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# Farmers Experience Meeting

## FARM WORK IN SURRY

### A Story Told by Demonstrator Millsaps That Has a Lesson

(Mt. Airy News.)

Mr. E. S. Millsaps made The News office a call this week and while here told something of the work he is doing. In the course of the conversation the editor remarked that a certain amount of this world's goods is essential to the best form of living and usefulness. "Exactly," said Mr. Millsaps, and then he briefly told a story of an experience he had some time ago in his work. After telling the story, which was a most excellent one, we asked him why not write out the story and let us print it. The suggestion appealed favorably to him and here is the story from his own hand:

#### How the Farm Demonstration Work Helped a Poor Farmer.

The county agent of farm demonstration work in a North Carolina county was making his rounds among the farmers, encouraging them in better methods, and he passed once a month by a poor farm all the first year. The owner of the little farm was a shiftless sort of fellow, who preferred to loaf around town, drink mean liquor, and trade horses to cultivating the little farm. His sad-faced little wife, who had once been some man's bright-eyed, smiling faced, glad-hearted daughter, was almost in rags, and the troupe of children in dirt and rags. The little house they knew as "home" was bare and poorly kept; the place everywhere had a run-down appearance. The agent could not help but see the condition of the man and his family, and he sympathized with the sad-faced woman and the pale, forlorn looking children, but what could he do?

Toward the close of the first year, when the farmers who had been working their corn under the agent's direction began gathering the corn and reporting the big yields, the poor fellow began to think he might do better than he was doing if he could get the agent to show him what to do. So the next time the agent came along, he stopped him and told him he would like to do some demonstration work, but the agent thought he would not follow his directions and paid little attention to him, but after passing by he thought he had made a mistake, and passing again in a few days he stopped and talked with the man and told him if he would do what he told him to do, he would be glad to help him. The farmer said he would do anything he recommended. So the land was looked over and directions given, and the man began to work in earnest. He followed every direction, and the corn grew and the man continued his good work; the neighbors began to notice how well the poor farmer was working and the fine corn he was making and begun talking about it. The farmer and his corn attracted the attention of every one. The crop was made and harvested, and a splendid yield was made, more than ever before. John forgot his drinking and loafing because he had become interested in his work. His corn and cotton had yielded so well that he was able to buy his family good clothes, and put some furniture in the house,

## NORTH CAROLINA WINS AT COLUMBIA CORN SHOW

T. C. Goodwin, of Apex, Had the Grand Champion Ear of the Entire Show in Both Men and Boys Classes.

Columbia, S. C. Dec. 14—North Carolina carries off the honors at the South Atlantic Corn Show.

In competition with South Carolina and Georgia the farmers, and boys of North Carolina demonstrated their ability to select good corn by winning the Grand Champion Sweep-Stakes in the fifty ear class, the single ear for both men and boys.

Mr. J. W. Lewis of Boomer, Wilkes county, won the Sweep-Stakes for best fifty ears.

Charlie Lewis, a son of J. W. Lewis, exhibited the champion ear of corn in the boys classes. T. C. Goodwin, of Apex, North Caro-

lina, had the grand champion ear of the entire show in both men and boys classes. It is interesting to note that a year ago, a son of Mr. Goodwin won the championship on single ears at the South Atlantic Show.

North Carolina exhibitors won hundreds of dollars in prizes this year. Out of five championship classes North Carolina won three, South Carolina one and Georgia one.

The judges for this year were L. B. Clore of Indiana the "Corn King" of the world and "Bill" Young of Illinois.

These two men are perhaps the best judges of corn in the world. Mr. Clore, won the championship at three successive National Corn Shows. These men speak in the highest terms of the corn shown at this South Atlantic Show, and the interest of the farmers of the South Atlantic States, in the production of more and better corn.

and give the whole place a different look.

At the end of the second season the agent was passing the road and John was at work in the field. The little woman came out to the road and told the agent that she wanted to thank him for what he had done for them. She said John had quit drinking and gone to work. She no longer wore the sad face and ragged dress, but had a happy, contented look, and the children looked happy and their cheeks had the red glow of childhood. The man is still at work, he has forgotten his old habits, he is making a good citizen, his wife is proud of him, and his neighbors say he is one of the best farmers in the community.

## ANOTHER INDEPENDENT

What Mr. R. A. Smith, of McNeill's, Did "In His Own Way."

(Moore County News)

Heretofore we have given results accomplished by some of our farmers under demonstration methods. Last week, under the caption "In His Own Way," we told of what Mr. H. P. McPherson, of Cameron, did while farming by his own ideas of what would make a good yield. We have this week the record of another good farmer who has also ideas of his own in regard to his land and how to get the best results. The report is made by Mr. R. A. Smith, of McNeill's township, the heart of the sand hills of Moore.

Mr. Smith experimented on a plot of one acre. The soil is sandy loam with subsoil of clay. It was broke in March to a depth of seven or eight inches and cultivated in the usual way. Fertilizer used was 700 hundred pounds home mixture, 9-3 1-2-3 20 per cent lime. No soda was used. Plat planted with Simpkins' Prolific. The yield on the plat was 2335 pounds seed cotton. This land has been in cultivation about a century. When we look at all the facts in

this experiment and consider the length of time this land had been tilled, we are thoroughly convinced that there at least is a shining example that sandy land can and will hold its own and that no other will give so large returns for care used labor considered.

We believe this yield is the best of its kind so far handed to us and are glad to hear of so many of our farmers doing such good work and congratulate Mr. Smith on his excellent record.

## Cotton Holding Plan

(Carolina Union Farmer.)

Of course President Alexander is correct in the conclusion that new schemes to finance the cotton crop by Northern capitalists is not satisfactory. We can't expect any more results from that source than we could expect from a convention of Southern Governors and politicians, or from trust-busting and trust-dissolving and trust-indicting politicians generally, and there's no use for Farmers' Union folks to consider movements of this kind seriously. If we will proceed to build bonded warehouses we can rest assured that Southern bankers can use a business system of that kind to get all the money needed to finance all the cotton that cannot be financed under the sheds of the owners at home. "If we had a bonded warehouse in this county our bank could easily have financed five thousand bales of cotton this season," said the president of a local bank of only sixty thousand capital stock, the other day. If we will capitalize our products in a business way through a system of bonded warehouses the "financing" part will be easy. Why not let the "trust-busting" politicians and political reformers (?) and the northern financial schemes that are periodically exploited by the press severely alone and concentrate our energies toward the establishment of a sane and sensible business system of marketing?

## JONNIE HOECAKE

### Two More Records of How Much Good Men Made During 1911

(Moore County News)

Demonstration Agent T. D. McLean has handed us the doings of two more men in their efforts to keep the corn out of the West. Again are they on two kinds of land—one in the sand, one in the clay. Makes no difference in which part of Moore you go, sand or clay, and it is about equally divided, and till her soil intelligently, you will get good results. And the more intelligence used the greater the yield. That's what the demonstration work is for—help our people to do their work in an intelligent way. And our demonstrator is on the job all the time.

We give the work of Mr. McL. McKeithen, of Cameron, first. Mr. McKeithen has sandy soil with subsoil of yellow sand. He worked one acre under demonstration methods. This plat was broke in December, 1910, ten inches deep. It was planted May the 10, 1911, in rows five feet apart and eighteen inches in the drill with Biggs' Prolific. It was cultivated shallow three or four times. The yield was 76 bushels of shelled corn. Mr. McKeithen cultivated this year 11 1-2 acres in corn, including the demonstration acre, upon which he made 600 bushels, or an average of 52 4-23 bushels per acre. You see a difference in favor of the demonstration work of nearly 24 bushels per acre. Mr. McKeithen used on his demonstration acre 600 lbs. 8-3-3 and 100 pounds of soda as a top dresser. The clay record this week is by Mr. U. O. Seawell, of Carthage township.

The plat was sown to rye in fall of 1910 for a winter cover crop. The rye was plowed under May 19th and plat planted the 15th of the same month. This lateness was due to the extreme dry spring. The seed used was Biggs' Prolific. The stand was very poor and only in the month of June was a fairly good stand secured. The season was too dry for early breaking, to secure a good or to properly grow the crop. Yet in spite of all the adverse conditions under which he labored, Mr. Seawell made on his acre 87 bushels of corn.

The records from different sections are only an earnest of what will be our corn output when all our waste land is occupied and all our farmers get to farming by the latest and most up to date methods.

## Work of a Widow Farmer

(Fayetteville Observer.)

We give below an account of some very successful and cheap farming on the sandhills of Cumberland county. The story is vouched for by a reliable person, who is acquainted with the facts.

Last winter or spring Mrs. Daisy E. Pate, a widow, moved from Gibson Station, S. C., to Seventy-First township, Cumberland county, where she purchased eighty-six acres of land, paying therefor \$2,100 cash. This year, on 27 acres of her tract, with no other help but her four boys (the eldest 14 years of age), a girl and an old mule 12 or 13 years old, she raised and gathered twenty-two 500-pound bales of cotton, 309 bushels of corn and sufficient forage to last two mules for a year.

Mrs. Pate has shown herself an industrious woman, who, instead of bemoaning the lack of hands, went to work with her children and made her crops and picked her cotton. We do not think many men in Cumberland can boast of a better record.