

Here's Howe



BY E.W. HOWE
"The Sage of Potato Hill"

ARE YOU ORTHODOX? — QUEEN VICTORIA
OLD THINGS AND NEW

As impressive reading as I have ever found in the writing of a first-class man is from George Santayana: "I have great respect for orthodoxy; not for those orthodoxies which prevail in particular schools or nations, and which vary from age to age, but for a certain shrewd orthodoxy which the sentiment and practice of laymen maintain everywhere. I think that common sense, in a rough, dogged way, is technically sounder than the special schools of philosophy, each of which squints and overlooks half the facts and half the difficulties in its eagerness to find some detail the key to the whole. I am animated by distrust of all high guesses, and by sympathy with the old prejudices and workaday opinions of mankind: they are ill expressed, but they are well grounded."

I also like Santayana because he said: "My system is not mine, nor is it new." I am prejudiced against those persons who show enthusiasm only in presence of something they consider new. Here is a leader in philosophy

who has most respect for the old common-sense as discovered by laymen in the school of practical experience, where all of us are students, and may become useful teachers: Harvard college is just a building; outside is the world: I am orthodox; I accept what the best of my neighbors say; I accept that shrewd orthodoxy which the sentiment and practice of laymen maintain everywhere.

When one encounters a good thing in reading, a pleasurable thrill follows—I never greatly admired Queen Victoria. Possibly it was because her virtues were exploited so much: one soon gets too much of that. But years ago I read that, as a girl, Victoria was compelled to learn housekeeping, and it gave me a pleasurable thrill, for I believe in training of that sort. Occasionally I have heard a woman say, boastfully, that she never had her hands in dishwater, and thereafter I think of her as I do of a professional actress, athlete, suffragette, or follower of the "occult."

A great medical association lately held its annual convention. The best men in the profession were attracted, and one old fellow, recognized as without a peer in his line, bluntly told them that with all their investigation, practically nothing of value in prolonging life had been discovered in many years: that old age is the same inexorable thing it has always been. . . . With all our learning, old things finally demonstrate their supremacy over the new.

There is a kind of woman men obey with a good deal of cheerfulness. But she is always a capable boss, and does not ask too much; when too much is demanded, men tighten up, and display a meanness women cannot equal.

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**More Livestock Is
Greatest Need Of
Southern Farms**

By P. O. Davis, Editor,
Alabama Extension Service
Whenever Southern agriculture as a whole is studied, several outstanding facts are revealed. Among those of major importance is the fact that the South needs more livestock on farms. This conclusion is based upon the following:

(1) Southern agriculture is top-heavy with crops. The crop acreage is large; the number of livestock is small in proportion to crops.

(2) This condition is resulting in inefficient use of labor, lack of adequate cash crops, depletion of soil fertility, and inefficient use of the farm as a whole.

These factors are fundamental. As long as they exist as they now are, Southern agriculture cannot be as profitable as it should be; and as it will be after livestock is added to balance the situation.

Take the cotton farmer as an example. There are farms where a one-sided agriculture with cotton is profitable but as a general thing this is not true. Labor on an all-cotton farm is loaded heavily while the crop is being made and gathered. In the interims between making and gathering and gathering and making, labor is idle except as to minor farm work.

With more livestock this would not be true. Livestock requires attention every day in the year. Consequently labor is not idle several months but is producing every day of the month in the year. It is on the job continuously.

And efficient use of labor is essential to maximum income from farming. This is true of the business man, of the banker, and of the professional man. Those who are employed in industry and in commerce, or engaged in the professions have no long idle periods, except, of course, when labor is out of work. They work steadily all the year.

Therefore, more livestock will increase the efficiency of labor on Southern farms. This being true, the annual income of the farmer should be larger because more work will be done. Instead of being overloaded at two seasons it will be busy all the time.

The next advantage to come from more livestock should be a weekly cash income which will avoid credit prices or buying on the "time price" basis. For example, a farmer who has combined dairying and cotton gets a weekly check from his dairy. If he has enough cows this check is large enough to pay his operating expenses, leaving his cotton money clear at the end of the year. If this is not done he must either have the money, borrow it, or pay credit prices. In most cases supplies are bought on credit or "time price" basis which increases cost enormously. Increases of 30 to 60 per cent are recorded. The increase is enough to absorb all the profit of good crops. Industry, efficiently managed, cannot afford to pay such added margins of profit. Neither can the farmer do it and make money. Those who do so are held in economic slavery.

To state that livestock will help the soil is nothing new. It is a fact which is as old as agriculture. European farmers knew long before this country was settled that livestock improved their land and made all farming more profitable.

Livestock farming keeps plant food on the farm. It also requires pastures; and pasturing improves the land. Instead of selling plant food, the farmer feeds it to livestock which returns most of it to the soil. When livestock is marketed the soil is not robbed.

More efficient use of land is the fourth advantage from livestock. The South has millions of acres of idle land. Much of it will never be profitable for making crops but it can be made to pay if used for pasturing. Such land is kept at a dead loss if it is not pastured, or if timber is not grown on it.

The farmer who has 200 acres of land but uses only 100 of it is like unto the manufacturer who operates with half of his plant idle, which means that half of his plant investment is not paying. Of course the farmer who farms this way has not improved the land which he is not using. The land which he is not using does not represent half of his capital stock.

Along with the foregoing advantages, livestock calls for better farming in general. For example, livestock farming requires home production of feed, and home production of feed requires more machinery for making feed at a low cost. With more power and machinery crop farming will be improved because one man can do more work; and, in doing more work, he earns more money.

Throughout many Southern states there are farmers who have added cows or other animals to cotton and are making as much or more cotton as they did before livestock was added. In addition, they have their livestock income and they have improved and are improving their land.

Another reason for adding more livestock—dairy cows, beef cows, hogs, sheep, and poultry—to Southern farms is the fact that consumption of livestock and livestock products in the South is increasing. This means a better market at home.

**COLLEGE CLUB
TO GIVE PLAY**

Dramatic Organization To Present
"The Genius," a Three-Act Comedy, Next Monday Night.

The Presbyterian college dramatic club will make its Clinton debut for the college year 1929-30 at the Florida Street school next Monday evening. At that time the club will present "The Genius," a comedy in three acts, by William C. and Cecil B. de Mille. Subsequent to this performance the club will take the play to Spartanburg where they will play before the students of Converse college on November 9th.

The play is reputed to be one of the funniest and most entertaining that has ever been presented in Clinton. Characters, situations, and lines all contribute to make a delightful combination that should provide an enjoyable evening for all who are there.

The P. C. dramatic club achieved a good reputation last March when the first play was given. "Second Story Peggy" will long be remembered for the pleasure it brought to Clinton play-goers. Next Monday's play is even better and funnier than "Second Story Peggy." The cast is essentially the same, with the addition of several men who are remembered for their excellent work in the freshman play last spring.

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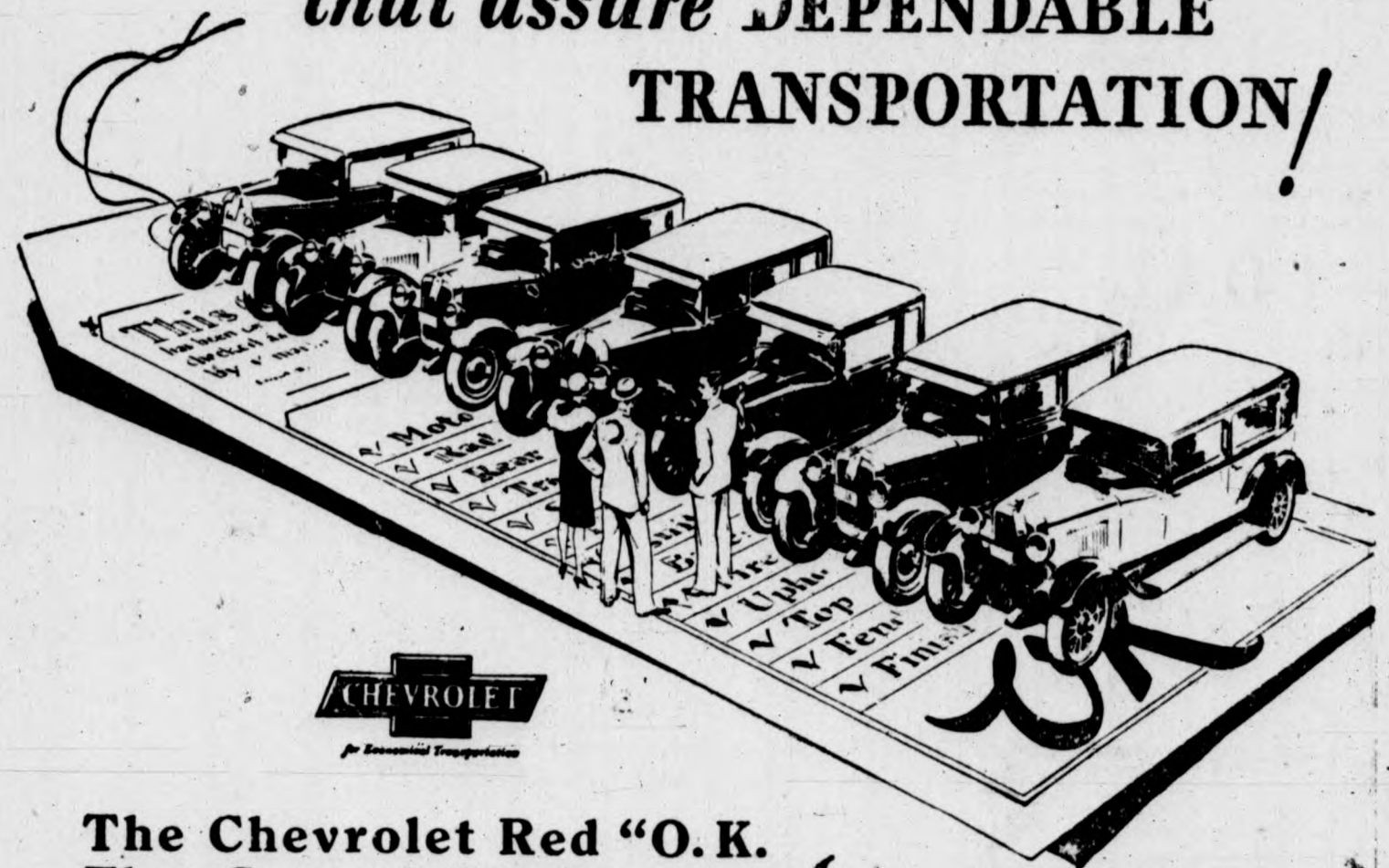
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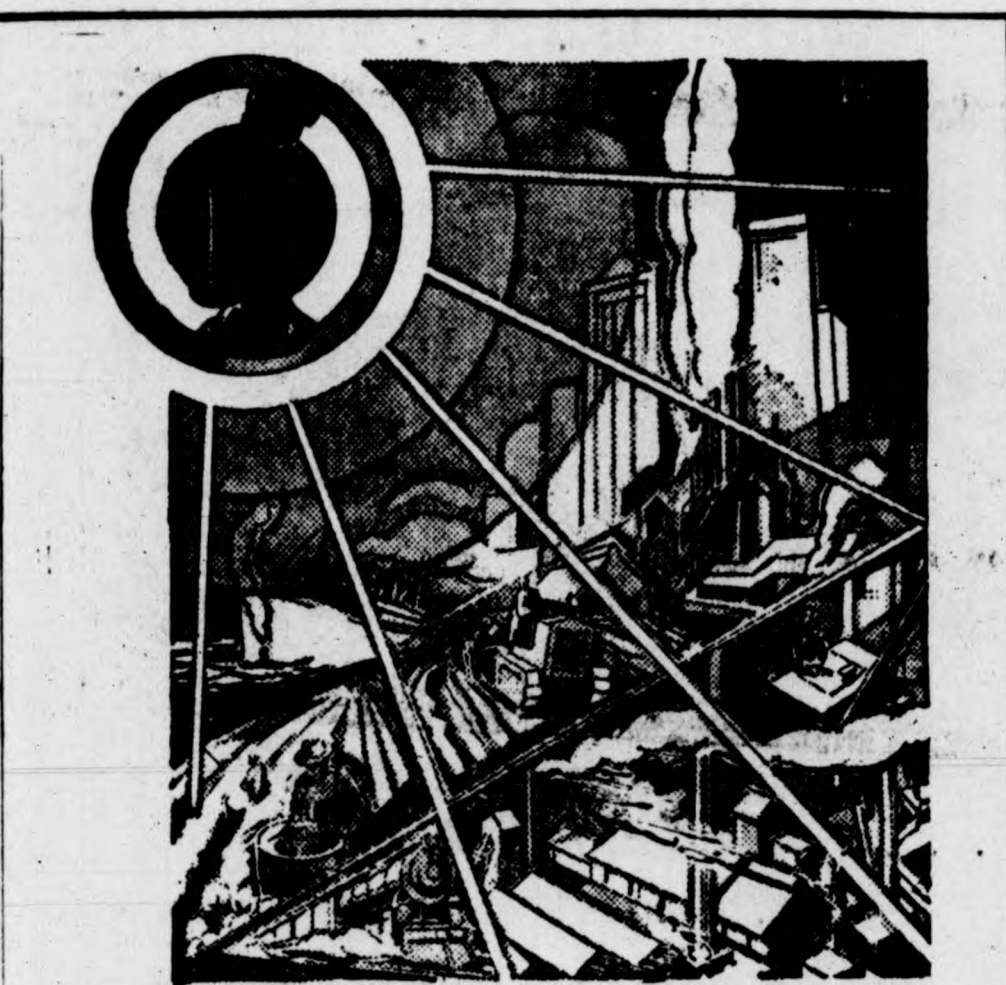
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