

IN MAKING plans for another crop we should keep in mind all the time the importance of soil building. Don't try to see how much land you can cultivate, but how little you can cultivate to produce as much as you have been producing. If you have crimson clover as a home-made fertilizer to turn under you are in position to get along without contributing anything to the fertilizer trust. When you learn the value of the winter and summer legumes as soil building crops and use them in a systematic crop rotation you will be getting in a fair way for soil improvement. No farmer should be satisfied with less than a heavy bale of cotton or fifty bushels of corn from every acre cultivated, and this yield should be secured through systematic soil building and not through the use of expensive soluble commercial fertilizers the excessive use of which comes as a heavy tax every year with no lasting results as a soil builder, unless it is used to start heavier growths of soil building crops. Investments in soil building pay better dividends than investments in high-priced farm labor to cultivate depleted soil, and it is better to let your land lie out than to have it cultivated by tenants who take more from the soil than they return to it.

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THE WRITER knows one farmer who is greedy for land. He cultivates a one-horse farm himself and has two one-horse tenants. All of them cultivate poor land that averages less than a half bale per acre and about fifteen bushels of corn per acre. If he had invested one-fourth what the two tenant farms cost him invested in the soil which he himself cultivates he would be making from his own crop as much as he and his two tenants all make and he would have three-fourths the cost of his extra farms as a surplus to put on interest or invest in some other profitable enterprise. Poor land and the greed for more poor land has kept many a farmer from getting into the easy and independent way, and it is all the result of not realizing the value of soil building. If you can't build the soil on an acre, build it on half an acre, but start somewhere. It's absolutely the only way to reduce cost of production on the farm. It's the capital stock that pays dividends.

Oleomargarine and the Ten-Cent Tax.

The Farmer, editorially, well says when speaking of the coming fight in Congress this year in reference to the reduction of a ten-cent tax on colored oleomargarine:

"Already the magazines and newspapers are filled with advertisements and reading notices designed for the attention of the working men and the city men, which tell of the high cost of butterfat and how taxed oleo is unjust when it will take the place of butter. No mention is made of the fact that un-colored oleomargarine, which must sell for what it really is, is taxed only 1-4 cent a pound."

The manufacturers of oleomargarine desire to color their product yellow so that it can be sold as butter. They know it is easier to counterfeit with yellow oleomargarine than it is with the white product. Consumers know

that butter, during a large portion of the season, is yellow, and yellow has become the trade mark of butter. It is unfair for manufacturers and dealers in oleomargarine to sell it as butter and at butter prices. When it is colored yellow it gives them an opportunity to do this and fool the consumer. Since the passage of the Grout law, which taxed artificially colored oleomargarine ten cents per pound, the poor man—and the packers and manufacturers and dealers of oleo have a great sympathy for this man—has been able to purchase oleomargarine at oleomargarine prices. When it is colored yellow in semblance of yellow butter, it is sold by the moonshiners in oleomargarine as butter and within two or three cents a pound as much as butter which grades extra and brings the highest price in market. During the last few years good oleomargarine has sold for eighteen and twenty cents a pound. The man who could not afford to eat butter has had an opportunity to purchase oleomargarine at oleomargarine prices. Before this, the product was permitted to be colored yellow, or at least taxed no heavier than the uncolored, much of which sold as butter and for very near as much. Where did the saving to the poor man come in?

The manufacturers of butter and the dairymen of this country have no fear of oleomargarine as a competitive product, but when it is permitted to be sold as a counterfeit, competition ceases. What the dairy interests ask for, is that oleomargarine stand on its own merits, sell for what it is, be what it is, and not try to wear the garments of butter.—Hoard's Dairyman.

Brims Grove Local No. 1014.

As I have not seen anything from this local I will write and let the other Unions know what we are doing. The most of us have paid up our dues for this year, and there are still a few that haven't paid. We want to see if our members can't wake up and come out again. If we will co-operate we can save money this year. There is no better way for us to do business than by co-operating. We have not pooled any tobacco yet, but we are going to pool about half of the local tobacco. I want every member of Brims Grove Local Union to meet at Brims, N. C., on Saturday, 27th day of January, 1912.

Yours truly,

J. L. SLAWTER, Sec.-Treas.

Brims, Jan. 12th, 1912.

Mayfield Local No. 1408.

Dear Editor: In spite of the fact that it was the coldest day that has been experienced in twelve or fourteen years, the attendance was unusually large at our meeting which was held January 13th. An oyster stew was served, which was greatly enjoyed by all present. Our local is indebted to Mrs. R. H. Pruitt for her kindness in cooking the oysters, and furnishing dishes and other necessary articles for the table.

Our President, Mr. J. R. Williams, of the Reidsville prizery, was present, and reported that his house was receiving a good share of tobacco in spite of the inclement weather since Christmas. A good number of our mem-

bers have paid their annual dues for 1912, and we are hoping for much good to be accomplished. If we are ever to succeed, we must get down to business and get tobacco off the brain and plant for a living at home. We can never fight a trust successfully until we are fortified behind a full corn crib, granary, smoke house and plenty of hay for horses and cattle, and then and not until then, will our tobacco be a money crop in the fullest sense of the word.

W. T. PEARMAN.

Special Holiday Offer.

For the next few days we want to get all those who took advantage of the 10 Cent Offer on our regular list, and in order to make it easy for Agents or Local Secretaries to get up clubs, we make the special offer to send The Carolina Union Farmer to new subscribers from now until June 1st, 1912, for 25 cents, where they are sent in clubs of 10 or more.

This offer applies to all who are not now taking the paper and to those who took advantage of the 10 cent proposition, but does not apply to renewals.

Local Secretaries, or any Union member, can send in a club of 10 or more subscribers on this Special Holiday Offer. (From now until June 1st, 1912, for 25 cents).

Ten weeks trial to new subscribers, 10 cents, in clubs of ten or more.

Notice to Subscribers.

When you subscribe to this paper either direct or through any local secretary, organizer or agent, look for the paper, not that week, but the next, and if it does not come, write us at once about it. Don't wait six months or a year to make a kick and all the time feel bad about not getting the paper. We want you to have the paper promptly every issue and if you will write us a postal, setting us straight on addresses, both old and new, we are sure that your paper will come all right.

Dr. Alexander and other State officials send in many subscriptions, when they are out attending county meetings, and gatherings of various kinds, and should you subscribe to anyone and then fail to get the paper, write us promptly, don't wait until next year when this same officer comes to visit you again, just for the sake of telling him about not getting your paper.

The Carolina Union Farmer goes to thousands of readers in every section of the State, and it is not a very hard matter, now and then, to make some mistakes in names and addresses, but if your name or address is incorrect, you can very easily have it corrected.

Very often we have cards from postmasters, saying that such an address is "uncalled for" or "unclaimed," and it is very often the case that six months afterwards we receive a letter from that address saying that he paid a dollar six months ago and has not received the paper a single time. It is our pleasure to serve our readers in a business like way and if all our subscribers will notify us promptly, when not receiving paper, we are sure that the paper will come promptly.

Address all communications to the paper and not to any individual.