

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

THE INDUSTRIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE PARAMOUNT TO ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OF STATE POLICY.

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PAPERS.

The Progressive Farmer, State Organ, Raleigh, N. C.
The Southern Farmer, Raleigh, N. C.
The Farmer, Hickory, N. C.
The Ruralist, Salisbury, N. C.
The Home, New Hope, N. C.
The People's Paper, Lumberton, N. C.
The Tidewater, Concord, N. C.
The People's Advocate, Wadesboro, N. C.
The People's Voice, Peant, N. C.

Each of the above-named papers are requested to keep the list standing on the first page and add others, provided they are duly elected. Any paper failing to do so will be dropped from the list promptly. Our people can now see what papers are published in their interest.

EDITORIAL SUGGESTIONS.

Put salt about the trunks of peach trees, and salt the borers down, and you will have fewer sickly trees.

The boy that is made to work like a slave, for his board and lodging, will likely be one of those funny boys who will want to leave the farm.

Bring the soil into a state of fertility so do not farm at all. Trying to raise grain on a worn-out soil is a straight, short road to the poor house.

An experienced swine grower says in an exchange that soaked corn will give as good or better results than corn meal, but wheat should be ground fine always, the finer the better, and when thus prepared is one of the best hog feeds in the world.

Mr. Morton has been fooling the grain gamblers by giving out fictitious figures in regard to the quantity of wheat in the country. Where have the grain gamblers been that they had not learned that Morton will fool anybody, if he has half a chance?

No grass or grain crops should be sown among fruit trees before they have attained size. The ground between the rows can, with advantage to the trees, be cultivated with potatoes, cabbages, melons, etc., or corn if not planted within five or six feet of the trees.

By all means cultivate a home market for small fruits as a rule. Better prices can be obtained in the rural districts, than in the city markets. The idea has prevailed that the only outlet was to ship to the large markets, and as a consequence such markets become glutted.

Avoid the lunk head; "breed horses," breed the best; breed none but the best; breed from nothing but your best, and look out sharp to improve on the next cross, and wherever your dam is lacking, be sure the sire you use is not lacking in the same point, and if possible, not lacking in any essential qualification. Take time and examine carefully the sire, no matter who may be the owner.

FACTS ABOUT DAIRY FARMING.

Address of Mr. Benninger, of Pennsylvania, Before the A. & M. College Students Recently—Agricultural Depression.

In speaking to such an audience as I have before me to day it is necessary for me to give some explanations; first, because I am not a professional orator and, second, because I am not a graduate of any school, but what little I am going to say to you is from actual experience.

"It is true I have given Agricultural Economy considerable thought for the last number of years. I have spoken at a great many grange meetings, Farmers' Institutes, etc., and have given more thought to the depressed condition of agriculture than any other subject, and am firmly convinced that the paramount cause of the "Depressed Condition of Agriculture" is due to ignorance, and am further convinced that if every farmer and farm laborer was the fortunate possessor of college diplomas, I do not care of what profession or school, that the state of affairs would be entirely different. I am, therefore, pleased to say that the people of North Carolina, have taken a grand and noble step in establishing this college to educate the farmers' sons, and I want to say to my young friends that there is a bright and promising future for the young and intelligent farmer, for we will surely turn the tide, and I hope and pray that you will all stick to the farm after you have finished your course.

When I say that the great cause of the depressed condition of agriculture is ignorance, I mean to say that while the farmers, agricultural class and laboring people were faithfully performing their duties in the field, the educated, sharp and shrewd capitalists, such as first national bankers, corporations and monopolists in general, have, through class legislation, obtained favors in their interests and against the masses and working classes. One more thought, after which I will confine my remarks to the dairy interests, and that is that the American people must first learn the question of money, or they perish. However, while agriculture is in this lamentable condition, and while farming looks blue to some farmers, I want to say that farming can still be made remunerative in some branches. Now, living near the coal mines, I find that when the owners have an overproduction they shut down their work to half time, and some seasons of the year shut down entirely, and it works to great advantage to the operators, and I believe it would pay the farmer to shut down on raising wheat, cotton, etc., when they find it don't pay, and turn to branches of farming that are more remunerative.

I am almost ashamed to say that my crop of wheat did not pay me for harvesting, threshing and marketing, and I am sure that there were thousands of acres of cotton that did not pay for the picking and marketing. I am convinced by actual experience that the best branch for the people of the South, more so than of the West or any other section, is dairying in all its branches, for that has been the only branch of farming that has been profitable all over the country, and I am glad to say that the profits are on the increase and not on the decline; but let me say to you here that dairying requires more practical knowledge and closer care and attention to business than any other line of farming.

In order to make dairying profitable you must first have the right kind of a cow, and it is most important that the dairyman should know how to select a good dairy herd. The first consideration should be the breeding. You should first select animals that are out of ancestors that have been good performers, more so of the sire's side than of the dam. Not only select the sire of a good cow, but also from a good line of blood on both sides.

A good cow must be decidedly feminine in appearance; long from the eyes to base of the horns; her eyes should be large and mild; neck should be nearly free from dewlap, of good length, moderately thin; shoulders should be even over tops, lower than hips, moderately thick, deep and broad; the chest should be low, deep and broad; barrel should be very round with large abdomen; line and hips broad, full long and level; rump high, broad and level; flanks fairly deep and full; legs should be short, clean, tapering with strong arm; position firm and wide apart; tail should be long, reaching to hocks or below, large at setting, tapering fairly to a switch; hair and handling fine,

soft and mellow; skin of moderate thickness, secretions oily and of rich yellow color; milk veins large, long, crooked, branched, with extensions entering large orifices; udder, capacious, flexible, well developed both in front and rear; teats well formed, wide apart and of convenient size; escutcheon large and fine development. This I would rather illustrate by selecting a cow out of your herd. I would rather select a cow with my eyes tight shut and handle her than to look at her and not touch her.

After having and knowing how to select a good cow the next question is how to take care of her. This varies from North to South. In the North we would first say, keep her warm and comfortable in winter; while in the South I would first say, keep her cool, comfortable, give her good fresh water and keep the flies from her. In dairying, one of the essentials to success is cleanliness, from the calf to the matured animals; from the milk in the stable to the butter ready for market.

Your stable should be comfortable, cool and well ventilated in summer, warm in winter, and should be thoroughly cleaned out every morning. I find land plaster a valuable absorbent and disinfectant, absorbs and retains the ammonia which is so valuable in manure. Cows should not be pastured in the middle of the day, especially not where there is no shade or running water. I get my best result by pasturing at night, keeping the cows in a cool stable throughout the day. The milking should be done at regular periods or hours, and by the same person. The milk should be drawn easily and without any pulling. The cows should be milked perfectly clean at every milking. I find that more gas or diseases of the udder originate from not clean milking than from all other causes. Heavy milkers should be milked three times a day. The food should be as nearly a balanced ration as can be fed. This seems to vary with every cow, so that no fixed amount can be set, but I believe that good, sweet grass is as nearly a balanced ration as can be found anywhere. People of this State, as well as almost the entire South, have great advantages over the North in regards to feed, as I should think they could grow and feed green crops directly from the field for at least nine months of the year, by continually planting corn and other green crops through the summer season, but remember that corn in all its stages is king of the dairy. I find that corn and cob meal, and cottonseed meal are the most nutritious foods and give me the best results. I also had good results with feeding fresh cottonseed hulls. I have lately had good results by feeding dried brewers' grain, which I get delivered at my farm for \$15 a ton, being much cheaper than bran. Dried brewers' grain is dried brewers' malt, with 80 per cent. of water taken out of it. I consider it almost a balanced ration.

However, you must not fail to remember that there is no branch of farming that retains the fertility of the soil like dairying, and whatever grains you buy makes an addition to the fertility. I have more than tripled the production of my farm in the last six years without the use of commercial fertilizer, simply with cow manure from cows well fed.

A few words in regard to breeding and raising calves: We should not lose track of the fact that a good bull is half the herd and that the best is the cheapest. Select a bull from a long and rich strain of actual performers. The calves you wish to raise should be taken from the dam immediately when dropped. It requires no more trouble to learn the calf to drink from a bucket than to learn to suck its own mother, and it will then have no set back by weaning, and no worrying of the dam. It should be fed with the mother's milk for at least four weeks, at first three times a day; and if a heavy milker, she should be milked three times a day, right along, after which it can be gradually fed with skim milk. When about two weeks old dry bran should be kept continually before it so that it will learn to eat dry bran or sweet hay as soon as possible. Cottonseed meal should in no case be fed to young stock or cows heavy with calves.

The golden opportunity in building up a dairy is to give all the growth possible when the animals are young. Heifers should not be served before they are a year old, but should come in, if possible, before they are two years old.

Next comes the creamery, and in this the South has a disadvantage, and owing to the warm temperature, and therefore, the system of establishing large creameries are very important. In this respect I may be able to give you information of some value.

The following is a description and expenses of a very commodious creamery that I have just completed:

The main building is 20x24 ft., with an L in front, where I receive the milk, and is 5x8, and an engine house with shed roof 10x12. Cost of build, with slate roof, \$500; second hand ten-horse power boiler and engine, \$140; second hand DeLaval separator, rebalanced and as good as new, \$100; 300-gallon milk vat, \$30; fire beam scale, \$25; other machinery, about \$200. So that the cost of the entire plant is about \$1000.

This creamery will have a capacity of from four to six thousand pounds of milk a day.

The difference in the various makes of good separators varies very little, the main feature is to know how to run it, and have all the machinery in good running order.

The most important machine in a dairy or creamery is a Babcock tester. With this machine a dairyman can tell the value of the cows he buys or sells, as certain the value of the milk of each cow, and results of the different kinds of feed. With the aid of the Babcock machine the creameryman is capable of paying his patrons for whatever they bring, which is the only honest way of buying milk. He will also be able to ascertain whether his separator is taking all the fat, and to see if there is any butter left in the buttermilk.

A separator to do good work should make about 7,200 revolutions in one minute, and the milk should have a temperature of from 75° to 80°; the cream should be run over a cooler and reduced to from 50° to 60°. The cream should be kept in as low a temperature as possible, but in no case freezing. The cream should be ripened and churned at about 55° from which we get the best results. The butter should be churned in granules only, and the buttermilk washed out of it; then put on the washer, salt about one ounce to the pound and slightly worked.

The best way is to pack the butter in pound prints, wrapped in parchment paper, covered with tinfoil, and stored in a dry, cold air cold storage at 40° above 0. I have kept butter in such a room for over six months, so that the most critical critic could not detect it from fresh butter. Such butter sells at from five to ten cents above the market price.

A cold storage right at the creamery seems to be the great secret of success, as butter stored in the cold storage, right from the churn and kept in them until shipped to the customers seems to give the best of satisfaction.

During the summer season there is more money in shipping sweet cream and making ice cream than in making butter. The manufacture of ice cream by creameries is developing rapidly in the North. It is surprising how rapidly a large trade can be established by supplying good, honest, straight ice cream, and driving out of the market the bogus bakery ice cream.

There are, however, two serious drawbacks the dairyman has to contend with: First, the manufacture of oleomargarine, or bogus butter, which should not only be restricted, but the manufacture and sale of the bogus stuff should be absolutely prohibited, and I hope that your legislature will pass prohibition oleomargarine law in this State, and next is the tuberculosis scare or fad. This matter I have given considerable attention. I have read every work, bulletin, or pamphlet on the subject I could get hold of. In all my experience I know of only one animal that actually died of tuberculosis. I also find, by careful reading, that not a single case is on record where tuberculosis was transmitted from a cow to the human system, and that the whole matter is a supposition. I also find that the tuberculin test is not reliable and has failed in a good many cases, and the whole system has a tendency to scare ignorant city people from using milk and butter, and creates a desire to use the bogus stuff. I firmly believe that there are twice as many human beings affected by tuberculosis as cows.

I am by no means a prohibitionist, but if there is any reform necessary for the preservation of the human system, then I say restrict the use of tobacco and rum, for I believe that half of the human systems are ruined by the abuse of rum and tobacco, while it is a fact that there is not a drop of blood or nutriment in rum or tobacco, and I believe it would be far better for our educated physicians to educate the masses to the use of milk, beef and butter fat, which I believe are the most healthy foods that can be used.

CREAM OF THE PRESS.

Hard Hits, Bold Sayings and Patriotic Paragraphs from Reform Papers—They are Worth the Price of One Paper a Whole Year.

Cleveland, Wall street and Rothschild is all that is left of the Democratic party.—Southern Mercury.

What does the Democratic party stand for? Well, possibly because it's too sore to sit down.—K. C. Journal.

Society does not owe every man a living, but it owes every man an opportunity to earn a living.—N. Y. Voice.

Sound money theories only robbed the farmers in 1894 of \$200,000,000. How do you like it, farmers?—Southern Mercury.

Why is John Sherman the strongest man in the Senate? Because the American people love to be humbugged.—Laborer's Tribune.

A dollar will now buy about four times as much property as it would a few years ago; but it will only pay 100 cents of a debt.—Current Voice.

The whole question of slack or brisk times lies in the proper control and management of a proper and ample medium of exchange.—Western Watchman.

They are trying to throw the blame all on Grover, but they voted for him three times, and there's that record in Congress. It won't work.—National Reformer.

Money reduced one-half, naturally the products of the soil depreciated in the same proportion. It is thus the price of cotton stands where it does to day.—Cotton Plant.

Present hard times and misery are the legitimate fruits of the past doings and misdoings of "eminent" statesmen, who have missed statesmanship in their eagerness to catch spoils.—Peninsula Farmer.

A 1200 pound hog was on exhibition in town this week. It was an infant compared to a man who would read a paper several years and put it back in the postoffice marked "Refused."—Huntsville Item.

"The northeast corner of the shadow of a hair" is descriptive of an infinitesimal nothing, but it is large and substantial compared to what we have to hope in the way of results from a silver international conference.—Daily News, Denver.

The Alliance organization work is the most important duty of reformers this off year. Get the people into the Alliance, and they will begin to think. As soon as a man thinks on political matters he is a reformer, sure.—Southern Mercury.

Wall street proposes to offer—not the presidency—but the nomination for president to a Southern man. No Northern man wants the nomination, because it is well known the "cards are stacked" to give the Republicans the game this trip, and as a part of the deal it is essential that a Southern man shall be nominated to ensure Northern States to Republicans and prevent the South from uniting with the West; but the South will detect the true inwardness of this new departure before convention time.—Brockton, Mass., Diamond.

Clover and artificial fertilizers will at some day be the indispensables on all farms. Even the manure will be more concentrated in the future by being deprived of many substances which now enter into its composition in order to save labor in its application for uses of crops.

FROM MARTIN COUNTY.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer. WILLIAMSTON, N. C.

A will try to write a few lines for Beargrass Alliance No. 1226. We have not as many members now as we have had, but I hope we will soon have more. At our last meeting we took in two old members, and I know of others who will return. There are but three Subs in the county now, but I think there would be more if we had some one to reorganize them. Martin County No. 1226, meets with Beargrass Sub Alliance the second Thursday in July, 1895.

"Equal rights to all and special favors to none." J. R. HARRISON.

It is a detriment, and a serious one, in every respect to a draft horse, to be so high meted that he is cranky or foolish, but there is a vast difference between a well broken courageous, free draft horse and a lunk head destitute of courage, power or action only what is driven out by a black snake whip.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER CHARGES.

Will it Dare Publish the Extracts Quoted Herewith, in the Interest of Fairness and Decency.

Editor Charlotte Observer:—I have read the editorial page of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for years. I also read the leading State and National Republican papers. I give it as my deliberate opinion that there is not a more unfair and conscienceless paper published anywhere than THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. It is full of misstatements of facts and base insinuations, weekly.

In nothing has it shown itself more despicable than in its treatment of the Lansing accusations. Mr. Cleveland said those accusations were "wholesale lies." THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER says that he does not deny them. What an opinion must a paper have of the intelligence of the majority of its constituency when it gives itself up to slander and falsehood. I send you two clippings which I trust you can find space for. One from a Boston Methodist paper, presumably the organ of Rev. Lansing's Church; the second is from the Philadelphia Ledger, an Independent Republican paper. I venture to say that money could not hire THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER to reproduce these clippings in its columns.

"Rev. I. J. Lansing, D. D., pastor of Park Street Congregational Church, Boston, delivered the address at the anniversary of the New England Conference Temperance Society, at Salem, April 4th. In his address he distinctly declared that President Cleveland was intoxicated at the naval review in New York. This accusation has aroused a storm of indignation throughout the country, and the regret is general and profoundly sincere that this distinguished minister made so grave a charge against the occupant of the highest office in the gift of the people. Even were the statement true, it would have been much more discreet not to have uttered it. But it appears, beyond question, from the President's own statement and from those who were nearest to him on the day in question, that not only was he not intoxicated, but that he had not tasted liquor. Webb, the long-time and most reliable correspondent of the Boston Journal, though not in sympathy politically with the President, says in a dispatch to that paper: 'Mr. Cleveland is not a drunkard. He has not been a prohibitionist, as very few men in public life are. But those who know him intimately say that he is not only strictly temperate, but, as a matter of fact, to speak with exactness, since the operation on his jaw two summers ago, he has used no intoxicating beverages whatever.' While we have no doubt that Dr. Lansing fully accredited the information as reliable upon which he based his assertion, there seems now to be for him no other manly and Christian course but to humbly confess his indiscretion and to ask President Cleveland and an indignant public to condone his wrong. Of course the ministers of the New England Conference, and the members of the Methodist Church as a whole, utterly disclaim all responsibility for this rash charge."—Zion's Herald (Methodist) Boston.

"The truth with regard to President Cleveland as it is known to those who know him most intimately—in his public and private life, abroad and at home—in his public and private life, abroad and at home—is that he is an exceptionally temperate, or even abstemious man, both with regard to what he eats and what he drinks. Mr. Cleveland is not only a rigorously self-respecting man, maintaining in all places and at all times the dignity of his great office, a fine sense of what is due to his own manhood, and a most chivalrous respect and honor for womanhood, but he is also a religious, a devout man, who zealously conforms his conduct to his principles and beliefs. Any statement made by anyone which in any manner or degree conflicts with this is absolutely, maliciously false and slanderous, the statement of the Rev. Dr. Lansing being especially so."—Philadelphia Ledger (Ind) OBSERVER.

While it is admitted that shallow cultivation has more friends among growers than to cultivate the soil as deep as possible, yet the plowing of corn land should not only be deep, but the furrows should be so laid out as to afford as thorough drainage as possible. If farmers could be induced to also subsoil their corn land, they would find quite a difference in the yield, both of corn and fodder.

TO CRAVEN COUNTY SUB-ALLIANCES.

THURMAN, N. C., April 16, '95.

BRETHREN:—As you failed to meet the Craven County Alliance on the 2nd Thursday in April, please have your delegates meet us on Thursday, May 2, 1895, at 11 o'clock a. m. at the court house in Newberne. Please act in this matter, as we have business of importance to communicate to you.

H. H. PERRY,
Pres. Craven County Alliance.