

How My Farm Paper Has Helped Me.

Mr. Broom Tells How the Agricultural Paper and Other Farm Literature Have Helped Him to Good Farming and a Higher Life—The Young Farmer's Best Investment.

Messrs. Editors: We promised several months ago that we would speak of some things that had been helpful to us, and we would feel ungrateful if, in this recital, we failed to give credit to the agricultural papers, the bulletins of the Experiment Stations and other agricultural literature that we have read. They have helped us immensely. In fact, we consider the bulletins and agricultural papers indispensable to us in our farming operations. We would not think of trying to farm without them.

How Have They Helped?

They have taught us the science of agriculture, instructed us in the art of farming the land to the best purpose, enabled us to gain a knowledge of our business, and this is one of the first requisites of success in any calling. They have inspired in us a love for farm life and a sense of its dignity. They have caused us to realize that in no field of human action are there greater opportunities for the culture, development and employment of all the faculties of the mind. What shall we say of the ideas and suggestions they bring to us each week? Why, they simply sweep us off our feet sometimes, and we are away to the fields planning to put them into execution.

What Are Some of the Results?

The stumps have disappeared from our fields, gullies and washes are no more. Our fields are all terraced, and heavy rains do not terrorize us as they once did. Improved farm machinery is being used, crop yields are increasing, and at less cost. Rotation and diversification of crops is the rule. Improved seed are planted in a well-prepared soil, fertilized according to the needs of the plant and character of the soil and cultivated in the most up-to-date manner. We labor in the consciousness that we are working in harmony with the great forces of nature and assisting her in her efforts to cause the earth to bring forth fruit.

The Inspiration of It.

And then, the beauty and grandeur of it all! How it rejoices our hearts and refreshes our spirits to look upon the waving fields of grain, the growing corn and cotton that the earth has brought forth in response to our touch! How it brings us in touch and communion with the great God of nature, our loving Heavenly Father, "who giveth us richly all things to enjoy," and who hath delivered to man the keys to nature's great store-house, and in effect saying, "As thou wilt so be it unto thee."

Yes, the agricultural papers have helped us to see the beauties and advantages of farm life and to enjoy the fruits thereof.

A Young Farmer's Best Investment.

In this connection we would like to mention papers and names of contributors that have been especially helpful to us, but we will content ourselves by saying that the editors of the best papers are men who know the science of agriculture and are in direct contact with the problems of farm life and have secured a host of contributors whose thoughts come to them while they are in the plow furrow and are in contact with the every-day problems of the farmer. If a young man just starting in farm life were to give us a dollar to invest for him where it would bring him the greatest possible returns, we would

put it in an agricultural paper, and should he give us two dollars we would send him two papers.

The Man Who Will Not.

And yet, there are farmers, somewhere, yes, they are somewhere, who expend large sums of money each year for fertilizers, labor, and supplies, and will not invest a dollar in an agricultural paper for the improvement of their minds and the gathering of information that will en-

A YOUNG FARMER'S BEST INVESTMENT.

If a young man just starting in farm life were to give us a dollar to invest for him where it would bring him the greatest possible return, we would put it in an agricultural paper, and should he give us two dollars we would send him two papers.—(From Mr. T. J. W. Broom's article on this page.)

MADE FOR THIS SECTION AND FILLS THE BILL.

Rural route number four from Monroe goes through a good country. It splits four local tax districts, and every church and school house along the route is painted. There are probably as many good farmers pursuing up-to-date methods along this route as any in the county. There are probably more copies of agricultural papers taken on this route than any other one. Mr. Rogers carries a big sack of The Progressive Farmers. This tells the tale. Mr. J. W. Ashcraft, who lives on this route below Carmel, and has become a fine farmer, describes the value that this paper is to a farmer. He says it is made by men who know exactly what they are talking about and tells the farmer what he wants to know. The paper is made for this section and fills the bill.—(From the Monroe Journal of October 15th—Mr. T. J. W. Broom lives on this route.)

able them to use their fertilizers judiciously and to direct their labor to the best advantage. They care nothing for the bulletins issued by the Experiment Station, take no stock in the Farmers' Institute and pay no attention to the demands of the organizations that are formed for their benefit. Their slipshod methods of farming are responsible for the ills the farmers' organizations are seeking to correct. We dislike to think it, but the conclusion is forced upon us, that it is ignorance, plain, simple old-fashioned ignorance, and in many instances with enough of greed and self-conceit mixed in to make it impervious to helpful knowledge that is at the root of all the farmer's troubles.

Farming Knowledge the Prime Need of the Farming Classes.

Therefore we conclude that knowledge—a knowledge that includes in its scope all the principles that underlie successful farming—is the great need of the agricultural class in the South to-day. And it is just such a knowledge that the agricultural paper is seeking to impart. Yes, the agricultural papers are the aides-de-camp of the farmers' organization in their battle for the betterment of their condition. And, reader, when you seek to extend the circulation of your farm paper, you not only help the editors and your neighbor, but you are bringing the day-dawn of the realization of your own ideals nearer.

And, in conclusion, we admonish you to look well to the reading matter and instruction of your children. Provide them with wholesome books and periodicals, suitable to their age and comprehension, such as will develop within them those traits of character that make the ideal citizen. Don't let them grow up to swell the already too large ignorant class that we have to-day.

T. J. W. BROOM.
Anson Co., N. C.

Reading as a Factor in Good Farming.

Intelligent Acquaintance With the Best Farm Journals and Bulletins a Powerful Factor in Successful Farming—How Can All the People be Reached?

Messrs. Editors: The importance of raising thoroughbred stock on the farm is being better understood year by year, as such breeding shows its superiority, and as farmers become more enlightened by the reading of better and more intelligent farm literature. The stock bulletins issued by the Department of Agriculture are helping a great deal in the spread of a better knowledge of the various breeds of all farm animals.

The increased circulation of such

could be done the agricultural interests of the State or country generally than the discovery of some plan by which all the people can be reached by the agricultural press. How it is to be done is a question. If the subject could be put in the public schools and intelligently taught, the next generation would be greatly benefited, and while an attempt has been made in this direction, little advantage is being taken of the opportunity of such study by the boys in the public schools. Some plan to get the farmers of the present to read more and become better acquainted with better methods is a pressing need.

A Reading People Always a Progressive People.

So far as my observation extends the enthusiastic breeders of improved stock read much on live stock subjects. In my own case this is true. I am a breeder of thoroughbred Poland China Hogs, and I devour greedily any matter on hog raising. Any bulletin on the subject interests me, whether on the different breeds, the management, or the diseases of swine. I also raise Plymouth Rock fowls, and any publication on chickens interests me. Some of my neighbors raise cattle, and they read on this subject.

A reading people are always progressive, and a large fund of general knowledge and information generally fits one to direct, in some certain direction, all his energies toward the production of a superior article. Mere labor counts but little in any direction. Intelligent thought and well directed labor are the moving factors in the industrial world and will be such to the end.

E. S. MILLSAPS.

Iredell Co., N. C.

Have you told your neighbors, friends and relatives about our 15-cent offer? Make a clean sweep now. Leave nobody out of The Progressive Farmer Family.

The only way to keep cotton above the fifteen cents limit is not to sell any until this limit is reached.—J. C. Stribling.

farm papers as The Progressive Farmer with its able corps of writers on stock-raising is helping greatly in the dissemination of a better understanding in the management of live stock, and the creation among farmers of a higher ideal both as to breeding and condition of the stock on the farm. I firmly believe that both farming and stock-raising could be greatly improved if all the farmers in the country could be induced to take and read one or more good agricultural journals.

If the Farm Papers Could Reach All the People.

The above is preliminary to saying that in my opinion no better service

Have You Sent a Club?

The testimony of good farmers concerning the value of farm papers, as given on this page is too strong to need any added word from us—but it does offer us an opportunity to argue that for the Carolinas and adjoining States there is no paper published that fully meets the farmer's need except The Progressive Farmer.

And why?

(1) The Progressive Farmer does more to help you than any other farm paper. Why? Because it is made for our folks by our folks, and adapted to our climate, our soils, our crops and our conditions, instead of being a paper sent from New York or Illinois or Pennsylvania or Siam or Kamchatka by men who never saw a Southern farm or cotton stalk or tobacco plant in their lives. It helps—that is why many a well-to-do and wide-awake Progressive Farmer reader will tell you: "It has given me \$100 profit in improved land, crops and stock for every \$1 I have paid for it."

(2) The Progressive Farmer is almost the only farm paper in the country that refuses to go into partnership with patent medicine quacks or "stock food" frauds, or mining stock cheats, or any of the other advertisements that will pay any "farm" paper to help them swindle the farmers. Time after time, year after year, the Experiment Stations and Departments of Agriculture have proved that the widely advertised "stock foods" are frauds of the first water, but The Progressive Farmer is the only farm paper in the country, but one, that has told the farmers the truth about this gigantic swindle. To do this we had to lose \$3,000 in advertising patronage that other farm papers got, but we are here to protect your interests, Mr. Farmer, and all we ask is your support.

Right now our great 15-cent offer is the greatest opportunity for extending our circulation.

Have you sent us a club?