

DOUBLING THE FARMER'S INCOME.

Progress.] According to the last census of the United States, the average Georgia farmer earns approximately \$156 a year and works two-thirds of a mile, while the average farmer in Iowa earns \$311 and works something over three miles. It is not surprising, therefore that the Georgia improvements are appraised at \$115 and his implements at \$25, while the Iowa's buildings are worth \$818 and his implements \$198. Since the taking of the last census, Southern conditions have no doubt greatly improved and the figures taken this year will show that the earning capacity of Southern farmers is much better than it was 10 years ago. It is, however, very far below what it should be.

The low earning capacity of the Southern farmer seems to be largely due to the fact that he clings to antiquated land methods while the men of the Central West are using four or five times as much horse power, cultivating the land better at less expense, and getting better results by four to one.

If the farmer's net income were doubled or quadrupled, and his toil made easier at a time when road improvement, automobiles, telephones, and dairy mail are bringing opportunity to his door, the improvement of schools, the increase of intercourse with his kind, and the development of his social nature would result in a happier, as well as more prosperous life; and the lure of the over-crowded cities would draw fewer young men away from the farm.

This great uplift of rural life is the object of a crusade now well begun for the improvement of farm methods in the South. Few people have any conception of the great work that Dr. Seaman A. Knapp, of the United States department of agriculture, is doing along this line. Under his direction over 300 agents are giving on 32,000 farms in the South, instruction which furnishes object lessons of improved methods to more than half a million people.

Sitting in the Piedmont hotel one afternoon, Dr. Knapp, in talking over this matter with the editor of the Progress said with great earnestness: "This is a work for agriculture, but it is much more than that. It is a work for civilization, because it lays the foundation on which a better civilization is to be built up."

"It is useless to urge the farmer's boy to remain on the farm when he knows he can make twice as much in the city. You would not be honest with him if you asked him to remain under these conditions. Our problem is to show him how he can make more money on the farm and live a happier and more contented life than he can in the city."

"Can you do that?" "Yes, undoubtedly. We can show every farmer how to double his net income, and we are doing it. What I am teaching is not new. The same methods have been advanced all over the South for 40 years. What I do that is new is to induce the farmers—thousands of them—to adopt the methods that have been preached to them all their lives."

The Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work, like many other great movements that have helped humanity originate in a colony. In 1894 the Mexican cotton boll weevil had covered a large part of Texas, and in many counties farmers were only producing a fraction of the cotton they should have raised. The soil of East Texas is mainly a sandy loam, well drained and well wooded, making an ideal section for the hibernation of the weevil. The panic which followed the appearance of the weevil caused a general depression. Advances were, in many cases, withdrawn and a general abandonment of farms was threatened. Scientists, both State and national, were sent to the field to study the life history of the insect, but while some excellent work was done, no practical remedy for the extermination of the pest has yet been found. Failing to exterminate the pest the problem that confronted the infested States was to find some way of growing cotton in spite of the weevil, or to go out of the cotton growing business altogether. It was in this emergency that the secretary of agriculture requested Dr. Knapp to show this large body of farmers how to grow cotton in the presence of the weevil by his method of intensive cultivation, that is, by forcing the crop to maturity before the insect can get in its deadly work. Farmers are now growing most excellent crops, not only of cotton, but of corn, cow peas, and other products. As an instance of what the work has done, some of the most prominent citizens of Sulphur Springs, Hopkins county, estimated that it had been worth \$250,000 to that county alone during the past year.

Under the conditions governing the commencement of the demonstration work, it was not thought practicable to simply send out printed literature or establish headquarters and ask the farmers to visit them, and the work is radically different from the excellent service which the various experiment stations are doing, in that no experiments are tried. The best methods which have been proven up by the United States department of agriculture, the experiment stations, and agricultural colleges, as well as by the most thrifty farmers, are put into actual practice.

An agent of the department, who knows the people and the local conditions thoroughly, is given from one to two counties in which he travels by team. This agent goes to a farmer, tells him what can be done, and asks him to try better methods on from one to five acres of his land. The work does not stop at this point, for each month the agent returns to watch the progress and give further instructions. At the time of his visit all the co-operating neighbors are notified and called to meet this demonstrating farmer and the agent so as to discuss the progress of the crop and other farm topics. The salient features of the method are, a well prepared seed bed, the best seed, and intensive cultivation. The added expense of tillage is much more than balanced by the abundant crop and the farmer is absolutely convinced because the entire profit of the crop goes to him. The next year he plants more acres, or possibly his entire farm under our methods. As an instance of the farmer's attitude

Annual Financial Exhibit Of The County Of Cumberland

David Gaster, Treasurer, in Account With the County of Cumberland--Condition of the Office of Clerk of the Superior Court--Report of the Sinking Fund Committee--Expenditures By the Board of County Commissioners.

DAVID GASTER, County Treasurer, in Account With the County of Cumberland FOR THE COUNTY FUND.

Table with columns Dr. and Cr. showing financial transactions for the County Fund from Dec 1, 1908, to Dec 1, 1909. Includes items like taxes received, interest, and various expenses.

ROAD FUND

Table with columns Dr. and Cr. showing financial transactions for the Road Fund from Dec 1, 1908, to Dec 1, 1909. Includes items like taxes received and expenses for road work.

BOND FUND

Table with columns Dr. and Cr. showing financial transactions for the Bond Fund from Dec 1, 1908, to Dec 1, 1909. Includes items like taxes received and interest on bonds.

NEW COURT HOUSE FUND

Table with columns Dr. and Cr. showing financial transactions for the New Court House Fund from Dec 1, 1908, to Dec 1, 1909. Includes items like taxes received and interest.

PENSION FUND

Table with columns Dr. and Cr. showing financial transactions for the Pension Fund from Dec 1, 1908, to Dec 1, 1909. Includes items like taxes received and pension payments.

Fence Districts. CEDAR CREEK AND FLEA HILL FENCE.

Table with columns Dr. and Cr. showing financial transactions for Cedar Creek and Flea Hill Fence from Dec 1, 1908, to Dec 1, 1909.

FLEA HILL FENCE

Table with columns Dr. and Cr. showing financial transactions for Flea Hill Fence from Dec 1, 1908, to Dec 1, 1909.

GRAYS CREEK FENCE

Table with columns Dr. and Cr. showing financial transactions for Grays Creek Fence from Dec 1, 1908, to Dec 1, 1909.

QUEWHIFFLE FENCE

Table with columns Dr. and Cr. showing financial transactions for Quewhiffle Fence from Dec 1, 1908, to Dec 1, 1909.

CARVER'S CREEK FENCE.

Table with columns Dr. and Cr. showing financial transactions for Carver's Creek Fence from Dec 1, 1908, to Dec 1, 1909.

CEGAR CREEK AND BEAVER DAM FENCE.

Table with columns Dr. and Cr. showing financial transactions for Cegar Creek and Beaver Dam Fence from Dec 1, 1908, to Dec 1, 1909.

CROSS CREEK FENCE.

Table with columns Dr. and Cr. showing financial transactions for Cross Creek Fence from Dec 1, 1908, to Dec 1, 1909.

RECAPITULATION OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS OF DAVID GASTER, COUNTY TREASURER, WITH THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND.

Summary table showing total annual accounts for David Gaster, County Treasurer, with the County of Cumberland from Dec 1, 1908, to Dec 1, 1909.

Condition of the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of the County of Cumberland At the Close of Business December 31st, 1909.

LIABILITIES.

Table listing liabilities of the Clerk of the Superior Court as of Dec 31, 1909, including due amounts to various individuals and entities.

ASSETS.

Table listing assets of the Clerk of the Superior Court as of Dec 31, 1909, including investments and cash on hand.

North Carolina, Cumberland County. I, A. A. McKethan, Clerk of the Superior Court of Cumberland County, do swear that the foregoing account is true and correct and shows the amount of all trust funds held by me at the close of business on the 31st day of December 1909, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

A. A. MCKETHAN, Clerk Superior Court Cumberland County. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of January, 1910. (Seal) J. K. NIMOCKS, Notary Public. Approved--January 29th, 1910. Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Cumberland County. CHAS. G. ROSE, Atty.

Report of The Sinking Fund Committee of the County of Cumberland.

FOR THE COURT HOUSE BOND FUND.

Table showing financial transactions for the Court House Bond Fund from Dec 31, 1908, to Jan 1, 1910.

RECORD OF INVESTMENTS FOR COURT HOUSE BOND FUND.

Table showing investment records for the Court House Bond Fund from Dec 31, 1908, to Jan 1, 1910.

FOR THE RAIL ROAD BOND FUND.

Table showing financial transactions for the Rail Road Bond Fund from Dec 31, 1908, to Jan 1, 1910.

RECORD OF INVESTMENTS FOR RAIL ROAD BOND FUND.

Table showing investment records for the Rail Road Bond Fund from Dec 31, 1908, to Jan 1, 1910.

North Carolina, Cumberland County. The above account is respectfully submitted, and is certified to be correct and in accordance with vouchers in our Treasurer's hands. (Signed.) W. N. TILLINGHAST, Chrm'n and Treas. H. McD. ROBINSON, JOHN ELLIOT, Associate Members Sinking Fund Committee of the County of Cumberland.