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# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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

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in Virginia, especially in Albemarle county, it has been commonly known as the Albemarle pippin. This apple was originally grown on the old Pelham farm on the Hudson river, and has since become famous as an export apple. Being so firm, it endures transportation and handling much better than any fruit of its kind.

"The Division of Pomology, of the Department of Agriculture has in preparation a revised catalogue of the American Pomological Society, which will be published as a bulletin of the Department of Agriculture. This bulletin will contain a map showing the different fruit districts of the United States and Canada.

"The Department having adopted this catalogue, or revised lists of fruits as authority in the proper nomenclature, it is desirable that this system should be thoroughly used throughout the country in order to avoid the confusion arising from one fruit having several peculiar names in different sections of the country. It is hoped that the nurserymen will observe the rules of nomenclature in publishing their catalogues which will assist very much in harmonizing the names of fruits.

"The proof sheets have been received of an agricultural paper read by Dr. L. O. Howard, the Entomologist of the Department of Agriculture, before the Association of American Economic Entomologists, entitled 'Temperature experiments as affecting received ideas on the hibernation of injurious insects.'

"It is a well known fact among agriculturists and horticulturists that winter weather of a set degree of severity, is more favorable to plant growth, than an open winter with frozes and thaws. farmers and others whether a winter the question now comes to us all from which has been unusually severe will not have resulted in the destruction of insects to such an extent as to promise comparative immunity, the coming season. We have been obliged, or at least I have been obliged to answer such questions theoretically. There have been, so far as we are aware no experiments along this line. I therefore give the result of recent experiments by Dr. Albert M. Read, the Washington manager of the cold storage department of the American Security and Trust Company; the same gentleman who directed the experiments on the effect of cold storage upon household insects.

"Dr. Read has found, in the course of his experiments which have now extended over two years, that a systematic temperature in the neighborhood of 18 degrees F. will not destroy the larvae of *tinicola bisulphella* (carpet moth) or the ategenus piceus (black carpet beetle) but, an alternation of the low temperature with a comparatively high one, invariably, results in the death of the larvae of these two insects. For example, the larvae, which has been kept at a temperature of 18 degrees were removed to a temperature of from 40 to 50 degrees. They became slightly active and when returned to the lower temperature and kept there for a little time did not revive upon their restoration to a warm temperature."

The Department of Agriculture is very much interested at the present time, in the introduction of American butter into the markets of Great Britain, with a view to competing with the French and Danish for the British custom.

To further this project the department has shipped eight 1,000 pound lots, at intervals of two weeks, during the past summer. The butter that has thus far been sent, was made in creameries in Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Wisconsin, Ohio, South Dakota, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York.

The results thus far ascertained seem to show that the Western shippers are to get the most of the benefit from the export trade because they do not have a very satisfactory home market, and consequently the Western butter makers will ship the bulk of their product to England.

The department has made one trial of fresh or unsalted butter, but it was not very satisfactory, and the experiment may be repeated in the near future. The department buys the butter from the creameries which have been highly recommended and which have been prize winners where they have shown their products. Every step of the journey from the creamery to the market is watched and the department expects to be able to point out the places where there is need of improvement.

## Notice! Please Read!

We wish to call your attention to our great offer. It is this: To any one not now a subscriber to this paper, we will send THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER every week until January 1, 1898 for only One Dollar.

We want 10,000 new subscribers under the terms of this offer. We want you to help us. This offer would not be a great one were it given by a paper that lives on campaign funds or is rehashed from patent outside or dailies. But for a paper of the size and character of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, it is a great offer.

It does not become us to boast. "We don't have to." Persons who know the paper know its merits. But as we are sending out numerous samples this week, we wish "to stake a few claims" as Klondykers say, and we defy any one to pull up these stakes. If you are not a subscriber, please consider well the following facts; if you are a subscriber, you know the truth of these statements, but will you kindly call your neighbor's attention to them?

The following facts show just a few reasons why you should take THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. After you have taken it for a while you can give many more reasons for saying it is the best North Carolina paper.

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- There is no other paper of any size, shape, price or character in the State (except those weeklies re-hashed from dailies) that is—
- (1) As large as THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER;
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- Yours for business,

## The Progressive Farmer.

RALEIGH, N. C. NOVEMBER 16, 1897. DON'T DELAY!

## AGRICULTURE.

### THE LATEST FARM NEWS.

Special Correspondence of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

"The failure of the apple crop in the North this year, in combination with the exceedingly crops at Piedmont, Virginia, and South Carolina, has aroused great interest in apple growing in that section of the South," says W. S. Taylor, the Assistant Pomologist of the Agricultural Department. "I have just returned from a trip to that region, where I attended the meetings of the Virginia State Horticultural Association which was held in connection with the recent Lynchburg Fair.

"The prices the apple growers are receiving are phenomenal. They are getting from \$3 per barrel for apples to Winesaps, New York Imperial and Ben Davis, up to \$5 and \$6 a barrel for Yellow Newton Pippins, which grow in that section under the name of Albemarle Pippins. One man whom I met last week, Mr. W. H. Boez, of Chesapeake, Va., has sold his crop from 100 of pippins for \$20,000 and several growers of pippins have had offers of \$14,000 to \$15,000 for their crops. There seems to be a disposition, however, among the growers of pippins to hold their crops in anticipation of still higher prices.

"They freight the pippins almost entirely to England, and at the stations along the railroad from Charlottesville to Lynchburg, the bales are piled up with 'American Produce' which signifies that the fruit is for export, as that is one of the requirements for entry in British ports.

"The orchards of that region are very different from the orchards of the North and West. They are largely mountain coves, and on hillsides, the land being quite stony and rough. Pippins are almost entirely grown in the lands that have a southern exposure, and are protected from cold winds by hills and low mountain ranges.

"Other fruits are grown to some extent in the same region; peaches, in all ways, plums, and a few pears; and the principal fruit industry of the region is the growing of winter apples. Each year premiums at the Lynchburg Fair has been forwarded to the Madison Square Garden, New York City, for exhibition at the American Institute Fair.

"The Albemarle pippin was originally known as the Newton pippin, but it has been grown so extensively

"Now, on the other hand, if the people of that section devoted themselves to a number of products, say, cotton, oranges, figs, olives and camphor, there would be hardly a possibility of anything occurring that would destroy all of them at one time, so that they would have one or more product to fall back on in case of the failure of others.

"The Department of Agriculture is doing a great deal to induce the extension of olive growing. The olive is cultivated quite extensively in California, and with great profit, for olives growers sell all of their product right in their own State so that almost none of it comes East.

"The department is now trying to induce olive growing in the South, but like everything else connected with this branch of the department, it is slow work. The people want to see some one growing the thing and know that it is profitable before they will attempt it themselves.

"Our experiment stations throughout the country do not do as much in that line as they would. They should take hold of some of these articles and show that they can be grown successfully and with profit, and have sufficient accurate data to give to the people in regard to the various products. They spend too much time growing lots of potatoes in order to ascertain which is the earliest—a fact which the farmers know—instead of introducing new things and showing that there is profit in their growth.

"The olive was introduced into Florida about 150 years ago by the Minorcans, who came to this country from Spain, and olives are known to have been grown as far North as South Carolina. The Minorcans were a kind of semi-slave race, and were all the time fighting among themselves, and with other nations who drove them out of Florida, and the olive industry then went to ruin.

"This raising of olives is not all there is to the industry. The hardest part is to get in with the trade. A gentleman from the South, who had raised olives took his oil to New York; but the merchants there would not buy it, and he afterwards sold it to a shoe factory. The merchants said that the people who use olive oil are very particular, and only use certain brands of imported olives. They said they could not sell a new brand and consequently would not buy his oil. It requires a great deal of time, and American olives can only be made profitable when the people realize that the American product is as good as the imported one.

"In California, when the people first made olive oil, they had the same trouble in selling it, and in fact gave it away until the people began to find out that it was a splendid article. The demand for California olive oil increased until now the supply does not equal the demand."

FRANK D. FAY.

"The butter is shipped to the Agent of the Bureau of Animal Industry, at London, and he places it in the hands of commission men or retailers as he sees fit, and gets from them and the consumers statements concerning the butter and their ideas of it as compared with other butter which is found on the market at the same time. These statements have been most encouraging, and in many cases they are to the effect that the American butter is better than it was possible to find on the market before its advent.

"The shipments of the department have resulted in some of the large commission men in London sending over to the Americans to make permanent arrangements to take their entire outfit, and some shippers on this side have forwarded butter in carload lots on the strength of reports which have come from those who have been handling the department butter.

A great many inquiries have been received at the department for directions as to how to prepare and pack butter for the English market, and a bulletin will be issued and arranged giving in full the information which has been obtained by experiments.

It has been found that the best American butter can be sold at 1 shilling 1 penny, which is the price paid by the English consumers for the Danish, French, and Finnish butter of the very best quality. Some of the experiments have shown decided profits. The department has also shown that butter in small packages, half pound or pound prints can be placed on the market in good condition, but London commission men say that they would rather have it in larger packages.

"Every section of the country that devotes itself to the raising of one product, exclusively, is subject to failure and possible ruin," says Horticulturist Saunders, of the Department of Agriculture. "In an endeavor to prevent this calamity, the department is encouraging the production of a number of farm products throughout the country.

"The people of Florida devoted themselves almost entirely to the raising of oranges, and what was the result? When the heavy frosts of a few years ago visited that section of the country the entire orange crop was destroyed, and furthermore, the trees suffered so that it will take them years to recover and become fruitful. Cotton is raised most extensively throughout the South and were something to occur to that product the entire South would be almost ruined.

**INJUSTICE TO SEEDSMEN.**

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer. RICHMOND, Va., Nov. 11, 1897.

The editor of the American Agriculturist, of Oct. 16th, 1897, says: "Much has been said about the disposition of Secretary Wilson to restore the seed distribution of the United States Department of Agriculture to its original design of importing and distributing new, rare, and promising specialties. It now seems that this is all mere empty talk. The advertisement inviting bids for seeds, bulbs, etc., for the ensuing year, specifies only seed of beet, cabbage, carrot, celery, cucumber, egg plant, lettuce, cantaloupe, watermelon, onion, parsnip, radish, rutabagas, squash, tomato, turnip, beans, peas, sweet and field corn, to bacco, Australian salt bush, cotton, cowpeas, Canada field peas, vicia villosa, alsike clover, alfalfa, Bermuda grass, lawn grass, mangel wurzel, kidney vetch, and choice varieties of flowers. It will be seen that the official list includes only the commonest stock seeds, such as every seedsman furnishes at ridiculously low prices. And the amount of this common stuff sent out in each batch of the free seed distribution is too small to be of any practical use. Evidently the free seed humbug is to be as big a fraud under Mr. Wilson as it has been heretofore. The whole thing ought to be wiped out, thus saving the \$150,000 or more (and the cost of mailing) that is practically wasted by the present plan of giving each M. C. a few seeds with which to deceive himself into the idea that he is winning votes by giving them away. The thing is an insult to American farmers."

The Democrat and Chronicle, of Rochester, N. Y., on Oct. 21, 1897, gives one result of the free distribution of seeds: "Briggs Bros. & Co., of this city, have gone to the wall, owing, they claim, to the government furnishing seeds free, so that the people will not buy of them. This firm dates back nearly sixty years, and was one of the largest dealers in seeds at one time."

Now all that seedsmen ask is fair play. They have constant reminders of the baneful influence of the free distribution of seeds upon their business in the shape of former customers stating that they now get their supply of seeds from their Congressman, and country stores now require very little because their trade is destroyed through their neighbors receiving free seeds from the government. Seedsmen think they can with confidence appeal to the public for aid in fighting this gigantic government competitor, with whom they are unable to compete, because they are able to give away seeds, as they are paid for by the taxes of the people; whereas, on the other hand, the seedsmen have to go to great expense in procuring them.

They further look with confidence to the public for help, as it is not believed that they wish to see people driven from an occupation to which they have devoted their lives, and through which they support themselves and families; and after seedsmen have done more to advance agriculture in introducing improved culture and varieties than any other class.

Over twenty millions of packets of seeds were distributed free last year, each Senator and Congressman having over forty-two thousand packets each to send to voters. Gen. Le Duc, a former Commissioner of Agriculture, reported that "thousands and thousands of dollars worth of seeds have passed through the hands of members of Congress, and it is safe to say that not a dozen reports have ever been made that have been available by the department as data." A recent report from the Agricultural Department says "A careful review of the department reports during the last decade, in which over a million dollars were expended for free seed distribution, fails to reveal a single instance of benefit to agriculture attributable to this distribution." As it is admitted by the department itself that there is no good result from it, it should be abolished.

There are only three results from the free gift of seeds, which are baneful in their effects. First, the free distribution of seeds has a tendency to pauperize and create dependence upon the government. Second, it savors of bribery and corruption. Third, it is extremely injurious and destructive to the business of seedsmen, who have a right to look to the government for the protection of their interests, as they are compelled to pay their quota of taxes. Therefore, their business should not be destroyed by the government's representatives, and the government free seed distribution through Congressmen should cease.

Yours very truly,  
T. W. WOOD.

**THE COTTON SEED MEAL AS A SOURCE OF PROFIT TO THE SOUTH.**

Importance of Utilizing it as a Feed Stuff and as a Fertilizer.

[By the ex-Director of the W. Va. Agricultural Experiment Station.]

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer.

There can be no question that the profits of agriculture in the South are greatly reduced by the failure of the farmers to utilize in an economic way their valuable cotton seed and its products. The proper utilization of this product is sufficient of itself to change the accounts of many farmers from the loss to the profit side of the column. There is no product in the United States that offers the advantages from an agricultural standpoint that are offered by the cotton crop when it is properly utilized. Even with the wasteful methods of the past it has been profitable. No other crop could have been. The farmers of the South are making a serious mistake in failing to utilize the cotton seed and its products. Every part of the cotton seed except the oil should be used upon the Southern farms, either in the form of feed stuff or fertilizer. The cotton seed oil mills are sufficiently numerous in most sections of the South to enable the farmer to exchange his cotton seed for cotton seed meal, which is better suited for economic use upon the farm.

As a feed stuff it is too concentrated to be fed to advantage alone, but when mixed with cotton seed hulls in the proportion of about one pound of the meal to five pounds of hulls, or in a little less proportion with Southern grown hay, it forms a most excellent cattle food. If the North and European countries can afford to buy cotton seed meal and ship it for consumption in distant sections, surely it can be consumed at greater profit upon the Southern farm. It is simply a question of doing it.

There is no other agricultural product that will produce an equal amount of valuable manure when consumed by live stock, and when utilized in this way the farmer secures both its food and its fertilizing value. The time is certainly not far distant when the South, with entire control of this product will cease to ship it North to be fed to cattle, the beef of which is consumed in the South. There is nothing to prevent the South from fattening the cattle and shipping the beef North, at an increased profit to the South.

But the most striking example of a failure to appropriate it is in the use of fertilizers. There is perhaps no better fertilizer than cotton seed meal when properly mixed with acid phosphate and potash. A good average fertilizer for the South can be prepared by mixing 1,000 pounds to 1,200 pounds of acid phosphate, 500 pounds to 700 pounds of cotton seed meal, 400 pounds to 500 pounds of kainit or in place of kainit 100 pounds to 125 pounds of muriate or sulphate of potash, these latter two being more concentrated would save the farmer something in freight. The proportions can be changed to suit the requirements. But the point that I make is this: all of the necessary ingredients for a complete fertilizer except the potash are produced in the South in practically unlimited quantities, and instead of buying fertilizers from the North, the South should supply the North with nearly all of its complete fertilizers—at least a large share of them.

I believe the time is not far distant when every cotton seed oil mill will find it profitable to supply the entire demands of the farmers for concentrated feed stuffs and fertilizers at rates which will be mutually profitable to the farmers and to the oil mills, and check this drain upon Southern resources. The key to the situation is held by the cotton seed oil mills, and it is to be hoped that these great enterprises may prove to be benefactors to the agriculturists of the South. It is to their financial interest to do so and I believe they will. A mutual extension of the business will prove mutually profitable, both to the farmers and the owners of the oil mills.

JOHN A. MYERS.  
New York, Nov. 1, 1897.

Every breeder of pure bred stock should be a missionary in his own vicinity and preach the doctrine of improvement all the time, for it often takes line upon line and precept upon precept to make an impression in favor of better stock, but once the beginning is made improvement is usually rapid. —Farmers' Voice.