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THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

Largest Circulation of any Paper in the South Atlantic States.

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

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PAPERS.

Progressive Farmer, State Organ, Raleigh, N. C.
Caucasian, Raleigh, N. C.
The Home, Raleigh, N. C.
The Populist, Raleigh, N. C.
The People's Paper, Raleigh, N. C.
The Daily Star, Raleigh, N. C.
The Daily Watchman, Raleigh, 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 advocate the Ocala platform will be dropped from the list promptly. Our people can now see what papers are published in their interest.

AGRICULTURE.

Spinach likes a rich sandy loam and is a rank feeder. Good crops can be grown on medium sandy land by using such fertilizers as blood and bone, fish or Peruvian guano.

The first thing to be learned in the live stock business is that it costs just as much to raise and keep a poor animal as it does a good one. When farmers are convinced of this fact it is not long until his place is stocked with pure bred animals of some kind.

In the early fall is the best time to apply manure to fruit trees, that it may get the benefit of the fall rains, which wash its soluble parts into the soil. This starts an early growth in the spring. It is not best that the most luxuriant growth be made while the fruit is maturing.

It is better farming to grow pigs on grass than on grain. Roots and clover hay in the winter will greatly reduce the cost of keeping them, and they must be kept growing through that season if we would have them in condition to quickly fatten for the spring market; not fat, but growing.

There is hardly a cheaper way of growing pork than to allow the pigs the run of a good clover field, giving a good daily slop feed in addition. A good breed farrowed in April, under good treatment, will maintain a growth which will fit them for market in good season in the fall or early winter.

Experiment with cotton seed and cotton seed meal shows that by soaking it in water until fermented, and the fermentation over, hogs have no trouble resulting from eating it. It is rich in nutriment and fattening qualities, but feeders have been discouraged by the attendant dangers. Hogs eat it heartily.

Pruning is something deferred until trees are in leaf, to avoid "bleeding." Harm seldom follows this practice, but it is well to remember that it is always a check to vitality and vigor. There are various varieties of young apples which are better for being pruned while in leaf. Wood growth renders them slow in bearing, on good soil.

WEEKLY WEATHER CROP BULLETIN

For the Week Ending Monday, Oct. 5, 1895.

CENTRAL OFFICE, Raleigh, N. C.
The reports of correspondents of the *Weekly Weather Crop Bulletin*, issued by the North Carolina State Weather Service, for the week ending Saturday, Oct. 5, 1895, indicate a very unfavorable week. The temperature was considerably below the normal, with frosts on the mornings, damaging tobacco and other crops considerably. Drought continues to prevail; practically no rain having fallen anywhere. Cotton is a very poor crop, is nearly all open, and will be all gathered much earlier than usual. All late crops have been injured by the drought, and turkeys are nearly ruined. Gathering corn is under way, but fall plowing continues at a standstill.

Eastern District—The past week has been very cool and dry, with more than usual amount of sunshine. Frosts occurred on the mornings of the 1st and 2nd. The drought continues unabated, injuring peas, potatoes and turkeys, and killing young berry plants. Wells and streams are low, and some mills have stopped running. Cotton, which has opened very rapidly and is a poor crop, will probably all be out by the end of October. Corn was beyond possibility of injury and is being housed. Peanuts being stacked. Rice crop is fair. Second crop of Irish potatoes poor. Very little planting and no fall plowing has been done.

Central District—A dry and very cool week, with frosts on several days, which damaged immature peavines and killed considerable tobacco which was uncut and some late corn. High north to northeast winds prevailed; weather clear and dusty. Cotton will be picked out very rapidly. The yield of sweet potatoes is not good. Gathering corn and making molasses are the chief work of the farmers at present, as long as fall plowing is impossible. No rain fell anywhere during the week; mills on small streams have stopped and some wells are going dry.

Western District—Frost occurred on three mornings, which damaged tobacco considerably, as there was more uncut in this district than in others. Pea vines were also injured and some late corn. Drought continues unabated, and turkeys are practically ruined. Gathering corn and digging potatoes are progressing. The cotton crop appears to be nearly all open. More than the usual amount of feed for stock has been put up. Some farmers are trying to sow wheat.

Where winters are severe a slight covering with litter or evergreen branches will be of great service to the strawberries. Do not place this until November or December, or after the ground is frozen. It is a common mistake to put on too much or too early and to leave until too late in the spring.

ADVANTAGES OF SILAGE.

Practical experience, coupled with careful experimental study, has now abundantly proved that, for a dairyman there is no way of harvesting, storing and feeding corn to cows with so little labor and so small a loss as that afforded by the silo. It is not to be understood, however, that the silo is destined to supplant the hayrack, for some dry fodder should be used with silage in winter; but the silo has come to stay, and as its merits come to be better known and its construction better understood, it must come into general use. A properly constructed and filled silo makes it possible for a dairyman not to lose more than 8 to 12 per cent. of the dry matter put into the silo, whereas corn cured and fed dry under the very best possible conditions must sustain a loss of 20 per cent. of the whole product. And Prof. Cook has proved through two years' work that even in the arid climate of Colorado the necessary losses of dry matter in feeding corn as dry corn fodder are just as large as he had found them to be in Vermont.—F. H. King, Wisconsin Experiment Station, in American Agriculturist.

WINTERING POTATOES.

In a report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture it is said that if buried, potatoes must be covered lightly at first, and the covering added from time to time, but only enough to protect the tubers from frost. This is the most unsatisfactory and expensive way of storing potatoes. The next worst way is a cellar under a building. The most satisfactory and cheapest way is to

store in a dug out. In most Kansas soils, no walls but the dirt walls are needed. The roof will be of earth over poles and brush. In wet weather such a roof will leak unless covered with boards, corn stalks, straw or other covering. The best location will be a slope or bank facing south. By leaving an alley through the center of a dug out, with plenty of large ventilator shafts through the roof, a brisk circulation will be set up whenever the door in the end is opened—particularly where the door opens on the level, as it will if the building is dug in the side of a bank. The trouble with a cellar under a building is to give it air enough. The dug-out should be built with a bin on each side of a central alley. The bottom of the bins should be raised six inches from the ground. Both the bottom and sides are best made of fence boards, with inch spaces between. The sides of the bins should be clear of contact with the walls, whether stone or dirt. Spouts should be placed at intervals through the roof near the outside of the bins, through which to pour down the potatoes into the cellar. Such a building, carefully managed as to ventilation, opened up on frosty nights and kept closed during the warm days of fall and early winter, will take Early Ohio potatoes through to spring with a sprout. Early Rose, Beauty of Hebron and such varieties may require turning over at once. The only antidote for sprouting, aside from the manner of storage, that is known, is the scoop shovel. Potatoes may be kept in cold storage until August without a sprout.

If the soil is rich, cultivation is the best manure for cabbages during warm weather; but if the soil be deficient, nitrate of soda is one of the most efficient fertilizers. It will make good heads out of plants which without it would furnish only a bunch of loose leaves. Well-rotted stable manure is almost as good.

HORTICULTURE

ONIONS IN THE SOUTH.

Onions may be grown from seed, sets or large onions; also from buttons, or top sets. Plant during early fall, or as soon as possible after Christmas. Two methods of planting are practiced with us: (1) in 30 inch drills or rows, (2) in beds 15 to 20 feet wide and slightly elevated in the middle so as to drain gently to both sides. Drills for receiving the seeds or onions are then placed at right angles to the length of the beds and 15 inches apart. Whether in the row method or in the bed method, the seed is sown in the drills so as to have three or four seeds to each inch in length, and are covered with light soil, about one half to three-fourths inches deep. Sets are placed about a hand's breadth apart, large onions (multiplier) twice this width, and covered so as to hide the bulb. The onion requires the richest, best prepared soil in the field or garden, and success will always be in proportion to the attention given. Nothing short of thorough and clean culture will do for this plant. Culture should be first except for potato onions and shallots. Varieties: Yellow Danvers, Wethersfield, Pearl, Prizetaker, Creole, Bermuda and others. Market them green in early spring, or matured in following summer and winter.—Prof. A. B. McKay, Mississippi Agricultural College.

HOW TO PACK APPLES.

There's promise of a good apple crop. A large trade is expected and in order to have the outcome satisfactory it will be necessary to give strict attention to sorting and packing. With this in view the following suggestions are submitted by the Trade Bulletin and it is earnestly hoped that they will be carefully followed:
Country shippers and packers of apples should make it a point to pack their fruit honestly; that is, to have the fruit run alike all through the barrel. Do not endeavor to cause deception by placing good, sound, large fruit on the top and bottom of the barrel, and fill in the middle with a lot of gnarly, wormy and decayed fruit. It does not pay. The deception is easily detected upon investigation, and merchants do not care to have fraud practiced upon them, neither do they care to practice it upon their customers.

Full regulation-sized barrels should be used. Take the barrel, one head out, nail the hoops, and break off the ends of the nails at the inside; place a layer or tier of apples, good and uniform size, smooth, bright, healthy, as closely as possible, stems downward, on the lower end, then fill up a basket

full at a time, throwing out small, wormy, gnarly and windfall apples, and shaking the barrel well after each deposit until it is full two inches above the rim; place the head squarely on the apples and with a screw or lever press force it into place and nail securely. Turn over the barrel and mark name of apple with red or black lead, or pencil. Bear in mind that, to be shipped safely, fruit must be packed tight to prevent rattling or bruising.

In shipping apples the first of the season—early varieties—shippers should see that openings are cut on the side of the barrel and also in both ends, to admit of free circulation of air, which will greatly help to bring apples through in good condition during warm weather.
The quiet disposition of the Poland China hog, which enables him to lie down and grow fat after eating, is much in his favor, and then observe his broad, deep shoulders, well sprung ribs, making a broad back and loin, the broad, deep sides, and the long, thick, meaty ham. In all respects he is a typical porker.

POULTRY YARD

DIRTY EGGS WILL NOT KEEP.

In laying down eggs for winter use care should be taken to see that they are perfectly clean. The shell is porous and the colors of any filth attached to it quickly penetrates to the interior and begins the process of decomposition. It is impossible to keep eggs many months and have them exactly like fresh eggs. The evaporation from the egg robs it of moisture, though this is largely prevented by immersing the egg in lime water. But all water, except that which has been just boiled, contains some air. Packing eggs in salt will keep them for a short time, and is the easiest and cheapest way of keeping for home use.

THE CAUSE OF SMALL EGGS.

The *Farmers' Voice* says the steady improvement in the grade of poultry kept by farmers has resulted in the increased size of eggs. This difference is so marked that the eggs produced in the North always command in the markets a higher price than those from the South, where the improved breeds have been more slowly introduced. In that section the under-size of poultry and egg is double the size chief due to the lack of new blood. The debilitating effect of the heat is sometimes given as the explanation, but the true one is rather the lack of care and proper attention to breeding, the indirect result of the climate, which, by permitting the birds to forage all the year round relieves the owner of much trouble, but at the same time checks his interest in their best development.

TAR FOR POULTRY.

Poultry raisers seem to have failed to learn the value of tar. It is valuable in many ways, says C. W. Norris in the *Epitomist*. I am led to believe that to tar the fence around the poultry house, instead of whitewashing, will be much better. It will contribute largely to the durability of the wood, protecting it from storm and time. It is in the poultry house that the value of tar is the greatest, for it conduces greatly toward healthfulness.

When cholera makes its appearance, we would advise, first, a thorough cleaning of the house. Next, an application of tar on all the joints, cracks and crevices of the inside of the building, and then plenty of white wash properly applied. The tar absorbs or drives away the taint of disease and makes the premises wholesome. The small is not offensive—in fact, many people like it, and it is directly opposite to unhealthy. To vermin, lice, etc., the smell of tar is very repulsive, and but few will remain after you have tarred the house. A neighbor of ours was once troubled with chicken cholera, and by adopting the above, in connection with removing affected fowls, he soon put a stop to its ravages. A small lump of tar in the drinking water supplied to the fowls will be found beneficial.—*Farmers' Voice*.

FEEDING ON FARMS.

The slightest change in the food may be the turning point to laying. It is certainly gratifying to know that farmers who raise poultry at the present day have changed the methods in vogue a quarter of a century ago. The time has been when poultry was not considered deserving of any attention at all from the farmer. It was as much out of his line as baking bread or sweeping the rooms of the dwelling-house. The

hens were allowed to go anywhere on the farm in winter; but they remained near the cattle, seeking food wherever they could find a morsel. Some times the farmer's wife, with her sympathy for helpless creatures, would laboriously wend her way through the snow to give her pets a mess of corn; but so far as the farmer himself was concerned, he did not consider them worthy of notice. The farmer however, never overlooked the returns. He would naturally wonder why the hens did not lay, but though he really had no right to expect something from nothing, yet he would lay the fault to the refusal of the hens to produce eggs rather than to their inability to do so. As the pure breeds began to be developed, the farmer took some interest in poultry, and gradually the hens have been given better treatment.

At the present day, says the *Farm and Fireside*, the farmer is more prone to make his mistakes in overdoing the work and in using but little judgment in feeding. He feeds liberally, but depends too much on grain. A slight change in the food will sometimes accomplish much. When the hens have been given corn exclusively they require something that is radically different. Lean meat or a ration composed of bran and linseed meal may start the hens to laying, simply because such foods are just what they require. Grain is deficient in mineral matter, and as it abounds largely in starch. Foods that contain less starch and more mineral matter and nitrogen will be a change that will cheapen the cost of the food, because more eggs will be the result.

Corn is not favored as a summer food, because it is too heating and too fattening; but there is an advantage in feeding corn to fowls that are intended for market. Do not attempt to fatten fowls on nothing but corn, as they may suffer from indigestion. Let the fowls receive three meals a day, and of a variety of anything that they will eat, allowing a mess of chopped grass or clover, and give the corn at night, as much as the hens will eat. Every other day give a mess of equal parts of bran and ground oats, with a little of linseed meal in the mixture for a dozen hens. Keep the poultry house clean, and the fowls will fatten rapidly.

FREE COINAGE.

Mr. Tomlinson Gives Eleven Reasons Why He Favors It.

Hon. John W. Tomlinson, a prominent attorney of Birmingham, Ala., tells the *New York Mercury* why he favors free coinage of silver as follows:
"First—Because the single gold standard is unfair to the debtor class."
"Second—Because there is not now a sufficient amount of gold for a circulating medium."
"Third—Because the parity would then be maintained naturally instead of artificially, as at present."
"Fourth—Because the production of gold is not keeping pace with increasing population and business."
"Fifth—Because under the single gold standard, gold is comparatively constantly appreciating."
"Sixth—Because, like a river fed from two sources, the circulating medium would then be less liable to fluctuation."
"Seventh—Because both gold and silver, as primary money, is the constitutional money of the people."
"Eighth—Because it would be more difficult for gamblers in the money centers to corner both gold and silver."
"Ninth—Because there would be two metals as primary money, so that the debtor might have the option in which he would pay."
"Tenth—Because now in the transaction of the business of the world credit has to be resorted to, which is conducive of panics and is too expensive, except for those favored few who own the gilt edge, easily convertible securities."
"Eleventh—Because it would hasten the development of this comparatively new country, for the masses of the people, while having property, have not the money now with which to invest in new enterprises, and from bitter past experience they are not likely for some time to come to borrow, even to start new industries."

UNMASKED! A BOLD ATTEMPT OF THE USURER CLASS TO DECEIVE THE PEOPLE, EXPOSED.

We would call the serious attention of every reader of the *Arena* to the following editorial taken from a recent number of the *Farm Record*. It is difficult to conceive of anything more insidious or dangerous to its character than this systematic method of the usurer class to deceive the great wealth-producing masses at the most crucial moment in the history of our nation, at the moment when the policy of the Bank of England, which has reduced our wealth creators from a condition of marvelous prosperity to that of dependence upon capitalism, is preparing to strike its final blow. These conspirators against the wealth makers have entered into a plan for systematically prostituting the country press of the South and West. We believe, however, that the intelligence of the people of these sections and the bitterness of their condition are such, that they will promptly discontinue all papers which begin to publish these deceiving communications which are calculated to fasten forever the chains of serfdom upon the wealth creators of the republic. This is the editorial as published in the *Farm Record*.

There was mailed to this office from the gold bug den at 52 Williams street, New York City, on July 24th, a letter containing three sheets. One is a list of books against the so called "silver craze," at prices ranging from fifty cents to one cent each. This is legitimate business if anyone wants to buy the stuff, but by reading the other sheets we find that free editorials are going to all who will take them. One letter begins: "Inclosed herewith is a sample of our broadsides. * * * We offer to deliver them to your office free of all charges, as often as once in two weeks, in sufficient quantity to cover your subscription list. * * * We offer similar matter in plate form free of all express charges." The other sheet says: "We have ordered the American Press Association to ship our second page of 'Sound Currency' stereotype plates to you." * * * Signed "Calvin Tompkins, Secretary." This office never asked for any plates. * *

In still another sheet inclosed is a report of what has been done by this den of pirates, saying: "We are now supplying, every two weeks, properly dated and printed with the names of the papers circulating them, broadside supplements sufficient to accompany the full editions of two hundred local papers in every part of the country, most largely in the South and West and Southwest. In this way the sound currency literature is carried direct into the homes of rural voters as a part of the only paper they take, in most cases, and which they therefore read from beginning to end, and some four hundred thousand full page sheets of sound currency literature distributed each fortnight." Again: "We are now supplying over one hundred papers (and the number rapidly increasing) with plate matter."
Further on in the report it is stated that this den has in its employ over thirty clerks and editors, and says the expenses will be very heavy from now until November, when a rest of two months will be had, after which "expenses will rise again as the time approaches of first preparations for the national conventions in June, 1896." Here is the open avowal that they will expend vast sums during the preparation for the national conventions. What does this mean? It means that no delegate will be chosen to a national convention next summer unless he wear a gold collar. The "rifle diet" is just ahead. Get ready for it. It is now "unconstitution to tax the rich" or to grant a poor man a jury trial. What will be the next step? The poisoning of the fountains of public information is preparing for a coup d'etat that will throw civilization back five hundred years, or it will fall, and she will leap forward into a newer and more brilliant career than was ever dreamed of by enthusiasts.

In commenting on this conspiracy, the *Chicago Express* well observes that the determination of the money power, in its conspiracy, to poison the minds of the voters by subsidizing every possible avenue of news has long been evident, but recent movements in that direction are more obtrusive, pushed more openly and with greater energy than ever before.—*The Arena*, Boston.

Seventy thousand employees are to be found in the sweat shops of New York City.

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