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ONE-HORSE FARMING EXPERIENCES.

HOW TWO ONE-HORSE FARM-ERS CO-OPERATE.

This is Our First Prize Letter Because It Teaches Practical Cooperation.

7ES, I am a one-horse farmer, and while it is not satisfactory in every respect, yet I think on the whole it has been the best plan for me to follow.

Now let me tell you about the way I manage it. Of course, I break all of my land with two horses. I have a brother living about half a mile from me, and we own a two-horse plow between us. We put our horses together and break our land. This answers very well for us so far, but of course we are not able to order our land as we wish to do. We also have a two-horse wagon and do our hauling the same way. We also have two other brothers living near us, who have an interest with us in our mower and hay rake, and we help each other put our hay in the house after it is cut.

I keep as much stock as I can feed so as to make as much manure as possible. They tell us in the farm papers to keep more cattle but I think a lot of us poor people keep too many. Of course, I think a great deal of manure, but if we would keep fewer and feed them better, we would get better profits, and also make more manure.

As to the money I make, I might say that I am not making any, for there is very little of that coming to a man working with one horse. However I make a living for myself and family, and manage to keep out of debt. I have never run a store account since I have been farming. Let me say right here, too, that we white people around here have to do our own work, it being practically impossible for us to get any colored labor. I have not hired a day's labor on my farm work in six or eight. years. I have a farm of 80 acres. 40 acres coming to me at my father's death, the other 40 I have bought and paid for with my one horse. Of course, I know it is very poor farming a man can do with one horse, yet I think I do better than a good many who have two horses. My brother and I are planning to get us a third horse this winter, which will give us as much team as we need for another year or two, and enable us to use better implements, which we will also buy jointly. We are particularly anxious to join together in buying us a manure spreader, a grain drill and a disk harrow. A. W. ABERNATHY. Cochran, Va.

Southern methods. there was one thing I did know, and ford to use it a little longer. that was, that there are two kinds . My six children are about all grown, of fools in the world; first, the man and all have been given a complete who acknowledges himself a fool, high school education, except one, and never tries to learn anything; and he will soon graduate. I have and second, the man who thinks he raised them in such a way that they knows it all, and will not listen to might associate with a good class of anything. I resolved to be in neith- people. They all love the farm and er of these classes; but to learn anything I could from any source I could, provided it was worth learning.

Thus I went to work. My first crop was not a brilliant success, neither was my second, nor my third; but I succeeded in getting along. After the first year I got rid of my bulls, and entered the one-horse class. This was better. I continued this for a year or two, when I began to realize that I could do more work with two horses. So I hustled around and bought another horse. Theoretically, I was now out of the success. one-horse class; but really this was not true literally. But I soon found that by the aid of my extra horse, I was becoming in reality a two-horse farmer. By this time, my oldest boy was getting large enough to help me, and together we could get along pretty well.

Up to this time, I was working rented land. I had not yet learned that interest is cheaper than rent. Neither had I learned that the only way to ever become a really prosperous farmer is to own one's own farm, and to improve it. I had yet to learn the great truth that the farmer's prosperity consists, not in what he gets out of his land, but in what he puts into it. It was a great day at my house when I told my family that I had bought some land. It was 13 acres at first, which I later increased to 25. This land was as poor as Job's turkey, but it was my land; and I set about to make it better. I soon found that the rent exceeded the interest wonderfully, and that improvements increased my re-

Nevertheless, with money at 6 per cent, I can affarm people, and their chief interest seems to be centered in farm life.

But I don't claim all of the credit for this. My family have done their part. In all things we have been a unit. We have worked together, saved together, and planned together. Not one of the boys has ever had an individual crop, and not one of them has ever had to ask for the privilege of driving a horse, or for any other privilege a boy should have. All feel the strength of united effort, and all join in willingly. This, I believe, has been the secret of our

The Progressive Farmer is a welcome visitor in our home, and we would not be without it. I recommend it to every farmer, and believe that if he will read it judiciously and act accordingly, he, too, will soon be out of the one-horse class, if he is -not already out.

CHAS. M. BENNETT. Reidsville, N. C.

TOOLS FOR THE ONE-HORSE FARMER.

Third Prize Letter Because It Ought to Help Other One-Horse Farmers.

T HAVE found the following tools to be the best for my soil, which is most gray gravel, or sand.

First. A 1,000-pound mule, sound and well proportioned in make.

Second. A good strong one-horse wagon, weight 550 to 600 pounds.

Third, A steel-beam plow, with three sizes of moldboards with it. weighing 50 to 60 pounds.

Fourth. A 25-tooth section har-



Editorial Comment:-This article of Mr. Abernathy's is one of the best possible examples of practical co-operation, and we commend it to all one-horse farmers. We hope every one-horse farmer who reads this letter will ask himself, "Now, can't I arrange with some neighbor of mine to work along the same line-to get two horses for breaking my land and for managing the heavier implements and machinery; and can't I join with some one in getting a two-horse wagon, a manure spreader, a grain drill, and a disk harrow?"



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BEGAN IN THE NO-HORSE CLASS

A Good Experience Story and Our Second Prize Letter.

W HEN I started out to farming some 30 years ago, I could hardly be said to be in the one-horse class; for I was dependent for my horsepower on a pair of little red bulls, and for my running expenses on the odd jobs which I did for my neighbors.

turns rapidly. By turning under weeds, cowpeas and stable manure, I found that poor land could be improved, even while making its yearly return. I now bought some more land and another horse. I thought if two horses would pay better than one, three might pay better than two.

I continued to work, to turn under cowpeas and stable manure, to pay for and improve my property, and to provide for my family. My Yankee instinct taught me the benefit of labor-saving devices; and I took advantage of all I could. I had a regular time to work, a regular time to feed, and a regular time to sleep: I had a place for everything, and everything in its place; and above all, I kept good tools, and kept them in good fix. I realized that the saving of money at the expense of time is not true economy. I kept my eyes and my ears open, and tried to profit by the experience of others, and to adopt all new methods which proved themselves successful. My own experiments were always made on a small scale. In this way I got the benefit of new methods without much risk or loss. I also found the agricultural papers a great source of information along this line.

As a result, I now own about 200 acres of land, most of it in good condition as compared with the section; six good horses, two of which are fancy drivers; three wagons, a couple of buggies; a binder, grain drill, mower and rake, disk and drag harrows, disk plow, sulky and riding cultivator; walking plows, harnesses, and other tools in proportion; good cows, and several young cattle; 13 fine hogs; and a house and barn worth \$2,500.

row, and I prefer one with teeth fastened with a clip and set screw, so that the teeth can be easily adjusted. Fifth. A good combination planter with fertilizer attachment. I prefer one with flexible beam, because I can sow up nearer stumps, rocks, and other things with a flexible or loose beam than I can with the stationary.

Sixth. A weeder, about 71/2 feet wide, with 39 steel teeth.

Seventh. A lot of one-horse harrows and cultivators with different size teeth and shaped hoes.

A. P. STRICKLAND. Louisburg, N. C.

DOUBLE YOUR EFFICIENCY BY INCREASING YOUR POWER.

You Can Raise Crops With One Horse, But the Expense is Too Great.

WAS reared as a one-horse farmer's son, on a one-horse farm, and never plowed with anything else but a blind mare, until I was 17 years old.

I started out in life for myself as a one-horse farmer, having gone in debt for a small farm, consisting of 15 acres of stumpy fields and 55 acres of swampy woodland and a young mule. This, in a country undeveloped, and no market to speak of for anything except cotton.

I have been a reader of agricultural papers, bulletins and station reports since I began farming for myself, and as I became convinced of the importance of deep plowing, thoro preparation, rapid cultivation and judicious fertilization, I have always endeavored to carry out these ideas, whether I worked one or more I am in good comfortable shape to horses. I soon learned, however, live. There is still a debt outstand- that I could double my efficiency as Having been trained under an ex- ing; but it is small as compared with a laborer, when I had a sufficiency of Yankee farmer, I knew little about the property which secures it, and horsepower, and at once made my