

## THE FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

INSTRUCTIVE LECTURES BY  
CLEMSON FACULTY.

An Excellent Attendance of Represent-  
atives Farmers and Close Atten-  
tion Given to Lectures.

The Farmers' Institute, held here last Friday, was a decided success. There were present in the court house, where the exercises took place, about 250 people, including a large proportion of representative farmers from all parts of the county. The members of Clemson College faculty present were: Profs. C. M. Conner, F. S. Shiver and C. C. Newman. The meeting was entirely informal, and the lecturers seemed to take pleasure in answering all questions addressed to them touching the subject under discussion.

At 10:30 o'clock the meeting was called to order by Hon. Henry E. Eaddy of Johnsonville, who had been requested to act as chairman. He briefly explained the object of the institute and reminded the farmers present of the opportunity before them to obtain light on the numerous vexing questions incident to their vocation. He then introduced Prof. Newman, who would tell something about horticulture.

Mr. Newman discussed in order the subjects of pear blight, spraying peaches and plums to prevent rot, and storing grains to prevent weevils, these being questions he had been asked to touch upon. Pear blight is a very old disease, caused by a bacterial germ. No remedy has entirely succeeded, but blight can be prevented to some extent. He recommended (1) removing the affected part by cutting out with sharp instrument. Cut 12 or 14 inches below dead leaves, but do not cut in affected part. Clean shears with germicide or corrosive sublimate; (2) blight has been caused to disappear by not cultivating trees and encouraging a thrifty growth.

To prevent plums and peaches from rotting, which is caused by an insect called a circulo, destroy fruit that falls on the ground. Spray with Paris green or Bordeaux mixture (3 lbs. copper sulphate, 4 lbs. lime and 50 gallons water).

To destroy potato bugs spray or dust with Paris green. Spray with a mixture of 1 lb. Paris green and 3 lbs. lime added to 50 gallons water. Dust with a powder composed of 2 teaspoonfuls Paris green and 3 qts. flour. For tobacco use 1 lb. Paris green to the acre.

To prevent weevils: Bisulphide of carbon kills the eggs. Sprinkle over grain 3 oz. to 75 bu. Will also rid barn of rats. Fumes explosive for 24 hours after application.

Prof. C. M. Conner discussed dairying. Food for cattle: cotton seed meal, corn cut green and kept in silo. Dry food: 4 lbs. meal and 6 lbs. bran per day. Good outlook for dairying. To make good butter, strict cleanliness necessary. If a separator is used, separate cream soon after milking. Unless a regular dairying business is carried on it does not pay to use separator. Costs from \$60 to \$75. Keep milk cool at 60 to 65 deg. Cheap separators no good, better use pans. Churn without dasher the best kind. Corn the best food for beef cattle. For milch cows a good mixture is 3 lbs.

cotton seed, 2 lbs. meal and 5 lbs. peavine hay.

Prof. Shiver spoke on fertilizers. Can't get best results from continuous use of commercial fertilizers. Home made fertilizers, such as lot manure and humus woods mould very essential to successful farming. The cow pea the best leguminous plant for wornout lands in the South. Cotton seed worth 25 cents a bushel. Does not pay to exchange for meal unless 25 cents worth of meal is obtained for each bushel of seed. Oil in seed of no value as fertilizer. Stable manure should be kept moist and well tramped. Commercial fertilizers should be used supplementary to the home-made article. Nitrate soda, dried blood and cotton seed meal the best form of nitrogenous fertilizers. Use nitrate soda for truck and top dressing for small grain. Acid phosphate and kanit best for cow peas—200 lbs. acid to 100 lbs. kanit. Actual experience the only way to tell which fertilizers are best adapted to certain soils. When purchasing fertilizers get the kind containing the element most needed by the soil. Above all, cultivate thoroughly so as to keep moisture in soil.

At the conclusion of Prof. Shiver's talk, before adjournment, a resolution of thanks was voted the faculty for their interesting and intelligent lectures.

### COUNTY SUMMER SCHOOL.

First Week's Attendance Good—A  
Four Weeks Session.

The county summer school for teachers commenced Monday morning with a fair attendance, which has increased daily until the enrollment now includes twenty teachers. The instructors are Dr. A. B. Cooke, professor of German at Wofford college, who teaches English grammar, composition and literature, and Mr. Jennings K. Owens of the Rock Hill graded school, who has charge of the work in arithmetic and geography.

The summer school will continue in session four weeks, with daily sessions except Sunday. The method of instruction is by question and answer. In order that the work may proceed quietly and without interruption the daily sessions are held in the graded school building.

The teacher-students seem very much in earnest, and the instructors expect hard, patient and successful work.

Following is the enrollment up to yesterday:

Misses Retha Burgess, Selma Burgess, Mouzon; Eulalia Cox, Vox; Marie Dunlop, Harpers; Olive Fulton, Foreston; Fannie Epps, Lila Hemingway, Helen Scott, Emma Kinder, Kingstree; Sarah Harrelson, Georgetown; Emma Hendricks, Esther Nettles, Emiline Nettles, Lake City; Hattie Newell, Chapman; Beulah Huggins, Venters; Ethel Nesmith, Dock; Carrie Salters, Salters; Lily McElveen, Spring Bank; Mrs. R. B. Woodbury, Johnsonville; and Messrs. W. J. Dunlop, Harpers; and J. T. Frierson, Mouzon.

### County Campaign Meetings.

Johnsonville, Tuesday, August 5.  
Black Mingo, Wednesday, August 6.  
Trio, Friday, August 8.  
Greeleyville, Tuesday, August 19.  
Kingstree, Wednesday, August 20.  
Lake City, Thursday, August 21.  
Scranton, Friday, August 22.

## THE SAGE OF POSSUM FORK

REVIEWS THE LECTURES HEARD  
AT THE FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

An Interesting Article from an Original  
Thinker—The South an Excellent  
Field for Dairying.

Editor County Record:

I am glad I went up to the Farmers' Institute at Kingstree.

Professor Newman's lecture on spraying fruit trees with Bordeaux mixture, although not altogether new-will, I think, stimulate many to go to work and obtain benefit from it next year. I want to get the formulas and try it myself on peaches and plums. What a pity the pear blight cannot be prevented by spraying!

Prof. Conner was right in showing that the feed of many dairy cows costs more than the butter would sell for. But he did not give "skimmed milk" justice; for, I tell you, Mr. Editor, in these days of no meat many a little fellow has had a good breakfast and supper of skimmed milk and corn bread, whether he had any butter on the bread or not.

But here's the supper bell now, let's see if we have any meat!—no! Just some milk, and clabber, and bread, and some coffee, and some peach pie and no butter. You see, the little cow turns the grass into milk and clabber more than butter, and it would be unjust to the cow not to count the skimmed milk.

Two or three years ago we opened a field and turned the cow in the peas and fresh grass, and we regaled on milk and butter too; but she drank the stagnant water from an old clay hole in the field where the geese had been washing, so I took fever and sent for the doctor and was a long time getting well. I had depended on the cow to filter the foul water and give us pure milk, but I don't believe now a cow is a good filter to purify bad food or bad water; so I have learned some sense about milk.

My wife is a great believer in milk. She says it is food and medicine both—saves doctor's bills and makes red-faced children. A cup of hot milk will revive the sick, no matter what the disease. A cup of milk and flour stirred in the frying pan with the hot fried meat will make a gravy so good that you can take three or four mouthfuls of hominy to one of butt meat these hard times, and that beats butter. Milk and sugar makes a better sauce for the apple pie than butter, and a drink of clabber and whey these hot thirsty days revives me more than iced lemonade. So here's to the cow that drinks clean water and eats sweet grass and gives rich milk!

But the professor says if a cow does not give rich milk naturally she cannot be made to do so by feeding. She can be made to give more milk but not rich milk. I wish Professor Conner could have had more time, for I conclude from what he says about feeding that the dairying should largely be in the south. Cotton seed, peavine hay and cotton seed meal, supplemented with wheat bran, which could also be raised here.

Prof. Shiver on fertilizers was interesting in showing the futility of trying to raise large crops on land devoid of humus, by simply applying commercial fertilizers, and he laid stress on the waste in freight and hauling of low grade fertilizers.

I wish he could have had more time to show how stagnant water "poisons" a crop. Any water that lies on the low land long enough will kill corn or cotton.

But stagnant water, although poisonous to mankind, would only be filtered and purified through a dry soil. The foul matter acts as a manure to the crops; and would be a boon to-day to the burning corn, the wilted cotton and thirsty land down here in  
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