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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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THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is the Official Organ of the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance.

"I am standing now just behind the curtain, and in full glow of the coming sunset. Behind me are the shadows on the track, before me lies the dark valley and the river. When I mingle with its dark waters I want to cast one lingering look upon a country whose government is of the people, for the people, and by the people."—L. L. Polk, July 5th, 1890.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

What would Z. B. Vance have said, had he seen the recent Democratic State Convention repudiate silver and put F. M. Simmons, whom he declared unfit to hold a Federal office, at the head of the party? Can the News and Distorter tell us?

The News and Observer of August 10th brought the startling information that the junior editor of this paper was also a pie eater, or officeholder. We supposed that Col. Josephus, in roaming over the earth in search of pie such as he once ate at Cleveland's pie counter, had found our slice tucked away somewhere. But it has not been delivered. Therefore the question arises: Did Col. Josephus maliciously capture, confiscate and conceal this slice of pie, variety and dimensions to us unknown? Let us hear his version of the affair.

The importance of the annexation of Hawaii was overshadowed by war matters and few people have even yet taken time to consider the value of this "pearl and paradise of the Pacific," over which "old Glory" now floats. The island was discovered in 1542 by Gastano, a Spanish navigator. In 1839, the French attempted to get possession of the island, but were checkmated by the King, and in 1843 English aggressions followed. But, providentially, it seems, European occupancy has been prevented, and the "Gibraltar of the Pacific" is now a part of Uncle Sam's domain. The soil is wonderfully productive, sugar being the chief crop. In the matter of exports, Hawaii has an enviable record. For several years past her exports have been larger in proportion to her population than those of any other country in the world. The exports for the last ten years are valued at \$99,000,000, while the population is only 83,000. This shows that every year for every man, woman and child in the country, \$125 worth of that country's products are sent out! Sneer at the people as we may, this is convincing proof that they are industrious, and an industrious people seldom give much trouble. But we join an exchange in urging that the island be given an American name—or some name that the people can pronounce.

All fares the school to hastening ill a prey Where wealth accumulates and men decay. Prices and Dukes may flourish or may fade; A breath may make them as a breath has made,

But the education that panders to the money changers in the temple and leads to say to the giant trusts of the country: "Behold the hire of the laborers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud and greed; and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth"—such an education is NOT Christian education. But as it is possible that our position may be misunderstood by some who desire to misunderstand us, we will say that our note in our last issue regarding this matter does not apply to colleges where the amount received from trusts is comparatively small as in the case of most North Carolina colleges. In such cases the influence of trust money is small and is usually more than counterbalanced by the

larger sums received from honest toil-ers. Only one college in this State has we believe thus far been led astray. And we doubt not that when the good people of the Methodist Church in North Carolina have an opportunity of speaking in the matter they will say with one of their most honored laymen, Judge Clark, that this blot shall be removed from Trinity's fair name and this grand old institution will again go forth "conquering and to conquer" sin and ignorance in whatever shape or form.

We wish, however, to point again to the treatment of Prof. Bemis, Prof. Ely, and President Andrews as samples of the nefarious work which may be expected if the trusts secure a controlling influence in any of our colleges.

The safest plan, we think, is to accept no money whatever from monopolies, since it is admitted that they "are unjust, jeopard freedom, stifle trade, and cause the people to suffer." Can they then have good intentions in giving to Christian colleges which are expected to plead the cause of the very ones whom monopolies oppress? Will anyone answer? Until this is done, we shall not consider this an attack on Christian education.

Here, for instance, is a gift from a trust. Will anyone deny that others' hope and happiness are buried in it; the comforts of true Christians sacrificed to it; others' rights buried in it; the opportunities of struggling men smothered in it; their chances strangled by it; their growth stunted by it; and in amassing the fortune, that the trust caused other men to have a smaller loaf and a meaner home? Does that trust desire Christian education—the kind that Christ desires, the kind that teaches that such trusts are un-Christian, unholy and unlawful? No, a thousand times No! Not all the eulogies imaginable can make such a gift "holy, blessed and beautiful." The curse of the Living God is upon it, and upon such methods. We are willing, we are anxious, that colleges shall receive gifts, but we shall not refuse to characterize such "benefactors" as "conspirators and scoundrels," even though they attempt to secure the support of colleges by pouring a part of their ill gotten gains into the college treasuries. We shall refuse to believe that in so doing we attack Christian education. God doesn't need the help of the devil or of devilish schemers to further the cause of Christian education.

Suppose that Christ were now alive on earth in bodily form. Suppose, too, that some fiend should rob him, and beat him, and carry a part of the goods taken from the Holy One to some religious college and say, "I give this for Christian education." Would you believe him sincere? But today, in this enlightened, Christian age, a giant trust goes to a Christian college and laying down a portion of its unholy blood money, says: "I give this for Christian education." The world applauds; a religious paper says the gift is "holy and blessed;" the thoughtless thank the donor. But a few are listening for the voice of God and they hear the voice of Him who spake as never man spake, saying: "I was an hungred and ye gave me no meat; I was thirsty and ye gave me no drink; naked and ye clothed me not. Inasmuch as ye did it not unto the least of these my brethren, ye did it not unto me."

In these few words Christ sums up the meaning of Christianity and teaches that he who robs His followers robs Him. Where then is a viler hypocrite than the monopolist who robs Christ's followers and then pretends to want Christian education?

We do not think we are wrong in insisting that the purpose of these men is to hinder rather than to further the cause of Christian education.

The fight is on—the irrepressible conflict between Christian education and plutocratic education. There can be no compromise. There is no middle ground, the education that pleases plutocracy, Mammon, cannot please God, and cannot be Christian education. We have chosen whom we will serve. We await to see how soon other men and their papers will do likewise. They have got to do it.

We have as we see it, only the best interests of Christian education at heart, and the man who says that we wish to destroy confidence in any Christian institution, is simply deceived or a deceiver. That's all.

Now, if the Recorder wishes its readers to understand our position, will it reprint this statement?

Perhaps a certain religious journal of this State which sometimes defends the cigarette manufacturer, can find time to attack the Southern Tobaccoist, a journal devoted to the interests of tobacco growers, tobacco, and tobaccoists of all kinds and varieties, for publishing the following item: "Cigarette sales and smoking are absolutely prohibited in Oakland, Cal., and giving them away is a misdemeanor. It is unlawful for minors to smoke in any public place. This makes healthier men, better fitted for the duties of manhood's life and the enjoyment of it after all. When prohibition prohibits the protection is in the right direction, making men of sounder nerves, mind and body. No one doubts this." When a tobacco journal has the courage to acknowledge that the scientists are right and that cigarettes injure the "nerves, mind and body," what shall we think of a religious journal which defends them or those who manufacture them?

AGRICULTURE.

A BUSINESS EDUCATION FOR THE FARMER.

In these days of improved methods of carrying on the ordinary work of the farm; of intensive, that is, strictly scientific farming; these days of close competition in all lines of business, it becomes absolutely necessary that the successful farmer must be one who reads and studies closely the minutest details of his particular line, whether it be general farming or fruit growing. The man who hopes to make a success on the farm must be sufficiently well informed to give an intelligent reason for everything which he does—that being given, a cause he can tell the effect, and vice versa, says the North American Horticulturist.

But while this education in matters relating to the work of the farm is necessary, there is another sort of education almost as essential to anything like complete success. This is a thorough business training for the farmer. Agriculture is both a business and an industry. In the higher organization of our commercial system it is becoming more and more necessary for a farmer to understand the ways of the business world for him to be financially a success. The soil is really the source of all our wealth, but through lack of organization, business perception and business methods it is unfortunately true that much of this wealth is lost to the farmer which otherwise might be retained. There are among our farmers many men of keen business instincts and abilities who keep a close run of their affairs, and despite hard times manage to make good profits and continually add to their wealth; but there are also very many who, although they work hard and practice a rigid economy, barely manage to make a living, and a poor one at that. As a rule this latter class keep no systematic record of their business, and become hopelessly in debt before they realize it. But it is well for all that it is becoming more and more understood that it pays for the farmer to become a business man. Some of our shrewd farmers are sending their sons to business colleges, not that they may be fitted for office employment, but for giving them the ability to conduct systematically the affairs of the farm. Farmers' boys who have the advantage of a thorough course in a business college are much more apt to make a success of farming than those who are unversed in the principles of business. We believe that the time is not far distant when a business education will be considered as much of a necessity for a young farmer as it now is for a young merchant.

A GOOD PLOW.

Very little is said about plowing through any of our farm papers, and as it is a thing on which so much depends in the starting and raising of crops probably a friendly talk might be appreciated by the readers of The Stockman and Farmer. I am not a plow maker or interested in the manufacture of plows, and all I know is what I have learned by forty years of experience between the plow handles, and that without gloves on. When ten years old I was put at the job and have not missed a year since.

First of all procure a good plow. There is as much difference in the running and handling of plows as any implement on the farm, and a plow that does not work well is one of the very worst pieces of property that the farmer can have. Secure a plow that is of good size, one that can be worked

with either two or three horses and that will turn 4-inch furrows and that smooth and even. Have a plow that will run steady and level on the bottom of the share and above all one that will scour in all kinds of ground, for if there is anything that will try the farmer's patience it is a plow that won't scour. In our Miami valley we have several varieties of soil, and in some localities a black, loose loam that takes the very best plows to operate successfully.

To get a plow that will fill the bill is not an easy matter. Having tried several different kinds and finding all deficient last spring I concluded to try a steel beam and got one which comes the nearest of suiting me of any plow that I have yet handled. While it is made strong it is light and durable, runs easy and turns a 14 inch furrow right. Has a first class jointer for sod or trashy ground, and works as well with two as three horses, and vice versa. Can be changed in an instant from two to three horses.

As to sulky plows I am not struck on them. Have owned three and got clear of them. The best I have seen is the Clawson sulky attachment to which any plow can be attached. While I have not tried it I think the steel beam plow I spoke of with this sulky would work to perfection.

Another point that should be mentioned is to have a plow that will leave a clean furrow. Not only does this look better, but it is better, also much easier both for the plowman and horse to walk in. Some might think this a very small matter, but after following both one half day will prove that the clean furrow is for the best, as there are no clods or loose ground to pass over, which makes the walking hard. —J. L. Van Doren, Miami Co., O.

THE FARM HOME.

It is better to instruct your family and make them happy at home than it is to charm strangers or amuse friends. A silent house is a dull place for young people, a place from which they will escape if they can. Send your children out into the world with the full belief that there is no place like home—aye, be it ever so homely.

Parents should not fail to consider the great value of home music. Buy a good instrument of some kind and teach the young folks to sing and play, then they can produce sufficient music at home themselves, so the sons will not think of looking elsewhere for it, and thus often be led into dens of vice and immorality. The reason so many make every effort possible to get away from home at night is the lack of entertainment at home. Music is to the ear and intellect what peaches and other luscious fruits are to the taste. One of the greatest attractions for old and young to the cities is the sweet music that may be heard there. Why should not the farmer's household be cheerful, as full of pleasure, as that of the merchant or the professional man? Songs learned in childhood are like birds nesting in their bosom; their notes will be heard and loved in after years. Home should be made so truly home that the weary, tempted heart could turn toward it anywhere on the dusty highway of life and secure light and strength.

Even as the sunbeam is composed of millions of minute rays, the home life must be constituted of little tender nesses, kind looks, sweet laughter, gentle words and loving counsels. It must not be like the torch blaze of natural excitement, which is easily quenched, but like the serene chastened light, which burns as safely in the dry east wind as in the stillest atmosphere. Let each bear the other's burden the while—let each cultivate the mutual confidence, which is a gift of increase and improvement; soon it will be found that kindness will spring up on every side, displacing constitutional unsuitability, even as we have seen sweet violets dispelling the gloom of the gray sea rocks.

If the spirit of congenial friendship lurks not in the hearts of the inmates of a dwelling, it is not a home. If love reign not there, if charity spreads not her downy mantle over, if peace prevail not, if contentment be not a meek and merry dweller therein, if virtue rears not her beautiful children, the home is not complete.—Ex.

Shallow cultivation is the thing during a drought. The soil that is stirred up spreads over the moist soil underneath and acts as a cork to stop the soil tubes which would let the water out. But the top layer itself becomes

dry from exposure to the air. Hence the thinner the top layer is made, the better. Besides with many crops the deep soil is now full of roots and too deep stirring tears them off and causes the plants to wilt. Use a fine tooth harrow or cultivator in the field and a rake in the garden. The finer the surface the better it will hold down the moisture. But fine soil will skim over easily after every shower and will then need stirring again.—Ploughman.

RED CLOVER AND GRASS.

If not too dry September is the best time for sowing clover and grass, and if not already begun preparation of land should no longer be delayed, says Southern Cultivator. The soil should be brought into a state of finest tilth, for the seeds are small, the supply of nutriment in them for the young plant is very limited, and it is compelled to draw upon the soil very quickly for its food. Every facility therefore must be given its roots to spread in search of it. Small seeds must be covered very lightly, and as the surface soil is likely to dry rapidly the roller should follow the harrow to compact the soil and allow moisture to rise to the surface, as it may be seen to do in a track print in loose soil. Orchard and tall meadow oat grass may be sown with red clover, as they mature at the same time and are ready for the mower at the same time. Both of these grasses succeed well at the South. Red top and white clover go well together for pastures, and for damp soils. Both red top and timothy ripen too late to be sown with red clover. Timothy does very well in northern portions of the cotton belt when sown on rich valley lands, but is not commended for general culture in the cotton States.

NOTES FOR AUGUST.

While waiting for the maturity of the spring sown crops, let attention be given to the preparation of the land for wheat seeding. This work is too often put off much too long, and as a consequence we do not make the yields which we are capable of doing. In this issue will be found an article on this subject, to which we ask attention.

Winter oats should be seeded in the month of September. Let the work of preparing the land for this crop receive attention this month. Do not follow the too common practice of selecting some of the poorest land on the farm for this crop. Whilst oats will make a better yield on poor land than many other crops, yet they will always pay better when grown on good land, and it is poor policy not to give them a chance of paying well for the labor involved in their production.

August and September are the best months in the year for seeding grass. Don't waste time pulling fodder. When the corn is glazed and hardening, cut up at the root and save the whole crop, and not merely the blades and corn. Half the feed value of the of the corn crop is in the stalks, blades and sheaves, and if these are saved and run through the cutter, or, better still, the shredder, will enable a much larger quantity of stock to be kept through the winter and make the crop a much more profitable one. You cannot afford to waste half a crop.—Southern Planter.

THREE WAYS WITH WASTE BONES.

To get rid of bones there are three simple and cheap ways. First: grind or cut them for the poultry. The fowls will get the food value out of the bones and will return most of the fertilizing value in the manure. This is the best way to use bones, because we get pay for them in eggs and also in manure. But not every body has a bone mill, and some of the harder bones are not easy to be broken up.

Second: bury the bones under orchard trees or under vines, and bury them deep enough to stop the hogs from trying to dig them out. By this method the planter will need to wait a lifetime nearly, before getting full fertilizer value of the bones, but if a tree gets a very liberal dose of bones it will begin to show the effect.

Third: burn the bones in the kitchen stove. Everything will be burned away but the phosphate of lime. The bones mixed with wood make a hot fire and they have some value as fuel. The ashes are a good fertilizer. Bones may be composted or treated with sulphuric acid if desired, but comparatively few farmers care to bother with any but the simplest of ways.—Massachusetts Plowman.

THE POULTRY YARD.

OVER-FEEDING POULTRY.

The American Cultivator remarks that it may be true, as a writer in an exchange says, that those who have purebred fowls, as we prefer to call them, standard bred birds, are so much interested in them that they feed them too liberally, giving them more than is sufficient for their sustenance, and perhaps tempting them with such a variety that they take more than they would if they were fed as the farmer usually, or often, feeds his, with a little grain thrown out when he happens to be near the grain bin and sees the fowls standing about looking as if they were hungry. We had not thought of this as a reason why some people complain that their hens, well fed and well cared for, do not furnish as many eggs as other flocks which apparently receive but little care. We had thought that the man who had invested the money required to start a flock of standard-bred fowl would also read poultry or agricultural papers to know how to feed them; but as our memory goes over the list of such parties that we know, it recalls many an one who knows but little about fowls or their care, and who are not likely to know much more unless they learn it by sad experience. They are in almost every neighborhood where we are acquainted.

Can we produce hens that will lay 200 eggs per annum? Without a doubt. How? By scientific breeding, as for a good butter cow or a good milker, as for a good trotting or high jumping horse. Experiments have been made to increase the number of rows of corn on the cob with success. The same method is applicable to poultry breeding. We will start with a hen that lays 120 eggs. Some of her chicks will lay 150 per year. From these we will pick out layers, and so on till 200 or better are the result. At the same time it is just as essential to breed out males from the prolific layers as it is the females. In fact, it is more so. If we look after the breeding of the female only we will introduce on the male side blood which is lacking in proficiency and thus check every attempt in progress. It is just as essential that the male should be from a hen which laid 175 eggs and from a male that was bred from a hen that laid 150 eggs as it is that the hen was from one that laid 175 eggs and whose mother laid 150 eggs.—Ex.

YOU CAN'T DO IT.

You can't keep chickens in health without grit.
You can't make eggs from food that produces fat.
You can't make a hen set until she wants to.
You can't keep fowls in good condition without green food of some kind.
You can't make profit with an overcrowded yard.
You can't keep fowls in good condition that are literally covered with lice.
You can't put brains into an incubator and brooder.
You can't succeed without hard work.
You can't have a good growth by in-breeding.
You can't get any satisfaction out of a lazy hen.
You can't become a successful fancier until you have become well versed in poultry culture.
You can't afford a big expense in this business; the less help you have the better.—Ex.

A CHICKEN-PROOF FENCE.

I have tried various modes of fencing chicken yards, with more or less success, but never found anything that gave really good satisfaction until recently. One of my former difficulties was to so arrange the posts that the fowls could not alight on the top and then hop out.

Two years ago I built another yard and worked another idea into my fence. I procured some short posts four or five feet long and placed them in the ground the usual depth. I then finished out the remaining necessary height by nailing a three-inch board to the outer edge so that it made the post six and one half feet high. At the bottom I placed two six inch boards five inches apart. I then used five-foot wire netting, which was put on in the usual way, making a fence between six and seven feet high.—American Poultry Advocate.