

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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

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AGRICULTURE

Harry Farmer's Talks.

XC.

Editor of The Progressive Farmer:

Our pigs are now eating cow peas and sweet potatoes. The peas furnish protein or the food that makes lean meat and bone, while the potatoes, being mostly starch, make fat.

PEAS AND POTATOES FOR PORK PRODUCTION.

We read so much nowadays about a balanced ration. Can the average farmer do better than to plant largely of these crops? They are surely the most certain and the cheapest crops that can be raised in this section. How often do we hear farmers complain about the high price of Western meat! A little work in the right direction now with a few pigs can help you save some of this money the coming year.

Do not expect meat to be down much from present prices, or you may be disappointed. We bought meat too for several years and learned to our sorrow what a pile of money we spent every year with an average family. We made up our mind to stop it. And we have carried out our resolution so far. We cannot raise cotton and tobacco and buy meat cheaper than we can raise it.

THE ENORMOUS LOSS BY MEAT SHORTAGE.

In our own county in a radius of ten miles or less the shortage in pork killed last season amounted to 600,000 pounds or (at present prices of meat) \$50,000 was thus sent away. Some one may like to know how we found this out. Why, bless your life, it was easy enough! We just asked the merchants how much salt they sold compared with an averaged year and after obtaining these figures we allowed 200 pounds of salt to each 1,000 pounds of meat, which is about the usual quantity used. You see this was getting as close to it as it is possible to do. If this same condition prevailed over a large part of North Carolina it behooves us to make every effort possible to try to save this amount of money. It is a serious matter. A few years of this kind would bankrupt any country, and every person regardless of his occupation would feel it keenly.

DON'T RAISE COTTON TO BUY MEAT

The wet weather last year was not wholly to blame. While it cut the corn crop short, it made the grass

flourish, which was a good thing for the hogs. Our Western farmers raise their hogs on grass and finish with corn. We can do the same thing here in the South. One of the main causes was the high price at which cotton sold in 1900. The farmers could buy nearly a pound and a half of meat with a pound of cotton, and concluded this condition would prevail, and thus neglected the pigs. Now we have the condition reversed.

We are doing all we can to point out everything that has a tendency to keep our farmers down, and we have found nothing that has worked against us more in the South than buying Western meat.

HARRY FARMER.

Columbus Co., N. C.

Cover Crop for Tobacco Land.

Editor of The Progressive Farmer:

I wish to ask a question. I have a plot of land, a gray land with a little sand, and I have just got a good crop of tobacco off it, and want to put it in tobacco next year. How would it do to seed the land to rye and then turn the rye under in March for green manure? Would it be in any better condition for tobacco than it would be to let it remain as it is?

S. P. POOL.

Granville Co., N. C.

(Answer by Dr. Chas. W. Burkett, N. C. A. and M. College.)

Crimson clover would be the most desirable crop to sow on this tobacco land. It is a little late, however, to do so now, and rye can be sown to good advantage.

It should be the practice in all soil management to have a cover crop growing during the winter time, to keep soluble plant food from washing away, and also to add humus to the soil. Clover also adds atmospheric nitrogen. In this latter respect clover is a better cover crop than rye. Rye, on the other hand, uses the plant food that otherwise might be lost, and by its roots adds humus to the soil.

By all means let our correspondent sow to rye rather than leave the soil bare. The only risk of plowing under the rye crop in the spring is the danger of souring the soil. If you can pasture the rye off, it would be very desirable. If this is not possible, plow under the rye as early as possible before it becomes to growth and maturity. This treatment would not only add much humus, but greatly improve the physical conditions of the soil.

NO CONFLICT OR COMPETITION BETWEEN THE TOBACCO TRUSTS.

They Divide Up the World's Territory Between Them and Each is to Stay in its Own Sphere—An Authorized Statement by Thomas F. Ryan.

Several misleading and incorrect so-called interviews with Thomas F. Ryan of the American Tobacco Company, were published last week. The official authorized announcement by Mr. Ryan was published in the Associated Press last Friday, (3rd), and is as follows:

"The agreement made between the representatives of the Imperial Tobacco Company, of England, on the one hand, and the Consolidated Tobacco Company, on the other, was mutual in its character and entirely satisfactory on both sides. It was accomplished by friendly conference after full consideration of the interests of all parties affected. The agreement has an international character which has not belonged, I think, to any previous trade arrangements. It means the union of the representatives of an important business in Great Britain and America for the purpose of seeking trade hand-in-hand, throughout the world. My visit to London grew out of an invitation extended to me in July last by the directors of the British company after several of the directors had visited the United States, and while here had conferred with Mr. Duke, President of the Consolidated Tobacco Company, and myself regarding the respective interests of the companies we represented. The agreement made to transfer to the Imperial Tobacco Company, the business of the Consolidated Tobacco Company in England, was made for full and satisfactory consideration. The American Tobacco Company becomes a large shareholder in the English company, with three representatives on its board of directors, one of whom is Mr. Duke.

"The Consolidated Tobacco Company will pursue its business in the American field, including not only the United States, but Cuba, Porto Rico, and Hawaiian Islands, and the Philippines, without competition from the English company. The Imperial Company will not encounter the competition of the American Company in the business of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, including Scotland and Wales. In the New British Company the British company has one-

third of the stock and the American Company has two-thirds. The board of directors consists of six representatives of the British company and twelve of the American, with Mr. Duke as its president, who remains abroad to perfect the organization. This British-American company will take over the entire business of the Imperial Company and the Consolidated Company in all foreign countries, and in the colonies of Great Britain including India and Australia. The agreement made is satisfactory to both sides and equitable to all interests represented."

DECLINE IN COTTON.

Deterioration from Two Points in Alabama to Twelve in North Carolina.

Washington, Oct. 3.—The monthly report of the Statistician of the Department of Agriculture shows the average condition of cotton on September 25th to have been 58.3, as compared with 64 on August 26th, 61.4 on September 25th, 1901, 67 on October 1st, 1900, and a ten-year average of 68.9.

The following table shows in the second, third, and fourth columns, respectively, by States, the averages of condition September 25th, the corresponding average one month ago, the corresponding averages one year ago, and the mean of the corresponding averages for the last ten years:

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|------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Virginia | 73 | 80 | 73 | 76 |
| North Carolina | 68 | 80 | 63 | 70 |
| South Carolina | 68 | 74 | 67 | 68 |
| Georgia | 62 | 68 | 73 | 72 |
| Florida | 68 | 75 | 65 | 72 |
| Alabama | 52 | 54 | 65 | 71 |
| Mississippi | 63 | 68 | 66 | 69 |
| Louisiana | 64 | 70 | 72 | 70 |
| Texas | 47 | 53 | 51 | 67 |
| Arkansas | 68 | 75 | 51 | 67 |
| Tennessee | 76 | 82 | 60 | 70 |
| Missouri | 73 | 73 | 61 | 78 |
| Oklahoma | 61 | 76 | 57 | .. |
| Indian Territory | 65 | 68 | 61 | .. |

While the decline during September ranges all the way from two points in Alabama, to 12 in North Carolina, and 15 in Oklahoma, only one State, Missouri, fails to report some deterioration.

The Progressive Farmer comes to us in a sixteen page form, and looking new and tidy all around. Editor Poe is to be congratulated on the achievement of making this, what its name implies, a paper for the up-to-date farmer, and, withal, one of the very best weeklies in the State.—Greensboro Christian Advocate.