

Originator of Molasses Method of Boll Weevil Poisoning Talks

Dozier Hill, of Gough, Ga., originator of the molasses plan of boll weevil poisoning, came to the Chronicle yesterday and discussed with the editor details concerning the method which large numbers of farmers now say is giving the most excellent results. According to Mr. Hill the boll weevil problem, insofar as it affects his immediate section, has gone a long way toward solution. In fact, he feels that he has an excellent chance to make a good crop and that his crop will not be ruined by the boll weevil. He feels that conditions other than the boll weevil must interfere to make the crop a failure.

Just here let the Chronicle make itself clear once more on this matter of the boll weevil. We have urged the farmers to use every remedy suggested and decide upon that which is the best. We have urged that molasses and calcium arsenate be tried, that dusting be tried and every other remedy tried. Despite the fact that the government experts have contended that the molasses-calcium arsenate plan was of no avail we have urged that it be faithfully tried because the government some times goes wrong.

We have now received evidence from so many different sections and from so many different farmers that it appears the molasses plan has demonstrated its success. We hope that it will continue throughout the entire cotton season the success that the experiments thus far have proven it to be.

In Sunday's Chronicle we stated that there were some things about the molasses method of poisoning which we did not know, but which we would like to learn so as to pass the tip along to the farmers. This brought Mr. Hill to The Chronicle office to explain certain points which he, as the originator of the plan, could explain better than any one else.

"Last year I made an average of 11 bales per plow on 165 plows," said Mr. Hill, "though Burke county was badly hit by the boll weevil. My molasses plan was arrived at only after a series of experiments with various remedies. I tried out the molasses with other poisons, but finding calcium arsenate was the best of them all I went back to the molasses-calcium arsenate plan which I have used ever since, and which is being used on hundreds of farms in Burke county and throughout this section of the country.

"Since the first news of my remedy was given through The Chronicle my mail has been growing heavier and heavier and I am now receiving hundreds and hundreds of letters. I spend several hours each night answering them. Of course, I am glad to pass along the information that I have, for I am firmly convinced that the molasses remedy has saved this section of the south from disaster, because without a thoroughly successful method of boll weevil poisoning this year we could not hope to make much of a crop.

"I am very glad to clear up any matters that you have suggested in your editorial columns. In the first place, how often to poison? I would say, of course, to poison as often as necessary, though the question then arises, when will you know it is necessary? You will know by the squares falling. The government contends that there should be no poisoning unless there is 15 per cent. infestation. The average farmer will find it difficult to tell whether there is 15 per cent. or 30 per cent. The first application of the molasses should cover every stalk in the field with a small amount of molasses in the bud. Then watch the field closely for dead squares. Whenever you see several squares beneath a stalk in a field which has been poisoned,

do what I call 'ring poisoning,' that is to say, place poison on all stalks within an imaginary circle that are five feet distant from the stalk under which you find the squares. This will obviate the necessity of going over the entire field to cover a few isolated spots where there may be a weevil operating. The 'ring poisoning' will get the weevil operating in that locality without fail.

"Of course, you must pick up the squares and burn them. This should be done all of the time and farmers who neglect to do this are in for a great deal of trouble when the weevils are hatched out. When the cotton is up about knee high and there is a large bush instead of a very small stalk, I have a plan of poisoning through a guano horn. I take a regulation horn and put a wooden stopper in the end of it and through the wooden stopper I drill a small hole, about half the size of a lead pencil. I pour the guano horn full of molasses, with the calcium arsenate solution, and it pours out on the cotton in a small stream. Sometimes the molasses doesn't flow as it should, so I have a stick with a mop on the end of it which fits snugly in the horn like the staff or plunger, fits into a pop gun. This forces the molasses to pour out when there is any tendency to clog in the horn. The advantage of this method is that there is a little stream of molasses going on both sides of the stalk or the bud. A man can go down the row with this guano horn almost as fast as distributing guano.

I know it is difficult to explain this guano horn method so I am going to leave it with you and any farmers who wish to see it can come to The Chronicle office.

"I have made all sorts of tests on this boll weevil poisoning. For instance, last year in a field I plowed up all except the each twentieth row in a field of cotton. I waited then for two or three days until the leaves were dead and I then applied molasses and calcium arsenate to the remaining rows. All of the weevils had left the cotton which was plowed up and concentrated on the remaining rows. I placed paper under the stalks on each twentieth row and the boll weevils the next day were dead in such quantities as to remind you of flies on fly paper.

"You ask me about poisoning every other row, or every third row. Yes, you can do this and get the weevils, but the cost of the poisoning is so small that one can poison every row without any great expense. My formula, which is two pounds of calcium arsenate to two quarts of water and a gallon of molasses, will poison two and a half acres at a cost of 25 cents, or about 20 cents per acre. The calcium costs 15 cents per pound and the molasses, 22 cents per gallon. Of course, it takes a little more of the poison when the cotton gets up bigger and you use the poison in the guano horn.

"My judgment is that two thorough poisonings in a season plus the 'ring-poisonings' should be enough, though conditions may demand more. Of course, hard rains will wash the poison off, though it should get in its work in 24 hours. In other words, if it doesn't rain within 24 hours after the application the weevils should be found dead. I do not contend that every weevil in a field of cotton will be killed by one application. Now and then you miss one and that is why you should watch closely and be ready for 'ring-poisoning.'"

The guano horn was left at The Chronicle office by Mr. Hill and we shall be glad to show it to any farmer desiring to see it, and The Chronicle again renews its invitation to farmers to write us of their experiments in fighting the weevil.—Augusta Chronicle, June 28.

St. Matthews Boy Breaks Leg.

St. Matthews, July 4.—Little Thomas Symmes, the four-year-old son of Dr. and Mrs. T. H. Symmes, sustained a serious injury today when he fell and broke his leg near the knee. The little fellow was engaged in practice on his cross cars on which he had become an expert for a child of his age. While perfecting one of his acrobatic feats he lost his hold and fell to the ground breaking the bone near the knee. The injury was so serious that he was at once taken to a hospital in Orangeburg where the X-ray is expected to reveal the full extent of his injury.

Eve's Ancestor.

A young mother in Chicago was endeavoring to act as her own Sunday school teacher in the matter of imparting fundamental biblical knowledge to one of her offspring.

After reciting the story of Adam and Eve the mother began catechizing the youngster.

"Who was the first woman?" There was a momentary silence and then the kiddies replied:

"God's grandmother."

Great Britain has more than 300,000 girl guides.

FORMER PRESIDENT NEW CHIEF JUSTICE

TAFT TO 'HEAD THE COUNTRY'S HIGHEST COURT.

Four Negative Votes.

Borah, Johnson, La Follette and Watson Object Without Accomplishing Delay.

Washington, June 30.—Former President William Howard Taft was nominated late today by the President to be Chief Justice of the United States and his nomination was confirmed by the senate in executive session.

The nomination was not confirmed without opposition, however, and a roll call was demanded. The opposition was understood to have been voiced by Senator Borah, Idaho, Johnson, California and La Follette, Wisconsin, all Republicans, who were said to have criticized Mr. Taft's record and his nomination.

On the roll call, however, only four votes were cast against the nomination. These were by Senators Borah, Johnson and La Follette and Senator Watson, Democrat, of Georgia.

The final vote was 60 to 4. An agreement was reached not to make a roll call.

The Senate's doors were closed for discussion of the nomination after suggestions that Mr. Taft be confirmed in open executive session because he, as a former president, had been rejected by opponents. Senators Borah and Johnson led the fight on the floor in opposition to Mr. Taft, and he was defended by about a dozen senators, including Knox, Pennsylvania; Kellogg, of Minnesota; and Willis, of Ohio, Republicans, and Underwood, of Alabama, Democrat minority leader; Smith, of California, Overman, of North Carolina, and Broussard, of Louisiana, Democrats.

STATE NEWS ITEMS.

Happenings of Various Sections Related in Brief Form.

"Methodists of the state have fallen short of their goal by about one-half in the educational campaign recently conducted," says the Columbia State Sunday. "The goal for the state was \$2,000,000, and only about \$1,000,000 has been pledged."

W. R. Bradley, acting collector of internal revenue, says that a total of \$28,322,145.52 was collected in South Carolina by the federal government during the past 12 months. The figures for the same period a year ago were \$26,653,541.89, there being an increase in one year of more than a million and a half dollars.

Major Rufus W. Grant, assistant adjutant general, was appointed on July 1 adjutant general by Governor Cooper, to succeed the late Gen. W. W. Moore. Gen. Grant is a former service man, having served on the Mexican border and with the thirtieth division in France. He became assistant adjutant general on his discharge from the army after his return from France.

James P. Browning, serving a life sentence for the killing of Laurie Fairry in Orangeburg county, will have to serve his sentence, according to a decision of the supreme court, which has reversed the decision of the circuit judge in granting Browning a new trial. Judge Mauldin some time ago granted a new trial on the ground that the trial judge was related to Fairry.

John Pelzer was drowned near Orangeburg when the sulky in which he and a companion were riding, fell into the stream of Goodbys creek. The horse managed to get out of the stream, and Pelzer's companion escaped.

E. F. Osteen, a Greenville merchant, was killed Saturday when he accidentally discharged a trap gun set to prevent further burglaries in his store. After leaving the store, he suddenly returned to get some cigarettes and ran against the cord attached to the trigger of a shot gun pointed toward the door entrance, the load of the gun entering his body.

From \$20,000 to \$25,000 fire loss is reported from a fire in Orangeburg Saturday, when several stores were damaged, with stocks of goods. The

PRESIDENT SIGNS PEACE RESOLUTION

HARDING AFFIXES SIGNATURE WHILE RESTING.

War Is At End.

Formalities of Declaration Completed By Deposit of Document in Archives of State Department.

Rariden, N. J., July 2.—The resolution of congress declaring war with Germany and Austria-Hungary at an end was signed here late today by President Harding.

So there might be no unnecessary delay in consummation of the long deferred state of peace, the resolution was brought here by special messenger from Washington where it had been given final congressional approval yesterday. The messenger left for the capital again tonight to complete the formalities of the declaration by depositing the document in the archives of the state department.

There was little of the dramatic in the actual ceremony of giving presidential approval to the measure. Returning here from a luncheon and golf game at the Somerville Hill county club the president found the White House messenger, E. W. Smithers, waiting for him on the veranda of the Frelinghuysen house.

Mr. Harding immediately put on his nose glasses and, sitting in a porch swing, examined the official copy of the resolution minutely. The signing took place at a small mahogany table in the adjacent living room in the center of a distinguished group, which included the president, host and hostess, Speaker Gillett of the house of representatives, Senator Kellogg, of Minnesota, a member of the senate foreign relations committee, Senator Hale, of Maine, and other members of the week-end party.

As the president's pen scratched out the final letters of his name, one of the group remarked: "Well, that's what, Mr. President."

"Yes, that's it," replied Mr. Harding, with a broad smile and the others responded with a quick burst of hand-clapping as if the historic significance of the occasion had been borne in upon them.

No formal statement was made by the president in connection with the affixing of his signature, and the consummation of the first formal step in the announced peace programme of the administration. With other papers of a routine character brought here for his attention, the president returned the peace resolution as soon as it had been signed and then prepared to resume his interrupted holiday by getting into golf clothes for another workout on the links.

In signing the resolution the president used a pen sent him for this purpose by Representative Porter, of Pennsylvania, chairman of the house foreign affairs committee and joint author of the measure. The pen will be returned to Mr. Porter as a souvenir.

In China, only friends made after marriage usually call a woman by her new name.

Mrs. Sarah Maxwell, Canada's oldest citizen, recently celebrated her 116th birthday. She has outlived all her children.

Horace D. Brown, cashier of the Bank of Mount Carmel, last week took nux vomica when directors of the bank discovered that there would be an apparent loss of \$8,000 in the bank's accounts, although no blame was attached to the cashier for the loss. There was nothing wrong with the cashier's connection with the bank. He will recover, it is said.

The interstate commerce commission has issued an order authorizing the receiver of the Orangeburg railway, extending from Orangeburg to North, a distance of 18 miles, to discontinue operation and abandon the road. The road has been in the hands of a receiver for some time past.

A bull belonging to J. W. Sheriff in Orangeburg county caused the derailment of a freight engine a few days ago. Passenger trains had to be detoured via Blackville for a few hours after the wreck. The bull was killed.

Uses Saccharine, Ice Cream Powder With Molasses and Calcium

Dublin, Ga., June 28.—A formula for poison that will kill the boll weevil and keep a field clear of the pest until August, when the migratory weevils are in action, is being used this year by Dr. W. B. Taylor, of Dexter, Laurens county, who has been growing cotton in Laurens for the last three years in spite of the boll weevil. Last year he made 1 1/2 bales on 150 acres, in spite of the weevil, wet weather and other hindrances.

Doctor Taylor lives about fourteen miles from Dublin and has become the recognized boll weevil expert of the county. Saturday a friend in Dublin asked him about the weevils on his farm.

"Why the boll weevil is a joke with me," he replied. "I laugh every time I think about him. I can rid any field of boll weevils for 25 cents per acre, given just two successive days of sunshine."

He was asked for an explanation, and when he replied that he had worked out a formula for poisoning the weevil, and was using it, was asked for that formula.

Here it is, just as he gave it, and it has the endorsement of the county demonstration agent of Laurens county, J. B. Trye, who was present:

Take molasses, 2 gallons; saccharine, 1 ounce; ice cream powder, 2 packages; calcium arsenate, 10 pounds; water, 8 gallons. Mix the ice cream powder and the saccharine both in a little water before adding to the other ingredients. When you have it all mixed together well, be sure it is kept agitated that the poison does not settle to the bottom.

Make a mop by taking a small stick and tying a roll of cheese cloth

around one end about two inches wide. Get an old tin can, fill it with the solution, keep it stirred and walk down the row and put a few drops of the solution on the under side of the leaves near the bud of the plant. Be sure the mixture is well stirred while putting it on. Only a small amount is required for each plant and with the above amount of the mixture scientifically applied it should cover 20 acres. Some, however, apply a little thicker than needed and it may not cover more than 10 acres. A few drops to each plant is just as effective as a gallon.

Only one application is needed, provided two sunny days follow. With this solution in use, all the squares picked up, the cotton plant pushed just as fast as possible, the farmer should have a full crop of cotton made by August when the migratory weevils begin to swarm and when it is useless to fight any longer. If the crop is made by that time however, you are safe.

In explaining his formula, Dr. Taylor made the following point. He has found by the two years' of special experimental work that the weevils are attracted by a sweet mixture, and easily fall prey to poisoned sweets. Syrup, calcium arsenate, and water will kill the weevils, but he adds the saccharine to make the mixture sweeter than ordinary syrup, and more attractive to the weevils. The ice cream powders are added to give the mixture a "body," makes it foamy and mucilaginous, therefore hard to wash off by rain and sticking longer on the plant, while it requires less agitation. Any kind of syrup, molasses, or any like sweetening, will do.

BRIDEGROOM HANDCUFFED.

Conductor Was to Release Husband, But Key Was Broken Off.

Columbia, June 30.—Love did not laugh at locksmiths here today when two Augusta people, married in Augusta this morning, were conducted to a locksmith by Capt. F. B. Fishburn, well-known checker player and Southern railway conductor, to have a pair of handcuffs removed from the bridegroom's wrists. The young husband, William Leroy Britton, told a most unusual story, his statements being indorsed by his bride, and Capt. Fishburn.

Mr. Britton and Miss Clarice Wise were married at St. John Methodist church in Augusta this morning. The wedding party had just left the church when a crowd of young men took a hand in the proceedings. Mrs. Britton says that these young men all close friends of her husband were headed by William Skelton, Daniel Mack Berry, Carl Brinson, Joe Long and Herbert Elliott. As the men grasped the hands of the bridegroom to congratulate him he found when they had finished that his hands were of not much use to him for they were firmly held in "honest-to-goodness" handcuffs. The newlyweds were put aboard the Pullman car with Mr. Britton still handcuffed. The Pullman conductor, however, had been given the key with instructions to unlock the "bracelets" when the train was well on its way to Columbia. This he attempted to do but the key broke in the lock and Mr. Britton remained a prisoner on his honeymoon. Then the dining car conductor and Capt. Fishburn entered the game. The dining car conductor conducted the embarrassed bridegroom to the kitchen of the dining car where a strong arm cook used a clever to cut the chain that held the handcuffs together but he could not get them. Capt. Fishburn's automobile met the train and he hurried Mr. and Mrs. Britton away from the station in quick time, taking the bride to a hotel and the bridegroom to a locksmith, where after assurances were given the expert on handcuffs and locks generally that there was no reason why he should not free the captive a key was quickly made and the handcuffs unlocked.

Mr. and Mrs. Britton spent the day here and will leave early tomorrow morning for Hendersonville to spend two weeks, after which they will return to Augusta.

Mr. Britton kept the handcuffs for a souvenir of the first eighty miles of his honeymoon. Mr. and Mrs. Britton took the episode in the best of spirits and laughed heartily when it was found that the locksmith could save the day.

U. S. FLAG OVER BERLIN.

First Time Since American Declaration of War.

Berlin, July 4.—American flags flew over Berlin today for the first time since the American declaration of war, but the American mission and the German foreign office have not as yet been formally notified that congress had concluded peace. The newspapers, in the absence of the text of the peace resolution, confine their comment to the hope that "there will be a speedy resumption of peace-time commercial relations."

German official circles are awaiting the text and developments. Meanwhile opinion in the German foreign office is unofficially summed up as follows:

"An international situation is ended, but we do not know what to expect or what the peace conditions will be—whether the United States will subscribe to the Versailles treaty in toto or at all. We are awaiting to be officially apprised of the terms of the compromise resolutions and what the next move will be."

Some of the newspapers express the hope that the United States will immediately take a hand in having the penalties lifted and the Upper Silesia question decided. Others view the situation as "a formal state of peace, still without meaning."

The Stars and Stripes floated from the American Chamber of Commerce, as well as from private dwellings.

Not Reassuring.

A certain young man was so well satisfied with the impression he had reason to believe he had made on a certain young woman that he did not attempt to verify this belief, but boldly made references to his "standing" with the rest of the family.

"Do you think," he said, "that your worthy father will accept me as a son-in-law?"

"I haven't the least doubt in the world as to that," said the girl.

"Father and I, you know, never agree on anything."

Not Surprising.

There was recently erected in a western town an orthopaedic hospital, the architectural features of which, became the subject of discussion between two members of a club, the one a physician and the other an architect.

"What do you think of it as a building?" asked the medico.

The architect smiled. "Externally," he observed, "the design is modern, and internally the treatment is somewhat severe, as is usual in a hospital."

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