

# The Caldwell Watchman

## HALE AND HARTY AT 93

To Editor Caldwell Watchman: For the purpose of introducing myself to you and your widely scattered readers, I have the following to say:

I cannot help what someone's told, sure it's a mistake. I am not old. I'm almost ninety-three years young; much stronger than when life begun.

Got off the passenger train at Olla on the morning of the twenty-fifth of October and walked to Frith Long's residence in three hours. Missed the road a short distance in two places, presume the distance was eleven miles, including the mistakes.

Came to Louisiana a little over seventy-three years ago, but this is the first time I have been to this part of the State, and find it a good farmers' soil; much better adapted to farming than I expected to find.

The one great need of the United States is more farmers.

It is the healthiest, most independent life that the human race can live. In fact it is the only occupation a man can follow and make money. Merchants, mechanics, doctors, and so on, may get and have more, but they do not make it.

I am a farmer, a farmer's son, and frankly acknowledge that I am proud of my skill in farming.

Farmers who are cultivating the hammock land, between the Castor swamp and the cut over open pine woods, ought to get rich in a few years, if they take hold of the golden opportunity that is before them, which is raising cattle and hogs for sale.

On the twenty-sixth I went with my grand-children to the Newell school house. I have seen a great many school houses in many different States, from near the northern boundaries of New York and Michigan to Austin, Texas, and this is the neatest rural school building I have ever seen. It is painted on the inside with light blue and on the outside with white.

I taught school seventy-two years ago, the first Monday in last last May, and have been an active school worker ever since; expect to be as long as I live, or until I get to be an old man, too old to do anything.

The tendency of the present, foremost school workers is centralization, to get as many children together in one place, as can be done by hauling, without too much expense; have several teachers, and a graded school, which builds up the village and city schools at the expense of the rural country schools. This, as I see it, increases the size of villages and decreases the number of farmers.

Every reader, man or woman, is entitled to his or her opinion, as to whether this is the best plan or not.

As I see it from my seventy years of an active, stirring life in this State, school men should do all in their power to promote farm work.

Right now the United States

of America, that three hundred years ago was a wilderness, has a city of between five and six million inhabitants the second largest city in the world.

When a school boy the total population of the United States, was about seven million, now not far from one hundred million people, a few thousand more or less, and the country has produced the most useful men and women the world has ever had, Thos. A. Edison, is one of them.

In conclusion say: The noblest, grandest thing on earth; Or has been, since creation's birth; Is the never ending race of man, By God's pure, holy, loving plan.

Respectfully,  
H. F. Long, Sr.

## CALDWELL PARISH AT THE STATE FAIR

The Caldwell Parish Fair made its first exhibit at the State Fair and won six blue ribbons and six red ribbons, securing \$118.00.

The Caldwell Agricultural school was put on the map on her merits. The school farm exhibit took third place among twenty-five agricultural school exhibits, receiving \$20. Eighteen agricultural schools entered teams in the following contests:

Plowing, corn judging, stock judging. The competition therefore was keen, the Grayson boys showed their metal to the following tune:

Plowing, for small boys, 2nd place, \$5. Plowing for large boys 4th place. Live stock judging: Grayson team 4th place, Hardie Fisher making highest score of all individuals entitling him to \$20; Crafton Meredith got 4th place, \$7.50. Corn judging: Individual honors won by Newton Stamper, 3rd place, \$8; C. Meredith 4th place, \$7.50; Hardie Fisher 5th place, \$6. Team standing—Grayson first, which gives them the silver loving trophy cup for a year.

George Pennington won 4th place, in 10-ear exhibit of corn, in competition with more than a thousand club members' exhibits, \$6.

John Carroll's Duroc Jersey pig took second honors among 200 male pigs, \$9. It is 8 months old, weighs 350 lbs., is registered, value \$50.

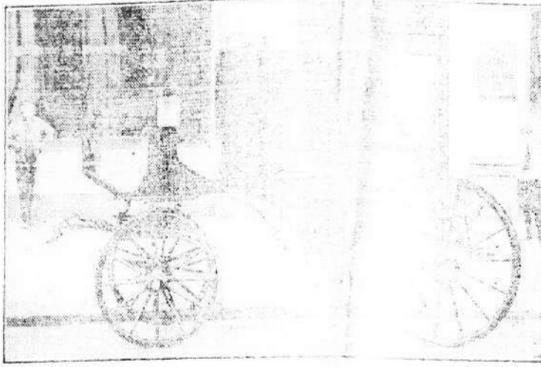
Add it up, and think it over. This is just a starter for 1916.

## GOVERNMENT

### CROP REPORT

A summary of preliminary estimates of crop production and prices for the State of Louisiana, compiled by the Bureau of Crop Estimates, U. S. Department of Agriculture, is as follows:

Corn: Estimate this year 48,000,000 bu., final estimate last year, 38,600,000; price, Nov. 1, to producers, 64 cts. per bu., year ago, 78 cts. Oats: This year 2,739,000 bu., final estimate last year, 1,610,000; price Nov. 1, to producers 58 cts. per bu.,



A CARRIAGE THAT SAVED AN EMPRESS. This is the closed London carriage which was the escape from the guillotine.

## A CARRIAGE THAT SAVED AN EMPRESS

A Philadelphia carriage builder has just completed a repair and renovating job on a vehicle which once played a prominent part in getting an empress out of the country over which her husband had ruled, into another land which promised her, if not her former high estate, at least a place of security and repose.

The vehicle referred to is a four-seated, covered landau, formerly the property of Dr. Evans, the famous American dentist, who gained such renown in Paris as to be summoned to Court to serve royalty in his professional capacity.

It was after the battle of Sedan, in the war between Prussia and France, and when rumors of the impending fall of the reigning dynasty became insistent, the wife of Napoleon III, the beautiful Empress Eugenie, was advised that it would be to her best interests to leave the capital on short notice, and in as quiet a manner as possible. In view of the secrecy necessary to get the Empress safely out of France, regular methods of traveling were out of the question. It was then that Dr. Evans, the American dentist, was appealed to, and he formed a plan of escape which was successfully carried out.

## OUR PUBLIC FORUM

### III—Julius Kruttschnitt On Financing Railroads



The farmers of this nation need to become better acquainted with the railroad men and their problems. It is only those who know that can give us information and the farmers of America should listen attentively to what the men who manage railroad property have to say. Mr. Kruttschnitt, executive head of the Southern Pacific, has written an article dealing with the financing of railroads. He said in part:

"The financing of a railroad is a function which the people, through their servants, the Railroad Commissioners and the Legislators, have never attempted, but it is a most important problem, especially to sections of a State where new railroads are needed. The placing of securities has been left entirely with the promoter and owner of railroads.

"The immediate determination of what earnings the railroad should be permitted to receive and what burdens it shall have put on it is in the hands of other servants of the public

—the Legislators and the Commissioners.

"Managing a railroad is quite different from managing a government where the money is raised by taxation. When the expenditures, for good reasons or otherwise, increase, taxes can be equally increased. The railroads, while servants of the public, cannot raise money with such ease and facility. The railroads must keep their expenditures within their incomes because while they have some control over their expenditures they have almost no control over their incomes, their rates being fixed by public authorities.

"There is not a railway manager in the country today who is not fearful that under the pressure of increasing demands the transportation systems of the country will, in a few years, break down, unless the railroads are allowed to earn larger funds wherewith to build it up. There are vast sections of the country, especially in the West, where more railroads are needed and they cannot be built unless the railroads raise new capital.

"People invest money in order to make money, and they are skeptical as to whether they can make money by investing in concerns that are dealt with stringently and unfairly. Railroad securities must be made more attractive to invite investments, and in order that they may be made more attractive, the roads must be allowed earnings that will enable them to meet the increased capital charges."

year ago, 65 cts. Potatoes: This year 1,170,000 bu., final estimate last year, 1,780,000; price, Nov. 1, to producers 103 cts. per bu., year ago, 110 cts. Sweet potatoes: This year 6,670,000 bu., final estimate last year 5,133,000, Nov. 1, to producers 64 cts. per

bu., year ago 62 cts. Rice: This year 12,470,000 bu., final estimate, last year 10,892,000. Cotton: The September 25 condition, applied to the estimated average, forecast a production of approximately 371,000 bales (500 lbs. gross), compared with

## PROFITABLE CROP

Adds Fertility to the Soil—Grows Three to Four Crops a Year Each Year in the Corn Belt.

## EXCELS EVERY OTHER CROP

The Introduction of Alfalfa as a General Farm Crop in the United States Will Revolutionize Agriculture—Means More Live Stock, Better Soil and Larger Returns From the Crops That Follow.

By PROF. P. G. HOLDEN, Director Agricultural Extension Department International Harvester Co. of New Jersey.

## Alfalfa Should be Grown on Every Farm

1. It is a profitable crop.
2. Increases farm values.
3. Excels every other crop in yield per acre in feeding value as a drought resistor as a soil enricher.
4. No harder to grow than clover.
5. Make a beginning—start now grow some alfalfa.

Repeated experiments made by the agricultural colleges, and the results obtained by the actual growers of alfalfa in the semi-arid sections of the west, throughout the corn belt states, and in the south and east, are conclusive evidence of the great value of alfalfa.

There are few farmers whose profits would not be increased greatly by raising alfalfa. Every farmer should aim to produce, as far as possible, his foodstuffs upon his own farm.

During the last few years, the area devoted to alfalfa has greatly increased in the region west of the Missouri river, and it is certain that there will be an equally rapid increase throughout the eastern and southern parts of the United States.

Many of the attempts in the past to grow alfalfa in the humid regions have failed, but with our present knowledge of the requirements of the crop there will be little, if any, more trouble in securing a stand.

Alfalfa will soon be grown abundantly and profitably upon every farm. It is no more difficult to grow than clover and gives double the yield. The deep rooting habit of alfalfa enables it to resist drought when clover, timothy, blue grass and other forage grasses die for want of moisture. Alfalfa roots grow deep into the soil—far beyond the roots of other plants.

Its drought resisting power is of no greater importance than its great value as a soil enricher. The long roots bring phosphorus, potash and other plant foods from below and store them in the upper soil for the use of other plants. Experiments show greatly increased yields of other crops grown upon alfalfa soil.

Alfalfa is rich in protein the most essential element in feed to make bone, blood and muscle in growing animals.

### Why We Need Alfalfa.

There is no combination of feeds so economical for the production of beef, pork, mutton, butter and eggs, as corn and alfalfa. Neither will give the best results alone. We need alfalfa because it balances up the corn ration and saves the large waste of starch which always takes place where corn is fed alone. We need alfalfa because we can by means of it grow on our own farms the protein more profitable than we can buy in feed stores. We need alfalfa because it feeds the soil and enables us to

a final census report last year of 449,453 bales. Price Nov. 1, to producers 11.3 cts. per lb., year ago 6.2 cts.

grow larger crops of corn and oats. We need alfalfa because it produces on an average 50% of the feed value per acre of clover, any other forage crop.

### Advisable to Inoculate.

In regions where alfalfa has not been grown it is found to be necessary to inoculate the ground by sowing three or four bags of soil secured from a field where alfalfa or sweet clover has been grown for a number of years, or where it is more convenient, artificial culture, such as "Intragin," "Farnesena," etc., may be applied. Where alfalfa has not been grown before it may make the difference between success and failure.

### Alfalfa Essentials.

A well prepared, firm, solid seed bed, plenty of good barnyard manure, and fallow to kill the weeds, are most important. Lime? Yes, one to two loads per acre, and by all means inoculate. Ground too wet for corn is not suited for alfalfa.

### Make a Beginning—Start Now.

Every farmer should try at least a small piece of alfalfa and if he does not succeed at first, try again and keep on trying until he does succeed. It is worth the while. If the work is thoroughly done and at the proper time, you will most certainly succeed in securing a good stand; if the work is half done and out of season, you will just as certainly fail. Make a beginning—start now.

### SAVE THE ALFALFA LEAVES.

Sixty Per Cent. of the Feeding Value of Alfalfa in the Leaves—Hay Should be Cut at Right Time and Cured so as to Preserve the Leaves.

Of the entire alfalfa plant, according to Kansas bulletin 155, the stalk comprises 60 per cent, and the leaf 40 per cent, whereas the quantity of the protein in the stalk is only 40 per cent, while the protein in the leaf is 60 per cent. Moreover only 20 per cent of the fat is to be found in the stalk, while 80 per cent. is in the leaf. It is, therefore, very important that alfalfa be harvested at the proper time, and carefully handled so that all the leaves will be saved.

When possible to do so it is best to cut alfalfa late in the afternoon or evening. Dew or rain on the freshly cut alfalfa will not injure it. Where a tedder is used, it should be started in the morning as soon as most of the dew is off and before there is any danger of knocking off the leaves. It is often advisable to go over it more than once.

Alfalfa hay is harvested and cured in much the same way as clover, ex-

## Save the Alfalfa Leaves

Proportion	%
Stalk	60
Leaf	40
Proteins	
Stalk	40
Leaf	60
Fat	
Stalk	20
Leaf	80

cept that it should be cut as soon as the young sprouts or shoots start to grow at the base of the plant.

When alfalfa is left too long without cutting, the leaves fall off and the stems become woody, and the yield of the next crop is greatly reduced.

### MONEY IN ALFALFA.

J. Otis Humphrey, Judge U. S. District court, Springfield, Illinois: "You can grow alfalfa anywhere in the corn belt and the crop is worth \$50 an acre."

Joseph Wing of Ohio: "Alfalfa will pay any farmer 6 per cent. on \$500 of new land."

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