

Our Farm Department

Devoted to the Interest of Those Who
Till the Soil

CONDUCTED BY J. M. BEATY

The Young Man's Chance.

In a recent interview, Thomas A. Edison, the great inventor, declared that there is a better chance for the young man of today than there was when he was young. This idea is contrary to the oft-expressed opinion that the young man is now held down by the great corporations and business monopolies.

Mr. Edison is right. He is quoted in Pearson's Magazine as follows:

"I can't for the life of me understand why any one in the United States should think that the poor man's chance for success is less than it used to be. It's just the other way; no doubt about it. I would rather begin now as a poor boy than to start again in the conditions which surrounded my early life. The world is crying for men of intelligence. It is searching for them everywhere. The door of opportunity is open as it has never been open before, for men who have even a fraction above what is necessary for a routine muscular task. This is a golden age for men of brains, even a little brains, and I'd rather, much rather, take my chances now, without a friend, or a dollar in my pocket than to go back even twenty years."

No one realizes the truth of Mr. Edison's responsibility unless he has had the responsibility of hiring labor and has discovered how great is the demand and how limited is the "visible supply" of "brains, even a little brains."

Farmers experience this situation no less than do other employers. See the great mass of men now coming to help harvest the crop! How few there are who show ability to use their heads as well as their muscles. Farming in recent years has become a business so completely requiring skilled labor that, more and more, it is found that there is no room on the farm for the tramp and the bungler. "Brains, even a little brains," command a price, therefore, in the agricultural markets where mere brawn is a positive detriment to the work. Better a boy with a knowledge of machinery and of stock, than a dozen brawny men fresh from the city curbstone.

In the mass of harvest helpers will be found a percentage of earnest, honest, faithful workers—men who are willing and able to do what they have learned by experience to do—they have been told how, have done it and therefore know what is desired. But how very few there are with any initiative or power to go ahead and plan even a simple part of the work! How fewer still there are on whom the farmer dare put the responsibility of taking a field and deciding when it should be harvested, how it should be handled and protected and threshed.

This, then, is an object lesson for the young man in the country teaching that "the world is crying for men of intelligence."

Says the Honorable H. C. Adams, the farmer Congressman from Wisconsin: "Farming has become an occupation for brains as well as muscle. Inventive genius has turned the business bottom upward and inside out during the last fifty years. The true philosophic spirit which first saw day in Lord Bacon is turning a flood of light upon every principle and detail of the farmer's vocation, from the process of plant life to the killing of potato bugs. That spirit of inquiry, of research, of painstaking investigation, is constantly at work, undermining and blowing up popular humbugs, laying firmly and deeply in right reason and sound sense the foundations of agricultural science, and running leads in every direction for the golden grains of truth that may enrich and beautify the farmer's profession. For farming is a profession. I know places where 'it is almost a sin to have a new idea.' But in this country, where intelligent labor is honored, and where laboratories and colleges and experiment stations and newspapers and the active brains of the

farmers themselves are constantly moving the business to a higher and broader plane, it is a profession of such importance and such possibilities that no man should take it lightly. It requires health, energy, knowledge, sense and grit to be a good farmer. And if any young fellow asks my advice about making farming his vocation, I ask him, "Are you man enough? If not, don't; but go and be a lawyer or a doctor or a preacher or something of that sort."—Northwestern Agriculturist.

A Better Contract With Our Tenants.

Working our farms with "standing wages hands" is fast becoming a thing of the past. The greater part of our negroes much prefer to work "on shares" as they term it, or to rent the land. The majority of our farmers have been very lax in their methods of making contracts. A mere verbal agreement was entered into, where by the landlord was to furnish so many acres of land to be cultivated on shares, or for so many pounds of lint cotton. Very few landlords have any definite understanding as to how this land is to be kept up; how fertilized; how plowed and cultivated and what crops were to be planted. The idea has been for the negro to plant and make all the cotton possible and this was all. Now we think the time has arrived for a radical change, and according to our best judgment should be executed something like this:

1. There should be a written contract. The negro is free and while the majority do nothing but abuse this freedom, still we had as well begin to adjust our methods to this condition and treat with him as a free agent, but put proper and necessary restrictions upon him. No one can enter upon a contract with another without assuming certain conditions, and these conditions should be clearly set forth and their fulfillment duly demanded.

2. The preservation of the soil should be demanded and a forfeit for all failure to keep up terraces and such safeguards fully agreed upon.

3. Some system looking to the rotation of crops should also be demanded.

4. Just how much was to be furnished as the work on the crop progressed should also be clearly set forth.

If any one can suggest other or offer a better form of contract our columns are open to them. We so often hear men making remarks like these: "I would like to farm if I could control labor." "I can not get a negro to take any care of the land." "I can not make them work like I want to," etc., and there is a universal complaint of the unsatisfactory condition of negro labor. Now the question arises who is going to rule? If we will tamely submit we will certainly be run over. We may have more or less clash by undertaking

FOR BOTH

One disease of thinness in children is scrofula; in adults, consumption. Both have poor blood; both need more fat. These diseases thrive on leanness. Fat is the best means of overcoming them; cod liver oil makes the best and healthiest fat and

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is the easiest and most effective form of cod liver oil. Here's a natural order of things that shows why Scott's Emulsion is of so much value in all cases of scrofula and consumption. More fat, more weight, more nourishment, that's why.

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ing to have a rational agreement, but as we conceive it, 'tis oursto dictate the terms and then it is left with them to accept or not. The sooner we begin some rational system, the better for both parties. We are fully aware there are many farmers of that forceful character that simply rule on their premises, and they have been enabled to get along well, but others are not constituted this way and they suffer. The strong should help the weak, and those who can do without a written contract should use one to help their neighbors. All other countries have a system and we must have one too, if we wish the best results in our farm operations. We admire the example of Mr. J. C. Stribling, of Pendleton, S. C. He says no tenant can stay on his land that will not agree to sow down one-third of his land every year, or carry out a regular three-year rotation of grain, corn and cotton. This is good business; in the end it will be beneficial to Mr. Stribling, to his land and to the negro tenant. Of course, our negro laborers are going to get worse and worse each year as long as we submit more and more to their trifling and careless ways. It is simply a question of who is going to dictate terms. We do not advocate wronging the negro in any way, but if we are to dwell together in unity and for the upbuilding of our agricultural interest, then we must begin a more rational and exacting system of demands upon them for the proper carrying out all labor contracts. We call upon every reader of the Cultivator not to make trades for another year without a written contract, and put it in there how they are to improve the land, about terraces, rocks, stumps, gullies, galled spots and what they are to plant and how they are to cultivate it. It is a little trouble but it will pay both ways—it will pay in calling your attention more closely to the needs of your land and it will pay in getting the negro to do some better. We do not claim it will be a "royal road;" there will be many obstacles to overcome, but it is certainly a road leading in the right direction.—Southern Cultivator.

If you have lost your boyhood spirits, courage and confidence of youth, we offer you new life, fresh courage and freedom from ill health in Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. 35 cents, Tea or Tablets.—Hood Bros.

The Labor Question in the South.

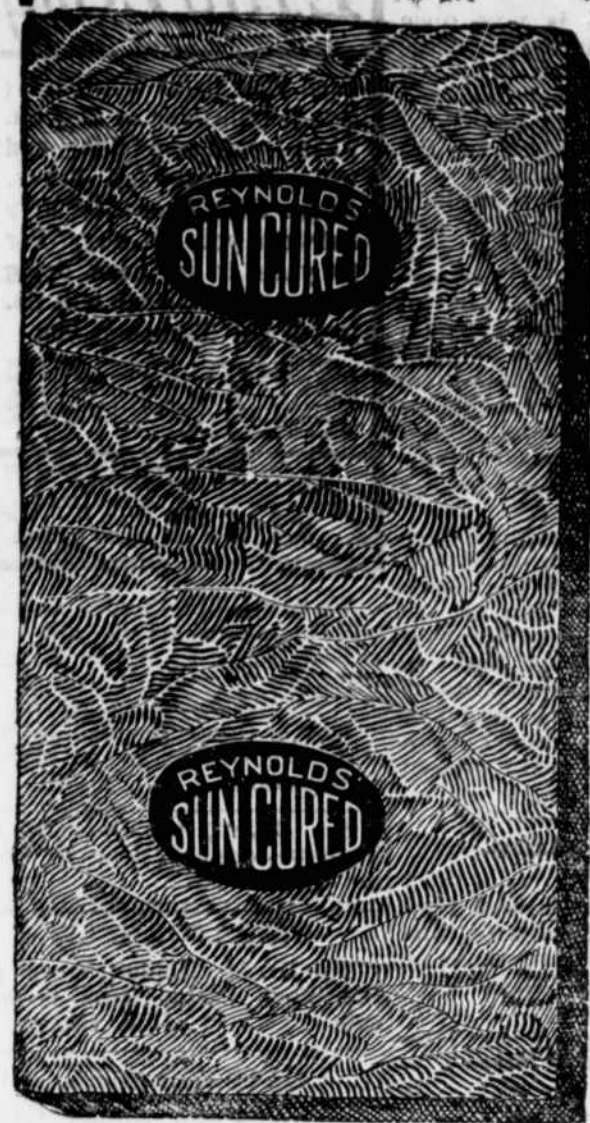
We find in an Alabama newspaper, the Abbeville News, the following paragraph:

The present number of farmers in this section will be reduced another year quite largely. We have heard of several who say that they shall undertake to farm no longer, because they can get no help to either make or gather a crop, and it is useless to undertake it by themselves, and will go at something else. Their lands they will rent or let go uncultivated. There is very little encouragement to the farmer, or the one who has not sufficient help of his own. It is impossible to employ labor for the farm.

The labor question is always, in farming communities, a question of great interest, and it is especially so in the South. There is this year a cry for more men from every wheat field and corn field in the West. Now the cry comes from the cotton regions. There is no question, we think, that before the Southern States can secure the best results there will have to be immigration, voluntary or induced by local organizations.

Moreover, there will have to be a recognition of the fact that a small farm well tilled is better than a large farm half neglected. The Southern farmer needs to increase the product per acre, per man and per mule. There are regions in the South where large plantations, conducted like some great factory, will always hold their own against the small farmer and intensive farming; but these great plantations will have to arrange for a more reliable labor element than they have yet been able to command. Experiments have been made with different classes of labor, and just now the Italian laborer is attracting a good deal of attention and arousing opposition in certain quarters. If the Italian farmer comes from the agricultural districts of Italy there is every reason to believe that he will make a good American farmer. If he is drawn from the towns of Italy or of America where he has failed to make a living there is little reason to suppose that

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Chewers becoming tired of heavily sweetened sun cured tobaccos caused REYNOLDS' SUN CURED to quickly win from the old brands of much longer standing the place as favorite with sun cured chewers, because it contains just enough proper sweetening and flavoring to preserve the quality of the leaf and enhance its goodness, causing a large increase in the demand for sun cured tobaccos.

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is not only pure sun cured, but it is made from choice selections of the genuine sun cured leaf grown where the best sun cured tobacco grows. It is like that you formerly got, costing from 60c. to \$1.00 per pound, and is sold at 50c. per pound in 5c. cuts; strictly 10c. plugs, and is the best value in sun cured tobacco that can be produced for chewers.

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Sam T. Honeycutt.

Taxes Now Due

I will attend at the following times and places to collect the County, State, School and Special Taxes for the year 1906. The privilege Tax on Lawyers, Doctors and Dentists is due and must be paid by November 1st.

Clayton Township, at Clayton, Thursday, Oct. 18, 1906;
Cleveland Township, at Old Shelter, Friday, Oct. 19;
Pleasant Grove Township, at Cross Roads, Saturday, Oct. 20;
Elevation Township, at Elevation, Monday, Oct. 22;
Banner Township, at Benson, Tuesday, Oct. 23;
Meadow Township, at Peacock's X Roads, Wednesday, Oct. 24;
Sentrantsville Township, at Bentonville, Thursday, Oct. 25;
Ingens Township, at Four Oaks, Friday, Oct. 26;
Boon Hill Township, at Princeton, Saturday, Oct. 27;
Pine Level Township, at Pine Level, Monday, October 29;
Beulah Township, at Kenly, Tuesday, October 30;
O'Neal's Township, at Hare's Store, Wednesday, Oct. 31;
Wilders Township, at Archer, Thursday, November 1;
Smithfield Township, at Smithfield, Friday, November 2;
Selma Township, at Selma, Saturday, November 3;
Wilson's Mills Township, at Wilson's Mills, Monday, Nov. 5.

Be sure to pay your tax before Jan. 1st, 1907—Unpaid taxes will be sent out for collection and will be subject to cost. The books will be kept open at Smithfield all the time, and taxes for any township may be paid there.

J. T. ELLINGTON,

Sheriff Johnston Co.

Goods at Cost.

I have decided to quit the mercantile business and for the next sixty days and longer if necessary I shall sell my entire stock of Dry Goods, Shoes, Hats, Notions and General Merchandise except Groceries at Cost. My stock consists of everything usually kept in a first-class stock of General Merchandise. I have bargains for all who come and now is the time to come and do your trading. A full line of Groceries all the time on hand. Come to see me. My store is for rent; possession to be given January 1st.

JOHN T. COLE,

FOUR OAKS, N. C.

he can make a living on the farm. The laws of the United States do not permit the importation of contract labor. This would prevent the importation of any large number of foreigners for any specific work.

But the South needs labor, and the labor of the world needs the land. The future of Southern agriculture largely depends upon the success of the Southern States in attracting farm laborers, men who want to buy small farms, men who would rent or men who would work for wages. One class will seek one section and raise one crop. Others will be drawn by other attractions to other sections. Again, the Southern farmer must increase his labor-saving implements. He must use the mechanical devices for the cultivation, handling and harvesting of crops. The greater the scarcity of labor, the greater the necessity for labor-saving implements.—Home and Farm.

To The Cotton Farmers.

The truth is coming out. There is no bumper cotton crop. It is now doubtful if there will ever be an average yield. Spinners have big orders and are getting nervous. Sit steady in the boat. Sell your cotton sparingly and the victory is won.—The Cotton Journal, Oct. 4, 1906

NOTICE

Took up at my house about April the 20, 1906, one white and yellow spotted cow, mark all in right ear, horns sawed off close. One black and white spotted heifer yearling, no mark. Owner can get them by coming after them and paying for feed.

This September 23rd, 1906.

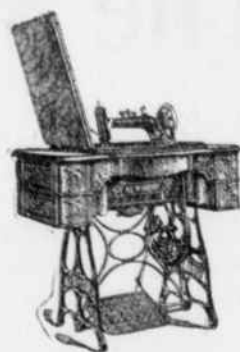
NATHAN ENNIS,

R. F. D. No. 3, Benson, N. C.

I am looking for a car of Anchor Brand Lime this week. I will be glad to see those who may need lime. I also have Brick and Hair for sale.

W. M. SANDERS.

New Home Machines



I am still agent for the light running New Home Sewing Machines. If you need one write to me. Mr. J. H. Eason is with me and can carry one to you.

J. M. BEATY,
Smithfield, N. C.