

# The Progressive Farmer

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CLARENCE H. POE, - - Editor and Manager.  
B. W. KILGORE, TAIT BUTLER,  
Agricultural Editors.

C. F. KOONCE, Trav'ing Agt. T. B. PARKER, Sec-Treas.

*The Progressive Farmer has a larger circulation than any other Weekly or Daily published between Richmond and Atlanta.*

## "What's the News?"

### THE NEXT GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK.

The nomination of William Randolph Hearst for Governor of New York by the Democrats, and of Charles E. Hughes by the Republicans, attracted more attention than any other piece of American news last week, and probably not even our strenuous President will be more talked about these next forty days than these two men. It was thought at one time that Jerome might capture the Democratic nomination, but when the Convention met, Hearst was seen to be in the lead and all efforts to check his boom failed. Sometime ago he was nominated for Governor by the Independence League, a new sort of third party in New York, and he accepted and boldly declared that he would run in opposition if the Democrats did not nominate him—just as he ran for Mayor of New York City last year as the candidate of the Municipal Ownership League, and in opposition to the regular Democratic nominee. In the South such a policy would have ruined all Hearst's chances of party preferment, but it is different in New York.

### MR. HEARST: A STUDY.

Perhaps it may not be out of place just in this connection to refresh the reader's memory as to the personal characteristics of Mr. Hearst and Mr. Hughes. Mr. Hearst is the son of a California millionaire, Senator Hearst, and inherited the immense fortune which he has since used in buying and developing great dailies in San Francisco, New York, Chicago, Boston, and Los Angeles. These papers now have a circulation of more than 2,000,000, making Hearst the most expensive user of printers' ink in the world—whether for good or ill, it would be hard to say. His journals are "yellow"; they are in fact the original "yellow journals;" and they exploit criminal news, debase public taste, and often shock the man of culture and refinement with their crudities and quasi vulgarity. That much stands clearly against them. On the other hand, at a time when most of the great dailies have been controlled by trust and monopoly influences, and have preserved a decorous silence about the high-handed ways in which giant interests have bled the public, Mr. Hearst's papers have cried aloud and spared not. They have told truths that other papers dared not tell. Now whether Mr. Hearst in all this found his greatest inspiration in a desire to help his fellow-man, we seriously doubt. For a number of reasons his fights against greed and extortion seem rather to have been made to gratify his morbid desire to keep a sensation always before the public. But whether selfish or unselfish in his work, Mr. Hearst has won the confidence of millions of "the common people" by his exposures of wickedness in high places, and when he ran for Mayor of New York City last fall—Independent—he certainly lacked only 3,000 votes of election, and he has always insisted that a recount—perversely and foolishly denied by the Republican Legislature—would have shown that he actually had the largest number of votes. The fact that he couldn't get a recount has greatly strengthened his hold on the people. His nomina-

tion for Governor now makes it almost certain that he will again seek the Democratic Presidential nomination.

### CHARLES E. HUGHES.

Charles E. Hughes, the Republican nominee for Governor of New York, is quite a different type of man from that usually selected for such positions—not a politician, but a clean, fearless, modest, ungainly, strong, big-brained man who has made a great success as a lawyer without ever losing his grip on the principles instilled by the God-fearing Baptist minister who was his father. He is the sort of a man a party usually prefers to ignore in its days of prosperity, but whose character is an ever present help in time of trouble. He will make a great fight in the Empire State, and the reputation for unyielding and unrelenting searching after truth which he made when ferreting out the guilty in the insurance scandals, won him the confidence of all the rest of the country as well. Men will also admire the way in which he accepted the nomination—"without pledge other than to do my duty according to my conscience." Writing of him before his nomination, a contributor to Everybody's Magazine said:

Between the man Hughes and public office there stands the formidable barrier of the man's own modesty, his own shrinking from publicity, his devotion to his own profession. For the things of politics he has no liking. From the machine politician he shrinks with horror. The efforts to drag him from the duty of the insurance investigation to the honor of the Mayoralty last year roused his deepest resentment. He could hardly wait to write his refusal. His own declaration is that he never intentionally voted for a machine ticket. He was one of the original Jerome nominators last year. To him the pursuit of public office is "of all vanities the vainest." And yet the gulf is not impassable—there is a single bridge. "I am glad to accept your offer," he told the Armstrong Committee after he had abandoned his vacation to take up their work, "because I feel that in so doing I shall perform my duty as a citizen."

All in all, this appears to be about the most creditable nomination that New York Republicans have ever made and stands out in pleasing contrast to the general record of the Odell-Platt machine during the last year or two.

### THE LESSON OF THE ATLANTA RIOTS.

One hardly knows what to say of that hideous outburst of mob violence with which Atlanta disgraced the South a few days ago—the actual dead numbering eighteen or more, many others wounded, and the whole city thrown into disorder from which it will be long in recovering: a combination of stupidity and brutality of which both races ought to be ashamed. Alarming frequent assaults on white women—the deep damnation of the negro's part—had brought race feeling to the highest pitch; then sensation-uhnting yellow journalism (notably the Atlanta News), exaggerating the details, stirring up the passions, set the spark to the fatal power house of wrath; while every reckless mob murderer, hungry for blood, and discriminating not between guilty and innocent, was a disgrace to the white skin he wore. Given a few beastly negroes, a few reckless newspapers, and the always present mob of "lewd fellows of the baser sort"—and we have a saturnalia of lawlessness which hurts the peace and progress of the whole South. Negro crime tries our spirits, but to answer black lawlessness with white lawlessness can never mean anything else but confusion worse confounded and the engulfing of both races in the quicksands of common destruction. The law must be made a terror to evil-doers, and in no other course under Heaven, save in the orderly process of our Courts of Justice, can we find safety or peace for either white man or black. The country as a whole, and the South in particular, needs nothing else so sorely as a revival of that stern and high regard for law which made the great-

ness of ancient Rome, and without which no nation can endure.

### THE CUBAN SITUATION.

Affairs in Cuba are terribly muddled. It is a regular witches' cauldron of mad Spaniards, niggers, half-breeds, ward politicians and scheming American adventurers, and if anything good can come out of such a mixture, Brewer Taft will deserve a considerable degree of credit. The regular Cuban officials having refused to act longer, Secretary Taft took charge Saturday as Provisional Military Governor, and when the show of peace is brought about, the present Governor of Porto Rico will carry the burden for awhile. Then it seems likely that a new election will be held under American auspices, and the rival Cuban faction kept from the wholesale cheating they sought to practice on each other last year. But even this will probably be only a temporary settlement and the final outcome will apparently be in line with that indicated by a thoughtful Washington correspondent:

The expected has happened, but nobody supposed it would be so long on the road. At this writing Cuba is in a state of revolution, and sooner or later Cuba will be a State of the American Union. There is nothing else to come of it. Cuba is our ward, and is not yet come to years of discretion, and if suffered to run at large it is doubtful if Cuba would learn to be discreet in a thousand years; and hence it is inevitable that the guardian shall find excuse to interfere and take the ward in restraint and administer his estate with a view to conserving it. A regiment or two on the water will do the business in a jiffy. Annexation will soon follow, and Cuba will get from the Saxon what the Latin cannot give her—a stable government. That is coming, and the sooner it is accomplished the better for all concerned and unconcerned.

### THIS WEEK'S PAPER AS THE EDITOR SEES IT.

We confess with due and becoming modesty, that last week's paper was a good one (even our friend Harrow admits that there wasn't a clod to be found), but this week's is hardly less valuable. Page 2 is literally packed with good matter: Recluse on the management of the pea crop and the corn crop; some good suggestions on the fall planting of fruit trees—and not one farmer in ten lives up to his opportunities for good fruit; Entomologist Sherman's letter on how to fight the grain weevil; and then the most striking inquiry of all: "What are you raising on your farm—live stock or little negroes?" Don't pass this by; "read, mark and inwardly digest," as Uncle Jo would say.

Our Cotton Association articles are interesting, and we regret that we haven't more about tobacco conditions this week. In our next number, however, we expect a full report of the Tobacco Growers' meeting at Danville, to which place we have sent a representative.

An exquisite poem is William Morris's "October," on page 6, and we think that our readers will also be interested in "Red Buck's" impressions of Bryan on the same page.

To say that ye Editor is delighted with the "Suggestions for October Farm Work," by our associates, Butler and Parker, is to put it mildly. They have started off admirably and this monthly article of "Suggestions" promises to be one of the most helpful departments in the whole paper—one of those numerous features each of which "is alone worth the subscription price."

The idea of a general State-wide stock law seems to be growing, and C. S. W.'s other two propositions will find many supporters.

We are almost submerged in letters about the open furrow method of growing oats. Everybody who has tried it seems to like it and to want to say so—and this is as it should be.

Last but not least, we mention Uncle Jo: we are glad to have him with us again, and if he has ever written a more useful article than that on page 14, we don't know it. Let Mrs. Farmer read it aloud to the old man, if he doesn't read it first, and so start the work of improving the poultry blood.