

Our Farm Department

Devoted to the Interest of Those Who Till the Soil

CONDUCTED BY J. M. BEATY

Late Fall Plowing.

In a large portion of our territory there is considerable fall plowing yet to be done, and on a good many farms the teams will be kept occupied until the ground freezes up. You can husk the corn in freezing weather. You can't plow then.

The advantages of fall plowing are so great and obvious that as much plowing as possible, particularly of sod ground, should be done in the fall. We would not hesitate to plow sod in the fall, even if it were quite wet, a method which is not at all permissible in the spring of the year, especially on heavy land. The reason why wet fall plowing is permissible is that in sections where there is heavy freezing this will disintegrate it no matter how wet it is when plowed.

In spring plowing we have always urged our readers to harrow before they unhitch, whenever a shortage of moisture is to be anticipated, or where the ground is a little wet, or lump formation is likely. This would be bad policy in plowing. The object in spring plowing is merely to loosen up the soil, but also to conserve moisture, and to get the ground in proper physical condition. If it is plowed a little too wet and not harrowed immediately, lumps will form, and the crop is liable to suffer for lack of moisture.

The object of plowing in the fall is to put the soil in such condition that heavy freezing will go far to put the ground in proper physical condition. Therefore don't harrow after fall plowing. Leave your land rough, so that the frost can do its complete work.—Wallace's Farmer.

Scarcity of Farm Help.

An Iowa subscriber writes us, wanting to know how to get all the work done up that ought to be done on the farm before winter sets in, when he cannot hire help and can not do it himself.

We wish we could answer this question satisfactorily either to ourselves or to our readers. We can give no answer that will be of any immediate help. We can, however, make two or three suggestions for future use:

First: Adopt a rotation which will distribute the work as evenly as possible throughout the year. The greatest complaint comes to us from sections which grow a large acreage of corn. If a rotation of grass, small grain, and corn was adopted, which will give less corn to husk in the fall but larger yields, it will do a great deal to solve this labor problem.

Second: If you can buy labor saving machinery that will increase the efficiency of the hand, whether the owner or hired hand, throw away the machinery you have, or sell it to some person who wants something cheap, and buy machinery that will have the greatest efficiency. One can safely increase the amount of horses, especially if he keeps brood mares, if by so doing he can lessen the amount of manual labor.

To which we might add a third suggestion: Substitute as far as possible brain work for hand work. This will lead to a favorable consideration of the two foregoing suggestions.—Wallace's Farmer.

A Short Apple Crop.

Apples will be apples this year, due to a shortage over almost the entire country. The Orange Judd Farmer, which gives especial attention to crop statistics, estimates the United States crop for 1905 at 23,495,000 barrels, to be compared with 45,360,000 barrels for last year. 42,626 in 1903, and 46,625,000 in 1902. In round numbers, therefore, we have just about half the apple crop of last year. The high price is limiting the export, and will also very seriously interfere with home consumption.—Wallace's Farmer.

If you are troubled with indigestion, constipation, sour stomach, or any other pain, Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea will make you well and keep you well. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets. Selma Drug Co., A. H. Boyett, Druggist.

Hold for Fifteen Cents.

New Orleans, Nov. 20.—President Harvie Jordan, of the Southern Cotton Association, has issued the following proclamation and form of agreement with the object of securing to the farmer the highest practical price for the remainder of this year's small cotton crop. He suggests that the farmers of each locality discuss the matter among themselves, sign up the agreement for the holding of as much cotton as they can afford to take off the market, using the form of agreement as below, and mail same to the Southern Cotton Association at Atlanta, Ga., as soon as possible:

FORM OF AGREEMENT.

We, the following named citizens of—Post Office—County—State, hereby agree to use every power at our command to hold the number of bales of cotton stated opposite our respective names for 90 days from date and refuse to sell any of said cotton within that time for less than fifteen cents per pound, basis middling, at our market points:

The name of all signatures will be confidential and none given out to the public by the Association, only the aggregate number of bales from each county held.

Name— Post office— State—
No. Bales—

PROCLAMATION.

Mr. Jordan's Proclamation to the farmers follows:

To all holders of spot cotton:

It is now definitely ascertained from all reliable sources, including the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C., that the present crop of cotton will be in the neighborhood of only ten million bales. Half the crop has been sold around ten cents. An unprecedented demand exists for the balance of this crop, which, if sold at fifteen cents, would average the price to the mills at only 12½c. We must tie up at least three million bales at once to convince the cotton world that we mean business. If this is done the market will advance to our figure. The Southern Cotton Association, therefore asks all spot holders who are able to do so to subscribe to the pledge.

HARVIE JORDAN.

Do not be deceived by counterfeiters when you buy Witch Hazel Salve. The name of E. C. DeWitt & Co. is on every box of the genuine. Piles in their worst form will soon pass away if you will apply DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve night and morning. Best for cuts, Burns, Boils, Tetter, Eczema, etc. Sold by Benson Drug Co., J. R. Ledbetter and Hood Bros.

Will it be Severe Winter?

One of the so-called signs of a severe winter, according to our weather prophets, is the migrating of squirrels southward. They are said to be crossing the Ohio river in large numbers. It is said they carry chips and sticks to float them over. They must have sense or instinct to tell them to set on their voyages on a day when the wind blows from the north. One of our farmer boys says: "They use their tails for sails." Maybe so, but they must have the wind in the right direction.

Another sign of a cold winter they give is that the wild ducks and geese are flying southward in great numbers; but they always do that about this time of the year. We have as good a right to prophesy as anyone, and we predict a mild winter, and our reason is that the past two years have been rather severe, and it is time for Nature to balance accounts by giving us a mild one. But we advise all our readers to have plenty of good dry wood, or a big pile of coal, on hand, all the same. We have no more faith in our own prediction than we have in that of that of the squirrel men. Nobody knows.—Indiana Farmer.

Pain may go by the name of rheumatism, neuralgia, lumbago, pleurisy. No matter what name the pains are called, Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea will drive them away. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets. A. H. Boyett, Druggist, Selma Drug Co.

Farmers Must Look Higher.

The time has come when farmers and the business men generally of the south must look higher than 10 cents as the price for the great staple product of this section of the American union. What is 10 cents when manufacturers are running their plants night and day, spinning cloth on a basis of 14 cents for the raw material, and when, too, they are running from six to twelve months behind their orders? Is 10 cents a pound high or reasonable for cotton when the price of all other necessary supplies on the farm have advanced from 200 to 400 per cent in the past few years? Is it not right that cotton, the great staple product of America, and the currency of the south, should begin to take its place in line with all other products and commodities that have in recent years so materially advanced in value. Why should the producers of this valuable fiber, upon which the whole civilized world depends for clothing, be content to accept the bare cost or at best a small profit over the cost of production and permit the great profits in the staple to be later divided out among those who handle it after it passes from the hands of those who grow it? We have followed this system for forty years, and the time for a change has come. The foreign spinner and the "bear" speculator have had their inning long enough. Ten cents per pound in the face of existing conditions is too small. The heavy expense of growing the crop should entitle the farmers to higher prices, and they can get it by standing firm, bracing up their backbone and demanding better prices for the product of their labor.

SOME VALUABLE STATISTICS.

Fully 70 per cent of the people who grow cotton in the south are either tenants or croppers. Only about 30 per cent are land owners. Hence nearly three-fourths of the crop is grown by poor people, that is, people who own no realty and but little personal property. The average production of cotton to the family is five bales. Now suppose a farmer who produces the five bales with the labor of himself and family sells his cotton at ten cents per pound and pays accounts made to make the crop and has a net profit of ten dollars to the bale left, that will amount to only fifty dollars profit on the year's work for himself and all the members of his family. So that if the average family can produce cotton at a net cost of 8 cents per pound and sells it for 10 cents, where does the big profit come in? Where is it possible for the head of the family to buy any luxuries for his wife and daughters or to beautify the home or to properly educate the children. The profit on cotton at even ten cents to the average family is ridiculously small. No other business would be satisfied on that basis even in competition, and the south has no competitor in the production of cotton.

We control an absolute monopoly of the staple and until our people wake up and appreciate what they have and learn how to sell it to the best advantage they will never enjoy the blessings that have been so profusely showered on them by our Creator. This thing of dumping the crop on the market as fast as it is ginned will always mean much lower prices than the cotton is worth. This thing of planting all cotton and making all debts and having no bank accounts and no corn cribs or smokehouses except in the back room of a supply merchant's store is poor business.

Plant only what you can cultivate well. Don't increase your cotton acreage for 1906 above what you planted in 1905. Make your farms self-sustaining and get out of debt. We have been poverty-stricken long enough. Sell what you do raise for a high price and quit grumbling about hard times. We make the times by our own acts, good or bad. Cotton is not high at 15 cents in the face of a short crop and those who hold a few months longer will find that I am dealing in facts and not hot air.

Harvie Jordan.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY. Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE TABLETS. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure.

E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

Every subscriber who pays his subscription one year in advance will be given a Turner's North Carolina Almanac 1906.

The Workman.
This is the work of my hands:
To be but a cog in the wheel,
A strand in the cable that hauls;
To do and to do, not to feel—
To toil till the last curtain falls.
Yet ever the toiler is blest
Who sees the fair vision unroll,
Interprets the dream half expressed,
Feels the work of his hands with his soul!

This is the work of my hands:
These monsters that furrow the deep
And baffle the power of the sea
Were given the sinews to leap,
Were bolted and forged by me;
These webs of miraculous steel
Outspun from the shore to the shore
My nerve and endurance reveal;
I rolled them and wove them and bore.

This is the work of my hands:
To drudge, but in spirit be free;
To eat bread by the sweat of my brow
In accord with the ancient decree,
Yet labor with courage and endow:
To know that, though meager the gain
While justice sows many a flaw,
In spite of distrust and disdain,
We are rising, and under the law.

This is the work of my hands:
To cherish the law of the land,
The shield that we've wrung from our foe;
Ennobles the rights we demand
By the honor and faith we bestow.
For brother am I to all,
The helpless ones and the great;
Together we rise or we fall,
Free workers within a free state,
—Robert Bridges in Collier's Weekly.

A Cough Syrup which drives a cold out of the system by acting as a cathartic on the bowels is offered in Kennedy's Laxative Honey and Tar. Clears the throat, strengthens the lungs and bronchial tubes. The mother's friend and the children's favorite. Best for Croup, Whooping-Cough, etc. Sold by J. R. Ledbetter, Hood Bros. and Benson Drug Co.

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You will find a nice line of Ladies' Skirts, Waist, Cloaks, Jackets and capes at W. G. Yelvington's store, very nice and cheap.

Every ounce of food you eat that fails to digest does a pound of harm. It turns the entire meal into poison. This not only deprives the blood of the necessary tissue-building material, but it poisons it. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure is a perfect digestant. It digests the food regardless of the condition of the stomach. It allows that organ to rest and get a run again. Relieves Belching, Heart Burn, Sour Stomach, Indigestion, Palpitation of the Heart, etc. Sold by Benson Drug Co., Hood Bros. and J. R. Ledbetter.

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Just received one solid car load of Thornhill wagons. Ellington Buggy Co.

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