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## THE HORN SNAKE.

A horn snake ten feet long was killed in Pickens county recently. As this species of snake is almost extinct in South Carolina the incident attracted quite a lot of attention. The Columbia State says the horn snake is harmless, and in an editorial in which it took a few good-humored jabs at the slayers of the snake, 'The State' says in part: "That a creature so useful was killed is one of the few things incredible that has come out of Pickens." The Pickens Sentinel, holds, however, that the horn snake is a deadly reptile and quotes as follows from Logan's History of Upper South Carolina:

"Bertram met with a reptile which he calls the horn snake in his travels in Carolina, and speaks of it as follows:

"The pine or bull-snake is very large and inoffensive, with respect to mankind, but devours squirrels, birds, rabbits and every other creature it can take as food. They are the largest snake yet known in North America, except the rattlesnake, and perhaps exceeds him in length; they are pitted black and white. They utter a terrible loud, hissing noise, sounding very hollow, and like distant thunder, when irritated, or at the time of incubation, when the males contend with one another for the desired female. These serpents are also called horn-snakes, from their tail terminating with a hard, horny spur, which they vibrate very quickly when disturbed, but they never attempt to strike with it. They have dens in the earth, whither they retreat precipitately when apprehensive of danger."

"Lawson, who traversed the same region about seventy years, earlier than the botanist (Bertram,) describes another under the name of the horn-snake serpent, of a totally different character. Of the horn-snake, he says, 'I never saw but two that I remember. They are like the rattlesnake in color, but rather lighter. They hiss exactly like a goose when anything approaches them. They strike at their enemy with their tail, and kill whatsoever they wound with it, which is armed at the end with a horny substance like a cock's spur. This is their weapon. I have heard it creditably reported, by those who said they were eye witnesses, that a small locust tree, about the thickness of a man's arm, being struck by one of these snakes at ten o'clock in the morning, then verdant and flourishing, at four in the afternoon was dead, and the leaves red and withering. Doubtless, be it how it will, they are very venomous. I think the Indians do not pretend to cure their wound.'

"This singular statement of the old surveyor, in relation to the locust tree, could scarcely have ever come to the knowledge of the good, but plain people living on Coronaca and Wilson's creeks; yet there is still extant in that region a tradition in which it is related that many years ago a man in the lower part of the district or in Edgefield, being closely pursued by a horn snake, took refuge behind a tree, when the enraged serpent, rolling swiftly after him like a trundled hoop, plunged its horny sting deep into its trunk, where it was made fast, and so diffused its venom into the circulating sap as to destroy in a few hours the vitality of the tree."

"Bertram, with all his acuteness and enthusiasm as a naturalist, has certainly confounded the names of two distinct native serpents of Carolina. The bull snake, as he describes it, was well known in the upper country at the period of his visit and long after; but the old people had seen and talked much of the horn snake as well, whose sting they dreaded as the visitation of death. Hewitt informs us that the horn snake was found in Carolina and owed its name not to a horny excrescence growing upon its head, as some have supposed, but to the horn-like sting at the extremity of its tail, with which it defended itself, striking it with great force into every aggressor. I was also deemed exceedingly venomous; and the Indians when stung by it did not resort to their usual antidotes, but instantly cut out the wounded part as the only safe preventative of the deadly poison being infused through the system. Mills, in his Statistics, enumerates, among the indigenous reptiles of Carolina, both the horn and bull snake. The former, however, must have been exceedingly rare; for at a comparatively early period it had already become a creature of curious tradition. Lawson, it has been observed, saw but two of them as early as 1718, notwithstanding no white man of his day enjoyed better opportunities for making such discoveries in Carolina. Among the innumerable facts that may be gathered from natural history illustrative of God's goodness, there are few more deserving of notice than this rareness of a reptile so fierce and deadly as the horn snake, must unquestionably have been. Had it been as abundant as the other venomous species the Indians even, though furnished with their potent antidotes, could hardly have inhabited the country. The imagination is taxed to conceive of an object more repulsive or truly terrible. It possessed scarcely a single redeeming feature. There was nothing of the admirable craft of the eye—nothing of the beautiful changing of colors or the majestic magnanimity of the

## E. B. McEachern Badly Injured.

High-Powered Car He Was Driving Turns Turtle.

Mr. E. B. McEachern, well known cotton dealer and farmer, was seriously injured when a big Cadillac limousine he was driving turned turtle a mile north of Dillon early Saturday afternoon. In the car with Mr. McEachern was Mr. W. B. Wheeler of the Braddy-Wheeler Co.

Messrs. McEachern and Wheeler had been out on the Stafford's Bridge road and were returning to town, when Mr. McEachern at the wheel. When they crossed the railroad and were on the good stretch of road between the crossing and town Mr. McEachern speeded up the car. Persons who witnessed the accident said the car was coming down the road at a lively clip—the speed being estimated at from 25 to 70 miles an hour—when Mr. McEachern attempted to make the curve about 300 hundred yards this side of the railroad crossing. On the inside of the curve the car met a horse and buggy and in "hugging" the outside of the curve in order to pass the buggy the car swerved too far to the right, jumped a ditch, struck a stump and turned over. It is evident that the car turned over once, but eye-witnesses say it turned over two or three times. The car almost reversed itself and was lying side-up with the front end toward Hamer.

Mr. McEachern was pinned under the wreck and Mr. Wheeler mounted a passing truck and came to town as quickly as possible. Men rushed to the scene of the accident and removed Mr. McEachern from the wreck. He was lifted into an automobile and brought to town where an examination disclosed a serious cut on the forehead, a broken collar bone and two broken ribs. He was suffering terribly from shock and for a while his condition was critical. He was taken that afternoon to Florence where an X-ray examination failed to disclose any internal injuries and the report from the hospital Sunday morning stated that he had recovered from the shock and was out of danger.

Mr. Wheeler had a miraculous escape from injury. He was in the car during its perilous flight through the air and escaped with only a small scratch on one of his ears. His experience was so thrilling, however, that it was several hours before he recovered from the shock. The car is almost a wreck. The body is badly torn and twisted and the top damaged beyond repair. The chassis, fenders and wheels also suffered. It is the opinion of those who viewed the wreck that Messrs. McEachern and Wheeler owe their lives to the stout steel top which held the car up as it was turning over. Otherwise it is likely that they would have been badly crushed by the heavy body.

## It Happened Right at Home.

Some weeks ago The Herald told the story of a Florida man who dropped his eye-glasses in a barrel of Irish potatoes and recovered them after a lapse of six months when he ordered his spring seed potatoes from New York and the same barrel was shipped back to him unopened.

But an incident almost as strange as the Florida incident happened in Dillon a few days ago. A Dillon merchant gave a traveling man an order for some groceries. The traveling man represented a wholesale house in a distant city. In the order was an order for a bag of chicken feed. The shipment arrived in due time, but very much to the Dillon merchant's astonishment he found that the wholesale house had shipped him a bag of chicken feed manufactured by the Carolina Milling Company.

There is a moral in the incident—and that is that it pays to buy at home. The Dillon merchant paid the freight both ways.

rattlesnake—but with dull eye, insensate skin and vengeful spite, ready to dart its dreadful sting into every approaching intruder, it lay a horrible compound of all the hated qualities of its race—the incarnation of death. "On an afternoon, nearly forty years ago, a party of gentlemen were riding from Abbeville village towards the Calhoun settlement, and when approaching the place now known as the Cabins they passed a dwelling near the wayside, just at the moment when a little girl, whom they had seen to cross the road some distance before them, gave a piercing shriek and ran back into the house in an agony of pain and fright. Perceiving that something serious had occurred they hastily alighted to ascertain the matter; and entering the room found the child stretched upon a bed and already a corpse. She had lived long enough, however, to whisper to her mother that a snake had struck her while she was in the act of gathering firewood on the roadside. The party instantly sought the spot and there discovered a large specimen of the horn snake which they dispatched. The skin of this serpent was stuffed and preserved by an intelligent gentleman of the neighborhood; and it was long an object of great curiosity at his residence, and afterward at Old Cambridge, where it was last seen."

## HOME DEMONSTRATION DEPARTMENT.

(Conducted by Miss Etta Sue Sellers.) Community Meetings.

A community meeting was held at Oakland on Wednesday, August 10th, and one at Oak Grove on Thursday, August 11th. The attendance at Oakland was about 300 and at Oak Grove 250. These meetings proved to be very worth while. At the Oakland meeting Mrs. S. O. Plowden, District Agent, demonstrated the Steam Pressure Cooker, Mrs. Frances Y. Kline demonstrated table service and talked on marketing. Miss Amanda Edwards, formerly District Agent, gave a jelly demonstration, and interesting talks were made by Mrs. R. S. Rogers, Rev. John McSweeney, and Mr. J. W. McKay. The program at Oak Grove was similar to the one at Oakland with the exception of the last four mentioned. Delicious picnic dinners were served at each meeting.

Collecting Leaves and Bark for Sale. It is a matter of interest, primarily to the farmer, that certain of the well known weeds now either generally or locally infesting the country are the sources of crude drugs obtained wholly or in part by importation from abroad. Roots, leaves, and flowers, of several of the species most detrimental in the United States are gathered, prepared, and cured in Europe, and not only form useful commodities, but supply to a considerable extent the demands of foreign lands. Hence it appears probable that while weeds can hardly be made desirable still in his fight to exterminate them the farmer may be able to turn some of them to account.

The prices paid for crude drugs are not great and would rarely tempt anyone to pursue this line of work as a business. Yet, if in ridding the farm of weeds and thus raising the value of the land the farmer can at the same time make these pests the source of a small income instead of a dead loss, something is gained. In order to help the farmers to obtain the best possible prices for such products, instructions for collecting and preparing crude drugs derived from weeds are here briefly given. The collector should observe them carefully.

Directions for Collecting Leaves. Leaves should always be collected in clear, dry weather, in the morning, after the dew is off. They are at their best when the plant is in bloom and should be collected at this time. Leaves of biennials are most valuable during the second year of their growth. In drying, spread out thinly on a clean floor and stir occasionally until they are thoroughly dry. Remove all stems from leaves and remember that the leaves which are worth most are those which retain their natural green color. Dampness will turn leaves black, so be careful not to let them get wet.

Directions for Collecting Barks. Barks may be gathered either in the fall or spring. All rough barks should be rubbed before peeling—that is, the rough outer bark must be scrapped or shaved off, and the inner bark then peeled. Barks may be dried in the sunlight, except green wild cherry. The Jimson weed is one of the so called pests. The club girls of Dillon county have been asked to gather a generous supply of jimson leaves and seeds.

## HARDING A PAINTER

Washington, Aug. 19—Everybody in the country probably knows by this time that Warren G. Harding, before he became president, was an editor.

But few can remember when he was a painter and a good one. He proved his craftsmanship today. On his way from the executive mansion across to his office this afternoon he stopped to watch some of the painters engaged in the business of making the White House white.

"Here, you don't know how to do that," the president jokingly remarked to one of the astounded workmen. "Let me show you."

Taking the brush, he dipped it in the paint pot and went to work. "When did you learn the trade, Mr. President?" asked the man.

"Why, on the day President Garfield was shot I got my first contract. It was for painting a Baptist church near Marion. I did it too," said the president.

"Have you got your union card?" he was asked.

"They didn't have painters' unions in those days out in my country," said the president as he was forced to give up his painting job for an important conference.

## LAKE CITY FARMER

LOSES IRON SAFE.

Lake City, Aug. 17—Some time between Sunday and Monday night, during the absence of S. W. Young, a prosperous farmer, about eight miles west of here, his house was entered and the iron safe in which he kept about \$30,000 in Liberty bonds and an almost equal amount of mortgages and other securities was removed and tracks in the yard indicate that it was hauled away in a wagon. Mr. Young was appraised of the fact upon his return to his home Tuesday afternoon and is making every effort to apprehend the robbers.

## FIRST NEW BALE COMES TO MARION.

Marion, Aug. 18—The ginning of a 400 pound bale of cotton belonging to T. M. Moody, route No. 1, at the Marion Cotton Oil company today marked the first of the season in Marion county.

The cotton crop in this county will fall far short of previous years. In addition to a material cut in acreage, the ravages of the boll weevil are being extensively felt. Up until about two weeks ago, the boll weevil had not made its appearance in any great quantities except in the lower part of the county.

Now there is hardly a field which is not infested. It is believed that all the crop which is not already made will be destroyed by the weevils. In the lower part of the county not only the blossoms are being attacked by the weevil but large well developed bolls are being punctured.

The weevils are rapidly moving northward. Evidences of them are reported in Dillon and Marlboro counties. It is believed that they will cover the entire cotton growing belt of the Pee Dee section before the end of the season. Farmers and business men are very blue over the outlook. Although persistently warned, people in this section have done little in the way of diversified farming, cattle raising and dairying in preparation of the boll weevil menace.

## OUTLOOK FOR COTTON.

Many Indications Seem to Make For Higher Prices.

The past two weeks, or rather the period since August 1, has witnessed a recovery in cotton value of \$5 or \$6 per bale in the futures market and similar advances in the markets of the South. This would be regarded as a healthy sign of recovery under ordinary circumstances. It might mean that the cotton farmers would stand a chance to break even on this year's crop. Indications in the market point to even higher levels for futures after the first burst of new crop selling is out of the way. Also a healthy sign under normal conditions. However, the important and regrettable feature of the advance is the fact that prices are not going higher because of increased mill buying, which means indirectly increased consumption. It is going higher because the farms of the South have been mutilated by weather conditions which are spoiling the crop and because the crop when raised has to face a voracious horde of destructive weevils and their kindred.

This will mean that such portions of the South as have the luck to raise all or part of a crop will receive good prices—comparatively—for their cotton, but it will also mean that other sections will have further losses to pile on the heavy burden which was placed on the shoulders of the producer in the 1920 deflation.

It must be agreed that true prosperity does not consist of high prices obtained for one product, which means that some other consuming class must pay more for an article than the circulating medium of their own production is worth. Rather, prosperity may be said to mean the freest circulation of commodities, large production, giving employment to many and with free circulation and large production, large quantities of commodities are within reach of the average man. This prosperity cannot be obtained when it is necessary to cut cotton acreage because that either means that land itself is left to waste or that other crops are raised, which makes for hardship on the producers who would ordinarily raise that other crop. Neither can true prosperity be attained by such means or artificial stimulation of values, or rather of costs, reduction of a commodity supply for any reason, such as the destruction of cotton by weather and weevil. The South is to be pitied for its short crop rather than congratulated on obtaining higher prices for a reduced supply. —New York Commercial.

## 1,000 Bales of Cotton Burned.

Hartsville, Aug. 22—At 12 o'clock last night fire of unknown origin broke out in the warehouse of the Hartsville Warehouse and Compress Company, of which Ernest D. Sumner is president, and destroyed 1,000 bales of cotton valued at between \$75,000 and \$100,000. The cotton belonged mostly to farmers of this section and had been stored. The fire company did splendid work and battled for hours trying to allay the conflagration, which was sufficiently extinguished today to allow the charred bales to be moved about.

Prof. W. H. McNairy of Chester who succeeds Prof. Roberts as superintendent of the Dillon schools, arrived in town Monday morning and for the next three weeks will devote his time to arranging for the opening of the schools, the schools being scheduled to open Monday, September 12th. Prof. McNairy has leased Mr. I. Blum's residence and Mrs. McNairy and the children will arrive in a few days.

E. L. Moore is in New York on business.

## Rockefeller Reducing Estate

New York, Aug. 22—The estate of John D. Rockefeller, when he dies will show less than \$500,000,000 according to a statement made here today by Henry H. Klein, deputy commissioner of accounts for New York city.

"But that does not mean that the wealth estimated at two billions of dollars has been dissipated," he added. "It will merely have changed hands. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., not his father, is the richest man in the United States."

It was Mr. Klein's estimate of the Rockefeller wealth that drew some time ago a signed statement from the younger Rockefeller in which he said his father's estate had at no time reached one billion dollars. Since then there has been considerable controversy, over the subject.

"When John D. Jr., challenged my estimate and declared his father's estate had been reduced largely by gifts, he meant that those gifts were to himself and his sisters, along with the Rockefeller Foundation," Mr. Klein continued.

"The market value of all the Standard Oil companies is about three billion dollars, of which the Rockefellers hold 30 per cent. Most of these holdings are now in the name of the son, as are many millions more in so-called independent oil companies."

"As an illustration of the transfer of securities from the father to the son, the latest stock list of the Standard Oil company are worth \$70,000,000, while his father's are a mere \$110,000."

"What is true here is probably true in the other concerns in which they are the controlling factors. It is by this transfer that John D. Rockefeller himself, is not worth the two billions I estimated."

## Found Conditions Bad.

Mr. L. C. Braddy is back from a trip to Greensboro, Ga., where he spent two days looking over a cattle farm and making purchases for his own fawn. Greensboro is in the boll weevil territory and Mr. Braddy says he found conditions just about as bad as they could get. The store shelves were almost empty and business was practically at a standstill. A large oil mill in the town had been idle two years. Only three car loads of fertilizer were shipped into Greensboro this year and what cotton had been planted showed the lack of proper fertilization. The cotton is small and will not yield much to the acre. Cotton cultivation has almost been abandoned and the people are raising hogs, cattle, soy beans, peanuts, corn and other food crops. Some of the farmers have gone into the dairying business and Mr. Braddy spent the day with one farmer who used to make 500 bales a year, but who does not now plant a hill of cotton. This farmer has a large dairy farm and seems to be prospering. One of the cattlemen, Mr. Braddy saw promised to bring a car load of pure-bred cattle to the County Fair this fall. This gentleman said he was going to offer his cattle at a very low figure in order to induce the people to make an early beginning in the cattle industry. He said the boll weevil would be here next year in swarms and if there was a Dillon county farmer who thought he could plant a normal acreage and get ahead of the weevil he was fooling himself. Mr. Braddy is fencing in lots of land and will cut his cotton acreage down to four or five acres to the plow. He is preparing to increase his tobacco acreage, and with a fine herd of cows, plenty of soy beans, corn and other food crops he hopes to be able to cope with the boll weevil next year.

## CLARENDON STUDIES BETTER FARMING METHODS.

Clemson College, Aug. 22—Reports coming through County Agent W. R. Gray, of Clarendon, show that Clarendon county is looking towards better farming methods to meet the conditions now existing. Recently meetings have been held among business men to consider the possible necessity of erecting grain elevators, sweet potato curing houses, and other means of caring for the new crops resulting from greater diversification. Evidently the business men of Clarendon are ready to be of the greatest possible assistance to the farmers of the county in meeting the new conditions.

Before taking any definite steps it has been decided, reports the county agent, to study the situation more carefully. In order to have better light on the problems of diversified farming it has been decided that a committee of four men, including the county agent, make a week's trip into Georgia and Alabama to study their system of diversified agriculture with reference to grain elevators, storage and warehouses, and other matters that have to do with the business end of diversification. It is likely that this tour of investigation will be made early in August. The expenses of the trip will be borne by the business men of the town of Manning.

Dr. Joe Cabell Davis and A. K. McLeilan left Monday on a two week's trip through Ohio. While away they will visit several of the county fairs and see their horses race.

D. T. Hamilton of Florence spent Sunday with relatives.

## KILLS WOMAN WHO STICKS BY HUSBAND.

Porterville, Cal., Aug. 22—Walter H. Alexander, who, according to J. E. Bachman, a rancher near here, shot and killed Mrs. Bachman yesterday when she refused to leave her husband and go with Alexander, was found dying on a ranch ten miles from here by a posse today.

Alexander died before any aid could be administered. Sheriff Court Smith, leader of the posse, believed Alexander poisoned himself.

"Well, what are you going to do?" Alexander was quoted as demanding of Mrs. Bachman.

"I guess I'll stay here," Bachman said, his wife replied from her seat beside him in an automobile.

Thereupon, Bachman says, Alexander fired a shotgun point-blank at the woman.

The shooting occurred at the range home of H. B. Collins, stepfather of Alexander, in the Popular district near here. Alexander's mother and step-father also witnessed the shooting.

After the shooting Alexander left, carrying the shotgun, it was said.

According to the story Bachman told officers, he had gone to Lindsay, twenty miles from the Collins ranch, to bring home Mrs. Bachman. He found Alexander also at Lindsay, he said, and was forced by him to drive Mrs. Bachman and Alexander to the ranch. He told officers Alexander held a knife at his back all the way.

At the ranch Alexander disabled the automobile, obtained a shotgun and approached Mrs. Bachman, the woman's husband said. Alexander then demanded what the woman was going to do, and receiving her answer, shot her, Bachman said.

After holding Bachman at bay with the shotgun half an hour, while Collins procured liquor from a neighbor's house, Alexander fled across the fields, the two men told officers.

## Carolina.

The Home Demonstration and Betterment Clubs held their monthly meeting at the school house on last Thursday afternoon. A most helpful lesson on yeast bread was given by Miss Sellers. On account of car trouble, she was delayed and was unable to demonstrate the cooking of the bread.

Miss Blanche McLaurin is visiting her sister Mrs. D. A. Alford at Wesley this week.

Mrs. Mary McInnis returned home last week from a visit to her daughter, Mrs. George White, and little grandson, George White, Jr., of Orell Hill, N. C.

Mr. and Mrs. David Overstreet and Mrs. David Overstreet, Jr. and children of Hasty, N. C., spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Henderson. Master Clewell McInnis of Clío spent a few days of last week with his uncle, Mr. D. B. McInnis.

Miss Ethelene Smith visited at the home of her uncle, Mr. Dan Alford of Wesley, last week.

Miss Emma Kate McInnis is spending a few days of this week at the home of Mr. Neill McRimmon of Racmon, N. C.

Miss Beatrice Rogers of Dillon is visiting Verna McQueen this week.

Miss Beulah McInnis underwent a successful tonsil operation at the Clío Hospital last Thursday.

Mr. J. D. Henderson spent the week end at Clinton, S. C.

Rev. Neill McInnis who is spending his vacation here, left Saturday for Guff, N. C., where he will conduct a week's meeting, after which he will return for the remaining days of his vacation.

Mrs. Nell C. McLaurin of near Clío visited her daughters, Mesdames D. L. and L. W. McInnis last week.

## THE BOLL WEEVIL AND HIS WINTER QUARTERS.

Clemson College, Aug. 22.—The cotton boll weevil finds his hotel for the winter in old stalks, weeds and dead grass in the field. He will find splendid winter-quarters in unkept terraces, weedy ditch banks and fences, in neglected orchards, in underbrush along the woods and roadsides, etc.

The weevil requires for successful wintering a place with a given amount of moisture, failing in such places where moisture is heavy. Therefore the cover crop that is used for preventing land washing and the leaching of soil, fertility and for maintaining soil texture is of the greatest value under weevil conditions, because it acts as a cleansing crop which keeps down weeds and winter food plants and destroys protective coverings for the weevil and other destructive insects during the winter.

It is time now for farmers to think about these matters and not let this work go until the last moment, advises Prof. A. F. Conradi, entomologist who says that we want to clean up our farms this fall as we have never done before. These wintering places mentioned must not be permitted; they must be removed or destroyed by one method or another. Humus is our greatest deficiency in farming and for that reason vegetable matters should be properly incorporated in the soil whenever possible; but there are a great many cases where this can not be done; and yet should weeds, dead grass, etc., remain through the winter they would form successful wintering places for the boll weevil. Burning may be the only resort by which they can be destroyed, and if burning should be employed.