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The Editor: are not responsible for the views

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



" I am standing now just behind the urtain, and in full glow of the coming 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 th. 1890

EDITORIAL NOTES

While parsnips and carrots are pertectly hardy and will keep well in the rows, it will not be found easy to get at them when the ground is frozen like a rock. A mulch of trash over them before the frost has struck down will make the task easier.

State

The loss that results from the system of annually seeding with mixed seed of low vitality throughout the winter wheat growing districts in the United States is enormous. Pure, vigorous, well bred seed, means on increase of not less than three to four bushels per acre on land of average fertility.

Experiments made with shredded bdder and ordinary cut fodder show everal advantages for the former. This shredding is done by a machine which tears the entire stalk and husk into fine pieces so that nearly the whole | Empire, and in 1897 the arrivals of product is eaten by stock. The shred ded fodder is not found to make the mouths of cattle sore, while coarsely cut fodder often has this effect.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER regrets exceedingly to learn that Capt. O. A. Browne, who for many years has been an honored and exceedingly useful member of the Virginia Board of Agriculture died last month at John Hop kins Hospital, Baltimore, where he had gone for surgical treatment. His orig inal, practical method of conducting one of the largest truck farms in the United States attracted the attention of truckers from Maine to Virginia. His advice, founded on a most success ful experience, has benefited hundreds of truckers, many of whom have acquired comfortable fortunes, by dupli cating Captain Browne's methods of conducting the celebrated Hollywood Truck Farm.

We give this week several excellent letters from farmers. Prof. Emery says something regarding the littlethought of subject—the weight of eggs. J. L. Ladd gives a splendid epitome of the careful a tention of every farmer It, please pass it on to your neigh bor and talk it over. "Wake County general interest that the temptation is less indifference of a drunkard, who Farmer" describes a better method of keeping apples than that given in our last leske Bro. W. L. Kivett writes of an interesting experiment which shou'd set our farmers to thinking. Bryan Fertilizing for Profit," Daridan of "Town Milk Trade," Walls the appeal to farmers from the ers' Union also merits a

Department has received incommunication from Mahin, at Reichenberg, Aus trin He says: "If the price of Amerian butter in Europe is no higher than har pour butter, the former should gradually win a large sale as its supeformy broomes known. The first day after being made European butter may seem equal to the American product, but generally by the second or third day it will have an old, strong taste wer, and smell. The difficulty may be due ass. Ast to the practice of keeping cows in barns all the year, instead of turning them loose in pastures as is done in the United States. Table butter sells here at about 20 cents a pound, cooking but | Belgium year in and year out.

ter-which usually contains a small mixture of lard to make it keep better -sells at a few cents less. Prices are subscription expires. Receipts for money on subscription will be given in change of date on about the same the year around. The Austrian duty on butter is less than 2 cents per pound and the freight per pound from America would probably be no more than the duty. If this be true, the good butter, which sells at an average price of 20 cents a pound, or less in the agricultural districts of America could undersell Austrian butter here."

> Consul Fleming to Edinburg, reports the extensive and favored use in Scotland of American tools and implements. Asked by him whether or not they handled American wares, one of the members of an Edinburg whole firm dealing extensively in implemente, answered: "Yes, largely. Come into our warehouse and see for yourself. There are American axes," he said, "the best and cheapest in the world." In every part of the great establishment most of the articles were Ameri can made, including hay knives, lawnmowers, saws, files wheels, spokes, spokes, rims, spades, shovels, rakes, hammers, hatchets, and all classes of implements ane carpenters' tools American tools are preferred to either English or German. They are tempered better and are serviceable. Ger man tools are somewhat cheaper, but they are softer and do not stand so

Weimar, Germany, Mr. Thomas E Moore, thinks that there is a field there of great possibilities in the line of corn introduction as a human food. At present he states it is practically unknown for this purpose, being fed to ers write their experiences for THE cattle, but he believes it would take comparatively little (ff)rt to insure its use among the people to as great an extent as it is used in the United States for bread. Corn is quite largely imported into Germany for cattle feeding, and practically the only source of corn supply for Germany is the United States. Bremen and Hamburg are the great corn-importing centers of the corn at the latter city were 618 361 tons, valued at \$9,996 000 and at Bremen 242,954 tons, valued at \$3 803 000 The increase over the figures for 1896 was almost 50 cent., due, however, to some extent to the damaged German

Sugar Manufacturer is fairly entitled to more than merely local consideration is shown by the fact that in the issue of November 5th, a full page, including a handsome illustration of a Wisconsin sorghum mill, is given to a fair statement of facts respecting the sorghum industry in Wisconsin and more particularly in Minnesota, where the average amount that each farmer market lower than during the great raises is stated to be five acres. One enthusiastic amber cane grower in the latter State, realized from a single ing the spinners of Great Britain to acre, 190 gallons of syrup, which brought 40 cents a gallon, or \$76. The cost of production was \$44 50, leaving lower. In view of these conditions we a net gain of \$31 50, which is surely better than twenty bushels of wheat at | the cotton growers, but of every busi-75 cents a bushel. Some Minnesota farmers plant as much as forty acres and raise from ten to fifteen tone per of organization, directed by ordinary stantly anticipating in value. The bulletin of experiments in feeding hogs | acre, which produces from 140 to 160 his best and his letter should receive of production in a general way, is 19 cents a gallon and the syrup sells readin North Carolina. When you have read | ily at 40 to 50 cents a gallon. In fact the article in the Planter is of such almost irresistable to publish it in full slings from his lap his treasures. Forbut lack of space forbids this.

> A new farm industry which has sprung into existence within the past two years is chickory growing. Two years ago this country imported chickory root and prepared chickory to the amount of about 15,000 000 pounds an- their hands for a mere pittance. Denually, and no chickory was grown flantly claiming to command the situahere. Now the importation has dropped | tion, they boldly propose to avail themdown to practically nothing and the farmers of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and some other sections are furnishing the entire supply. More than this, owing to the short crop in Belgium, where most of the foreign but of nearly one-half the value of 10, root is grown and whence we procured | 000,000 bales of cotton, and thereby all our importations, the price of chickory is now higher than American chickory is in New York by \$5 a ton, so that we had a surplus we could export it with profit. It is believed by the officials of the Agricultural Department, who have given the subject demands of the world, we should be during the war between the North and considerable attention during the past | the most prosperous people on earth. two years, that with further improvements in cultivation among the farm ers, and still better methods of manufacture, this country can compete with regulate its marketing, would make always two year's supply of cotton in

AGRICULTURE. ANOTHER WAY OF KEEPING AP PLES.

Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer. I notice in the last issue of THE PRO GRESSIVE FARMER an article regarding the proper way to keep apples during winter. As I have had some experience in such matters, I will give you my plan,

I put about six inches of chaff in the bottom of a barrel, box, hogshead or whatever is used, then a layer of apples (be careful not to let apples touch one another or sides of box or barrel,) then another layer of chaff two or three inches thick; then another layer of apples, then another 2 or 3 inch layer of chaff until box is nearly full, closing with a 6 inch layer of chaff. Be careful that both apples and chaff are perfectly dry.

When I was a small boy, my father gave each of us boys enough apples to fill a keg or small box for our own individual use. One winter the supply of chaff was exhausted before our turn for packing apples came. We then lined the boxes and kegs with old papers, laying 2 or 3 in bottom of box and put in apples-being careful to keep them from touching as when chaff is used, then another layer of papers; in short, using papers almost precisely as chaff was used and tucking in paper | they are so devoid of spirit, so igno at top of barrel. The winter was a rant, so helpless and supine that the very hard one-about as hard as we The American commercial agent at ever in this climate, but none of our apples were damaged by cold. Further more, they were kept in an unceiled outbuilding where the wind had perfect freedom.

> By the way, why do not more farm-PROGRESSIVE FARMER! Come on, brethren, and let's accept the editor's invitation to exchange experiences and views upon farming methods.

If I hear from others I may write WAKE CO. FARMER. November 24 1898

AN APPEAL TO FARMERS.

The Necessity for Organization is Imperative -- Way for Farmers to Protect Themselves Pointed Out

To the Farmers of the South:

The special committee appointed by the Cotton Growers' Union of the State, held in Columbus on the 20th ult., desires to say that the exceeding ly low prices of cotton at the present, That the Louisiana Planter and with the indication of lower prices still in the future, painfully admonish us that we have reached a crisis in the history of the industry. Prices to-day are not only far lower than they have ever previously been at this season of the year, but lower than they have been for fifty years, and the months of November, December, January and February are selling on the Liverpool depression of the forties, and even at these figures English agents are adviswithhold their purchases upon accur ances that prices will soon be 50 points ness association in the cotton belt, to the portentous fact that for the want to pass beyond our borders for a mere song; that our birthright is going for a mess of pottage, and our great nat ural advantages sacrified with the careeign speculators and manufacturers, fully aware that the staple is passing out of the hands of the growers at fig ures far below the cost of production, nevertheless hold aloof from the market to allow the maturing obligations selves of conditions, which could be remedied by a combination of the cot ton growers and business element of the cotton belt, to rob the growers not only of the profi s of their year's toil, impoverishes the most favored section bring about an active competition of the globe. Blessed with the natural advantages of a climate and soil which alone can produce this great staple in | rapid rise of price. quality and quantity sufficient for the

with every cotton grower separately and independently striving to increase Fort Sumter there was a sufficiency his acreage and nullify his bales, first | above and then below the cost of production; with a vicious financial sys tem that causes the claims of the local merchant and banker to force the entire crop on the market in four months, these natural advantages are distorted into a blight and a curse, and the cotton grower is made to become a prey to the usurer, the speculator and the manufacturer. Never was there a situation which more peremptorily challenged the wisdom of ecenomic statesmanship; never was there a more im perative field for organization; never was there an exigency which would more fully justify it. Yet we are told that the cotton growers are an ignorant class, devoid of leadership and without the power to organize; that it is impossible to organize 500,000 cotton growers. Why, even the lower animals will rally for defence and selfprotection. Can it be possible that the cotton growers constitute the only element of the animal kingdom which cannot unite? Are they so devoid of manhood, intelligence and foresight that the strongest incentives-independence, competency, the welfare of their section and the maintenance of their families, cannot induce them to unite? If it be true that as a class most direct and forceful appeals to sentiments the most calculated to stir the human heart, cannot induce them to organize for purposes of mutual protection and self defence, then truly we should hear no more complaints of the oppression of trusts and combinations, but as a class we should meekly ac cept the law of nature which decrees that the improvident, the weak and the careless shall serve the valiant, the active and the strong; then should we join in the refrain of the other avoca tions:

"I hold the farmer a simple tool, Born to labor and not to rule;

And I will do unto him that which Will bring the money to mine and to me."

Prompt and concerted action on the part of the cotton growers would change present conditions in 90 days. Through the complete organization which would enable them to act as a unit, would place them in command of the situation in three months and

charge their condition from one of

bankruptcy and distress to one of competency and profit.

By what means can organization effect these ends? Adopt the recommendations of the National Cotton Grower's Union, organize promptly, hold all the cotton on hand and firmly bind ourselves to reduce the extent of this year's acreage 50 per cent. the en suing year. No intelligent man of business experience will dispute the soundness of this proposition. As soon as effective measures to these ends have been taken and become a certaindesire to call the attention not only of ty, cotton will immediately advance and more money can be borrowed on it than it is worth to day, because it would then become a security convisible supply of cotton is not above 000, making a total of 2,000,000 bales. To be certain not to over estimate, we will put the amount of this stock which has passed beyond the control of the growers into the hands of speculators and manufacturers, say at 2, 400,000. The consumption ranges between 800,000 and 1,000,000 bales per month. If the farmers should withhold their cotton from the market for three months, the entire surplus be of the farmers to force the crop out of | youd their control would be consumed and the manufacturers would be at their mercy for supply. The entire situation would be changed; instead of the speculator and manufacturer dictating the price, the cotton grower could fix his price and say pay it or shut down your mill. A reduction in next year's acreage of 50 per cent. would insure such a diminution of the supply as to make cotton scarce, and

This was made demonstrably clear the South in the sixties. McHenry, of the early crop. Efficient organization, which would in his "History of the Cotton," page control the volume of production and | 51, says: "In ordinary times there is these advantages a mine of wealth; but | the crude and manufactured state, at

among the manufacturers for their

stock that would ensure a steady and

the consuming points. At the fall of the vield of wheat from 7 bushels per for three year's requirements. With the supply larger in proportion then | that produced 8 bushels of corn per than now, as soon as the production was curtailed by the war, we note the following extraordinary rise in prices: In 1860 the average was 11 cents; in in 1861 at 13 cents; in 1862 at 31 cents; in 1863 at 67 cents; in 1864 at \$1 01 But it is argued that any heavy curtailment of production in the South to raise the price, will stimulate foreign competition. If \$1 per pound in 1864 (the legume) do not require nitrogencould not stimulate ingenious competition, it is difficult to see how 8 or 10 cents can do it now."

Touching this point, Ellison, in his 'History of the Cotton Trade," pages | nitrogen can be drawn from the air. 139 42, says: "For some years prior To produce a heavy growth, phosto the outbreak of the civil war, it had | phoric acid (acid phosphate, commonly been foreseen that, sooner or later, a called acid) and potash (kainit, or muserious labor disturbance at the South | riate of potash) should be liberally apwas inevitable, and in view of the plied, say from 300 to 600 pounds of calamity which such an event would acid phosphate and from 400 to 800 bring upon Lancashire, every effort | pounds of kainit, (the muriate is more was made to discover new sources of concentrated that kainit, and is of cotton supply. But, although the couse cheaper where transportation powerful association formed for the has to be considered. One quarter as promotion of this end searched every much muriate will furnish the same nook and corner of the cotton zone, amount of potash as the kainit; broadand sent seed to every one in the four cast per acre and plowed in several continents, willing to experiment, they entirely failed to accomplish the laud able object they had in view."

Mr. Ellison further tells us that while the exceedingly high prices paid during | under, a bountiful supply of nitrogen. the war did considerably increase foreigh shipments of cotton, that this increase declined almost to its normal ced as soon as the prices of cotton fell to 15 cents per pound. If no action is taken hnd this crop is sacrificed at | certain rebellious elements in the soil, present, or probably lower figures in the next four months, it will fall far short of paying for the cost of produc tion. The cotton growers will be impoverished, the country stripped of supply of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and means, and every business interest potash, and any crop, such as corn, must suffer. Should there be no effec tive organization to curtail the supply by a uniform reduction of the acreage, and any other plan to reduce the crop, will be but an illustration of the survival of the fittest, those who can raise it cheapest and those who cannot com pete must accept the cheerless and hopeless lot of the bankrupt and pau J. C. WILBORN,

Pres't S. C. C. G. U.

L. W. YOUMAN, Vice Pres't S. C. G. U.

-FERTILIZING FOR PROFIT.

Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer. Instead of applying fertilizers to crops direct they should be applied to some suitable crop of the legume fam ily, such as clover or cowpeas, and these turned under at maturity. Then follow with corn, wheat, or other de

Some months back I saw an article in a paper that a farmer by turning under three crops of peavines increased

acre to 21 bushels.

Another farmer had some worn land acre. By growing and turning under several crops of crover, he increased tae yield to 60 bushels.

At first glance it would seem impossible that said crops turned under, can virtually return fertility to the soil vastly in excess of the quantity drawn therefrom, but such is the case, owing to the fact that plants of said family ous, or perfect fertilizers, at least to a very limited extent only, as they draw the nitrogen needed from the air.

The ranker the growth, the more weeks before seeding time. The smaller quantity will produce good results, but the larger can be profitably employed.

When the green crops are turned phosphoric acid and potash will be returned to the soil. While the vegetable matter is rotting, an abundance of carbonic acid gas will be generated. This gas is a powerful solvent and acts on such as phosphoric acid and potash. reducing them to plant food. Hence by growing and turning under green crops we virtually grow an abundant cotton, wheat, etc., requiring a perfect fertilizer will thrive well after them.

We thus save the cost of nitrogen (the most convenient form is nitrate is the merest twaddle. The industry of soda-Chili saltpetre), which is about three times as costly as either one of the other two elements.

> In addition to the above advantages, when the vegetable matter, turned under rots, it will form humus, which is badly needed in most soils. This humus will, to a great extent, restore the original new ground principle and, as a result, exert an immense influence in resisting the ordinary effects of drouth.

But few, if any, farms can be found where a single acre is groperly fertilzed and cultivated. Try at least a few acres according to the above and get into the road that leads to the abandonment of the old plan of cultivating worn lands at a loss. By the new plan the yield will be much increased and the land permanently im-

BRYAN TYSON. Long Leaf, N. C.

KEEPING ACCOUNTS ... AN INTERESTING EXPERIMENT. orrespondence of the Progressive Farmer.

LIBERTY, N. C., Nov. 24, 1898. I wish to give the readers of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER an account which I have kept since last March with a small piece of land (4 of an acre). I have grown three successive crops on this land since the first of last March. The last one has just been harvested and proves to be the most profitable. We give this not in a boasting spirit, but that it may stimulate and encourage some one to more intensive methods of tillage. We wish to say right here that and calves. Bro. J. T. B. Hoover is at gallons of syrup. The estimatted cost allowing this great element of wealth | 1 500 000, and the invisible supply or | the ground was thoroughly prepared before planting, by pulverizing about 6 subsoil plow following, then pulverizing the top again. The land is not rich and would not bring (without fertilizer) over 8 or 10 bushels of wheat per acre. Account stands as follows, viz:

ACC	Juui	100	alius as tollows, viz.	DB		Ci	R.
Feb.	28	To	preparing land	3	50		
Mar	. 1	+6	planting potatoes	2	50		
8.6	4.6	44	seed potatoes	11	50		
6.6	6.6	6.5	guano (home mixed)	13	50		
Apr.	16	6.6	Harrowing		40		
6.6	21		Plowing, etc	1	00		
May	5	4.6	" last time	1	00		
	16		Spraying and digging	2	50		
	19		By 2 bushels potatoes			\$ 5	2 7
June	-	6.5	45 18 46 46			18	3 00
A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	3	6.6	66 9 65 66			11	1 00
6.6	6	6.6	(: 23 11 11			33	3 00
64	7	6.6	10 "			10	0 (
. 44	16	6.6	cost of putting in crop cowpeas and German millet	6	00		
Aug		By	4 loads hay			12	3 06
	24	-	preparing land and planting potatoes	2	75		
66		66	seed potatoes	7	00		
6.5	6.6	4.6	fertilizer	7	20		
Sept	15	6.6	cultivating and digging	3	65		
Nov.		Re	7 105 bushels potatoes			108	5 00
			it	129	20		
	-					-	

\$191 70 \$191 70

The last crop is put at \$1 per bushel, though they will be kept until March, when they bringifrom \$1 20 to \$1.40 per bushel. This crop was grown from seed

Early crop shows less bushels than fall crop because they were dug before maturity (except seed ones) in order to reach an early market.

Very respectfully, W. L. KIVETT.