

PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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"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.

DISCONTINUANCES—Responsible subscribers will continue to receive this journal until the publishers are notified by letter to discontinue, when all arrears must be paid.

A THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK.

That day is well spent of which you can say: "To-day I have planted a new idea, have awakened a noble sentiment, have corrected a defect, have sown a seed for good in the heart of a child."—Selected.

THIS WEEK'S PAPER—SOME RANDOM COMMENT.

Harry Farmer tells the interesting story of one farmer's success, success that is within the reach of any energetic man.

"Said I to myself, 'Here's a lesson for me, For this man's a picture of what I might be.'"

The cotton crop report will interest many of our readers. It will be seen that the condition of the crop in North Carolina is 4 points higher than the average.

The Farmers' Institutes announced on page 1, will be conducted by men well qualified to make them of value to all that attend.

We have already published a letter from Treasurer Reynolds regarding the Farmers' National Congress to be held at Macon, Ga., in October.

Another note about corn shredding is published this week. We know that a great many shredders have been sold in this State within the last two years.

The comparative advantages of town and country life are very well set forth by a correspondent on page 6.

A corrected list of educational rallies appears on another page. Those already held seem to have been thoroughly successful.

The best piece of agricultural literature that came to our notice last week was that article from the Monroe Journal which we give the place of honor in our "Thinkers" department on this page.

An article from the Youth's Companion tells how the rural telephone plan is worked in the West.

THE SUPREME COURT'S SCHOOL TAX OPINION.

In the course of a recent opinion of the Supreme Court written by Judge Furches, the provision of our State Constitution which says that "there shall be no discrimination in favor of, or to the prejudice of either race" in public school affairs was interpreted as meaning that the school fund should be divided between the children of the two races per capita.

"That is, one white child of the school age shall have the same amount of money per capita as a colored child, and no more; and the colored child shall have the same amount per capita as any white child, and no more; that both races shall have equal opportunities for an education, so far as the public money is concerned."

This opinion or dictum has attracted a great deal of attention for, since negro schools are less expensive than white (all negro labor being cheaper than white), the practical effect of a per capita distribution would be to give the negro schools a longer term than that of the white schools.

Clearly, it is inconsistent with the doctrine expressed in the very next clause in the Court's opinion—"that both races have equal opportunity for an education"—this being, we believe, a correct interpretation of the spirit of the Constitution.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PATRIOTIC SERVICE.

Everybody who reads The Progressive Farmer knows that the rural school library plan is one of our hobbies. And we are not at all ashamed of it.

Just now when so many country schools are running we are again moved to put before our readers the advantages of the plan, and to urge that no rural school for which it is possible to secure a library be closed before an earnest effort is made to start such a collection of books for the benefit of the children.

We suppose that we have stated a dozen times the main provision of the rural school library law as passed by the last Legislature. It is, in brief, that when the friends or patrons of any country school raise \$10 or more to purchase a library, the County Board of Education will set apart \$10 of the school fund for that purpose.

Let him hasten to the work of putting it in a more creditable position) no move has been made toward taking advantage of the opportunities afforded by this law.

The following table which we have compiled from statistics given out by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction last week, and which shows the number of libraries that have been aided by the State in each county.

Here is the table by counties showing the number of libraries established under the provisions of this law: *Alamance, 6; Alexander, . . . *Alleghany, 6; Anson, 6; Ashe, 1; Beaufort, 6; Bertie, 6; Bladen, 1; Brunswick, 2; Buncombe, . . . ; Burke, 1; Cabarrus, 6; Caldwell, 4; Camden, . . . ; Carteret, . . . ; Caswell, 1; Catawba, 5; *Chatham, 6; Cherokee, 4; *Chowan, 6; Clay, . . . ; *Cleveland, 6; Columbus, 2; *Craven, 6; *Cumberland, 6; Currituck, 1; Dare, . . . ; Davidson, 2; Davie, 3; *Duplin, 6; *Durham, 6; *Edgecombe, 6; *Forsyth, 6; Franklin, 4; Gaston, 2; Gates, 3; Graham, . . . ; Granville, 5; *Greene, 6; *Guilford, 6; Halifax, 1; Harnett, 5; Haywood, . . . ; *Henderson, 6; Hertford, 1; Hyde, 5; *Iredell, 6; Jackson, . . . ; Johnston, 5; Jones, . . . ; *Lenoir, 6; *Lincoln, 6; McDowell, . . . ; Macon, 2; *Madison, 6; Martin, . . . ; Mecklenburg, 5; Mitchell, 1; Montgomery, 5; *Moore, 6; *Nash, 6; *New Hanover, 6; *Northampton, 6; *Onslow, 6; *Orange, 6; Pamlico, 1; *Pasquotank, 6; Pender, . . . ; Perquimans, 4; Person, 5; *Pitt, 6; Polk, 1; *Randolph, 6; Richmond, 2; *Robeson, 6; *Rockingham, 6; Rowan, 4; *Rutherford, 6; Sampson, . . . ; Scotland, . . . ; *Stanly, 6; *Stokes, 6; Surry, 2; Swain, . . . ; Transylvania, 3; Tyrrell, . . . ; *Union, 6; Vance, 3; *Wake, 6; *Warren, 6; *Washington, 6; Watauga, 2; *Wayne, 6; Wilkes, 4; *Wilson, 6; Yadkin, . . . ; Yancey, . . .

MR. BLAIR AND MR. GUDGER.

In the Monroe Congressional Convention a few weeks ago, it will be remembered, Mr. J. R. Blair, of Montgomery County, one time received a fraction of a vote more than half the number of votes cast, but there being an understanding that one full vote more than half would be required to nominate, another ballot was taken, and he lost the seat in Congress that seemed to be within his grasp.

THE ARTICLES ON "OLD TIMES IN THE SOUTH."

Seldom has it been our good fortune to publish such an excellent series of articles as that by our lady readers on "Old Times in the South," recently concluded.

It is a thing very often said in awarding prizes, but this time it is actually true that nearly every contestant deserved a prize. But in the nature of things all couldn't get the prize, and we have to thank the judges, Mr. O. W. Blackwell, of Kittrell, Vance Co., N. C., and Mr. T. B. Parker, of Hillsboro, N. C., for deciding to whom it should go.

The prize for the best man's letter on "Old Times in the South" (a copy of an interesting and handsomely bound book, "Sketches of Old Virginia,") will not be awarded before October 1st.

"Resolved, That no gambling devices, illegal games of chance, or immoral exhibitions will be allowed on the grounds of the North Carolina State Fair, and the following are expressly excluded, such as plate boards, spindles, pickouts, fish ponds, card games, cloth pin games, slot machines, book-making, etc.

TO CLEANSE THE STATE FAIR.

No paper having waged more earnest warfare against vulgar and immoral Midway "attractions" at our State Fair, it naturally gives us much pleasure to print the following simple and straightforward notice by the State Fair authorities, it being in the shape of a resolution adopted by the Advisory Board at its meeting a few days ago:

"There appears to be, so far as heard, general disapproval of the pardon of A. L. Daly, the gold brick swindler. The public thinks that those rascals got off lightly enough, anyway." So says the Raleigh correspondent of the Charlotte Observer.

The coronation of "Edward VII, R. I., by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British dominions beyond the seas, King, defender of the faith, Emperor of India," was successfully and pompously carried out Saturday, to the intense relief of the English people.

Prof. C. W. Burkett says that he believes there will be 125 students enrolled in the several agricultural courses at the A. and M. College this fall and winter—a record-breaking enrollment.

The opposition to Judge Walter Clark seems to be assuming a more tangible shape; as to its strength, that is unknown.

Prof. Massey is now editor-in-chief of that paper and does his work in Raleigh. If he goes to Pennsylvania he will engage in farmers' institute work for that State.

THE THINKERS.

Says the Asheville Citizen: "This being an off year in politics, the Tennessee Democrats are giving their campaign a very practical sort of turn. Candidates for the Legislature are being appealed to in more than one paper to stop talking about trusts, tariff and the Philippines, and discuss better roads, better schools, the revival of agricultural interests and other topics that deal directly with the development of the State.

TALK ABOUT HOME AFFAIRS.

This is eminently sensible, and we hope the suggestion will be followed. For years candidates in this State, when they talked at all, have devoted most of their attention to national issues, something with which their offices had no concern.

SOME NOTEWORTHY ARTICLES IN THE AUGUST MAGAZINES.

"Gunton's publishes a paper on "The New South's Rare Opportunity," estimating the number of children under fourteen years of age at work in the cotton mills of North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi at 22,000.

The opening article of the August Century is "The New New York." Mr. Randall Blackshaw's account of what is being done to make a great city on Manhattan Island.

The loneliness of farm life, which has been considerably reduced by rural mail delivery, has been still further lessened in a number of Western communities by the introduction of the telephone.

MORE ABOUT THE RURAL TELEPHONE.

The chief obstacle to the wider use of this great modern convenience has been the high rates charged by the regular companies.

Lately another plan has been tried with excellent results in a number of Wisconsin towns. A stock company is formed of those who desire to use the service.

Mr. Oscar K. Davis, formerly the New York Sun's correspondent in the Philippines, contributes an article on "The Moros in Peace and War," which is timely in view of the recent peace-making with the Moro people.

Mr. Davis says the Moros are the most formidable of the native tribes in the Philippines, and a campaign against them must be a serious affair.

Many a farmer's wife, tied to her work and cut off from social opportunities, would gladly pay twenty-five cents a month merely for the luxury of hearing a neighbor's voice at will; and the farmer himself, if he is alert, finds constant advantage in closer connection with his market.

OUR NEW-CAUGHT, SULLEN PEOPLES.

Mr. Davis says the Moro fighters are very different from the Filipinos. Although they are poorly armed, they use with deadly skill and energy terrible knives which they make themselves, and with which they can easily cut a man's head from his shoulders by one blow.