

EXPERT TALKS ON EGYPTIAN COTTON

Mr. H. J. Webber, of Agricultural Department, Says Can be Grown Successfully in the South

Mr. H. J. Webber, of the Agricultural Department at Washington, being introduced to the convention said:

America grows five-sixths of the cotton of the world and exports annually from 6 to 8,000,000 bales. Nevertheless we annually import about \$10,000,000 worth of Egyptian cotton for manufacturing purposes. It would seem from the various soil and climatic conditions which exist in different parts of the cotton belt, that we should be able to successfully grow this cotton somewhere in this country. Numerous trials have been made to grow this cotton here, and the Department of Agriculture has for a number of years been more or less interested in the problem. The first importations of seed which have come to the writer's knowledge were made in the 70's, and other extensive importations were made about 1893 and 1894. No very systematic effort however, was made to follow up the results of these importations. Mr. W. H. Wentworth, of Floresville, Texas, several years ago conceived the idea that this cotton could be successfully grown in America and made quite extensive experiments with imported seed of Mit Affil cotton sent him by the Department of Agriculture. He cultivated the cotton for a number of years, and was convinced that it was perfectly possible to produce a good grade of Egyptian cotton in that portion of Texas where his experiments were conducted. His attempts to market the cotton, however, met with ill success. Several bales were sent to the Boston market, and these were correctly informed, remained unsold.

With the organization of the Section of Seed and Plant Introduction, of the Department of Agriculture, further importations of seed were made, and records have been kept in every case of the localities to which the seed were sent. Little information, however, has been obtained concerning the results of the Department of Agriculture, had considerable quantities of this seed sent out under his direction and in one instance a manufacturing test was made by the Pomeroy Mills, Taftsville, Conn., of Jannovitch Egyptian grown by Mr. Robert Viewig, at Godwinville, Georgia. The cotton was pronounced to be particularly free from short stock and waste and of good body.

The writer's experiments in the cultivation of Egyptian cotton and its improvement began in the summer of 1889, when small patches were grown of the varieties Mit Affil, Ashmouni, Jannovitch Abbasi, and Gordon Fasha. The observations on these small patches and on other plants in various parts of the South, convinced the writer that the different varieties would have to be carefully selected and adapted to local conditions before thorough success in their culture could be expected. Experiments were then started in the selection of the Ashmouni, as well as an attempt to improve and adapt it to conditions by means of hybridization. When this variety was first imported and grown in this country the plants invariably reached an unusual height and were spreading and open, and produced few bolls, so that the yield was too light to be profitable. While in almost all cases the lint possessed the normal crinkly character of true Egyptian, there would seem to be a tendency to lose the brown coloration, although this character is not particularly marked in the native Egyptian cotton. The selections of Ashmouni which were made in 1899 were grown and the cotton again selected at Columbia, S. C., in the seasons of 1900 and 1901, and in 1902 the best selected plants were transferred to Hartsville, S. C., where a small field was planted, the soil being of sandy loam, such as is common in various parts of the South. As a result of this selection the plants have been reduced in size, so that the first season they averaged only about 3 1/2 to 4 feet in height and were much more compact and prolific. The lint had also been increased in length and abundance on the seed. The seed used in starting this experiment was imported from the province of Fayoum, in Egypt, where this variety is almost exclusively grown. The selection of this variety for improvement may possibly have been a mistake, as the variety Mit Affil is recognized in Egypt as the best variety grown because it yields the heaviest and produces the best fiber. It is not as early as Ashmouni, however, and the imported Ashmouni in the vicinity of Columbia, where the experiments were conducted, gave much better yield and appeared much more promising than the Mit Affil. In the selections the earliness of the plants has been kept constantly in mind, so that this factor has been somewhat improved, the plants maturing their bolls rather earlier than when first imported. With the increase in length of staple, which has been about one-fourth of an inch on the average, we should have expected the yield to decrease. On the contrary, as a result of the selection, this has at the same time been considerably increased, and the plant grown at Hartsville last season gave a yield of 1,303 pounds of seed cotton per acre, and 473 pounds of lint per acre. The fiber produced was of typical Ashmouni in every respect, and, as stated above, was longer and of better quality than the imported samples. (Samples of the imported fiber and of the American fiber were exhibited.) A field of Mit Affil Egyptian cotton was also grown at Hartsville on soil of the same character, about a quarter of a mile from Ashmouni. This cotton was grown from seed directly imported, this being the first year in America. While the variety in Egypt almost invariably gives a larger yield than the Ashmouni, here in this instance, only 960 pounds of seed cotton was obtained under exactly the same conditions. The variety is very much later than the Ashmouni and will have to be imported in considerable quantities before it will be satisfactory for cultivation in the latitude of South Carolina, where the experiments were conducted.

Test Your Kidneys

Thousands Have Kidney Trouble and Do Not Know It—If Any of Your Family Have Had Kidney or Bladder Trouble Test Your Urine and See if You Have It. Let your morning urine stand 24 hours. If you find a reddish, brick-dust sediment in it, or if particles are floating in it, or if it is cloudy, your kidneys are in a diseased condition and unable to perform their work. The result will be the bladder and urinary organs will become inflamed, uric acid will poison the blood, the stomach will become affected and unable to digest the food, you will have pains in the small of the back, sharp liver, pains in the back of the head and neck, rheumatic pains and swellings all over the body, eczema and jaundice; the system will become weak, and a breakdown of the general health will take place, with Bright's disease or diarrhoea, which will prove fatal if not treated promptly and with great care. Thousands of unsolicited letters are received from men and women who have been cured by Warner's Safe Cure. Doctors prescribe and hospitals use "Safe Cure" exclusively in all cases of kidney or bladder trouble. "Safe Cure" is purely vegetable and contains no harmful drugs. It is free from sediment and pleasant to take. It is a most valuable and effective tonic; a stimulant to digestion, and awakens the torpid liver. It repairs the tissues, soothes inflammation and irritation, stimulates the enfeebled organs and leads at the same time, it builds up the body, gives it strength and restores energy. You can buy "Safe Cure" at any drug store or direct, 50 CENTS AND \$1 A BOTTLE. Write to Warner's Safe Cure Co., Rochester, N. Y., for free medical book. WARNER'S SAFE CURE moves the bowels gently and adds a speedy cure. Refuse Substitutes: they are dangerous. Ask for Warner's; it will cure you. Beware of so-called kidney remedies which are full of salicylate and opium and which are harmful.

dom of the Mit Affil plant from the weevil would seem to indicate that the plants of this variety may be in some degree distasteful to the insect, although this cannot be definitely determined without further experiments. Varieties of the Egyptian cotton have also been found to be resistant to root-rot of cotton, a disease that is very serious in the Sea Island district causing considerable damage also in upland fields in those States. As indicated above, it is very important that all the varieties of Egyptian cotton be experimented with and improved by selection, but another line of research, which promises to give results of the greatest importance, is the hybridization of Egyptian varieties with Sea Island and upland races. One hybrid of this kind which has already been produced, has given results which indicate that it is of decided value. In 1899 hybrids were made of a good strain of Sea Island cotton with Ashmouni Egyptian and selections of the best of these have been grown and selected each year since. Last year about an acre and a half of the select progeny of this hybrid was planted at Columbia, S. C., and the resulting field in some respects was surprising. Within three years the hybrid had been reduced to such fixity that expert growers examining the field pronounced it to be practically a pure type. The selection had been made continuously for plants of pure Egyptian type of fiber with the longest lint. The fiber averaged in general about one and five-eighths inches in length, while a large portion of the plants ran as high as one and three-fourths inches. The fiber was uniformly of a light brown color like typical Egyptian, and was especially strong. Another feature of importance in connection with the hybrid is its faculty of retaining the lint in the bolls. One objectionable feature of all Egyptian cotton varieties that have come under the writer's observation, is the tendency of the cotton to fall out of the bolls shortly after they open. This requires that Egyptian varieties be picked rather frequently. In the case of this Sea Island-Ashmouni hybrid the field was left unpecked for about a month and a half and had become almost white with open bolls, yet hardly a lock fallen, although the weather conditions had been very severe. Should this hybrid hold out after as in the past it will certainly be considered superior to any of the Egyptian varieties that have been tried by us thus far. We are planting a large field of this hybrid the present season and expect to distribute seed to growers shortly should it prove to be of fixed type.

Another illustration of the importance of carefully breeding the Egyptian varieties to meet our conditions is shown by the results of two years of selection with a special variety of Egyptian cotton which has recently been bred by Christian Stamm, in Egypt. When this variety was first grown by us in South Carolina, like all other Egyptian varieties, it grew very tall and open, and produced a very light crop. The few seed of the variety imported had the lint attached as when taken from the boll, and the average length was only about one and three-eighths inches. The first generation of plants grown in this country was very tall, some of the plants reaching a height of 8 feet and were very unproductive. Seed was selected from several of the best plants, which at the time were poor, and preserved for planting another season. The progeny grown the second year from these first year's selections were uniformly earlier, much more productive, and had a longer and better fiber. These were planted the second year and further careful selections of seed made from the best individuals of the progeny. The lint on some of the second year plants was remarkably abundant and uniform, and in a number of instances was as long as one and three-fourths inches. As a result of two years of selection in this country, and careful selection meanwhile the characters of the staple have been entirely changed and improved. This selection has not been carried on long enough to result in the growing of large patches and the average yield has not been tested. It would, however, seem to promise a much better yield than the immediately imported product.

Besides the tests of Egyptian cotton, made in South Carolina, Georgia and Mississippi. In all of these cases the yield was comparatively light, indicating the necessity of improvement, yet the result as a whole were fairly encouraging.

In connection with the patch of Mit Affil cotton grown at San Antonio, Texas, a special feature was brought out which may prove of exceptional interest. Egyptian cotton, as a whole, is noted for its freedom from diseases of various kinds, and in the course of these experiments the effect of the boll weevil on the various varieties was watched with considerable care. A patch of two acres of Jannovitch Egyptian, grown at Pierce, Texas, the season of 1901, as stated above, was very badly injured by the boll weevil. A small field of Ashmouni cotton in 1902 was also damaged by the insect, showing that this variety also is as susceptible to its attack as any other sort. The field of Mit Affil of three acres, grown at San Antonio, Texas, on the irrigated farm of F. F. Collin, gave evidence of resistance to the boll weevil, though further trials are necessary before the matter can be satisfactorily settled. This cotton was grown on a field where the cotton crop had been entirely destroyed the preceding year. Near this plot, about 200 feet distant, was situated a small patch of upland cotton, a little over half an acre in extent, a patch of sugar cane intervening. The weevil did not appear on the Mit Affil until the middle of October and did not become abundant until late in November. The upland cotton nearby was attacked early in the season and the crop was almost entirely destroyed, only a comparatively small proportion of the early bolls maturing. Throughout the season the insects were abundant on the upland patch, so abundant on the Egyptian. The Egyptian variety gave a yield of 3,200 pounds of seed cotton, or about 1,066 pounds per acre; while the upland variety gave a yield of only 68 pounds of seed cotton, or at about the rate of 150 pounds per acre. It has been found by investigators and others that in general early varieties of cotton are less affected by the boll weevil than late varieties. When the insects first appear in the season they are few in number and gradually increase as the season advances. Very early varieties may set a large share of their crop before the weevils become so abundant as to destroy all the forms and young bolls as developed. The upland cotton planted near the Egyptian was much earlier than the latter and would normally be expected to produce a much larger crop in boll weevil districts owing to this fact. The striking free-

dom of the Mit Affil plant from the weevil would seem to indicate that the plants of this variety may be in some degree distasteful to the insect, although this cannot be definitely determined without further experiments. Varieties of the Egyptian cotton have also been found to be resistant to root-rot of cotton, a disease that is very serious in the Sea Island district causing considerable damage also in upland fields in those States. As indicated above, it is very important that all the varieties of Egyptian cotton be experimented with and improved by selection, but another line of research, which promises to give results of the greatest importance, is the hybridization of Egyptian varieties with Sea Island and upland races. One hybrid of this kind which has already been produced, has given results which indicate that it is of decided value. In 1899 hybrids were made of a good strain of Sea Island cotton with Ashmouni Egyptian and selections of the best of these have been grown and selected each year since. Last year about an acre and a half of the select progeny of this hybrid was planted at Columbia, S. C., and the resulting field in some respects was surprising. Within three years the hybrid had been reduced to such fixity that expert growers examining the field pronounced it to be practically a pure type. The selection had been made continuously for plants of pure Egyptian type of fiber with the longest lint. The fiber averaged in general about one and five-eighths inches in length, while a large portion of the plants ran as high as one and three-fourths inches. The fiber was uniformly of a light brown color like typical Egyptian, and was especially strong. Another feature of importance in connection with the hybrid is its faculty of retaining the lint in the bolls. One objectionable feature of all Egyptian cotton varieties that have come under the writer's observation, is the tendency of the cotton to fall out of the bolls shortly after they open. This requires that Egyptian varieties be picked rather frequently. In the case of this Sea Island-Ashmouni hybrid the field was left unpecked for about a month and a half and had become almost white with open bolls, yet hardly a lock fallen, although the weather conditions had been very severe. Should this hybrid hold out after as in the past it will certainly be considered superior to any of the Egyptian varieties that have been tried by us thus far. We are planting a large field of this hybrid the present season and expect to distribute seed to growers shortly should it prove to be of fixed type.

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Rheumacide Continues to make Miraculous Cures READ THIS LETTER: ALMOST A MIRACLE. DILLON, S. C., Aug. 18th, 1902. Gentlemen—In September, 1902, I took rheumatism in a very bad form. In a month after the disease started I had to give up my work and go to bed. It continued to grow worse until my arms and hands were badly drawn, so much so that I could not use them. My legs were drawn back until my feet touched my hips. I was as helpless as a baby for nearly twelve months. The muscles of my arms and legs were hard and shriveled up. I suffered death many times over. Was treated by six different physicians in McGill, Dillon and Marion, but none of them could do me any good, until Dr. J. P. Ewins, of Dillon, came to see me. He told me to try your "RHEUMACIDE." He got me one bottle of the medicine and I began to take it and before the first bottle was used up I began to get better. I used five and a half bottles and was completely cured. That was two years ago, and my health has been excellent ever since. Have had no symptoms of rheumatism. I regard "RHEUMACIDE" as by far the best remedy for rheumatism on the market. I cannot say too much for it. I have recommended it to others since and it has cured them. Will say further, that I began to walk in about six days after I began to take "RHEUMACIDE," with the aid of crutches; in about three months after I began to take it, I could walk as good as anybody, and went back to work again. Very truly, JAMES WILKES. All Druggists, or sent express prepaid on receipt of \$1.00. Bobbitt Chemical Co., Baltimore, Md.

ADVANTAGE OF DIVERSIFYING MANUFACTURES (Continued From Seventh Page.) for this section over what we now receive for this waste? Therefore, we ought, in justice to ourselves, study into the waste problem more than ever, in the use of which we are but novices as compared with the people who purchase these wastes, who pay transportation for thousands of miles, and by their experience rework them into fabrics and materials, resulting in a profit, thereby obtaining often-times more than we obtain out of the manufactured goods we make out of the cotton from which this waste is obtained. The tendency to concentrate and build mills with a larger number of spindles than formerly is a move in the right direction. Taking all the mills of the South, and the average number of spindles is about 12,000, as against 9,000 a few years since. Competition will show that these units are too small to profitably continue, each with its board of officials and salaried managers. It is safe to say that the day of the 3,000 to 5,000 spindle mill is passing away. The record of the past three years shows a large number of plants erected in the South of from 25,000 spindles up to that grand specimen of power and enterprise—the Olympia Mills—which has 104,000 spindles in one mill and all in one room. The competition of the Southern mills has brought about certain consolidations and mergers, some of which have been consummated and others are being developed. Such consolidations are bound to work out a great deal of good in the future development of the South. DIVERSITY OF PRODUCTION. Coming now to the consideration of the title of this paper, it must be evident to you all that the present output of the South is too congested and follows along in too limited lines to prevent an over-abundance of competition, not only among yourselves, but as against our Northern friends. There are many fabrics now being made and vast quantities consumed in the North of which we have but little part in the manufacture. We make immense quantities of yarns which are sent outside our bounds to be worked up into commercial articles, in the manufacture of which large amounts of money are paid out for labor and profits, making for the converter a greater profit per pound, by far, than the profit obtained by us for our cloths or yarns. We make print cloths to be sent North to be finished, and there would

seem to be a fruitful ground with us to establish print works, dye houses and bleacheries. In fact, the field is so broad I cannot, in the brief space allowed me, fully cover it. I am fully conscious of my inability to present this subject to you in the vivid light and thoroughness it might have been, and I fully trust this effort may but induce you in some degree to fully investigate, and then use your best endeavors to materialize the anticipation of our opportunity, our land, our people and our raw material give us. At the close of this paper you will find when you receive the copy of the printed transactions, an appendix, in which is inserted several tables containing information referring principally to facts that sustain the statements made in this article. And now, with this great harvest field within our possession, it is strange that the native born of this section can but look with pride upon the land of his birth and anticipate that the time is rapidly approaching when its acres will be dotted over with buildings containing revolving spindles and the beating of many looms and of sufficient numbers of the same to practically supply the world's requirements, when all the nations of the earth may be our customers, and our products used and worn by all people of the world. May the efforts of the late Henry W. Grady, who so strongly and persistently foretold years ago of the coming of a "Greater South," not fail to be fully realized.

Too Great a Risk. In almost every neighborhood someone has died from an attack of cholera or cholera morbus, often before medicine could be procured or a physician summoned. A reliable remedy for these diseases should be kept at hand. The risk is too great for anyone to take. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy has undoubtedly saved the lives of more people and relieved more pain and suffering than any other medicine in use. It can always be depended upon. For sale by R. H. Jordan & Co. CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. There are many fabrics now being made and vast quantities consumed in the North of which we have but little part in the manufacture. We make immense quantities of yarns which are sent outside our bounds to be worked up into commercial articles, in the manufacture of which large amounts of money are paid out for labor and profits, making for the converter a greater profit per pound, by far, than the profit obtained by us for our cloths or yarns. We make print cloths to be sent North to be finished, and there would

BECOMING A MOTHER Is an ordeal which all women approach with indescribable fear, for nothing compares with the pain and horror of child-birth. The thought of the suffering and danger in store for her, robs the expectant mother of all pleasant anticipations of the coming event, and casts over her a shadow of gloom which cannot be shaken off. Thousands of women have found that the use of Mother's Friend during pregnancy robs confinement of all pain and danger, and insures safety to life of mother and child. This scientific liniment is a god-send to all women at the time of their most critical trial. Not only does Mother's Friend carry women safely through the perils of child-birth, but its use gently prepares the system for the coming event, prevents "morning sickness," and other discomforts of this period. Sold by all druggists at \$1.00 per bottle. Book containing valuable information free. The Bradford Regulator Co., Atlanta, Ga. MOTHER'S FRIEND

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