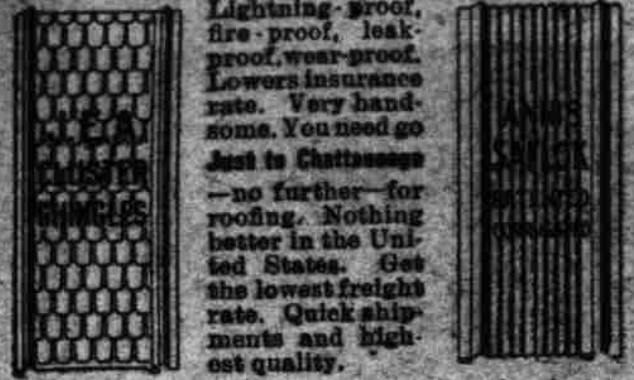


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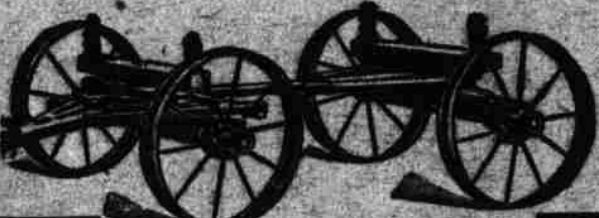
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THE GEORGIA STATE FAIR.

Progress Evident in All Departments—Better Livestock Buildings Needed—Awards in the Livestock Classes.

By Prof. Milton P. Jernagin, Athens, Ga.

PROGRESS in all departments was in evidence at the Georgia State Fair, held at Macon, October 15-25. Systematic growth has been conspicuous. During the first of the show, weather conditions militated against large crowds, but during the last week all previous records of attendance were smashed.

The machinery exhibits were educational in character. The latest developments in preparing, cultivating, seeding, and harvesting machinery were shown in a very attractive manner. Agriculture is becoming so complex that a farm is not well equipped without some mechanical power. All of the leading makes of gasoline engines were shown, doing all the various classes of farm work, from breaking land with steam, gasoline, and oil tractors, to the grinding of feed and pumping of water. There was one feature of these exhibits that was worthy of special mention. That was water and plumbing systems for farms. The only advantage a town home has over a country home is a bath tub. Inventions and manufactures have simplified and cheapened hydraulic rams, pumps, engines, and windmills to such an extent that there is no longer any valid reason why water and sewerage systems should not be on every farm.

The Agricultural Hall was filled with the fat of the land. Many of the county exhibits are worthy of special mention. There is a wholesome rivalry between many of the counties, and every year they vie with each other to see which one can provide the greatest variety of farm products. Most of them were arranged in a most artistic manner.

Judged from the standpoint of agricultural truths taught, first place must be given to the exhibit of the Georgia State College of Agriculture. The model farm in this exhibit deserves special mention. A large bed of soil was provided, and this was systematically laid out in miniature fields, pastures, yards, and paddocks, as well as a farm orchard and garden. A crop rotation was planned for the entire farm, showing the proportion of land that should logically be devoted to the production of the various staple crops. Since during the autumn all cultivated land should be planted to either a cereal or cover crop, the exhibit was made all the more vivid by actually planting out these cereals and cover crops several days in advance of the show, so that the actual growing crops were to be seen in the several areas.

The fertilizer exhibit attracted a great deal of attention. Samples of fertilizers were shown, as well as the source from which the fertilizers were derived. In addition to this, there were charts showing the actual yields obtained with a great variety of crops at the college from the use of different kinds and amounts of fertilizers.

The Boys' Corn Clubs and Girls' Clubs also provided an attractive exhibit. Superior specimens of corn were produced by the boys, and the yields obtained by them continue to astonish the "grown-ups."

Poultry.

One of the features of the show was the enormous poultry exhibit. Georgia is admirably adapted to the production of all classes of poultry, and the people are taking hold of it with a vengeance. The entries ran high in both numbers and quality, and no better exhibit of birds could be found in any fair. Considering the enormous profits to be derived from well managed flocks of poultry, it is not surprising that this

division is becoming stronger and more popular each year.

Better Livestock Buildings Needed.

Too much prominence cannot be given livestock in Southern fairs. All wealth is produced by the farmer. Unless the farmer is prosperous, the rest of the world is in want. The continued prosperity of the farmer is based on the fertility of the land. Without livestock, permanent fertility is impossible. Realizing the indispensable part that livestock plays in the fertility of the land, and therefore, the prosperity of the farmer and the Nation, the Fair Association continues to offer more and more liberal money prizes for livestock, and a substantial improvement in the quality and number of animals is being manifested.

The livestock department has outgrown its quarters, and vast improvements should be made before the next fair is held. These improvements do not need to be of extensive character, but they should be modern and of a type suitable to the ends for which they are to be used. At the present time the animals are housed in small inaccessible barns, with dark and poorly ventilated box stalls. It is possible to see only one animal at a time, and much of the impressiveness of the exhibit is lost by the conditions under which they are shown. The fair is held early enough in the season so that open sheds are all that will be needed, and their construction will be very inexpensive. Tie stalls, with short, low partitions, should be provided, so that all of the animals of a breed could be seen at one time. Suitable judging rings should also be provided, with seating facilities, so that the visitors could witness the placing of the animals, and, therefore, receive much more beneficial information than could be had from viewing the animals in their stalls. Both the exhibitors and the visiting public have a right to demand these concessions from the management. The Fair Association very kindly provided a satisfactory barn for the livestock exhibited by the Georgia State College of Agriculture.

Georgia State College Exhibit.

The college exhibit consisted of a three-year-old Percheron stallion, weighing 1,700 pounds, after having done farm work up until the breeding season opened. This stallion is a typical drafter in type, bone, and weight. He is a horse of exceptionally bold action, and rare finish for his substance. With him was exhibited a seven-year-old 1,550 pound grade draft mare of the type that Southern farmers should adopt. She is short, compact, and massive in conformation, but above all she has the quality of hair, skin, and bone, and the boldness of eye that indicates wearing qualities. This mare carries with her the evidence of her double usefulness in that the harness marks reveal the fact that she did regular farm work throughout the entire season, and in addition to this, she has by her side an exceptional draft colt, a little over two months old, weighing nearly 500 pounds.

Next to the horses, probably the exhibit of Hereford cattle created more interest than any other one thing. A two-year-old Hereford bull, carrying a strong infusion of Anxiety 4th and Groves 3rd blood was shown. By his side were exhibited some of his calves out of south Georgia cows, that were purchased by the college at insignificant prices. These calves were short of leg, thick and deep of body, and carried a wealth of flesh that is desired in profitable feeding cattle.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

One grade Hereford heifer was shown to disprove the ill-founded belief that high-class cattle cannot be produced under ordinary farm conditions. This heifer was brought from the pasture and sent to the fair without grain feeding, so that she was an absolute product of Georgia Bermuda grass and Japan clover. She is a yearling heifer, and is weighing a little over 700 pounds, with as much flesh on her as is found on pasture cattle in any section of the United States. It should not be concluded from this, however, that an adequate supply of feed must not be provided from about the middle of November until the following April.

High-class representatives of Holstein and Jersey cattle were also shown by the college. None of this stock was allowed to compete in the show ring.

Jerseys.

Judged from the standpoint of numbers, Jerseys are the most popular breed of cattle in Georgia, and this same popularity was evidenced by both the numbers and quality of animals shown at the fair. Savannah Maid, owned by Avon-Indian Farm, of Covington, is a credit to any herd, and was easily the champion female of the show, tho she had strong competition, not only from very excellent stable mates, but also from the other herds. The veteran Jersey breeder, W. Gettys, of Athens, Tennessee, made the awards. He is a critical judge and a stickler for type.

Exhibitors: Kimbalville Farm, of Atlanta; O. A. Selman, of Douglasville, and Avon-Indian Farm, of Covington.

Aged Bulls—First, Selman; second, Kimbalville Farm.
Two-Year-Olds—First, Avon-Indian Farm.
Aged Cows—First, Avon-Indian Farm; second and third, Kimbalville Farm.
Two-Year-Olds—First, Avon-Indian Farm; second, Kimbalville Farm; third, Avon-Indian Farm.
Yearlings—First and third, Avon-Indian Farm; second, Kimbalville Farm.
Calves—First and third, Avon-Indian Farm; second, Kimbalville Farm; fourth, Selman.
Champion Bull of the Show—Selman.
Champion Cow of the Show—Avon-Indian Farm.

Beef Cattle.

Two breeds of beef cattle and one breed of dual-purpose cattle made a creditable show in this section of the livestock exhibit. Ten-cent beef and ten-cent cotton are causing the Southern farmers to turn their attention towards meat producing cattle. Mr. Loring Brown, of Smyrna, Ga., made all the awards in the beef classes. Devons were shown by L. W. Jarman, of Porterdale, Ga., and he had no competition. He showed a number of degradable specimens that will fit well into the needs of the small farmer, who desires to keep a few cows to provide an adequate milk and butter supply for his household, and at the same time raise a few good feeding cattle each year.

Angus cattle were shown by Mr. C. J. Berkitt, of Nashville, Tenn. He had no competition on Angus, tho his cattle are good enough to win in the strongest company. They are of approved breeding and correct Angus type, and Mr. Berkitt is to be congratulated on the superior animals he placed before the visitors.

Anderson Farms, of Marietta, Ga., and the Agricultural College were the only exhibitors of Hereford, tho the college animals did not compete for prizes. The Herefords are admirably adapted to Georgia conditions, and Mr. Anderson's efforts in introducing high-class Herefords into the State should be met with popular favor.

The beef breeds were brought together for the sweep-stake prizes. In the bull class the championship was won by Mr. Berkitt on his Angus herd bull, while Mr. Anderson's mellow, thick-fleshed Hereford cow carried off the championship for females.

Sheep.

There is a needed interest in sheep