

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

AND SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

A Farm and Home Weekly For the Carolinas, Virginia, Georgia and Tennessee.

FOUNDED, 1886, AT RALEIGH, N. C.

Vol. XXVII. No. 50.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1912.

Weekly: \$1 a Year.

A Personal Talk to the One-Horse Farmer.

A ONE-HORSE Farmers' Special," some reader may be saying to himself, "and the first thing the picture of a man with a two-horse cultivator—isn't that rather inconsistent?"

Well, it may be; but we scarcely think so. The fact is, that while this is a special issue for one-horse farmers, and largely by those who are or have been one-horse farmers, its purpose is to inspire and help the one-horse farmers who read it to become two-horse farmers.

Frankly, we do not believe in one-horse farming. There may be cases where the man who does specialty farming on a very little land needs only one horse; but for the man who raises staple crops, and who depends upon his farming for a living, one horse is not enough. It is not enough simply because in that case the farmer is out of proportion to his equipment. He is frittering away his own strength, his own time, his own brain-power when he walks twice as often as is necessary across a field to tend it, and when he limits his crop to one half or two-thirds of what he is fully capable of overseeing and caring for.

Some folks have thought that in condemning one-horse farming we were "jumping on" the men who own only one horse. Nothing could be farther from the facts. If we didn't believe that this man with one horse is capable of bigger and better things than he can secure with such limited power: if we didn't think that he could do more and better work, and make more money, and so provide himself and his family with more of the good things of life; if we didn't feel sure that because of a wrong idea or two he is now failing to realize on his own resources and abilities, we wouldn't be everlastingly stirring up a racket and advising him to get two horses.

Of course, there may be men who are content with their present conditions, who believe they are doing the very best that is possible, and who regard any intimation that there is a better way as a reflection upon them; but we are not writing for those men. We are hoping to reach men of the type who wrote the experience letters for us this week—the aspiring, energetic, determined sort of farmers who have higher ideals and enough faith in themselves to strive to attain those ideals.

We repeat what we have often said: The man who has health, energy and ambition can, if he meets with no serious mischance, get out of the one-horse class, and it will pay him to do it.

We don't say that it is easy, for often it isn't; we don't say that it

can be done in one year or two, for in some cases it may take much longer. We do say, tho, that a great many farmers make a big mistake in expecting the single horse they have to earn another one for them. Brethren, that's a hard road to travel. Let us commend to

you that sentence of Mr. McNair's on page 5: "It is more difficult to pay for one mule by one-mule methods than to pay for two mules by two-mule methods." In most cases that is the solemn truth.

Don't make the mistake of beginning with a single horse if you can by any means obtain two; and if you have begun with one, get another at once if you possibly can. We don't advocate going in debt as a rule but you can well afford to stretch your credit a little to obtain the power and equipment necessary to do good farming.

When you work one horse, you put your own labor against the labor of that horse.

Brother Farmer, you are a bigger, stronger, wiser man than you give yourself credit for, when you imagine that you cannot do better than this. You are capable of doing better farming and of making a better living for your family than you can do and make with one horse.

But you are not big and strong and wise enough to take one horse and compete with men who have two or three or ten or twenty horsepower at their command. Your earning ability is limited by the power you direct: therefore, get more power.



HE IS DOING EASY AND PROFITABLE WORK—THE SORT YOU SHOULD DO.

FEATURES OF THIS ISSUE.

FACTS ABOUT THE TOBACCO GROWER — The Mistake of Depending on Tobacco for Everything	20
FEEDING THE HOGS THIS WINTER—The Folly of Corn Alone	16
HOW TO REDUCE THE COST OF TEAM WORK—An Article for the Man With One Horse or Many	5
JUST A BIT OF EDEN—The Adventures of Margaret	12
NO EXCUSE FOR THE CAROLINAS—Our Present School Terms Inexcusably Short	14
ONE-HORSE FARMING EXPERIENCES—Letters From Men Who Have Worked With a Single Animal	6, 8, 23
THE TENANT'S GARDEN—It is All a Mistake to Think That the Small Farmer Cannot Have a Good Garden	18
DENMARK'S USEFUL HIGH SCHOOLS—Practical Training That Makes for Prosperity and Progress	20
WHY YOU SHOULD HAVE TWO HORSES—How the One-Horse Farmer Loses	5
YOU CAN GET OUT OF THE ONE-HORSE CLASS — A Practical Talk to the Young Farmer, by Professor Massey	4