

GARNERED WITH SCISSORS

News From Within and Without the County.

CONDENSED FOR QUICK READING

Some Items of Fact, Some of Comment and All Helping to Give an Idea of What Our Neighbors Are Saying and Doing.

Fort Mill Times, Oct. 27: Following an illness of several months, Mrs. Mamie Thompson died at her home in Fort Mill this morning at 2:10 o'clock. Mrs. Thompson was the mother of three children, Mrs. John Bayne, Tommie Thompson and Cornelia Thompson. She was a daughter of James H. Bales and had spent her entire life of 36 years in the Fort Mill community. Country eggs are now almost as hard to obtain at the grocery stores in Fort Mill as is frequently the case in the dead of winter and the few dozen that are offered for sale are quoted at a price around 50 cents a dozen, which is prohibitive for many families. But even at that price there is practically no profit for the grocer, in handling them for he usually pays 50 cents in trade for the eggs.

The Rev. W. R. Bauknight, pastor of St. John's Methodist church, Fort Mill, expects to leave Tuesday for Lancaster to attend the annual meeting of the Upper South Carolina conference, which will be in session the greater part of next week. The congregation of St. John's is hopeful that Bishop U. V. W. Darlington, who will preside at the Lancaster meeting of the conference, will reassign Mr. Bauknight to the Fort Mill charge for another year. In his report to the conference for the Fort Mill church, Mr. Bauknight will be able to show that the church has met all its financial obligations during the year now drawing to a close, between \$10,000 and \$11,000 having been contributed by the congregation for church purposes. He will also be able to report that there have been 70 additions to the church membership during the year and that the congregation is just completing one of the best equipped and most commodious church buildings within the bounds of conference.

Dr. T. O. Grigg, dentist, has opened an office in the rooms in the Ardrey building formerly occupied by Dr. J. B. Elliott for the practice of his profession. F. E. Ardrey left Fort Mill Monday evening for a visit of several days to friends in New York city. During Mr. Ardrey's absence, his place as ticket agent and conductor for the Southern railway in Fort Mill is being filled by B. M. Lee.

Chester Reporter, Oct. 27: Mr. Alex Frazer has bought a lot on the corner of York and Hampton streets from Mr. Albert T. Henry. Dr. Geo. A. Hennies reports the Smallpox situation at Armenia as considerably improved. There are fourteen cases, all of which are progressing nicely, in fact, are practically well. Dr. D. G. Phillips will be away for several days assisting in a meeting at Smyrna in York county. Miss Ethel Harrell and Mr. Thos. White Barrett, two of Chester's most popular young people, were quietly united in marriage Tuesday evening at the A. R. P. parsonage the ceremony being performed by Dr. D. G. Phillips in the presence of a few relatives and intimate friends. A quiet, but extremely pretty wedding was that of Mr. Jas. M. Robinson of Chester, and Miss Kate McManus, which was solemnized yesterday evening at seven o'clock at the home of the bride's parents, Dr. and Mrs. R. C. McManus, in Lancaster, the Rev. J. S. Corpening officiating. Friends

Lancaster News, Oct. 28: The gin house and machinery belonging to B. L. Parker of the Antioch section, was destroyed by fire sometime during Tuesday night. The origin of the fire is unknown. Mr. Parker carried no insurance on either the building or machinery. Reports from Magistrate H. M. Culp this morning are to the effect that he is much better and hopes to be out in a few days. Lancaster fire department responded to an alarm at 12:30 yesterday when a blaze was started in a trash pile in Westside cemetery. The grounds were burned over, otherwise no damage resulted. The supply of water in the city reservoir is holding out well this week and for the past three days the stage has remained practically the same, right around 19 inches from the crest of the dam. The rain early Wednesday morning was not sufficient to increase the flow into the reservoir, but the cool weather and lack of sunshine has prevented evaporation, which is an item worth mentioning, and the turning of the waste stream from the engines back into the reservoir has saved many thousands of gallons. An enthusiastic meeting of Lancaster county citizens was held in the county demonstration office on October 22 for the purpose of promoting better and more extensive work along lines of poultry production in the county. The meeting was presided over by Mr. W. F. Howell, county farm agent, and he succeeded in keeping the interest of the audience aroused throughout the entire session. After a most convincing talk given by Miss Eula D. Atkinson, state poultry specialist, in which she told the great

possibilities of the county poultry association, the meeting was turned into a round table discussion, and it was unanimously decided to organize this county without further ceremony. The officers elected to carry on this work in the county are: Mr. Boyd Craig, president; Miss Anna Bennett, vice-president; Mr. J. P. Giles, secretary-treasurer. The home of Dr. and Mrs. R. C. McManus of South Main street was the scene of a quiet though beautiful wedding on Wednesday evening at 7:00 o'clock when Miss Kate McManus became the bride of Mr. James Marion Robinson, of Chester. Vernon L. Sowell and Miss Madeline Beekham were married Tuesday evening in this city, J. M. Knight, notary public, officiating.

He Could Prove it.—"Well," said the waiter to the student, who had just had his coffee cup refilled for the seventh time, "you must be very fond of coffee." "Yes, indeed," answered the student, "or I wouldn't be drinking so much water to get a little."—Leigh Burr.

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"The Bank With the Chimes Clock."

BOLL WEEVIL VS The Cotton Farmers and Prosperity

Fortunately for the people of this immediate section of South Carolina the boll weevil did not damage cotton materially this year, but every indication is that this pest will be with us next year in "paying quantities" as one of our friends remarked the other day. There is no doubt but that the boll weevil will be here next year to destroy all of the cotton bolls that it can, and in order to discuss the boll weevil situation intelligently with the farmer patrons of this bank, in fact with all of the farmers in this section, we solicited a letter relative to the boll weevil situation in Lee county, South Carolina, from Hon. Thomas G. McLeod, through Dr. W. W. Long of Clemson College. Mr. McLeod is one of the large land owners and farmers of the Pee-Dee section of South Carolina and the contents of his letter relating his experiences, a copy of which will be found below, will doubtless be interesting to everybody in this community, especially to the farmers whose minds are now puzzled as to their plans for next year. Following is Mr. McLeod's letter:

Mr. Chas. L. Cobb, Rock Hill, S. C., My dear Sir:—

Bishopville, S. C., 10-18-21.

I am in receipt of a letter from Dr. W. W. Long requesting that I write you in regard to growing cotton under boll weevil conditions.

The boll weevil damage in Lee County has been very considerable, but there is no question but that the fight made against the weevil has saved a large portion of the crop. We are fortunate in having, in our county Mr. J. P. Quinnerly as farm demonstration agent, a man who had lived and worked under boll weevil conditions in Alabama and who had the ability to make practical application of common-sense methods and induce a great many farmers to follow these methods.

The methods followed are, first, early planting of an early variety of cotton, second, the hunting of the weevils when they first appear in the pod of young cotton. This can best be done by children, whose bright eyes and nimble fingers can find them. The earlier weevils will be the parents of a numerous offspring unless destroyed; and the third method is rapid cultivation, plowing on both sides of the cotton at least once each week; the fourth is picking up the early falling squares and burning them, this to continue until the weevil so increases by immigration in the flying season that it becomes impossible.

The system used in farming my own land is tenant or share-crop and it was with great difficulty that I could get my share-croppers to follow these methods. In some instances they began early and in others they did not do so. Those who picked up the squares on my farms have made at least thirty-three and a third per cent more of a crop than those who did not.

The weevil was numerous here when the summer began and the weather conditions ideal for them. In spite of this we are making about one-half of a normal crop. There are farmers in this county who personally superintend their farms who are making a far better yield than this. My crops are considerably removed from Bishopville and I cannot give them the personal care they should have.

I have a concrete example under observation which I think will be valuable to you. I own a farm at Lynchburg, in this county, which is very rich land and which is farmed by a negro sharecropper. He has planted about thirty acres in cotton on this farm and heretofore made about a bale to the acre. He did not hunt the weevil this year and he will get six bales of cotton only. The adjoining landowner is a progressive white man. His land is of the same grade as mine and he used the same quantity of fertilizers. His fields were badly infested last year and he started off with perhaps the largest percentage of weevils of any farmer in the county. He followed the methods given above and he is making a bale to every two acres this year, which is one-half of a normal crop with a reduction in fertilizer of one-third the usual amount.

I am sorry of course that the boll weevil is here, but I haven't the terror of him that I had before he arrived. We can never make a full crop again, but by proper methods of fighting him we can make cotton a fairly profitable money crop. But, in my humble opinion, unless we devise some co-operative marketing system for marketing cotton it doesn't make much difference whether we make cotton or not.

I am enclosing a paper containing a "boll weevil catechism" by our demonstration agent, which I think you will find useful.

I am very glad to comply with Dr. Long's request and trust that this information will be of some service to you.

Yours very truly, THOS. G. McLEOD.

TGM—C.

As we understand the boll weevil situation, as it applies to this section, it would be hazardous for a farmer to plant more than four or five acres of cotton to the plow next year. Various authorities tell us that those who plant more are treading on dangerous ground and running the risk of losing their crop. It seems to us that those who plant only four or five acres of cotton to the plow next year and use the proper kind of fertilizer, and enough of it, are going to come out better than their neighbors who plant a larger acreage.

We are fortunate in having intelligent farmers in this section and, in our opinion, they are going to evidence this intelligence next year by the right sort of farming. They will find this bank willing and ready now, as always, to cooperate with them in every way, especially those who adopt a safe policy, and next year a safe and sane policy, in cotton farming will go further with us than ever before. This bank has a large number of farmer patrons as well as a large number of farmer stock-holders, who are represented on our board of Directors. We have their welfare at heart, and no one knows this better than those who bank with us.

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