

Farm Department

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

WHY PULVERIZE THE SOIL.

It is well to know the reason for things in farming; it makes us more careful in doing them. They tell us to pulverize the ground thoroughly. We ask why? There are several reasons, one is that it will hold more moisture when in that condition and thus put the plant food in best condition to be taken up by the roots. Knowing this fact we will be careful to obey the rule.

In the chapter on preparing the soil, in a Manual of Practical Farming just issued by the MacMillan Company, the author, Mr. John McLennan says: "It is an established fact that all plant food, in order to become available for the use of plants, must be held in solution; the finer the soil particles the more water they will retain, and consequently the more plant food will be held in solution and rendered available".

Now there is a good reason for pulverization, and we are ready to practice it. So in other things we are told to do. Scientific farming comes to our aid in this way, it shows the why as well as the how of doing things.—Indiana Farmer.

AGAINST AND FOR THE STOCK LAW.

I have never written a line for any newspaper in my life, but after reading all the articles about the stock-law in recent issues, I feel it my duty to let you know my sentiments on this question.

According to your instructions in farming one cannot utilize the farm crops to the best advantage without having the farm fenced so stock can harvest many of the crops without the use of high-priced labor. This I am sure is right.

Then the stock-law will cause farmers to have to fence both farm and pasture which will be a great burden and expense, and most poor farmers will not be able to do this even if they have the land. And if a man thinks it pays best to keep his stock up, why not do so without the law?

There can be no reason, as I can see, only the law will cause a majority of the people to have very little or no stock at all, and then the man that is able to have stock can get a better price for them.

In this country there is about 85 per cent of the land in the woods. Lots of it swamps, marshes, etc., which affords a good range for stock, and I am sure that a big majority of the country people are in favor of the free-range and are benefited by it. For the people in the eastern part of North Carolina to have stock-law voted on them would be the greatest injustice and draw-back to the majority of them that could possibly come upon them.

As partly proof of what I have said and against the assertion that some have made, that there is almost as much stock and far better in the stock-law territory than there is in the free-range; I will say, that we people in the free-range sell hundreds of dollars worth of livestock as well as dress every year to the people from Pitt County, where they have the stock-law, and often get as much for them per live-weight as we can get in our home market dressed. And they come here after them.

Now, if they can raise plenty of stock why do they come 50 or 60 miles with mules and wagon and pay such prices?—C. B. LATHAM, Pine-town N. C.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

Mr. Latham states the case for the free-range as strongly as anyone we have seen writing on it; but he takes an entirely too narrow view to form conclusions of value. The facts remain as we have stated them before: The cattle tick cannot be eradicated while cattle run at large; hog cholera and other contagious diseases cannot be controlled; the perpetuation of their kind by scrub sires cannot be prevented. Nor has any free-range section yet developed a livestock industry of importance or adopted a soil-building system of agriculture. We know that some communities have found trouble in adapting themselves to the stock-law; but nowhere that it has been fairly tried would the people be willing to go back to the free-range. The free-range is, in short, a relic of an outgrown system of agriculture, and, back of all is the fact that simple justice demands that every man care of his own live-stock as they loose or grow up.

LOTS OF WATER NEEDED BY CROPS.

The interesting fact that ninety thousand pounds of water are needed to grow one bushel of wheat, is brought out in an article in a recent Journal of Geography, published at the University of Wisconsin. To produce one pound of clover, 576 pounds of water are needed. Rainfall is measured in inches and it has been estimated that an inch of rainfall over an acre of land weighs about 227,000 pounds. If all this rainfall could be so stored in the soil as to be available for crops, an inch of rain fall would produce two and a half bushels of wheat per acre. However, by no known system of tillage can all the rainfall be conserved for plant production.

Since the water that is stored in the ground is lost by evaporation much more quickly when surface of the soil is wet, one of the ways to conserve water in portions of the country where dry farming must be practiced is by forming a protective mulch, or thin layer of dry soil over the surface. This dry layer prevents the deeper soil water from reaching the surface, by destroying the capillary movement of soil water.—Indiana Farmer.

FACTS ABOUT BIRDS AND INSECTS.

The following interesting and startling information concerning the habits of birds is taken from Shield's Magazine.

Is it worth while to try to save our wild animals or birds? Shall we leave some of them for the next generation? Or shall we continue our short sighted policy and wipe them off the earth? If we are to try to save some of them we must curtail the privileges of the sportsman to a minimum. We must shorten the open seasons. We must make closed seasons of several years for certain kinds of game. We must reduce bag limits. We must absolutely stop the sale of game of all kinds, everywhere and at all times. We must prohibit the use of all unfair weapons and appliances in hunting, when hunting is allowed. We must prohibit spring shooting. We must prohibit unnaturalized foreigners from hunting at any time. We must provide federal protection for migratory birds. We must provide game refuges in all the states.

Is it worth while to try to save our forests, our shade trees, our fruit trees?

If so, we must stop the killing of insect-eating birds. The gypsy moth, the brown tail moth, the leopard moth, the elm tree beetle and the tent caterpillar have killed millions of trees in the past few years, and today they are imperiling every tree on the continent! The only way to check these insects is to stop the killing of insect-eating birds and let them increase to their normal numbers. Careful scientists tell us that if all insect-eating birds were destroyed, the whole continent would within three years become absolutely uninhabitable by reason of the myriads of insects that would spring up and devour every living thing.

Ninety per cent of the normal bird life of this country has already been destroyed, and the other 10 per cent will go in the next five years unless drastic measures are employed to stop the slaughter. The farmers and fruit growers of this country are losing over \$1,000,000,000 a year by reason of the ravages of insects.

Here are a few items in this appalling expense account: The cotton growers of Texas are losing \$40,000,000, to \$50,000,000 a year by reason of the ravages of the boll weevil; and all because the quail and the prairie chicken, the natural enemies of that bug, have been practically exterminated in that great State. The wheat growers of the United States are losing over \$100,000,000 a year by reason of the ravages of the chinch bug. Because the quail, the natural enemy of that bug, has been almost exterminated.

The farmers of the Middle and Eastern States are paying out \$115,000,000 a year for Paris green to put on their potato vines. Because the

quail, the natural enemy of that bug, has been killed off.

Each of the great apple producing States are paying \$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000 a year for spraying apple trees to keep down the codling-moth. Because the woodpeckers, the sap-suckers, the robins, the bluejays, the blue-birds, the orioles, the tanagers and other birds that formerly preyed on that insect have been killed off.

A quail killed in a cotton field in Texas had in his craw the remains of 127 cotton boll weevils. Another killed in a potato field in Pennsylvania had in his craw the remains of 101 potato bugs. Another kill in a Kansas wheat field had in its craw the remains of over 1,200 chinch bugs. The Bob White has been known to eat 135 different kinds of insects. Many of them the most injurious we have; the potato beetle—which few other birds eat—cucumber beetle, cut worm, army worm, wire worm, cinch bug, cotton boll worm, and cotton boll weevil. A few years ago there were millions of quails all over the Southern, Middle and Eastern States. Today they are almost extinct everywhere. A pair of Bob Whites in domestication have produced 100 eggs in a season. Five hens laid an average of 65 eggs apiece. To hold the insects in check and to destroy the weed seeds we need to have our gardens, fields, pastures and roadsides literally alive with these useful birds.—Indiana Farmer.

NOTICE.

On the 15th day of May, 1913, I will offer for sale at the highest bidder for cash, at the late residence of Haywood Sullivan the following personal property:

8 or 10 head of goats, some meat, some corn, and farming utensils, including cart and etc. One wash pot two tubs.

MILLIE SULLIVAN, Administratrix.

Report of the Condition of THE CLAYTON BANKING CO. at Clayton, N. C. at the close of business April 4th, 1913.

Resources	Dollars
Loans and discounts	164,873.46
Overdrafts secured and unsecured	3,180.29
Banking Houses, Furniture and Fixtures	4,141.47
Due from banks and Bankers	58,991.38
Cash items	143.85
Gold coin	2,285.00
Silver coin, including all minor coin currency	1,155.10
National bank notes and other U. S. notes	6,902.90
Total	240,772.55
Liabilities	Dollars
Capital stock paid in	10,000.00
Surplus fund	15,000.00
Undivided profits, less current expenses, taxes paid	4,296.49
Dividends unpaid	59.70
Time Certificates of deposit	80,577.77
Deposits subject to check	129,239.82
Cashier's checks outstanding	1,198.77
Accrued interest due depositors	400.00
Total	240,772.55

State of North Carolina, County of Johnston, ss:

I, C. M. Thomas, cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

C. M. THOMAS, Cashier. Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 11th, day of April 1913.

JOHN T. TALTON, Notary Public. CORRECT—Attest: D. H. McCULLERS, W. A. BARNES, ASHLEY HORNE. Directors.

SALE OF MORTGAGE LAND.

Under and by virtue of a certain deed of trust executed by John W. Exum to Zeb Snipes, on February 24 1913, and recorded in Book I No. 12, page 584, in the Registry of Johnston County, North Carolina, the conditions contained in said deed having been broken, the undersigned trustee, will on Friday the 9th day of May, 1913, at 12 o'clock, noon, sell in front of the Court House door, in Smithfield, North Carolina, to the highest bidder for cash, all the land conveyed therein, described as follows: Situate in Beulah township, adjoining the lands of R. B. Boswell, Jasper Weaver, and others; beginning at a stake in R. B. Boswell's field, and runs thence south to Jasper Weavers corner, thence continuing south with said Jasper Weaver's line to a stake in Arvin Raines line, to the John Balance line, thence up the run of Buffalo Swamp as said swamp meanders to a lightwood stake, thence W with R. B. Boswell's line to the beginning, containing forty acres, more or less.

Place of Sale: Smithfield, N. C. Terms of Sale: Cash. This March 8th, 1913. ZEB SNIPES, Trustee. Fou and Allred, Attorneys.

CORTRIGHT LIGHTNING-PROOF ROOFING

It is not only lightning-proof but fire-proof and storm-proof, too. CORTRIGHT METAL SHINGLES last as long as the building and never need repairs. Just the thing for town or country buildings, because they meet every condition of comfort, beauty and security.



For Sale by S. B. JOHNSON. SMITHFIELD, N. C.

Here is the Phelps Distributor



Here is what you want—First, because it puts your Fertilizer in a broad space; second, because it puts it regular from 100 to 1500 pounds to the acre; third, because it makes a dirt as large as you want for corn, cotton, tobacco and other crops; fourth, because it will distribute second application and split the middle at same time; fifth because you can use the disc to your cultivator all through your crop; sixth, you can sow oats and harrow them in one day easy with one small mule. Now, Mr. Farmer, friend, can you beat that for \$12.50? If not, send in your order at once to the

Phelps Manufacturing Co.

Four Oaks, N. C.



If You Value Your Eyesight

You will equip your reading table with a **Rayo Lamp**

Authorities agree that a good kerosene oil lamp is the best for reading. The Rayo is the best oil lamp made, the result of years of scientific study. It gives a steady white light, clear, mellow. Made of solid brass, nickel plated. Can be lighted without removing chimney or shade. Easy to clean and rewick.

At Dealers Everywhere **STANDARD OIL COMPANY** (Incorporated in New Jersey)

Newark, N. J.

Baltimore, Md.

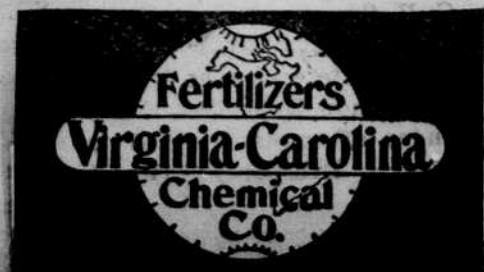
Big Yields of Fruit

Call for extensive cultivation, thorough spraying and heavy fertilization. To increase the quantity and quality of your yield per acre, apply

Virginia-Carolina High-Grade Fertilizers

at the rate of ten or fifteen pounds per tree, spread well around the tree and worked thoroughly into the soil over the roots.

Our 1913 FARMERS' YEAR BOOK or almanac tells how you may increase your profits per acre \$50 or more with Virginia-Carolina Fertilizers, and proper, careful, thorough cultivation. Copy free on request.



Virginia-Carolina Chemical Co.

Box 1117

RICHMOND - VIRGINIA

NOTICE.

The undersigned having qualified as executor on the estate of Sallie J. Woodard deceased, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 21 day of March 1914 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 14 day of March 1913. HENRY HOLLAND, Executor.

NOTICE

The undersigned having qualified as Administratrix on the estate of James B. Lee deceased, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 21 day of March 1914, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery, and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 17 day of March 1913. SARAH LEE, Admr.

NOTICE.

North Carolina, Johnston County, In the Superior Court, March Term 1913. Fannie Edwards, Administratrix of Joseph Edwards.

vs.

B. D. Johnson, C. T. Johnson and W. T. Surles.

The defendant W. T. Surles above named will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Johnston County to recover the possession of a mule on which W. T. Surles gave a mortgage to Joseph Edwards, and the said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the next Term of the Superior Court of Johnston County to be held on the 12th day of May at the Court House in Smithfield and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This March 29th 1913. W. S. STEVENS, Clerk. JAS. A. WELLS, Attorney.

NOTICE.

The undersigned having qualified as Administrator on the estate of W. C. Benson deceased, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 4th day of April 1914 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 31 day of March 1913. JEPHTHA BENSON, Admr.

NOTICE.

The undersigned having qualified as Executors on the estate of I. J. Smith deceased, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 18 day of April 1914 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 15 day of April, 1913.

LOUIE SMITH, D. C. SMITH, Executors.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION.

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of Edie Watson deceased, late of Johnston County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Smithfield, N. C., on or before the 7 day of March, 1914, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 7th day of March, 1913.

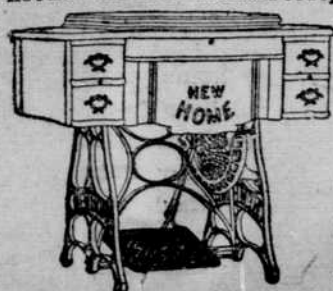
ED. F. WARD, Administrator of Edie Watson, deceased.

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