

Hog and Bacon Special Next Week!

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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### THE TEXAS COTTON CROP IS SHORT.

There is much evidence coming to light to corroborate the statement made by President Neill of the Texas Farmers' Union in our issue last week, namely, that the Texas cotton crop is only 45 or 50 per cent of an average crop. Prof. W. C. Welborn, College Station, Texas, writing us in regard to the boll weevil, for example, declares in the course of his letter:

"This year the weevil has been very destructive; and, along with other unfavorable conditions, has made the cotton crop of Texas very short—so short that I believe if the trade knew how short it is, cotton would go to sixteen cents a pound. Last winter was favorable to large numbers of weevils living over, and then cotton was late starting last spring."

### THE PRUDENT MARKETING OF TOBACCO.

The warehouse reports to the Department of Agriculture show that the October sales in North Carolina were a million pounds less than those of September, the total for October, with resales, being 20,499,504 pounds, Winston taking in October the lead which Wilson held in September.

If in conjunction with the restraint in money movements there had been a big crop of tobacco and the stream of selling had run as a freshet, one can easily conjecture what a depressing slump there would have been in prices. Even with the short crop of this year, the prudent, conservative marketing of the tobacco farmers appears to have had a good effect against a stringent money market.

### Somebody Must Have Cotton or Put Up Cash.

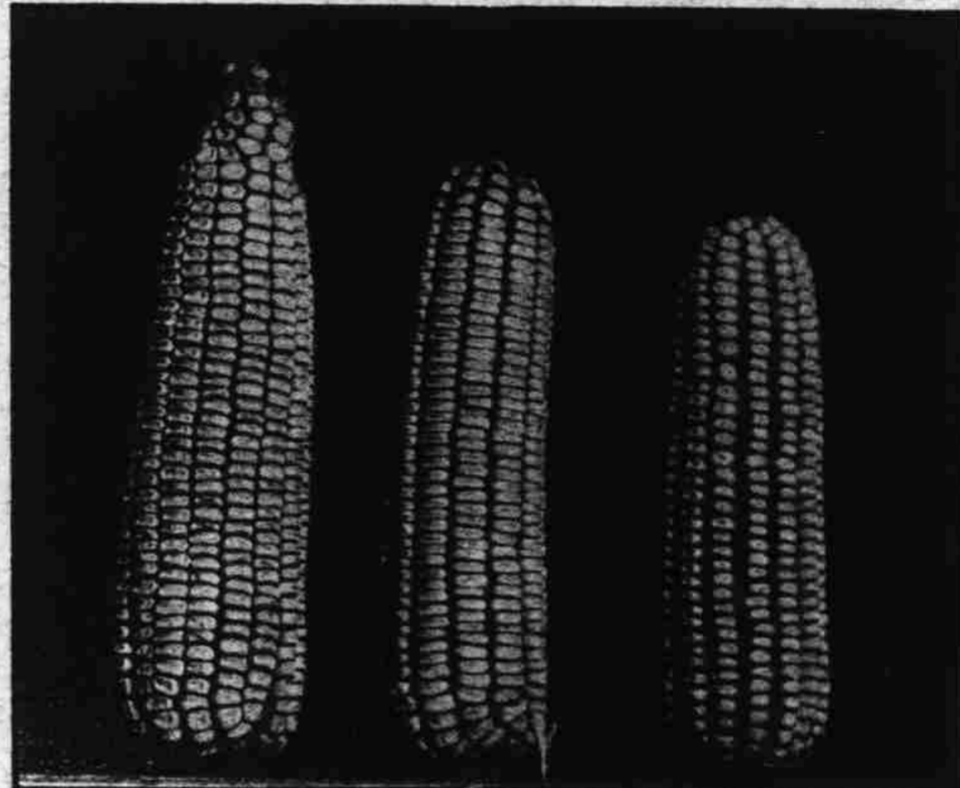
The New York Exchange has sold cotton to our customers, the spinners, for delivery November, December, January, and February, at a price far below our minimum, and must deliver the goods or put up the cash. The only thing for the farmers to do to put them out of business absolutely is to hold every bale of cotton out of their hands.

There has not been enough cotton delivered in the last sixty days to run the mills by 400,000 bales.—President C. S. Barrett to Farmers' Union.

## Selecting Seed Corn: The Right Kind of Stalk and Ear to Choose.



A B



A B C

### CRITICISM OF EARS:

A is too tapering; C has too wide a space between the rows; B is the best shaped ear.

### CRITICISM OF STALKS:

A is the best type of stalk from which to make selection of seed corn: it will yield a large quantity of shelled corn and has the ears of a medium height. B is a poor type of stalk: it has a small quantity of kernels, and the ear is too high and stands too straight.

Read Mr. C. B. Williams's article about Seed Corn Selection on page 4.

### THE FARMERS AND THE BANKS.

It is no new thing for The Progressive Farmer to urge its readers to have a bank account if possible; that is, to keep in the bank what money they have that is not needed for immediate use. Right now, it seems to us that a renewal of this advice cannot be out of place. At a time when money is tight, holding it out of circulation will not help but will aggravate the evil. We do not urge that the farmers sell their cotton; but the point we make is, that when they do sell it the money received should not be carried home and locked up, but should be left in the bank where it can help to keep up circulation and thus maintain better prices for the next cotton they sell. As they sell their cotton and corn and other surplus crops and receive money for them, the farmers can do a great work in easing the money market—and thus in promoting better prices for all farm products—by simply turning their surplus dollars back into the bank again until they are needed for actual use.

These points were recently elaborated in an editorial in the Charleston News and Courier to which our attention is called by Mr. J. W. Denmark, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the North Carolina Farmers' Alliance. He endorses the suggestions as important and timely, and believes that the farmers, especially at the present time, could help themselves as well as others by heeding and acting upon these wise suggestions.

### A COUNTY OF CANTALoupES AND COTTON.

The little county of Scotland has the repute, area considered, of being the greatest cotton-producing county in North Carolina and, according to some of its enthusiastic citizens, the greatest in the United States or the world. But when profits are considered we are not sure but that the cantaloupe is to be reckoned with in the distribution of honors. In this county there are a great many cantaloupe farms and the crop this year has proved splendidly profitable. Mr. J. McN. Patterson, in a recent note, says:

"Conservative and careful figuring places the net profit per acre, for every acre planted in cantaloupes in the county, at not less than \$150, and this on land valued at \$60 to \$100 an acre. Thus it is seen that this single crop would have bought the land and paid for it twice over. Nor is that the end of the story. From every acre of this land there was afterwards cut from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds of good peavine hay, the land being thus left, furthermore, in the best possible condition for a big crop of cotton or corn next year."

This is truly a remarkable exhibit of profits and values, and shows what can be done when the advantages of soil, climate, and market are combined with intelligent farming.

Keep the cotton picked often enough so that bad weather will have little chance to injure the grade. It is certainly poor business to lose a large part of the year's profit through delay in picking.