

Country Home Department.

Conducted by Mrs. E. D. Nall, Sanford, N. C., to Whom all Matter for this Department Should be Sent.

THE GOSPEL OF LABOR.

But I think the King of that country
comes out from his tireless host,
And walks in this world of the weary
as if he loved it the most;
And here in the dusty confusion, with
eyes that are weary and dim,
He meets again the laboring men,
who are looking and longing for
Him,

He cancels the curse of Eden, and
brings them a blessing instead;
Blessed are they that labor, for Jesus
partakes of their bread,
He puts His hand to their burdens,
He enters their homes at night;
Who does his best shall have as guest
the Master of life and of light.

And courage will come with His pres-
ence, and patience return at His
touch,
And manifold sins be forgiven to
those who love Him much;
And the cries of envy and anger will
change to the songs of cheer,
For the toiling age will forget its
rage when the Prince of Peace
draws near.

This is the Gospel of labor—ring it,
ye bells of the kirk—
The Lord of Love came down from
above to live with the men who
work.

This is the rose that he planted here
in the thorn-cursed soil—
Heaven is blest with perfect rest, but
the blessings of earth is toil.
—Dr. Henry Van Dyke.

FROM READER.

I wish to sincerely thank those who responded so promptly to my request through these columns in a recent issue. No, indeed, I am not disappointed in the farmers' wives, but my faith in them is strengthened if possible. I have tried several of the cake recipes and found them excellent. I am going to try them all, then I can decide on a favorite for general use. I think it was so kind of you all to send those recipes in to be published, for I am sure others were glad to get them as well as I. I have made soap, too, with fairly good luck. There seems to be a knack about making soap that I don't possess. Perhaps a little more experience will bring it about. I wonder if I always hit on the "wrong time of the moon." The sister who wrote of making soap once a year—in March,—and told how to keep the grease by means of borax, gave us an excellent plan, I think, after you once get a supply on hand. I think the printer made a mistake and put "barrell" for "bowl" in her recipe. I shall not make any special request in this letter, but wait to see if any one else will venture to make their wants known. I suppose house-cleaning is occupying the minds of many at this season. I for one have been on closer terms with mud this winter than ever before, and have longed and longed for the bright spring days to come. I clean one room a day, go over everything in it, which I think is the better plan for one with no help, then to over-do yourself in trying to do too much in one day and perhaps making yourself sick. I want to tell you of a cheery little friend of mine who secures sufficient help to clean the whole house in one day. On this particular day, which was only a few days ago, she woke in the morning with a dreadful headache. "It is too bad," said I, "for your head to ache to-day, with so much work planned

to have done." "Oh, I don't mind my head aching," said she, cheerfully and laughingly,—"just so it is not my heart, and I'm so thankful that I have no headache to-day." So I'm sending her message to you, if on house-cleaning or any other busy days, if head and back or both aching, be thankful it is not the heart.

I hope some one will write of successful ways of raising vegetables. Sometimes a person will fail year after year trying to raise a certain kind of vegetable successfully, when just a hint from some one who knows how, would be appreciated and such a help to them.

Then this is flower planting time, too, and we all love flowers. Some of us, and especially those of us who do not have very much time to give to flowers, still cling to the old-fashioned varieties for stand-bys. They are mostly hardy and can't repay us with abundant blooms for loving them so. I once lived near an old lady who was very fond of flowers and had her yard full, and a pathway through her garden was bordered with old-time favorites such as pinks, verbena, phlox, sweet border-etc. I went to see her often, and I don't think I ever left there if it was hollyhocks time, but she would say: "Come see my hollyhocks; there are twenty different shades." She never failed to add: "There are twenty different shades."

This old lady's flowers became doubly dear to me for a reason. One day a dear little one was borne from my home to the cemetery and the little mound was covered with flowers regularly in their season, by this dear old lady.

I have enjoyed the letters in our page so much. Country Woman gave us something to think about. And Grandma (bless her heart) gave the men something to think about. I trust that every wife read that piece to her husband, that is, if he did not read it himself. Write again, Grandma. What has become of Old-fashioned Mother? Why! What a long letter. I am about to prove true the old saying that a woman never knows when to stop talking, so I am going to stop right now.

READER.

KEEP SINGING.

Are you blue? Then sing. Does everything seem to go wrong? Sing, sing with determination at first. Soon the song will rise spontaneously from heart to lips. When you are looking at life through dark-colored spectacles, singing is not easy, but use your will-power and sing in spite of feelings. To look glum and sing heartily at the same time is impossible. Try it and see.

Some one has said: "Music hath charms to sooth the savage beast." There is not music in every voice, but music is in the hearts of all of us. When we sing the effort we make to express our soul's music lifts up our spirit, be the result harmonious to a listener or not.

Sing as you go about your daily work. The strokes of the broom fall naturally into the rhythm of "We're Marching to Zion," and "Onward, Christian Soldiers," sung in lively time, makes us feel the spirit of the battle, and, perhaps unconsciously, we inject some of its enthusiasm into the task at hand. Don't be afraid of the sound of your own voice. Let the tones come out full and clear. Surprising it is, how your mind will

be delivered from the deep-worn ruts of the daily routine, and lifted to higher, firmer ground for thoughts.

It is a pity we did not learn more of the beautiful old hymns when our minds were in the plastic, receptive stage of childhood. How clearly those we did learn then stand out in our memory. But no matter how far you are along on the journey of life, it is not too late to begin to "learn by heart" the soul-inspiring words of our well-loved songs. You will feel better for it; you will live better for it; you will be better for it.—Selected.

FARMERS' UNION TO ESTABLISH TWO WAREHOUSES.

Greensboro and Raleigh have been selected by the State Council of the North Carolina Farmers' Union as the first two cities in which farmers' warehouses will be established, and the erection of these, which will take place as soon as the stock soliciting committee announces the subscription of sufficient stock, will be the beginning of a string of warehouses that are planned for several cities of North Carolina. Other cities that were represented in Greensboro Thursday, says the News, by communication and urging the location of an initial warehouse in their communities were Wilmington, New Bern and Charlotte.

Both warehouses will be built simultaneously and it is planned that each shall cost \$10,000, or a total of \$20,000 for the two. Half of this stock has already been subscribed and guaranteed, and members of the council are confident that the rest can be raised without much delay or trouble. A committee to solicit stock was named, and the members will go to work at once. For the present all stock will be limited to farmers of the State though at a later date, a portion of the stock may be sold to parties outside the Farmers' Union.

The head offices of the warehouses company will remain in Raleigh for the present, although at a later date it may be decided to move them elsewhere.

An organization of the warehouses company was effected by the election of a board of directors and the officers. The directors are as follows:

Dr. H. Q. Alexander, of Mecklenburg; E. C. Faires, of Moore; I. P. Coggins, of Chatham; W. D. Crowder of Wake; J. J. Green, of Union, and W. H. Moore of Pitt.

The directors elected the following officers: J. Z. Greene, of Marshville, president; W. H. Moore, of Fonville, vice-president; E. C. Faires, of Moore, secretary. I. P. Coggins was elected treasurer temporarily, and by virtue of his office will be the general manager of the warehouses.

The size of the warehouses was not decided upon, no drawings or specifications being before the council. They are planned, however, to efficiently take care of the business that is expected when they are first opened, and will be erected so they can be added to when necessary.

They will engage in a general business, will be used for the storing of cotton and will handle farm products generally. The details of the plan of business are to be worked out later, but a commission basis has been resolved upon.—Western Sentinel, Winston.

State Secretary Faires has chartered thirty-five new Locals since April 1st. Who said there was a decrease in membership?

Watch the date on your label.



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Feed your chicks Macnair's Chicken Powder with their food. It kills rats, hawks, foxes and minks if they eat your chickens. Best remedy for Cholera, Gapes, Roup, Sorehead, Indigestion and leg weakness. Gape worm cannot exist when this remedy is used. Keeps hens free from vermin. Send us 25c. in stamps and your dealers name for a sample package.

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Fruit crops take plant foods from your soil just as do cotton, corn, tobacco, wheat, oats, vegetables, rice, sugar cane, peanuts or any other crop. Not only do your trees need fertilizer, but they need the best to be had. You will make no mistake in buying and using

Virginia-Carolina High-Grade Fertilizers

They will give fruit trees just what they are hungering for—that enables them to produce their utmost. Apply 15 or 20 lbs. of these fertilizers per tree—spread around from eighteen inches to two feet away from the tree, according to its size—working them into the soil about the roots. They will wonderfully increase the yield—if the pruning, spraying and cultivation has been properly and carefully done.

Our 1912 Year Book will interest all fruit growers. A copy will be sent free to you upon request. It may help you to pay off a mortgage or buy another farm.

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