

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1909.

The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southron in 1866. The Watchman and Southron now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.

During the year now drawing to a close we have sent the Watchman and Southern to our subscribers twice a week at the same price previously charged for the once-a-week issue. To do this has entailed considerable additional expense and work, but we feel repaid by the appreciation of our patrons, who have, without exception, as far as we have been able to ascertain, found the twice-a-week paper more satisfactory than the old weekly. For next year we have planned to make the Watchman and Southron a better paper than ever before and more of a necessity in each household in this section of the State. We sincerely appreciate the loyal support and patronage of our friends and we trust that they will aid us with their influence and recommendation to enlarge the circulation and usefulness of the paper until it goes into every home in Sumter and adjoining counties.

We take this occasion to extend to our friends an expression of appreciation of their support, and to wish for each and every one to whom this greeting may come best wishes for a happy Christmas and a happy and more prosperous New Year than they have ever before enjoyed.

Dr. Cook, on the face of the evidence submitted, is an imposter, but as he made it pay handsomely and has salted down \$100,000, he is entitled to qualify for the capitalist class.

Comptroller General Jones will render himself extremely unpopular in Columbia and elsewhere among the corporations and capitalists if he keeps on telling unpleasant truths concerning the tax-dodging habits of big corporations and prominent citizens.

The year now drawing to a close has been one of considerable material prosperity for Sumter, but not of progress, growth and development. Next year must show a change in this respect if Sumter is to hold her place as one of the live towns of the State.

Why is the United States so anxious to acquire dominant influence in Nicaragua? Can it be that there is a possibility that the Nicaraguan canal may eventually be built for use while the Panama route is preserved as a monument of misdirected effort?

If the Farmers' Union of Sumter County, County Superintendent of Education and the school trustees of Sumter County will co-operate in the organization of corn growing clubs among the boys of Sumter County we will endeavor to raise a fund for the payment of substantial prizes to the boys who succeed in growing crops worthy of prizes. We are satisfied the business men of Sumter will contribute liberally toward a fund to induce the boys of Sumter County to enter the State corn growing contest. And we believe the boys of Sumter County would do their part if encouraged to enter the contest.

THREE OFFICIALS ASSASSINATED

Korean, Englishmen and Russian Slain.

London, Dec. 22.—Three high government officials, the most notable being Premier Yi, of the Korean Cabinet, met horrible deaths yesterday at the hands of political assassins. The crimes committed were in widely separate portions of the world and include in addition to Premier Yi, Col. Karpoff, chief of the secret service in St. Petersburg, Russia, and Arthur M. T. Jackson, in Bombay, British India, the chief magistrate of Nasika.

In Seoul, Korea, the Prime Minister of the Korean Cabinet was stabbed to death as an apparent result of the intense feeling in Korea against Japanese influence. Col Karpoff was blown to pieces by the explosion of a bomb thrown supposedly by an Anarchist.

Arthur M. T. Jackson was assassinated by a native for revenge, and presumably as a part of the seditious movement against British official authority.

In each of the countries, the governing authority is menaced by a dangerous element directed against the existing regime.

Albert McGhane, an old and worthy colored citizen, of Privateer, died on the 21st instant at his home about five miles from town. He was over 70 years old and has borne a good character through life.

Farmers' Union News

—AND—

Practical Thoughts for Practical Farmers

(Conducted by E. W. Dabbs, President Farmers' Union of Sumter County.)

The Watchman and Southron having decided to double its service by semi-weekly publication, would improve that service by special features. The first to be inaugurated is this Department for the Farmers' Union and Practical Farmers which I have been requested to conduct. It will be my aim to give the Union news and official calls of the Union. To that end officers, and members of the Union are requested to use these columns. Also to publish such clippings from the agricultural papers and Government Bulletins as I think will be of practical benefit to our readers. Original articles by any of our readers telling of their successes or failures will be appreciated and published.

Trusting this Department will be of mutual benefit to all concerned,

THE EDITOR.

All communications for this Department should be sent to E. W. Dabbs, Mayesville, S. C.

Some Random Thoughts.

The Progressive Farmer has expressed the ideal we should all aim at so much better than I can possibly do, that for our Christmas number, I will merely call attention to it: "Love your farm, the Spirit Back of the Work."

Thank God there is more of the old time love, and old country veneration for the homes of our fathers than the generation that struggled through the days of war and reconstruction, and the grinding poverty of five-cent cotton, had time to ever dream of. We must restore the old places and make all the newer settlement shrines for our children and children's children to love and venerate. E. W. D. Christmas 1909.

Better Crops for Every Acre in 1910.

On page 6 we are publishing the first installment of our "best crop" reports; and a very interesting installment it is, telling of some remarkably good crops. In fact, remarkably good crops of one kind or another have been reported from all over the South this year, even from the sections where weather conditions were very unfavorable. These reports show what we can do; but the fact remains that the average yields this year of all our staple crops will be little, if any, above the average in years past. In some States they will be less.

Why is this? When farmers here and there all over the South have been making 100, or 150, or 200 bushels of corn per acre, why does the average yield remain below 20 bushels? When the boys in Mr. Parker's corn contests can average nearly 60 bushels of corn to the acre, why do most farmers in North Carolina continue to make only 15 or 20 bushels?

There are, of course, several reasons for this state of things. This has been a very bad season over most of our territory. A large part of our lands have been worked by ignorant and shiftless renters who make little or no effort to improve their methods. These large yields have in most cases been made on small areas, while the greater part of the crop has made only the ordinary yield.

It is to this last phase of the subject that we wish to call attention. Big yields on single acres are good things as showing the possibilities of farming and giving us high ideals; but big yields on single acres will never make rich farmers. What it will take to do that, is profitable yields—not necessarily record-breaking yields, but profit-paying yields—on all the acres cultivated. To make 150 bushels of corn or three bales of cotton on a single acre which is given special care and special opportunities is a fine achievement, but the true ideal is to have the farm so that 10 or 20 or 50 acres can be counted on to make 50 bushels of corn or one bale of cotton without excessive fertilization or special preparation. When we have learned how to grow good crops, not only on a pet acre here and there, but on all the land we cultivate, we will be on the highway to prosperity, and not till then.

And we can do it. A bale of cotton or 50 bushels of corn to the acre could be made the average production for the readers of this paper in the next five years. This we believe with all our heart; and we believe, too, that any reader who will study the reports of good crops in this and succeeding issues will agree with us. "How can it be done?" Well, there is no one infallible rule that can be given. It must be done by systematic and continued good farming—that is, (1) by the rotation of crops, with a legume following each crop of grain or cotton; (2) by the prevention of washing and better drainage; (3) by the increase of the soil's humus supply through the growing of legumes, the use of cover crops, and the keeping of enough stock to consume the rough feeds grown on the farm; (4) by better methods of

cultivation—deeper breaking, more thorough preparation, more frequent and less destructive tillage of growing crops; (5) by more judicious fertilization—the use of the fertilizers actually needed by the crops and in such quantities as the soil conditions may justify.

Systematic good farming would, we repeat, double, and more than double, the average yield per acre of all our staple crops in the next five years; and the beauty of it is that those better crops could be grown at less average cost per acre than the ones we are now making. For better farming would mean the use of more horse power and better implements and the avoiding of much of the expensive and unprofitable labor that now goes into the making of our crops.

We are glad of acres of corn that make 150 bushels with extra fertilization and cultivation; but what we most desire is great fields averaging 50, or 60 or 75 bushels, with ordinary care and average fertilization. Why cannot Progressive Farmer readers have many such fields to report in 1910?—Editor in Progressive Farmer.

"Love Your Farm—the Spirit Back of the Work."

The old year ends and the Christmas time when, leaving for a moment our work itself, our attention is given rather to the spirit which alone makes all labor worth while. Not unfittingly, therefore, may we now turn aside from the severely practical considerations of the farmer's daily tasks to the spirit in which we would have every member of our Progressive Farmer Family go about these tasks. Better seed, better tools, better stock, better cultivation, better marketing—from year's end to year's end we urge these fundamental principles of more profitable farming, and yet we have failed miserably if our typical Progressive Farmer reader has not gone back of all these things and caught the deeper spirit we would have him imbibe.

We would have every farmer love his work even as the artist loves his work, and in this spirit, too, every farmer should love his farm itself as he would love a favorite horse or dog. He should know every rod of the ground, should know just what each acre is best adapted to, should feel a joy and pride in having every hill and valley look its best, and should be as much ashamed to have a field scarred with gullies as he would be to have a beautiful colt marked with lashes; as much ashamed to have a piece of ground worn out from ill treatment as to have a horse gaunt and bony from neglect; as much hurt at seeing his acres sick from wretched management as he would be at seeing his cows half starving from the same cause.

Love your ground—that piece of God's creation which you hold in fee simple. Fatten its poorer parts as carefully as you would nurture an ailing Collier. Heal the washed, torn places in the hillside as you would the barb-scars on your pony. Feed with legumes and soiling crops and fertilize the galled and barren patch that needs special attention, nurse it back to life and beauty and fruitfulness. Make a meadow of the bottom that is inclined to wash; watch it and care for it until the kindly root-masses heal every gapping wound, and in one unbroken surface the "tides of grass, break into form of flowers" upon the outer edges. Don't forget even the forest lands. See that every acre of woodland has trees enough on to make it profitable; "a good stand of the timber crop as well as of every other crop. Have an eye to the beautiful in laying off the cleared fields a tree here and there, but no wretched beggar's-coat mingling of little patches and little rents; rather broad fields fully tended and of as nearly uniform fertility as possible, making of your growing crops, as it were each a beautiful ornament,

whole and unbroken, to clothe the fruitful acres which God has given you to keep and tend even as He gave the First Garden into the keeping of our first parents.

And so again we say, love your farm. Make it a place of beauty, a place of joyous fruitfulness, an example for your neighbors, a heritage for your children. Make improvements on it that will last beyond your day. Make an ample yard about it with all the old-fashioned flowers that your grandmother knew; get a great orchard near it, bearing many manner of fruits; lay off walks and roads leading to it and keep them up; plant hedges along the approaches, and flowering bulbs and shrubs—crape myrtle, and spirea and privet and grass—so that your grandchildren will some day speak of their grandfathers, who cared enough for the beautiful and loved the farm well enough to plant them.

Name the farm, too; treasure up its history; preserve the traditions of all the romance and adventure and humor and pathos that are in any way connected with it; and if some of the young folks must leave it, let them look back to it with happy memories of beauty and of worthy ideals and of well-ordered industry.

We have not developed in this country, as we should, the intense pride that the Englishman feels in being a land-owner. It gives a man distinction that the homeless man has not. He is a better citizen, a freeholder, a guardian holding in trust a piece of creation fresh from the hand of the Almighty. And yet how many—alas! how many!—who have such talents in their keeping are indeed unprofitable servants—not so much as keeping their treasure unhurt (as the one-talent man in the Bible did), but wearing out and destroying in one brief lifetime the heritage that the Creator intended to remain fertile and fruitful to feed our human race, as long as the earth shall last.

Love your farm. If you cannot be proud of it now, begin today to make it a thing you can be proud of. Much dignity has come to you in that you are owner and care-keeper for a part of God's foot stool; show yourself worthy of that dignity. Watch earnestly over every acre. Let no day go by that you do not add something of comeliness and potential fertility to its fields. And finally, leave some spot beneath the shade of some plant tree where at last, "like as a shuck of corn cometh in his season," you can lay down your weary body, leaving the world a little better for your having lived in it, and earning the approval from the Great Father (who made the care of the fields and gardens the first task given man): "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Lord."—Progressive Farmer.

*Many persons find themselves affected with a persistent cough after an attack of influenza. As this cough can be promptly cured by the use of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, it should not be allowed to run on until it becomes troublesome. Sold by W. W. Sibert.

William Sanford, white, fell from a C. N. & L. train near Prosperity Tuesday and was killed. He was under the influence of liquor.

*The greatest danger from influenza is of its resulting in pneumonia. This can be obviated by using Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, as it not only cures influenza, but counteracts any tendency of the disease towards pneumonia. Sold by W. W. Sibert.

*The peculiar properties of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy have been thoroughly tested during epidemics of influenza, and when it was taken in time we have not heard of a single case of pneumonia. Sold by W. W. Sibert.

Mr. Charles B. Whittington, inventor of the first automatic grain binder, died in Janesville, Wis. He was born in 1850. In 1870 he patented a grain binder and later sold it to Mr. Cyrus H. McCormick, of Chicago. Later he was associated in business with the McCormicks.

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All sensible live stock and poultry raisers understand how important it is to keep their stock in healthy condition. And for all the common diseases of Cattle, Horses, Mules, Sheep, Hogs and Poultry there is nothing that gives such satisfactory results as

Busch's Golden Seal Stock and Poultry Medicine It is laxative in action and quickly produces a beneficial effect. Veterinary authorities agree in endorsing this excellent preparation. Sold under a guarantee or money refunded. Sold by druggists and dealers. Price 25c., 50c. and \$1 a can. Sample on request. **GOLDEN CHAIN REMEDY CO., Inc.** Evansville, Ind. Busch's Disinfectant and Dip, guaranteed to destroy MITES and LICE on your poultry, 50c.

Splendid All Round Remedy.

I have used Busch's Golden Seal Stock and Poultry medicine on my stock with the most satisfactory results. My wife also uses it on the chickens when they get droopy. Several times friends of mine have been to me as if I were a veterinary doctor and asked me to see what I could do for their stock with the remedy and whenever they come for me I put the can in my pocket and go back with them and give some of it to their animals. The remedy is all right. Silas G. Ruffin

SIBERT'S DRUG STORE.

Nomination Ballot.

I hereby nominate

M.

Address.

My Name is

M.

Address.

This nomination ballot, when properly filled out, will count for 1,000 votes. Only one ballot will be credited to a candidate.

Under no circumstances will the name of anyone making a nomination be divulged.

The Ballot.

TWENTY-FIVE VOTES FOR

M.

Address.

District.

Subject to rules of The Osteen Publishing Co.'s Contest. Void after January 15.

\$100 IN GOLD GIVEN AWAY CHRISTMAS EVE NIGHT. \$100 Ask for Tickets With Every Purchase of \$1.00.

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Come as early in the day as you can. When once here, don't leave until you have seen all that interests you. Whatever you do, don't miss our Ring display. Take advantage of the privilege we offer of laying articles aside until wanted. Come again and again if you wish. And don't forget, please, that giving jewelry doesn't necessarily mean to spend a lot of money. Don't forget that jewelry is the gift of gifts. And don't forget that we are able to match the values of the larger cities. WE INVITE YOU TO CALL. Everything engraved you want, no extra charge.

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