

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

and The Cotton Plant.

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THE COTTON PLANT—VOL. XXII. NO. 30.

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CIRCULATION STATEMENT.

The sworn and proved average weekly circulation of The Progressive Farmer and Cotton Plant for the year ending December 31, 1904, was 10,509 copies.

For the six months ending June 30, 1905, the sworn and proved average weekly circulation was 12,288 copies.

The Progressive Farmer and Cotton Plant has—

1.—A larger circulation than any other weekly published between Richmond and Atlanta, and—

2.—A larger circulation than any other farm weekly published between Philadelphia and Dallas.

THOUGHTS FOR FARMERS.

The Cotton Growers' Association.

The County Cotton Growers' Association met here the 4th instant. After reorganizing, with E. L. Archer president, they took up the warehouse proposition and appointed a committee to look after that, as well as the sale of cotton. A local club at Glenn Springs is going to build a regulation warehouse at once. E. D. Smith, State President of the Association, on his way to Asheville, said there would be an expert buyer with headquarters at his office in Columbia, who would give information to county buyers and assist in securing best prices possible. The general conclusion of members is that they will abide by the decision of the executive committee in session at Asheville this week. The Association is doing much good. It is leading many farmers up to making their own supplies. They are adopting better methods of land improvement. The best feature of the organization is that bankers, merchants and mill-men all favor the Association. The farmers are working against no one. They feel assured that as they improve their own condition, all other enterprises will go up with them.

Pea Vine Hay.

Some farmers in this State are now cutting their vines. Early varieties sown in May are ready. The proper time to cut them is when there is a show of ripening pods generally on the field. If cut earlier than that they are sappy; if later, the vines are hard and woody and the leaves are lost. Last year vines were cured beautifully by cocking up on the ground. There was no rain to wet them. Stakes driven in the ground and standing about three feet high with two slats nailed on top will keep the vines off the ground and give an air space. Our vines have always cured well without that trouble. If one has little room they should be baled. If intended for sale it is better to bale them. But if fed on the farm they may be packed away in houses and sheds that will keep them dry. If baled when partly cured or when damp they will mold and rot.

After Cutting the Vines.

Pea stubble intended for corn or cotton next year should not be turned in the fall. Let it stand. The leaves left make a mulch and the land will be soft and mellow in March. If small grain is sown on the stubble it is better not to turn it. Best results are secured by breaking the land with long tongue plows, or narrow half shovels, and then harrowing same and leave as much of the stubble as possible on top of the ground and the roots beneath the surface. A sane principle to guide one is never to turn land unless there is a heavy stubble to turn under. Even if pea vines are not cut for hay, we would not turn them under. When left on top they put the soil in much better condition than if they are buried.

Seed Peas.

By all means let all farmers save every ripe pea possible. They will be needed next year. Indica-

tions point to the sowing of a larger small grain crop than usual. Peas will be needed to sow the stubble. The price will not fall below \$1.00 a bushel, however large the crop may be. There is no better milk and butter producer than peas boiled and mixed with pea vine hay. If there is anything superior to the mixture we have failed to find it.

CHARLES PETTY.

Spartanburg Co., S. C.

SOUTH CAROLINA FARMERS AT SCHOOL.

Remarkable Success of the Recent Institute at Clemson College.

Messrs. Editors: For a dozen years Clemson has been doing much to improve the methods of farming in this State. But farmers are slow to lay aside the old plans and adopt new and better ones. The old story of the man carrying his corn to mill in one end of the sack and a rock in the other end to balance it, because his father did that, illustrates the difficulty of teaching farmers better methods. They have been fooled so often by swindlers that they are suspicious. Clemson College is not educating boys and sending them back to the farms. Judging from the work the graduates are doing it is more a school of technology than for the farmer. But the faculty of the College by means of County Institutes and State Institutes held annually at the College are reaching hundreds of actual farmers and disseminating practical ideas in every county. In another issue we propose to tell about the work of the County Institutes.

Hon. M. L. Donaldson, of Greenville, a life trustee of Clemson and a member of the special committee having this work in charge, has kindly submitted the following sketch of the recent Annual Institute with a statement of what it will be next year.

The Annual Institute.

"For a threefold purpose, it was deemed desirable to have the farmers of the State assemble once each year at Clemson College.

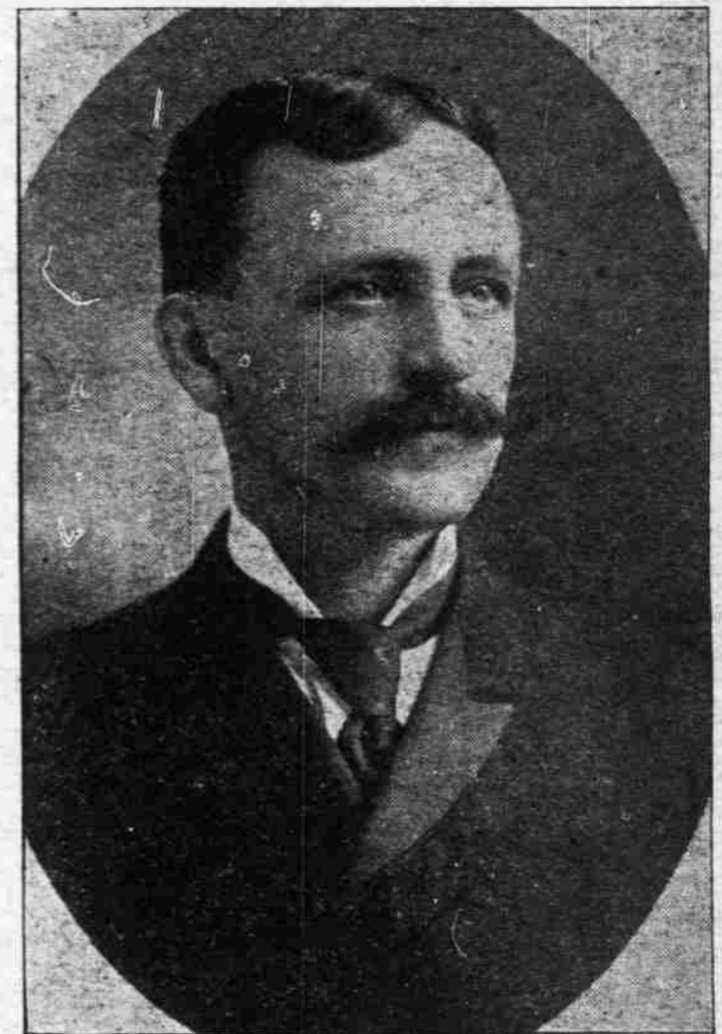
"First, That the farmers, that class of our citizens most directly interested, the most directly benefited, might see for themselves how their money was being expended—and the character of the work being done.

"Second. That they themselves might have opportunity to get practical lessons on farming, in all its varied branches in the form of lectures, the cream, so to speak, that rises from scientific research.

"And thirdly: That farmers from all parts of the State might have a week's vacation, a respite from the daily grind on the farm, and have a chance to get acquainted and interchange views and experiences with each other.

"The experience of the past goes to show that all these desirable ends have been accomplished, and that there is from year to year a deeper, wider and more abiding interest manifested in the Annual Institutes at Clemson. The meeting in 1905, just closed, was the best attended and the most generally satisfactory of any yet held. The enviable place at the head of the column of similar institutes in the South, and perhaps of the whole country, has been reached.

"It is the purpose of the committee of the board of trustees, having the institute work of the College in charge, to make the institute for 1906 take a long stride in advance of any one that has preceded. The program and list of speakers will be arranged at an earlier date and with a wider range than heretofore. More home talent from among the up-to-date and successful farmers of South Carolina will be employed. Subjects will be so arranged that visitors may know



HON. HARVIE JORDAN,

President Southern Cotton Association, which met last week in Asheville, N. C.; and President Farmers' National Congress now in session in Richmond, Va.

just what day the subject on which they are most interested will be discussed, so that if one cannot spend a whole week he may get what he wants and return home.

"An effort will be made to secure speakers of known ability to address the farmers each night on subjects bearing on matters pertaining to material and educational progress, thus filling up the entire time in the most entertaining and helpful way." * * *

In a future paper we will tell something about Professor Harper who has succeeded Professor Newman as head of the Agricultural Department. The College was crowded at the last session, and the indications now point to an overflow of students at the opening of the next session.

Spartanburg, S. C.

Soon it will be time to expect a windfall of hickories and walnuts every morning. The sassafras leaves are aflame, the poplar is sprinkled with yellow, at the heart of the blackgum there begins to burn a rich, regal red. The maple is delaying her splendors, but in response to all the wandering breezes, a few rich leaves flutter down, just to remind the barefoot boy that summer is almost gone by and that between now and Christmas stretches a wide, white cotton field.—J. C. McNeill.

A THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK.

Don't flatter yourselves that friendship authorizes you to say disagreeable things to your intimates. On the contrary, the nearer you come into contact with a person, the more necessary do tact and courtesy become. Except in cases of necessity, which are rare, leave your friend to learn unpleasant truths from his enemies; they are ready enough to tell them. Good breeding never forgets that amour-propre is universal.—From "The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table," by Oliver Wendell Holmes.