

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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## THIS WEEK'S PAPER—SOME RANDOM COMMENTS.

Look at the array of good things we have this week in the line of farm economics, or the business side of farming. We've had some of this kind all along and expect to keep on having some more, but those we have this week are as fully worthy as any of the others of being attended to. Those which happen to be on a new topic you will, of course, read; if you should run across a heading that sounds familiar to you somehow, let us enjoin upon you to read the article under it sure, for it has something worth while presented in a new way. Perhaps you may find a familiar subject with a new heading. If so, good for heading!

Take, for instance, Mr. French's article on the Bondage of the Southern Cow—and how to throw off the shackles. We will not tell you here precisely what it is about, but you read it; it is a new and strong presentation of a subject that has been mentioned frequently in the last four or five years, but cannot receive too much attention until there is no longer any need to attend to it at all. And Mr. French's interest in the matter, remember, is not exactly the same as ours, since his cows are not under the bondage he discusses.

The Labor Problem in North Carolina is a heading, now, that has more or less of a familiar ring to it. But when it is presented by Secretary Bruner, of the State Board of Agriculture, we see it in its broadest and latest aspects. Whether we welcome such a condition or not the labor situation demands, as Mr. Bruner says, a new standard of wages. Higher wages will attract more intelligent laborers, who will produce more and waste less and will therefore be worth more. The whole problem as it affects North Carolina is interestingly presented by Mr. Bruner—and the labor conditions in this State are not radically different from those in other States of The Progressive Farmer's territory.

In this connection it will be well to note Mr. Hoyt's article in which he cites another South Carolina law that goes out of commission along with the contract labor law annulled by Judge Brawley. This is the law which punished tenants who agree to work farms and then desert them.

And there are some cotton economies we need to learn. Two of them are presented this week. One deals with cottonseed, one with the staple; and one on the exploitation of cottonseed products will appear next week.

(1) Send to the oil mill the seed you do not need for planting. The oil that could be made every year from the whole cottonseed which the farmer feeds to his stock or applies direct to his land as fertilizer, would fill a seven-inch pipe 6,818 miles long, and sell for \$18,000,000. And the seed in their by-products would



## A Modern Hay-Making Scene.

*In all the ramifications of Southern agriculture, one finds nothing more discreditable than the fact that so many thousands of Southern farmers are now working ten hours a day to kill Southern-grown grass, while the stock they work with are fed on Western-grown grass bought at \$20 to \$28 a ton! Iowa and North Carolina are the same size and Iowa's hay crop is worth only \$5.10 per acre while the average value per acre of North Carolina hay is \$12.80, yet Iowa farmers put 3,038,352 acres to hay each year, while North Carolina's acreage is only 125,633—South Carolina growing only 59,452 acres of hay, Georgia 88,034, Tennessee 339,446, while even Virginia's 440,467 looks small compared with Iowa's 3,000,000. Every farm should have at least a piece of bottom-land set apart for meadow, while not even this year's high prices for cowpeas need deter the farmer from planting a large acreage if he follows the money-saving plan suggested by Dr. Crawford on page 11 of this week's paper.*

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still be about as valuable as ever for feed or fertilizer.

(2) Why should the South pay a high price for wooden flour barrels when it would increase the demand for cotton if the flour were packed in the cheaper covering of cotton sacks? These problems are discussed on page 2 in greater detail.

But the purely commercial side of farming is not all that we touch this week. The interesting farming outlook reports from Virginia are on page 4. Uncle Jo tells how to raise Pekin Ducks, and there is a good health talk for the young wife and mother on the farm—both of these on page 14.

Mrs. Grimes's article on Books for the Farm Home Library is worth

filing away for continual reference—unless you will get the entire list of books now.

And the subject of hay—the third crop in value of all that we raise in this great country of ours—you will find touched upon in Dr. Crawford's suggestive article on page 11 and, we do not need to say, right here upon this first page also.

"Methods of Eradicating Cattle Tick" is the title of Bulletin 130, recently issued by the South Carolina Experiment Station. Dr. Lewis A. Klein is the author. It is a valuable contribution to the literature of the subject. Applications for it should be made to the station at Clemson College, S. C.

## Notice to Rural Carriers.

There is a great work to be done between now and the third of July. Your Secretary is overwhelmed with work—more than he ought to have. Now just a word to the Secretaries for County Associations:

You can greatly aid me in this work if you will kindly send in your report, giving correct list of members and officers elected for the ensuing year, and also names of delegates to the State Convention, which convenes July 3d and 4th. The reports should have all been on hand ere this, so that I could complete my report. As we have no active President, the work of planning for State meeting rests considerably on me. It is very necessary that these reports come in so that I can mail delegates their credentials which entitles them to a vote in the Convention.

The program will be published as early as possible. There will be some important subjects for discussion, with some able addresses. A representative of the Postoffice Department has been asked for and we are looking for a profitable meeting.

J. McD. BALLARD, Sec.  
Newton, N. C.