

will exist there, three, six, or nine months hence. To know soil needs for the various crops, experiments or tests along proper lines are required. For these and other reasons the best guide which any farmer can have as to the needs of his soils are the carefully conducted tests of the experiment stations on similar soils, or to make such careful and accurate experiments for himself. Few farmers can afford the time and expense to make these experiments, and therein lies the chief value of the experiment stations; but it must be remembered that the results of the experiment stations, while probably our best guide, are only an indication of the probable needs of our soils. The final and only safe answer, in the present state of our knowledge, must come from the soil itself. The farmer who has the knowledge to enable him to ask intelligent questions of his soil and the wisdom to correctly interpret the answers, will obtain the most reliable information possible for his guidance.

One Application or Two?

THE WEEKLY Press Bulletin of the University of Wisconsin, in referring to experiments in soil improvement being made by the Experiment Station of that institution, says:

"An interesting fact developed by this work is that on heavily manured lands there is excessive leaching of fertilizing materials, particularly phosphates, which were formerly supposed to have been retained in the soil in a form available for future crops. Examination of the drainage waters shows that if large amounts of these materials are added there are heavy losses which cannot be regained."

This is in direct line with the observation of farmers and the experiment of the South, namely, that where large quantities of fertilizers were to be applied to sandy soils two applications, one before planting and one during the growth of the crop frequently gave best results. It does not follow, however, that this holds good for clay or clay loam soils, for the available evidence points very clearly to the conclusion that on such soils the expense of two applications is not justified by the increase of yields which results.

Hog Prices Still Climbing.

EVERY DAY piles up new evidence to show that hog-raising is the biggest money-making opportunity now offered Southern farmers. Last week we published a dispatch from Chicago concerning the record-breaking prices of meat there. From the news columns of the Memphis Commercial Appeal we quote these three dispatches as to prices elsewhere:

"Hogs 9.15 Cents on Foot.

"Louisville, Ky.—Hogs sold to-day on the local market at \$9.15 per 100 pounds, an advance of 15 cents over Saturday's figure, and the highest price ever known in Louisville."

"Record Price at Kansas City.

"Kansas City, Mo.—Hogs sold for \$8.90 here to-day, making the highest price ever paid at this market. Until to-day the record price was \$8.80, paid in 1882."

"\$9.25 at Indianapolis.

"Indianapolis, Ind.—The top price paid for hogs in the local market to-day was \$9.25 a hundred pounds, believed to be the highest ever reached here. Most of the hogs sold for \$8.95 and \$9.15. There were not enough hogs to fill the demand, which was active, both from local and outside sources."

Read the article "Making Pork at 3 Cents a Pound" on our Live Stock page, then look next week, or week after, for our article on "Get Ready to Make Cheap Pork."

Every farmer who has no improved breed of hogs should make haste to get a pure-bred sire; every breeder who has any for sale should make haste to let the fact be known.

"What's The News?"

BY CLARENCE H. POE.

The Week's Happenings.

JUST NOW POLITICAL interest has shifted from Congress to the Supreme Court. About nothing else is speculation so intense just now as it is concerning the final decision of our highest court in the anti-trust suits against the American Tobacco Company and the Standard Oil Company. Wall Street is exceedingly nervous, and its doubt upon this point may have been more largely responsible for the recent flurry in stocks than any alarm over President Taft's legislative program.

An especially ugly situation has developed in New York State where several Republican members of the Legislature have been accused of bribery, the evidence being strongly against them, and more politicians incriminated every day. It begins to look, in fact, as if the Republican machine at Albany is almost as corrupt as the Democratic machine in New York City.

In this situation the most prominent Republicans of the Empire State are demanding that Governor Hughes, the big, able, ugly, relentlessly honest Chief Executive, shall sacrifice his personal interests and accept a renomination. No man in America has the confidence of the people more wholly than Governor Hughes, and there is now a general conviction that he would have made an abler President than Taft. Because they feel the need of him in this crisis, many Republican leaders who have heretofore opposed his policies seem now ready to support direct nominations, stricter control of corporation, and the conservation legislation which Governor Hughes has advocated.

The same independence of party bosses which has characterized Republican Governor Hughes is also bringing Democratic Mayor Gaynor into prominence. Already there is a fairly well organized movement to make him the next Democratic Presidential nominee. There is a feeling that Governor Harmon is too close to the corporations, and also that he lacks the fire and magnetism which a candidate ought to have.

In Congress the postal savings bank bill is still struggling for existence, but the indications are that it will be amended into comparative worthlessness, if it gets through at all. Senator Jeff Davis, of Arkansas, made a humiliating spectacle of himself and for his section a few days ago by an explosion of "sound and fury, signifying nothing." A committee has been appointed by the Senate to investigate the higher cost of living. The only Southern man on the committee is Senator Simmons, of North Carolina, and it will be remembered that he did not fully support his party's effort for tariff reform last year. The crusade against speculation in agricultural products is very promising. President Barrett and other officials of the Farmers' Union are making a telling fight, and if they can eliminate the evils of the exchanges without destroying some of their helpful features, great good will have been done.

The Laborites and the Irish members of Parliament seems to be unable to work in harmony with their natural allies, the Liberals, and the result of their stubbornness may be a breaking down of effective opposition to the Conservatives and so bring about another election before summer.

The progressiveness of Atlanta was again illustrated last week when a bond issue of \$3,000,000

for public improvements was carried by a vote of 8,539 to 66. The bonds will be used for the improvement of the water-works and sewerage systems, for additional school buildings and lots, additions to the hospitals, and a crematory plant.

After a brilliant address in behalf of the income tax amendment, by Senator Bailey, of Texas, the South Carolina Legislature last week voted for its adoption by a majority of 121 to 18. The Illinois Senate has just voted in its favor 41 to 0. Senator Bailey made an appeal to partisan feeling by declaring that Democratic Party would never be able to make an effective reduction of tariff and at the same time carry on the government unless the National Government was able to supplement the revenues by such a tax on incomes.

That the career of Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, will apparently be ended by his present illness, whether he dies or not, will be a matter of profound regret to the people of the entire nation. The physicians say that he will not recover his speech even if he lives. At first regarded by the nation at large as a reckless fire-eater, Senator Tillman gradually won the confidence of the country as a rough, blunt man of rugged honesty and acknowledged ability. Probably no other Southern Senator (except Bailey of Texas) has been so influential these last five years, and whatever errors of judgment he may have made, the whole South will lose by not having him actively at work in the Senate.

Senator Tillman had been somewhat worried over the contest between his son and his daughter-in-law for possession of their children. It will be remembered that young Tillman deeded the children to his father (the Senator), but the South Carolina Supreme Court has just declared unconstitutional the old law which made such an arrangement legal.

The insurrection of Nicaragua is still in progress and there is little prospect of its ending soon.

There are charges of fraud in the Missouri Democratic Senatorial primary in which Senator Stone seemed to have won out over Governor Folk. Governor Hadley challenges Stone to have the ballots re-counted with the understanding that Stone will resign if Folk is found to have an honest majority.

The Senate passed a bill making Explorer Peary a Rear-Admiral on the retired list, thus giving him \$6,000 a year for the rest of his life. The House Committee has rejected the bill and simply votes him a gold medal.

One of the most notable fights yet made by the Anti-Saloon League anywhere in America is the endeavor to carry Chicago for prohibition. Twenty-two more Michigan counties will also vote on prohibition April 4th.

The significant thing is not that Senator Heyburn objected to Lee's statute in Statuary Hall. The significant thing is that not a single other Senator, not even a personal friend, was found to vote with him when the question was put. This is about the most gratifying evidence yet developed to show the passing of sectional feeling in the North.

A Thought for the Week.

THE MEN who have achieved success are the men who have read and thought more than was absolutely necessary, who have not been content with knowledge sufficient for the present needs, but have sought additional knowledge and have stored it away for the emergency reserve. It is the Superfluous Labor that equips a man for everything that counts most in life.—Cushman K. Davis.