



THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

AND SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

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We Must Do Better Farming or Hire Ourselves Out.

IT IS remarkable how fast the signs multiply that it is to be either corporation farming or co-operation farming in the South. Consider these straws, for example. A man has just left our office who told us of having recently seen the overseer of an Illinois

corporation farm on his way South to buy Georgia land for the corporation. "Our Illinois land is worth \$200 per acre," he said, "and doesn't yield as much as your Southern land selling for one-fourth as much." Likewise, the Philadelphia Country Gentleman publishes as a leading "feature" article, "Opportunity in the South," with the following matter in bold black type about the problem of the Mississippi Valley planter:

"Purchase of the plantations by corporations, with definite ideas of organization, development and operation, seems to be the answer, and such a plan, backed by big money, can be made to show a profit."

At the same time we have before us as we write this, a clipping about a 17,000-acre North Carolina farm just purchased by a millionaire, and a prospectus of a farming corporation now being promoted in Savannah, Ga., its leading spirit writing us as follows:

"You have certainly hit the nail on the head when you say that this kind of farming is coming. It is also true that co-operation between farmers is the only way to meet this kind of competition, and co-operation will not then be a matter of choice, but a necessity."

Once again we say to our Southern farmers: These are the signs of the times. Get ready for the new era. Big money sees the possibility in Southern land, and it is up to us to "shoot, Luke, or give up the gun." Farm land is becoming too valuable to remain in the control of ignorant or unproductive labor. We must either become progressive farmers or hire ourselves to corporations that will do progressive farming. There is no other choice.

And to become a progressive farmer, don't forget that you must both learn to produce economically, scientifically, and you must learn to co-operate with your neighbors in buying and selling. Neither one will do alone. You can learn about either scientific marketing or scientific production and yet be beaten down by having to face competition with men and corporations who practice both scientific production and scientific marketing. And in both production and marketing you need co-operation—co-operation in buying and running all modern improved machinery, co-operation in buying fertilizers, co-operation in marketing the produce.

Better farming is coming

in the South. The movement is as irresistible as a tornado. We who are here now must ourselves do this better farming or hire ourselves out to those who will.



DRIVEWAY LEADING TO HOME OF MR. CHAS. PABST, OCEAN SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI.
 Pecans on Left of Road, Eight Years From Graft. Seventeen Trees on One Acre Produced Last Year 900 Pounds Nuts, Worth 55 Cents Per Pound. Small Trees on Right Grew Three to Six Feet in Eight Months.
 Photograph From W. H. Bouslog, Gulfport, Miss.

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