

NOT TOO LATE

We have sold many nice farms this fall but we still have some of the best places we have ever offered. If you have not yet bought do not put the matter off longer. Buy a farm of your own and be independent. Below we describe just two of the several places we still have on hand.

193 acres within two miles of a progressive town in Wake County and 10 miles from Raleigh. This place has two dwellings, one tobacco barn etc. About 50 or 60 acres of cleared land, that with small amount of fertilizer will make bale of cotton per acre. Pasture fenced in. Good orchard. Healthful location and good neighborhood. Enough wood on place to pay for entire farm. Within two miles of one of the best high schools in the State. Now note the price. We will sell you this farm for \$4,000. Pay us \$1,000 cash and we will arrange the balance in yearly payments that will be less than the annual rent for a farm like this. This sounds too good to be true

but when you see this farm you will agree with everything we say. We consider this the best bargain we have EVER offered.

27 acres about 5 miles West from Smithfield. Good one-horse crop cleared. Balance well timbered. Dwelling in poor repair but can be used all right. Good neighborhood and fine land. Price \$2,000, on the following terms \$500 cash and balance in yearly payments of less than the rent for a one-horse crop. Could anything be easier? If you have as much as \$500 you need never pay another cent for rent.

Two Desirable Dwellings In Smithfield For Sale Cheap.

ABELL & GRAY

SMITHFIELD,

NORTH CAROLINA

IF YOU WANT TO BUY OR SELL SEE US

Five Rules That Reduce Farm Machinery.

A large proportion of the money invested in farm machinery is represented by farm plows, middle-breakers and cultivators. The average life of these implements is probably five or six years.

In traveling a country road some days ago, I stopped for a short conversation with a farmer who was plowing corn. After the customary salutation and the usual talk about crops and seasons, I said:

"That looks like an easy-running cultivator you have there."

"It is," replied the farmer, "and it is now seeing its eighteenth year of service."

Just think of it. Here was a farm implement that had given eighteen years of service where the average life for such an implement is six years—and it was still in good condition and looked as if it would give many more years of efficient work.

This was not merely a "happen-so," for upon visiting this farmer's tool sheds, I found many more implements in just as good condition as the cultivator and several of them just as old.

It is probable that \$20,000,000 worth of farm machinery is owned by farmers in the average Southern State. Now suppose that every farmer would take as good care of the machinery he has as did this farmer, or even good enough care to make the life of the average farm implement ten years. What would be the result? It would cut the cost of depreciation almost in half and save millions of dollars to the South every year.

These things being true, then, what is the secret of long life in farm implements? Our farmer friend gives the following rules for the care of implements:

1. Learn every adjustment and its purpose.
2. Oil all bearings, gears, shafts, etc., where there is friction.
3. Keep all bolts and nuts tight and snug.
4. Keep all machinery housed and give each implement a coat of paint at least every two years.
5. Grease all landsides, moldboards, shares, cultivator shovels, and disks when they are to be left out of use for more than a day or so.—P. T. H., in Progressive Farmer.

IF YOU WANT TO MAKE MONEY
Buy your Shoes, Clothing and Dry Goods at
Austin-Stephenson Co.

Fall in Line.

Farmers within the past week have received the highest prices on record for beef, hogs and sheep. Hogs are actually selling at prices above those received for prime Western steers in Chicago, a thing before unprecedented—and both seem to be approaching the 20-cent mark.

The present trend and its significance were commented on in the last Ruralist as follows:

"This is the outstanding dominant fact which we wish to bring home to every American producer; that in his own interest, in the interest of the nation, and in the interest of the war, we must turn the face of our agriculture toward increased production of animal food."

There are the best reasons for believing that these conditions are permanent or at least will last many years after the close of the present war.

In his recent address before the agricultural editors of the country, Mr. Hoover made the following statement on this point:

"High prices for farm products will continue long after peace comes. Prosperity, population and progress will increase in the country relatively faster than in towns. The new agriculture growing out of present conditions must become primarily occupied with animal industry, and our exports must become chiefly of animal foods rather than of breadstuffs."

Of the correctness of these conclusions there can be no logical doubt; they are supported by incontestable economic facts of special importance to the agriculture of the South. Taking it for granted that the production of animal products is to increase and become more profitable, what is the special significance of the facts to the Southern farmer?

Profitable animal production more than any other form of farming requires relatively cheap land. The range and ranch stages have about disappeared and the farm stage is now the dominant factor in meat growing. Cheap lands in the really agricultural sections of the former great range country have disappeared. Even in the succeeding farm sections land values have reached the point where intensive methods are essential to success.

The South today possesses the cheapest farm lands in the United States in proportion to productive capacity. The fact is illustrated by comparison of the two chief agricultural States of their respective sec-

tions—Georgia and Iowa. The average yield for the former is 15.5 bushels per acre as against 36.5 for the latter. On the other hand the latest official figures give the average value of farm land for Georgia as \$16.00 per acre as against \$83.00 for Iowa. In other words, land in Iowa which yields a little over twice as much corn as the land of Georgia, costs five times as much to own. It is easily seen, therefore, that the gross return from land in Georgia is considerably more than twice as much as in the case in Iowa. Nearness to market, cost of labor and other expenses still further increase the advantage in favor of the South.

There are even more substantial reasons in favor of the South for development of animal husbandry. Feeds of all kinds are produced more cheaply in the South when the same skill is applied. The comparisons made with corn could be repeated with other crops. Though we do not grow the same crops—particularly in the way of grasses and hay—we have our own crops adapted to our own conditions. Moreover several of the best of all feedstuffs are native Southern products. One of these—cottonseed meal—is a mainstay of Northern stockmen whom we supply. Another—velvet beans—is probably the most profitable feedstuff grown anywhere.

Next to the economy in production of feedstuffs the economy in consumption is the most important factor. Here the superior advantages of the South are incontestable. Feed is used by all animals for two purposes, namely, growth or work, and for maintaining the animal heat. The less required for the later purpose the less the waste and the greater the economy. The chief feature in controlling this factor is climate or temperature. The colder the weather, the more food required for keeping up the animal heat which brings no profit to the owner. The advantage of the South is illustrated by the fact that 70 days are required to finish a steer in the South, as against 120 to 150 in the steer-feeding States of the North.

The importance of these facts is recognized by the great Western packers who are now developing packing plants in Atlanta, Tifton, Moultrie, Statesboro, Ga., in Jacksonville and Pensacola, Fla., as well as Dothan, Ala., and New Orleans, La. The farmer is the direct beneficiary of this new development and we appeal to him to fall in line for the good time coming. That he is preparing to do so is proved by the fact that train loads of

thousands of heads of high-grade breeding heifers are now moving from the San Antonio stock yards to the farms of the Southeastern cotton belt. Most of the Southern railroads are co-operating in this movement.

The old tick bugaboo is going out faster than the cattle can come in. Fall in Line.—Southern Ruralist.

Uncle Sam, Grain Dealer.

It is hardly to be expected that there will be a general and clear understanding of the Government's food regulations at once. It is possible and quite probable that many changes will be necessary before the new organizations created for the purpose are running smoothly. We have never before done anything of the kind on so vast a scale. It is an experiment forced upon us by grim necessity, but an experiment that will no doubt be successful in helping to conserve food for us and for our allies and in stimulating production.

What is the great staple food upon which we and the nations who are fighting with us depend. Naturally all of us are supremely interested in the plan of operation of the great Government Grain Corporation, the arm of the Food Administration that will assume a practical monopoly of the marketing of wheat. Here and there we have heard doubt expressed as to the necessity and the wisdom of this procedure, but from previous antics of the market in times of stress, and from the gravity of the present situation, we are inclined to expect considerable benefit.

Right now we are looking at the problem of supplying our allies with 220,000,000 bushels of wheat, though the crop estimate shows a surplus of only 88,000,000 bushels. But even with this situation confronting us there is a possibility, according to Mr. Hoover, that, on account of the shortage of ships, next spring will find us with more wheat in storage than ever before in our history. What would happen to the wheat grower then without a profitable price guaranteed by the Government? With this guaranty there should be no hesitancy on the part of anyone to produce wheat to fill the needs. The shipbuilders must try to supply the ships.

The very purpose of the Government in adopting this unusual method is ample assurance that the producer will be generously treated. The United States does not have any idea that it will be a failure.—Country Gentleman.

ONE DAY FOR THE ORPHANS. Should Give at Least the Proceeds of One Day to the Orphans at Thanksgiving. An Appeal.

The people of North Carolina have never failed to tread the path of duty open to them. To each and every call to service, in the interest of home and country, they have responded with liability and cheerfulness. Her young men are covering themselves with glory by evidences of devotion to the flag, in word and action, and will give a splendid account of themselves at every turn of the way towards a lasting peace. Her captains of industry and her sons of toil have opened their hearts to the Liberty loan, the Red Cross, and the cause espoused by the Young Men's Christian Association. Her noble women have dedicated themselves to the service of their country and are showing to the world a love for human freedom that is beautiful to contemplate. The cries of heart-broken mothers, starving children, outraged daughters and tortured fathers, in unspcakable need beyond the ocean wave, have fallen upon sympathetic ears throughout our Christian land, and the spirit of service here in North Carolina shows that, with our people, the first consideration is the honor of the flag, the safety of the nation, and peace to all the world. And it is well, for without self-sacrifice true happiness may not be attained in this world.

But while the measure of the nation's honor and the nation's heart is being taken, let us not overlook the urgent needs of fatherless and motherless waifs at our own doors. For, after all, charity begins at home. Let us not overlook the hundreds of dependent children whom the orphanages of our State are training for individual efficiency and good citizenship. Every one of these institutions needs better equipment and larger support, and every one of them is besieged with applications for admission which must be denied for lack of means. Their capacity must be increased, or else hundreds of children now wandering the highways and byways, subject to every evil temptation the world has to offer, will be neglected and probably irretrievably lost. We cannot—we will not—forget, for the Master says, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto Me." We are admonished to conserve the products of the farm, the forest, the factory and the mine. Is it not equally—

aye, vastly more—important to conserve the future manhood and womanhood of North Carolina? Shall the orphaned children of this glorious old Commonwealth be handicapped for life because, in their tender years, they did not have the sheltering care and culture of an orphan home?

Mr. Towles In Ohio.

In a recent issue of the Scioto Daily Gazette, of Scioto, Ohio, we learned that Mr. V. E. Towles, who was formerly connected with the road construction in Johnston County, is one of the supervising engineers in constructing the roads of Camp Sherman. The roads are being built of the best material with a top dressing of tarvia.

Largest Corn Crop on Record.

A corn crop larger by more than 6,000,000,000 bushels than ever grown in the history of American agriculture is the production of the farmers of the United States this year. The Department of Agriculture, in its preliminary estimate of the crop, places the quantity at 3,191,083,000 bushels. Conditions since the October forecast caused a reduction of about 19,700,000 bushels in the indicated output.

"The corn crop of 1917 is notable as occupying the largest acreage and producing the largest total crop of record," said the statement of the Department of Agriculture. "The yield an acre, however, is not exceptional, owing to a late spring, a cold summer, which was also too dry over much of the corn belt, and early and damaging frosts and freezes. Thus the bountiful crop contains much corn that did not fully mature, probably in excess of 20 per cent., although most of this had reached the dough state, making it useful for silos and early feeding."

Corn quality was 75.2 per cent., compared with 84 per cent. last year, and 10 below the average. In principal States the quality was: Ohio, 73 per cent.; Indiana, 63; Illinois, 71; Iowa, 65; Missouri, 86; Nebraska, 80, and Kansas, 69.

The yield per acre of corn averaged 26.4 bushels, compared with 23 bushels last year. Pennsylvania led with 39 bushels. In the principal producing States the acre yield was: Ohio, 33 bushels; Indiana, 36; Illinois, 38; Iowa, 37; Missouri, 35; Nebraska, 27, and Kansas, 14.

NEW TESTIMONY...