

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

AND SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

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The Carolinas, Virginia, Georgia, and Florida.

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ALL TOGETHER NOW FOR PROGRESS IN 1916

WITH the coming of the New Year, every reader of The Progressive Farmer can find no better job than that of planning to make 1916 a banner year in substantial progress and achievement. The old year is behind us, and the best that it can offer us now are the lessons from its experiences; the New Year, the future, is ahead, with boundless opportunities for every clear-thinking, clean-living, hard-hitting Southern man and boy. How can we realize on these opportunities? What can we, each and every one of us, do to

essential. Neighbor must join with neighbor and buy in large lots and at wholesale prices what hitherto has been bought in small lots at retail prices; neighbor must join with neighbor and sell livestock, grain, hay, cotton and cotton seed by the carload and the trainload, rather than by the wagonload—getting benefits, too, from scientific grading and good appearance rather than suffering losses from hodge-podge marketing without regard for grades or looks. Thus and thus only can we obtain the fullest possible returns from the crops we have grown.



FAT CATTLE, FAT FIELDS AND PRETTY HOMES—IDEALS TO AIM AT DURING THE NEW YEAR

Courtesy N. & W. Ry.

make our farms, our homes, our communities a little better, a little happier, bring them a little nearer to that goodness and perfection at which all effort should aim? It seems to us that here are some of the ways:

1. Our farms must be made to produce more per acre and per farm worker, and we must learn for all time to keep at home, for our own enjoyment and enrichment, the products of our labor, rather than expend them as we have in the past for what we should have grown ourselves. In a word, we must make our fields fat, mellow and fruitful, and we must inaugurate—right now—a live-at-home policy that will make us forever independent of the grain, hay and meat of the North and West. This means a "carpet of green" on every acre in winter, crop rotations, plenty of livestock for meat, milk and butter, and the production of cotton, tobacco, peanuts, etc., as surplus crops that, when sold, will be practically clear, net profit. This is step No. 1 on the road to independence and better living.

2. We must pay more attention to the *business side of farming*—to more advantageous buying and more profitable selling. To do this cooperative effort is

3. Finally, as we pointed out last week, we must learn to know and love our neighborhoods, for only by so knowing them and loving them can we work unceasingly that they may be made better and happier places to live in. The community must become a solidified unit, with definite plans for community betterment and upbuilding, rather than a helter-skelter of opposing, non-coöperative forces, without cohesion and without concerted effort. There are boys and girls to be trained for life's tasks, and the best of schools and the best of teachers are none too good for them; there are communities waiting to be knit together by the common ties of united effort and purpose. To help in this great work is a privilege; even more; it is a duty that we all owe.

Are your efforts, Dear Reader, pledged to the attainment of these ends? Are you resolved to make yourself a better farmer individually; to increase your profits through coöperative buying and selling; to join heart and soul with your neighbors in plans for community improvement? If so, then you may indeed expect 1916 to be a banner year, a golden year indeed, when the record of your life is made up.

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