

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

AND SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

A Farm and Home Week
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WE NEED MORE FELLOWSHIP IN FARM WORK

WE LIVE too much to ourselves, Brother Farmer. We don't make enough use of our social opportunities—our opportunities for coöperation, fellowship, comradeship, in every form of farm life and work. Dr. T. N. Carver brought out this idea very strikingly when he said recently:

"It is not the hard work or the exposure or even the poverty of the farmer or his wife which makes farm life so unattractive to so many of our people. It is the lack of team work. I have never known men and women, particularly young men and women of our race, to shrink from hardship if they could feel the touch of elbows and have the sense of comradeship which the soldier has. Our boys and girls as well as the men and women of the farm should develop team work. They should get together and work together for a common cause as the soldiers. Touch elbows with your neighbors, and get the sense of comradeship as soldiers do."

And Dr. Carver is right. We don't coöperate enough in either our social life or in our actual farm labor. Two or three men working together side by side will do more and do it more happily than will the same men where each man works by himself. Why shouldn't we think more, therefore, about the question suggested for discussion in Local Farmers' Unions this month: "Cannot We as Neighbors Join Together More With Teams, Hands and Machinery in Doing This Year's Work?"

Fellowship in work is unmistakably one of the things most sorely needed on the farm; and the lack of this fellowship largely accounts for the greater attractiveness of "public work" to so many people. If farmers with adjoining farms would join together more in breaking land, planting crops, chopping cotton, cultivating corn, don't you believe we should all be happier and find farming more profitable and satisfying? A little glimpse of the practical application of this idea was given by a Horry County, S. C., correspondent some time ago, who wrote us: "Public works have taken the Negro out of our rural regions, so the jolly, red-faced boys and girls exchange work in the strawberry and tobacco seasons and it all gets done!"

The unfortunate fact seems to be that in re-

cent years we are having less rather than more fellowship, comradeship, coöperation in farm work. When the writer was at work on a Southern farm the neighbors all got together for log rollings in spring, wheat and oat threshing in summer, corn shuckings and hog killings in fall, and "house raisings" in winter whenever a neighbor wished to put up a new building, while we had neighborhood meetings to help out sick neighbors as occasion required in between



ONE OF THE WORLD'S BEST

Guernsey Cow, Murne Cowan, owned by Anna Dean Farms, Barberton, Ohio. This cow produced in one year 24,008 pounds of milk, or 3,000 gallons. This is at the rate of over eight gallons a day, and the butter fat in this milk would have made nearly 1,300 pounds of butter.

times, to say nothing of quiltings for the women folk and purely social meetings. And even yet in all our grain-growing sections, threshing-time, for all the grime and dust and heat of it, is one of the joys of the whole year, simply because of the royal good fellowship exhibited when all the farmers and farm boys of a neighborhood join together to help one another.

Let's look into it, Brother Farmer, and see if we cannot do more with this idea of having neighbors join together in planting, plowing, hoeing, cultivating, harvesting and marketing our crops this year and ever after. It will not only pay in dollars and cents but it will pay even more notably in the happiness, the joyous comradeship and spiritual exaltation that we never find except in "bearing one another's burdens" as the great Master of Life directed.

Let's have more fellowship in farm work.

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