

# Southern Agricultural Topics.

## Modern Methods That Are Helpful to Farmer, Fruit Grower and Stockman.

The Value of Woodland.

Another thing that can be done to call a halt, and the most important thing, is to educate the landowners in the proper management of their woodlands. This is one of the most cogent arguments for State and national forests; they will furnish object lessons in forest management. In addition to this educational force, other efforts ought to be made. Through our State boards of forestry, where such exist; through our universities that have chairs of forestry, through the forest associations, through the press, in every legitimate way, in every open pulpit, we ought to preach the gospel of forestry; for the bulk of the woodlands of this country are, and I hope always will be, in the hands of private owners, and these owners must be reached. Upon their attitude towards their woodlands depends in the largest measure the solution of our forest problems. There have been those who said that the Americans would not make good soldiers, because they did not obey unless they understood. History has proved that the Americans have made the best of soldiers, because of the very fact that they understood, and understanding, they obeyed with a will. In the same way some have been skeptical of our ability to deal with our forest problems, because the people—the common people as they say—own the land and they do not brook interference with their rights as owners. But I believe this same private owner, when the law protects his property from theft, fire and unjust assessment; and when he understands the nature of the problems with which he has to deal, will of his own volition do more towards their solution than any amount of governmental interference. Make it possible for him to know his duty; and when he understands, he will do his duty.

In conclusion: The forestal conditions which confront us to-day are serious; and they deserve the serious thought of every good citizen. We have sinned and we have begun to suffer. But I have an abiding faith in the sober second thought of the American people. The indications of repentance are at hand; and I believe that before it is everlastingly too late we Americans will repent indeed, and bring forth the fruits meet for repentance.—Alfred Ackerman, Professor of Forestry, University of Georgia.

### Heavier Stock Needed.

Thoroughbreds and thoroughbred-  
scrub mixtures are entirely too light for ordinary farm work. It is well that more Percheron stallions are going into service to give us a heavier stock. Trotters and running horses are well enough for racing stables, but will not do for the average farm. It does not cost more to raise a Percheron grade colt from an ordinary farm mare than it does to raise a little runt, and the former will usually fetch \$50 more than the latter.

Admitting that Percheron and Shire grades are profitable to raise, it does not follow that they are the best all-round farm horses. They are gentle and faithful workers, but bulky, and their gait is not suited to farm work. The best all-round farm horse is undoubtedly the German coach, sixteen to seventeen hands high, weighing from thirteen to fifteen hundred pounds. They are clean of limb, graceful and quick of action. They are neither trotters, runners nor drafters, but if you have a shapely mare to breed from, a pair of well matched high-steppers will fetch big money. And for all-round farm work they have no equal. Still, until they are more generally introduced and appreciated, we welcome the Percherons, Shires, etc., to give us a heavier stock that will pull a big load and will bring good prices when sold.

### What Shall the Harvest Be?

Seed time in the poultry yard has come again. The new season is here—here with all its possibilities, and the many golden opportunities which it will doubtless offer us all for improvement and advancement in many material ways; and let us hope in many mental, moral and spiritual betterments and advances.

In the poultry yard, however, is right now, and for the next three or four months, the opportune time for improvement in the character of the seed we shall sow for reaping the harvest by and bye. And, in this connection we would not only say it, but would urge all our readers who are interested in poultry to take "advancement and improvement" as their motto. Not necessarily advancement in fancy and expensive points and features, but in practical and material worth. We would rather improve the farmer's flock so that it will make

him more dollars and cents, than to have him devote a season's work in the poultry yard to raising a few birds to win a prize or two at the county fair, or the chicken show; although we would have him strive for this honor, too, but in a second or supplementary sense.

What we want to do first is to improve the laying qualities of our hens and to raise birds for market that will grow fast and mature early. And, in doing this, we can make some good and material progress simply by proper selection of our breeders in the home stock, or by the addition of a rooster of superior merit to head the flock. In the first place, let the cock and the hens be not akin. This is very necessary to quick growth, precociousness and vigor. It is a long step in the way of improvement; then let the hens for breeders be carefully selected. We refer now to the hens on the place and not to any imported stock. Some of the hens are better in a good many points than many others. Pick out the favorites—those of known worth—and mate them with a selected cock not akin to them. Do not set eggs haphazard, but keep the breeding stock yarded, and by using their eggs only for hatching purposes, thus knowing the quality of the seed sown, and making sure in advance of something good—something in the way of improvement in the harvest of the autumn when the young stock shall have begun to show their better qualities.

And in the same line, see that some seed of the highest merit shall have been sown, in the way of a setting or two of pure-bred eggs, and the pleasure of the aftermath—the possession of a brood or two of fine young chickens later in the season, will more than recompense the cost of such valuable seed as this, the planting time.—H. E. Geer, in Southern Cultivator.

### The Troublesome Insects.

Point out to me the man who is positive that there are no insects about his poultry-house, and I will show you a man that in nine cases out of ten is mistaken. Work as you may to rid the house and fowls of these pests and there are most sure to be a few left. In the winter they do not multiply as fast as in the summer weather, but there is no time when they will not increase if given a chance. A great many poultrymen expend quite large amounts every year for insecticides, and besides this use every other effort to check the increase and to exterminate these insects. When the cold weather comes and there are less of them seen about the premises, by a good many, the watchful care is discontinued or partially so. Because they do not seem so plentiful does not mean that they are not there.

A good many speak of lice as being the most troublesome with their poultry. Lice on my fowls give me the least trouble of any. I find they are the easiest to get rid of. It is the little gray or red mite that makes the mischief for me. They do their work mostly at night when the hens are on the roost by crawling on them and sucking their blood. And when hundreds of them get on one hen they are pretty sure to have a telling effect in a short time. They take the very life out of a fowl. They are very small and work mostly about the vent and under the wings. As a rule they leave the fowls in the morning and hide during the day between boards, in joints, cracks, etc., waiting for night to come out again.

Many, in cleaning the hen-house, give less attention to the roost and nests than any other part. The nesting material will perhaps be taken out and replaced with fresh and the droppings be removed, but the nest boxes, and under and all around them, and the perches, should be looked to. Generally the reason why this is not done is because to save labor the perches are nailed to the wall or fixed on a frame and the nests are also nailed tight. I often see nests fastened up strongly enough to support a man. This is all wrong. All these fittings should be made and so put up that they can be easily taken down and pulled to pieces and carried outside for a thorough cleaning, for on these there will be found the majority of the insects. When you have the fittings outside of the building see them over by holding in a blaze a minute or so.

A good insecticide is made of one gallon of kerosene oil and one-half pound of pure naphthaline flakes mixed together. Apply with sprinkling pot or sprayer. There are a number of good powder preparations which if thoroughly rubbed into the feathers of the fowl will drive off and kill all the body insects. A good dust bath is also very effective for this purpose.—Vincent M. Couch, in the Southern Planter.

### Current Events.

The West Virginia Legislature had a lively session as a result of the mine investigation report.

St. Elizabeth's Catholic church, where Father Leo Heinrichs was murdered, was rededicated.

Bishop Sennell, of Omaha, Neb., ruled that engagements must be in writing, signed by two witnesses, before a priest of his diocese can marry a couple.

### News of the Day.

The Cerro De Pasco Company has been incorporated in New Jersey with a capital of \$60,000,000 as the holding company of the Hegin properties in Peru.

Judge Crosscup and seven others were arraigned in Chicago on charges of criminal negligence and manslaughter, it being contended that they are responsible for a trolley wreck.

### Fine Recipe For Colds.

Mix two ounces of glycerine with half pint of good whiskey and add one-half ounce Concentrated oil of pine. This latter comes in one-half ounce vials packed in tin screw top air tight cases, which are intended to protect it from light and retain all the original ozone.

This simple mixture is to be used in doses of a teaspoonful to a tablespoonful four times a day. The bottle should be well shaken each time. Don't use bulk oil of pine or imitations of Concentrated, which are often found with similar name and style of package. They are insoluble and work havoc to the kidneys. Any druggist has the Concentrated oil of pine.

All acts are presumed to have been rightly and regularly done.

### Hog Cholera.

The greatest drawback to the hog industry which breeders in this country have to contend with is what is known as "hog cholera" and "swine plague."

Hog cholera is a highly contagious disease and unless checked is liable to carry off a great number of hogs in a very short time.

Mr. A. P. Williams of Burnetts Creek, Ind., tells of an experience which he had with some hogs that had the cholera. "Five years ago," says Mr. Williams, "I was in the employ of Mr. J. D. Richardson, Lafayette, Ind., as his barn foreman. Some fine hogs that I was feeding took the cholera. I gave them Sloan's Lincture and did not lose a hog. Some were so bad they would not drink sweet milk and I was compelled to drench them. I have tried it at every opportunity since and always find it O. K."

Write for Dr. Sloan's free book on the treatment of Horses, Cattle, Hogs and Poultry. Address: Dr. Earl S. Sloan, 615 Albany street, Boston, Mass.

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Blue are the hills that are far from us.—Irish.

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Mrs. Sallie French, of Faucauna, Ind. Ter., writes to Mrs. Pinkham: "I had female troubles for seven years—I was all run-down, and so nervous I could not do anything. The doctors treated me for different troubles but did me no good. While in this condition I wrote to Mrs. Pinkham for advice and took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and I am now strong and well."

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For thirty years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has positively cured thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing-down feeling, flatulency, indigestion, dizziness, or nervous prostration. Why don't you try it?

Don't hesitate to write to Mrs. Pinkham if there is anything about your sickness you do not understand. She will treat your letter in confidence and advise you free. No woman ever regretted writing her, and because of her vast experience she has helped thousands. Address, Lynn, Mass.

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