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Better Pastures, Better Live Stock, Better Farming.

WE have quoted before that unkind description of a Southern pasture as "a place where grass does not grow," and we fear it is all too accurate when applied to many of our so-called pastures. Now, there may be good pastures without grass—pastures of cowpeas, or velvet beans, or peanuts, or oats and crimson clover—but these are temporary pastures lasting only a few weeks and having to be renewed each season. A good permanent pasture, means grass, and good grass, and plenty of it.

A land of pastures and herds and flocks is invariably a prosperous land; and the people who feed good grass to good stock are invariably a contented and a thriving people.

We can have these pastures, too; and in this issue Mr. A. L. French begins a series of articles telling how to get them. Mr. French writes on this subject with even more than his usual enthusiasm, and it is no wonder. He is a man who has made good pastures, who knows how to keep them good and who appreciates their value. More than that, he is acquainted with conditions in our territory and what he says will deal with things as they are on the farms of the South.

Once we come to anything like an adequate appreciation of the value of grass—even of the despised Bermuda, of which Prof. W. J. Spillman justly says that "no grass bears pasturing better, or yields more herbage in the farm of pasture"—we shall get rid of the cattle ticks and the worthless dogs, raise our own beef and milk and pork and mutton, stop the gullies that are washing our cropped-out lands away, begin to enrich our soils and make better crops and more money.

When we do that, horses and cattle and sheep and hogs as good as the Wisconsin animals here shown will be common all over the South; and we shall gain on, and then equal, and then pass the States of the Northwest in the quality of our farming and the profits we derive from it.

When we say that farming in the South can be made even more profitable than it is in the great agricultural States of the Northwest, we mean what we say, too. Our climate gives us a



Courtesy of the Wisconsin Experiment Station.

wonderful advantage in that it enables us to grow two crops or more a year; we have the greatest money crop in the world; by the use of the legumes and the raising of live stock, we can build up our soils till they will produce just as well as those of any other section; we can raise live stock at the very smallest cost, because we can grow feeds so cheaply and because we are at such small expense for housing and shelter. But we must remember that all these go hand-in-hand—we must have more pastures so that we can raise more stock; we must have more stock so that we can grow and consume more forage crops; we must grow more forage crops so that we can feed more stock and improve our lands. Then we can produce cotton more cheaply and have more control over it after it is produced. In short, we must adopt a rational system of diversified farming, and good pastures are one of the corner-stones of any such system.

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