

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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THE community fair idea is spreading fast. The Lancaster, S. C., News reports that in that one county five neighborhoods—Pleasant Valley, Van Wyck, Antioch, Oakhurst and Flint Ridge—have already arranged to hold such fairs this fall. We congratulate Lancaster on its progressiveness.

THERE are in Mecklenburg County, N. C., ten country churches of one denomination—Presbyterian—that own country church homes for their pastors. The University News Letter doubts whether any other county in the South can make a better showing in this respect—and so do we.

FEATURES of next week's Progressive Farmer will be "Home Sanitation," by Mrs. Hutt; "A Success Talk," by Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts; "Livestock Suggestions for October," by Dr. Butler, and "The Menacing March of the Boll Weevil" and "Farm Work for the Month," by B. L. Moss.

A FRIEND calls our attention to a misleading error in the "Reference Special" of The Progressive Farmer, where the statement is made that in treating seed oats to prevent smut, one part formaldehyde to forty parts water should be used. This is of course incorrect, and the correct proportions are one pint of formaldehyde to forty gallons of water.

THE Dallas News voices the general opinion of the press in saying that the rumor of a 12-cent "minimum price" on cotton was so absurd that everybody should have recognized it as a fake. As the News puts it:

"It is a pretty safe prediction that all the middling cotton sold at 12 cents a pound this year can be stored conveniently in a small-sized capsule."

"PRICES were marked down because of the heavy receipts," has been a statement frequently appearing in cotton market reports this fall. From now until Christmas is a critical period in cotton marketing, and what prices shall be will largely be determined by the action of the growers themselves. We can sell gradually and get 15 cents or more for every pound sold, or we can throw the whole crop on the market within a few weeks and take several cents a pound less. Are you going to get what your cotton is worth?

WITH the present record-breaking prices of paper our expenses next year will be unprecedented—thousands of dollars heavier than ever before. We believe our readers will wish to help us offset this difficulty as much as possible, and there is one simple way every friend can help. If every reader will renew his own subscription promptly and send us one new subscription, we can have much more money available for improving the paper and serving our subscribers. And when you renew don't forget to get a binder for next year's copies.

IT DOESN'T pay to sell cotton in the seed. Authorities have been saying this a long time, and new proof of the fact is given in a bulletin just issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, giving the result of some investigations. After allowing for the cost of ginning, it was found that the loss from selling in the seed (as compared with selling lint and seed separately) still "ranged from an average of \$1.75 per bale for low middling to an average of \$7.60 per bale for good middling. The total loss on 586 bales of the white grades sampled by the investigators was \$2,715.20, or an average of \$4.63."

"IF IT isn't right, The Progressive Farmer will make it right." That is going to be the motto of the new subscription manager we are introducing on page 9, and his assistants. The subscriber must be satisfied. With our remarkably

successful Jubilee campaign last spring, putting on several thousand new subscribers a week, it was natural for some errors to creep in. We are most anxious, however, to correct all such errors, as well as any that may have been previously made. If there is anything wrong with your own subscription, therefore, or if you know anybody who has had any trouble with his subscription, please use the blank on page 19 to tell us about it—and do it now.

When Money Saving Means Character Building

WE ARE going to keep reminding our readers of the importance of saving some money this fall while crops are bringing good prices. And to this end we are going to quote again the late James J. Hill's emphatic saying:

"If you want to know whether you are destined to be a success or not, you can easily find out. The test is simple and infallible: Are you able to save money? If not, drop out. You will lose. You may think not, but you will lose as sure as fate, for the seed of success is not in you."

There is indeed great moral value in saving money the right way. That means denying yourself today in order to promote some noble purpose tomorrow. It doesn't mean miserliness. It doesn't mean cheating the wife out of labor-saving conveniences, the home out of books, papers, flowers and paint, or the child out of school advantages, in order to accumulate a bank account. But it does mean being boss of yourself to the extent that you can command yourself to refrain from all less worthy expenditures in order to save for more worthy ones. "He that ruleth his spirit is better than he that taketh a city," and economical saving calls for just such rulership of the spirit.

Nowhere in the United States, unless it be in New England, have we developed thrift in the degree that it exists abroad. Collier's Weekly proves this by printing the following table showing for each important country the number of inhabitants out of a thousand who had savings accounts:

Switzerland	554	Germany	317
Denmark	442	England	302
Norway	415	Australia	300
Sweden	404	Tasmania	286
Belgium	397	Japan	270
New Zealand	360	Italy	220
France	346	United States	99
Holland	325		

It is important to remember, moreover, that not only is the United States behind other countries, but our Southern states are shamefully behind other states in the matter of systematic saving. As we pointed out sometime ago, "Massachusetts hasn't but 3,300,000 people including men, women, children and infants in arms, but 2,250,000 of them have deposits in savings banks—nearly everybody old enough to know a quarter from a dime, it seems. There are five times as many savings bank depositors in that one state as there are in all the twelve states of Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Louisiana combined."

There has never been a better time than now for the Southern farmer to start saving some money.

A Square Deal for the Tenant: Is it Not Good Business as Well as Justice?

EVERY rental agreement, oral or written, is a two-sided business proposition, implying, on the part of both landlord and tenant, the scrupulous recognition of certain obligations. Failure on the part of either party to the contract to fulfill his obligations is the cause of 90 per cent of all the troubles between lessor and lessee.

In the first place, a landlord, because he is a landlord, is not necessarily seeking to rob the tenant, to exact his "pound of flesh," nor, on the other hand, is the tenant, because he is a tenant, necessarily shiftless, lazy, and indifferent to his and the landlord's best interests. Certainly there are hoggish landlords and worthless tenants; but we doubt if among a hundred tenants will be found a greater—or less—number of untrustworthy men

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than will be found among an equal number of landlords. It has been our observation that one of the surest ways of getting a tenant in a mood to "beat" his landlord is for the latter to start the "beating game" first; similarly the landlord who finds his tenant stealing cotton or mistreating livestock at once concludes that the harshest of measures and the hardest of terms are none too hard for such a renter.

One of the most successful landlords we know, a man who has been conspicuously successful in getting and keeping the best tenants anywhere in his section, makes it a rule first of all to impress upon the prospective tenant the mutual obligations of each party to the contract. He emphasizes particularly the fact that the arrangement is a partnership, neither party to which should seek an unfair advantage, but rather under which every effort is to be made to advance the interests of both. His tenants at the outset are impressed with his reasonableness, justice and honesty, and his attitude of a square deal to all, and in consequence they themselves are on their mettle to prove by their works that they can be as just and square and mindful of their obligations as tenants as their landlord is of his as landlord. The results are seen in lands that are getting better instead of wearing out; average yields are rising instead of falling; and a long list of the very best tenants in the county are always waiting to rent land on this particular farm.

What this landlord has done, any landlord may do; what these tenants are doing, any tenant may do,—provided, always, landlord and tenant go about the business in a spirit of mutual helpfulness and coöperation, making the business a real partnership.

Some Tasks of Self-education

SOUTHERN farmers have been spending around \$50,000,000 a year for commercial fertilizers—millions of this amount being wasted each season by men who know they ought to study fertilizers more carefully but fail to do it. The farmer who is to educate himself and succeed must say: "I've got to learn about potash, nitrogen, phosphoric acid and lime and what they do in the soil. About what they cost and what they ought to cost. About whether my type of land already has enough potash, lime or nitrogen. About whether this crop I am going to plant needs more or less of this or that element than most people apply. And so I am going to make myself study fertilizer bulletins and fertilizer books, and I am going to write The Progressive Farmer or the experiment station for whatever information I can't figure out for myself."

That's the sort of spirit that will save money in the fertilizer matter. Such a farmer will not spend money on elements that won't pay 100 cents for each \$1 expended. And on the other hand he will be sure to buy fertilizers just so far as they will pay \$1.25, \$1.50 or \$2 in profits for every \$1 he puts into them.

The same sort of farmer will say: "Well, here I am spending hard-earned dollars every month and every week for horse feed, cattle feed and hog feed. Just as I ought to learn about fertilizers so I ought to learn about feeds, and just as I have learned to balance nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash to meet soil needs, so I am going to learn to balance protein, carbohydrates and fat to meet animal needs. And I am going to get books and bulletins on feeds and feeding and master them before I quit."

This is the sort of spirit it takes in a man to educate himself in farming.

A Thought for the Week

EMPTY hours, empty hands, empty companions, empty words and empty hearts draw in evil spirits as a vacuum draws in air. To be occupied with good is the best defense against the inroads of evil.—William Arnot.

Be ever on your guard against a grudging and contentious spirit, so that you may always prove yourself to be blameless and spotless.—Paul's Letter to the Philippians.