

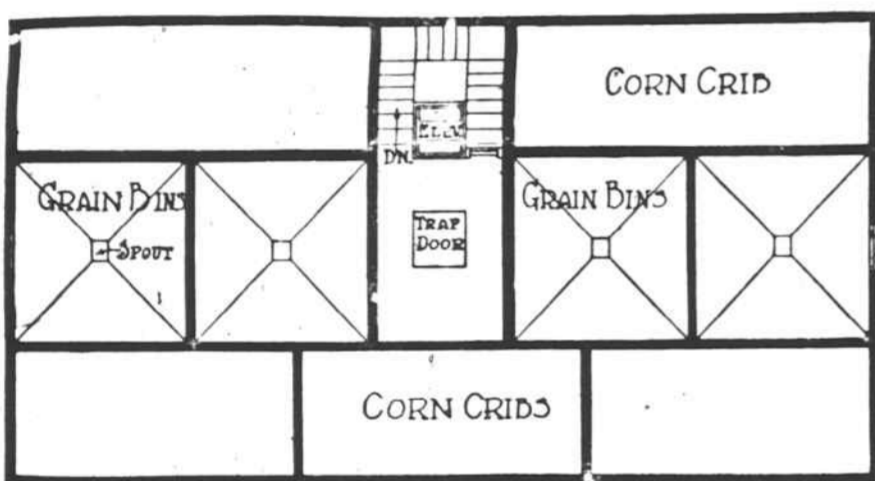
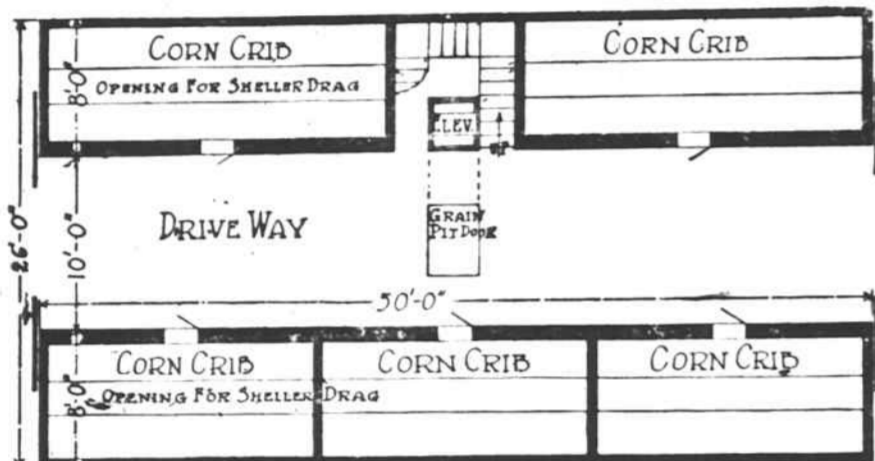
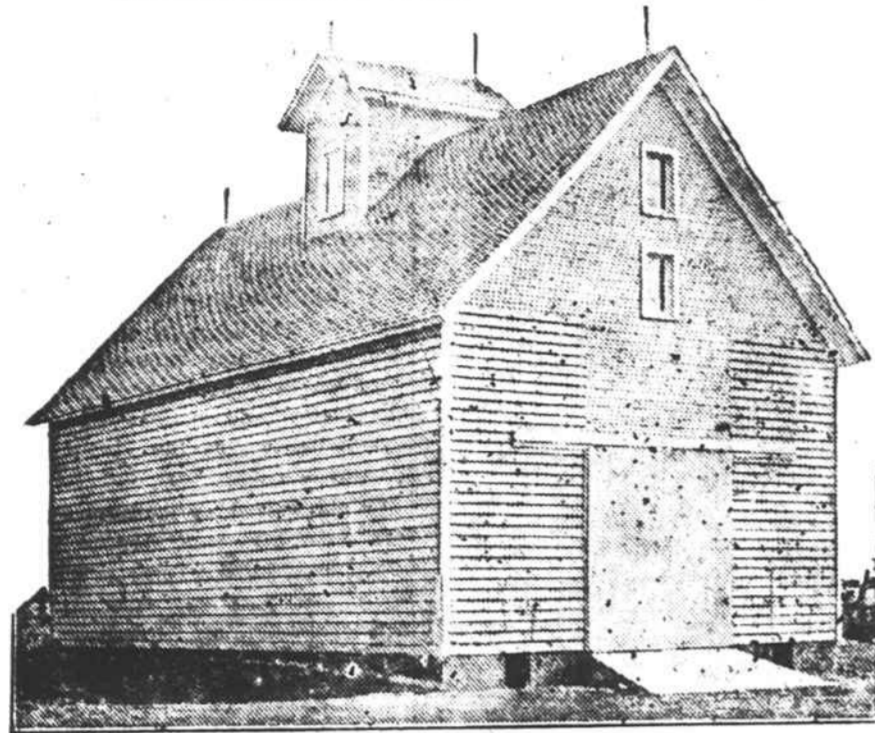
AGRICULTURAL NEWS



AGRICULTURAL SECTION IN W. N. C. GREAT

Polk County Club Is Great Asset To This Community Center

Modern Corn Crib That Provides Protection From Rats and Weather



By WILLIAM A. RADFORD

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all problems pertaining to the subject of building work on the farm. For the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as editor, author and manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on the subject. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 1327 Prairie Avenue, Chicago, Ill., and only include two-cent stamp for reply.

Corn, no matter how good at sheathing time, rapidly loses its value unless it is housed where it will be safe from rats and the ravages of weather. Those farmers who have a good modern crib and granary have no reason to fear that the corn they store will not be as good in May as it was when it was stored away. It has lost none of its feeding value and the same quantity that was stored is available for sale or feeding when spring comes.

The modern corn crib, such as shown in the illustration, is designed to house corn and grain so that it will be protected until such a time as it

is marketed. This building is set on a concrete foundation and has a concrete floor. There are no rats under the floor and if there should be, the animals have no chance to get at the stored grain. The building itself is of frame construction, the sides being of crib siding, each piece of lumber set far enough apart to permit a good circulation of air to prevent heating or molding, and still close enough to one another to keep out rain and snow.

The building is 26 feet wide and 50 feet long. A ten-foot driveway runs through the center and on each side are double cribs. Overhead there are four grain bins, over the driveway. The copula permits a power elevator with adjustable spout so that the ear corn can be spouted to either of the cribs, or the grain into the bins.

This is the sort of building that pays dividends on the investment year after year in cutting the labor cost of handling the crops and in keeping them in the best possible condition until the markets are favorable.

AGENCIES THAT ARE BEHIND FARM WORK

Agricultural Progress of North Carolina Linked Up With Progress Made by the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Stations and the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service—Details of the Advances Made Along Many Lines

By F. H. Jeter, Agricultural Editor North Carolina State College

Agricultural progress in North Carolina has been definitely linked up with the progress made by the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment station and the North Carolina Agricultural Extension service. These two agricultural institutions which are now important parts of the School of Agriculture at State college have furnished valuable leadership for over a quarter of a century. Formerly, the state department of agriculture and the State college acting in co-operation, supported research and extension and the combination of funds and personnel did much to strengthen agricultural work in the state at a time when such a combination was absolutely necessary.

In late years, however, all of the educational work in agriculture has been under the supervision of the college. The increase in funds furnished by the Co-operative Extension Act and the recent Purnell bill has made it possible for the college to expand its services and to give attention to most of the pressing agricultural problems.

WORK OF COLLEGE

How well this work has been done is revealed in the eleventh annual report of extension work now being printed. The report shows that the college gives aid in nearly all of the leading agricultural counties. This aid is extended through the county home and farm agents and by extension specialists traveling out from the college all over the state. These workers have made it possible for the prospective farmer to get right start, to eliminate mistakes and to grow those crops and classes of livestock suited to his soil, climatic and market conditions.

In spite of a bad crop year in 1925, the farmers of the state continued to make progress. So intense was the drought in some sections of the state that many streams ceased to follow, old forest trees died for lack of moisture and the records show that it was the hottest and driest season since official records have been kept. In the coastal plain area, however, there were frequent showers and good crop yields, on the whole, were maintained.

INFORMS THE PEOPLE

The agricultural extension division of State college has an information service which keeps the people of the state informed through the press of the state of the latest findings about modern methods of farming. The division prints and distributes bulletins and circulars on the more important matters and distributes these free of charge to those who request them. During the past year 155,500 copies of such publications were printed and dis-

tributed in addition to the news material and information printed by leading, progressive papers such as The Charlotte Observer.

In the farm demonstration division there are seventy-five of the 100 counties supplied with farm agent sand in a number of counties these men were supplied with assistants to carry on the work with club boys and girls. The records show that these men worked in 971 communities where 317 junior leaders and 1,443 adult leaders aided the agents in the extension program. The farm agents organized 171 clubs for junior work and 309 clubs for adult work. In these clubs was a membership of 1,505 boys, 484 girls, 6,858 men and 2,034 women. Nearly all of the club members did the work outlined for them and made reports of their activities.

Not only do the agents spend most of their time in the field but they also make visits to the individual farms and advise with the owners as to the best agricultural practices. They hold a great number of meetings which are addressed by some of the specialists from the college. In this way, the people reached run into the hundreds of thousands. Nor is the work confined alone to white farmers. In the more thickly populated negro communities. The college has 20 local agents at work. These men stress, especially, the live-at-home idea among the people of their race.

THOUSAND OF FARM HOMES REACHED

With farm women, there are fifty-two counties which have home demonstration agents employed. In six counties negro home agents are sewing, home furnishing and beautification, home management, nutrition and foods, home health and sanitation, arts and crafts and home marketing. In marketing alone, rural women of North Carolina added \$221,996.78 to their income by selling on the curb markets maintained by the agents.

SPECIAL ATTENTION TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Agricultural club work will always be one of the major projects of the extension service. The young people of the farm are in a position to take the training offered by the extension workers and to apply this to the farm and home life for a long period of years. Last year there were 974 organized clubs of young people with a membership of 21,582 members receiving definite detailed instruction. A large percentage of these young folks carried their work through to completion and made reports of their results. The results show that they made good yields of crops, that they had learned how to care for their livestock or gardens and that they could sew or cook with the best of the adults.

PROGRESS MADE IN DAIRYING

The work in dairy extension alone would probably justify the existence of the extension division. This group of workers has aided in establishing creameries and cheese factories; in bringing in pure bred cattle to replace scrub stock; in factories; in bringing in pure bred feeding and care of pure bred cattle and in building silos, barns, and other outhouses for the successful handling of the dairy industry. Cow testing associations are being organized over the state. Last year there were five such active associations at work comprising 108 herds in the membership and over 3,000 cows.

Especially significant was the re-

sult of a pure bred sire campaign put on last year in which 198 new pure bred bulls were placed in 12 counties. The creameries of the state last year produced 1,677,000 pounds of butter and were supplied cream by 7,650 farmers who received over \$465,000 for their product. Other creameries are being organized where the number of cows in a territory warrant such action.

The work with swine has continued to be one of the most popular phases of agriculture work. The farmers of the state are rapidly learning that pork may be produced as cheaply and marketed as efficiently in North Carolina as in the corn belt and some farmers are now actually growing corn for the sole purpose of feeding it to pigs. Only swine fed and fattened according to the recommendations of the college workers was shipped from New Bern to the Richmond market. During that same week 25 cars went from other counties and the movement is growing. The workers in this division conducted 107 accurate swine feeding demonstrations last year and proved that hogs may be properly fed and finished and then sold at the right time to secure the maximum profits. The North Carolina farmer is rapidly learning that he can put hogs on the large markets during the first of April and the first of September when the market is high. He can also finish these hogs so that they will command the best possible prices.

Great Interest in Poultry

Poultry is rapidly becoming one of the great cash crops of the North Carolina farm. Situated as he is within striking distance of the great consuming markets of the east, the Tarheel farmer has gone into the poultry game in a large way. Co-operative car lot marketing of poultry is being fostered by the extension division and has meant the bringing in of many thousand dollars of cash at a time when such money is badly needed. All over the state are new poultry houses being erected, the baby chick business is growing and pure bred flocks are rapidly replacing the old scrub stock of former days. The boys and girls are finding that they can produce birds which will rival the best production of the fanciers as shown in the great poultry shows of the country.

But it is not alone with dairy cattle swine and poultry that good results are being secured. With field crops, soil fertility, pastures, tobacco, insect and plant disease control, horticulture and agricultural engineering great strides are also being made. The extension workers have realized that communities must specialize on the growing of a few varieties of the major field crops for best results and now with cotton alone, fully 75 percent of the cotton grown in the state is of the Mexican or Cleveland varieties. Corn varieties are also being improved and better yields per acre with the same labor and cultivation are being secured. It has been realized also that the success of livestock growing in the pastures and hay crops. The extension service has recently added a pasture specialist who gives his sole time to finding out the best grass mixtures to plant for a given locality. Last year, the pasture acreage of the state was doubled.

The work in fighting the boll weevil is an important matter to the cotton farmer. Last year North Carolina was one of the first states of the south to adopt airplane dusting. Excellent results were obtain-

CLUB HAS MANY MEMBERS NOW

Regular Meetings Are Held Monthly And Are Largely Attended

By MAE IRENE FLYNTE

In December 1924 a meeting of representative citizens was held in Columbus, N. C. at the Boxwood Inn. There were about sixty present and after some toasts and short speeches the matter of organizing a club in Polk County along the lines of the one which was functioning so successfully in Rutherford County was considered, and a committee consisting of Dr. E. McQueen Sally F. W. Blanton, and J. R. Sams was appointed and instructed to attend the next meeting of the Rutherford County Club and get all possible data as to objects and methods of organization.

This committee attended the January meeting of the Rutherford County Club and brought a copy of the by-laws and plenty of enthusiasm home with them. A meeting was held at the Boxwood Inn on March 18 to complete a permanent organization.

At this meeting Mr. Blanton acted as temporary Chairman and W. S. Green as temporary secretary. The report of the committee was unanimously adopted and by-laws ordered printed and a nominating committee appointed and the Polk County organization became a younger brother of the Rutherford County organization.

The officers elected for 1925 were as follows:

President, F. W. Blanton; Vice President, E. B. Cloud; Sergeant at Arms, C. J. Lynch; Directors, J. W. Brown, Mrs. J. W. McIntosh, Mrs. H. P. Corwith, and J. I. Branscomb. Mae Irene Flynte was elected Secretary by the Board of Directors and Miss Minnie Arledge Treasurer. During 1925 the club held nine meetings, one at each of the following places: Tryon, Saluda, Greens Creek, Mill Spring, and Rutherfordton and the balance at Columbus. It had the pleasure of having as out of town speakers the following:

Prof. C. L. Newman of the Progressive Farmer; Mr. Goodman, Supervisor of County Agents of the Mountain District; Miss Creighton, Supervisor of Home Agents; P. L. Wright of Hendersonville; Mr. Fred

ed by this method on some 3,000 acres in the lower cotton belt of the state. The work with ground machines was also fostered and the weevil has done less damage in North Carolina than in any other state. This, of course, has been due in a large measure to excellent weather conditions during the time the weevil is normally most prevalent and most dangerous.

Bee-keeping is another new venture in North Carolina. Farmers are learning that incomes of from \$3,000 to \$6,000 per year may be easily secured by keeping several colonies of bees and permitting the insects to feast on the great abundance of honey producing plants which grow in profusion all over the state.

STATE ADAPTED TO HORTICULTURAL CROPS

North Carolina is naturally a fruitful state. Shipments of fruits and vegetables from commercial centers are on the increase as shown by the fact that 15,421 carloads of such shipments went out last year as compared to 6,484 in 1920. These shipments included apples, peaches, strawberries, Irish potatoes, dewberries, watermelons cantaloupes and all varieties of vegetables from the lower coastal plain. The farmers and their wives are also awakening to the value of the home garden as shown by the fact that 3,320 persons enrolled in a state-wide garden contest put on last year. Improved garden practices were adopted by 11,000 homes and over 1,000 individuals put in winter gardens for the first time last year.

The folks have realized, too, that a farm must be well terraced or drained to conserve moisture and the soil. They are therefore calling on the college for aid in terracing and in draining land that better crop yields may be secured and the fertility of the land be not impaired. They want better farm buildings

silos, barns, poultry houses and dwellings and so the farm engineering department has found itself with more calls on its hands than it can answer.

There is tremendous interest in water works for the farm home and many of the leading farmers are now putting in these necessary conveniences.

It appears, therefore, that North Carolina is awake to the possibilities of improved agriculture. The rural population is no less progressive than the business or urban groups. All over the state there is a new consciousness. The farmer is no longer isolated as he once was. He has his roads, his truck his morning newspaper, his agricultural paper, his radio, his bath tub and his pleasure car. He attends the movies and the shows. His range of vision is enlarged and he has entered up a new era in North Carolina. The whole is reflected in better homes, more fertile farms and a brighter and more progressive group of people in the countryside of the state.

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