

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

AND
SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

"You can tell by a man's farm whether he reads it or not."

The Progressive Farmer Company
(Incorporated under the laws of North Carolina.)
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TAIT BUTLER,	Vice-President and Editor
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NOTICE Mr. Wright's announcement in last week's Progressive Farmer as to the chance for North Carolina schools getting second "original libraries" now. Why not see your teacher about it?

NEXT week's paper will be a sort of boys' and girls' club number, \$1,500 in corn club prizes being announced then, together with messages from corn club, canning club and pig club agents all over the South.

MANY friends will lament the death of Dan Hughes, Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture of Georgia. He had taken an especially keen interest in helping solve the farmer's marketing problems, and was in charge of marketing work at the time of his death.

WE ARE glad that so many of our readers made use of our "Subscribers' Free Service Blank" in our issue of February 19, but the number of responses was so great that it will take us a little while to get all the requests properly classified and attended to. We shall work on these just as fast as possible, however, and hope no reader will become impatient.

HON. Francis D. Winston, of Bertie, writes us that he listed his income for taxation in 1914, though examination of the records shows that we were correct in saying that no income taxes were reported to the State Treasurer from that county. The State Tax Commission is now taking up the matter with the Bertie authorities.

DAIRY schools will be held in March in school-houses in various North Carolina counties as follows: In McDowell County, at Nealsville, March 6, and Garden City, March 7; in Cleveland, at Cleveland Mills, March 8; in Stokes, Dillard, March 10; Wake, Knightdale, March 13; Warren, Ridgeway, March 15; Chatham, Gulf, March 17.

THE judges have just announced their decision regarding the prizes offered to the farm life schools whose boys made the best records in judging animals at the recent North Carolina Livestock Association meeting in Salisbury. The first prize, a handsome silver loving cup, given by The Progressive Farmer, was won by the team from Startown school, while Harmony and Eureka were close seconds, winning other excellent prizes. The boys from Red Oak school were a little too old for the regular contest, but distinguished themselves in a special contest arranged for them. We extend congratulations to all these young farmers.

WE GREATLY regret to hear of the death of Henry Wallace, Editor of Wallace's Farmer, of Des Moines. Mr. Wallace, familiarly known all over Iowa as "Uncle Henry", was in his eightieth year, and had long been one of the ablest figures in Western agriculture. He and Dr. Knapp and ex-Secretary of Agriculture Wilson were in Iowa together, fellow-workers of about the same age. When he organized his paper twenty-one years ago, he adopted as its motto, "Good Farming, Clear Thinking, Right Living," and made it a dynamic force in each field of activity. "Uncle Henry" served well his day and generation and will long be affectionately remembered.

TO OUR list of state agents in Southern corn club and canning club work the following list of state pig club agents should be added:

Alabama—J. C. Ford, Auburn.	North Carolina—B. P. Folk, West Raleigh.
Arkansas—H. K. Sanders, Little Rock.	Oklahoma—C. L. Chambers, Stillwater.
Florida—None.	South Carolina—L. L. Baker, Bishopville.
Georgia—J. E. Downing, Athens.	Tennessee—None.
Louisiana—W. H. Balls, University Station, Baton Rouge.	Texas—C. G. French, College Station.
Mississippi—P. H. Sanders, Agricultural College.	Virginia—None.

The pig club agents and boys are doing remark-

able work, and farm fathers and sons all over the South should investigate it. Ask your state agent for information.

SOME remarkable figures showing the importance of rotation are given by Prof. C. A. Gearhart, of the Ohio Experiment Station. In a twenty-year test with corn the following results were obtained, average yields per acre during the first years being compared with average yields during the fourth five-year period, and then the average for twenty years given:

	AVERAGE CORN YIELD PER ACRE IN BUSHELS		
	First Five Years	Fourth Five Years	Average for 20 Years
Continuous—no manure.....	26.26	8.44	15.47
Rotation—no manure.....	31.89	30.81	28.95
Continuous—with manure ..	43.18	30.32	37.02
Rotation—with manure	49.73	55.83	51.81

Even with manure it will be seen the yields in fields continuously cultivated in corn decreased 13 bushels per acre (comparing the fourth five-year period with the first five-year period) while rotation with the manured fields increased the yields more than fifteen bushels per acre.

Last Call for the Band Wagon

REMEMBER, The Progressive Farmer's great thirtieth birthday Jubilee Offer will positively expire with the last day of this month, and now is the time for every reader to get on the band wagon. Even if you are paid well ahead, better do the required extra work for us and get your renewal for an extra year at the Jubilee rate. A few paid-ahead readers have thought we were dunning them when we were only calling attention to this money-saving opportunity.

Moreover, while renewals and new subscriptions have come in by the thousands these last thirty days, a few friends are still out of the fold, and we don't like to lose a single friend. But if a man does not renew, we are bound to assume he doesn't want our paper. Consequently this will be the last Progressive Farmer some friends will receive and still other subscribers are in danger of discontinuance the last of March.

Let everybody answer this call and help make March the biggest of all Jubilee months.

What to Do About Cotton Boll Rot or Anthracnose

WITH serious and widespread damage in Texas last season from cotton boll rot or anthracnose, this serious cotton enemy seems to have pretty well established itself nearly everywhere in the Cotton Belt, and numerous inquiries are coming to us relative to measures of controlling it.

The disease is due to a fungus that attacks the cotton boll, any time from the falling of the bloom until mature. At first a tiny, pinkish spot, the diseased area enlarges until the whole boll may be affected and destroyed. As is the case with many other fungous diseases, boll rot is usually worst during wet seasons and in rank growing cotton on heavy land. Particular varieties and strains of cotton, too, may be more seriously affected than others, this having been especially notable in some strains of Half-and-Half and Cook cottons. Parenthetically we may say, however, that even with their susceptibility to rot, these two varieties have been among the best yielders at several of our Southern experiment stations.

In so far as remedial measures are concerned, they are preventive rather than curative, once the disease attacks a field there being little or nothing that can be done that year. Doubtless the best preventive measure consists in planting seed from stalks and fields that are positively known to be free from the disease. This is not always easy, but it can be done. In other words, rigid seed selection, being extremely careful to see that next year's planting seed have no chance to become infected, is the surest remedy. In this way we have known badly infected cottons to be entirely freed of the disease.

We seriously doubt the advisability of importing supposedly non-infected seed from regions several hundred miles away, for two reasons: (1) the lack of climatic and soil adaptability of these seed may

far more than offset their rot immunity; and (2) with the rot so widely prevalent it is very hard to be absolutely certain that any seed are wholly free of it.

Don't Do It

DR. B. W. Kilgore, State Chemist of North Carolina, states that: "The roots, stems, bolls and leaves corresponding to (or which produce) 500 pounds of lint cotton, are around 3,145 pounds, or more than one and one-half tons, containing 677 pounds of nitrogen, 26.5 pounds of phosphoric acid, 50.3 pounds of potash, and 59.3 pounds of lime; or the equivalent of five tons of good manure."

Did you ever think what we are doing when we use the torch so indiscriminately? If you produce ten bales of cotton and burn all the stalks you are, according to the above figures, deliberately destroying 677 pounds of nitrogen, worth at present prices about \$170; and still we grumble about the high price of fertilizers.

Let's stop, right now and forever, this miserable burning habit that is annually costing us millions of dollars. Let's make up our minds that henceforth nothing on our farm shall be burned if we can possibly plow it under or use it to stop washes.

Velvet Beans a Fine Crop to Plant This Year

WE NEVER fail to urge the use of winter legumes on every Southern farm, but we just as firmly believe in the summer legumes. The truth is that we are never going to realize the greatest possible profits from our efforts until we use both winter and summer legumes wherever and whenever we can.

Just now it is wise to be thinking about the legumes that are to be used this summer, and we wish here especially to call attention to the merits of the velvet bean. Originally suited to sections only immediately along the Gulf Coast, new varieties of beans have been imported and developed that make it safe to recommend this great soil builder and forage crop pretty nearly everywhere cotton is grown.

The Early Speckled is early enough to mature seed as far north as Tennessee, and we would recommend it as probably the best variety for the northern two-thirds of the Cotton Belt. It does not make as great a vine growth as does the old-fashioned velvet bean, and hence is not as great a soil-improver; but it is a prolific seed producer, some authorities claiming it superior to the old variety in this respect, and hence is a valuable feed crop. If wanted purely for soil-building purposes, without regard to seed production, it will probably be best to plant the old, late maturing variety.

While Early Speckled beans can, we believe, be safely counted on to make as much vine and seed as cowpeas, they have an additional advantage in the low cost of seed, quotations now being as low as \$1.50 a bushel. Planted with corn, a bushel of seed is sufficient for five or six acres. This, of course, is a great deal less than the cost of seeding the same area to cowpeas.

Try at least a few of the beans this year; we believe the results will please you.

A Thought for the Week

HERE, then, are the dominating and valuable working habits of President Wilson: punctuality, exactness, the incessant search for information, the knowledge that sentiment and human emotions must play some part in the driest routine of Government business, ability as a rapid thinker, and an extraordinary mental alertness, which is the product of his habit of exercising his mind always. . . . He is not only punctual himself, but he requires punctuality from others. If a man is ever late once for an appointment with the President, neither he nor the President ever forgets it. . . . Like any other great man, he realizes that good brain work depends upon good, all-round physical condition. It might be well to mention here that he never smokes. In this he is like his two predecessors—Roosevelt and Taft.—American Magazine.