

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER AND SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

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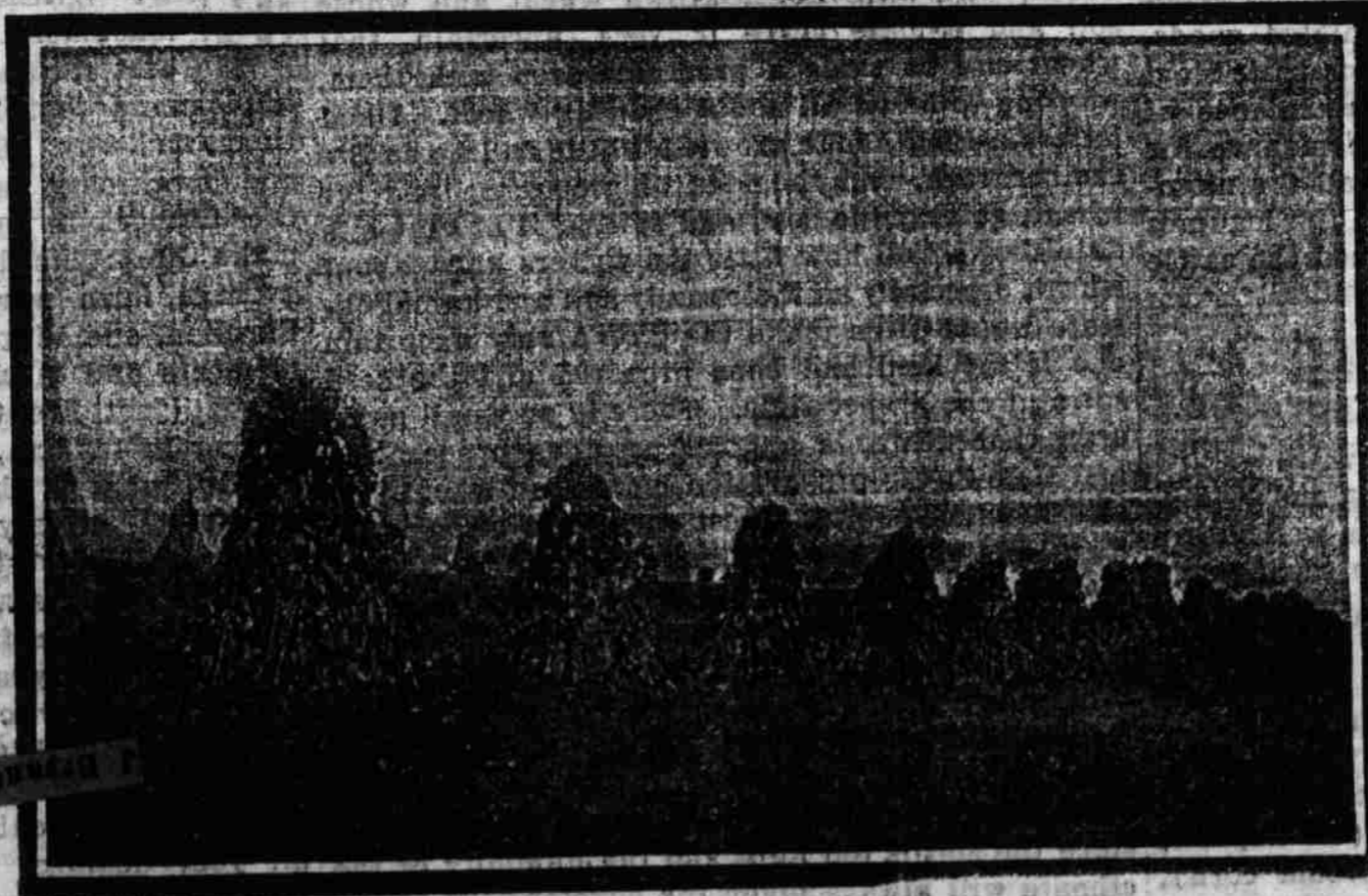
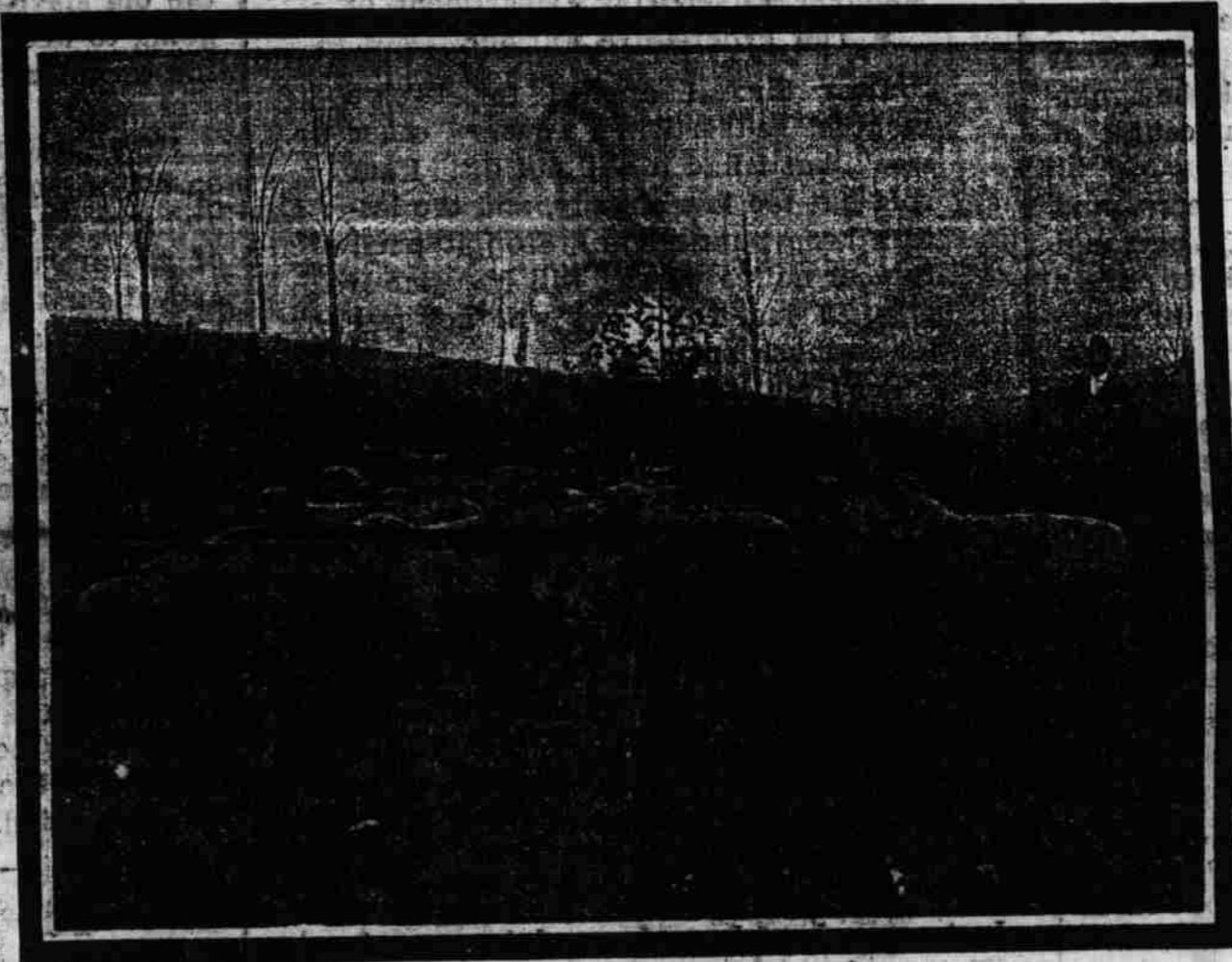
Weekly: \$1 a Year

## A Sure Foundation for Rural Prosperity—Good Live Stock, Well Fed

**N**OW and then we hear of farmers who are getting rich raising cotton, but most farmers who are raising cotton are not getting rich. Indeed, many of them are not even making a comfortable living, and the average income of the Cotton Belt farmer is far below that of the farmers who raise wheat or corn or hay or feed stock.

The reason for this is not far to seek: While there are still all-corn or all-wheat farmers in the wheat and corn sections, they are the exceptions and not the rule. With us the practically all-cotton farmer is the rule; and no single-crop system of agriculture has ever yet brought general prosperity to the men engaged in it. The cotton and tobacco farmers must learn not to devote their whole farms to these crops. Because prices have been high this season to go and put every available acre into these money crops this year, and thus in all probability bring about another year of low prices, is folly of the most egregious sort.

There are men who did not get wages out of their cotton crop this year when



[Courtesy Norfolk & Western R. R. Co.]

it brought 14 or 15 cents. Other men would have made good profits if it had only brought 10 cents. To insure good crops each year and continued prosperity Southern farmers must do two things: Grow more live stock and raise more feed crops. We can't keep the stock without the feed, and to keep up the soil fertility to the point of profitable production, we must have more live stock.

When it comes to feeding crops, we all think of corn first, and there has never been, we believe, a greater interest in corn growing in the South than at present. But we should not forget that the legumes are the cheapest and best feeds for live stock and the greatest profit to the stock feeder can only come through their use.

We wish we could make this a direct personal message to every reader at this beginning of the season: Don't be run wild by a single season's high price for any crop, and don't forget that the surest path to prosperity leads through corn fields and hay fields and pasture fields where are grown the feed for flocks and herds.

### INDEX TO THIS ISSUE

Commercial Sources of Phosphoric Acid .....	152	South Carolina Stock Breeders' Meeting .....	168
Consumption: How to Cure It in Early Stages .....	165	Stick to the Crops of your section .....	150
Do All the Plowing You Can Right Now .....	157	Planning and Making the Farm Home .....	158
How Better Tools Make Better Farmers .....	155	The All-Important Problem of Saving the Soil .....	156
Hog Raising in the South: Value of Pure Bred Sires .....	162	The Next Thing to Do .....	150
How to Recognize San Jose Scale .....	167	The Right Way to Use Fertilizers .....	150
\$500 More a Year Farming—By Buying the Seeds Right .....	157	The Southern Farmers' Money-Making Opportunity .....	160
Make One Man Do the Work of Two .....	154	The Sort of Garden You Should Have .....	167
Some Profit-Making Implements and Machinery .....	153	The Virginia Hay Crop .....	164
		The Week's Happenings .....	161
		To Make Money on Rainy Days and Winter Nights .....	161
		Why Hens Fail to Lay .....	166