

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

THE INDUSTRIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE PARAMOUNT TO ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OF STATE POLICY.

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## AGRICULTURE

### HARRY FARMER'S TALKS. CXXIV.

Editor of The Progressive Farmer:

We hired a man to cradle our oats, but on examination the cradle was found to be out of fix and it was necessary to do something at once. A young farmer said he could take the mower and cut and pile them in a short time. He had cut his own and some for a neighbor, so we agreed for him to try it.

#### A NEW METHOD OF CUTTING OATS

He made a platform the full length of the mowing blade which was about 4½ feet and about 3 feet wide, and bolted it on to the frame which incloses the knives. A man followed with a cotton hoe and raked the oats back on the platform until a small armful was gathered, then the team was stopped and the oats raked off to one side. This may appear to be tedious but two men or hustling boys can cut from four to five acres a day beginning at 8 or 9 o'clock in the morning and quit about 5 or 5.30 in the afternoon.

This plan, you see, gets your oats ready for hauling to the barn. The raking is all done, and no oats lost. When the hay rake is used the horses are sure to trample out a lot of oats besides the quantity that the rake will scatter. Where you have a reaper and binder you are whole-footed, but in our section they are few and far between while almost every farmer has a mowing machine that can be had.

#### THE ADVANTAGES OF THE PLAN.

In many fields this summer the oats are very small and short. The cradle will just top the most of them and you get only about one-half, while the mowing machine will save all. These small oats make better feed when used as sheaf oats than the larger ones. When grain is as high as it is now every farmer wants to save all he can.

#### PAPERS, GOOD AND BAD

The idea of cutting mentioned above was originated by a young farmer who was badly afflicted in early boyhood and had but little opportunity to attend school, but his father took The Progressive Farmer and several other good papers, and this boy read them carefully, and thus trained his mind to think. If he has no backset, he will do well. How many farmers think that money spent for newspaper is actually

thrown away! These long love stories and murder tales printed in the yellow journals and cheap "home companions" are worse than nothing; they certainly do harm and it would be better if they were not read. But wherever a home is filled with good papers and the subjects read are discussed so that the children become interested, the amount of good done is almost beyond calculation.

#### GOOD CROP OUTLOOK.

Crops in this section have improved wonderfully. There is still some complaint about the insects, but taken as a whole the prospects for fair crops are bright. Those farmers who kept their land well stirred are seeing the fruits of good tillage in dry weather.

HARRY FARMER.

#### Farm Life.

Editor of The Progressive Farmer:

This is a time when every farmer should live at home. Meat and lard are high. Every farmer should raise his own meat and lard and have some to sell. Wheat should be raised, also. North Carolina soil will produce sufficient wheat for our consumption if properly prepared and cultivated. It is raised at home to advantage, my father almost always making enough for family use. It means much to the farmer, who has regularly bought these things of his neighbor grocer, to raise them at home.

The man who raises his own cotton, corn, wheat and hogs is independent. He can easily, and at little expense, beautify his home by planting flowers, setting shade trees, and by some painting and remodeling of houses. He can, with ease, have a splendid orchard—as fruit trees are cheap and grafting easy—and have fruit from late spring to middle autumn. Beginning with currants, cherries, plums, and berries, then using apples, peaches, pears, and grapes, his table and home is constantly supplied with the choicest of delicacies.

Then the garden—which should be the pride of every home—if well cared for, will provide continuously, such things as, beets, squash, cucumbers, cabbage, turnips, beans, green peas, onions, strawberries, and collards—such a delicacy—for the winter. Then the melons and roasting-ears from the field make our list complete.

There are many other advantages in farm life which are foreign to a great extent to city life—quietude,

fresh, invigorating air, pure, wholesome water, and genuine health. And with such conveniences as the telephone system, rural free mail delivery and good roads, being made, enabling the farmer to "move near town and take his farm with him," the farm is the model home.

W. G. DOZIER.

Nash Co., N. C.

#### FRUIT GROWERS ELECT OFFICERS.

W. L. Hill, of Warsaw, Chosen President, and H. T. Bauman, of Wilmington, Secretary.

Wilmington, June 17.—The annual meeting of the East Carolina Fruit and Truck Growers' Association was held here this afternoon. The selection of a board of directors and executive committee and the subsequent election of officers resulted as follows: President, W. L. Hill, of Warsaw; Secretary, H. T. Bauman, Wilmington; Treasurer, S. H. Strange, Fayetteville; Attorney, E. S. Martin, Wilmington. Director: J. B. Oliver, J. A. Westbrook, Mt. Olive; L. L. Fasion, Faison; W. L. Hill, Warsaw; D. W. Fussel, Teachey; J. S. Westbrook, Wallace; J. H. Moore, Burgaw; E. Porter, Rocky Point; W. E. Springs, H. T. Bauman, Wilmington; George F. L. Lucas, Currie; S. H. Strange, Fayetteville; W. H. Thigpen, M. F. Leonhart, Chadbourn; H. L. Struthers, Grist. Executive Committee: W. L. Hill, chairman; J. A. Westbrook, E. Springer, J. S. Westbrook and W. E. Thigpen.

Reports of the directors, executive committee and business agent were read and approved. While none of these reports were given out for publication, it was stated that they showed perhaps the most successful year's business in the history of the Association. The strawberry season was especially a fine one, eclipsing all former records in the volume of shipments.

Business Agent Bauman reports that 1,780 solid cars, or fully 500,000 crates went forward from the territory covered by the Association, against 1,173 cars and 315,000 crates last season. A vote of thanks was tendered Business Agent Bauman for his very comprehensive report.

Rich Square Times: Hog cholera is reported in parts of the territory between the Roanoke and Chowan Rivers, and some hogs are dying from results of sore mouths which could be prevented if the hogs are given the proper attention.

#### Last Weeks North Carolina Crop Bulletin

Corn has generally improved considerably since the rains began; early up-land corn is being hilled or laid by in the southeast portion, while in the west much of it has not received its first cultivation; some injury by worms in lowlands is reported. Cotton is improving more slowly, it needs higher temperatures for best development than have been experienced lately; but plants, though still small, show a healthy appearance and stands have improved; chopping cotton is still underway, though all the crop is not yet up; many fields have become very grassy and lice are reported as injuring the crop in several counties. Transplanting tobacco is practically completed with fairly good stands; late set plants need cultivation, and have not started into rapid growth; early set is not showing much improvement, the drought caused too early maturity as expressed by the term "buttoning low;" tobacco worms are reported in limited sections. Many farmers are through harvesting wheat, but they bulk of the bulk the crop in the west has not been cut; frequent rains have been unfavorable for the work of harvesting, and in some cases wheat and other grains were beaten down by heavy rains. Minor crops are doing well, and gardens show much better growth. A large crop of sweet potatoes has been set; clover and pastures have improved. Fruit is fairly promising in the central-east portion; early peaches of the Alexander and Triumph varieties are ripe and shipments have been made; early apples are ripening, and the amount of dropping is not excessive. Dewberries and blackberries are nearly ripe.

The tobacco factories here are receiving handsome orders for their products each day. The smoking tobacco business is better than ever before, while the plug tobacco manufacturers are handling as much as it is possible for them. Loose leaf tobacco is scarce this week, and sales at the warehouse are light. The unlimited supply of rain is anything but the proper thing for the farmers just now.—Reidsville Review.

E. E. Clark, the young railway man who made so fine a record as member of the coal strike commission, is said to be the man slated to succeed Carroll D. Wright as Labor Commissioner when that gentleman retires from office a few months hence.