

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

and The Cotton Plant.

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THE COTTON PLANT—VOL. XXI. NO. 46.

RALEIGH, N. C., JANUARY 10, 1905.

Weekly—\$1 a Year.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

A Net Gain of 50 Per Cent in Circulation and Advertising Patronage in 1904—Average Weekly Issue for the Year Was 10,509 Copies and Average Since Combination with Greenville Cotton Plant Has Been 11,611 Copies.

Clarence H. Poe, of Raleigh, personally appearing before me, John Nichols, United States Commissioner, deposes and says:

1. That he is the President of the Agricultural Publishing Company, a company organized a year ago to purchase and publish the Raleigh Progressive Farmer, an established agricultural weekly, the first number under the new ownership appearing January 5, 1904.

2. That for the year 1904 the paper shows a total net gain of more than 50 per cent in circulation and advertising patronage, over the year 1903, the actual subscription list (excluding all sample copies but including short term subscriptions) now exceeding 10,000 names.

3. That the average 1904 weekly issue of The Progressive Farmer and Cotton Plant (The Progressive Farmer having in September, absorbed the Greenville Cotton Plant, the only farm paper in South Carolina), has been 10,509 copies, the total number for the 51 issues of the year being 536,000. Since the combination with The Cotton Plant, the paper having also continued to make rapid gains in circulation, the average has been 11,611 copies per week.

CLARENCE H. POE.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 31st day of December, 1904. JOHN NICHOLS,
(Seal) United States Commissioner.
Raleigh, N. C.

The Mutual Publishing Company does the press work for The Progressive Farmer and Cotton Plant, and the foregoing statement as to number of copies printed is correct according to our books and reports.

MUTUAL PUBLISHING CO.,
JOHN S. PEARSON, Sec. Treas.

Raleigh, N. C., January 2, 1905.

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THOUGHTS FOR FARMERS.

Preparation for Cotton.

The progressive, earnest farmer is now planning for the next crop. He has marked out the boundaries for each tenant and each special crop. As soon as the last boll of cotton is picked the work of preparation should begin for next year. Here is one plan: A farmer said last week that he was going to lay off his cotton land with a middle buster drawn by two mules. There were pine needles close to the field. He proposed to haul them in and distribute liberally in this furrow. By throwing a light covering of dirt on these needles they would be ready to supply plant food in the early summer. To this he would add 300 to 400 pounds of fertilizer, expecting to make a bale of cotton to the acre on this land. If one is going to plant cotton land in cotton again, run out the middle with a long, narrow shovel breaking the hard pan, if a second furrow is required to do the work well. Then take the middle buster and run under the stalks. The freezes of winter will pulverize the ridges between the furrows. The clay broken up by the plows will be incorporated with the soil and increase its depth and plant food. Every suitable day from this date on to the 1st of March should be used for sub-soiling and thorough preparation of land for the next crop.

Useless Farm Implements.

It was told of a farmer in this State years ago that he had his barn and fence corners filled with farming implements that he could not use. Several years ago an oily-tongued agent went through a portion of this county and sold about a dozen siding cultivators suited for level land. Not one of them was ever used here. An agent for a fence-making machine secured notes amounting to several hundred dollars for township rights. Not a rod of fence was made by the machines. Farmers are often deceived by advertisements and agents. They buy implements that do not suit their farms. It is a good plan to look with suspicion on any new implement sold on the installment plan. The farmer should consider his horse-power, the nature of his land and the special crops he raises and buy such tools only as he needs. But he should never economize in buying necessary implements, and he should always have a few surplus single-trees, bolts, trace-chains, hoes, plows, plow stocks and plow points. If he is thus provided, the breaking of something will cause the loss of little time.

The Garden for January.

Attend to the pruning of grape-vines at once. The sooner this job is done the better. Set out other vines now if more are needed. The strawberry bed needs cultivating and mulching. A sprinkling of wood ashes will be helpful. It may be too wet and cold to work garden soil, but scatter manure liberally broadcast and break or spade ten to twelve inches deep. If the soil becomes quite hard after heavy rains, cover with half rotted pine needles and plow in. The early and

hardy varieties of English peas should be planted as soon as possible. The wrinkled peas are quite tender and may be planted latter. Lettuce, spinach and mustard seed may be sown or planted in rows this month. Spinach is growing in favor every year, and is handy to have in the scarce days of early spring. Cabbage may be planted now for an early crop. They will come on early if planted in a cold frame. Some gardeners prefer to plant Irish potatoes this month. They cover them four to six inches deep and knock the dirt off just before they come up. A good garden means a good table. CHARLES PETTY.

Spartanburg Co., S. C.

THE WEEK IN RALEIGH.

For North Carolina's agricultural interests this week is a notable one, and Raleigh is the scene of action.

To-day, January 10th, at 3.30 p. m., the cornerstone of the Agricultural Building at the A. & M. College, will be laid, and an address will be made by Governor Charles B. Aycock.

To-morrow, January 11th, 4 p. m., the State Cotton Growers' Association will assemble in Metropolitan Hall, and it bids fair to be the most important North Carolina farmers' meeting for five years past.

January 10th to 13th are the dates for the fourth annual exhibition of the North Carolina Poultry Association to be held in the Agricultural Building. Secretary J. S. Jeffrey has labored earnestly to make this a record-breaking success and we believe he will succeed.

The inauguration of Governor Glenn, to-morrow, 11th, is not an agricultural event, but will also attract some of our constituency. On whatever business bent, we are always glad to have our friends call at The Progressive Farmer office. Come to see us.

THE SECRET OF GOOD FARMING IS QUALITY.

We readily recognize quality and its value in men. We call it character. Why not acknowledge the same when we have to do with the various phases of farming?

Quality—what is it?

The first attribute of success in all things. It is the best seed cotton obtainable. It is seed corn selected from the best and most prolific stalks. It is soil—well tilled, improved by culture, legumes and cover crops.

It is the cow—with milk or beef form, which earns a living and pays her owner well for her care and trouble.

It is the hog—broad over back and shoulders, deep in the sides and fine in bone, legs and head. Quality is every phase of soil or crop or animal. It is the best obtainable for our environments and conditions.

Finally, quality is the good farmer; the man who reads, who studies, experiments; the man who believes in his work and feels honored by it.

Quality is the good farmer.

C. W. BURKETT.