

DOINGS OF THE VAN LOONS



It will be hard for Father to kick now



TIMELY FARM SUGGESTIONS

By TAIT BUTLER

The south, especially the central and western parts, has not yet fully appreciated the value of soy beans as a feed crop or as a soil builder. The acreage in this crop should be increased a thousand fold. It is doubtful if there is any crop superior to soy beans for feed production, when the effects on the soil and the amount of feed produced are considered.

The price of cotton this fall will depend almost as much on the farm supplies produced as on the amount of cotton. The prices of cotton last fall and the year before were largely influenced by the condition of the farmer. When the cotton producer has produced his food and feed supplies he is more independent and does not have to let his cotton go on the market regardless of price. Every consideration of sound business should dictate the production of all the food and feed crops required by the farm.

Feeding Crimson Clover

Owing to the exaggerated ideas of many regarding the danger of feeding crimson clover hay to horses and mules, much of the crimson clover cut for hay is cut too early. We think the danger from feeding crimson clover hay has been much exaggerated. It is true that "hair-balls" sometimes form from feeding crimson clover hay and cause death. It is also true that these "hair-balls" also form when no crimson clover hay is fed and in sections where none of it is grown. It is possible, although we think it somewhat doubtful, that crimson clover hay causes more of this trouble than other plants. It is also thought that this trouble is less likely to result from crimson clover hay cut before the plants have become ripe and woody. For this reason, some cut it as soon as in bloom. We think this earlier than necessary and too early to get most from the crop. If cut as soon as the first blossoms begin to turn brown, or to ripen, we think this early enough to meet all desirable ends, and it is reasonably certain that more feed value will be obtained from the crop.

Bitter Weed in Southern Pastures

Bitter weed is troublesome over a large part of the south. Fifteen years ago it was not common in many parts of the southeast, but it has now become pretty generally scattered over the whole south. Cattle eat it and apparently thrive on it. Of course more is eaten when the plants are small and young and other pasture plants are not abundant. In fact, it seems more plentiful in poor pastures or on poor land where little else grows than on good land where pasture plants thrive.

Besides occupying the land and interfering with the growth of pasture plants, it also produces extremely bitter milk when eaten by milk cows. In so far as we know, there is no way of removing this bitter taste by any sort of treatment that can be given the milk. The bitter taste is also present in the butter made from the milk of cows eating the bitter weed.

Every spring we are asked if this troublesome weed can be eradicated. The plant is an annual. That is, it makes seed every year, the old plants dying and new ones coming from the seeds the following spring. If all the seeds germinated in the spring the weed might be killed on any land that could be plowed when the plants had started growth but before they had matured seed. But the seeds evidently stay in the ground for a long time, so plowing is not always effective. In fact it is little if any more effective than mowing the pasture once. One plowing is not nearly so

effective as mowing two or three times during one season.

Many write us that mowing does no good, but this is not correct. One mowing will not kill out the weed, but repeated mowings will practically do so in two years. One difficulty in mowing as a means of killing the weed, is that late in the season the plants make seed when only a few inches high. In fact, seeds may be made on some plants so low that the mower will not cut them except on very smooth land and when the cutter-bar of the mower is run as close to the ground as possible.

A few plants may persist for a long time, but mowing is a fairly effective means of killing out this weed, if several mowings are made each year for two or three years. On pastures that cannot be mowed we know of no means of getting rid of this troublesome weed except to cultivate for several years if possible.

Soil Fertility True Reason for Diversification

Our agricultural advisers as well as our farmers seem to have completely lost sight of the true reason for diversification and livestock production. To produce the food and feed supplies of the farm is an economic necessity which no one seems to doubt; but this is not enough to build up or maintain a sound agricultural system, because it is not enough to build up and maintain soil fertility.

Until we begin teaching diversification as a necessity for economical soil building we shall make little progress toward a sound agriculture. It is not practicable to economically maintain soil fertility and grow one crop a year on the land and make the cotton and food and feed crops like corn, oats, wheat, potatoes etc. We must reduce the cotton acreage because of the necessity for growing legume, soil-improving crops and because more cotton can be produced on less land when this is done.

How to Make Cotton a Paying Crop

A reader wants to know if we advise against the growing of cotton when he "can contract cotton to be delivered next October and November at above 11 cents a pound and can sell the cotton seed to be delivered next fall at \$40 a ton."

For the man who is farming for this year only we confess we don't know a better farming proposition than cotton above 11 cents a pound for lint and \$40 a ton for seed. If a man is willing to forget the question of soil fertility and wants to farm to get all out of the lands he can this year, and is also reasonably certain that these contracts will be fulfilled if made, he has a good proposition as far as I can see at this time. But even at these prices it is not safe to depend on buying supplies next year. In other words, if these prices are assured it will still pay to produce the food and feed crops required for the year. If this is done; that is, if all the corn, hay and other feedstuffs required are grown and sufficient garden, poultry, hogs, butter, milk and other home supplies provided, then cotton at the prices named is a most excellent crop.

But this is the same old, old story of robbing the land, of depleting the stock in trade and lessening the earning powers for the future. No successful southern agriculture is possible until we cease farming for this year only. Until we farm as we conduct other lines of business the soils will continue to make low yields, our people will be poor as a whole, and rural life and conditions will be unsatisfactory. No sane man in other lines of production does everything he can to exhaust his resources and destroy his chances for future business rewards; but that is exactly

what the farmer does who farms for this year only.

Cotton is a great crop at the prices stated, but it is this fact that has been the cause of our agricultural backwardness. We can never advise a man to plant crops which as a whole will not maintain his soil fertility. This is not mere theory, but is supported by the observation that the man who adopts a cropping system which maintains the humus and nitrogen supply of the farm and sticks to it is the man who generally succeeds best in the long run accumulates the most property.

If I were renting a farm and expected to move next year and the land owner did not prevent me from doing so, I would plant all the cotton I could cultivate and gather at the prices stated after all food and feed supplies had been liberally provided for. If I was cultivating my own farm or one I expected to cultivate in future years I would first arrange to plant such crops as I thought necessary to maintain or increase the humus and nitrogen supplies of the land if continued during a term of years and to furnish the food and feed supplies required for the next year, and then I would plant all the cotton I could cultivate and gather

DO FARMERS WORK HARDER AND GET LESS THAN CITY DWELLERS?

City Work is Hard, Hours are Long, and the Rewards are Often Poor—Farmers Get Out of Their Work What They Put Into It.

A reader asks: "Why is it that the farmer who produces the necessities of life toils the hardest gets small money compensation and a limited education, while his city kinsman who sells the frivolous things (with which the people could do well without) grows rich and has advantages denied the rural dweller?"

Many would be inclined to question the accuracy of these statements, but there is no denying that the average man who stays on the farm and also the one who leaves it, at least at the time he leaves it, think that they are true.

It is probably true that the farmer "toils the hardest," physically, but it is doubtful if he works longer hours or his labor is any harder than that of the city man. The man who toils 10 to 14 hours a day in a store or an office where he keeps clean or is able to wear good clothes is thought to have the easier job; but is his job really easier as judged by its effects on his health or its influence on the length of his days on earth? Candidly, we think the city man toils as hard as the man in the country.

That the farmer gets less money for his labor, that he gets or handles less money, is unquestionably true, if we compare him with the doctor, the lawyer, the merchant or the skilled workman in the trades; but does he put as much into his work? Does he put as much education and capital into his business, and if not is he entitled to as much in return?

The average farmer does not put as much training and knowledge into his work as does the doctor or lawyer, nor as much capital as the merchant or manufacturer.

The vast majority of farmers, probably over 90 per cent of them, receive no education except in the rural schools, and receive no education relating to their own business or life work. The lawyer and the doctors, on the other hand, receive a high school education, many of them a college education, and then a course of from three to five years of professional education or training.

I submit that if these be the facts, and they are, then the doctors, lawyers, and others who put more into their work are entitled to receive more for it. I also believe that when those who till the soil put as much agricultural training and knowledge into their work as the doctors and the lawyer put medical and legal

knowledge into theirs the compensations as a whole, will be as great.

The average doctor and lawyer barely make a living and frequently a very poor one. The money rewards of the farmer may be smaller, but they are more certain and there are other compensations. The smaller investments and the lesser risks in farming are entitled to and receive smaller rewards when successful, as the losses are smaller in failures.

Our correspondent says the farmer receives a limited education. As a general rule this is true, but this is not entirely due to lack of opportunity. A man will not attempt to practice medicine without a medical college education, but the average college education, but the average farmer thinks an agricultural college education unnecessary, and many of them actually think it a waste of time, if not actually a disadvantage. How many boys who expect to farm think it necessary to go to college or in any other way learn the facts and principles underlying agricultural operations? How many parents think it as necessary that the son who is to farm should receive as good an agricultural education as the son who is to be a doctor should receive a medical education?

The chief difference in the education received is due to the different views regarding its necessity or advantages. Any farm boy in this country can get an education if he really wants it, and he can get an agricultural education easier and at less cost than he can a medical, engineering or other professional education.

The difference between a cow that produces 150 pounds of butter in a year and one that produces 500 pounds is 350 pounds of dairy knowledge. The one is an uneducated cow, and the other an educated. The difference between 20 bushels of corn or 180 pounds of lint cotton per acre and 40 bushels of corn or 360 pounds of lint cotton per acre is 100 per cent of agricultural knowledge and three to five years time. The one is an ignorant acre or an acre cultivated in ignorance, while the other is an educated acre or one yielding the profits of agricultural knowledge.

This is a world of wonderfully well-balanced compensations. No one section or business has all the advantages nor any other all the disadvantages.

If conditions were as our correspondent states, there would be no farmers. We get out of any business and out of life about what we give to it, and if the tiller of the soil gets less for his labor it is pretty certain that there are other compensations or he puts less into it.

BETTER BABY WEEK

The "Better Baby Week" will be held in Graded school building June 2 and 3. All mothers are urged to have their babies between the ages of twelve and thirty-six months examined.

Class I.

Country Boys, one to two years. Country Girls, one to two years. Country Boys, two to three years. Country Girls, two to three years. Sweepstakes, Boy. Sweepstakes Girl.

Class II.

Town Boys, one to two years. Town Girls, one to two years. Town Boys, two to three years. Town Girls, two to three years. Sweepstakes Girl. Sweepstakes Boy.

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Relieves Constipation Easily Without Gripping or Discomfort.

Indigestion and constipation are two conditions that are closely related and the cause of much physical suffering. The tendency to indulge one's appetite is more or less general and most people suffer at one time or another from rebellion of the over-taxed organs of digestion and elimination. A pleasantly effective remedy, that will quickly relieve the congestion of poisonous stomach waste and restore regularity, is the compounds of simple laxative herbs sold in drug stores for fifty cents a bottle under the name of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin. This is a mild, pleasant laxative tonic, free from opiates or narcotic drugs, and has been the standard household remedy in thousands of homes for many years.



Mrs. Oliver Young  
Get a bottle of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin from your druggist and have it in the house. A trial bottle, free of charge, can be obtained by writing to Dr. W. B. Caldwell, 454 Washington St., Monticello, Ill.

Mrs. Oliver Young, Merrill, Wis., writing to Dr. Caldwell, says, she knows of nothing so effective for regulating the stomach and bowels; since taking Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin she feels ten years younger; her work seems easier and she has regained her appetite.

TRADESVILLE

Just in from church at which place we spent a few hours in the divine interest of the holy command of the supreme architect of the universe.

As the beauties of spring which are always in store for us have exuberantly dawned upon our fair land, I am constrained to believe that the same seems applicable to our Sunday School, which is manifestly plain that it is taking on new life, coupled with a spirit of progressiveness which with a little more push and stickability we could rise and exultantly proclaim that we have done something.

Brother Carson, ever ready at the post of duty, was present and delivered a sermon worthy of the attention of an appreciative audience who never feels disappointment after listening to his impressive discourse.

Mr. Editor: Just a few of the topics of the day. The weather is very dry in our community and numbers of farmers are working at a disadvantage in order to keep the wheel turning while it is dry, for some day it will rain and then it will be the faithful and most progressive fellow who will be in front, nevertheless, some of our farmers make the claim that germination is taking place and the cotton is beginning to come. There is a large per cent of the corn crop in this section yet to be planted.

This is due in part to the inability of the farmers to prepare their land. Children's Day which is an annual event and looked forward to by all and especially the young people will be observed some time in the near future. The date will be published in the column of The Lancaster News.

The Junior Order of our village enjoyed a pleasant repast on the evening of the 6th.

The election on Saturday which was held for the purpose of electing trustees for the Tradesville school was well attended.

Mr. L. S. Small, manager of the Tradesville Garage, with his favorite car is now on a trip north, his whereabouts being unknown. There is no little anxiety displayed on account of his past experience on these

northern trips, which have failed to materialize in anything greater than the magnetic force of his steering gear which on some certain occasions has been known to display an inclination to collide with some telegraph pole which was purposely planted in the wrong place by some mischief-making guy, or either submerged into the depths of a mighty road side ditch which, in all probability, should have been cut on the opposite side. Now we imagine this is all to the detriment of the unfortunate tourist therein. We are not looking for poor Luke for some time.

If this escapes the waste basket, we may come again.

FLY FIGHTER.

TABERNACLE NEWS

Miss Tressie Taylor left Wednesday morning for the Fennell Infirmary where she will undergo treatment.

Mrs. Clara Williams is still suffering very much from rheumatism.

Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Merritt left last week for Columbia to visit their daughter who is very ill. From there, Mr. Merritt will go to Charleston to attend the State Sunday School Convention.

Miss Lula Taylor, Messrs. C. H. and H. M. Rowell and Mr. J. A. Carnes left Wednesday for Charleston to attend the State Sunday School Convention.

Messrs. Clene, Sim and Van Plyler and Messrs. Oscar and Charles Taylor motored to Lancaster and other points Saturday and Sunday in Mr. Plyler's new car.

Messrs. Jeff and Allen Small and Jasper and Manly Ellis and Nancy Hinson motored to Spring Hill Sunday to attend the Union meeting. They spent the afternoon in this community.

Mrs. Alice Funderburk of Birmingham, Ala., will return home the latter part of the week, accompanied by her brother, Mr. H. S. Plyler.

Mr. Oscar and Miss Janie Shute of the Union section spent the weekend at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Taylor.

A large number of our people attended the school closing at Bethel. (Continued on page 3)