

EXPLOITURE OF COTTONSEED PRODUCTS.

The recent convention in Columbia of the South Carolina Cottonseed Crushers' Association heard two striking addresses—one by Mr. L. H. Bailey, of Paris, Texas, President, and the other by Mr. L. A. Ransom, of Atlanta, the Vice-President, of the Interstate Association. This body has 650 members in a territory embracing 800 cottonseed crushing establishments in which \$100,000,000 has been invested in the last forty years and largely in the last twenty years—for prior to twenty years ago there were very few oil mills in the South. The Interstate Association will meet at Jamestown, May 21st to 25th.

The interesting feature about these addresses was their discussion of the present status of the cottonseed and its products in the commercial and economic world, and its possible future. Some of the points brought out in this discussion are doubtless familiar to a number of our readers, but they are not so familiar to all as not to bear repetition. A few of these points we copy from the Columbia State's report:

The general purpose of the Association is to exploit cottonseed meal and cottonseed products and by-products. For instance, there is coming into general use lard—that is said to be as good as the best animal fat—which is made of cottonseed oil of a highly refined state combined with oleostearine, which is mixed in merely to give consistency to the compound. At first there was a disposition on the part of the public to protest against the use of cottonseed oil for this purpose, but as a matter of fact, the pure food law guarantees the protection of the consumer and also guarantees the sale of the vegetable fat lard, for its chemical purity is unquestioned. As to its flavor, an instance was cited by Mr. Ransom:

The law putting a tax on oleomargarine was passed as a blow at Southern industries, although that product is made of pure milk and the best of cottonseed oil. The Union League Club in Philadelphia for six months used an oil made from cottonseed which all of the members supposed to be olive oil and ate with great gusto. It was ascertained that a steward was buying the new oil at a fractional part of the cost of olive oil and the members of the club had never detected the difference!

A singular thing which Mr. Bailey cited with reference to the use of cottonseed oil is the fact that one-third of the cottonseed oil exported is sent to Holland, where so much butter is made. The inference is plain. There is also a great demand for refined oil in Italy, Asia Minor and other countries from which olive oil is obtained! The natural deduction is that the people of the South are furnishing olive oil for the world at a reduced price. The growers of olive groves in California made a strenuous fight against the cottonseed oil industry a few years ago on the ground that refined oil has come into such favor that it will not be long before the olive oil may be regarded as spurious and an imitation of cottonseed oil!

Of course, there is no reason why cottonseed oil should sail under false colors as olive oil, or why any products containing it should be fraudulently sold as pure articles. The facts presented by Messrs. Bailey and Ransom show that this oil is well able to take care of itself and to make a market of its own. If the products of cottonseed oil be used to make cowless butter or hogless lard, it is only common honesty and straight dealing to sell them as much.

The question of extending the markets for cottonseed products also received consideration, and the hopes and activities of the Association in this direction are indicated in the following paragraphs:

The future of cottonseed products seems to be entirely unknown. There are to-day 100 by-products, and it is possible that these will be doubled in the next few years and that cottonseed will become a principal article of diet on the tables of epicures. That is one purpose of the Bureau of Publicity conducted by Mr. Ransom, to encourage the sale of cottonseed products so that the mills may get a better price for their products and thereby be enabled to pay the farmer a better price for his seed.

The Interstate Association has succeeded in getting an expert sent to foreign countries for the purpose of pushing the sale of cottonseed by-

products. Mr. J. L. Benton, of Monticello, Ga., has been selected by the cottonseed crushers. Mr. Benton is said to be qualified in every way for this post which will mean so much to the South if the duties be discharged with intelligence.

Mr. Ransom hopes to see the day when all oil refineries will be confined to the South and all oil products manufactured in the South without the toll of shipping back and forth, and he believes that in time the aggregate value of cottonseed products will approximate the values of lint products.

DOES YOUR WIFE READ THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER?

This is a question we wish to put directly to the large number of farmers who have recently joined The Progress Farmer Family. Unless the women in the home read The Progressive Farmer, fully half of its sweetness is wasted on the desert air, for it is not too much to claim that the features which appeal to the housewives are, like the wives themselves, the "better half."

We wish then, if your fair companion hasn't formed The Progressive Farmer habit, that you would mention this little matter to her in a loving sort of way. The way you brought it to her attention would do her good, and we believe the things we have put in the paper for her would do her good—so that she and you also would be "twice blessed."

We are going to mention a few of the features we try to prepare for Mrs. Farmer fresh every week. There is, first, the page devoted to the Home Circle where she is queen. Then our Social Chat page—when it is not a woman's institute on subjects which appeal specially to the farmer's wife, it still abounds in topics of interest to her. The page for Young People will interest Mrs. Farmer because it helps to entertain and instruct her children. Besides these special departments, there are Mrs. Grimes's papers on beautifying the farm home—inside and outside—now dealing with flowers; Uncle Jo's ever-engaging poultry talks—we always feel like crowing over these; and numerous other articles from time to time on poultry, farm stock, fruit, trucking, gardening, dairying, housekeeping, and a hundred other things that the farmer's wife likes to know about.

Yes, we repeat our wish that you would mention this matter to your good wife in your happiest manner, giving her our compliments and assurances of our best wishes. If she acts upon these suggestions and becomes a regular reader of The Progressive Farmer it will not be long before you will acknowledge, even if you do not already declare it, that she is more than your "better half," she is your "superior two-thirds."

What would you think if told that a Southern city is buying milk from New York? Milk? Yes. Oh, of course we buy apples, and cabbage, and striped-bosom shirts and things up that way, but who thought our cities were having to send clear away from home to get milk? Yet such is the case. In the month of December one single firm in the city of Richmond, so an authority states, sent more than \$1,800 to New York for milk. It means that Richmond is growing more rapidly than the dairying industry around it. And what is true of Richmond in this respect is true of a multitude of towns and cities all over the South. The day is at hand in the South for the grass man and the milk man. But more of this in our Dairying Special next week.

Best Service Our Congressmen Can Render.

We have no great cities to be damaged by floods in the Appalachian Mountains, but there are towns and villages and cotton-mills and farming lands to be damaged, and thousands and thousands of dollars' worth of property are destroyed every time there is a big flood in the Catawba, the Yadkin and other rivers. The best service our members of Congress can do for the South is to continue to fight for an appropriation for the forest reserve.—Statesville Landmark.

Harrowings.**CHEAPEST FEEDS FOR FATTENING CATTLE.**

Mr. French, the author of those intensely interesting and instructive "Sunny Home Stock Talks," asks Harrow to name "cheaper feeds than corn and legume and grass hays for feeding hogs and cattle in the South." This is a much more important question than appears on the surface. The feeding of live stock lies at the very foundation of soil improvement and the regeneration of Southern agriculture, but before live stock feeding can be much increased it must be made more generally profitable. To make it more profitable one important requisite is cheaper feeds than those generally used. In other words, if we can suggest feeds sufficiently cheap to enable the average man to make feeding profitable he will do the feeding, and one constant result, soil improvement, will be attained.

The fact is plain to any careful observer that feeding corn has not been generally profitable, nor, in fact, has feeding of any sort been such. We shall first endeavor to show that there are cheaper individual feeds than corn and salable hays, and then suggest a cheaper combination of feeds.

CORN AND COTTONSEED MEAL COMPARED.

The average of large numbers of feeding tests or trials shows that one pound of cottonseed meal is equal in feeding value to one and three-fourths pounds of corn. This is not an estimate or guess, nor is it based on chemical analysis, but it is the average of hundreds of tests where animals and feeds were both accurately weighed. One ton of cottonseed meal is therefore equal in feeding value to 3,500 pounds of corn, and if we take a fair average, \$27.50 per ton for cottonseed meal, and sixty-two and one-half cents per bushel for corn, the cost is as follows:

2,000 pounds cottonseed meal at \$27.50 per ton equals	\$27.50
3,500 pounds corn at 62½c. per bushel equals	39.06

This makes a difference in the cost of feeds when one ton of cottonseed meal is substituted for 3,500 pounds of corn of \$11.56 in favor of the cottonseed meal. There may be some difference of opinion as to the prices which should be fixed for these feeds, but it is probably fair to place the price of cottonseed meal at from \$25 to \$30 per ton, and the price of corn at from 50 cents to 75 cents per bushel.

\$18.51 A TON IN FAVOR OF COTTONSEED MEAL.

There is one other point which should not be overlooked in the feeding of these materials. In such matters no farmer can afford to ignore the value of the stable manure produced, for therein lies the chief reason for stock feeding in the South. I find the authorities tell us that 2,000 pounds of cottonseed meal contains 135.8 pounds of nitrogen, 57.6 pounds phosphoric acid, and 17.4 pounds of potash, and that 3,500 pounds of corn contains 63.7 pounds of nitrogen, 24.5 pounds of phosphoric acid, and 14 pounds of potash. If one-half of these materials is recovered in the manure and left to fertilize the farm, and more should and may be saved, we have the following values for the manure produced:

From 2,000 pounds of cottonseed meal 67.4 pounds of nitrogen at 20 cents equals ..	\$13.48
28.2 pounds phosphoric acid at 4½ cents equals	1.30
8.7 pounds potash at 5½ cents equals48
Total	\$15.26

From 3,500 pounds of corn 36.85 pounds of nitrogen at 20 cents equals	\$7.37
12.25 pounds phosphoric acid at 4½ cents equals55
7 pounds potash at 5½ cents equals39
Total	\$8.31

Now, comparing the results of feeding 2,000 pounds of cottonseed meal and 3,500 pounds of corn, which have been found to produce equal results in the way of gains, we find from the above figures that the cottonseed meal is \$11.56 cheaper, while it produces \$6.95 more fertilizer, making a total gain for the cottonseed meal of \$18.51.

Therefore, cottonseed meal is a cheaper concentrate for feeding cattle in the South than corn. If space permitted, we might show with equal

(Continued on Page 3.)