

Prof. Newman on Five Subjects.

I.—GET RID OF THE SCRUB PLANT AS WELL AS THE SCRUB ANIMAL.

Your excellent paper is doing the farmers of the South a great service in urging the necessity of eliminating the scrub. The plant scrub in the South is, in proportion to the farm income, a greater evil than the animal scrub.

That the best results from selection may be secured, it is as necessary that the individual plant be the basis of selection as it is that the individual animal be the foundation stock for the production of something better. The selection of the best individuals through successive generations not only augments and intensifies desirable qualities and characteristics, but in doing this eliminates the undesirable.

That the yields of our farm crops may be increased 10 per cent by plant selection in a conservative estimate, yet on this conservative basis the year's increase of the cotton crop alone would be 130,000 bales or about six and a half million dollars.

Have a seed patch not only of cotton, but all other of the principal crops and claim some of this increase.

II.—STOP BEDDING STRINGY SWEET POTATOES.

It is gratifying to note in your issue of January 28th that Mr. Winslow is breeding the sweet potato. Our practice is to grow potato slips from the poorest potatoes—the stringy—and I have no doubt but that both the yield and quality of the sweet potato have been lowered by this practice of growing from the poorest "seed." By hill selection, such as practiced by Mr. Winslow, not only the yield but the table and keeping qualities of the potato may be greatly improved.

Can 1909 not give us at least one sweet potato breeder in each county?

III.—THE PATENT MEDICINE FRAUD.

Mr. Editor, fire another broadside at the patent medicines. Their sale is a means of getting money under

false pretense. They are made to sell not to cure.

IV.—DEMONSTRATION WORK IN HANDLING FORESTS.

The letter of Mr. Keith, urging the preservation of our forests should be read by every law-maker of the South. The wanton destruction of our forests is a national sin. If a man deliberately burns his home the law holds him responsible for the destruction of property. Yet a man may destroy by fire and axe the forests of a State, and no one has cared. Our forests, as our lands, should pass to future generations not only unimpaired but improved.

From Arkansas to Virginia and from Tennessee to the Atlantic and the Gulf are millions of wasted fields which, had they been managed with wisdom instead of indifference and ignorance, would now afford annually an income of millions of dollars.

The Southern States could not more wisely expend money than in the demonstration of means and methods of re-foresting these millions of now worthless acres. The pines, broomsedge, and briars now striving to hide man's shiftlessness are monuments sprung from the graves of once majestic forests and fertile fields. I am convinced that the law should extend its strong arm for the protection of our almost lost forests, and I am almost convinced that the same arm should also check the loss of fertility by rainfall and erosion.

V.—FIFTEEN CROPS NOT TOO MANY.

Before closing this already too

long letter I wish to say that I cannot agree with Prof. Massey when he says, "I cannot agree with Mr. Stribling that we need fifteen crops on our farm, unless a man is engaged in market gardening." The environment of a given farm should control the crops grown and the area of each crop. It is not practicable for every "farmer to be a specialist in the money crop of his section" where only one money crop is grown and the section is wide area. The money crop in Mr. Stribling's section is cotton, and his neighbors so thoroughly recognize this that they neglect about fifteen other crops they should grow, if only for home consumption. Mr. Stribling recognizes this and finds it profitable to grow the following crops: corn, oats, wheat, rye, cotton, hay, sorghum, sweet potatoes, cowpeas, turnips, peanuts, colts, hogs, cows, chickens, and a few others. He grows all of these he needs at home and sells quite a surplus to his less provident neighbors. In

GUARANTEED TOOLS

The Kind You Can Buy and Have Every Confidence In.

It may sound rather odd to the average man who uses tools to tell him that it is just as easy to select a perfect tool as one of inferior grade. But such is the case if you ask for "Keen Kutter" tools, which have for nearly forty years been famous everywhere for their quality and durability. To purchase "Keen Kutter" goods is to be absolutely certain that you are getting the best that money can buy. Besides, you are getting tools that are guaranteed—every one of them—and if they are not all that they are represented to be you can have your money back or a new tool.

Such a guarantee as the makers, the Simmons Hardware Co., of St. Louis, put behind every "Keen Kutter" tool, has created a steadily increasing demand, until at the present time this company turns out an enormous amount of tools every year for the farm, for the shop, for the home. In fact, the Simmons Hardware Company gives every tool manufactured the severest kind of test, so that when it reaches the purchaser it is ready for service, whether it be a gimlet, a hammer, a razor or a lawn mower.

Every edge tool with the "Keen Kutter" stamp has been finally sharpened, and you do not have to work up the edge yourself. You will note that ordinary tools you buy have to be sharpened after they are bought. Many factories will not risk the final test, because, under this strain hundreds of tools would be put out of business, flaws appearing in the most unexpected places, or an edge failing to hold because of improperly tempered metal.

"Keen Kutter" tools are sharpened and tested so that for the final inspection they are perfect. Then they are hand-whetted, thus giving an edge that will stand for a long time against the severest work for which the tool is built. Because these tools are so good, and because they are given so much more attention, the price is possibly slightly higher than some tools. But any man who has once used "Keen Kutter" tools full well appreciates that the extra cost is not only a saving, but that the service given is much superior, and there is never any question of "dependability," no matter how fine or how trying the work.

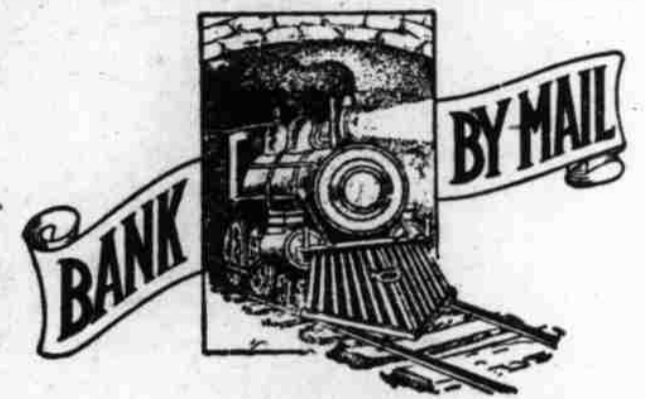
All details of the making of "Keen Kutter" tools are quite as perfect as the sharpening process. Great attention is paid to the "hang" and balance. Quality is the watchword in every department of the great factories. No tool is too small or too unimportant to be slighted. To bear the famous "Keen Kutter" trade mark it must be of the very highest class, because if it is not right it will be returned. And the guarantee says that it will be exchanged for cash or for a new tool!

That guarantee tell a great, big story, doesn't it?

If your dealer does not have the tools you want, write to the Simmons Hardware Company (Inc.), either St. Louis or New York. They'll put you on the right track.

neither of the Carolinas have I seen a home farm that was more of a home farm than Mr. Stribling's, nor have I seen a farm anywhere so diversified. On his farm there is not only something but several things to sell every one of the 365 days of the year. Would there were more like him!
C. L. NEWMAN,
N. C. A. & M. College, West Raleigh.

I like the Progressive Farmer very much. I consider it worth the price of one dollar a year on every acre I cultivate.—W. R. Tingle, N. C.



WITH A

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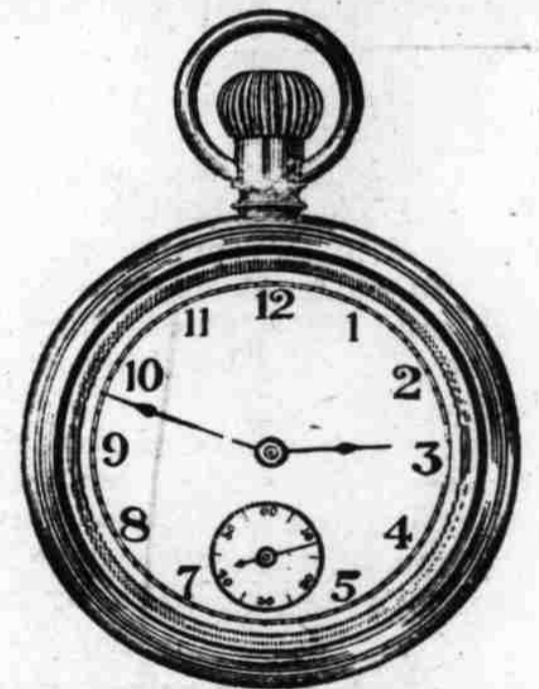
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