

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS.

How the Fertilizers Are Analyzed at Clemson College.

Clemson College, March 28:—If it were not for the laws governing the inspection and analysis of commercial fertilizers, South Carolina would be made the dumping ground for fertilizers that could not be sold in States having an inspection law. No one, not even a chemist, without a chemical analysis can tell the difference in the value, for instance, of an 8-3-3 fertilizer and a 10-4-4 fertilizer. The farmers would simply be at the mercy of the manufacturer (and there are always some unscrupulous manufacturers) were it not for the fertilizer analysis conducted by Clemson college. It is the purpose of this article to show how this analysis is carried on.

The General Assembly of South Carolina makes laws governing the inspection and analysis of commercial fertilizers, and the board of trustees simply carry out these laws.

There are two kinds of samples, namely, "official samples," drawn by the college inspectors and "farmers' samples," that may be drawn by any purchaser in a manner prescribed by law. For the collection of official samples the State is divided into fourteen districts, with an inspector for each district. These inspectors canvass the several districts and secure samples wherever they may find fertilizers. These samples are placed in thirty-two ounce bottles, sealed and numbered in the presence of a witness who writes with the inspector an affidavit to the effect that the sample is a just and fair one and drawn in accordance with the law. These samples are then sent to Mr H M Stackhouse, secretary of the board of fertilizer control.

Upon receipt of these samples by Mr Stackhouse they are turned over to the chemical department by number only and skilled chemists are directed to test for the ingredients claimed by the manufacturer. The name of the manufacturer and the percentage of each ingredient claimed by the manufacturer is not known to the chemist. The chemist is, however, given the ingredient—but not the amount, or percentage, guaranteed by the manufacturer for the following reasons: If, for instance, potash alone is claimed by the manufacturer, it is utter folly and waste of time and money to look for phosphoric acid and ammonia. It takes just as much time and costs just as much money to prove the absence of an ingredient as it does to determine the percentage of an ingredient. The chemist will have to analyze about 1,400 "official samples" this season, and this means about 7,000 separate determinations. It will be impossible for them to complete this work before the first of July. Now, if they were required to make a complete analysis of any fertilizers sent in there is no telling when the work of the season would be completed.

When an analysis is completed the chief chemist sends the result of the analysis to the secretary of the board of fertilizer control. Should the sample fall below guarantee in any ingredient the secretary returns the sample and the chemists are required to make another analysis to correct or confirm the first analysis. The results of the analyses are then published and every manufacturer whose goods fall below the limit prescribed by law (37) has his name published in black letters with a black index hand pointing to it. These results are published in bulletins which are sent out free to the farmers of the State. Any one can get these bulletins by sending his name to J N Hook, secretary to the board of experiment station control.

It is absolutely necessary that those sending fertilizers to Clemson to be analyzed give the name of the manufacturer, else the secretary of the board of fertilizer control could not publish the result for the benefit of the people of the State. If a manufacturer falls below guarantee on his goods, he is subject to prosecution, and is required to pay to the farmer the difference between the value of the fertilizer as shown by

the analysis and the value as shown by his guarantee.

The law prescribes that any purchaser of fertilizers may take a sample within fifteen days after delivery and in the same way that the inspector does, the drawing to be made in the presence of two witnesses, (one chosen by the buyer and one chosen by the seller). The seller must have six days notice, and the sample must be sealed in the presence of a third disinterested witness. All three witnesses must sign a certificate that is sent with the sample to the secretary of the board of fertilizer control. The analysis is made in the same way as for the "official samples." The ingredients claimed should be given, but it is not necessary to give the percentage guaranteed. These rules are necessary for the protection of the manufacturer as well as the farmer.

Those of us who are taking agricultural courses are given both practical and theoretical instruction in the analysis of commercial fertilizers during our junior and senior years. Thus we learn for ourselves what fertilizer analysis is. We will be very glad to introduce any of our farmer friends, at any time, to our instructors, who will gladly show them through the laboratories and explain more in detail the method of this work.

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Superstitious.

"Why did you abandon your motorcar trip so abruptly?" "Oh, my wife is so superstitious! After we had run over the thirteenth man she said we ought to turn back, otherwise she felt sure we should meet with some accident!"—Exchange.

Midnight in the Ozarks

and yet sleepless, Hiram Seranton of Clay City, Ill, coughed and coughed. He was in the mountains on the advice of five doctors, who said he had consumption, but found no help in the climate and started home. Hearing of Dr King's New Discovery, he began to use it. "I believe it saved my life," he writes, "for it made a new man of me, so that I can now do good work again." For all lung diseases, coughs, colds, la grippe, asthma, croup, whooping cough, hay fever, hemorrhages, hoarseness or quinsy, its the best known remedy. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by M L Allen.

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"Well, I just wanted to say to you that if you want to make your pull good you'll have to come around and do his work for him."—Judge.

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Baptist Church.

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Episcopal Church.

REV DR ROBERT WILSON, RECTOR. Every second and fourth Sunday, morning prayer, sermon and holy communion at 11 a. m.

Methodist Church.

REV W A FAIRY, PASTOR. Preaching every Sunday morning at 11:00 o'clock and evening at 7:30 o'clock. Sunday-school at 4:30 p. m. Epworth League meets every Tuesday night at 7:30 o'clock. Mid-week prayer meeting every Thursday night at 7:30 o'clock.

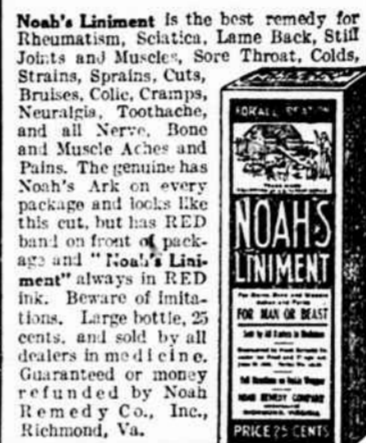
Presbyterian Church.

REV E E ERVIN, PASTOR. Preaching first and third Sunday mornings at 11:00 o'clock, second and fourth Sunday evenings at 7:30 o'clock. Sunday-school, 4:00 p. m. Prayer-meeting Wednesdays at 7:30 p. m.



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