

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.

"Do You Want Your Daughter to Marry a Farmer?"

Sixty one out of sixty four N. C. farm women answer "yes" and they back up their answers with some perfectly good reasons. They do not think of themselves as poor hard working drudges, lonely and isolated and with no social to break the monotony of their existence—on contrary they seem to be perfectly well satisfied and are contented with their lot as farmers wives. They find joy, happiness and contentment on the farm and in the homes and have such hope in the future that they want their daughters to become farmers wives.

Some of the most important reasons for this are; good health conditions, the ever ready supply of good wholesome food such as fresh vegetables, butter, milk, chickens and eggs (gee I believe I'll move to the farm), the balanced physical and mental growth that comes from living close to nature and seeing the beauties of his handiwork, the close business partnership between husband and wife and the friendly discussion of all business problems.

Modern home conveniences such as running water, electric light and power for washing; consolidated rural school, papers and magazines, home demonstration work, automobiles and good roads, all these and more go hand in hand toward making life on the farm worth living.

With a hope for the future and with a vision of what rural life can become rather than what it is today these farm women expressed a belief that the time would soon come when the country women would have all advantages now possible to the city women and in addition to these the many comforts and pleasures that come only to those living in the country as farmers wives.

To the Farmers of Polk County.

There is one thing being done in Polk county to which I desire to call to your attention. So far as I know this is a line of agriculture not being developed anywhere else in North Carolina. I mean the growing of Kudzu. Now some farmers may not know what kudzu is. To such I would say it is a rank growing plant of the vine kind; perhaps related to the bean family. As I understand it is a native of Japan. I am not so much interested in the history of the plant as its usefulness on the farm, to say the least of it; it is in my opinion one of the greatest, if not the very greatest of all legume plants. For more than twenty-five years, I have believed it to be a great hay and pasture legume; but for lack of personal knowledge have feared to encourage farmers to plant it on their farms; but when I came to Polk County I found it growing in a small way on Rev. Geo. Branscomb's farm. On my first visit to his farm I became interested in it and congratulated him on having nerve enough to try it out. Since that time Mr. Branscomb has increased his kudzu plantings to something like three acres. On yesterday in company with C. C. Proffitt and W. B. McSwain we paid a visit to this farm and to our surprise we found the entire land 15 to 20 inches deep in the very

richest legume growth we had ever beheld. Our eyes could scarcely believe what we saw. And this wonderful legume crop was grown by Mr. Branscomb, on the very poorest kind of Polk County land, without any preparation, lime, fertilizer or manure of any kind; but the land is not poor now, having battled successfully with sage grass, weeds, bushes and briars of all kind. So far as I know it is the only legume on earth that can begin life on poor land, build it up as it goes, without lime, fertilizers of any kind and without cultivation and compete with all kind of obstacles and overcome them and produce hay and pasture crops and at the same time leave your land rich. Mr. Branscomb, is so pleased with his five or six years experience with kudzu on this poor old rundown field, that last April he selected an acre of his best land and planted about 5000 plants thereon, after good preparation and has given good cultivation, and is a sight to behold.

Now to the point in the discussion in this article; I don't want any farmer to go on ignorantly about this wonderful plant as I have and not give it at least a small trial. I am not prepared to give instructions relative to growing this wonderful hay and pasture possibility; what I want every Polk county farmer to do, is to visit Mr. Branscomb's farm at Melvin Hill in Polk county and see for himself, and talk the matter over with Mr. Branscomb. Don't hesitate nor wait. Go at once before he mows his old field crop. Also don't fail to see the acre planted last April. Seeing is believing; but wading through the mass of leafy vines, to see the humus two or three inches deep on the ground is knowing that you are standing on holy ground, agriculturally speaking. Please don't anyone take my word for it; because I am up here at Saluda, in the Land of the Sky, drinking in the precious ozone in this mountain air, and may be somewhat exaggerating—go and see for yourself as I did. Then go home and plant some Kudzu on your poor gullied fields and on your rough, rocky land.

Bank Directors Elected.

The regular mid-summer meeting of the directors of the Bank of Landrum, at Landrum, was held on Wednesday of last week. Three new members were added to the board, which now consists of the following progressive and conservative men: A. Eugene Geer, Roland L. Lee, James H. Williams, J. T. Waldrop, J. S. Carpenter, Roy P. Whitlock and H. B. Carlisle. The new members are A. Eugene Geer, J. H. Williams and Roland L. Lee.

This bank has increased its capital from \$15,000 to \$25,000 and has a surplus of \$25,000.00 and has done much for the upbuilding of its home town.

The officers of this banking institution are all well and favorably known and are as follows: H. B. Carlisle, Pres.; J. S. Carpenter, Vice Pres.; Roy P. Whitlock, Cashier and R. H. Brady Asst. Cashier.

Don't think your wife a fool. The neighbors may have thought the same thing when she married you.

Richard Lloyd Jones Says:

Hanging heavily about his neck, the sack of seed bowed down the ancient sower. Today, without weight, he only holds the reins that drive the faithful team that haul around his harrowed field, the modern seeder. Today we no longer have to walk a furrow of the plow. We can mount the seat on the sulky and till vast acres where once we turned the soil of patches.

Once we used to bend our backs to drop the kernels of corn and finger over the soil that covered them. Today we ride the planter that does the bigger job in the better and easier way. We used to tether hay by hand but now we tether by horse.

Maud Muller had to walk the stubbed field when she raked the new-mown hay. Today a loader lifts it on the rack and a harpoon throws it on the stack.

Millet, the great French painter of peasants, pictured the harvester bending low to swing his sickle. Then came the cradle. At last a Cyrus McCormick found a reaper which in its turn became the harvester, cutting and binding the ripened grain.

Threshing once done by flaying the floor is now done by the threshing machine without which the great fields of grain we now sow could never be gathered in huge elevators.

We have made more work possible by making work easier. We let the wind lift our water. The tractor has come to release the horse.

The inventor is the great farm helper. The machinist has multiplied both the muscle and the skill of the farm hand. We work more, produce more and labor less. Dull drudgery is fast being made a story of the past.

The soil that cultivated sullenness in the days of Millet is cultivating skill and prosperity today.

The telephone has brought the farmers into conversing distance with his next county neighbor.

The automobile has changed the measure of distance. We talk not in miles but of fitness of the roads.

The moving picture has brought the ablest actor and the best in drama to our own town opera house.

The farm that once was the young man's idea of what he should flee from is now beginning to lure the town boy as the ideal vocation to work toward.

Throughout all the world the basic business is the production of food and shelter. The farm is the bulk producer; the town the refiner. That business has grown more productive and more profitable as it has grown more less irksome and more alluring. The business farmer is the machine farmer.

We build bigger as we unbend backs. When the tiller of the soil is emancipated from toil, when he is able to stand erect and be a worker, using more head than hand, then do his eyes behold the beauties of the countryside of which the poets preach. Then does the farmer become not the man with the hoe, but the man with the hope.

Nothing puts this world forward faster than unbending backs.

Farmers Market

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

Over The Top

Polk County raised \$999.97 for Near East Relief this year and went 177 percent over its quota, according to announcement from Raleigh by Col. Geo. H. Bellamy, State Chairman. Polk led the entire state in over-subscriptions of quota.

The most remarkable part of Polk County's showing was the fact that there was no chairman for the financial campaign, the sum of \$531.22 having been sent in entirely unsolicited. Polk's quota is only \$360.

E. W. Dedmond of Columbus took charge of things in time to put on a clothing campaign which netted garments to the value of \$468.75.

Though called upon to feed and clothe only six children, Polk's contribution will take care of sixteen, thus providing for some of the children which other counties should have taken care of but failed to do.

In thanking his chairman and workers and the people who contributed this money, Col. Bellamy called attention to the fact that it will be necessary to put on a similar campaign this fiscal year, because the great powers of the world are allowing the Turks to continue their massacres in Armenia and destruction of all crops, home and industries.

"There have been twenty-two separate massacres since the Armistice," declared Col. Bellamy, which make it impossible for these people to be self-supporting until France, England and Italy relinquish their protectorate over Turkey in their mad scramble for the Mohammedan calico trade.

"The recent British refusal to allow the Greek army to stop massacres of its own people was one of the most astounding and sordid chapters in history, and until such conditions as this disappear and England becomes a Christian nation, the American people are the only thing that stand between Armenia and the entire starvation of its outstanding population."

Mother and Daughter.

A home is what a woman makes it. A daughter is in nine cases out of every ten, the reflection of her mother, according to a writer in a current magazine.

The training of the girl of fifteen is shown in the woman of fifty. A son may, by contact with the rough edges of the world, sometimes outlive his early home influences; a daughter rarely does. She may make a mis-step. Indiscretion may be to her a necessary teacher; but her early domestic training will manifest itself sooner or later. A mother's word, a domestic proverb, told at eventide by the quiet fireside, has been recalled by many a woman after it was uttered.

"I thank God that my mother told me what other women have been taught by the world," said a gentlewoman to us not long ago.

This, mother, is the tribute your daughter and mine should be able to pay to our memories long after we are gone.

The world has a sharp way of teaching its truths to a girl. Is it not far better, then, that her mother should tell her with that sweet sympathetic grace and gentleness which only a mother knows?

The flowers most beautiful to the eye and sweetest to the smell, grow in good soil. The world's noblest women have sprung from good homes.

Our School Opens Sept. 11

In appreciation of the facts that we have had a long vacation of three and one half months, and also that the good people of Tryon almost unanimously voted to give us a larger, well equipped and appropriate school-building with ample playgrounds, I sincerely trust that every patron will see that his or her children be here ready to enter on Sept. 11 (Monday).

Last year our school accomplished wonderful things; but with the earnest cooperation of you patrons we can do so much more. Please help us to build up a splendid attendance, so that our teaching forces can be increased. Let me beg you to insist upon some earnest, conscientious home study and application; then, if your children are normal, you will be encouraged next commencement to hear their names read out in the list of promotion.

Any new or conditioned students will do well to meet me at the School Building Saturday, Sept. 9 at 10.30. The regular teacher's meeting will be held Friday afternoon at 3.

In Memory of Carol Marriott

Carol Marriott who died on Friday the 25th, has resided in Tryon nearly 20 years. He came with his parents soon after graduating at the Wesleyan University, Delaware Ohio, with the highest rank in his class, and an unusual high one at that. He had been, in the midst of excellent health, suddenly stricken with what proved to be tuberculosis. His residence in Tryon prolonged his life and checked but could not cure his disease. He suffered so severely the past few months, that his final release was a relief both to himself and to his relatives and friends.

Even more unfortunately, his affliction cut short a promise, almost a certainty, of a successful and useful career. His wide information, his keen intelligence, his precise, scholarly, well disciplined mind were early recognized. In spite of his forced retirement and his few opportunities for the exercise of these talents, their growth in scope and power were quite manifest here, especially when, as a member of the School Board recently, he freely devoted them to improving the means and methods of educating the children of Tryon. He thereby had much to do with the present prospect of a suitable school building and an adequate teaching force. For the industry, devotion, and enthusiasm, he gave to this cause, he deserves a suitable memorial in some way connected with the new school. It would also indicate, how much more, but for his physical captivity, he might have been and done. E. G. H.

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.

If some men could hear their own funeral sermon they would wonder who the preacher was talking about.

When most of us get what we ask for, we're sorry we did not ask for more.

Another thing we've noticed is that it's the thing we have for sale that always drop in price and the things we have to buy that raise.

The old-fashioned man who put tallow on his boots now has a son who puts it on his hair.

County News

Columbus

(Intended for last week)

A very instructive demonstration was held Saturday afternoon. Despite the heavy rain just at the time of meeting a large crowd attended. Soup mixture was canned. A round table discussion of canning will be held next time. It will be the last time the ladies and girls will meet together as the club will be divided after the next meeting.

The three Misses Padgett of Flat Rock, motored to join their sister Sarah Padgett. They are spending the week on White Oak Mountain.

Eula Jackson visited Oma Reynolds Saturday and Sunday.

Misses Mae and Odessa Mills spent the week in Mill Spring.

Mrs. W. McChesney left Saturday for a few weeks visit to relatives in Virginia.

The play "Mrs. Tubbs of Shantly town" was very much enjoyed by all present. \$9.50 was realized.

Mrs. John Smith and daughter Grace are spending the week on White Oak mountain.

The S. H. S. will begin its session Monday Aug. 28. All teachers have been secured and the patrons of school are visited to attend the opening on Monday.

Mr. Coke Dogett of Gilkey and Martin Dogett of Gaffney spent Sunday afternoon in Columbus.

Pearl Tallant is spending some time in Asheville.

Fishtop

A cool wave has visited us but we hope not to stay long.

Quite a crowd of folks visiting and hunting in this section. Including T. A. Rippey and family, Mr. Sayer and Miss Jones, of Tryon, Bassil Arledge, of Landrum, Eli Paty and son, of Columbus, S. S. McMurry and Mrs. Sallie McMurry of Finger-ville, with others from Saluda, and other parts, too numerous to mention.

Clayton Pace is hauling apples to Saluda to ship to Charleston.

Clinton Case has returned from Camp Brag for a few days.

N. Case hauled three loads of melons to Saluda last week.

Posey Henderson killed twelve rattlesnakes one day last week. A few days back he destroyed five black snakes and forty-six of an unknown variety all in one day, and all on his place. That was not a good day for them either.

Louis Bradley killed two large rattlers last week. One was five feet long. He lives in the midst of the snake territory. Others have killed several as the snake season seems to be in full blast.

Notice

Having qualified as executrix of the estate of Joseph Gurley, deceased, late of Polk county, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to file same with me for payment within twelve months from this date or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This August 30, 1922.

LIZZIEBETH GURLEY
Executrix

Some men are noted for their good judgment—others try to argue with their wives.