

PROGRESSIVE FARMER

Published Weekly at Raleigh, N. C.

Mrs. L. L. Polk, Proprietor
 CLARENCE H. POE, Editor
 BENJAMIN IRBY, Corresponding
 FRANK E. EMERY, Editors
 J. W. DENMARK, Business Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION

Single Subscription One Year . . . \$1.00
 " " Six Months50
 " " Three Months25

"THE INDUSTRIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE PARAMOUNT TO ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OF STATE POLICY," is the motto of The Progressive Farmer, and upon this platform it shall rise or fall. Serving no master, ruled by no faction, circumscribed by no selfish or narrow policy, its aim will be to foster and promote the best interests of the whole people of the State. It will be true to the instincts, traditions and history of the Anglo-Saxon race. On all matters relating specially to the great interests it represents, it will speak with no uncertain voice, but will fearlessly the right defend and impartially the wrong condemn."—From Col. Polk's Salutory, Feb. 10, 1886

When sending your renewal, be sure to give exactly the name on label and postoffice to which the copy of paper you receive is sent.

We invite correspondence, news items, suggestions and criticisms on the subjects of agriculture, poultry raising, stock breeding, dairying, horticulture and gardening; woman's work, literature, or any subject of interest to our lady readers, young people, or the family generally; public matters, current events, political questions and principles, etc.—in short, any subject discussed in an all-round farm and family newspaper. Communications should be free from personalities and party abuse.

Address all business correspondence to and make money orders payable to "THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, RALEIGH, N. C.," and not to any individual connected with the paper.

DISCONTINUANCES—Responsible subscribers will continue to receive this journal until the publishers are notified by letter to discontinue, when all arrearages must be paid. If you do not wish the journal continued for another year after your subscription has expired, you should then notify us to discontinue it.

Editorial.

NO TARIFF TO PROTECT TRUSTS.

The new steel trust is capitalized at eleven hundred million dollars. Were every man, woman and child within the borders of North Carolina regardless of race, color or creed, to contribute \$500 each to a fund, the amount so raised would not be large enough to buy out this one trust. Does such a trust need a "protective" tariff? We believe that the time has come when common sense and common fairness demand that so far as trust made goods are concerned, the doors of commerce be thrown wide open to the world.

THE TRUST PROBLEM.

For several days now there have been rumors of a gigantic railroad combination. All the facts have not leaked out at this writing, but it appears that an amalgamation of 4 of the country's greatest railroads including the Southern system, has about been effected. And this, it is reported with such persistency as to make us believe it no idle rumor, is but the beginning of a great movement "looking to the combination of all the great railway systems of the United States under the control of one company."

A New York dispatch, sixth, says: "It was said to day that the company would be formed under the laws of New Jersey for the purpose of conducting a general freight and transportation business throughout the United States that the company would hold a controlling interest in all of the great railway systems, and that the management of the road would be vested in the controlling company. According to the proposition each road would preserve its identity and corporate existence, but the new company would control the affairs of all."

The magnitude of such a combination, the immense power it would exert, stagger the imagination. "It is a condition, not a theory, that confronts us," and it seems that the time to use at hand when the people of the United States must fix up on some definite plan for regulating or annihilating trusts or else surrender the country into their hands. And it may be said in this connection that the appointment of Philander C. Knox, who has gained prominence as an attorney for trusts, as Attorney General of the United States is not calculated to increase confidence in anti-trust utterances emanating from Washington.

The remedy lies in education. We want no wild cat schemes, no demagoguery. But the conservative people of the country must evolve some scheme that will protect the interests of the people and at the same time give justice to capital.

THE SIZE OF THE COTTON CROP.

Commissioner Patterson says fertilizer sales in North Carolina this season are 30 per cent. greater than sales last year. This indicates considerably increased cotton acreage, we suppose. This is to be regretted. The production of every bale in excess of the number needed for consumption is a positive loss to the farmers of the South. What happens when there is an over-supply? Simply this: the buyers know that practically all the cotton must be sold, whether the price be 5 or 10 cents. Whatever the price, enough will be sold to meet all demands. And so it is that not only are the figures given below correct but as a rule crops of the size mentioned have been sold for just about the sums mentioned. And here are the figures, to which the Raleigh Post calls our attention:

"A crop of 11,000,000 bales at 5 cents means \$275,000,000.

"A crop of 10,000,000 bales at 6 cents means \$300,000,000.

"A crop of 9,000,000 bales at 7 cents means \$315,000,000.

"A crop of 8,000,000 bales at 10 cents means \$400,000,000."

THIS WEEK'S PAPER.

Cow peas? Yes, that subject is again discussed on page 1. Much has been said upon it, 'tis true, but its importance is such that much more can be said with profit to all concerned. And so we think that you will find Mr. J. B. Hunnicutt's article helpful. Following it will be found an article on "The Black Grain Weevil." Many farmers, we are sure, will thank Mr. Sherman for it. Mr. W. E. Edwards, a prominent corn grower in the great corn State of Illinois, contributes some hints just as applicable to Southern as to Northern conditions. Capt. B. F. White aptly sums up his philosophy in this paragraph:

"The farmers in all this section should raise more clover, grass, and peas, save more provender, keep more cows, raise more pork, make more manure, cultivate what land we work better, and let what land we cannot work grow up in old field pines and cedar."

Mr. C. T. Perry, of Franklin county, sends a short newsy farm letter. We should like to have one such from every county in the State each week this season. The reader of this paragraph will please consider himself invited to send us such farming news from his county. Harry Farmer, always entertaining, gives us "a peep at the books," from which we learn the secret of prosperity on the farm. It will do you good to study these accounts. There are also a number of helpful articles on page 8.

And the advertisements—do you read them? We make it a point to accept none but reliable ads and we want you to patronize those whose ads we accept, because we believe they are reliable and that it will pay you to do business with them. You have never read a copy of The Progressive Farmer properly until you have looked over the advertisements. Nor are you living up to your opportunities in this day of railroads and postoffices if you invariably accept the brand of seeds, farm implements, etc., purchased by your merchant, making no effort on your part to learn the merits of other brands. Send for catalogues, and, when you can save money, order direct from manufacturer and put the middle man's profits into your own pocket.

Pages 4 and 5 contain some articles that we think are worth reading. For instance, a great many young men, we are glad to say, read The Progressive Farmer—we like to have them read it, write for it, and speak a good word for it. But we started out to say that the article which heads column 3, page 5, contains some suggestions that many of them will do well to heed. Perhaps the same is true of "The Tragedy of City Life," page 4.

Also the ladies who read The Progressive Farmer—their name is legion—will find some hints worth while in "What the Plant Doctor Said."

Pages 6 and 7 are not just as we would like to have them. Now that that the Legislature has adjourned and the Court of Impeachment is also a thing of the past, we should like to have these pages filled with letters on the topics of the day. There are many interesting questions—organization of farmers, improvement of our public schools, trusts, expansion, good roads, etc. We shall be glad to have your views upon these or any other questions of public importance.

NORTH CAROLINA'S SCHOOLS.

The Mt. Olive Advertiser says: "There are ten times as many illiterate white people in a thousand, in North Carolina, as in either New York, New Jersey or Pennsylvania. How can a man who claims to be proud of being a Tar Heel, decline to labor for better educational facilities?"

Just such facts as these must be continually impressed upon our people until they take North Carolina from its present position in the rear of the educational column. Nor is it enough that the Legislature make liberal appropriations. The people must themselves work; they must see that the children attend the schools and that those in authority perform their duties faithfully—there is work for all.

CREAMERIES IN MINNESOTA.

From a reliable contemporary we get these facts regarding the creamery business in Minnesota:

"Minnesota has 700 creameries, which receive the milk of 380,000 cows, from 54,000 patrons, and make therefrom a butter product of 61,000,000 pounds, of which 48,000,000 pounds are shipped to Eastern markets and sold as extras, much of it at one to two cents above the highest market quotations. These 700 creameries, representing a capital of \$2,800,000, handle 1,350,000,000 pounds of milk per annum, and after expending \$1,100,000 in the cost of manufacture, make a product from which they realize \$10,450,000, of which \$8,400,000 net is returned to the 50,000 patrons in payment of the butter fat taken from the milk."

And yet, only last year a member of The Progressive Farmer staff, backed up by just such facts, spent almost a month in the vain endeavor to get the dairy farmers of one of our most progressive communities to establish one such co-operative creamery. We have great advantages as a dairy section, but we can never reap substantial profits until we adopt up-to-date methods.

If there be a deficit in the revenue raised by the new law why should it necessarily fall on the free school fund? Have the other objects of the State's love and care any stronger claim on the full appropriation than the free schools? We do not see why they should not stand or fall together.—Charity and Children.

SOME MAGAZINE ARTICLES.

The April Scribner's contains a very valuable paper on "The Southern Mountaineer" by John Fox, Jr., of Kentucky. Why is the Southern mountaineer so different from his brother in the lower land? Why did the mountaineer fight for the Union while other Southerners were endeavoring to establish the Confederacy? Why is the Southern mountain section Republican while all other sections of the South are Democratic? These and many other equally interesting questions are answered by Mr. Fox. In the same issue of Scribner's is Walter A. Wyckoff's "A Day with a Tramp." Truth, it is said, is stranger than fiction; in this case at least, it is also more pleasing more delicately romantic. "A Day With a Tramp" is a fine piece of work.

Mr. J. W. Bailey, editor of the Biblical Recorder, contributes to the April Forum an able paper upon the political phase of the Southern race problem, entitled "The Case for the South." Mr. Bailey argues that the South must be left to work out its own salvation. We shall refer to his article again.

An article dealing with problems akin to those discussed by Mr. Bailey is that by ex-Gov. D. H. Chamberlain, of South Carolina, in the current issue of the Atlantic Monthly. Mr. Chamberlain talks on "South Carolina During Reconstruction Days." While the picture is a dark one there is evidence to show that it is in no respect overdrawn. Mr. Chamberlain knows whereof he speaks, for he, having served in the Union army, settled in South Carolina just after the war and became prominent in the Republican party. He was elected Governor, and in this position, as before, sought to counteract the influence of the venal and reckless element of his party. Mr. Chamberlain leaves no one in doubt as to his belief that unrestricted negro suffrage was a criminal blunder, and his picture of South Carolina politics during carpet bag days, with the wanton extravagance and corruption of those in authority, is one that will make an impression upon the Northern mind.

SOJA BEANS—A RENOVATOR AND FERTILIZER COMBINED.

As many of our readers have never grown this wonderful crop, we wish to call their attention to it in time, in order to induce them to plant this year. Don't put off until next year, but buy a few seed this year anyway. Any farmer in the State will be richly rewarded by planting one acre at least.

The soja bean belongs to the family of legumes and ranks among the best of the renovators. It grows upright like cotton and has a long tap root that goes deep into the ground, pumping up plant food from the subsoil. The leaves are broad and thick, covering the ground with a dense shade during the hot weather, a condition of itself conducive to nitrification. There is a peculiar bacteria growth in the form of nodules, or tubercles, that develops on the roots of the soja bean. These nodules are colonies consisting of myriads of little creatures that are engaged in fixing the nitrogen in the soil from the nitrogen of the air. Of course, the air must circulate through the soil, hence the importance of a loose, porous soil.

The beans grow better when the bacteria are abundant than otherwise. If they do not form on the crop, it would be best to inoculate the soil with this form of bacteria and it can be easily done by getting soil from the land on which a good crop grew the previous year, say one gallon to the bushel of seeds. Put the soil with the seeds and add some water; stir this thoroughly, then allow to dry. Enough bacteria will stick to each seed to start a colony the next year. In getting soil, be careful to get that from around the roots of the previous crop. This process is not necessary in every case, and only need be resorted to when the crop makes a poor, sickly growth on reasonably good land.

Now as to planting, culture and harvesting—these are easy. Plant in the spring when danger of frost is over. If for seed, sow in rows three feet apart and thin out to about 8 inches in the drill. Sow about one gallon per acre with the corn planter, planting from one to two inches deep. Plant on level and cultivate on level. Use one horse cultivator and cultivate every week or ten days until the beans are 18 inches high. Cut for seed when the pods are turning yellow. Cut them down with a short grass blade and allow to lie one day at least before piling in cocks, or hauling to the barn. If they are spread out on a close barn floor, say one or two feet deep, and allowed to dry, the beans can be threshed out very easily with a flail.

If the crop is planted for hay, then the rows should be not over 2 feet apart and the plants thinned out to an average of 6 inches in the drill. They should be worked on a level, as this method allows the use of a mowing machine in harvesting. When raised for seed, the stalks should be large, but when raised for hay, it is better to have the stalks small and tender. They can be planted with a wheat drill and treated as any other hay crop, but this method can be profitably employed only in rich land. If the crop is cut by hand the short grass blade should be used. Cut just as the pods form good, and some yellow leaves appear at the bottom of the plant.

It is very important to cut when dry, or after the dew is off. It is the outside moisture that injures more than the sap. Cut down one day and pile up in cocks the next day after the dew is off, being careful to put the butt ends to the middle. Put about 300 pounds in a cock and cover with hay caps. If there are no hay caps on hand, dress off with crab grass. Thus the rain water will be prevented from running down into the pile through the crown. Let the hay remain thus for ten days or two weeks and it will then be ready for the barn. Examine three days after the piles are made to see whether the hay is heating, if so remove the top, taking off about one foot of the hay, allowing the pile to get sunshine and air, then replace this just before the dew falls.

If the seeds were sowed broadcast, or with a grain drill, cut with a mowing machine and allow to lie on the ground one day, raking up in wind rows the next, and heaping in piles, or cocks the next; being careful not to work with them while wet with dew. If the weather is very hot and dry, the leaves may shatter, necessitating handling only just after the dew is off, while they are pliant, yet not wet.

The quality of the hay ranks very

high, and in addition to its feeding value, it will renovate the land wonderfully. Plant just after danger of frost and be sure to plant this year, and you will be sure to enlarge next year. The A. & M. College has no seed for sale, but seed are advertised for sale in The Progressive Farmer. B. I.

A SUGGESTION.

In making selections of books for the rural libraries now being started in so many places, we trust that in every instance a few standard agricultural works, such as Prof. L. H. Bailey's "Principles of Agriculture," for instance, will be ordered. Such books, teaching the fundamental, underlying principles of agriculture, should be in every farm home. No better books could be placed in the rural school libraries.

NOTES FROM PROF. EMERY.

Corresponding Editor Emery, who, as our readers know, is now on his way to China and the Philippines on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, sends us these notes from San Francisco, March 30. Our readers will hear from him occasionally until his return. In his letter just received, he says:

"After leaving Raleigh early Monday morning, March 18th, my journey was interrupted by a few days' stop at Washington, D. C., to receive instructions from the Chief of the Dairy Division and legal authorization papers from Dr. Salmon and Secretary Wilson. Again in Chicago some business needed attention. It was on Monday, 25th inst., that my train pulled out on Chicago and Northwestern Railroad just in season to meet the east-bound mails and to chase into Ogden, Utah, those delayed by the great snow blockade in Nebraska. The snows continued in squalls all the way here, but only in sufficient amount to successfully lay the dust usual to the travel across Utah and Nevada.

"The recent snows of Nevada and adjacent territory with warm sun seems to be hailed as an augury of good crops this season for the reason that the too dry ground has by this means been soaked enough to insure grass and other crops.

"On this end of my journey across the country I have not time to make any extended remarks. In a little railroad slip, 'California in Miniature,' I found this quotation: Deut. VIII, 7, 8 and 9. The run from the upper part of Placer county to Sacramento and the green hills surrounding the level plain thence to Beincia, where we get our first glimpse of the Golden Gate seems to bear out the idea that this is indeed the Promised Land. But we have been two days in the desert and spring has just put on her loveliest forms, hence I do not mean to have it understood or even hinted that I am putting forth any counter claims against the recently discovered location of the Garden of Eden near Charleston!"

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The high winds of the spring season and the frequent fires call attention to the value of fire insurance. If it is good policy for townspeople, it is equally good policy for farmers. The companies managed by the farmers themselves, giving insurance at cost, ought to be supported by all.

The Progressive Farmer is read by a large number of thoughtful farmers outside of North Carolina. To them we commend the school library idea regarding which we have had much to say of late. It's a movement that ought to spread beyond the borders of this State. Our free delivery articles are applicable throughout the South. If you want rural free delivery, ask for it.

Every school in Durham county will have a library. The new law gives State aid to only six in each county, but the Durham people have become impressed with the importance of the idea, and by individual subscriptions a library will be established in connection with each and every school. Thus has progressive Durham set a good example for her sister counties.

Thus far schools in twelve counties have made application for State aid in the establishment of libraries. Among the counties from which applications have been received are Onslow, Warren, Orange, Durham, Iredell, Mecklenburg and Bladen. Have you, dear reader, made an effort to get a library for your school? We like for the Progressive Farmer readers to get their share of all the good things; hence our frequent references to rural libraries and rural free delivery.

The Thinkers.

LEGALIZING POLYGAMY.

It is not possible to legalize polygamy in Utah, since the Constitution of the State prohibits it, but it is possible to frame a law which will practically prevent all prosecution for polygamy, and this was done and the law passed by the Legislature of the State. It provided that no prosecution for adultery should be commenced except on the complaint of persons in the immediate families of the participants, and no prosecution for unlawful cohabitation except on complaint of the wife or alleged plural wife. Of course such a law would practically prevent prosecution in nearly every case. The defense of the act was that in most of the States adultery is not a criminal offense. The excuse for it was that it was necessary to prevent prosecution of persons who had entered into plural marriages before the law had prohibited them; but the act was not so framed as to confine its operation to such cases. The act was vetoed by the Governor, but chiefly on the ground that "its enactment would be the signal for a general demand for a constitutional amendment directed against certain social conditions here, which, under present circumstances, would surely be complied with." "Certain social conditions here" is a euphonious phrase signifying polygamy. The bill is for the present defeated; but its passage indicates the temper of the Legislature and of the Mormon Church, if not of the Mormon people; and it ought to create the general demand which the Governor of Utah dreads. The people of the United States ought to add to the amendment forever prohibiting slavery a similar one forever prohibiting polygamy in any State or Territory of the United States; and they ought not to allow this amendment to be entangled with or wait upon one attempting to regulate the perplexing subject of marriage and divorce.—New York Outlook.

NORTH CAROLINA ADVANCING.

The North Carolina legislature has appropriated funds for the erection of a textile department at the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts in Raleigh. It will be remembered that about three years ago the necessity for a textile school in the State was strongly urged by the Watauga Club of Raleigh, and the project was endorsed by the chamber of Commerce and Industry of that city and by the Southern Cotton Spinners' Association, and has been kept steadily to the fore. Leading manufacturers generously responded to the opportunity to furnish machinery to be used, upon the guarantee that the building should be erected. In passing this appropriation, which will be a great aid in carrying out the plans for placing the textile department at the college upon a substantial and practical basis, the legislature has done a good work for the young men of the State. It will enable many of them to prepare themselves for employment in the new mills now being erected, and its effects will undoubtedly be seen in the next few years in an advance of the textile industry of North Carolina. Such appropriations are returned to the State many times over in the increased earning capacity as its citizens.—Manufacturer's Record.

WHOM SHOULD OFFICERS SERVE!

Appropos of the trial of the Supreme Court Judges, who we are glad were not impeached, the Standard would like to ask three questions: Would a Democratic Legislature have interfered with the office of Shell Fish Commissioner and its munificent salary, if it had been a Democratic appointment? Would a Republican judiciary have reversed the decision of the Legislature in this important salary case, if it had been a Republican Legislature? Would a Democratic Legislature have instituted the impeachment proceedings against Democratic judges with a Republican Governor to appoint their successors? And when these questions are answered in the minds of honest men, the Standard propounds a fourth: Is it not fitting that both parties should walk backward and throw the mantle of charity over the shame of a common sin? Some time before the millennium we trust the idea will prevail that an official is not the hireling of a party but the servant of the people.—Presbyterian Standard.