

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.

As One Farmer Does It.

To Polk County Farmers

County Agent Yeager Sends In This Story From Rowan.

Twelve years ago C. A. Brown purchased an old run-down farm at \$7 an acre and considered it well paid for at the price. The land was mostly in gullies and red galded ridges between the gullies, with a scattered growth of broom sege and sassafras growing on the more favored spots. Mr. Brown was not a farmer, but a sawmill man by occupation, which carried him over much of North Carolina, and being a man who read and also observed, he came to the conclusion that there was something wrong with the system of farming when newly cleared virgin soil would after ten or fifteen years of continuous cropping be thrown out to permit Mother Nature to do by a very slow process what the farmer should do each year. So he decided to try his hand.

The general practice at the time Mr. Brown purchased the first unit of his farm was to sow cowpeas everywhere that an acre could be put in condition for seeding, and then wind up short of roughage and take off the pea vines for hay from the areas with the best growth of vines making these areas all the poorer by the process. Mr. Brown followed out his practice for a few years, and saw that he was not getting ahead, and then decided to do what was considered impossible, and that was to grow red clover on poor land. Mr. Brown put all the pea vines down one year and followed with some lime scattered over the galded slopes and seeded to rye, for the land was too poor to consider wheat. Clover seed was sown the following spring and quite surprising was the result. This success prompted Mr. Brown to use more lime, built terraces to stop the washing, and continue to sow clover until the entire cultivated acreage was bringing clover in its turn. Mr. Brown then figured it was time to add more acreage which he did and was told by his wife that was a bigger fool than she thought he was, but that did not deter him in his determination to demonstrate that poor land could be built up as a paying investment and about two years ago he purchased his third track of poor land.

Mr. Brown realized that he could not sell his "cake and eat it too," so he decided to feed out on the place all of the hay and straw that he could profitably, and return the manure to the soil. So from two to four cars of cattle are fed out each year. Mr. Brown's fields are getting richer, the gullies and ridges have entirely disappeared from most of them, corn makes from 40 to 70 bushels per acre on up-land, the wheat averages around 30 bushels one year with another now, and the hay is no longer measured by loads but by hundreds of tons, and the pastures are luxuriant eight or nine months of the year with a dense growth of white, red, sweet, and alsike clover, orchard grass, blue grass, and bermuda. The intelligent use of lime and red clover has brought this farm to its present state of productivity.

The only way some people can keep out of an argument is to talk to themselves.

I have now been with you four and one-half years as your county agent. During this time I have done the best I knew to advance the best interests of Polk county and every citizen thereof as I found opportunity. This relationship, I know must come to an end not far in the future. Since my stay here, many things have happened. The world war was fought, or rather our part of it. The period of deflation came to us and we have felt keenly the need of better marketing facilities than hitherto. The boll weevil has come to our borders, even to the foot of the mountains, which calls for serious thinking and drastic work on our part. On account of the boll weevil in our midst, our farming operations must necessarily undergo great change. Don't think for one moment that you will not. Those who grow cotton must prepare to do one of two things: 1st. He must prepare to fight the weevils and that means a fight to the finish or quit growing cotton eventually. 2nd. If you quit growing cotton, you must substitute something in its place, and right now is the time to decide what you will do.

If something must take the place of cotton, what must this something be? There are several things that may be chosen. 1st. The dairy business. 2nd. Peaches and apples where they will grow profitably. 3rd. Sweet sorghum syrup, if properly grown, manufactured, and put upon the market. 4th. Growing hogs. 5th. Growing more poultry. Now all of these enterprises need to be approached in a wise way. Any farmer who desires my advice along any of these lines, or any other will only drop me a card and how to get to your place and at the first opportunity I will visit you. The time has fully come that we cannot go alone. Everything must be done in groups. I want 12 men that will prepare to keep one brood sow each, or six who will prepare to keep properly 2 brood sows each, who will grow hogs to ship to packing houses in car lots. It can be done here as cheaply as anywhere. I don't mean to go into growing pigs; I mean hogs for market. There is a limited local market; for everything, but so easily glutted. Our market depends on the farmers himself. Will he keep on slashing each others throat or will he eventually come to his senses and work together. The time is approaching to sow fall crops. Don't fail to prepare oats and vetch or rye and vetch for hay next spring and summer and cut out the hay bill in the future. Then don't delay starting that pasture at once that will keep your cattle and almost keep your mules and horses if you will take good land and make good pastures. As I said in the beginning, I am here now and want to help you. Call on me or drop me a card, I am always busy; but always ready and willing to serve and will even work in the night if necessary to meet my pressing duties. So let us all think as never before and work as never before and meet changing conditions as they come, like wise and brave men and women should.

All farmers of Polk county who have not attended one of our township farmers' meetings either at Sunny View, Mill Spring Green's Creek or Columbus, should attend either at Saluda, Aug. 25, or Tryon, Aug. 26, as this will close the campaign.

The Farmers and the Farmers Federation must have an organ. We have adopted the Polk County News as that organ. Let all members of the Federation see the Editor, the Manager of the Federation or myself relative to their subscriptions to this paper. We must get in closer touch with each other and with our business.

All apple growers and those who contemplate growing apples, either on a large or small scale, in Polk, county should attend the Orchard Meeting in Mr. H. P. Corwith's Overbrook Orchard at Saluda, N. C. Aug. 25, at 11 a. m. Picnic at 1 p. m. Everybody bring lunch for himself or herself and for one more and there will be plenty. Everybody come and see what a glorious time we can have in the Land of Opportunity.

A meeting of the apple growers of Western North Carolina will be held at Over Brook on Friday, August 25, at 10:30 a. m. An apple packing demonstration will be put on. \$10.00 will be paid for best box and barrel packed, \$5.00 for second.

Basket picnic at 1 p. m. All are welcome. Bring your lunch and have a good time at Over Brook Orchard, Saluda, N. C.

Farmers Market

WE WANT	
Eggs	30c
Chickens	15
Frying Chickens	.20
Hams	.22
corn per bu.	1.00

Two Home-Sick Boys.

Mr. Clynt Greenway and Mr. Brown Simms formerly employees of Shepard Art Metal Co. of Detroit, Mich. are enjoying "Home sweet Home."

They say they like Detroit fine but they like Polk County better. We understand they were making good wages.

"What are good wages compared to our Garden of Eden down in good old Dixie Land? If the Lord spares us to reach her boundry line we will never cross it again. We want to live where people believe in living and let live, where every one greets you with a "how-do-you-do" and the Darkies tips his hat to the white gentleman".

We agree Sunny Carolina with all of it's advantages is a wonderful place to live but we think there must be some bright eyed, modest little southern maiden calling them back. They had "Carolina Sunshine" on their minds but they left Detroit singing "Polk County is good enough for me." Compliments of Detroit friends.

At Congregational Church.

Bible school at 10. a. m.
Public worship and sermon at 11 a. m.
Bible study class at 8 p. m. on Wednesdays.
Welcome to the public.

Holy Cross Episcopal Church

REV. C. P. BURNETT, Rector.
Services for August:
Holy Communion each Sunday morning 7:30 o'clock.
Sunday school at 10 o'clock.
Litany and Intercessions for the sick, Fridays 5 p. m.
The regular 11 o'clock Sunday service will be resumed on the first Sunday in September.

Mail Order Houses Booming.

Sales totals of the great mail order houses show an enormous increase, particularly in strictly farming sections.

This is not pleasant news for retail stores in our average small town, but it is what they may expect.

There is only one way in which the insidious mail order campaign can be combatted, and that is by local merchants frankly explaining their merchandising possibilities to the people through advertising.

It is a well-known fact that the big mail order concerns maintain departments of considerable magnitude to check up the town where the local merchants appears to lack enterprise.

There they concentrate their batteries of advertising and catalogue distribution.

The mail order house never prospers in a town where the local merchants advertise consistently, because the mail order men know they cannot compete with the local store if the merchant understands his business.

The cheapness with which the big mail order man can buy is more than offset by the low overhead the local merchant can get along with.

To hold his own, however, the local merchant must not hide his light under a bushel.

The public needs education to a knowledge that they can buy at home as cheaply, that they can actually see what they are buying before they pay for it, and that they do not have to wait sometimes weeks for the delivery of the article they want.

The National Cloak and Suit company reports a heavy increase in its business, all in the country, through it is doubtful if this great concern carries anything like the line of up-to-date goods carried by local stores throughout the country.

When the merchants get ready to talk plainly to the people they will have nothing to fear from the mail order man, but if they remain silent, then the outsider will surely burrow his way into their profits.

Self-satisfaction has led many a bankruptcy.

Lizzie Was Ahead

A Piere Arrow drove up to the garage and asked how for it was to Salem. "Forty miles," said the garage man. "Give me ten gallons of gas and a gallon of oil," replied the o'her.

He was followed by a man in a Packard. "How far is it to Salem?" he asked. "Forty miles." "Give me five gallons of gas and a gallon of oil."

After him came a party in a Dodge. "How far is it to Salem?" they wanted to know. "Forty miles." "Give me two gallons of gas and a quart oil," said the driver and went on their way.

A Ford was waiting to come in. "How far is it to Salem from here?" "Said the gas salesman: "Forty miles." Give me a pail of water and a package of Camels," orded the drive, "and hold it while I get in."

Board of Trade Meeting!

The Annual meeting of the Board of Trade will be held at Missildine's Hall Wednesday, September 6th 1922, at 8:30 p. m. Election of officers and budget for ensuing year.

It is important that you be present.

County News

Fishtop

A much needed rain fell here Thursday and one on Saturday.

Crops are looking fine, but only small ones were planted.

Russell Arledge killed two ratlers, a few days back.

Burton Williams and family of Lynn have been visiting and attending preaching at Mountain View last week.

The Arledge families all attended services a few days at Mountain Grove last week. And so did T. C. and Earnest Laughter. J. B. Bradley attended Sunday.

T. W. Bradley and Taft Newman attended the singing at Silver Creek Sunday.

Nile Jones and Ethel Hill were married by E. J. Bradley at his home on the 19th.

P. Henderson hauled three loads of melons and other vegetables to Saluda last week.

Mill Spring

The series of meeting at the methodist church, conducted by Rev. J. M. Barber closed Sunday night.

Mrs. H. H. Foster of Fountain Inn, S. C. is spending some time at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Foster.

Rev. J. M. Barber and family, Walter Barber and wife, and Mason Barber have been visiting their father J. M. Barber.

Miss Mollie Dalton of Sapphire, N. C. spent the week end with home folks.

Misses Odessa and Mae Mills spent last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Brisco.

Messrs Hubert and Bob Foster spent the week end with home-folks.

Miss Gladys Gibbs left last Thursday for Robbinsville, N. C. where she will teach the coming session.

Miss Esther Gibbs visited friends in Cooper Gap last week.

Mrs. Sitten is visiting her sister Miss Sallie Carpenter.

Some of the ladies of this community visited Mrs. Stephens and Mr. Franklin last Friday P. M. and surprised them with a generous pounding, of pantry supplies.

Rev. W. J. Hackney left Sunday to begin a series of meetings at New Hope.

Several of the young people of this community were visitors at the home of W. G. Edgerton Sunday.

Albert Lynch is visiting his father A. M. Lynch.

We are sorry to report the illness of J. H. Gibbs.

MRS. HUNTER, WEDS MR. LEWIS LANFORD

A wedding of cordial intrest to many in Greenville is that of Mrs. Ada M. Hunter, of Greenville, and Mr. Lewis Ezell Lanford, of Woodruff, solemnized August 15, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Foster, at Mill Spring, North Carolina. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. W. J. Hackney, and was very simple. The country home of Mr. and Mrs. Roster was tastefully decorated with cut flowers and potted plants.

After the ceremony a bountiful repast was served.

Mrs. Lanford as Mrs. Hunter, is well known in Greenville having for the past fourteen years been among the prominent

business women of this city.

Mr. Lanford is a prominent planter and business man of Woodruff.

Mill Spring Route 1

Several from this section attended the all day singing at Rock Springs Sunday.

Mr. O. T. Huntley from Forest City spent a few days in this section last week selling insurance. He also enjoyed a fox hunt with A. A. Edward one night.

Miss Doris Edwards spent last week with her sister Mrs. A. A. Thompson, and attended revival services at Bethlehem.

Mrs. Burnett and her daughter Cressie, were callers at A. A. Edwards Wednesday afternoon.

Bert Edwards and Roscoe Whiteside made a business trip to Inman, S. C., Saturday

Ralph Edwards and wife spent Saturday night with the latter's parents N. E. Williams and wife on Route 2.

Fletcher Edwards went to Uree Sunday.

Mark West and family from Rutherford County, were guest of J. C. Griffin Sunday.

Mrs. J. H. Crawford of Forest City and Mrs. W. M. Rippy of Shelby who are spending a week with their uncle J. C. Griffin were visitors at A. A. Edwards Sunday, also Messers Thomas R. Byrd and Bill Burton of Burnsville, N. C.

Bert Edwards, J. T. Edwards Q. M. Powell and Gordon Hyder were in Asheville last week.

Miss Jessie Whiteside of Knoxville, Tenn. is visiting relatives and friends here.

V. B. Hyder is teaching a singing school on Pea Ridge.

E. P. White was a dinner guest at the home of V. B. Hydea Tuesday.

Bob Lynch from near Pleasant Hill visited friends here last week.

A number of relatives were entertained at J. C. Griffin's home last week.

Miss Ethel Ogle spent Sunday with her friend Maggie Israel.

Roland Ruppe accompanied by his niece Ruth Byars spent a part of last week in Shelby.

Miss Martha Hickman, teacher of Chigger Ridge school spent the week end at her home at Hillcrest.

J. B. Hyder from Landrum S. C., visited his brother, V. B. Hyder several days ago.

Several near here attended revival services held at Coopers Gap last week.

Miss Vinetta Hyder entertained a few friends Sunday afternoon.

W. E. Elliott and wife were at Bethlehem Sunday.

Watermelon hauling seems to be a profitable business here at present.

Revival services closed at Pea Ridge last Thursday. There were nine candidates for baptism and they were baptised by Rev. E. P. White in Green River.

The little children of A. A. Edwards, are very sick with whooping cough.

Mrs. R. E. Early is visiting relatives in this section.

Mr. Jake Pritchard and Miss Eva Shehan on Pea Ridge were married last Sunday.

Before marriage he used to want her to hang onto his arm whenever they went for a walk; now he walks three paces in front of her and growls because she can't keep up.