

THE INDEPENDENT

GREATEST FAIR EVER STAGED AT THIS CITY

The Number of High Class Attractions, Running Races, Government Exhibits, Military Features, Etc. Surpass Expectations of Every One Connected With Big Enterprise

There are a few people who are not interested in running races. There are far more who are. But the few have been industriously assuring others that runners advertised by the Albemarle Agricultural Association will not be here. They would be glad to have the effort to bring running horses to the District Fair come to nothing.

But some of the runners are already here. Three blooded and beautiful horses are now quartered at the fair grounds. Bangan, Dattas Best and Retreat, all owned by W. E. Nelson, Detroit, Michigan, arrived Friday, Oct. 31. O. C. Atwell, the jockey, and P. G. Walsh, the groom, are with the horses.

Other runners are on the way, and still others will later arrive from southern circuits. There is nowhere else for the runners to go the week of the District Fair, and all are on their way to Pinehurst, North Carolina, which opens November 18th, and where running races are the program for the entire winter.

The managers of the District Fair are going to find out whether the people want running races, and purpose giving the public in the future what it desires. A vote will be taken on the days of the fair, and the result of that vote will determine the policy of the Albemarle Agricultural Association with respect to its race program next year.

SPECIAL PROVISION FOR AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITS

As we go to press, word comes that the great water-proof chautauqua tent has arrived, and no doubt can now exist in our mind as to the ability of the Albemarle Agricultural Association to house all of its exhibits on the occasion of the District Fair.

What other fair has been obliged this year to enlarge its exhibition halls? None has. Who dreamed a few weeks ago that the managers of the District Fair would be up against such a necessity? No one, not even the men behind the fair. Much careful figuring done before space was set aside for the government exhibits, and it was then believed that the main exhibition hall would cover everything. As a matter of fact, no person anticipated that the coming fair would assume such proportions as to necessitate an additional space to cover the exhibits.

The tent will be erected by an expert Saturday, on ground especially prepared for it, and will be ready for the installation of exhibits Monday.

What was once bad news is now good. The people go to fairs to see things, and the more the better. Now that provision has been made to cover all exhibits, everybody will be glad that the number of them at the District Fair is going to be too many for the single hall, large as it is.

ARMISTICE DAY

Armistice Day, the first anniversary of the day on which the document was signed which ended hostilities in France, will be elaborately observed by the Albemarle Fair Association. The day will be generally observed throughout the United States, and, falling as it does, on the opening day of the District Fair, it was decided to hold a big patriotic demonstration on the Fair Grounds.

The Government Exhibits and the "I Cross Five" will bring a score or more of officers and regular army soldiers to Elizabeth City, all of whom will be in uniform and participate in the Armistice Day celebration. A Military Band from the 49th infantry will furnish the music for the occasion.

A feature of the program that will interest the people of Eastern North Carolina is the coming of Col. A. V. P. McDermott to present to Mrs. Mary L. P. McDermott the Distinguished Service Cross, for her part in extraordinary heroism during the operations of the French army in carrying out a dangerous mission, which he only succeeded in undertaking. This is the only decoration that has yet been awarded any American soldier for special bravery in the World War.

It has not yet been decided who will attend the operation, but efforts are being made to secure the presence of some conspicuous man, holding a high official position, in the Government or the army.

OPEN DAY AND NIGHT

The District Fair will be open day and night. The grounds will be brilliantly illuminated with electric lights. The midway and great exhibition hall and tent are sure to be thronged by multitudes

each night of the fair, bent on enjoying every feature of the great exposition.

There will not be a dull moment during the fair, but the nights, with their music, lights and crowds will be especially enjoyable. Exciting events will follow each other with fast fleeting delight. Comprising all that is great, clean, novel and wholesome in entertaining and instructive features, there are few who will be able to resist the lure of this year's fair. Whole families will be there, from babes to grand fathers and grand mothers. And all will forget their troubles in a world of novelties, and up-to-the-minute attractions.

THE MIDWAY

The midway is a great feature of any fair, and the one at the District Fair will be the best. The Merry-Go-Round, the Ferris Wheel, The Monkey Show, the Negro Minstrels, the Motor Drome, the Exhibition of Lions, Bears, Leopards, Punks and other animals, are only a few of the attractions which it will offer.

Rajah, the man-eating lion, an untamed creature from the jungles of Africa that killed a man only three weeks ago, will surely be seen by all who attend the District Fair. The keeper of the great brute enters his cage, but not without a protecting club, chair and revolver, and the scene that always follows can be imagined. The lion is really untamed, and not trained to savagely lunge at his keeper with roars that send the cold chills up and down the spine.

THE "I CROSS FIVE"

There is a growing curiosity about the "I Cross Five" party which is coming to the District Fair, due partly to the name, but particularly to the people's love of seeing soldiers in camp.

The party which consists of three officers and twenty other soldiers, travels in its own trucks, and lives under its own canvas. While the other army men who will be at the fair will stop at hotels and boarding houses, the "I Cross Five" detachment of the forty-ninth infantry will camp on the fair grounds. Those who attend the fair will have an opportunity to see how soldiers in camp live, and there are few who are not interested in such a spectacle.

By the way, the "I Cross Five" party was ordered to return to the headquarters of the forty-ninth infantry, but when asked to extend the time of the party in North Carolina that it might be at the District Fair, the order was countermanded.

PLENTY OF MUSIC

Everybody wants music, and plenty of it, on every public occasion. It fills the young with joy, and makes the old age enjoy more sprightly. It gives life and color to any gathering of the people.

That's why the Albemarle Agricultural Association will have, not one, but two bands on the grounds during the week of the District Fair. There will be music all the time—music both day and night.

Never before has a Military Band visited this part of the State, but one will be here fair week. It will be with the forty-ninth infantry party of three officers and twenty privates, and is a musical organization of fourteen pieces.

The other band will be furnished by the Carnival company. It is the organization that made such a favorable impression on the people on the occasion of Elizabeth City's Fourth of July celebration.

FARMERS COMING DAILY

Most of the farmers will visit the fair, not one day, but several, but all will want to be on hand Thursday, Farmers' Day.

That's the day of the Free for all Pace for the \$500 purse. It's the day when the famous "Lillian T," the fastest horse in the state of North Carolina, will give an exhibition of her wonderful speed, and lower the record of the local track.

That's the day when there will be the largest number of farmers on the grounds at one time, and it will offer an unusual opportunity to meet old friends, and to renew old acquaintances. Say what you will, we all have a special fondness for the men who are engaged in our kind of business, and they are the people whom we best love to meet and have a little "talkfest" with.

Everywhere through ten counties they are taking down the calendars and putting a big ring around the lucky number (13) in November. That's the great day for the farmer. They are talking about it at the grocery stores throughout the district, and it is the one theme of interest wherever rural people gather.

A DAY FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Ever alert to give the children of the city and county every advantage, the school authorities have arranged to make Friday of fair week a holiday, in order that the little ones may enjoy the pleasure and profit of the exhibits and amusement features of the District Fair.

The children will learn many a new thing at the fair. The great government exhibits will fascinate them, and teach them things that could not be so well learned in months from text books.

And what delight they will find in the midway, the daylight fireworks, the balloon ascension and parachute jump, the races, and the many other exciting

A SHOT GUN WOULD GET EVERY ONE OF THEM



One shot from a shotgun would fill every horse in this race with birdshot, so close are they, and so well matched. The judges will

have their hands full to pick the winners in one, two, three order. So many good horses of reputation are being entered for the liberal

purse offered, that horsemen predict several such races at the big District Fair, Elizabeth City, N. C., November 11 to 15.

The Value of the Fair

BY LORENZO D. CASE

Secretary, The Albemarle Agricultural Association

THE time-honored institution known as the Fair has survived through all the years because experience has demonstrated that it meets important community needs, and serves important community interests.

In the first place, it affords the people an annual holiday, and much needed recreation. Man was not made to work, work, work. He must have rest and play spells, or his efficiency is soon impaired. Why do we hear so much about "Americanitis"? Because, unlike foreign nations, we have not learned how to play, and, as a result, have established a record for nervous prostration and kindred ills. We need a new interest in nerve-relaxing holidays and pleasures. The average American plays too little.

Then, again, any occasion serves an important purpose that gets the people together for social intercourse, for the renewing of acquaintances, and for the creation of the new undertakings and sympathies that follow from the mingling of rich and poor, high and low on a common footing. There cannot be too many of such gatherings of the people in a democracy, for half its ills are directly traceable to the suspicions, jealousies and misunderstandings born of ignorant misinterpretations of the lives and purposes of others.

The annual fair is an important factor in the education of the people. In a democracy the problem of every reform, of every social and political movement, is primarily one of the education of the people. Permanent improvements cannot, as a rule be secured without popular education. Every real fair makes provision for the enlightenment of the people on political and social questions, by having present men of ability and influence, whose words are an inspiration and a help to all who hear them. It is impossible to overestimate the good that has been done in this direction by the fairs of the country.

But, above all, the fair is the one place where the farmer learns many practical lessons. Better than reading, better than oral instruction, is the object lesson. The thing visualized is easily understood, and never forgotten. The growing man, the man who wishes to increase his efficiency, misses no opportunities to see what has been accomplished by others in his own field of work. Text books on agriculture, discussions of methods of crop production, valuable as they are, do not half so effectively help the farmer as concrete demonstrations of what his most skillful neighbors are doing.

Prize products, etc., not only inform the mind, and sharpen the judgment, but they stimulate emulation. He is a hopeless man who sees something better done than he has ever been able to do it, and who hears no voice saying, "Go thou and do likewise." Few there are who are not moved to new endeavors by seeing something better than their best, especially if that something be a neighbor's product.

While designed chiefly to stimulate interest in and exalt the noblest of callings, fairs react to the benefit of the whole community. Exhibits and speeches arouse the competition that raises standards of quality, and increases the quantity of essential products. What benefits the farmer benefits the whole people. Hence, there should be a universal interest in fairs, and every encouragement given to their holding and improvement. The success of the fair in any community should concern every resident of that community.

events! Who does not recall the days when he was a child, and went to the county fair, and who would not gladly live those days over again! What days of eager anticipation before the great event! What joy when the day finally came, and, with a few nickles in your pocket, you breathlessly made your way to the fair grounds.

Every father and mother who has not forgotten, and alas! there are such fathers and mothers, will surely have all the children at the fair, and find their greatest pleasure in watching the wonder and delight in the eyes of the little ones.

Good resolutions are all right, provided the resolute resolves as he resolves.

ELIZABETH CITY DAY

One of the big days at the Fair will be Wednesday, Elizabeth City Day. All of the business houses will close at noon, and everybody will go out to the fair grounds.

Show your community loyalty, by following the crowd Elizabeth City Day at the District Fair. You'll be lonesome if you remain in town. Better join the multitude that will wind its way to the fair on that day.

OF COURSE, LAST YEAR'S FAIR WAS A FAILURE

And With the Whole Country Ravaged and Demoralized by Influenza, Last Year's Fair Was No Standard by Which to Judge This Year's Marvelous Achievement

Raleigh State Fair, and that letters are coming almost daily congratulating the Albemarle Association on its good fortune in securing this special attraction. The exhibit is an education in itself, and it would take days to thoroughly master all the lessons taught by its panels, photographs, and models.

\$3,200 PURSES FOR THE RACERS

Such Purse Never Before Offered by Any Northeastern N. C. Fair

Never before has any Eastern North Carolina Fair offered \$3,200 worth of purses for its races. But that is the total of the purses of this year's District Fair.

Excepting the first day, Tuesday, there will be two harness races daily, and one running race, making a total of three races for each of the last four days of the fair. There will be but one race on the opening day because of the big Armistice Day celebration.

There will be no tire some waits between heats. The 500 Foot Slide for Life, the Double Trapeze-Cradle, the daylight fire-works and other interesting and amusing features will be staged between heats.

The track will be sprinkled daily. The pumping station is being installed, and the water sprinkler will lay all dust. Horsemen say that this new departure will make the track of the Albemarle Agricultural Association, one of the best and fastest in all the South.

The famous Jockey, O. C. Atwell, who is already here with the Nelson runners, says there is no better track anywhere for running races, and that it has few equals.

DAYLIGHT FIREWORKS A REAL SENSATION

About those Daylight Fireworks? Did you ever see them? If not, no description is going to do them justice. Those who have witnessed such demonstrations, long for more. A widely travelled man was talking with an officer of the Albemarle Agricultural Association the other day, and when told about the daylight fireworks to be shown at the District Fair, said, "I hope I can be here. I never weary of such an exhibition, and I have seen them many times."

They will be fired every afternoon during fair week, and will delight all. Daylight fireworks have never been shown in this part of Uncle Sam's dominion, and they will create the same interest and talk here that they always have elsewhere.

FASTEST HORSE IN STATE AT THE FAIR

The latest information is that there will be at least seventy-five hot North Carolinians coming for the District Fair. She is owned by Smith & Dale, and will lower the record of the local track.

Lillian T. has a record of 2:01 1/4 on a mile track, and 2:03 1/4 on a half mile track.

The latest information is that there will be at least seventy-five horses at the District Fair, and provision is being made for more stables.

A free ticket to the Elizabeth City Fair with every yearly subscription to THE INDEPENDENT next week. See particulars elsewhere in this newspaper.

THE DISTRICT FAIR

By Ralph Pool

Attractions good beyond compare will be here for the District Fair this coming week—that is to say, from Tuesday until Saturday—when there will be a goodly share of fun for folks from everywhere. The railroads offer lower rates upon these extra-special dates, so if your flivver takes a snooze, and your gray nag shakes off her shoes, you won't feel forced to stay away while others come each gala day. Of all the Fairs we've ever had, some good, and others somewhat bad, this is the Biggest and the Best, so come, enjoy it with the rest.

The Government sends a display which will be here on every day of agriculture and of guns which put cold shivers o'er the Huns. And, too, a military band and baseball team, all soldier-manned. The State will also have a share, in exhibitions at this Fair while every hopeful candidate for Governor hopes to orate. Of races there will be the best, replete with pep and speed and zest; some brand-new stunts to make you gay, and fireworks by the light of day. Balloon ascensions and good shows will be here till the Great Fair's close. Then, too, should you desire to buy some merchandise that's not too high, remember this is Bargain Week, when prices do a downward sneak. Be here on each red-letter date, prepared to help us celebrate!

SPECIAL DAY FOR THE COLORED PEOPLE

It was a wise move on the part of the Directors of the Albemarle Agricultural Association when they decided to set apart a special day for the colored citizens of the ten counties within the territory covered by the District Fair. Comprising a large part of the population of the several counties, it is only just that the men and women and children of the colored race should be given a chance to enjoy the fair without reservations or restrictions, just like the white people. So the Association has added a day to this year's fair, and that day, Saturday, will belong to the colored people.

Colored people are not barred from attending the fair on any day, and white people will not be excluded Saturday. But on Saturday everything will be open to the colored people, and they may go where they please and do as they please without any restrictions except those which are imposed upon white and colored alike, whenever and wherever crowds assemble.

And the exhibits will be the same as on the other days of the Fair, and every attraction advertised will surely be staged on Saturday.