

ging manufactured for this crop on April 15, had already been sold, and was only 44 inches wide, and not enough to cover thoroughly after compression.

These conventions said nothing about tare reduction, but simply put us on notice of a revolution in cotton trade, viz.: reform bale, smaller press boxes, a wider, smoother covering, well secured, and fishnet bagging to be discarded. So we must watch, as well as pray. A leading importer of bagging, in a letter to me, suggests a reduction of tariff on bagging would greatly aid us in the adjustment of this arbitrary tare on cotton.

So after considering these facts, and appreciating the responsibility upon us, the legislative committee of Georgia opened up a correspondence with the exchanges. We forced upon them the consideration of certain facts and conditions, and many of these agree to co-operate with us, in the standardization of tare on conditions. Some points from these I will give to you. While we have a pretty good job on our hands, I believe it is not only possible, but very probable for a righteous adjustment of this arbitrary tare, and that we can and must come to some agreement on a standard covering and a reform bale, that will save millions of dollars to the Cotton Belt, and remove prejudice from the shamefully covered American bale.

**TWELVE SERMONS ON CLOVER.**

**I.—If We Really Knew the Value of Clover, We Would Grow More.**

I PROMISED to give you within the year, 12 reminders of the importance of clover as a part of our Southern crops. I shall not here attempt to tell how to get it. Every phase of that subject has been discussed in farmers' institutes, in all worthy farm papers, and by agricultural bulletins, both State and National, for the last ten years. You'll not be likely to get it much, until you want it. If you ever get to want it sufficiently to follow those instructions, you'll be apt to succeed. It has passed the experimental stage in these parts.

But it has not come to us without some little effort, such as planting seed, and some other matters of detail.

Just now I shall speak of clovers as one of the very best winter cover crops. As a usual rule, they stand fall seeding, go thru the winter, and attain most of their growth in spring or early summer. This makes it a nice wedge in between two summer crops, and to those acres that would be idle from September to May.

Can we afford to pay interest and taxes on any investment other than land, then leave it idle seven-twelfths of the time, and expect a profit? Yea, the time is here when we need not expect it of land.

Then add to the consideration the wash-away, the blow-away, and leaching; and it would seem imperative that we have a winter crop to arrest all these leaks. There are none better than clover.

I expect to mention the merits of various kinds in course of these "reminders."

ZENO MOORE.

Whitaker, N. C.

Editorial Comment: In talking to Mr. Moore recently, he said to us: "The only way to get the folks waked up to the importance of growing clover is to keep everlastingly after them. I believe I will send you one article for The Progressive Farmer every month for 12 months about clover. Part of the time I can talk about what kinds to plant, and how to plant it, and so on, and the rest of the time I can tell them what they are missing, if they haven't got it, or what to do with what they have,



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etc. The point is, I want to keep them thinking about it." The idea struck us as a very good one and we asked Mr. Moore to follow it up. This is the first article, and our readers may as well prepare themselves for eleven other articles along the same lines. Mr. Moore is going to conduct a revival on the clover subject, and what he will have to say each month will be worth reading.

**South Carolina Plant Breeders' Association.**

WE ARE glad to note the organization of a South Carolina Plant Breeders' Association. A central committee in charge consists of D. R. Coker, of Hartsville, Chairman; E. J. Watson, Columbia; E. W. Dabbs, Mayesville; Prof. J. N. Harper, Clemson College; Swinton Whaley, Edisto Island; A. W. Brabham, Olar, and Dr. A. C. Moore, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

In commenting on the initial meeting the Columbia State says:

"Mr. Coker, when called upon, made the necessity for such an organization perhaps even clearer. He dealt with the cotton situation, and showed the difference between real, established varieties of long-staple cotton and so-called long staple cotton. He showed how, by intelligent handling, a county like Darlington, for instance, can add a million dollars annually to the income from cotton grown without increase of acreage. This carried out generally could add some forty millions of dollars to the State's income from her cotton crop annually. Next year, he said, a greatly increased acreage would be devoted to long-staple, and the next year even a greater acreage. All kinds of seed without regard to character would be planted, and it was timely now to sound a pointed note of warning to the average farmer, as to the difference between real long staple varieties and the necessity for keeping them pure, and the so-called long-staple with all kinds of lengths of staple on the same plant. Too general planting without regard to well bred and selected seed would weigh down and break the market.

He touched also upon the necessity for the establishment of local markets, so that farmers would not have to go too far to market their cotton."

**The North Carolina Agricultural Society's New President.**

WE ARE glad to give our readers herewith a photograph of Mr. John A. Mills, the newly elected President of the North Carolina Agricultural Society, which conducts the North Carolina State Fair. By his



COL. JOHN A. MILLS.

persistent and untiring work in railroad building, Mr. Mills well deserves to be ranked as one of the builders of the State. He saw the possibility of developing a section previously without railroads, and used his resources so wisely, that he accomplished results that most men would have thought impossible without immense capital. Mr. Mills is now behind an important railroad enterprise in western North Carolina, the Elkin and Allegany railway; and his past experience will no doubt enable him to give the State even greater service in the future than heretofore.

He is so progressive a man that he may well be counted on to develop the fair along the lines most needed, and his character is such that we expect him to stand also for a clean fair. In both matters, the people should hold up his hands.

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