

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

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THE NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

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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.

PAPERS.

Progressive Farmer, State Organ, Raleigh, N. C.
 Caucasian, Raleigh, N. C.
 Mercury, Raleigh, N. C.
 Satcher, Raleigh, N. C.
 Our Home, Raleigh, N. C.
 The Populist, Raleigh, N. C.
 The People's Paper, Raleigh, N. C.
 The Vestibule, Raleigh, N. C.
 The Plow-Boy, Raleigh, N. C.
 Carolina Watchman, Raleigh, N. C.

We believe that our farmers are going to carry out the start made toward intensive and diversified farming.

All kinds of fertilizers are good, but none of them beats home-home fertilizers. See that you have a good manure pen and save everything.

One hardly knows what he will plant this year, prices are so universally depressed. But fruit and vegetable growing, under favorable conditions, will be favored.

North Carolina farmers need to keep up with the modern improvements such as wire fencing, incubators, improved machinery of all kinds, and blooded stock.

The South must come to the conclusion to grow more of other crops and less of cotton and the North must turn most of its wheat fields into other lines of production.

When blue grass first began to appear in Illinois the question was, how to get rid of it. It often happens that better ways and crops come to our notice by chance.

The breakfast food made at the Tacoma, Washington, mill, out of wheat, is growing in popularity, and is taking the place of oat meal. We predict that its sale will increase manifold.

It is admitted that more brains are required in successful farming than in any other calling. Then a young man can make a name for himself as a farmer as well as he can at any other business. Pluck and push, backed by brains, will bring success.

The farmer who has obtained high priced stock is some times tempted to breed from it too young. It is natural that he should want to make it remunerative as soon as possible, but until animals are reasonably well developed they are not in a condition to be profitable as breeding stock.

It was formerly thought that whatever cattle could obtain in the fields in the late fall was a clear gain to their owner, but farmers who have studied their business closely have come to the conclusion that late grazing is an injury to the grass plants, and that frosted material is of very little value for feeding.

EXPERIMENTS IN IRISH AND SWEET POTATO GROWING.

Dr. B. D. Halsted, State Botanist of New Jersey, in a lecture on the year's experiments with root crops, says: "Using lime at the rate of 300 bushels per acre, corrosive sublimate at the rate of 36 gallons (diluted 1 to 1,000) with water, also, sulphur at the rate of 300 pounds per acre, and Bordeaux mixture at the same rate as the corrosive sublimate, on Irish potatoes, the result of the experiment proved that the use of the sulphur was the most effectual, leaving but 5 per cent. of scabby potatoes. The Professor recommended rolling the cut seed, first in the flour of sulphur, and applying the balance in the row. The experiments carried on at the station, as well as on the farm of J. H. Denise, of Freehold, on soil badly effected by the scab, both resulted in favor of the sulphur. Those treated with lime being exceptionally scabby, as well as those where nothing was used.

He also showed the result of experiments made on the farm of G. W. Jessup, of Cinnaminson, for the soil rot in the sweet potato, using as high as 1,000 bushels of lime per acre, and sulphur at the rate of 650 pounds per acre, sulphur proving in this case also more effectual for the soil rot. The Professor showed by illustration the wonderful result of spraying potato vines with Bordeaux mixture to prevent the blight. The result was very marked, the unsprayed plot yielding 90 bushels per acre of inferior tubers, while the sprayed plot yielded 225 bushels of superior potatoes.

It is predicted that within a few years all the work of the farm will be done by electricity. Not in a few years. The time may come when electricity will play a considerable part in farming, but it will take longer than a few years. It is true that it may be utilized for some portion of the power used on the farm in the not very distant future.

CORN CONTEST.

In the contest for the best dozen ears of corn grown on a single acre in 1895 instituted by B. F. Avery & Sons, of Louisville, Ky., of which notice was given in our columns, the premiums were awarded recently to the following parties in North Carolina:

- FIVE ENTRIES.
- Summary for the State: Exhibits generally excellent, being among the best from all the States. Yield of grain high, and very hard. Beautiful straight rows; fine milling corn. One sample had beautiful, big grains, apparently like St. Charles corn of the St. Louis grade.
- J. H. Barringer, Rowan county, first prize.
 - A. N. Biggerstaff, Lincoln county, second prize.
 - L. B. Macon, Randolph county, third prize.
 - Geo. Dunham, Guilford county, fourth prize.
 - J. R. Williams, Sampson county, fifth prize.

There seems no limit to the devices of swindlers. A man has been traveling through parts of Illinois and Wisconsin selling memberships in the National Butter and Cheesemakers' Association. Of course, he's a fraud. Why will people be so foolish as to patronize utter strangers who tell a plausible story, and pay them good money? An old proverb tells of a class of persons who are soon parted from their money.

WILD ONIONS.

No sooner do the mild days even of winter come than we have enquiries as to how to get rid of these pests. The first few warm days make them spring out of the ground, and they afford the first bite of green food for the stock, which eagerly grazes upon them. If this stock be mica cows, we have spoiled milk and butter, and a remedy wanted for the destruction of the noxious weeds. We know of no means of getting rid of the onions except by adopting a short rotation of cultivated crops, and by the growth of cow peas, crimson clover, or other smothering crop when not in a cultivated crop. As the onions propagate not only by the roots, but by "top seed," these latter must be prevented from forming by cutting the clover or grain crop for feed before the top sets form. The destruction of the tops will weaken the roots, and eventually kill them, even without cultivation of the land, but the process is a slow one. By cultivation, the roots may be exposed to the action of the sun and wind, and thus be destroyed. If the onions infest

a pasture, it is a good practice to turn a flock of sheep on to the field before the cows are allowed to graze. Sheep are fond of onions, and will bite them off close to the ground, and the cows will afterwards prevent their growth to such an extent as to injure the flavor of the milk or butter.—Southern Planter.

TO MAKE THE SOUTH RICH AND PROSPEROUS.

The central thought running through out the entire convention of the American Cotton Growers' Protective Association, recently held at Memphis, was smaller acreage. Appeal is made to growers for cooperative action in planting the new crop. In the report of the committee, of which Hector D. Lane was chairman, congratulations were expressed that the appeal made a year ago was so generally responded to, and that the '95 crop made upon the diminished acreage, has had the effect of greatly increasing the price and benefiting the entire South. It is pointed out that the latest crop, though estimated 3,400,000 bales short of the crop of 1894, was in the markets of the world worth more by nearly \$30,000,000. The consensus of opinion among many of the best thinkers interested was that, if the crop could be held within the limits of 7,000,000 bales annually for 10 years, the people of the Southern States would be the richest and most prosperous in the world. It was urged that the fight be continued on the lines laid down, restricting the production of the staple; that the cotton States must be made self-supporting; that more land must be put in clover and grasses for hogs to run on, and farm crops more generally diversified in order to attain best results.

NEW METHOD WITH IRISH POTATOES.

The secret of the new method of potato growing is to grow the potatoes before planting and dig the potatoes planted.

Sprout the potatoes and raise little potatoes from the sprouts to plant. To obtain these results the discoverer of the new method constructed a sprouting house with double walls filled in with sawdust and sawdust overhead, and double doors. The seed potatoes are put into old barrels and small boxes to keep them warm and make them sprout. The room is kept warm by means of a charcoal fire in a bake oven. The young potatoes will begin to grow, and in four to six weeks they will be the size of peas.

The discoverer tells how he plants in the following language: "I now knock the barrels or boxes to pieces, and I find a mass of roots and sprouts and myriads of little new potatoes. The numerous roots hold the whole mass together, and I load it on handbarrow and have two men carry it down the row while I break off a handful of the mass and drop it on the bank in the furrow already prepared, as stated. Count the little potatoes on the stems until you can form an idea of how much a handful you must break off. Your hand should not contain more than forty or less than twenty.

"I plant in a water furrow, but leave a narrow balk in the bottom, and upon this I drop the seed every eighteen inches. Part of the seed falls on one side of the balk and part on the other, so I have really a double hill. I cover with two furrows. The seed I use is generally the size of English peas, though they run from the size of a bird's eye, to that of a marble. Of these I drop from twenty to sixty in each hill, and if there is enough rain every one will make a fine potato. It never takes more than seventy five potatoes grown in this way to make a bushel, and often sixty will do it; but it takes manure to grow them. After rains, I put on liquid manure in addition to the manure already in the soil. The manure governs the yield."

It is claimed by the new method, potatoes can be grown in from four to six weeks, while the old method requires from three to four months. By the new method, six crops can be raised annually. Of course, the ground is heavily fertilized.—The Horticultural Gleaner.

Bulletins from the agricultural experiment stations should constitute valuable additions to the farm library. The husbandman who fails to keep well abreast of the times as to the comparative value of the various modes of planting, cultivating, feeding, etc., under the varied conditions which confront him in climate, elevation, soil, moisture is at a disadvantage.

THE DAIRY.

HOME DAIRYING.

Four Parts--Part Two.
 Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer.
 RAISE YOUR OWN COWS.

There are at least two reasons why it is better to raise each member of a herd of dairy cows. One is that a cow is more contented on the farm and with the surroundings where she has been reared. The other is the owner has an opportunity from the day the calf is dropped till it is a full fledged cow to make it gentle. Kindness is an important stock in trade on a dairy farm, as it is everywhere, for that matter. If you think it is too small business to show kindness to dumb animals and to even pet them, you better stay out of the dairy business if already out, or get out if in it.

COMFORT.
 Aim to make your cows comfortable, happy and contented. To secure comfort for them in the cold portions of the year, suitable provisions for sheltering and bedding must be had, and constant and unremitting care and attention must be given to them, and to all details that can in any way relate to their comfort.

FEED AND FEEDING.
 The subject of feed is one that I need not, and in fact cannot go into details at this time. Every farmer should have at least one dairy paper, or one agricultural paper with a dairy department. For in such paper or department will be found from time to time formulas for rations suitable for butter-producing cows. But over and over all such information the farmer wants to study the appetites of the individuals of his herd and the capacity of each to assimilate food. Then use common sense liberally.

MILKING.
 If the right kind of stalls are provided and proper bedding and enough of it used, the udders of the cows will be fairly free from objectionable matter, but what little there may be found on them should be carefully brushed off before putting the pail in place to begin milking.

I will not go into all the details of milking, but will say it should be done gently, quietly and quickly. It is better that each cow has the same milker all the time.

ANIMAL ODOR.
 If all the details from the stabling and bedding of the cows to the drawing of the milk has been correctly and carefully attended to, there will be no animal odor. So called animal odor is the odor of manure—nothing more, nothing less. Of it T. H. Hoskins, M. D., wrote sixteen years ago last June in the Rural New Yorker as follows:

"Ventilate your cow stables, keep your cows clean, give them good food and pure water, keep yourself and your surroundings clean while handling the product, from the udder to the butter tub, and you will never be troubled with the 'animal odor.'" Another ghost has been laid, another witch has disappeared."

F. W. MOSELEY.

WORLD'S FAIR DAIRY TEST NO. 4, HEIFERS.

Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer.
 This test was for a period of 21 days, from Sept. 30 to Oct. 30, 1893, inclusive. The original rules provided that it should be for 30 days, and that the value of the products should be ascertained in the same manner as in Test No. 2—by the churn and analysis of the solids other than butter fat. But inasmuch as these tests had cost the World's Exposition authorities over \$73,000 up to that time, Chief Buchanan, on the ground of economy, changed the mode by which the butter was ascertained by dispensing with the churn, and having the milk of each cow and of the breeds analyzed in the laboratory by Prof. Farrington, and the fat ascertained by the Babcock oil test. From this fact the butter was estimated upon the basis of 80 per cent. oil in the butter, and the estimated butter so ascertained was valued at 40 cents per pound. The solids other than butter fat were valued at \$2 per hundred pounds.

The heifers were to be less than three years old on the first of September, 1893. By the rules, each breed was limited to not more than ten and not less than five head. The Jerseys entered seven head, the Short Horns six, the Guernseys none. Inasmuch as the Jerseys had one more head than the Short Horns, it is necessary for comparison to give the averages per head, which were as follows: In milk the

Jerseys averaged per head 479.5 lbs., to 430.1 lbs. of the Short Horns; daily average for the Jerseys per head, 22.83 lbs. Five of the Jerseys averaged 24.48 lbs. per head per day. The average quantity of fat in milk for the Jerseys was 22.19 lbs. per head, and 16.31 lbs. per head for the Short Horns. The estimated butter was—Jerseys, 27.75 lbs. per head; Short-Horns, 20.39 lbs. per head. The value of butter was—Jerseys, \$11.098 per head; Short-Horns, \$8.158 per head; or a daily average per head of 52 cents for the Jerseys and 38 cents for the Short-Horns. The value of products less cost of feed, and without considering increase in live weight, gives the Jerseys an average net profit of \$7.075, and the Short Horns \$5.023, or a daily average per head to the Jerseys of \$0.337, and to the Short Horns of \$0.239. By the rules, the increase in live weight was credited at 4 cents per pound, and the Short Horns, true to their breed characteristics, cut down the amount of profit very materially, as they gained an average of 3 lbs. per head per day, equal to over 13 cents per head per day, the average value of the Short Horn gain in weight being \$2.88 per head, to \$0.964 for the Jerseys. Notwithstanding this unprecedented gain, the Jerseys were again victorious, in the quantity of milk, quantity of solids other than butter fat and in the net profit, and were declared to be the winners.

WATCH THE MILKER.

Mr. J. G. Spicer before the Illinois Dairyman's Association, called attention to a very important matter, in saying that the habit of some milkers of keeping the teats of the cows wet while milking is very far from being commendable. But we find it quite a task some times to remedy the evil with new men who have before practiced that way. "Not much," they say, "drips into the pail from the outside." I ask "how much of that would you like in your milk or coffee for breakfast?" and that usually ends the argument and remedies the evil. If not, better discharge or put the man at some other job that has no connection with the production of human food by way of the dairy. Care in the highest sense of the word should be followed by all milkers, that the milk may be absolutely clean and free from bad odors when drawn. The atmosphere in which the milk is kept must be pure. Nothing is more susceptible to bad odors than milk and cream, and when from any cause that has been introduced into either of them, the flavor most desirable and considered by expert judges to be 50 per cent. of the real value, is driven out.

EASY TO RAISE.

The breeder of draft horses has several compensating advantages. For instance, he has fewer miles, his colts will stand rougher treatment, and if they should get injured by barb wire or otherwise the depreciation in value thereby is very slight. In addition to this the finer bred colts demand a certain amount of breaking, handling, training and fitting for which the average farmer has neither the ability nor the time. While, says a well known horse breeder in speaking of this matter, I admit the possibility of an intelligent breeder getting much higher prices individually for fine roasters and coaches than he can hope to obtain for draft horses, I believe that the average farmer, situated as he is, will more generally find it to his best interests to stay by the draft horse; and if he raises half a dozen draft colts in a season they will net him at maturity more money in the aggregate than the same number of roasters.

PREVENTIVE OF DISEASE.

Exercise on high ground may mitigate the hog cholera trouble, by increasing the extent of exhalation, so relieving the blood in some degree of the accumulated poisons. Regular daily exercise in good sized pastures, or in open grounds, together with a greater variety and more albuminous quality of food, is a preventive treatment that can exempt swine from the invasion of bacteria. Keep the blood of the hogs sound by a healthy supply of oxygen from regular exercise and full breathing, and bacteria or cholera, will not affect the hogs, nor vex their owners. And the only sure preventive of lung fevers in cows, or other cattle, is regular, moderate exercise in whole some air, thus cooling the circulation, while supplying a healthy proportion of oxygenated blood, that will not irritate the lungs, while such a quality of blood certainly forms sound tissue, in renewing general growth, or in enlarging size in growing cattle or swine.

HORTICULTURE.

RENOVATING OLD APPLE ORCHARDS.

The almost universal complaint of apple growers throughout the central, middle and eastern States is that their old orchards seem to have run out; at least, they no longer bear profitable crops. Elaborate investigations have been made by the Cornell Experiment Station, and many investigations by New England's commercial horticulturists, and they agree in ascribing the trouble largely to exhaustion of soil and lack of culture. This matter has been thoroughly discussed at horticultural and other meetings the past year and during the present year. All testimony goes to show that where the land is capable of being plowed, it should be thoroughly worked. Even an old orchard that has long been in grass is benefited rather than injured by breaking of roots, which a thorough plowing for the first time accomplishes. This is contrary to the general impression. Even J. H. Hale said to the Connecticut Board of Agriculture that he doubted whether it would be best for him to pursue this plan in an old orchard he had just bought, but J. H. Merriman said he had done just this with an old orchard. He thoroughly plowed, dressed liberally with unleached wood ashes and stable manure, and kept the cultivator going up to July. Result, over 1,000 barrels of choice red Baldwins, sold at good prices, from 17 acres that previously was of little value.

All experience goes to show that sod treatment of an apple orchard "is a revival of the time when orchards were mere incidental accessories to the farm, and when the destiny of the apple was the cider barrel." Neglect of tillage or cultivation is the most universal fault. This tillage should begin early in the season, should be applied to the entire surface, and should be so done as to keep the land in fine and uniform tilth. Prof. Bailey says this tillage should be stopped in late summer or early fall, but the experience of several large and successful commercial orchardists favors stopping culture early in July. If weeds come up after culture ceases, mow them for a mulch before they have gone to seed. All authorities agree that only hoed crops should be grown in the orchard, and only such as can be harvested by mid summer, while it is better not to grow any. Never seed to grass or grain, which occupies the whole land and takes up the moisture the trees so much require. Irrigation is advised where practicable during the June drouth, and is the best known antidote for the dropping of fruit due to an August or September drouth.

FRUITS TO SUPPLY A FAMILY.

The question is often asked, "What shall I plant in order to obtain a full supply of fresh fruit for a family the year round?" It is difficult to give a precise list, as in some seasons the crop may be many times greater than in others; and again, some will bear abundantly and others will fail in the same season. The following, however, will serve as an approximation:

The earliest fruits, about the first of summer, will be strawberries. A selection of the most productive sorts, well cultivated, will afford about one quart a day from each square rod for a month. Three or four square rods will, therefore, give an abundant supply for a family. Four or five hundred plants will be sufficient for this extent of ground. These will be followed by earliest cherries, and by currants, raspberries and gooseberries. Two dozen bushes of each of the four best sorts of currants, the same number of raspberries, and two dozen of gooseberry, will, if well cultivated, furnish an abundant supply. One dozen cherry trees will be enough. Two or three dozen bushes of the blackberry will supply a quart a day for some weeks toward the close of summer. Apricots, early apples, and early pears, and a few of the earliest plums, will commence the season of abundance which, with the later varieties of these fruits, will last till near winter. Winter apples and pears, and all the good keeping varieties of the grape, will continue the supply until spring. Long keeping apples, if placed in a good, cool fruit room or cellar, will continue until the commencement of the new supply of strawberries.

So the last sad rites over the remains of the Democratic party are to be performed in Chicago. Nothing inappropriate about that.—Topeka Advocate.