

VIRGINIA FARM NOTES.

Better Farming the Order of the Day in the Old Dominion—Some Big Crops.

Messrs. Editors: Many farmers who have moved to Mecklenburg County from North Carolina, have been making a success of raising cotton, and assert that the soil is better adapted to its cultivation than in the section from which they moved.

The average yield per acre is about one bale, and it is of very fine quality.

A few years ago it was an unusual sight to see baled cotton in Mecklenburg County, but now it is a common occurrence to see cotton, baled and unbaled, coming into Chase City on wagons.

So much has the acreage in cotton increased in the past few years that it is expected that a cotton buyer will be located at Chase City next year.

Hon. G. W. Koiner has been conducting a series of farmers' institutes at various points on the lower Potomac and Rappahannock rivers. The Commissioner used one of the river steamers, making stops at many landings, where he addressed the crowds of farmers who had been notified previously of the "floating institute," and who showed their appreciation of this good work by attending in large numbers and by listening to the lectures with intense interest.

The general subject of these lectures was "Trucking," a feature of farming which is proving to be very profitable in the tidewater section of the State.

With reference to the improved agricultural conditions in the State and especially in regard to the trucking interest, Commissioner Koiner writes: "In the past ten years the trucking industry has increased in the State 500 per cent. This year the value of these crops in Virginia will be \$15,000,000.

"The agricultural development of Virginia is increasing steadily from year to year. The value of the corn crop in ten years has increased from \$10,500,000 to \$35,000,000 annually. The average yield of corn to the acre has increased nine bushels. Last year the average was twenty-six bushels to the acre, and we do not want to let up on better corn growing in Virginia until we get an average of thirty-five bushels to the acre."

In regard to the fruit industry Mr. Koiner gives some interesting facts showing that the values of many crops range from \$5,000 to \$10,000, the crop from one orchard this year selling for \$18,250.

Speaking of hay and other crops, he says: "The alfalfa hay from one farm will bring \$18,000 this year, yielding 1,200 tons of new cured hay. The largest potato crop in the State this year brought \$20,000. One farmer raised 50,000 bushels of corn this year, and another farmer's tobacco crop brought \$15,000.

"Lands are increasing in value in Virginia, and in many sections have doubled in value in the last five or six years." J. M. B.

Zach McGhee, Author of "The Dark Corner,"

says of "A Southerner in Europe": "I wish every Southerner in our land could read this entertaining and inspiring book. Mr. Poe has drawn lessons no one else has drawn, and has presented them in truly charming style."

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The Markets.

RALEIGH COTTON.

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 18, 1909.

Good middling	15
Strict Middling	14 1/2
Middling	14
Off Grades	13 1/2 to 14 1/2

CHARLESTON PROVISIONS AND FARM SUPPLIES.

Charleston, S. C., Dec. 18, 1909.

J. S. C. R. Sides, packed	14 1/2
D. S. Bellies, packed	15
J. S. Buses	13
Butter—Creamery	28
Hams—Choice, as to size and brand	17
Lard—Pure—Tierces	15 1/2
Pearl meal	\$1.50
Meal, common	1.50
day—Timothy	1.00 to 1.10
Grain—Corn, white	94
Corn, mixed	92
Oats—Clipped white	55
Mixed	53
Feed—Cracked corn, per bushel	85
Corn chop, per 100 pounds	1.00
Wheat bran, per 100 pounds	1.50
Corn bran, per 100 pounds	1.30
Middlings, per 100 pounds	1.00
Hulls, per 100 pounds	50
Cotton Ties—Piced	70
Rebundled	70
New ties	85
Jaggings—3 pounds	5 1/2
Flour—Spring wheat patent	86.25 to 8.75
Patent	8.75 to 8.50
Straight	8.75 to 8.00
Choice	8.25 to 8.50

RICHMOND TOBACCO.

(Reported by E. K. Victor & Co., Leaf Tobacco, Strips, Stems and Scraps.)

Richmond, Va., Dec. 18, 1909.

Receipts in our market have increased somewhat since we have had about 24 hours of rain on Monday. Prices continue as high as they have even been; in fact, they are a shade stiffer for all grades of tobacco. There is hardly anything selling for less than 5 cents loose. Our market will close on December 23rd and will not open again until January 3rd. Business in old tobaccos continues to be quiet, as there is no active demand for any grade of old tobacco at present. Some few transactions in new brights have taken place at firm prices.

Bright		Fillers	
Common	Medium	Good	Food
13 @ 14	14 @ 13	7 @ 9	9 @ 11
25 @ 50	11 @ 15		

Cutters		Smokers	
Common	Medium	Good	Food
10 @ 12	5 @ 8	6 @ 9	9 @ 10
12 @ 3	3 @ 3 1/2	6 @ 9	9 @ 10
13 @ 30	9 @ 10		

Sun-cured		Dark-fired	
Common	Medium	Good	Food
5 @ 7	5 @ 7	7 @ 9	7 @ 9
7 @ 9	7 @ 9	9 @ 11	9 @ 11
9 @ 14	9 @ 14		

PETERSBURG PEANUTS.

Petersburg, Va., Dec. 18, 1909.

Spanish, per bushel, Virginia	\$1.25
Fancy	3 1/2 @ 4 1/2
Machine picked, per pound	3 @ 3 1/2
Shelling stock, per pound	2 1/2 @ 3

NEW YORK PRODUCE.

New York, Dec. 18, 1909. The supply of apples is liberal, but prices, especially for the better sorts, are well sustained. Snow, per bbl., \$2.50 @ 4.50; Twenty-ounce, \$2.50 @ 4; Spitz, \$2.25 @ 3.50; Spy, \$2.50 @ 3.50, and about the same for Baldwins; Greenings, \$2.25 @ 3.50; Jonathan, \$3 @ 4.50. Pears, Duchess, per bbl., \$2.75 @ 3.75; Keiffer, \$2 @ 3.50. Grapes, per crate of 10-lb. basket, Niagaras, \$1.75 @ 2; Concord, 80 @ 90c. Craaberrries, per bbl., Cape Cod, \$4.50 @ 6.50.

White potatoes are somewhat lower. Maine, \$1.60 @ 1.87 per 180 lbs. in bulk; Southern, second crop, per bbl., \$1.25 @ 2. Southern sweet potatoes, per bbl., \$1 @ 1.75. Onions, white, per basket, 75c. @ \$1.25, and the same for yellow, per 100-lb. bag. Cabbage, per bbl., 75c. @ \$1; red, \$1 @ 1.25. Beets, per 100 bunches, Charleston, \$2. Brussels sprouts, per qt., 4 @ 8c. Carrots, 65 @ 75c. per bbl. Cauliflower, per bbl., for long cut, \$1 @ 1.50, and for short cut, \$1.50 @ 3. Chicory, N. O., per bbl., \$2 @ 3. Cucumbers, Fla., per

basket, \$1.50 @ 2. Eggplant, Fla., per box, \$1.25 @ 2.25. Kale, Norfolk, per bbl., 50 @ 65c. Kohlrabi, \$3 @ 4 per bbl. for N. O. Lettuce, per basket, Fla., 60c. @ \$1; N. O., 50 @ 75c. Oysterplants, per 100 bunches, \$2 @ 3. Peppers, Fla., per basket, \$2 @ 2.75. Parsley, N. O. plain, per bbl., \$3 @ 3.50; curly, \$2.25 @ 3. Parsnips, per bbl., 75c. @ \$1. Shallots, N. O., per 100 bunches, \$1 @ 1.50. String beans, Fla., wax, per crate, \$1 @ 2. Spinach, Norfolk, per bbl., \$1 @ 1.25. Southern summer squash, per box, 75c. @ \$1.25. White turnips, 50 @ 60c. per bbl. Watercress, \$1.50 @ 2 per 100 bunches.

Butter firm. Western factory firsts, 25c.; imitation creamery, 26 @ 28c.; creamery, 34 @ 25c. Eggs, Western and Southern firsts, 31 @ 32c. Market is not so firm and receipts rather more liberal.

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