

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

Title Registered in U. S. Patent Office.

A Farm and Home Weekly for the Carolinas, Virginia, Tennessee and Georgia.

Vol. XXII. No. 25.

RALEIGH, N. C., AUGUST 1, 1907.

Weekly: \$1 a Year

THIS WEEK'S PAPER — SOME RANDOM COMMENT.

February is a mighty bad month for making good roads. The circumstances of the season are usually engaged in making them as bad as possible. But roads made thoroughly good now will stand much more traffic and with the help of the road drag can be kept in order much easier than if left to the mercy of wheels and winter weather. It is the time of year when the overseers are thinking of working their roads. It is a good time also to plan the making of new roads. A little grading would wonderfully improve some roads that now run almost straight up the hill and then down again. The fact is, if a road is properly graded and properly drained it will be amazing how seldom there is actual need for macadam on it, unless the traffic is of almost city-like proportions. A country road well graded and well drained makes a good road almost the whole year round.

Just think of it! There were 174 Rural Free Delivery routes denied to the farmers of North Carolina last year because of the poor condition of the roads the farmers lived on. Now, the Government does not require that these roads shall be ideal—that is, of standard grade and heavily macadamized, but it does require that they shall be in such condition that the mail carrier can make his regular schedules over them. And 174 applications for mail routes were refused last year because the roads over which the mails were to be carried would not admit of a reasonable belief that regular schedules could be made over them by Uncle Sam's

In North Carolina last year 174 adverse reports were made on applications for R. F. D. routes on account of the bad condition of the roads.

(See article on page 2.)

Your good wife—remember her in lots of little pleasant ways these trying August days. 'Twill help to coax the roses back into your sweetheart's cheeks.

(See article on page 15.)

letter carriers. Let's devote some of these August days to ways and means for fixing up better roads. The poor roads we have in many sections stand between us and lots of good and useful things. That is why we wish you would pay particular attention to the road articles on this page and the next.

The cotton bagging question is not yet settled either. Why should not cotton bales be covered with cotton bagging? Such a reform, besides making a neater and more market-

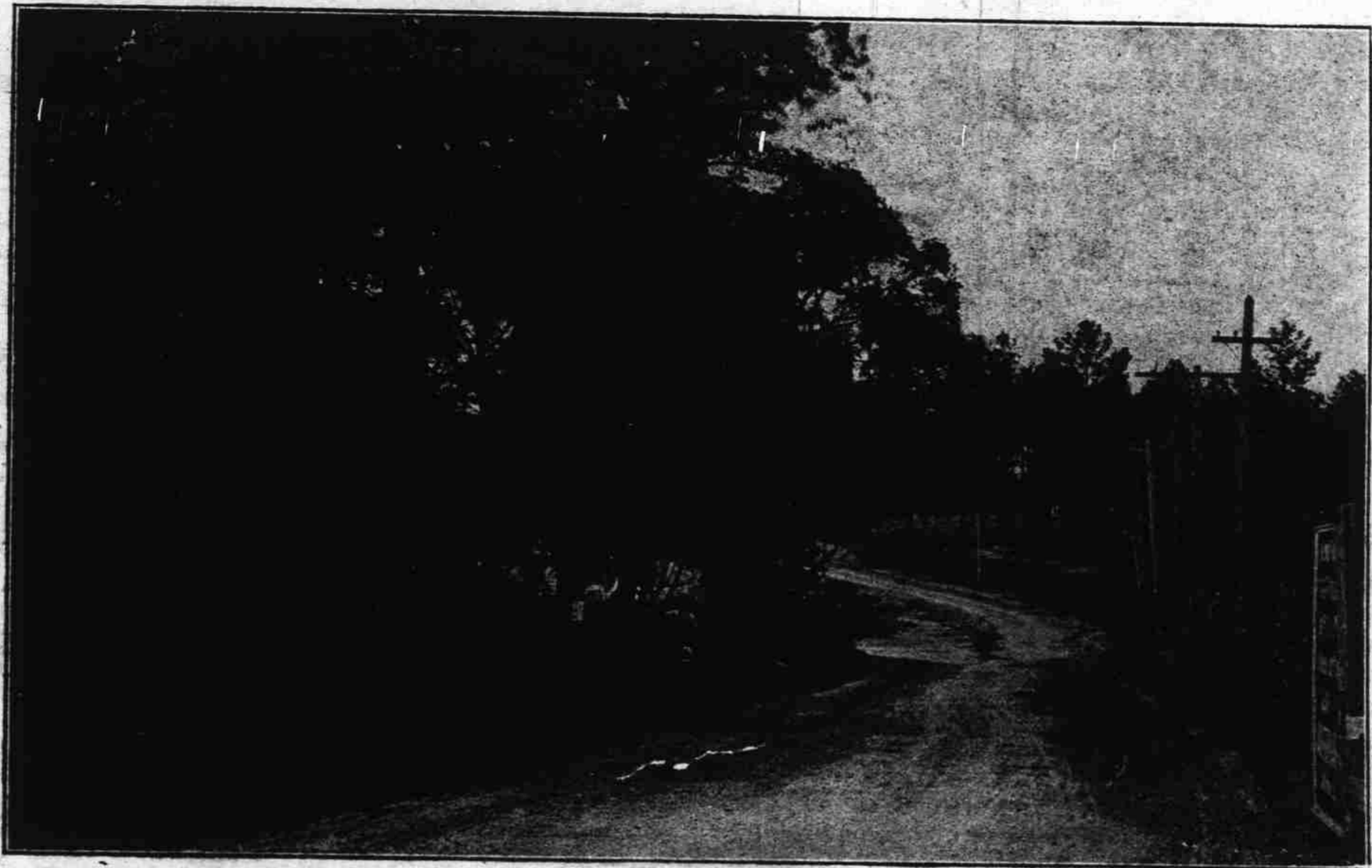
able package, would demand more cotton and more cotton mills, and, by consuming more of the lowest grades, would wrest this low grade cotton from the hands of the speculators who have been hammering down prices of good cotton with it. Wish you would read that article about the subject—it, too, is waiting for you on the next page.

Oh, the bugs and things! The poultry, the fruit trees, the vegetables, and the crops are beset by insect pests, and it is becoming an essential part of a good farmer's equipment to know how to whip his enemies when they come to forage on his crops. Uncle Jo tells how to keep the fleas from your poultry, while Mr. Franklin Sherman (on page 3) discusses, in answer to inquiries, several current crop pests, such as cotton root louse, the bud worm, and

some diseases of fruit trees which may be detected at this season of the year.

There are not two more interesting pages in *The Progressive Farmer*, as a rule, than those (4 and 5) which are devoted to the Farmers' Organizations, and to Plow Handle Talks, and this week they are not less interesting than usual.

There are two other articles which will not be overlooked, we are sure, for they are printed in response to some inquiries from our readers. The subject of tile-draining your land is clearly explained by Mr. A. L. French on page 10, and on page 14 we have a fine article from Recluse on growing red clover. These two practical articles by practical men should be carefully read by practical farmers who make it a point also to be progressive.



A Good Road in Durham County.

*Now that crops are laid by, and it is an off-year in politics, let us make the month of August a great campaign month to get better roads, better schools, rural mail delivery, rural telephones and farmers' clubs, in every school district in the Carolinas, Virginia, Georgia and Tennessee. If the 100,000 farmer folk represented in *The Progressive Farmer Family* should set themselves for just one month to this task, what a revolution they might bring about!*

WHAT YOU WILL FIND IN THIS WEEK'S PAPER.

	Page.
Bad Roads and Rural Mail Delivery, P. V. DeGraw.....	2
Cotton Bagging for Cotton Bales.....	2
Current Insect Pests, Franklin Sherman, Jr.	3
Expert's Opinion of the Road Drag, Joseph Hyde Pratt.....	2
Farmers' Organizations.....	4
Farmers' Clubs in Michigan.....	3
How to Tile-Drain Your Farm, A. L. French.....	10
Plow Handle Talks.....	5
New Kerosene Emulsion.....	11
Put Those Roses Back on Your Sweetheart's Cheek, W. D. Troutman.....	15
Rotation for a Cotton Farm—No. 4, W. F. Massey.....	9
Some Points on Growing Red Clover, Recluse.....	14
Some Things That Need to be Done in August, J. M. Beatty.....	12
To Rid Your Poultry of Fleas, Uncle Jo.....	11

The rotation for cotton lands in the coastal section is helpfully discussed by Prof. Massey, on page 9,—

Cotton bagging and cotton bags for commercial fertilizers would solve the problem of profitably disposing of the very low grades each season and keep such cotton from being used as a hammer to depress the cotton market.

(See article on page 2.)

this being the fourth and last of his very excellent articles on this topic.

And last, but far from least, is that little vacation for Mrs. Farmer. July and August are hot months, taxing very heavily the strength and energy of the strongest. Mr. Farmer, read the piece (on page 15) that Mr. Troutman wrote—something about getting the peaches back into your sweetheart's cheeks, or maybe it was roses instead of peaches,—anyhow, read it and see if you don't think it would be better to get your good wife to hold off from her tasks a little while. Yes, make her do as she pleases for a spell with "sweet nothing to do," as Mr. Troutman puts it. Of course it will come odd to her, but she can stand it. If you don't believe it, try it.