PRICES MOVE SLOWLY IN WHEAT MARKET

Governed Almost Wholly by Little Speculative Animation—Weather Favorable and Crop Prospects Bright—Corn Changes Unimportant.

New York, March 1.—Grain markets were governed almost wholly last week by little speculative animation. There were no sharp or radical fluctuations, but a moving slowly toward a slightly higher level. The prevailing apathy, during large speculators seemed to indicate that an impulse was badly needed. The strength was owing almost wholly to the falling off in primary receipts, and the improvement in the demand in cash markets.

Experienced dealers believe that Europe will be compelled to turn to North America for larger supplies of wheat, partly owing to the decidedly unsatisfactory outturn in Argentina, where receipts are surprisingly light and the quality is poor. Since January 1, exports from Argentina have been even smaller than generally expected, being about 60 per cent less than in the corresponding weeks last year. While Australia is exporting fairly large quantities, it is generally believed that the clearances from there will become smaller before long, as the surplus is not as big as a year ago.

Effect of European Advance.

The rising tendency in European markets was partly caused by reports of damage by bad weather in France and Russia. This led in the first place to a sharp rise in Paris. The market was held down temporarily at the outset by fairly large world's exports, which led to a surprisingly big rise in the quantity on passage, 5,200,000 bushels, against 1,236,000 bushels a year ago. The buoyancy in our markets was partly ascribed to Snow's estimate respecting farm reserves, which he placed at only 166,000,000 bushels, against last year's official report of 156,000,000. Because of the alleged crop last year, it was generally supposed that farm reserves would be at least 175,000,000 bushels. Exporters acknowledged the receipt of larger and more satisfactory orders, especially for hard winter, but in many cases their limits were too low. Nevertheless, a fair business was done, partly for shipment via Gulf ports, but largely from Chicago via Boston, Baltimore and Philadelphia.

It was estimated that close to 1,000,000 bushels had been contracted for within a few days. This material increase was made possible by the low freight rates ruling from the points mentioned. The weather in the West has been seasonably cold, but the growing plant is well covered by snow, excepting in the South and Southwest.

Narrow Trading Later in Week.

Late in the week trading was confined to small scalpers and room traders, and as a result, fluctuations were extremely slow. Occasionally, a slightly firmer undertone was noticeable, as small shorts were inclined to cover but this demand was quickly satisfied and the market again became dormant. Cash markets continued comparatively strong, premiums having been raised in many cases, as primary receipts continued light, excepting at Minneapolis. Temporarily, cable advices were again slightly encouraging, especially from Continental markets, which were affected partly by the receipt of additional unfavorable reports from Argentina, where the receipts of prime milling wheat continue extremely limited, and estimates as to the probable surplus for shipment to Europe were again reduced. Meanwhile, shipments continued fairly large from Argentina, where the receipts of prime milling wheat continue extremely limited, and estimates as to the probable surplus for shipment to Europe were again reduced. Meanwhile, shipments continued fairly large from Australia, while Russia was still offering comparatively cheap wheat freely for forward shipments.

Last week's clearances from Argentina were only 2,136,000 bushels, against 5,848,000 a year ago, while since the first of January the total is 11,864,000 bushels, against 31,032,000 in the same weeks last year. Reserves in farmers' hands, especially in spring wheat territory on both sides of the border, are uncommonly light. Millers in the Northwest will be compelled to grind hard winter wheat freely in the near future.

In the past few days the weather has been decidedly warm in winter wheat States, the mercury being over thirty over a wide area, and, therefore, alternate thawing and freezing is apprehended. Damage may be done this spring by floods. Apprehension is based on the heavy fall of snow and the exceedingly low temperature, which has made a huge crop of ice, and when this snow and ice begins to melt rivers may overflow their banks.

Stronger Tone to Corn.

There was a slightly stronger feeling in corn early in the week. Offerings were light and shorts inclined to cover. Buying was prompted partly by light primary receipts, decreasing stocks, and cold, stormy weather, throughout the West, which would, it was supposed, necessitate free feeding to farm animals. Demand was accelerated also in part by Snow's estimate on farm reserves, which he placed at 882,000,000 bushels, against 1,289,000,000 a year ago. Afterwards the market became dull and decidedly narrow. The upward tendency was checked somewhat by discouraging cables, European markets being influenced by more satisfactory reports respecting the weather and crop outlook in Argentina. Advices as to the probable surplus in that country have been vague and decidedly conflicting.

The slightly stronger tendency in oats was partly attributed to dry, cold, weather in the Southwest, and partly to Snow's estimate on farm reserves, placing them at only 330,000,000 bushels, against 404,000,000 a year ago.

TRADING IN COTTON IS OF SMALL VOLUME

Several Days Total Transactions Do Not Go Much Over 125,000 Bales—Cross-Currents to Consider in Calculating Probable Future Course.

New York, March 1.—The trading in cotton contracts in the New York market the past week was of the smallest volume for some time past. On several days the total transactions did not go much over 125,000 bales. For the closing prices of last Friday to the highest quotations reached for the week on the resumption of business on Tuesday following the holiday on Saturday and Monday, there was a maximum advance of six points on March and October and December of the next crop to four points on May and July and two on August. March then went up to 12.20, May, 12.06, July, 11.92, August, 11.73, October, 11.11, and December to 11.54. The slightly stronger markets at Liverpool than expected on Saturday and Monday caused this slight rise. But there was no outside investment or speculative demand to support this, and as the few remaining local bulls withdrew their support, it required only a little further scattered pressure from the local Memphis and other Southern bulls to send prices off by Thursday afternoon twelve to thirteen points from those prices for the old crop months, and seven to ten on the later months.

Then the market rallied until prices went back Friday to the highest quotations reached in Tuesday's slight advance. The movement was entirely the result from some covering of shorts, there being no March option. After its course, the market reflected weakness and reacted sufficiently to close the general list at the same prices which prevailed at the close of the market last March ending at 12.24; May, 12.06; July, 11.88; August, 11.71; October, 11.50, and December, 11.54.

Outside Speculation.

All manner of cross-currents to be met in calculating the probable course of prices. Hence the majority of spot cotton dealers, spinners' agents, and the people of the speculative class do not know whether to take a strong position on the short or for a further break in prices or for the bull side for a turn in the market. In this uncertainty there has been quite a good deal of attacks made on the New York Cotton Exchange, especially by the Vicksburg Exchange and the Memphis Exchange.

The reforms in the character of the New York Cotton Exchange's contract, unanimously adopted by the members of the Exchange over two months ago, go into effect, the standard of the contract will be as good as, if not better than, that of either the New Orleans or Liverpool Cotton Exchange. The chief fault with the recent criticisms and attacks lies in the fact that those making them could hardly have been aware of the far-reaching character of these reforms made to comply with every suggestion of the Department of Commerce.

The Market's Position.

In the meantime, the greater percentage of low-grade cotton in this season's crop, than in any other since 1906-7, has been largely responsible for the heavier differences at Houston, New Orleans, and Memphis. Efforts to make the New York contract market the "dumping ground" for a great deal of this kind of cotton, as well as the machine cut "boll-ie" cotton, by sending it here with the idea of delivering it on contracts, have failed. Upwards of 20,000 bales so far have been rejected by the classification committee as not being suitable for such tenders.

It has been the weight of this great quantity of low-grade cotton in the South which has deadened the trading in cotton contracts here the past week and kept the Southern spot markets in a comparatively quiet condition. Therefore, the outlook as to the future course of prices continues so obscured at present that nothing better than an irregular traders' market is in prospect.

The Crop and Its Marketing.

The movement of the crop into sight from plantations this week to the principal interior seaboard and receiving points is about 195,000 bales, against 235,000 last week, 260,000 last year, and 348,000 in 1912. This makes the total amount of the season's crop actually marketed from September 1 to date 12,275,000 bales, against 11,572,000 last year. Figuring the total crop, including linters, at 14,500,000 bales, this would leave but 2,125,000 bales remaining to be marketed during the balance of the season of which six months remain until September 1.

The world's spinner's takings for the week are estimated at 285,000 bales, against 315,000 last week, 314,000 last year, and 347,000 in 1912. This makes the world's spinners' total takings of American cotton from the opening of the season on September 1 to date 10,103,000 bales, against 9,064,000 the same time last year.

TRADE INTERESTED IN MARCH POSITION

New Orleans, La., March 1.—Cotton traders this week will be more or less interested in the final ginning report of the season, but the main interest probably will be in the March position. It is generally assumed there is a large short interest in March, both in spots and futures, and bulls claim that shorts will have a difficult time in covering, particularly those parts who have contracted for the delivery of better grades.

Very little is coming from the bear side regarding the March situation. As a rule bears have contented themselves with denying that any unusual or unwieldly interest exists in either the spot or the future department. The large amount of cotton on shipboard, 48,638 bales to this port Friday night against only 22,860 a year ago, is taken by many to mean that shorts have been anticipating their wants. Bulls, however, believe that many shorts will hold off until the latest possible moment in March before covering. The pending ginning report will carry the crop down to the end of February, but will not be issued until March 20. It is not at all unlikely that preliminary estimates of the number of bales to be returned by the Census Bureau will be put out in the near future. This is one of the important reports of the season, and will go a long way toward clinching or disproving estimates of the commercial crop, as it practically will count the crop grown this year, being subject to only slight corrections. As the situation now stands, the bulls do not expect the figures to point to a commercial crop in excess of 14,500,000 bales, but the bears quite generally think it will indicate a crop of 15,000,000 bales.

OPEN AN ACCOUNT WITH
THE UNION BANK
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INTEREST.

UNKNOWN FORTUNES COMING TO LIGHT

Income Tax Returns Deluge Collectors With Sums of From $5,000 to Millions.

NOT AN UNPOPULAR MEASURE

Recent "Drives" Result in Sharp Rallies and Good Buying.

BY BROADAN WALL.

New York, March 1.—Where else on this broad footstool can a people be found, who would deluge tax collectors with income returns that run from $5,000 to untold millions.

"Many unknown fortunes are coming to light," reads the news. Members of the "sunshine" club are jubilant, and hail this as a fitting omen on the first anniversary of the inauguration of President Woodrow Wilson. Strange though it may seem, the income tax does not appear to be an unpopular measure.

Americans have in recent years become a nation of investors and the responsibilities of "making money work" have quickened the public interest in the management and control of industrial, transportation and utility companies.

Unusual attention has been directed to the annual report of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, issued last week. Striking directly at the root of the matter, President Samuel Rees says:

"With earnings at the highest level on record, $10,792,000 in 1913, net income shows a decrease of $233,000."

With no control over wages or rates, but a single course is open to the company, the within wail of twenty-five trains between New York and Pittsburgh.

Other roads will no doubt be compelled to follow suit, unless the Interstate Commerce Commission finds a ways to cut the red tape, that has entangled the railroad development of the whole country, to the loss of security holders and the impairment of credit.

Bankers, who a few months ago anticipated an improvement in conditions, that would enable the railroads to sell bonds, have been compelled in a number of cases to renew short term notes.

This, of course, is at best a make-up and an expensive transaction for the borrower.

Until the railroads are permitted to re-adjust their rates in keeping with the increased cost of porducing transportation, no permanent improvement can be expected in the financial situation.

Producers Are Hopeful.

Each week brings an increasing demand for steel and iron, and producers are looking hopefully to an active spring movement.

Steel stocks, generally, have steadily depreciated in value, the advance in United States Steel common being assisted by a big short interest. This stock selling to-day "ex" the quarterly 1 1-4 per cent dividend, is considered one of the best speculative issues, for it is argued that it is more representative, more widely held and more popular with the public than any other issue.

Copper stocks have maintained a firm tone, although the demand for the metal has not expanded as anticipated. Utah has made a good showing, and an increase in the dividend rate is looked for some time this spring.

Efforts to reconcile conflicting interests among Rock Island security holders have been unsuccessful. Owners of the holding company stocks are apparently unwilling to agree to an assessment until they can be assured of a new security that will have some intrinsic value. Holders of the senior securities are not willing to give up any part of their equity, and at the same time are not disposed to advance the necessary funds to put the property on a firm footing.

Union Pacific common selling "ex" the quarterly dividend of 2 1-2 per cent to-morrow will carry a due-bill for the extra distribution of 1 per cent and the proportionate distribution of Baltimore and Ohio shares. An impression is current that the directors are not opposed to the litigation which is deferring this distribution.

The bringing to market of Baltimore and Ohio stock at this time would probably hurt prices generally, and, as no provision has been made to protect the price by the formation of an underwriting syndicate, the attention of investors might be withdrawn from those issues that are already in the hands of the bankers and await absorption.

No concerted efforts have been made to put up stock market prices recently. On the other hand, several "drives" have been made against prices during the past month, but in every case rallies have been sharp and good buying has been encountered whenever prices were temporarily lowered.

STRICT CONTROL OF SHIPPING LINES BY I. C. C. IS URGED

(Continued From First Page.)

water carriers, if cutting rates against a competitor, be denied the privilege of restoring rate; that all traffic associations, pertaining to rail and water or all-water transportation be brought under the commission; that railroads be prohibited from making discriminatory rates or unfair divisions of rates on rail and water routes; that railroads be compelled to make terminal facilities available to all water carriers under the regulation of the commission; and that canal transportation in interstate traffic be placed under the supervision of the commission."

The committee's recommendations probable will be embraced in bills to be framed by the committee at a later date, though it is probable that no effort will be made to press such legislation at the present session of Congress.

WAVERLY STABLES BURNED TO GROUND

Widely Known Hunters of Former Miss Cherbonnier Are Destroyed.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Warrenton, Va., March 1.—The large stables on the estate known as "Waverly," until lately owned by Mr. and Mrs. E. Astley Cooper, but recently sold to Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Josepthal, of Baltimore, were completely destroyed by fire this afternoon. A defective flue in the stable office is believed to have caused the flames. All of the horses of Mrs. Josepthal were burned, with one exception. Those burned were her well-known hunters, Honey Bee, Arbiocrat and Robert Louis Stevenson; three draft horses and one pony. O'Connor was the only horse saved. In addition to this loss two fine touring cars, one the property of Mrs. Cooper, several carriages, buggies, feed and harness were destroyed.

Mrs. Josepthal formerly was Miss Cherbonnier, of Baltimore. She is noted for her beauty, and as one of the most daring cross-country riders in the East. Mr. and Mrs. Josepthal had just moved to Waverly, the horses arriving on Saturday.

Valuable and prompt help was given by the citizens of the town and country in saving the residence and remaining outbuildings from destruction.

CAUSES PASSING OF THE 'OLD MAID'

Entrance of Women in Business Pursuits Makes Her Independent.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

New York, March 1.—"The entrance of women in business pursuits making her independent has caused the passing of the 'Old Maid' and has solved the problem of race development."

Dr. Franklin Martin, of Chicago, one of the country's most noted surgeons, and secretary-general of the Clinical Congress of Surgeons of North America, made that statement yesterday upon his return from England, where he has studied the progress of women.

"The problem of race development has resulted in an elaborate system of theories, called eugenics. Eugenics will develop a race by a rigid stock form system of breeding.

"With the assuming of an independence among women with its resulting breaking of one more set of shackles of slavery, marriage no longer becomes the only means of respectable livelihood for women. The average woman is no longer dependent upon the first beckon of commonplace man.

"She is no longer in the position of the hunted. She has leisure and independence enough so that she may assume the position of chooser. And if the suitable one does not present, she does not have to assume the burden of matrimony.

"This makes the mating of the fit and the congenial more possible than in the age of the unemployed female. There are fewer marriages of convenience, fewer marriages for a home, and more marriages based on the compatibility of tastes.

"The day of early marriages, of the 'kid' and enormous families and half-fed children and overbreeding of ragged women is over. The time will soon come when it will not be considered race suicide to breed fewer children than can be properly cared for.

"The world's problem is no longer how many can we bring into being, but how desirable can we make those we produce. In the past the races have developed by the cruel law of the survival of the fittest. In the new civilization, which the independence of women is doing much to bring about, unnatural appropriation by brute force will be substituted by a mutual selection by force of intelligence.

"More slowly, but no less inevitably, the same changes are occurring in England. The only type of spinster is passing."

ATTACKS PRESIDENT.

Henry W. A. Page, in Letters, Demands His Impeachment.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Washington, March 1.—A number of diplomats yesterday received a letter attacking President Wilson from Henry W. A. Page, the wealthy New York linen merchant, wanted in the district to serve a five-year sentence in the penitentiary for criminally libelling members of the House Judiciary Committee.

The letters are postmarked Seattle, Washington, and it is thought that Mr. Page is still across the Canadian border, where he was reported seen last June.

In these letters Mr. Page demands the impeachment of the President, and says he is shielding two hired assassins.

ABSOLUTELY DEFIES FIRE

Minnesota Man Perfects Unique Suit and Helmet.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Cincinnati, Ohio, March 1.—Martin Panian, of Eveleth, Minn., has perfected a suit and helmet with which he absolutely defies fire. To prove it he allowed himself to be cast into flames at a demonstration here to-day. After being enveloped in flames for five minutes he calmly stepped out. The helmet is of metal, with layers of water and fireproof canvas inside. The suit also is constructed with layers of canvas, through which water is forced. To avoid the heating of the water, vents at the hands allow it to escape.

INCORPORATED 1832

Virginia Fire and Marine Insurance Company

JANUARY 1, 1914

ASSETS.

Stocks and bonds owned (market value)	$1,267,672 25
Real estate owned by the company	118,458 44
Loans on bond and mortgage (first liens, value of lands and buildings mortgaged, $170,250)	81,275 00
Interest due and accrued on said bond and mortgage loans, loans, bonds and other assets	18,396 07
Bills receivable and call loans secured by collateral	27,317 00
Premiums in course of collection	115,830 15
Cash in company's office and in National State and City Bank, Richmond, Va	101,421 02
	$1,730,369 93

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock	$ 250,000 00
Reserve for losses unpaid, including losses in course of adjustment	76,817 31
Reserve for unearned premiums	708,690 65
State, municipal and county taxes due and accrued	12,500 00
Dividends declared December, 1913, due January 2, 1914	15,000 00
Reserve for accounts incurred in December, 1913	700 00
Reserve for December, 1913, reinsurance accounts, due January 15, 1914	3,589 16
Surplus beyond capital and all liabilities	663,072 81
	$1,730,369 93

WM. H. PALMER, President. E. B. ADDISON, Vice-President. W. H. McCARTHY, Secretary.

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Green, Tilson & McKinney, Attorneys.

WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY

(Letters addressed to Professor Massey must have stamp inclosed for answer.)

Monday, March 2, 1914.

W. F. Massey.

Pruning Grapes.

No county or post-office given: "Planted family orchard and also tried grapes last spring. Kindly tell me if they should be pruned this spring, and if so, when? Would also appreciate your telling me the best way to save and benefit old trees that have been neglected, and have borne little fruit for several years?" Grape vines need pruning every year, and about the first of March is the best time. In planting a grape vine, I cut the young plant back to three eyes, and then select the strongest growing shoot, and train up one cane the first season. I plant posts eight feet apart and six feet high, and nail a crosspiece to the top of each two and one-half feet long. I then stretch wire along the top of the posts and also at the ends of the crosspieces, making three wires horizontal. The vine is planted midway between the posts and the rows ten feet apart. The young cane is taken to the middle wire, and the first pruning is to shorten it there. The next season take two arms each way on the central wire. These the next spring are shortened to four feet, and the fruiting side shoots will hang over the outer wires and the fruit under. Then each summer a new arm is trained out, and in the next pruning the old ones cut away and the new ones shortened to four feet, and so on, every year. To renovate old apple trees, cut out all stunted and interfering branches, and all water sprouts in the centre of the trees, plow the land well and manure or apply a heavy dressing of bone dust and potash, and cultivate clean the first season, and in the fall sow down to grass. Then afterwards mow the grass several times during the summer, and spread the cut grass under the trees as a mulch, and every spring apply the bone dust and potash, to maintain the fertility of the soil, and furnish an abundance of mulching material. Use the grass solely for the benefit of the trees, and let nothing run in the orchards but pigs with their noses kewelled to prevent rooting.

Keeping Sweet Potato Vines.

"Please tell me if there is any way in which the vines of sweet potatoes can be carried over for planting the next year?" Cuttings might be made in the fall and carried over in the greenhouse in pots, but it would cost far more than they are worth, and there is no good reason why any one should wish to do it, as it is so easy to grow fresh plants in the spring.

A New Comer in Virginia.

"Came to Virginia in November last, and bought a farm eight miles from Richmond. Every one says it is poor, run-down land. I wish to plant one and one-half acres in late Irish potatoes on well-drained, sandy land, with no clover to turn under, but a good many weeds. Last crop was corn. On another acre I would like to grow peanuts. Soil thin, and I cannot plow it before April. Have ditched the land for complete drainage. What kind of fertilizer for these crops? How to plant the peanuts? Can I sow anything on the land in the fall to improve it after the peanuts are off? I have just cleared small pines from a piece of land, and will take out the stumps, and want to grow corn on it. Plenty of green growth on this land, which has not been cultivated for years. Will I need fertilizer on this? The vegetable garden I manured over in the fall, and will spread more. Should I use more on this? Set 3,000 black raspberry plants in the fall, on which I used 1,000 pounds of bone dust. Do I need to use manure on these? We are new farmers, but wish to make a success here."

The sandy land should make good potatoes. You can sow it in New Era cowpeas, and turn these under the last of June for the potatoes, after chopping them down well with a disk harrow. Then use in the furrows 500 pounds of a mixture, 400 pounds of phosphate, fifty pounds of nitrate of soda, and fifty pounds muriate of potash an acre. The peanut land should have the same fertilization, except that instead of acid phosphate, it will be better to use Basic slag, Thomas phosphate, on account of the lime it carries. Plant the peanuts in rows three feet apart and sixteen inches in the rows, shelling the nuts carefully so as not to break the red skin. Plant two in a hill. On the new land for corn use 400 pounds of acid phosphate or Thomas phosphate an acre. The vegetable garden, too, should have a batch of acid phosphate to supplement the manure, and a little potash added will help. Will be glad to help you out at any time.

Hairy Vetch Seed.

"I have some hairy vetch seed that I failed to get sown last fall. Can I sow it this spring, or had it be better kept till fall?" It will be useless to sow vetch seed this spring, for it would hardly start to grow till late summer or fall. It will probably keep all right, and can be sown in late August or early September.

Grapes, Etc.

Southampton County: "I have some large Concord grape vines which I wish to move. Can it be done successfully? Can I grow the California grapes here? Where can I find a good market for water cress? Also for cut flowers of Gladioli, etc.? Can cranberries be grown here? Can you give the address of the Commissioner of Agriculture for Florida?" Better get new young vines, instead of trying to move old ones. The young ones will do much better. You cannot grow the California grapes in your climate, except in a grapery under glass, and that takes especial skill. The Pennock-Meehan Company, of Washington, will tell you all about the chances for shipping cut flowers. You cannot grow cranberries successfully in your climate. They have been tried here, and no one south of Northern New Jersey has ever made a success. You can get the address of the Florida commissioner by writing to the Florida experiment station at Gainesville.

Canning Corn Meal.

Richmond: "Can we put up corn meal in sealed tin cans, and have it keep indefinitely?" I can see no reason why corn meal should not keep any length of time if put in the cans heated to a sterilizing temperature or about 150 degrees, and sealed while the cans are hot.

Fertilizing Tobacco.

Appomattox County: "Please advise me the proportions of potash, acid phosphate and ammonia to use on bright tobacco on land where there is no clover." I have several times given the formula I have used and which others have been successful with and will give it once more: 900 pounds acid phosphate, 100 pounds nitrate of soda, 400 pounds dried blood, 400 pounds sulphate of potash to make a ton. This has been used in the old tobacco belt of North Carolina at rate of 700 pounds an acre, and made high priced tobacco. Growers last year in South Carolina report that this formula made them $250 an acre.

Corn Not Earing Well.

James City County: "I wish your opinion in regard to a piece of land I had in corn last year. Fairly good sandy loam land. Had a good growth of stalks, but half the stalks made no ear, and the crop was not over twenty bushels an acre. Since 1910 I have been rotating with corn and soy beans, followed by crimson clover. Inclosed I send samples of litmus paper, which I used in testing the soil. Concluded that the land needed lime, phosphate and potash, and intended to use all these this spring after plowing. But an old fertilizer man told me that lime put on the ground and then acid phosphate and potash mixed and applied would not do, as the lime would neutralize the effect of the phosphoric acid and potash, so that all three would not have any effect on the land. If this is correct, how can I sweeten the land so I can get a crop this season, as I wanted to plant it to peanuts and make a three-year rotation. I keep all the stock the farm will carry and save the manure carefully. This piece of land represented the same condition of all my land here on York River, and the crops of clover have only been moderate, but I have plowed them under, and yet my land has been producing less each year, and am not getting as good crops as my neighbors, who do not work any better. My soil lacks something. I take The Times-Dispatch and try to follow what you have written." It has often been said that a little knowledge is a dangerous thing. Your fertilizer man has doubtless heard that lime will revert phosphoric acid. That is, that it will revert to the acid soluble form instead of the water soluble. But the fact is that it usually does that in the soil anyway. From the condition of the paper sent it is evident that your land needs lime, and there is no danger in giving it the phosphate and potash after harrowing in the lime. After what you have been doing, the phosphate and potash are evidently needed. Then, too, the barrenness of the corn indicates fault in the seed, for the habit of making big stalks and no ears is a hereditary matter. These barren stalks are the strongest males in the field, and they scatter their pollen and set the ears that inherit the barren tendency. I would advise you to get better seed corn. Apply at least 1,000 pounds an acre of slaked lime. Better, put the fresh lump lime in carloads, or use the Hampton shell lime, not the ground shells, but the burnt lime, for it will take more than twice the amount of ground shells or ground rock to have the effect of burnt lime, and then not so quickly. Give the peanuts 500 pounds of acid phosphate and fifty pounds of muriate of potash an acre, and the lime may release some of the insoluble potash in your soil, and it is potash that prevents pops. But by all means change the seed corn and then you can gradually eliminate the barren stalks by going through the field and removing the tassels from barren stalks before they ripen. I know one man in Maryland who has done this completely, and I went through his field in every direction and failed to find a stalk without an ear. He has simply bred them out by not allowing them to ripen pollen.

Kind of Corn to Plant.

"Please tell me what is the best kind of seed corn to plant here in Eastern North Carolina on stiff soil rather shallow?" Get the Southern Prolific corn, such as Cocke's Prolific, and get it as near by as possible. Probably you can get it from the State farm near Tarboro, by writing to the director, Professor B. W. Kilgore, Raleigh, N. C.

Fertilizer for Cotton.

"I am thinking of using cottonseed meal, acid phosphate and kainit as a fertilizer for cotton. In what proportions should I mix it?" I would not use kainit, as you have to freight four times as much to get the same amount of potash as in the muriate. I would mix 1,200 pounds of acid phosphate, 600 pounds of cottonseed meal, and 200 pounds of the muriate of potash to make a ton. Then, in using this, put half of what you use under the cotton and half down the middles, for cotton roots run all over the ground, and this will save the usual side dressing.

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