

FARMERS AND THE TRUSTS.

Secretary Wilson Says the Agriculturist Who Owns His Own Land Has the Advantage.

St. Louis Republic.

Washington, April 8.—I called on Secretary Wilson yesterday to ask some questions on capital and labor from the standpoint of the farmer.

My interview was held at the Department of Agriculture during the busiest hour of the day, and the Secretary answered my questions between jobs.

As he did so I was surprised at his versatility.

He is like Napoleon in that he can do four things at a time and do them all well.

His mind seemed to jump at a second's notice from the pasture lands of Dan to the grain fields of Berseba, and when it landed it was all there.

Now, the question was the appointment of a man to investigate crop conditions in the Philippines, now the arrangement of the new agricultural building to be put up at a cost of several million dollars and now the importation of a bug to wipe out the San Jose scale and make our orchards rich.

I started out with:

"Mr. Secretary, you work as though you had your coat off you claim to be the representative of the man with his coat off; 'I want to know what you think of that man in his relation to our big combinations of capital.'"

"The only man with his coat off whom I know is the farmer," replied Secretary Wilson. "With the ordinary laborer I have nothing to do. The farmer is a big enough proposition for us here.

"We are working for him, and although we look over the fence now and then at the struggles of labor and capital we keep on our way, saying nothing as to anything else, but steadily sowing wood."

"But, Mr. Secretary, adapt my questions to the farmers. What do they think of the gigantic trusts which, like Jonah's gourd, have sprung up in a night?"

"They are anxious about them," replied the Secretary, "but it is from an investment standpoint. They want to know whether they have a substantial basis, how they are operated, what business they are doing and whether they will keep on paying dividends.

"The farmers are interested in the new Department of Commerce and Labor, and especially in its bureau of corporations. If that bureau can give them as satisfactory information about the trusts as the Treasury does about our national banks there will be no difficulty in their getting a fair share of the farmers money."

"But, Mr. Secretary, I thought the farmer posed as a poor man."

"That may have been so some years ago," replied Secretary Wilson. "It is not so now. You can't whine on a full stomach, full barns and full pocketbook. That is the condition of the farmer today. His is growing rich. He has become a creditor instead of a debtor.

"He is a capitalist hunting places to invest his surplus. He has had good crops and good prices, and today his deposits are rolling in like a golden tidal wave, flooding the Western banks with more money than they can handle. The local banks are sending millions to the East, and New York is taking what they cannot lend out in the West.

"The farmers, not satisfied with American investments, are sending millions into Canada to buy lands there, and still they have money left. Indeed what they want most is a safe place to put their surplus, where it will bring them a fair rate of interest."

"What do you mean by a fair rate, Mr. Secretary?" I asked.

"Oh, about 5 per cent," replied Mr. Wilson. "That is the best you can expect of money now."

"Why don't they take up their mortgages?" said I. "Not long ago it was said that the whole United States west of the Missouri was practically owned by the savings banks of New England."

"That is not so now," replied Secretary Wilson. "These mortgages have been paid long ago, and vast sums have been spent in improving the farms. There are mortgages still, it is true, but they have been given by the sons of the farmers, who are now buying farms of their own."

"Do you consider farm lands a good investment, Mr. Secretary?"

"I do at present prices," was the reply.

"Investments differ according to localities, but any farm that will now produce enough to carry itself—that is, to pay its taxes and a low rate of interest—is a good purchase."

"Our public lands have been largely taken up."

"We are rapidly increasing in population, and the domestic market steadily grows. We are now the greatest manufacturing nation on the globe, and the domestic market of the future is beyond conception.

"As to the foreign market, it will always take what we cannot use ourselves. We are farming better every day, and the business of farming will be more profitable as time goes on. We have some of the best food lands on the globe, and are just beginning to appreciate what they will produce."

"Have you any idea," said Secretary Wilson as he turned to his desk, picked up a pencil and made some figures on a slip of paper—"have you any idea of the money Uncle Sam's farmer capitalists bring into this country every year? The Steel Trust, the Shipbuilding Trust and all the other trusts are peanut stands in comparison with it. I don't mean what our farmers sell at home, but what they sell abroad. The amount is so enormous you cannot comprehend it."

"In the decade ending 1900 it was more than \$7,000,000,000, or on the average more than \$700,000,000 a year. In 1901 our farm exports amounted to more than \$900,000,000, or almost \$3,000,000 for every working day of the year. That means \$125,000 an hour, \$2,000 a minute or \$33 per second.

"Every time the watch ticked on every one of the days throughout that working year \$33 worth of our goods were dropped into the lap of Europe, and three \$10 pieces started on their way back to the United States."

"That was in 1901," Secretary Wilson continued. "Last year our exports were almost as large, and so it is going on year after year. You may talk about your great combinations of capital, your gigantic monopolies and enormous trusts, but, after all, Uncle Sam's most profitable asset is the American farmer."

"Give me some of the items of this business of the farmer's trust, Mr. Secretary," said I.

"The farmers are not a trust," said Secretary Wilson, "and to give all the details of their enormous business would require too much space. Still I can give you some of the items. Take cotton, for instance. We got high prices for that last year. Our exports amounted to about 12,000,000 pounds a day, not including Sundays, and our receipts were about \$1,000,000 a day, or a gross amount of \$317,000,000 per year. This was all cold, clean money brought into the country for stuff sold abroad."

"Our grain exports were \$600,000 a day. We sent 204,000,000 bushels of wheat and almost half of that went in the shape of flour. We exported \$178,000,000 worth of meat and enough beef and pork to have given every man, woman and child of the whole world one-half pound and enough additional to have made a mess of hash for every one of them the next day. Those figures show you something of agricultural interests. The American farmer is the backbone of the country. He is the biggest institution in it."

"But last year and the year before have been the exceptions, Mr. Secretary. The crops have been much better than ever before."

"That is true to a minor extent," replied Secretary Wilson. "But for years the farmer has been bringing over foreign gold from Europe, Australia and Asia to even up our losses in other branches of trade."

"In the last thirteen years our average excess of exports over imports amounted to about \$275,000,000 per year, and during that time the annual balance of such trade in favor of the farmer was \$337,000,000; that is, the farmer had not only to give the balance of trade in our favor, but he had to pay \$62,000,000 in the shape of an adverse balance to other imports. In the last fourteen years the farmers' balance of trade amounted to almost \$5,000,000,000."

"It was enough to pay all the losses of our other foreign business and to put \$400,000,000 in round numbers, to the credit of the nation. Those figures give you some idea where this wonderful wave of prosperity which has been sweeping over the country comes from."

"Then, I suppose that farming, as a business, has begun to pay?"

"It has always paid," replied Secretary Wilson, "when managed in a businesslike manner. But the day has passed when you can take it up as a makeshift. The man who would make money in farming today must know the nature of foods, and fertilizers. He must understand the markets and bring the same business judgment to bear that is necessary to the success of other businesses."

"Above all, the farmer must keep up to the times and farm scientifically, for it is only in that way that he can get the most out of his land."

"Will we ever have a great farmers' trust, which will corner the market, raise prices and fight the other combinations of capital?"

"I don't think such a thing possible," replied Secretary Wilson. "This is a big country and farming is a big business."

"All the world is more or less engaged in it and you can't control elements like that. Besides, each farmer is independent of the other, and while all have to a large extent common interests they are somewhat antagonistic to one another. I think the farmers might be united in opposition to anything vitally against the interests of all, but that matter settled they would as before act as individuals."

"But, Mr. Secretary, how about labor matters? I should think you would have trouble to get men to work on the farms. I understand that most of the farm boys are going to the cities."

"That was for a time, but more now remain upon the farms. We have had a great immigration of farm laborers and we have been steadily making inventions in farm tools so that the average hand can do more now than the man of the past."

"Take the rice lands about the Gulf of Mexico. One American farm hand with our machinery can raise as much rice there in one year as 400 Chinese laborers can raise in China employing Chinese methods, and Chinese machinery. The conditions as to other crops are somewhat similar. Indeed, the farm machines enable us to dispense with a large number of hands."

"Is farm labor organized, Mr. Secretary? Do the farm hands have trades unions?"

"Not that I know of. The men are so scattered that it would be difficult to organize them."

"They are not employed at steady work all the year round, and besides the farm hand of today expects to own a farm of his own a few years from now. He is so busy scheming how he can do that that he has no time to worry over hours and wages."

"How about wages, Mr. Secretary? Is the farm laborer well paid?"

"I think he is," replied the Secretary of Agriculture. "Good men get good wages, varying with the locality. In the Northwest, where, perhaps, the most skilled of our farmers are found, hired men get \$25 a month and more. That is equal to \$40 a month without board, which is good pay for any man."

"Such a hand will understand how to use farm machinery. He will know all about crops, and he can, if necessary, take the farm and manage it himself. In some other parts of the country the wages are less."

"Are we farming any better now than we did in the past, Mr. Secretary?"

"Very much so," replied Secretary Wilson. "And we shall farm better in the future than we are doing now. We are learning every day and are steadily adding to the aggregate of our crops. What we produce now is beyond conception."

"Our wheat crop amounts to 600,000,000 bushels every year and it is worth in the neighborhood of \$400,000,000."

The value of the gold and silver mined in the United States is not half that, and all the gold mines of the world did not produce as much by \$100,000,000 in 1902. The corn crop is worth more than twice as much as the wheat crop."

"It is now bringing in \$1,000,000,000 a year, and for oats alone we raise enough to equal a value of \$1,000,000,000 every working day. The crop amounts to 1,000,000,000 bushels, with a value of \$300,000,000. Our hay crop in many years is worth more than the total product of all the gold and silver mines of the world, and the cotton crop last year sold for more than a half billion dollars. These figures are enormous. There is nothing like them anywhere, and we have not begun to approximate the maximum of our farming possibilities."

"No," said the Secretary, reflectively. "We do not know what we have, or how rich we are. We are discovering some new thing every day which adds enormously to our national wealth. The Agricultural Department has become one of investigation and research."

Frank G. Carpenter.

CASTORIA.
The Kid You Have Always Bought
Beware of Imitations
Solely Prepared by
Wm. D. Hooper

— In every Chinese settlement one or more persons earn a comfortable living by following the occupation of bride carrier. The excuse for this trade is the Chinese custom of making the bride an idler on her wedding day, forbidding her to either walk or stand and requiring her to be carried from her house to that of her husband by some of her own sex.

— A prudent woman does not even let her tongue run to waste.

— One swallow does not make a summer or a man drunk.

Big Cotton Crop This Year.

Columbia, April 17.—South Carolina is going to make a desperate struggle to raise a record breaking cotton crop this year. Every preparation is being made to plant and mature a maximum cotton crop. These observations are not made with a view of affecting the cotton market one way or another and they will hardly be given more than a passing thought.

It has been my lot recently to visit very many of the counties of Eastern and Western Carolina in connection with my work for the News and Courier, and wherever I have gone the cotton acreage is the maximum. There have been warnings time and again about overdoing the cotton business, but it seems to fall on deaf ears. There seems to be no use to try to urge farmers not to plant too much cotton when they sincerely believe the low water mark of prices next season will not be under ten cents.

Of course, there is no way of telling what the prevailing prices will be this fall, but the farmers all seem to be perfectly willing to take their chances on prices and the seasons. They are fertilizing more than usual and seem to think that it will pay them in the end.

In a great many sections of the State it is found that the cotton acreage is restricted by the labor conditions. In other words, the farmers there are planting all the cotton they think they can get the labor to cultivate and to harvest. In several parts of the State the labor proposition is really quite serious and the farmers find that the urban and turpentine tendencies are playing havoc with the labor on the farms.

If the seasons prove favorable South Carolina will have its largest cotton crop to place on the market.

The impression among the better informed farmers is that the difference between the average and maximum crop in this State will be so inconsiderable compared with the crop of the whole cotton belt as to make no appreciable difference in prices. At all events they are taking their chances, and they argue that, if the cotton market could keep up under the strain of the Sully failure and with the experiences of the cotton mills this year, if cotton ever gets around ten cents these same mills will create such a demand as to keep prices up to a mark that will be satisfactory to the South Carolina man with the cotton.

Mr. Hugh T. Inman, one of the largest dealers in the country, in a recent letter bearing upon the crop question, writes:

It is only now and then that Texas and the country west of the Mississippi River, make a full crop. When they do so the price is depressed, from this cause, whether the Atlantic has a full crop or not.

If Texas has a full crop we get a small price, whether we have a large crop or a small crop. If Texas makes a short crop we get full price for large crop or small crop. Hence, I hold that the Georgia farmer ought to plant a full acreage and take the chances, especially as the weevil promises bad for the Texas crop of 1904. It is true that with perfect conditions this year the South will make much cotton. Twelve millions will be an inside estimate, but if only 12,000,000 bales are produced, the price will rule up to 10 or 12 cents. With a 10,000,000-bale crop this year of 1904 cotton is likely to sell at 20 cents next year, and its culture all over the world will be stimulated. There are now 17,000,000 bales produced and the United States produces only 10,000,000, so that you will see that other countries can produce some cotton.

I would be pleased to have your views on the ideas I advance.

Very truly yours,
Hugh T. Inman.
Atlanta, Ga., April 12, 1904.

There have been quite a number of South Carolina farmers who have taken time and opportunity by the forelock and sold their cotton before making it. In Camden I heard of one farmer who had, some time ago, sold his crop of four hundred bales for November delivery at 13.85, and in Western North Carolina another farmer

sold his crop of six hundred bales at 12.65. There are a number of other farmers throughout the State who have put up their margins and made their sales. Most of them were made some time ago.

Brokers and cotton men have also gone into the field and bought cotton for future delivery, fixing the price. Some have been bought at 12 cents and recent purchases have been made for less, but those who have sold appear to be abundantly satisfied.

The oat crop throughout the State seems to be in excellent condition. The severe cold winter got the soil in prime condition for an excellent grain crop.—Special to News and Courier.

State Troops May Go.

It is possible that about a thousand of the State troops will go to Manassas in September for several days encampment, all expenses to be paid by the government. Governor Heyward has received a letter from Gen. H. C. Corbin, the commander of the Atlantic division, stating that it is desired that some of the troops of the State participate in the joint field movements to be held at that point in September. The letter states that it is impossible to invite all of the militia of each State in this division, that the quota from this State would be about 1019, although if a larger number be furnished it is requested that the department be notified and perhaps arrangements can be made. Under the apportionment however not over 18,000 of this division can participate, the pay being for 15 days. As some of the companies cannot be absent for over seven days in this way perhaps more can go.—Columbia Record.

— There aren't enough adjectives in the English language to enable a girl properly to describe her first beau.

— Only a fool man would deliberately make an enemy by guessing within ten years of a woman's real age.

— If the boys are boisterous, it is up to the girls to be girlesterous.

— The way to the crown is marked on the cross.

— Some soft people are the hardest to get rid of.

— The man who keeps bees seems to be engaged in a hum industry.

— Wearing a patch is better than paying usury on the money you spend for fine raiment.

A life saved by FOERG'S REMEDY the great blood purifier

Read this grateful letter from a prominent Kentuckian
Princeton, Ky., Feb. 4th, 1903.
I wish to state for the Foerg Remedy Co. of Evansville, Ind., that I believe their great blood purifier, known as Foerg's Remedy, the great blood purifier, saved my brother's life some ten years ago. He was troubled with blood disease, and it seemed he could get no relief until he took Foerg's Remedy same as manufactured by this company. After taking five bottles he was entirely relieved of his trouble, and when he died some five years ago he was entirely well of that disease. He also took two bottles as a blood purifier and was much benefited.

(Signed) C. H. LEWIS, Princeton, Ky.
(Attest) H. C. STONE, Princeton, Ky.
People do not become interested in these subjects until failing health or a distressing outbreak of the skin reminds them sharply of their ignorance. Is it any wonder then that so many become the easy prey of vampires both inside and outside the medical fraternity, and too often, find a tragically early grave, where a little common sense knowledge would have shown them the means of recovery and spared their lives. Know thyself!

AND HERE'S THE REMEDY
Forewarned is forearmed—let this warning sink deep in—obtain from us or from your druggist a trial quantity of the Remedy—test its efficiency the first time you have the opportunity, so that you may know for yourself and become an enthusiastic convert to the virtue and strength of our marvelous blood remedy—from then on you will refuse to be without it until your cure is effected. Why take chances? Why procrastinate a single day? Ac. now.

Price \$1.00 per bottle, six bottles for \$5.00
FOERG REMEDY CO.,
EVANSVILLE, INDIANA
For sale locally by
Evans Pharmacy.

DISEASE caused by Constipation 80% Through other 20% Causes 100%

DR. THACHER'S Liver and Blood Syrup
CURES BY REMOVING THE CAUSE
A THREE-FOLD REMEDY for all ill due to functional troubles. Acts on the Liver and Kidneys and Purifies the Blood.

Thousands have used this reliable remedy with perfect confidence and success for 62 years, because they know just what it contains.
The formula consists of Prickly Pears, Mandrake, Yellow Dock, Dandelion, Sarsaparilla, Gentian, Senna and Iodide of Potassium.
Any doctor or druggist will tell you that this is a scientific and reliable combination of great merit for all diseases having their origin in the Liver, Kidneys or Blood. After years of experience and patient experiment, Dr. Thacher so perfected the process of manufacture, that it never fails to bring the expected relief when taken according to directions.

Thousands of sick ones to whom life has been a burden have written grateful letters of thanks.
"I have suffered greatly with indigestion, constipation, also a severe liver trouble, with loss of appetite. Could not rest well at night; in fact, had no energy to work or even to walk around. I felt like I was packing lead. I was easily exhausted, until I took Dr. Thacher's Liver and Blood Syrup, which helped me almost from the first dose. When I had taken one and one-half bottles I felt like a different man, and I knew that it was doing me good, and I used it in all three bottles, and consider myself perfectly cured. At this time my appetite is good, I sleep well, and feel strong and refreshed on arising in the morning."
T. L. S. Evans, Missoury, Oct. 17, 1902.
"I have been a burden here to-day for a Free sample bottle and 'Dr. Thacher's Health Book.' Give symptoms for advice. We will ask you to try it at our expense. We know what it will do. At all druggists. 50 cents and \$1.00.
Thacher Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.

Athlete tells of wonderful cure

AFFLICTED BY BLOOD POISON CURED BY FOERG'S REMEDY
Physicians marvel and praise. Sufferers wonder and rejoice.

A remarkable remedy for blood poison
Is an absolute, unfailing remedy for Blood Poison entitled to rank among the Great Discoveries of the Age?
We say no, unless it is a complete and perfect remedy, effecting a cure in every case of blood poisoning, whether constitutional or acquired. We did not aim at mere relief. There are other means of relief. We want to provide a permanent cure. There is no other means.

In Foerg's Remedy, have we a certain permanent cure? Physicians say we have, sufferers say we have. We have a countless mass of letters from them. They speak of many cures, but not of a single failure. Read this letter, one of an endless number.
"I have used six bottles of Foerg's Remedy for a case of blood disease of long standing. I have most everything recommended a trial, but without success, and by luck heart of Foerg's Remedy, so I decided to give it a trial, which I did, and I am glad to say it completely cured me. I am an athlete, and recommended it to many of my profession, and hear of good results amongst men of the future."

The writer of this letter is a well known athlete, whose name we withhold because all correspondence with our patrons is strictly confidential. We state our commercial honor and standing on the statement that the letter is here faithfully reproduced.
For many years we worked upon this problem. Other diseases, we reasoned, are curable. Why not this one? And so we continued our work until our efforts found the highest success, when we were ready to guarantee a cure in every case.
Foerg's Remedy is for sale at your druggist's, or by us upon receipt of \$1 for one bottle or \$5 for six bottles.

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EVANS PHARMACY.
MOTT'S PENNYROYAL PILLS They overcome Weakness, irregularity and omissions, increase vigor and banish "pains of menstruation." They are "LIFE SAVERS" to girls at womanhood, aiding development of organs and body. No known remedy for women equals them. Cannot do harm—life becomes a pleasure. \$1.00 PER BOX BY MAIL. Sold by druggists. DR. MOTT'S CHEMICAL CO., Cleveland, Ohio. FOR SALE BY EVANS PHARMACY.

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We offer for sale the following desirable property, situated in this and surrounding Counties. Nearly all of these places have good improvements on them. For full particulars as to terms, location, &c., call at my office.

- 50 acres, two miles from city, unimproved.
- House and Lot, 6 acres, near city limits, very desirable.
- Half acre City Lot, front on Main Street, no improvements.
- 1 acre, with new dwelling, in city limits.
- 1 1/2 acres, near city limits, cleared, no improvements.
- 200 acres in Fork township, on Tugalo River, two dwellings.
- 100 acres in Williamston township, improved, on Beaverdam creek.
- 400 acres in Oaklawn township, in Greenville Co., half in cultivation, 5 tenant dwellings, 50 acres of this in bottom land.
- 700 acres in Hopewell township, on Six and Twenty Creek, 300 acres in cultivation, 2 good residences, 6 tenant dwellings, 40 acres in bottom land.
- 91 acres in Garvin township, on Three-and-Twenty Creek, good dwelling, barn, &c.
- 58 acres in Macon Co., N. C., 29 miles above Walhalla, on road to Highlands.
- Berry place, Varrennes, 87 1/2 acres.
- 437 acres, Pendleton township, tenant houses and dwelling.
- 145 acres, Evergreen place, Savannah township.
- 90 acres in Fork township.
- 150 acres in Savannah township, well timbered, no improvements.
- 400 acres in Center township, Oconee County, 100 cleared, balance well timbered, well watered, good mill site with ample water power.
- 65 acres in Pickens County.
- 174 acres in Hopewell township.
- 130 acres in Broadway township, improved.
- 230 acres in Fork township, on Seneca River, good dwellings, &c.
- 800 acres in Anderson County, on Savannah River.
- 96 acres in Lowdesville township, Abbeville County.
- 84 acres in Corner township.
- 75 acres in Oconee County.
- 75 acres in Pickens County.
- 152 acres in Rock Mills township, on Seneca River, 2 dwellings.
- 700 acres in Fork township.

All the above are desirable Lands, and parties wanting good homes, at low prices, can select from the above and call for further particulars. Now is the time to secure your homes for another year.

JOS. J. FRETWELL, ANDERSON, S. C.
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FINE FRENCH CHINA TEA-SET!
BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED
A VARIETY OF ODD PIECES AND NOVELTIES.
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\$9.00 WILL BUY A

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This Establishment has been Selling **FURNITURE**
IN ANDERSON for more than forty years. During all that time competitors have come and gone, but we have remained right here. We have always sold Cheaper than any others, and during those long years we have not had one dissatisfied customer. Mistakes will sometimes occur, and if at any time we found that a customer was dissatisfied we did not rest until we had made him satisfied. This policy, rigidly adhered to, has made us friends, true and lasting, and we can say with pride, but without boasting, that we have the confidence of the people of this section. We have a larger Stock of Goods this season than we have ever had, and we pledge you our word that we have never sold Furniture at as close a margin of profit as we are doing now. This is proven by the fact that we are selling Furniture not only all over Anderson County but in every Town in the Piedmont section. Come and see us. Your parents saved money by buying from us, and you and your children can save money by buying here, too. We carry EVERYTHING in the Furniture line.
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