

Farm Department

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

TOBACCO NOTES.

Did you see the tobacco exhibited here December 8th, 1910? Plans are being laid for a much larger tobacco exhibit here next fall. If you raise some nice tobacco this year, you will have an opportunity to show some of it next fall.

"Where you lose money is the place to find it." This we have heard many times. We have had two bad seasons for growing tobacco. Perhaps this year will be better. If you aim to quit raising tobacco, would it not be better to make a good crop and get something out of it before quitting? Now is the time to sow your tobacco seed. If you sow some seed and it should turn out that you cannot set the plants, you could no doubt sell. If you do not sow seed, you might not be able to get plants no matter how anxious you may be to set out tobacco.

You can get money from a tobacco crop a month or two earlier than from the cotton crop. So if you want some early money it will be well to plant some tobacco.

About Fertilizers.

Who said fertilizer? Well, that's just it. Every farmer says it, every tenant says it, every merchant says it, and even the bankers must speak of it at times. No farmers' meeting is held that the subject of fertilizers, and commercial fertilizers at that, is not discussed. We all talk of it; we all use it; and I, for one, would hardly know how to farm without it. Indeed, so much is said of it, and so much written, that it were well for us farmers to consider carefully whether the question of commercial fertilizer is worthy of the attention it receives, the place of importance it holds in our system of farming.

In answer I would say that either this question receives more attention than is its due, or other questions receive vastly less than is naturally coming to them. In other words, the question of commercial fertilizer is one of importance to the Southern farmer, but the question of animal manures is one of more importance. Even so is the question of maintenance of soil fertility. Many farmers have lost all idea of the proper perspective, and to them this question now looms large and all-important.

And indeed to them it is almost all important as they are now farming. The trouble is that in times past the easy purchase and use of commercial fertilizers has seemed to many of our Southern farmers a short cut to prosperity, a royal road to good crops of cotton year after year. The result has been that their lands have been cultivated clean year after year, their fertility has been exhausted, with all humus, their soils have largely washed away, and much land that formerly would make good crops without fertilizer now makes but poor returns with fertilizations. I know many land owners that certainly can not make crops without fertilizer and seem not to be able to continue their present methods. Their condition with reference to the commercial fertilizer question is aptly illustrated by the old rhyme:

"He can and he can't, he will and he won't,
He's damned if he do, and he's damned if he don't."

Not that I would decry the judicious use, even liberal use, of commercial fertilizers. Not by any means. But I do say that the ease with which they can be obtained (coupled with the difficulty in paying when paying time comes), and the results they show in the growing crop, have caused thousands of Southern farmers to neglect other and more important sources of fertilizers; have caused them to fall into a system of all cotton farming that looked alone to present gain, and not to the improvement of the soil. To say the least of it, the use of commercial fertilizer has not been an unmix-ed blessing to the Southern farmer. Like all other good things, it can be abused. It has enriched thousands of good farmers, on the other hand it has caused thousands of poor farmers to fall into a system of farming that impoverished them and their lands as well.

Having thus hedged in the matter, I want to say further, that when kept in the proper perspective, when not allowed to receive more than its share of attention as a source of

plant food, commercial fertilizers have been an untold blessing to the Southern farmer and will continue to be under the same conditions. And now, the beginning of the year's work is a good time to lay plans for a liberal, but at the same time, a judicious use of this important source of plant food.

Says one, commercial fertilizers will exhaust the land. No, indeed, they will not. At most they will help a lazy or an ignorant farmer to do this. On the other hand they will help him who farms intelligently to make good crops, and at the same time enable him to produce large amounts of vegetable matter to be turned under in his lands. Furthermore, they will help him to grow a plentiful supply of feeds for his stock, to be returned in the richer form of manure to his soil.

Another question is: How much should one use? It depends on the land, and on the man. Good land will stand much more than poor land in the way of commercial fertilizer, and return a handsome profit. I have seen lands that returned a good profit on a ton of guano per acre, while I have seen fields so poor that the crops raised on them some years did not pay the guano bill. It is useless to pour out money in the form of guano unless one will provide sufficient moisture for the plant to use the fertilizer. This can only be done on land well supplied with humus, well prepared, deeply broken, and well cultivated. Another source of loss to many farmers is putting large amounts of fertilizers under their crops to be used up by weeds and grass. The man who fertilizes heavily can not afford to plant too many acres, thus giving the weeds and grass the advantage over him in the busy season. Neither can he afford, though many do, to put guano into the land to be washed away by the heavy rains, where the land is poorly terraced, or allowed to wash. Still others lose, particularly on sandy land, by putting all their fertilizer into the land early in the spring, to be leached out downward by the heavy spring rains.

In other words, commercial fertilizers cost money, and must be paid for by the returns of the cotton crop which is of itself a drain upon the land, so let him that uses them get the benefit of all that he uses. Buying is at best a poor business for the farmer, for I look on him primarily as a producer and therefore a seller. Then surely he can ill afford to buy a thing and then fail to get the best returns from it, or even worse to allow it to make a slave of him and exhaust his heritage, his soil.—L. W. Jarman.

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.

Hogs and Cattle.

The price of both hogs and cattle has decreased rapidly during recent weeks, but live stock are still selling at profitable prices for the man who breeds and feeds regularly each year. Hogs, at even 5 cents a pound live weight, are profitable for any man who grows them in a common-sense, business way, and they are still selling for 7 cents. In the past we have gone into the raising of live stock and bought our foundation herds on a high market and sold out at a loss when prices swung to the other extreme. Those who have recently bought breeding hogs or cattle should not become alarmed. Fluctuations in prices always have occurred, and may be expected to continue, but the man who goes on raising good stock year after year, so that he can profit by the high prices when they come, has always found them a profitable farm crop. Hogs may go still lower, and probably will, but they will not go so low that the Southern farmer who raises them on legumes, which the hogs gather, and a small amount of corn can not still make pork at a profit.—Progressive Farmer.

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, la-grippe, asthma, hay fever, croup, whooping cough,—all bronchial troubles,—its supreme. Trial bottle free. 50c and \$1.00. Guaranteed by Hood Bros.

Ventilation in Farm Homes.

While pleading for ventilation and sunlight in the cow barn, we put up a still stronger plea, if possible, for ventilation in the home. The first settlers in the west built houses mainly for protection against cold and heat. They had in mind only temperature. These houses were so built, however, that there was usually a supply of pure air without any special ventilation. There were enough cracks around the doors and windows, and so much breathing capacity in the house itself that there was no special need of ventilation. Many of them had open fireplaces, and many others had grates, which provided all the ventilation necessary.

The day of the pioneer house is past. We are building many of our houses of brick or stone or cement, especially where lumber is high and other material relatively cheaper; but in many cases we are simply building on the idea of our forefathers, to provide against extremes of temperature, forgetting that the kind of material used prevents proper ventilation, and, therefore, some other means of ventilation must be provided. It is seldom that we see a schoolhouse properly ventilated, and quite as seldom a church. Many a man preaches the everlasting Gospel to a congregation that is drowsy and stupid, not because of any lack of ability in the preacher or inspiration in the message, but simply because they are breathing air that is not fit for human beings, due to the failure of the architect to provide ventilation and to the stupidity or ignorance of the sexton. In every house, every church, every school-house, there should be adequate provision for a supply of pure air as well as for removing the foul air. As air laden with carbonic acid gas from the lungs is heavier than pure air, it settles to the floor; and hence the exhaust should be from the floor and not from the ceiling.

Many country homes have half-story sleeping chambers above, and the foundation for lifelong disease, especially for the girls, is laid right in those sleeping chambers. There was an old notion in our boyhood that night air was bad, forgetting that there was no air at night anywhere but night air. We did not know that it was mosquitos (and not night air) that carried malaria. If the windows were kept closed in these sleeping chambers, no great harm followed in the early built houses. A good deal of air got in anyhow. Many houses now have storm windows constructed for the purpose of keeping out the cold, just as our fathers constructed their houses for the purpose of keeping out the cold. Everyone who has spent a night in a small room with storm windows knows how stupid he felt in the morning. These unventilated chambers are particularly deadly to girls. The boy lives out-of-doors a good share of the time. He gets all the pure air he wants, and more, too, in the winter; but the girl is too often a house plant, and this explains why the girls in the farm home are frequently much more delicate than the boys, and more liable to go down with consumption. No man should expect to grow a healthy girl or boy if the sleeping chambers are not properly ventilated. Therefore, while looking after your cows, don't fail to inquire whether you have ventilation and sunlight in the rooms in which your children sleep.

We can well remember the old-fashioned parlor, unopened except for company, the blinds kept down day in and day out to keep the sunlight from fading the carpets. We all know how musty it smelt when company came and it was opened up.

Let us understand that sunlight is health; that bad air and darkness are death, whether in the home or in the cow barn. Therefore, as cold weather approaches and your daughters begin to close the windows to keep out the cold, they are laying the foundation for ill-health and doctor bills and for sorrow in future years. By all means provide sunlight in every room in the home, if possible, whether it fades the carpets or not. Provide pure air in every room, but especially in the sleeping room, avoiding direct drafts. A piece of muslin tacked over the open window will provide pure air without a draft.

The people in cities are beginning to understand this; hence a large number are sleeping out-of-doors all summer, and many are forced to sleep out-of-doors during the winter as well, if they are to live out their days. Remember that the crop of boys and girls is the crop for which all other crops are grown; that if they are to fulfill their mission in life they must have health; and that they can not have health unless they have ventilation and sunlight in the homes in which they are reared.—Wallace's Farmer.



TRADE-MARK
F.S.R.
REGISTERED.

The Origin of Royster Fertilizers.

Mr. Royster believed that success awaited the Manufacturer of Fertilizers who would place quality above other considerations. This was Mr. Royster's idea Twenty-seven years ago and this is his idea to-day; the result has been that it requires Eight Factories to supply the demand for Royster Fertilizers.

F. S. ROYSTER GUANO COMPANY.

FACTORIES AND SALES OFFICES.

NORFOLK, VA. TARBORO, N. C. COLUMBIA, S. C. SPARTANBURG, S. C.
MACON, GA. COLUMBUS, GA. MONTGOMERY, ALA. BALTIMORE, MD.

Scotland's Crops.

The county that gets ahead of little Scotland will have to move fast. With 15,000 people, it produced 26,000 bales of cotton this year, or about a bale and two-thirds to every man, woman and child in the county. The Laurinburg Exchange estimates that this cotton, including the seed, was worth not less than \$80 a bale, giving the total crop a value of \$2,080,000. Add to this the quarter of a million received from the melon and canteloupe crop, Scotland's other money-maker, and those 15,000 people got nearly two and one-half millions from their soil.

While credit is being given to progressive Scotland for this most enviable showing it might be well to reflect for a moment on how this result was brought about. The natural fertility of the land does not suffice to explain it. The people who are farming that land are keenly alive to the advances which are being made in agricultural lines and are busy in putting them into practical application, and it is this feature of the record which is the most important.—Charlotte Observer.

Solves a Deep Mystery.

"I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart," wrote C. B. Rader, of Lewisburg, W. Va., "for the wonderful double benefit I got from Electric Bitters, in curing me of both a severe case of stomach trouble and of rheumatism, from which I had been an almost helpless sufferer for ten years. It suited my case as though made just for me." For dyspepsia, indigestion, jaundice and to rid the system of kidney poisons that cause rheumatism, Electric Bitters has no equal. Try them. Every bottle is guaranteed to satisfy. Only 50c at Hood Bros.

The Infant Terrible.

Young Man—So Miss Ethel is your oldest sister. Who comes after her?

Small Brother—Nobody ain't come yet; but pa says the first fellow that comes can have her—Boston Transcript.

"If you pay for your laundry by the piece, it must be expensive."
"Not at all. They lose so many things that the bills are never high."
—New York Evening Telegram.

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Who Was There That You Knew?

In the shadowy ranks of those who marched to defeat or death or victory fifty years ago in the mighty conflict that convulsed this great nation, is there a father or grandfather or uncle of yours? Would you like to see a photograph of him in that long ago day of his youth—a photograph that he never knew was taken? Perhaps we can show you one; and in any case, we can tell you a story, stranger than any detective fiction of 3,500 priceless photographs that were lost and are found again.

3,500 Long Buried Photographs of the Civil War

12 of These FREE

THEY were taken by the greatest photographer in the United States of that day; they were bought by the United States Government for \$30,000; they were buried in the War Department for 50 years—they are buried there still. But a duplicate set was kept by the photographer—who died poor and broken down; that duplicate set was knocked from pillar to post for nearly 50 years, until it was discovered by a New England collector. J. Pierpont Morgan tried to secure the collection—Ex-President Garfield and General Benjamin F. Butler said it was worth \$150,000—yet with the help of the Review or Reviews, the entire collection has been gathered into 10 great volumes and is placed within your reach at less than the value of one of the photographs. It is the one accurate, impartial history of the Civil War—for the camera cannot lie. It tells the story of the War you never heard before. Taken under protection of the Secret Service, these photographs bring to light thousands of little-known phases of the war; they penetrate to strange places and record strange things.

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