

Farm Department

Devoted to the Interests of Those Engaged in Agricultural Pursuits. Conducted by J. M. Beatty

More "Education" for the Farmer.

A new fertilizer paper has been started in the South, which announces that one of its purposes will be to "educate" the farmer in regard to the great advantages of mixed fertilizers, and the folly of home mixing. One of the means to this end consists of a series of cartoons representing the farmer in a most uncomplimentary way. The text accompanying these is an insult to the intelligence of the farmer. The plan is to have the local papers reproduce these, and in this aid of the local fertilizer agent is expected. The editorial announcement concludes by stating that: "Once the good work is started, and the editors of the agricultural papers are convinced of the big savings to the farmers from using commercial fertilizers manufactured in an up-to-date factory, the battle will be won."

The battle is not likely to be won at all on this basis. Many local dealers are heartily in favor of meeting the wishes of their customers for raw material. Opposed to this is the attempt of the manufacturer to bind the local dealer not to sell raw materials, and if this fails, the manufacturer will not give the same credit accommodations on raw material as on mixed goods. The custom of manufacturers in giving a local dealer exclusive territory on the firms' brands, and then giving his next door competitor exclusive territory on brands of exactly the same composition but sold under the name of some "Day window" company belonging to the same manufacturer, and continuing the process as long as the supply of dealers in a given town holds out, is not one that is likely to make the local dealer favor the manufacturers and their anti-home mixing plans, as against the best interests of the dealers' customers.

The editors of the agricultural papers are too well informed to take up any such scheme and they, as well as their readers, know that wherever home mixing has been intelligently tried, the "Big savings" are all on the side of home mixing. It has been repeatedly shown that in factories equipped with the most elaborate machinery for mixing, it is by no means an unusual thing for goods to be mixed by exactly the same process as the farmer would use at home. This is especially true for small lots of high-grade goods made from the best class of raw materials.

Many large factories are returning to the old process of wet mixing, and for this work there is a great advantage in using mixing machinery, since the process involves the use of sulphuric acid and has the manufacturing advantage of permitting the utilization of low grades of raw materials that a farmer would never think of buying, if offered to him in their unmixed condition; it also serves to disguise the filler.

The manufacturers continue to press the sale of 10-2-2 in the South, and 2-2-2 in the North, both of which permit the use of low-grade raw materials and filler.

The farmer demands formulas better suited to his crops and soils, and containing less filler. Brands of higher grade are meeting with increased sale, and farmers are learning that they can make their own brands to suit themselves. The ridicule of the trade papers will not deter them in this.

Home mixing is now rendered much more practical and profitable by the fact that dealers or farmers can now buy both nitrate of soda and potash salts direct from the producers, where heretofore they were obliged to get them through fertilizer manufacturers, many of whom placed all sorts of obstacles in the way of such purchases. This dealing direct with the producers of the two substances needed to supplement basic slag, acid phosphate or bone, in producing complete and filler-free fertilizers suited to the various needs of the farmers, results in a marked saving in cost of the raw materials and so adds to the profit resulting from home mixing.—Southern Cultivator.

Old Soldier Tortured.

"For years I suffered unspeakable torture from indigestion, constipation and liver trouble," wrote A. K. Smith, a war veteran at Eric, Pa., "but Dr. King's New Life Pills fixed me all right. They're simply great." Try them for any stomach, liver or kidney trouble. Only 25c at H&D Bros.

Protect the Forests.

Dr. Joseph Hyde Pratt believes in economy. But he is not in favor of stopping the bung hole to prevent leaking while the bottom of the barrel is open. The legislature, when it meets next month, may well practice economy on some things, but it isn't economy to fail to spend money where it is needed. It is extravagance not to spend it where the expense will bring in rich returns, either directly or indirectly.

There is no doubt but that North Carolina is suffering great loss from the destruction of her forests by fire. The loss last year was \$600,000. This year it is believed to be even more. This is a leak in the wealth of the state. Dr. Pratt holds that it would be economy to stop this leak even though a little money will have to be paid out to do it. The legislature can refuse to make the initial outlay and the state's expense account will not be quite so large as it would be if the appropriation were made. A few dollars would be saved. That is economy. But is it? Does the state gain or lose by spending \$10,000 to save half a million? Dr. Pratt doesn't believe that that kind of economy is best for the state. He says:

"Most of the states to the north and northwest of us have created forestry departments, and are practicing forest protection. North Carolina, with her great forest possibilities, ought not to lag behind. A fire warden system, such as should be organized in this state, should provide for the appointment of a fire warden in every township or other county division in which is a large proportion of forest land, while the land owners desire such an officer. The fire warden should be empowered to summon help to extinguish fires and to arrest offenders against the forest laws. He should be re-imbursed to investigate the causes of every fire, and collect evidence to convict those responsible. He should report in full to the forestry department, which would then bring action and prosecute in the name of the state. The chief weakness of our present laws is that the enforcement of them is left to the private individual, who generally object to prosecuting his neighbor, friend or relative. The fire warden system would obviate this by making it an entirely impersonal matter.

"There can be no doubt that such a system would at once greatly reduce the amount of damage from forest fires, and would in a few years time pay for itself many times over in the saving of our forest property from fire; and the forests, in spite of the vast amount of cutting, would yearly increase in value.

"By all means let us economize—by spending a little in order to save a great deal."—Raleigh Times.

Saves Two Lives.

"Neither my sister nor myself might be living to-day, if it had not been for Dr. King's New Discovery," writes A. D. McDonald of Fayetteville, N. C. R. F. D. No. 8, "for we both had frightful coughs that no other remedy could help. We were told my sister had consumption. She was very weak and had night sweats but your wonderful medicine completely cured us both. It's the best I ever used or heard of." For sore lungs, coughs, colds, hemorrhage, laryngitis, asthma, hay fever, croup, whooping cough,—all bronchial troubles,—its supreme. Trial bottle free. 50c and \$1.00. Guaranteed by Hood Bros.

The Farmers' Outlook.

The census shows one thing clearly, and that is that the population of the cities and towns, which are to consume the products of the farm, have been increasing at a more rapid rate than the population of the farm, increasing in many districts at the expense of the farm.

There is no reason for discouragement on the part of the farmer because of this fact. It will make farm labor higher, more costly; but this will require the farmer to buy better farm machinery, better farm implements. He must put engines of various kinds and degrees at work upon his farm. He must get the very best plows and harness and manure distributors that he can pay for. He must have better roads in order that he may reduce the cost of transporting his products to the railroad station. He must have better wagons, which will carry larger loads at less cost. He must have better stock. He must study the condition of his soil, adapting it to the needs of the market. He must have better seed. He must cultivate more carefully. He must secure what are called in the mills "by-products" and utilize these by-products. One of them is manure. He must have more than one source of income.

In the South the money crop is

and will for generations be the cotton crop. He must utilize every part of the cotton crop and the vast changes in the utilization of cottonseed and cottonseed oil; but he ought to improve his staple. He ought to plant early and increase by every means in his power the product per acre, and the product per man of the cotton crop.

Then he ought to have a fruit crop, not merely an orchard that is to be neglected, but as large a number of trees as he can properly care for at different times in the year—trees that he can prune, enrich and spray. Spotted fruit brings low prices, but large, sweet, perfect fruit of every kind will be in increasing demand.

Let the farmer note these things and guide himself accordingly.—Home and Farm.

Do you know that fully nine out of every ten cases of rheumatism are simply rheumatism of the muscles due to cold or damp, or chronic rheumatism, and require no internal treatment whatever? Apply Chamberlain's Liniment freely and see how quickly it gives relief. For sale by all dealers.

Dairying in the South.

Students of agricultural conditions in the Southern States agree that there is no better section in the country for profitable dairying and stock raising. The cattle tick pest has been a serious drawback and has had not a little to do in discouraging dairying in the South. With this pest eradicated by the aggressive work of state and federal authorities there is now no reason why the farmers of the South should not appreciate the advantages of dairying.

Some of the finest dairy herds in the country are found in the extreme Southern States and dairying is more profitable there than in the colder sections where dairying is so largely carried on.

There are several reasons for this. Cattle need not be housed so expensively and for so many months in the year. Pasturage is cheaper and forage crops grow abundantly. Cottonseed meal, one of the cheapest and most efficient dairy feeds, is produced in abundance, and markets are unsurpassed.

Perhaps the greatest benefit that can come to the South through the promotion of dairying is the increased fertility of the land. The land will not only produce greater yields but increases in land values must follow.

Dairying consistently followed by the farmers of a community always increases land values. This is due not only to increased productiveness of the soil, but to the fact that the business itself is a very remunerative one.

The Southern farmer who is anxious to improve his circumstances, and who may not be fully convinced of the benefits of dairying, should ascertain the truthfulness of the above claims before deciding his course. He can secure such information from the U. S. Department of Agriculture or from any of the state experimental stations.

The dairy cow will do more for the farmers of the South than she has done for the farmers of the North because conditions there are even more favorable for dairying.

Southern statesmen and others in position to do so should appreciate this great truth and be willing at all times to preach the gospel of the dairy cow to the Southern farmer.—The National Dairy Union.

Medicines that aid nature are always most effectual. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy acts on this plan. It allays the cough, relieves the lungs, opens the secretions and aids nature in restoring the system to a healthy condition. Thousands have testified to its superior excellence. Sold by all dealers.



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