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LOUISIANA AND ITS ILLIT-
ERATES.

One who takes interest in the welfare of Louisiana cannot refrain from blushing with shame when he learns that more than one person out of every ten in this state are unable to read and write. The grand old state, which we natives love so much, is lagging behind in educating its sons and daughters. To think that in some states one person out of a hundred is seldom seen, who cannot read and write. Why can't our people strive to do the same in our state?

The illiteracy of Louisiana exists chiefly in the rural districts, but in the last eight years the public schools in our state have made wonderful strides in advancing school facilities. Each farmer is but a stone's throw from the school house, and every man in this state should be compelled to send his children to school. When this is done Louisiana will be able to take its stand where it ought to be—at the head of the other states. This state has produced some of the greatest and most eminent men in the Union; it still has the material to give this nation splendid educators, lawyers and other professional men, but this material has to be developed. The farmers' sons as a rule are more susceptible to learning than the dissipated city youths, who are out every night at shows, dances and parties.

Let every man in this state make up his mind to do his duty towards the uplifting of our people; let us endeavor to educate all the sons and daughters of our noble Louisiana. We do not want to be numbered among the last states in the Union in educational advancement; let us go a peg or two higher and see what results will be derived.

THE SOUTHWESTERN DEVELOPMENT BUREAU.

The citizens of Lafayette, Jennings, Lake Charles and other towns and cities in Southwest Louisiana, championed by Mr. Switzer, have been working strenuously to organize a Southwestern Development Bureau, which will have as its object to boost the fertile lands of the thirteen parishes, which comprise Southwest Louisiana a proper, and to draw the attention of the Northern and Western farmers to the wonderful resources of this country.

We are of the opinion that this is the best manner to tell the out-siders what a farmer can do in Southwest Louisiana, and though some people are of the opinion that the bureau will not succeed, the Clarion feels confident that with the co-operation which is due it, the bureau will do untold and unbelievable good to this section of Louisiana, which so badly needs it.

We have the finest, richest and best soil in America, without the least doubt, but still we gaze wonderingly at the prosperity of the other states, which have no lands to compare with the Southwestern Louisiana lands, and the men who are endeavoring to launch this booster's bureau in this section, deserve great praise for their unselfish actions, in trying to better the existing conditions of this section of our state.

FARM, HOME and FIRE-SIDE

From the PROGRESSIVE FARMER

BETTER FARM BUILDINGS NEEDED.

The arrangements of farm buildings both within themselves and their relation to each other may mean the saving of many dollars each year in needless labor.

The health of people and animals housed should be taken into consideration. Yet how many barns, houses, etc., on our farms have been built without even one thought given to this most vital requirement. Better sanitation on Southern farms could easily increase the health of the rural population beyond belief; and that would cause land values to increase. There is no reason why the South should not be as healthy, or even healthier, than any other section of the country. Better farm buildings will help a whole lot.

The comfort of all concerned should be taken into account in building. For instance, take the hog; you want to house him so that he will be comfortable at all times. Yes, make it a pleasure for him to live. Why? Because he is a being that turns corn into lard, bacon, ham, etc. A being that isn't comfortable is not going to put on fat; and if he stays out in the rain, sleeps in a cold mud-hole, or is uncomfortable in some other way, some of the corn is going to try to make him comfortable instead of making him fat. So it will cost more to fatten the hog and hence you get less profit.

If it is essential that hogs, horses, and cows should be made comfortable, how much more is it essential that the farmer's family should be made comfortable. The doing of the household work should be made so easy that it becomes a pleasure instead of drudgery. The arrangement of farm buildings should be such as to allow the chores to be done with the least amount of labor. Instead of the boys wanting to go to the city, they should have so many conveniences and pleasures at the farm home that the city would lose its charm.

SHARE-CROPPING MEANS POOR FARMING.

There is no doubt that our short-tenure rental system and share-cropping do not tend to good farming and the maintaining and increasing of soil fertility, and we are convinced that better farming would be done if those who own more land than they can cultivate would cultivate it by hard labor. That it cannot be cultivated successfully by wage hands is by many of those who now own the land may be true, but that some such system is a necessity before much progress will be made is equally true.

Lack of capital and inexperience are probably the greatest real obstacles to the general adoption of such a method, if we except the general failure of large land owners to give their personal attention to the management of their farms. Any one familiar with such sections as the Yazoo Delta and the Black Belt of Alabama and Mississippi cannot fail to recognize the fact, that crop rotation and soil improvement are practically impossible under the present methods and that some plan which will permit of more intelligent and direct control of the land is rapidly becoming a necessity.

If cotton cannot be made profitably by paying wages for the labor that produces it, then in some way the share-cropping system now used must give the land-owner an unfair advantage.

But this is not the real reason why the cultivation of cotton and

Let the progressive leagues, banks and newspapers of every town in Southwest Louisiana lend their efforts to the bureau and it will not be long before it will flourish, and, we who assisted it in its infancy will point to it with pride and glory at the work which it has done for our state. We all want to see our section prosperous and rich, but do we all want to exert ourselves to bettering conditions? If you are too lazy to help the bureau, why are you so active and energetic in deriding it?

We hope that the citizens of Opelousas will join with those of Lafayette and other cities of Southwest Louisiana in permanently organizing the Southwestern Development Bureau; we need it; we must have it and this is our chance. It will have enough money to live, but it needs the co-operation of the people of Southwest Louisiana; give it a good word if you can do nothing better.

The Opelousas Progressive League, with such a man as Mr. Lorenzo Mornhinveg at its head, who is one of the most progressive men in this section, will, we hope, do all in its power to

corn by wage hands is neither popular nor generally successful. The real reason is that it requires more intelligent, direct and personal attention. This is also the reason why good farming will not be done so long as the share-cropping system exists.

Still this system will continue until the lands become so poor, or conditions become such, that the low yields produced will no longer support the cropper and the land-owner.

HOW TO CURE PEA HAY.

Begin mowing when the peas turn yellow in the pods. Mow in the mornings till noon; if possible, run a tedder right after the mower to keep the hay tossed up and hasten the wilting. Rake into windrows that afternoon. Next morning turn the windrows with the rake while the mowers are running on other parts. That afternoon put this hay into cocks as narrow and tall as will stand well. Then, as soon as you can take a handful of the hay and can twist it and can wring no sap to the twist, haul the hay to the barn and let it settle with its own weight without tramping, and then let it alone and it will cure all right. If it heats some, let it heat. If you go to stirring it to cool it, you will let in germs of mold from the air and will have moldy hay.

Now, I have cured it in this way many years and never made any moldy hay, but had it come out with the leaves on and green in color, and far better feed than the usual assortment of sticks that many make by letting the hay lie in the sun to bleach and the leaves to get dry and crisp. In fact, I have found curing pea-vine hay as easy as any other hay if you simply let it cure and do not "monkey" with all sorts of scaffolds and contrivances that merely dry the hay and lose the leaves, the best part of the hay.

HOW TO GET RID OF THE FLIES.

Try as you may, you can't get all the flies. Even the most careful and cleanly householder will have too many flies to risk having no screens on his doors and windows. As for the large majority of farmers, who are as yet unwilling to take the pains to remove the manure weekly and trap or poison the remaining flies, they will have pests literally by the thousands.

Now, there may frequently be some good excuse for not hauling out the manure, or not trapping or poisoning the flies, but ignorance, indolence and poverty combined are not enough to excuse a man for not screening his windows and doors. No, it is not expensive to screen your house. It will cost you from 10 to 20 cents to tack mosquito netting over the outside of each window frame. Is that expensive? If you say it is, at what do you value life and health? Mosquito netting will last for a year, and is really better than wire screen, because the little fibres protruding from the threads make the meshes fine enough to keep out mosquitoes as well as flies. Ordinary wire screen has fourteen meshes to the inch. It takes eighteen mesh wire screen to keep out the mosquitoes. So far as expense is concerned, when we consider the fly-borne typhoid fever, and the first and second year babies that the doctors have been polite enough to say died of summer complaint, instead of fly complaint, we find that we cannot afford not to screen our doors and windows.

join with the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce in making this bureau a success in every way.

CLEAN-UP TIME.

Dr. B. A. Littell has issued orders to the public to have all yards, outhouses, etc., thoroughly cleaned. There should be no reason, in the first place, why the Health Officer should in duty be bound to issue such orders. The public should take enough pride in the welfare and interest of Opelousas, without alluding to the general health of the community, to have the premises as clean as pin heads.

Despite the fact that Dr. Littell stated that he would impose a fine on the people in this city who did not clean their premises there are some who are slow in complying with the Health Officer's orders. There is no way to go around his orders and the sooner one will clean-up his place the better for him and the community.

It should be the aim of every citizen of Opelousas to have the city the cleanest in the state. It can be done and with a little more energy on the part of some Opelousas would be almost immaculately clean.

SUCCESSFUL MEN

CYRUS W. FIELD



At fifteen, Field became a clerk in the store of A. T. Stewart. When twenty-one, in 1830, he became a merchant himself and in fifteen years was one of the wealthy men of New York, then he retired from business with the purpose of spending the balance of his days in rest and travel, but he found no rest. The great energy he possessed demanded greater activity. His real mission in life had not yet begun.

One day while conversing with his brother Matthew about the construction of a telegraph line across Newfoundland, the idea of a telegraph line under the ocean flashed across his mind, and from that very hour he had no time for rest until finally, after years of toil and anxiety, the Atlantic Cable was laid.

This one thought fairly took possession of him, and he crossed the ocean over forty times before he succeeded in raising the required capital to accomplish the task. Then, when the cable was being laid, it broke twice in mid-ocean, not being strong enough to withstand the ocean pressure, whereupon all of his backers forsook him except Peter Cooper, but with his assistance, on the third attempt, success crowned his efforts amid the plaudits of the whole civilized world.

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Business & Professional Directory

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Agent New York Life Insurance Co.
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348 W. Bellvue Street,
Opelousas, La.

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Bercier & Bercier
Resident Dentists
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Dr. J. A. Shaw
DENTIST
Office above St. Landry,
State Bank.
Office Phone 335. Residence Phone 329.

Dr. A. J. Perrault
DENTIST
Room 14 Saizan Building
Opelousas -- Louisiana

DR. Z. T. YOUNG
PHYSICIAN and SURGEON
Office: Rooms 10 & 11 Saizan Bldg
Phones: Office 126. Residence 95

R. M. HOLLIER
Parish Surveyor
P. O. Box 152. 131 W Landry St.

BANKS:
St. Landry State, Peoples State, Opelousas National, Planters National, Union Bank & Trust Co.

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Room 5 Saizan's Building
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