

POLK COUNTY NEWS

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POLK COUNTY AGENT'S DEPARTMENT

Timely Talks to Polk County Farmers, and others, on Timely Subjects, by County Agent, J. R. Sams.

Increased Corn Yield From Seed Selections

Increased yields of corn from tests as high as 8.7 bushels per acre have been secured by farmers selecting their seed corn in the field as compared to getting seed from the crib at planting time. These are results secured by Dr. R. Y. Winters of the North Carolina Experiment Station in tests extending over three years comparing crib selected seed with field selected seed. Dr. Winters finds that the lowest increase of 4.2 bushels per acre will increase the yield to 126 bushels in selecting high seed corn in a day to 30 acres. At the rate of 10 cents per bushel this days corn is worth 94.50 to the corn grower.

Field selection of seed corn gives good profits, says Dr. Winters, and he gives the following suggestions as to how the selection should be made:

Select from the highest yielding stalks. Two eared stalks are higher than single eared.

Select only those ears that are sound and firm. Avoid ears with rough chaffy grains. Discard those ears with discolored grains.

Select ears that are well covered with shuck.

Don't be too particular about selecting ears that will look good at the fair. Increase yields are wanted, not show ears altogether.

Boll Weevil Covers State.

From specimens which have been sent to Franklin, Sherman, Entomologist for the North Carolina Experiment Station, indications are that the boll weevil is now about covered the cotton growing area of the State. From now on farmers will be more interested in fighting the pest rather than in learning whether or not he will reach their particular farm.

Specimens have been received from Mr. Sherman from the following points: Advance in Davie county, southern Alamance, Millbrook in Wake, northeastern Edgecombe near Hobgood, Scotland Neck in Halifax, Windsor Bertie, all of Martin and at Newell in Washington county. The pest has not gone north of the Pamlico Sound as yet nor have weevils been actually found in the outlying cotton counties of Orange, Durham, Granville, Wayne, Warren and Gates.

The newly invaded territory will likely have severe damage next year. In the meantime all preparations for fighting the pest should be made, states, Mr. Sherman.

About seventy counties in North Carolina now have farm demonstration agents. The other thirty need this service, especially those in boll weevil territory.

The great rural interests are human interests, and good crops of little value to the farmer unless they open the door to a new kind of life on the farm—more Roosevelt.

It is mighty discouraging to find weevils when the bins are clean, inspected frequently, and, if necessary, fumigated.

"Circle Grove Farm" sounds better than the "Old Latham Farm". Every good farm is en-

titled to a name and sometimes a name helps make the place a good farm.

The poultry flock can be culled now and the non-producers killed or sold. A loafing hen should no more be tolerated than a loafing farm hand.

No landowner can afford not to use printers ink. An appropriate farm name or simple letter head paper telling about the things for sale, adds dignity to the farming profession at the same time it adds to the bank account.

"Three days make up our life—Yesterday, Tomorrow and Today. Yesterday is dead forever. Tomorrow's sun never rises—it is always Today. Do the work today. Start today and do the things you ought to do. You know what those things are. Nobody else on earth can tell you. Begin today."

Have A Year Around Garden.

About 75 kinds of vegetables may be grown in the North Carolina home garden and served fresh every day, reports Mr. C. Matthews of the North Carolina Experiment Station. About 20 vegetables can be planted now which will be ready for use in the late fall and winter months. Full directions about how to have a home garden and a succession of vegetables throughout the year can be found in Extension Circulars 121, 122 and 123 which may be had on application to the Editor, Agricultural Extension, Service, Raleigh.

Community Fairs Great Success

Last week Polk county held a series of community fairs, beginning on Monday at Columbus, Tuesday at Sunny View, Wednesday at Mill Spring, Thursday at Green Creek, Friday at Lynn, and Saturday at Saluda. The fairs were supervised by the County Agent, Mr. J. R. Sams, and the Home Agent, Miss Sarah Maude Radgett. Mrs. Ola S. Wells, of Guilford county, judged the home supply exhibits. Mrs. Wells has been in the home demonstration work for six years and the people of Polk county were fortunate to have her for a judge and also to hear her interesting and instructive talks.

Mr. Evans, from the Bureau of Animal Husbandry, Raleigh, N. C., judged the livestock. Mr. Evans has been with the livestock division for several years and has had other noteworthy experience in this and other states. He had with him a number of pure bred sheep of the finest type to show the farmers. They were driven from Raleigh on a truck.

Mr. J. W. Lindley, County Agent in Transylvania county, and Mr. W. R. Hoots, manager of the Carolina Nursery Co., East Flat Rock, N. C., judged the general farm crops exhibits.

The general field crop and fruit exhibits at Columbus were noticeable and very good. A picnic dinner was served at the court house for the public. This fair was well attended by an enthusiastic crowd, in spite of the rain. The people expressed their desires for a general county fair next year.

Sunny View is one of the most isolated sections of the county, but the interest of the people and the exhibits were splendid. The exhibits of apples and can-

ned goods were the noticeable features of this fair. The canning club girls won all the first prizes on canning and this success is stimulating them to do even better work for the following year.

The displays of garden seed and garden vegetables were very noticeable at Mill Spring. This was partly due to the fact that the agents have organized Garden clubs in this section. Also the canning and general displays were good.

Green Creek is one of the best farming sections of the county and the people of this section are rapidly improving their system of farming and living. An unusually good picnic dinner was served at this place. The quality and variety of the things people eat is often a good indication of their prosperity. The corn exhibits of this fair were splendid showing that many farmers have been doing careful seed selection.

At Lynn the exhibits of the canning club girls were very noteworthy and the fair in general was good. Very little work had been done in this section to prepare for the fair. Some exhibits of garden vegetables were on display that showed wonderful quality and variety. Exhibits of this kind has a tendency to make others grow better and more things for their home supplies.

The main features of the fair at Saluda were the splendid exhibits of apples, garden vegetables, canned goods and fancy work.

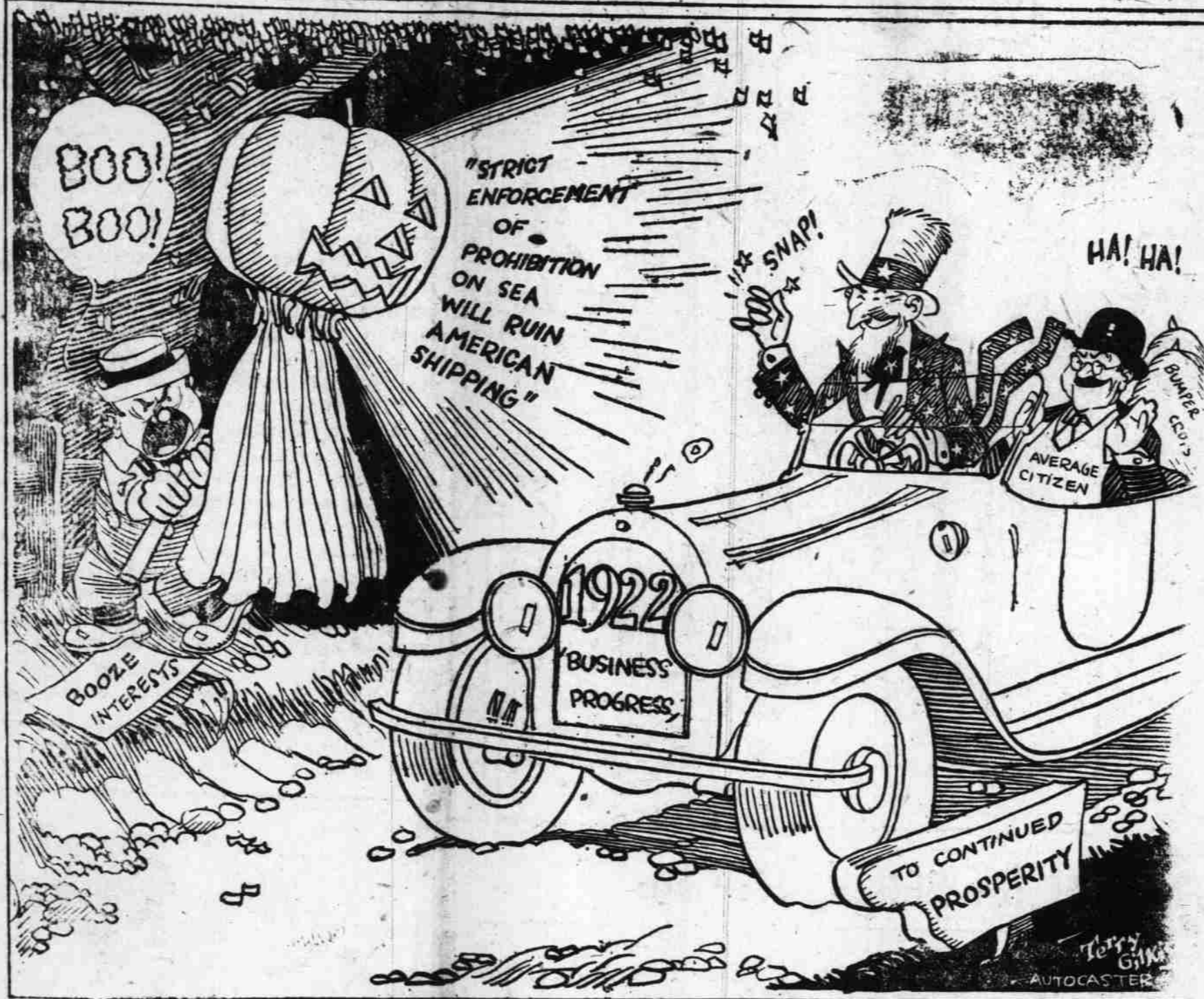
Polk county is at the breaking of a new day, because the people are just now beginning to realize the possibilities of the soil and climate. And they are planning for greater things. They have one of the best Farm Agents and one of the best Home Agents in the state, they also have the Farmers Federation in active work and are looking forward to a big county fair next year.

W. R. HOOTS

At Congregational Church.

Bible school at 10. a. m.
Public worship and sermon at 11 a. m.
Bible study class at 4 p. m. on Wednesdays.
Welcome to the public.

Regular Hallowe'en Scare



Parent-Teachers Association.

The second monthly meeting of the Parent-Teachers Association was held Monday afternoon in the School Auditorium. Although it had been agreed that these meetings would be confined to one hour, yet the interest was so intense, that the time slipped by to the surprise of the whole body. That goes to show what parents can do for their children, if they really lead them to be interested.

Everybody seems to be exerting her very utmost to make the school a success. Several progressive steps were taken, all of which show how much will be done throughout the year. I think the public ought to know and appreciate the splendid work which has been done to arouse some interest in the health of the children. Ice cream has been served twice as an incentive to induce the smaller children to bring and drink milk. As Principal of the school, I deeply appreciate this interest that is being taken, and I insist that more friends and patrons of the school lend their encouragement as well as financial aid by becoming members.

D. W. SIMMONS.

Honor Roll for the First Month.

Our honor roll for September was unavoidably left out last week, however 'tis not too late now.

Due to the fact that the little folks have so little to learn the first month we do not publish any honor roll for it until October, the second

Second Grade

Mamie Cantrel
Marion Palmer
Fred Swann

Third Grade

Elizabeth Avant
Sarah Millikin
Viola Lindsey
Julia Crawley
James Moore

Fourth Grade

Naomi Whitmire
Minnie Waters
Mary McFarland
Florence Moore
Bonnie Fisher
Mary Sayre
Jean Beatson
Roy Blackwell

Fifth Grade

Ollie Lindsey
Cleo Watson

Ollie Lindsey
Sixth Grade
John Kittrell
David Caldwell
Seventh Grade
Franklin Little
James Fisher
Sidney Sayre
Geraldine Sayre
Polly Screven
Josephine Hill
High School
William Burnett

It has given me no little worry that our High School students have not been sufficiently interested in their work to become honor students. Can't the parents and friends of the school help us in that direction? Miss Peters, mathematics and science teacher suggested that some active steps be taken. Therefore, she has offered to give five dollars in gold to the student making highest average in mathematics or science. Miss Monday will give the same amount to the highest average in history or Latin. I shall give the same to the highest average in English or French. Won't you good parents and guardians see that your child or children work for these rewards?

Our attendance has been most encouraging for the past month with an enrollment of 260 we have had an average daily attendance of 249. Isn't that fine? It can be better.

Notice of Teachers' Meeting.

There will be held at Columbus, Saturday October 21st, beginning at ten thirty o'clock, a very important meeting of all the teachers in Polk County. I confidently expect YOU, as a teacher, to attend this meeting. If you have any problems or questions regarding the school work in any way, present them at this time.

There will be two special addresses, by speakers of ability and experience, for this assembly, I am

Very cordially yours
E. W. S. COBB, County Supt.

Sudden Upheavals of Gases.
The surface of the sun often is the scene of great and sudden upheavals of vast quantities of incandescent gases of many elements, these eruptions attaining heights of between 20,000 and 200,000 miles, according to the science service report of the United States naval observatory.

Can Anyone Suggest Improvement?
Design of pencils has not been changed for 100 years.

County News

Mill Spring

We had a fine fair here last Wednesday. All exhibits showed that the people had worked and planned for this fair. Much improvement was manifested in the canning exhibits. This is due to the work of our Home Demonstration Agent, Miss Padgett. This is the fourth annual exhibition given by our community. It is quite evident that this one is the best, considered as a whole. We are hoping to have a County Fair next year. In fact Mr. Sams has assured us of his efforts to have a county fair next fall. Last spring, Mr. Sams organized a Pig Club. The boys and girls purchased their pigs from Mr. Lynn Waldrop. They were fortunate in securing the purebred O. I. C. at the fair last Wednesday these pigs were weighed and prizes awarded accordingly. George Gibbs won first prize \$8.00. Edgar Walker won second prize \$5.00. Mary Hackney won third prize \$3.00. This club work is being stressed more and it is hoped that more boys and girls will join. The boy who won the first prize had record of his pig, which he read, showing how and what he had fed his pig. The future manhood of our county will be, to an extent, what we make it now, by giving those boys the proper training and encouragement to do things in a business manner.

Miss Esther Gibbs entertained a party of young people at her home Saturday night. Many interesting games were played. This was interspersed with music both vocal and instrumental. Before the youngsters departed, cake was served, which added the finish to the evening. Every one went away declaring they had enjoyed the evening.

Some of our people attended the other community fairs last week. It is stated that we have had quite a bit of competition, as they were all splendid.

Wedding bells were telling their chimes recently. Miss Iris Smith and Hubert Williams were married at the home of the groom in S. C., last Sunday, October 8th. They will make their home there. Here's hoping these two young lives will live a life of happiness.

Mrs. G. E. Brisco is visiting relatives in Rutherfordton at this penning.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon for Mrs. Mottinger, who died Sunday morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. G. Voorhies. The services will be held at the Methodist church, and Rev. W. J. Hackney will officiate. Misses Pearl and Essie Edwards, Esther Gibbs and Eva Egerton, and James Egerton and Ernest Gibbs had charge of the music at this service. Some of the intimate friends of this family will act as pall bearers. Deepest sympathy is expressed for the bereaved ones.

Etching Fluid.
Fluid to write on glass is made by mixing with hydrofluoric acid enough barium sulphate to give it consistency, so that it will not spread, and will show well on the glass. Ammonium fluoride may also be added. After the writing has stood some time it is washed or dusted off, and the etching appears. Use a glass pen.

Gulls as Weather Prophets.
Those who live by the coast have a weather sign in the gulls, which in the various winds that will bring the rain collect in big flocks and gather in the fields or circle over the land, wheeling and screaming uneasily.