

SOME GOOD ADVISE

I would like to say a few words to the farmers as we are entering a new year, and now is the time to decide what we will plant. Let us make no mistake this year. We find as we pass some of the cotton fields that there yet remains from one-half to one-fifth of the cotton unpicked and no prospect of getting it out. Quite a number of these same farmers actually have to buy horse feed for the year, and meat, including other provisions for their families.

Now farmer friends, if we had planted a smaller crop of cotton, just enough that we might have housed it easily, and the remainder of our land in corn, peas, peanuts, potatoes and chufas, we could have housed these things more easily, and besides, we would have had something for hog feed. I think our cotton would have been out ere this and our hogs killed and in smoke-houses. I greatly fear that some of us are going wild over tobacco, and just as sure as we do, the market will be over stocked and tobacco will be very low. Brother farmer let's use good judgment and not plant all our land in cotton and tobacco. I select my corn land on the same place I sow peas. In my very stiff land I plant sweet potatoes and Japan peas. In my sand land I plant peanuts and chufas. It's a mistake to try to feed hogs entirely on corn. One acre in chufas will feed as far as five or six acres of corn, and the chufa will grow on land that will not produce much of anything else. Last year I planted four acres in chufas, saved 150 bushels of seed for sale and had enough of them remaining in the ground to fatten twelve hundred pounds of meat. I am in favor of planting things that can be consumed at home.

I am tired of working for the merchants, and I want to make my own home supplies so I will not have to buy so much.

I had only twenty-four acres in cotton the past year, and I got it picked without any trouble, and I haven't sold a bale yet. I still have my chufas for sale. If I had planted everything in cotton, I would have been obliged to have sold it. As it is, I can hold it as long as I think best. Lets rest our muscles and use our brain a while and think what is best to plant, and where to plant it. I think it will be best for our health, mind and pocket books.

Written for the Union Farmer by  
W. H. PHILLIPS  
Ayden.

JONES LOCAL NO. 1280

Dear Editor: Will you please oblige me with space in your excellent paper for a few short remarks? Our meeting was held the

9th day of December and a nice lot of business was transacted. The officers for 1912 are as follows: President, R. L. Lovelace; Vice-President, J. J. W. Hemric; Secretary and Treasurer, J. R. Holcomb; Chaplain, Rev. W. A. Holleman; Doorkeeper, C. W. Adams; Conductor, F. G. Mann; Executive Committee, C. N. Bryant, D. S. Adams and D. E. Kiner. Considering the strong competition, we did a good business last year.

On December 23rd, 1911, we had a nice treat, consisting of oranges, bananas, apples, peanuts and candy. Being so soon after dinner, no one was hungry enough to eat just then, so about two hours was consumed in speech making, which was enjoyed by all. With best wishes to the Union,

Yours fraternally,  
J. W. HEMRIC, Vice-Pres.  
Jonesville.

SUCCESSFUL CO-OPERATION

Reference has been made in these columns heretofore to the success that has been achieved by the Monmouth County, New Jersey, Farmers' Exchange in the co-operative marketing of farm produce. The year 1911 was another successful period in the history of the exchange and its total business was \$1,499,500.

The principal crop grown in Monmouth County is Potatoes. The exchange sold for its members during the year a total of 422,518 barrels, or 2,308 carloads, and the average price paid to the farmer was \$2.44½. This, despite the fact that the crop of last year was estimated at only 80 per cent of the crop in 1910.

The exchange handles all sorts of produce, however. The manager's report of shipments showed 6,408 barrels and 32,775 baskets of Apples, 783 barrels and sacks, and 2,314 baskets of Pears, 13,337 crates, or 320,093 bunches of Asparagus, 466 crates of berries, 465 crates of Tomatoes, 8 crates and baskets of Cherries, 1,784 barrels and sacks and 67 baskets and crates of pickles, 1,147 barrels and sacks of Corn, 947 barrels, crates and baskets of Melons, 217 barrels and sacks of Turnips, 108 barrels of Cabbage, 109 barrels of Squash, 243 packages of miscellaneous produce, 784 bales of hay and straw, and 2,710 bags of grain—a total of 487,280 packages of produce sold for the farmers through their own organization.

Besides the sales to the outside markets, the exchange sold about 27,000 barrels of seed Potatoes and 32,330 bags of fertilizer.

The exchange has a paid in capital stock of \$74,285, and 1,049 members. The capital stock has a par value of \$5.00 a share. Since

January last it has sold at \$6.00 a share, and the stock is now held at \$7.00 and is limited to one share each to new members only.

Twenty-five loading stations are now operated by the exchange, with all of which the main office is in direct telephonic communication. It also has fertilizer manufacturing plants at Freehold, Heightstown, and Marlboro, with a capacity of from 4,500 to 5,000 tons.

It is the Farmers and the Sellers, Not the Buyers, Who Grow Rich and Achieve Their Independence.

To the Officers and Members of the Farmers' Union:

No nation or people that were nations and peoples of buyers ever grew rich and prosperous. It is the sellers that rule the marts of this world and that defy adversity.

That ought to furnish a lesson to the farmers and people generally of the South, for the coming year. As a first and paramount proposition, we ought to feed ourselves and stop the leak at that source.

There is no State in the South that need send a penny outside its borders for the necessities of life. The majority of them are annually sending forth huge sums and giving in return a mortgage on the cotton crop, already taxed in a dozen different directions.

There is hardly a food-crop, or a fruit, that we cannot produce in this section in volumn not only sufficient to supply our own tables, but as well to leave a margin to sell to other people. The year 1912 ought to see this principle in universal observance.

Let me illustrate by pointing to England. She is one of the richest in the world, and yet has much poverty and staggers under debt. Why? Because she is a sort of hybrid between a buying and selling nation. She buys most of her food stuffs. She sells the world huge quantities of manufactured goods. If she could produce on her soil enough food to supply her people, she would keep at home the incalculable sums now drained by other nations for the job of feed-

ing her, and she would dominate the world in a sense even mightier than that now apparent.

The South is in a position where she can become both self-feeding and a selling section. The man with something to sell is always a hundred yards superior to the man who must buy. The putting into practice of this system means diversification, and diversification is in the hands of the Southern farmers.

CHARLES S. BARRETT.  
Union City, Ga., Jan'y. 4th, 1912.

Better Bank Facilities.

Dear Editor: While we are talking and writing co-operation in buying and selling, I think there ought to be something said about co-operation in borrowing money when needed. Our banks do not show the farmers the favors they ought to. The moneyed farmer deposits his money in the bank and gets 4% on it. Those moneyed farmers generally do not belong to the Farmers' Union, and there is one place we are loosing by not getting those men of means in our locals.

The bankers will loan their money to business men and help them skin the farmer by selling him supplies on time. I know a poor farmer who went to a local bank and offered to give some of the stockholders as surety for a loan of fifty dollars. The banker told him that they did not have the money to loan. In less than ten minutes a man came in and deposited seventy-five dollars and the banker loaned to a business man at the same time, three hundred dollars.

We as farmers must help each other more and not lend money to the business man to help him do the poor farmer. Why not talk co-operation in establishing a bank of farmers, unless our local banks agree to give us better accommodations.

A MEMBER.  
New London, N. C.

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Respectfully,  
H. M. VICTOR, Cashier