

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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THE FIFTEEN CENT OFFER IS A HUMMER.

Our fifteen-cent offer is a hummer—there's no other name for it. They are coming in by every mail, and we are as sure to make our "Twenty Years and Twenty Thousand—by Thanksgiving" as anything in the world. The woods are afire and now is the time to make a clean sweep of your neighborhood. If you will get your wife, Mr. Subscriber, to read you the letter we have written on page 4—or part of it rather, for there's one little plot we have fixed up against you that we'd rather you wouldn't discover—you will find how the tide is running. Get into line yourself and send us a club this week.

HARROWING LAST WEEK'S PAPER.

A thorough reading of last week's paper failed to reveal a single large "clod" to be mashed. This is as it should be, for the harrow should never be used to break clods for the simple reason that there should never be any clods to break and there will be none when sufficient humus has been incorporated in the soil and the plowing is done at the right time. The harrow should be used to smooth, to stir, and to invigorate the soil by letting in the air and light.

From the excellent articles on small grains, the following points seem worth stressing: R. W. Scott says, begin to prepare for the wheat crop six months ahead. How can this be done when not on one farm in fifty is there practiced a systematic rotation? Why, my dear man, not one farmer in ten has ever thought about where the wheat is to be sowed six months ahead. But Mr. Scott is right, even six months is too short a time in which to prepare for a wheat crop. Again, Mr. Scott says, clover and peas are a good preparation for a wheat crop. My dear sir, do you know of any crop that clover or peas is not a good preparation for? I believe I have heard it said that these crops are not a good preparation for tobacco, but Mr. Scott doesn't know anything about tobacco. Peas and clover is a good preparation for wheat, and yet how many acres will be sowed to wheat this fall, to which either is a total stranger or only a visitor at altogether too long intervals? The idea is that if wheat is to be grown successfully a rotation should be planned and the wheat placed in that rotation at such a point that it will follow clover or peas.

The second point we would stress is that the land for wheat should be broken early. Or, perhaps, it is not necessary to break the land at all for wheat. This is certainly so if the land was well broken for the crop of peas early in the season, or if the corn land was well prepared and cultivated. If the land is broken it should be well rolled and harrowed to compact the soil as Mr. Scott suggests.

But really, here is something "theoretical and bookish": Mr. Scott, a real, practical farmer, actually tells other farmers that the small grain crops should be worked before they are planted. Tu, tut! Mr. Scott, that will never do. Don't you know that half of the practical(?) farmers of this State don't believe a word of that? Why frequently they even wait until after their crops are planted to do half their plowing. Why should the land for small grains be cultivated? There are no weeds or grass to kill in such crops? Is it really possible that those book farmers, or Experiment Station fellows, out in Arkansas, are right, as stated on page 4, that "Thorough prepara-

tion for oats gives an increased yield of from 50 to 100 per cent as compared with sorry preparation?" I fear you are going to lose your reputation as a "practical" farmer if you are not careful, Mr. Scott; for not half your brother farmers believe such "theory" as that. If they did the land would be better prepared for small grains than is now the case.

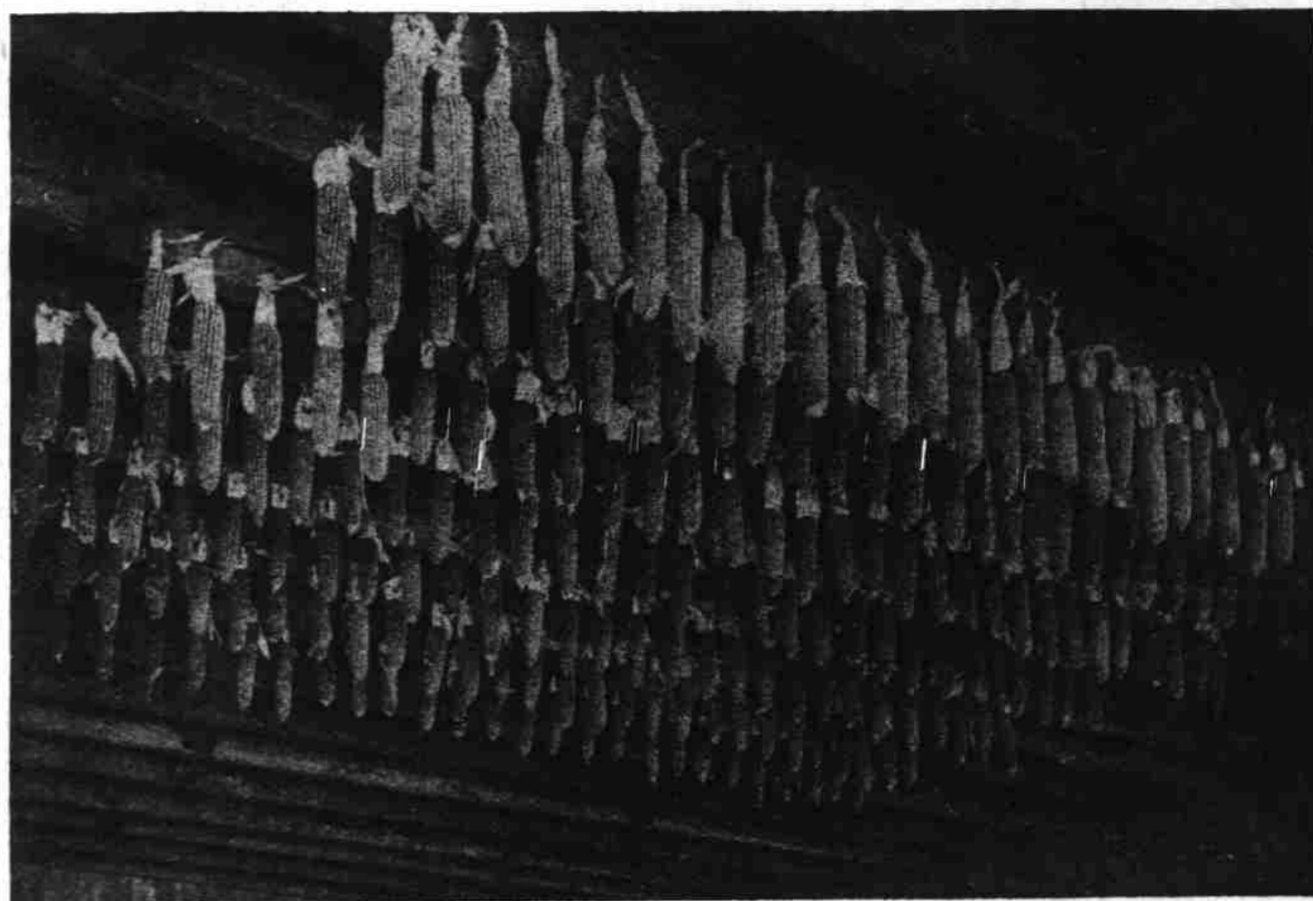
And then again, we must have good seed, actually select our seed, I believe the book farmers tell us, and after getting it, must treat it with some sort of medicine to keep off the smut. Oh, that is too much! We expect Dr. Stevens to be guilty of that sort of foolishness, but really what is to become of us "practical" farmers when Bob Scott actually tells us we must soak our seed wheat in a solution of blue-stone and water to prevent the heads of next year's crop smutting. Why don't those fellows who sit up until all sorts of late hours of the night studying up things for us to do, leave us alone? Are we not already growing six bushels of wheat per acre without all these scientific ideas and new-fangled methods?

For many years Harrow has been going around over the State and from the appearance of the pastures of the practical farmers he had learned that a pasture was a field where grass didn't grow. He never dreamed that the reason was because it was always so completely occupied by briars, bushes and weeds that there was no room for grass. For hasn't he always been told that this is no grass country anyway? Oh, yes, there may have been some grass in the cotton and corn this year, but grass just won't grow in this country in the pastures. And now Mr. French comes along and says grass will really grow in this country and in the pastures, too, if it has room. Harrow has often wondered why our farmers failed to realize the necessity of keeping the weeds down in the pastures when they seemed to fully appreciate the fact that cotton, corn and other crops couldn't grow if weeds and grass were allowed to choke them out. When our farmers give as much attention to growing grass as they have to killing it, there will be less complaint about this not being a grass country.

"Twenty Years and Twenty Thousand," and twenty thousand years may she prosper!
HARROW.

A THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK.

Where a few words, quick, sharp, and decisive aren't enough for a man, a cussing out is too much. It proves that he is unfit for his work, and it unfits you for yours. The world is full of fellows who could take the energy which they put into useless cussing of their men, and double their business with it.—Old Gorgon Graham.



THE BEST WAY TO STORE YOUR SEED CORN.

"Seed corn should always be stored in the ear, but never in barrels, boxes or sacks, or above large quantities of grain. A satisfactory method and one adopted by many farmers, is to tie eight or ten ears in a string with binding twine, and hang them in an open shed where the sun will not shine on them, but where the air can circulate freely about them. Another plan is to tie the ears together in pairs and hang them over a wire." —Extract from an article, "Selecting and Storing Seed Corn," by G. I. Christie, of Indiana Experiment Station, to be printed in full in next week's Progressive Farmer.

[Courtesy Farmer's Voice.]

NEXT WEEK'S PAPER.

There are two or three features of next week's Progressive Farmer that we must tell about in advance. First is an article by Mr. G. I. Christie, of Indiana, one of America's foremost corn authorities, on "Selecting and Storing Seed Corn." And now that the matter of building warehouses is on every farmer's mind, we count ourselves extremely fortunate in having an article from Mr. J. C. Stribling, of South Carolina, on "How to Build a Cotton Warehouse," giving plans and estimates for the clay floor and cement block system now so popular. Thirdly, Miss Ione Cates is going to tell you some things about "Our Common Snakes" that will excite your interest, and fourthly, we are expecting a series of striking articles on "Scuppernong Culture." Look out for these features.

FOR YOUR ATTENTION.

Bills are now being mailed to subscribers. If there is any error in your account, remember we are just as anxious as you to correct any error. Don't get mad, but write us promptly and briefly and we will give your complaint immediate attention.

In Early October.

On the threshold of opulent October, summer lovingly lingers in the lap of autumn. The arms of the forests still lift up the rich green foliage which broke the heat of an August sun, and only upon a hidden bough here and there do signs appear that Nature is testing her dyes of gold and vermilion against the carnival of color that shall presently hang upon the garments of the hills.—Gastonia Gazette.