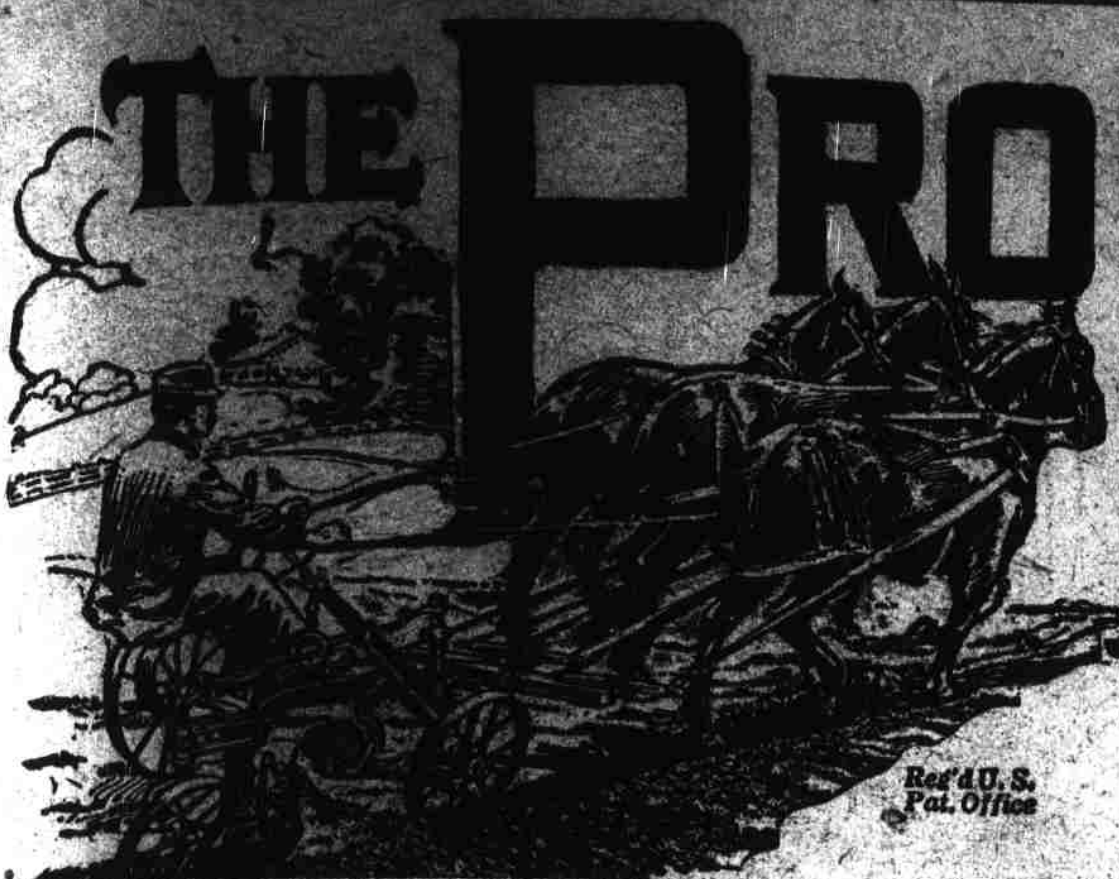


THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER



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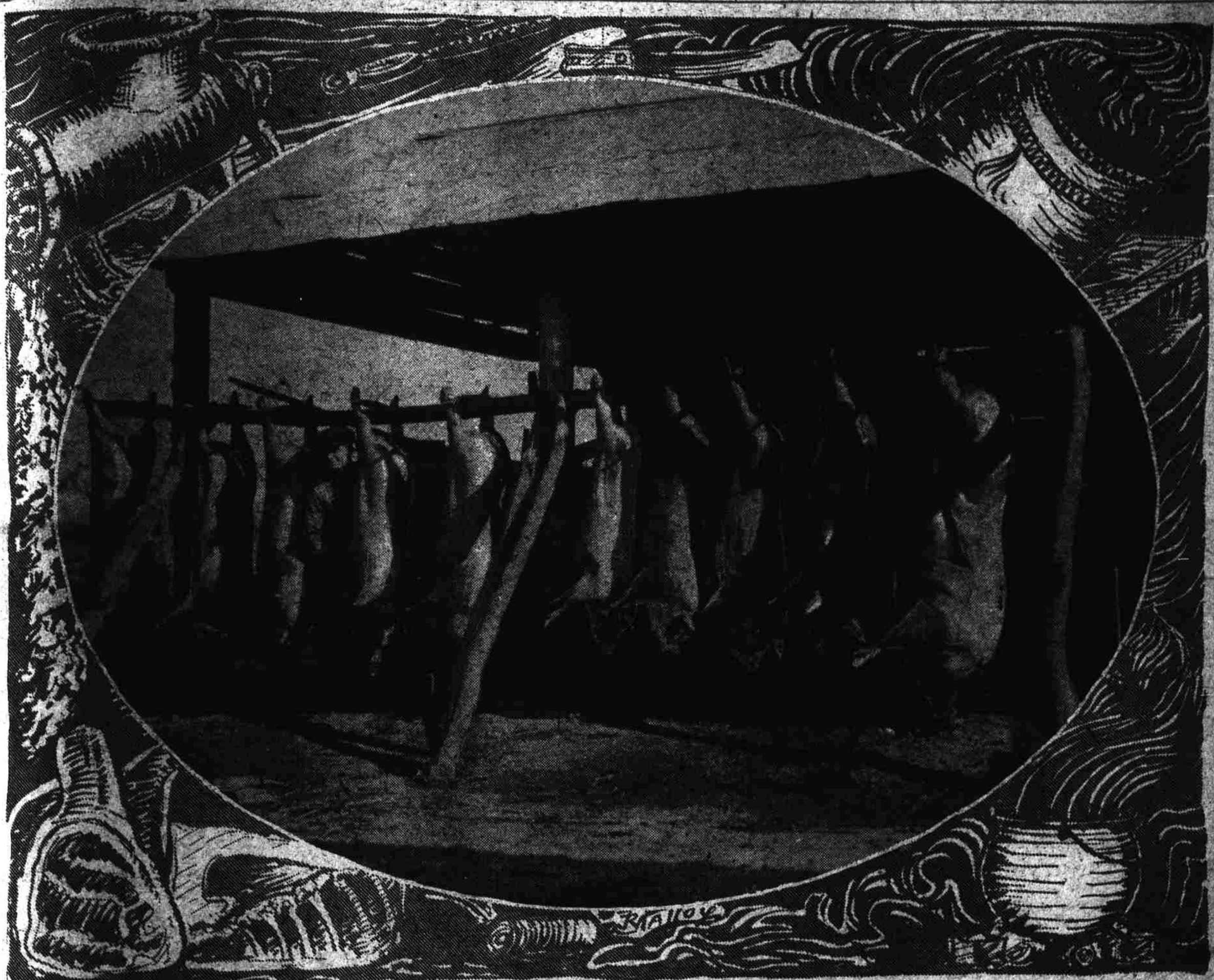
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"HARD TIMES, HARD TIMES, COME AGAIN NO MO."

WHAT MEN HAVE DONE, MEN CAN DO

WHAT Southern farmers have done, Southern farmers can do. Turn to page 6 this week and read the story of the Florida citrus growers' Coöperative organization. These men knew that they had a right to fair profits from their labor and investments, refused to be made the "goat" and let the speculators take this profit away from them. The story tells of the up-hill fight they waged against the speculators, of how they won, and of how they have since become prosperous. These farmers own their own business from warehouse to bank. They run their own business on business principles. What Florida fruit growers have done, Southern cotton growers can and should do. They have control of a special commodity which amounts almost to a monopoly. If every farmer who produces cotton belonged to his local association and these local associations were organized into one central cotton selling exchange where a board of directors and a sales manager sold all the cotton through one channel, prosperity would come to the cotton growers of the South just as it has to the citrus fruit growing section of Florida, where men are men and have taken men's parts in operating their own affairs.

INDEPENDENCE IS BUILT ON FOOD

WE CAN'T make a crop on an empty stomach. But if we have plenty of meat in the smokehouse, bread in the crib, molasses in jugs, and milk in the pasture, there are not many storms that we cannot weather. See to it that you have a hog-killing time on your farm this winter. Estimate the amount of meat you will need during the whole of next year. Kill, and cure this meat by the brine or the dry salt method described on page 11. We must be free during the next two years from pressure by the supply merchants or bankers. In organizing our cotton-selling associations to market our crop, so that we may be assured of its full value, we do not want to have to go and get permission from the banks or merchants who may have a mortgage on the cotton before we can sign our contracts. Store up the food that you will need for next year and plan a system of farming that will make plenty of it for 1922, for that is the year we want our cotton unhampered, so that it can go through our selling association, not on demand of the merchants for payment, but as the world needs it. Your profits for cotton will then go into your bank account instead of to pay debts for food. Fill the smokehouse. If there are not enough hogs on the farm, it is not yet too late to buy and fatten a few more.