNER, P. O. Box 155 Saluda, N. C.

### Sunset View

James Pace from Georgia returned home last week for a visit with his parents.

David Morrison and family had as their guests Sunday Taft Newman and Miss Eugenia Morrison.

Philemon Head from Sterns High School spent the week-end with home folks.

Misses Lola and Geneva Jackson spent Saturday night and Sunday with B. H. Morrison and wife.

Philemon, Clinton and Thomas Head went to Hendersonville Saturday.

The guests of Lavada and Arletta Jackson Sunday afternoon were Carrie, Reba and Philemon Head.

The Mt. Grove singing choir is progressing nicely.

G. W. Bishop and wife went to Hendersonville Friday on business.

The people of this community are glad to see it rain again on account of fire which has been raging for the past few days.

### The Magic Square

The origin of the magic square is usually ascribed to the Chinese as the Yih King, an early classic, describes it. The magic square was known to the Hindus and to the Arabian astronomers.