

TOLUCA AND KNOB CREEK MENTION

Crops Are Looking Fine. Good Yield of Irish Potatoes Are Reported.

(Special to The Star.) Toluca, July 16.—Crops are certainly looking fine since the good showers.

Mr. F. A. Boyles is the champion Irish potato raiser in Toluca. He gathered 14 bushels from a small patch of which he sold \$22 worth and kept plenty for home use.

Mrs. S. A. Boyles was the first to gather new corn. She served roasting ears for breakfast last Sunday morning.

The young people of the community gave Miss Selma Propst a surprise party last Saturday night. A large crowd was present and a good time was enjoyed by all.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Sain attended the wedding at Belwood last Wednesday of Miss Inez Lutz and Mr. Guy Brown.

Miss Gertrude Seism of Cherryville spent Friday night with Misses Nora and Stelma Costner, also Saturday night with Miss Vaunita Boyles.

Mrs. Leanne Boyles spent Saturday night with her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Andy Willis.

Mrs. A. G. Boyles visited Mrs. S. A. Sain Tuesday evening.

Misses Ruth Costner and Clara Yarboro spent Sunday afternoon with Miss Vaunita Boyles.

Mr. Warren and daughter Nelle and niece Bernice, of Tennessee spent Monday night at the home of Dr. and Mrs. F. D. Edwards.

Master Howard Young son of Mr. and Mrs. Roebel Young of Newton spent the past week with his uncle Mr. Leon Young.

Mr. Jim Peeler of Belwood spent Saturday night at the home of his uncle and aunt Mr. and Mrs. Bert Sain.

Mrs. Elias Hartman and children of Cherryville spent last Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Camppe.

Mr. and Mrs. Lois Hartman spent the past week at their grandparents Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Hartman.

Mr. and Mrs. Julius Norman visited at the home of their daughter Mr. and Mrs. Guss Boyles Sunday.

Mrs. Oscare King and daughter Inez visited her daughter Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Boyles Sunday.

Misses Blanche and Pauline Eaker of Shelby spent a few days the past week with Miss Merrill Edwards.

We presume the bootleggers are wondering why Chicago is making such a lot of fuss over a little water.

What has become of the old fashioned farmer who use to tote the town scribe a little farm produce along about this season of the year.

Debunking The Sob Gushing Over N. C.

Concerning The Star's recent objection to the criticism of Burke county over the Broadus Miller affair The Hickory Record says editorially:

The debunking Cleveland Star come forth again with a scolding for the editors who have been pointing in derision at the citizens of Morganton and Burke county because the dead body of Broadus Miller was not treated overly tenderly. The Star says that these editors, because of a few indiscreet acts of rash individuals, have attempted to place a blot against the citizenship of the town and county. The ghoulishness of the crime is retold sufficiently to convince The Star that the people of Morganton and Burke are not barbarians. And if the truth were known, any other community in North Carolina, or any other state, would have done itself no better under the circumstances.

The Charlotte Observer commenting on the same topic says:

The Cleveland Star, which by the way, has developed into a three-days-a-week paper with every column originalized in vivacious manner, is taking up the cudgels for the people of Morganton on account of recent exhibition of the body of an outlaw slain in combat. The cause of the people of that town is quite intelligently championed, for, as a matter of fact, what other conduct could have been expected of an outraged people? Why should they not have manifested a desire to view the body of the outlaw whose acts had brought so much distress upon that community? Some of the accounts of the action of the people on the day in question were so manifestly "sob stuff," as to have carried discount on its face. The Observer had been revolving in its mind the probability that the conduct of people of some other towns might have been less restrained than was that of the people of Morganton. There was, as The Star suggests, too much of the aped Menekemism in some of the criticisms hurled at that town. It is exactly true, as contended by the Shelby paper, that there are examples of more barbarity than shown at Morganton in the daily life of our towns and cities. Barbarity, selfish curiosity, and animal tendencies that never get criticized in the newspapers. Really though, defends The Star, "such unjustified criticism of so-called barbarity among such hospitable, friendly, square-shooting hill people as those of Burke doesn't need

any defense. But writers at times seeking something to criticize in a sanctimonious style of uplift make up want to say something plain in return."

Auto Expenses Are 75 Million For Single Year

Gasoline, Gas Tax, Oil And License Total Big Cost For Whole State.

North Carolina automobile drivers spent 75,000,000 dollars during the twelve months ending June 30, 1927, for gasoline, gas taxes, state licenses, title registration and oil, according to a compilation by The Raleigh Times, using figures furnished by the state revenue department.

The figure are conservative and the actual cost was nearer \$80,000,000, The Times says.

Four cents a gallon is the state tax on gasoline. This tax netted the state \$8,120,804 in 12 months. This means that tax was paid on 203,015,100 gallons of gas.

This gasoline would drive a small automobile 30 miles per hour for more than three billion miles in 101,507,550 hours, or 4,229,431 days or 11,587 years.

Automobile drivers in North Carolina in the last 12 months spent \$68,663,322 for gasoline including the tax figuring the cost of the gasoline plus the tax at 22 cents per gallon. They spent \$3,383,585 for motor oil figuring that at a rate of one quart per 15 gallons at a quarter a quart.

They also spent \$5,894,468 to get licenses to operate their automobiles and spent \$160,000 for title registrations.

Record Old Deed In Lincoln County

Probably the oldest deed ever to be recorded in the county was filed Tuesday with the register of deeds by D. A. Troutman. The deed was made August 9, 1824, more than one hundred years ago, by Joseph Graham, and conveyed to Henry Link eighteen acres of land on "the waters of Leper's Creek." The consideration named in the deed was \$27.

A New Jersey school girl found a dime coined in 1783. The coin is worth about \$300.

As a plea for rain the natives of Angola, on the west coast of Africa, cut off a man's arm at the shoulder and plant it in the ground with the hand sticking up.

TOM HEFLIN AND WHAT HE SPEAKS

Observer Takes Note Of Asheville Visit And How Papers There Flayed Him.

Charlotte Observer. Senator Thomas Heflin went up to Asheville the other day for one stop in his national barnstorming expedition, asked the Asheville chamber of commerce radio station to broadcast his speech, and was promptly refused. Whereupon he took to the platform of his native fury, and launched into a tirade against Asheville, her radio station and the "Catholics that owned it."

Asheville papers in pointing out that the radio station was owned by the citizens of the city and controlled by a board which had no Catholic members, which last would have been all right anyway, gave Mr. Heflin to understand that if he never came back to Asheville it would be satisfactory.

After classing Senator Heflin as a demagogue and bigot, the title of "Unmitigated Pest," was handed him in bold type. Alabama was scourged for tolerating him, and it was more than intimated that his membership was not healthy for the Democratic party.

Along about the same time, one Edgar R. May, of Kansas City, got up before the Baptist Young People's Union of America in Philadelphia, and after a bitter round of accusations against the young people of "our church," is quoted as saying:

"I made a tour of the Southern States and when in Savannah was introduced to young people supposed to be the elevating group in the Baptist church. I went on a party with them. I saw a young lady smoking cigarettes, and another stirring a punch bowl which contained everything but punch. When I refused to drink and smoke, I was refused a 'date' with any of the girls. The crowd refused to admit me because I refused the influence of evil."

Even without the denial of the leader of the B. Y. P. U. in Savannah, who was on the same party, we would have recognized something seriously wrong with his picture. He refused to drink the punch, yet he looked at it being stirred and recognized it as too potent for a church gathering. He saw one girl smoking, which those present deny, and all the other girls refused him dates. Maybe the girls just recognized in him the

kind of fellow who would make such sweeping indictments without knowing what he was talking about, and didn't want him around purely because he was personally distasteful.

Here are two cases of the rankest kind of fanaticism and there are plenty more like them. Statements of the type are being made practically every day, mostly with just as little to substantiate them. They are fruitless of good and often harmful, serving to spread the impression that the existing order is worse than it really is, and thereby making folks feel easier being worse than they really are. When a man believes everybody in the world is worse than himself, soon he will believe he has a right to be somewhat like all the rest.

It is time a brake was being applied to such stuff. There are laws against a newspaper publishing unsubstantiated libelous charges against a man or organization, and even editorial criticism of any organization immediately arises a storm. And yet uninformed and hot-headed surface-scratchers hop on a public platform and immediately assume to themselves the right to attack everything and anybody without the slightest regard for verity. The right of free speech has been prostituted into the right of shooting off verbal poppycock—a menace to the sanctity of that same free speech of which it is an illegitimate offspring.

Lincolnton Slump In Postal Receipts

Receipts at the Lincolnton post office for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1927, showed a falling off of \$228.82, as compared with receipts for 1926, according to figures secured at the local office.

The receipts for the year ending June 30, 1926, amounted to \$16,004.53, while the total receipts for this year were only \$15,775.82.

A Fine Season (Hickory Record.) We learn from over Shelby way that blackberries are plentiful and young yams are on the market, and yet there are those grouchy souls who are not satisfied with things and conditions about them.

Not a few tables hereabouts have as our rural correspondents so aptly express it, groaned under the delicious burden of young yams, scotched by a juicy blackberry roll, and decorated with fresh buttermilk. A man who talks hard times now does not appreciate real artistry in eating.

B. & L. LEAGUE TO URGE OWN HOMES FOR WORLD PEACE

(By International News Service.) Asheville.—A home-owning movement, world-wide in scope as a "necessary step toward world peace" is expected to be proposed here this month before the 35th annual convention of the United States League of local building and loan associations.

This movement, it was learned here, will be proposed by Miss Ann E. Rae, Niagara Falls, N. Y., as chairman of a committee on "An International Congress."

The association's annual convention will be held July 19-20. More than a score of speakers at the convention will describe the progress of the association, and how building and loan associations help the American people into homes of their own.

George E. McKinnis, president of the league, stressed in his convention call that building and loan associations during 1927 will pay out in dividends and interest more than \$300,000,000.

Ex-Congressman Walter B. Hilton, Wheeling, W. Va., will discuss "Zoning Laws." Robert Greenfield, Miami, Fla., will address the convention on "The Practical Features of Construction." "The Importance and Value of Real Estate Appraisals" will be discussed by William J. Funky, Gary, Ind. Cameron Beck, personnel director of the New York Stock Exchange, also will speak.

Spelling Champ Is Like Lindy Over Attention To Him

(By International News Service.) Akron, O.—Dean Lucas, of Wayne county, Ohio, the 13-year-old boy who recently won the national spelling championship at Washington, D. C., in competition with 16 other district champions, agrees with Lindbergh. Too much attention is boring, if not painful, Dean says.

"Gee, I'll be glad when all of these presentations and receptions are over. It's embarrassing to have so many people pay so much attention to you. I'm not used to it and I can't make speeches."

SHORT CORN CROP OUTLOOK IN JULY

Lowest Yield In 25 Years Indicated In Forecast—Other Crops Also Curtailed.

Washington.—The shortest corn crop in 25 years was indicated by the department of agriculture in its July crop report which forecast a production of 2,254,424,000 bushels. The figure is almost half a billion bushels below the average production of the last five years.

"Crop prospects as a whole are far from promising," was the comment of the crop reporting board in its review of conditions. While it is still too early to forecast accurately the production of late sown crops, the present outlook is for a very short crop of fruits, for a material reduction in the production of tobacco; for about average production of potatoes, wheat, sugar beets, flaxseed and feed grains other than corn; for rather large crops of beans, peanuts and sweet potatoes, and for a record production of hay. Crop prospects are fairly good in the western states but very unpromising in the eastern part of the corn belt.

"The area in crops this season shows a reduction of around seven million acres or 2 per cent below the acreage in crops at this time last year."

Large shifts in the relative acreage of the various crops were noted by the board, the largest being the six million acre decrease in cotton, the two million acre decrease in corn and the two million acre increase in wheat.

Low corn prices in 1926, together with unfavorable planting conditions were held responsible for a decline of more than 5 per cent in acreage in the north central state, which was partially offset by increased corn planting in the south. The corn crop was reported late in nearly every state while in some of the most northern states, due to late planting, only a long growing season, it was said, would avert danger of frost damage.

This year's indicated total wheat crop was placed at 853,634,000 bushels or about 22,000,000 bushels more than produced last year. Stocks of wheat on farms on July 1 were relatively low, being 27,339,000 bushels, compared with the five year average of 29,913,000.

An 11 per cent increase in the white potato acreage was noted, with all late potato states showing increases, and a total crop of 393,000,000 bushels were indicated. That is 37,000,000 bushels more than produced last year.

Tobacco acreage decreased 4 per cent, the board holding responsible the widely differing economic conditions affecting the various types. Indicated production was placed at 1,099,114,000 pounds, the lowest since 1921, and the second lowest since 1915.

Very short crops of most fruits were indicated, with apples appearing to be the smallest crop in years with the exception of 1916 and peaches about two-thirds last year's production.

Found Moonshine Instead Of Oil

Drilling Operations Had Reached Depth of 700 Feet When Drill Struck In Rock.

Clinton.—Although oil was produced from an oil well near here early last month, the partial financing by local people, liquor was produced from a gallon moonshine still within yards of the drilling machine and O. Orr, member of the promoting the well, and two of his employees have been arrested charged with operating the still.

Sheriff McD. Morrison of Swain county holds warrant against other men connected with the scheme, two of whom, Wherry, Marion Carver, the promoter, "geologists," are missing, together with Jackson and Jett, employees of Orr and Wherry, noting concern, have been released on \$500 bonds each.

Sheriff Morrison has evidence he says, that the oil operators have been shipping liquor to New Bern and into Virginia.

The well, located about the miles from Clinton, was branded "wildcat" scheme by state geologist Herman Bryson when he started. The drilling operation had reached a depth of 700 feet and the drill point had been lodged in rock, necessitating a lay in work, the promoters said.

No trace had been found of the trio still sought in connection with the liquor manufacturing operations.

\$8,000,000 FACTORY FOR YELLOW COACH COMPANY (By International News Service.) Pontiac, Mich.—Excavation started on the site of the \$8,000,000 factory to be erected here by the Yellow Truck & Coach Manufacturing company.

Ground was broken by Paul Seiler, president of the company, and it is expected the plant will be in operation by January 1, 1928.

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