

# SLATE'S Improved Gold Leaf Tobacco Pays Best



Good methods, skill in cultivation, careful worming, and care in the barn after curing, amount to nothing if the tobacco seed are not selected with care. Using home-grown seed does not pay. Home-grown seed produce poor tobacco as a rule. For it there is little demand—and a poor price. Slate's Improved Gold Leaf is a pedigreed tobacco. You can rely upon our seed, for the Slate process takes out those that are lacking in germinating power—leaves the live seed. Slate's Improved Gold Leaf will increase your tobacco yield per acre. It will produce more wrappers of good color and weight than any variety now being grown. The plants grow large and hardy with long silky leaf. Many other varieties are described in our free catalog. Write for it today. We supply 75 per cent. of the tobacco seed sold. We breed them right here on our Hyco Farm. Raising your crop with untested home-grown seed is poor economy, when one or two dollars will buy enough seed to plant your crop. Don't take chances. Write for Tobacco Seed Catalog and price. My "Guide to Gardening" describing my pedigreed garden seed also sent free upon request.

W. C. SLATE, PRESIDENT  
SLATE SEED CO., Box 716, SOUTH BOSTON, VA.

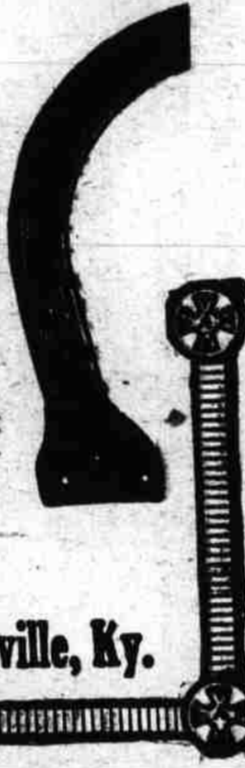
## Avery Chilled Plow Beam Held by Three Bolts

Set in the shape of a triangle. These, with Lug on Standard which fits against back of Beam, holds Bottom absolutely rigid. Beam is drawn out at Bottom, giving more clearance between Beam and Moldboard.

All Moldboards are made from mixture of 30% Steel, 70% best Charcoal Iron—not an ounce of Scrap Iron used.

Don't buy until you see the Avery.  
If your dealer can't show you one, write

B. F. Avery & Sons, Inc., Dept. C, Louisville, Ky.

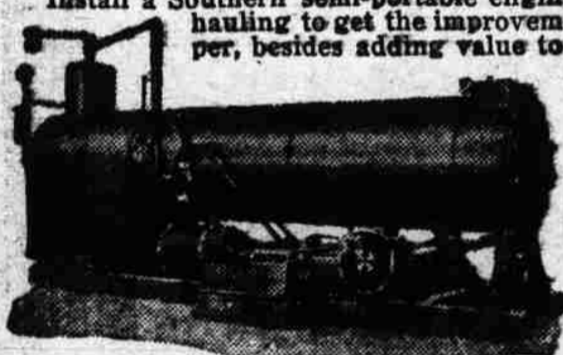


### Mr. Plantation Owner: -Every Year You Have to Face

Still you have thousands of big, fine, straight trees on your plantation that will make more lumber than you can use. The "traveling" mills not only waste your timber, but lose lumber for you.

Settle the Question for All Times.

Install a Southern semi-portable engine and saw mill. Your tenants will gladly do the hauling to get the improvements and you save yourself time, money and temper, besides adding value to your plantation, making your tenants happy and causing them to make more, thereby increasing your rentals.



Now is the Time to Act.

Don't let your buildings deteriorate in value—write for Catalogue H. It's chock full of valuable information. Remember, we have been building the best possible machinery for nearly fifty years—serviceable machinery in our motto. Write us your wants. Our terms are most liberal.

Southern Engine & Boiler Works,

Jackson, Tenn.

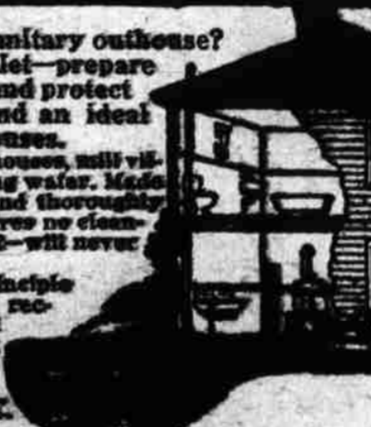
(A Size and Type for Every Purpose.)

### Sanisep System Solves Sewerage Problem

In your home one of those with the unsanitary outhouse? Why not put in a modern sanitary toilet—prepare against the inconveniences of winter and protect your family from diseases that find an ideal breeding place in unsanitary outhouses.

Sanisep is the perfect system for farm houses, mill villages and schools, with or without running water. Made of reinforced concrete with solid bottom and thoroughly water proofed to prevent seepage. Requires no cleaning out—no chemicals—absolutely fireproof—will never become offensive.

SANISEP employs the two-tank or L.S.S. principle of sewage disposal, which was devised and is recommended by the U.S. Public Health Service, and which is recognized as being the most efficient known. Write for catalog and find out how economically your house, school or mill village can be made sanitary. Cement Products Co., Wilmington, N. C.



## RUBBER ROOFING

SHIPPED QUICK FROM RICHMOND LITTLE FREIGHT  
Famous Spotless Rubber Roofing—the South's favorite roofing material. We are roofing headquarters; over 5,000,000 sq. ft. sold to southern farmers last year. A strictly first-quality weather-proof, water-tight roofing, sold direct by "South's Mail Order House" at 1/2 to 2/3 less than usual prices. One-piece rolls of 108 sq. ft. with nails and cement; easy to lay; fully guaranteed. Write for free samples and catalog of 5000 bargains. The Spotless Co., 375 Shockoe Lane, Richmond, Va.

## FROST PROOF CABBAGE PLANTS

By Parcels Post, 500 prepaid \$1.00; by Express \$1.00 per thousand. "JERSEY WAKEFIELD," "CHARLESTON WAKEFIELD," "SUCCESSION," "FLAT DUTCH."  
H. H. TIFT, JR., TIFTON, GA.

### RENEW ALL YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS THROUGH US

Our clubs save you money. We will gladly make a special club on any papers you may wish.

One letter, one money order—and it's all attended to.

May we serve you?

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER



### FEATHER BED BARGAINS \$10.00

Send us \$10 and we will ship you one First-class New 40-pound Feather Bed, (nominal retail value \$12); one pair 5-pound New Feather Pillows (\$8); one 6-pound New Feather Bolster (\$5); all new, live, clean, sanitary feathers, covered with high-grade feather proof A. C. A. Ticking or fancy Art Ticking; also one pair full size blankets (\$3). This offer is good for a short time only and positively the biggest bargain ever offered. But mail your order now or write for order blanks. Caroline Bedding Co., Dept. 25, Arrasboro, N. C.

## Our Farmers' Union Page

Devoted to Education, Organization, Cooperation and Marketing

J. Z. GREEN, E. W. DABBS, G. G. WRIGHT, Contributing Editors

### SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION IN LOCAL UNIONS

JANUARY

1. What Changes Should We Ask in Our New Rural Credits Law?
2. What System of Accounts and Bookkeeping Is Adapted to the Farmer's Needs?

### END THE CROP LIEN SYSTEM

It Legalizes Usury, Decreases Cotton Prices, and Promotes Tenancy and Absentee Landlordism—All Farmers Should Join Now in Fight for Its Repeal.

AS THE new year begins it occurs to me that the one supreme thing the resident farmers should be most concerned in is the fight to repeal the crop lien system. And with all our patriotic passion for a more satisfactory rural civilization it appears to me that the resident farmers of North Carolina cannot do better than to enter the fight against a crop-lien rural civilization.

It doesn't require any extraordinary courage for a politician to denounce the banking system that violates the law that limits the rate of interest in North Carolina to 6 per cent, but it puts a man to the test when you ask him to make as a special feature in his Sunday school lectures the condemnation of a crop-lien system that extracts from its victims an average of 70 per cent interest for goods furnished to crop-lien victims!

I do not make any New Year's resolutions, but I have determined that as long as I live I shall never let up on a fight against 70 per cent usury under the crop lien system. I note with interest the fight certain politicians are making against the "big trusts" that are "robbing the people," but there is no big trust in this country that is taking from its victims one-half the amount that is demanded under the Southern crop-lien system.

During the session of the 1917 Legislature of North Carolina it is the duty of every farmer in North Carolina to unite in a demand for the repeal of the crop lien law. As a substitute we might demand that liens be given for cash at a limited rate of interest, leaving the giver to buy in the open market, but what we want is a limit to usury as now demanded under the unrestricted merchants' crop lien system. We make political asses of ourselves when we complain of a 7 or 8 per cent interest charge by commercial banks and then refuse to say anything against the amen-corner church member who loans merchandise to crop-lien victims at 70 per cent interest! And we have lots of church members in North Carolina living in towns and villages and promoting this iniquitous crop-lien civilization. No human being can do this without first compromising with his conscience.

Brother Farmer, you can't dodge this issue by saying, "I don't give any crop-lien for my supplies." If you are a grower of cotton you are in direct competition with the pauper Negro labor that produces more than half the cotton crop, and the crop-lien system increases the production

of cotton at least 25 per cent and diminishes the South's food production to that extent. This makes lower prices for cotton and makes the South a food buying section instead of a self feeding section.

But this isn't the greatest economic loss. The biggest net loss of the crop-lien system is represented in our depleted soils. The crop-lien system means a soil-robbing system!

Then, again, the crop-lien system enables the farmer, who wants to move to town, to place Negro tenants as neighbors to resident white farmers, while his family enjoys the social advantages of a white civilization in town. We ought to promote an economic condition on the farm that makes it necessary for the white land-holder to personally supervise his farm, and to do this it will be necessary for him to be a resident farmer and take active interest in the improvement of all the community assets that makes the country a better place to live.

But I started out to emphasize the importance of every farmer entering the fight for the repeal of the crop-lien system. However, when I come to think of it, it is a waste of time and effort to ask the unorganized farmer to use his influence in legislative matters, for the unorganized farmer is a huge joke when it comes to securing any kind of legislation. I would, therefore, especially urge that every farmer, who is interested in this great problem, join the Farmer's Union and get in the fight for a nobler and a better rural civilization, by joining with the organized forces in the demand for the repeal of the law that legalizes 70 per cent usury under the crop-lien system.

If you are not one of the organized forces, go ahead and use your influence as far as it will go, but you can have a hundred fold more influence in team work with the organized farmers than you can have as an individual.

### "WHAT OUR LOCAL IS DOING"

Richlands Local in One Year Saved \$1556 Per Member by Cooperation

RICHLANDS Local Union No. 1710, Onslow County, N. C., was organized some time in February 1911, it being the first Local in our county. The membership grew very fast at first. Some joined for curiosity, others because they expected to get a bag full of money on their first trip or visit to the Union, and some joined because they realized we as a farming class of people, needed something to bring us closer together, and help us cooperate in selling and buying. As yet, however, we as a Local have not done very much along the line of selling our produce cooperatively.

Before the Union was organized in our community, we had to pay extortionate prices for fertilizer, groceries and farm supplies; 8-3-3 fertilizer, for instance, was selling by our merchants for \$30 per ton, while we found we could buy the same goods for less than \$24 per ton. You can readily see the merchant was making about \$7 on every ton sold. We had to pay the same high prices on groceries and other supplies as well. I will give the exact figures of what we have done in a cooperative way during the year 1914. We had on roll 34 male members. Of this number only 20 cooperated in buying fertilizers groceries and other supplies. Of fertilizers we bought 100.4 tons which cost \$2,480.69. Groceries and other farm supplies \$316.47. The amount saved on the above goods was \$311.27 or \$15.56 per member. Our members are not the only ones who are bene-