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EDITORIAL COMMENT.

CO-OPERATIVE BUYING.

In a small town in middle section of the State the other day a group of farmers were seen out in the wagon lot busily engaged in "co-operative distribution." It was rather a novel sight in that town—a crowd of farmers with wrapping paper running a little temporary open-air retail store, unpacking things from the original full cases in which the goods were shipped and dividing to each his portion as subscribed for.

"THEY AIN'T DOING ANYTHING."

Hundreds of men have quit the Farmers' Union because "they aint doin' aranything." A fellow who sits down and nods and dreams in his Local Union, expecting somebody else to do something for him, without effort on his part, is the fellow who quits because "they ain't doin' anything."

vidual purchasers, each buying in small amounts to be wrapped and handed over the counter by the merchant or his salesman. A salesman can deliver a case of soda as quickly as he can deliver a single pound of soda, and the time of the salesman is a big item in the running expenses of the store.

FEWER ACRES AND SOIL BUILDING.

There is an appalling waste of energy and waste of labor in the cultivation of depleted soils. "Fewer acres with a System of Soil Building" is the most important subject relating to the producing side of the business of farming that can be discussed in Local Unions.

PARCELS POST.

Referring to the Parcels Post bill, which is now in operation, Rural New Yorker makes the following sensible comment:

"We have never had any thought that this new system would revolutionize industry or country life all at once. It may take months or years to adapt it properly or get it into satisfactory working order. It is just the beginning of a new and useful transportation privilege which may be developed into a great and far-reaching benefit.

Still Alive and Active.

It was Charles Dickens, we believe, who wrote the description of "a very contentious gentleman who said it was his mission to be everybody's brother, but who appeared to be on terms of coldness with the whole of his large family."

NOTICE TO COUNTY SECRETARY.

Please notify this office at once of any change of County Secretary that I may send the County dues and fees to the proper officer. E. C. FAIRES, Secretary-Treasurer. Aberdeen, N. C.

Improving the State Fair.

R. S. Curtis, Animal Husbandman, N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station.

Purpose of a State Fair.

The purpose of every fair, either county or State, should be educational. At least this should be the primary object of holding such an exhibition. The management should make the necessary provisions for the growth of the institution, which in reality it should be, the same as a State college of agriculture or any other educational institution.

What One State Fair is Doing.

As the writer is familiar with the conditions existing on the Iowa State Fair Grounds, a few figures will be given to show the rank and importance of that State institution. The management of the fair was originally vested in the State Agricultural Society. In 1886, the State Department of Agriculture in which the management of the fair is now vested, became a real live working organization.

One of the striking features of this fair ground is the grouping of the buildings. This has been done in such a way that each department has its own territory allotted, provision being made for proper expansion. One portion of the ground, for example, is allotted to campers who desire to take advantage of the fair in connection with an annual outing.

The receipts of this fair are used almost exclusively for running expenses, no attempt being made to make the organization a paying institution. Surplus money is used for the betterment of the grounds, buildings, and sanitation.

Privileges and Attractions.

The attractions provided for a State Fair should be for the purpose of amusement and where possible educational. The attractions for the fair spoken of above consist not in frivolous amusements but rather things which are substantial and which lead to higher and better aims.