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FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

A Large Attendance and Profitable Discussions by Experienced Farmers.

The Farmers' Institute convened the court house Thursday forenoon and was well attended by the best farmers of the county, but more than a thousand farmers who very much need the instruction given at these institutes, were not present; they never attend institutes.

After the invocation by Rev. J. C. Smith, the regular work of the institute was taken up and E. C. Martindale of Hancock county, gave his opinion of "Good Pasture" and how to produce pasture that will pay the farmer. The subject was ably discussed by farmers present.

The first subject in the afternoon was "Wheat Raising" by R. L. Thompson of Lagrange county. He advocated early sowing, thorough preparation of the soil, thought that wheat should be harrowed in the spring and believed that barn yard fertilizers should be applied before sowing and plowed under. "Frank Simond" otherwise known as "Jim Miller" of Walnut township opened the discussion in reply to Mr. Thompson and in his inimitable way presented many excellent ideas. Mr. Miller has been a school teacher, editor, newspaper reporter, roller drill salesman and is now a practical farmer, and generally knows what he is talking about.

He says wheat raising does not pay but it has to be raised for a rotation of crops and should be given proper care and attention. He agreed with most of the statements made by Mr. Thompson and showed that by using good seed, good manures and proper culture wheat crops can be made reasonably profitable, but not so profitable as corn and some other crops.

At the close of this discussion Mr. Marindale presented the subject of Agricultural Education. He held that education in farming was just as necessary as any other business and gave many reasons for his opinion.

E. G. Berg of Bremen, opened the discussion on this subject.

It was followed by the discussion of Weeds on the Farm, a subject in which every farmer is interested. C. W. Newman president of the farmers' institute rapped for order at 9:30 Friday forenoon and R. L. Thompson of LaGrange county, began his talk on "Success and Failure in Hog Raising."

Mr. Thompson is not an extensive farmer and does not raise many hogs but tries to be practical and to present practical ideas in his institute talks, and he had as fine an audience of practical farmers Friday morning as any man ever talked to.

He said the farmer should choose that breed of hogs that he liked best and give them the very best of care. He preferred Chester Whites crossed with the Essex, but he would never go further than one cross. He said he could get more pigs from Chester White sows than any others and at seven months old they would weigh from 225 to 250 pounds each. He said they were not as pretty as Poland China or Berkshire hogs and that an admirer of those hogs might get as good results by crossing Chester Whites with Poland-Chinas or Berkshires.

He thought sows should not be fed much corn for a few days previous and a few days after farrowing and the pigs must have good care if they made good heavy hogs in six or seven months. Pigs that come in Friday or April do not need so much care as autumn pigs which must be properly housed and fed during the first cold days of winter if they are to be fed and sold at a profit in the spring.

He said pigs should not be fed too much until they were three or four months old, because they would get too fat and not have bone enough to make good hogs. He explained the balanced ration of corn, milk, grass, sorghum and other things, but said every farmer should watch the growth and condition of his hogs and feed them accordingly. He spoke of hog cholera and believed that it was easier to prevent it than to cure it. Coal and wood ashes, sulphur and some other articles were recommended to mix with the feed occasionally to keep off disease, but without cleanliness none of these would prevent the swine plague.

In the discussion that followed, A. W. Dolph, Jacob Myers, Wm. O'Keefe, Myron Chase, Warren McFarlin, J. A. Miller and many others made valuable suggestions. C. S. Southwick of Noble county, presented the subject of Commercial Fertilizers. It was an excellent talk. He contended that nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash were taken from almost all soils by successive crops faster than they could be supplied by the manures and fertilizers produced on the farm, consequently it was best to use some commercial fertilizers on almost all farms in northern Indiana to prevent their deterioration and a condition like that found in some sections of southern Indiana and the eastern states.

He explained the percentage of nitrogen, phosphorus and potash found in the various fertilizers, the method of applying them and showed that it sometimes required several years for some of them to assimilate themselves to the soil after they are applied, but good results follow in time.

He said that lime was a good fertilizer for acid or sour soils, and salt was often beneficial to certain soils, but dried blood contains more of the essentials necessary to restore soils deficient in nitrogen and potash than anything else.

A score of the farmers present seemed to be posted on this subject and there was a lively discussion, after which the institute adjourned for dinner.

The discussion in the afternoon of the "Mixed Farmers and Specialists" seemed to resolve itself into the fact that both are necessary, but mixed farming is best for many farms and for a majority of farmers.

The specialist, to be a success, must be an enthusiast in his line, must thoroughly understand what he is producing, and in this way he helps the mixed farmer, makes money for himself and helps the community in which he lives and the entire country.

The Women's Auxiliary of the institute convened at the Methodist church Friday morning. There was music after which Rev. J. H. Palmer offered prayer and the real work of the day commenced.

The men had no music this year, but their wives and daughters are differently constituted and the music by Misses Hazel and Edna Adams, Miss Ferrel Shafer and others, were features of the occasion, as well as were the many admirable readings and recitations.

The first subject discussed was The Good Housekeeper, opened by Mrs. Weeks of Huntington. She had her subject well in hand and seemed to know pretty well what it means to be a good housekeeper, although as a lady remarked on the street it is always easier to tell others how to do such things just right than to do them yourself.

Mrs. John Ritchey, Mrs. Shakes of Bourbon and many other ladies were ready to discuss the subject and made it interesting.

Women's part on the Farm elicited a general discussion and there were a variety of opinions, but it was evident that few of the farms in Marshall county would amount to much if there were no women on them.

In the afternoon the room was crowded and after the subject of the influence of home surroundings had been easily presented, Mrs. Weeks discussed it with great ability. She showed that cross, ill-tempered husbands have as much to do with making unpleasant homes as their wives have, and that no matter how humble the home, that if truth, justice, love, industry and determination to do the very best possible for the whole family are dominant features of that home it will be a happy home and the children will almost invariably grow to useful manhood and womanhood and make good members of society.

We could not take in all the proceedings, but it was very evident that the women of Marshall county had an institute of which any county might be proud.

On the program for recitations were Hazel Schlosser, Mrs. Zulu Laundeman, Miss Elva Freese and all the recitations were good. Misses Carrie Annis, Eva Munn, Ella Davis and Betsy Macomber were on the program along with Mrs. Shakes, Mrs. Haag, Mrs. Ritchey, Mrs. Dill and others and the 1907 meeting of the ladies auxiliary will pass into history as one of the best ever held in the county.

Women's Auxiliary Officers.

The Women's Auxiliary of the Farmers' Institute, re-elected Mrs. George Schlosser president for the ensuing year, and chose Lorezena Stephenson secretary.

As good a report as was possible at the time was given in the Daily Tribune Friday evening, and will be found in the Weekly Tribune in connection with the institute proceedings.

In addition to what was said Friday we will add that Miss McWeller and Miss Munn both read well prepared papers on the influence of home surroundings.

The paper of Miss Ella Davis on the education of the farmer's daughter, to which reference was made in Friday's daily, was one which every girl ought to have heard; it was an excellent paper.

All the recitations spoken of in our report were highly applauded and it was evident that Misses Schlosser, Laundeman and Freese have the ability to interest any audience. The music by the Misses Adams, Carrie Annis and Ferrel Shafer pleased the audience.

The attendance at the ladies' auxiliary was fully as large as the attendance of farmers at the court house, and the exercises were condensed and better arranged. The ladies seem to have had the best of the institute this year.

The Sting of an Adder.

The sharpest sting of the adder is in the conduct of Richard Noelke, the Chicago youth who robbed his benefactor, August Sach in \$50,000. Sach took Noelke when he was a little child, educated him, made him his only heir and then gave him the management of the two Sach banks.

Move Real Estate Office.

Richard Bros., who have formerly conducted a real estate business in the Corbin block, have moved their office into the room formerly occupied by John R. Jones, in the Kuhn building.

Defines School Law.

In an opinion submitted to State Superintendent Fassett A. Cotton and the State Board of Education, growing out of the division among the members of the board as to a proper construction of the law passed by the last Legislature classifying and regulating minimum wages of school teachers, Attorney General James Bingham holds that the wage paid to teachers depends upon their general average received at the time of their examination and contract for license. The attorney general holds also that the Department of Education has not the power to fix the general average of graduates of the State Normal School for the purpose of arriving at a basis for the payment of wages. The opinion was written by E. M. White, deputy attorney general.

"Graduates of this institution," says the opinion, referring to the State Normal School, "who have taught three years would necessarily belong to Class C under the law and are entitled to daily wages of 3 1/2 cents multiplied by the general average upon final test before graduation."

It is held further that holders of state license who have taught for three years belong to Class C also. "It is plain," says the opinion, "that a teacher of successful experience need not have attended either a highschool or a training school in order to be placed in either of the classes, but a teacher of no experience is alone required to be a graduate of a high school or its equivalent and must have at least twelve weeks' training in a school maintaining a course for the training of teachers."

"A teacher's license necessarily is effective in the future and hence a license should not be issued to a teacher who will teach his first school after Aug. 1, 1908, unless he possesses the qualifications named in the second section of the act of 1907."

The opinion says that the law requires all beginning teachers, whether they are to teach in the common schools or manual training or high schools to have the qualifications prescribed in Section 2. College graduates, according to the opinion are generally considered exempt from being graduates of high schools, as their college training may be construed as "its equivalent."

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