

# WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

## Wants Hog-Raising Clubs.

Jake Slappey, the well-known capitalist of Fort Valley, who made a fortune farming and always sold corn and meat, says:

"I read so much about corn clubs in the papers. They are good things. But when I was young and active and looked daily after my farm affairs, I was my own corn club. I always had corn to sell."

"But as long as clubs are the fashion why not 'hog raising' clubs? Get up some competition on that line. Offer prizes for best brood sows. The meat problem is an important one. Meat will hardly ever be cheap again."

"This hog raising is a branch of farming that goes along with corn growing, and they can add hog raising clubs to corn growing clubs. As for cotton, the demonstrators can hold up on that and devote all their attention to food crops and live stock."

"And it occurs to me the infirm on the farm, those not physically able for hard labor, could devote themselves to poultry raising. The price is high and will pay for the trouble. It will stagger a professor of mathematics to calculate the amount of money our state sends abroad just for chickens and eggs in one year."

## May Catch the Unwary.

J. H. Grace, of Elko, a well-to-do farmer, talking of the outlook for pitching the crop, says:

"With all the setbacks for grain yet I hardly think there will be as much acreage in cotton as last year. There is so much cotton on hand now, of low grade stuff, and I do not think as many mules were bought as last year, and labor is high. So there may be some reduction in acreage."

"Should cotton continue to advance there is danger that all the resolutions about less cotton will be broken. Still, even at a good price, it is better farming to raise food crops and all the meat possible. The full combination now to push prices higher when time comes to pitch the crop may catch the unthinking farmer. All efforts will be put forth now by the spinners of the world to induce a full acreage in cotton. They are at it now."

"But our farmers must get the one-crop idea out of their heads. I think the work of the agricultural departments are educating along this line. These departments are also educating our farmers to feed more cotton seed meal to horses and cattle. It is contended that by adding a little cotton seed meal to the daily ration of a beef, the gain will be very profitable. And this is also true with regard to horse feed. Cotton seed meal is cheaper than corn meal."

## Vegetables Planted.

W. R. Thaxton, who lives on his farm near Macon, speaking of truck farming, says:

"I am going ahead with my vegetables, pushing them all I can. My cabbages are set out, my tomato plants are doing well, and my garden peas are flourishing. What people want is something to eat."

"I am just from Florida and it is interesting to observe how they grow vegetables in that state. They are a little earlier than ours, but we are learning to get them quite early ourselves."

## East Wilkes Club.

P. M. Burdette, of Macon, is just back from a visit to Wilkes county. Speaking of his trip, he says:

"Of course, farming is backward, owing to bad weather conditions. But in Wilkes they have an agricultural club which has been in existence more

than a quarter of a century. It is known as the East Wilkes Club. All of the members of the club will, this year, make special efforts to make hay. The hay they cut is not simply grass and peavines, but they sow other seeds along with it that improves the quality of the hay."

"This club is progressive in agriculture, and in summer they cultivate the social side of life and have barbecues, for which Wilkes is so famous."

## Experience of the Past.

J. B. Smith, of Jones, one of the prosperous farmers of Jones county, while in Macon yesterday chatted of matters in general. He said:

"Farmers will have a white elephant on their hands next fall who uses cotton to buy dollar corn and high-priced meat. The food crops and the hog crop will remain high, whatever be the price of cotton."

"The experience of the past is that when a great hue and cry is raised to reduce cotton area, each one thinking the other fellow will, plants all he can himself. Thus the cotton crop is increased rather than decreased."

"But food crops bring such good prices that may induce the change, and these supply crops will remain high. Unless the farmer raises supplies now he cannot expect to farm profitably."

"The man is short on common-sense now who goes to town with an empty wagon to bring back corn and hay and meat. The farmer should be a seller and load his wagon with something to sell. If the wagon is to go empty, either way, on the trip let it be the return trip. Gradually our people are learning this. A few more years and I think our county will be up on diversification—a variety of crops—and raise more hogs and cattle and live stock generally. The talk is on that live. It is in the air. There is every inducement for it, as all things we eat are still soaring in prices. Irish potatoes have nearly doubled in price."

## Washington's Will.

Col. Walter J. Grace, solicitor general of this circuit, speaking of the celebration of Washington's birthday, and the importance of a study of his life, said:

"As the 22nd was the birthday of Washington, his life and character were themes of discussion in our schools. Did you ever read Washington's will? His solicitude for his old and infirm negroes, setting aside a fund for their especial benefit, manifested his kind-heartedness. On most old ante-bellum plantations the slaves were but servants hired for life and paid throughout that life at a higher rate than the Irish potato grower in some parts of Ireland. He and his family were better clothed, housed and fed than the European peasant."

"Washington's will provided for the freedom of all his slaves upon the death of his wife, giving reasons for the delay until then. And provision was made that all the old and infirm and the infants not being able to earn a living should be cared for by his heirs." And the will forbade the sale or transportation out of the commonwealth of Virginia of any slave he might die possessed of. He particularly insisted that a fund be set aside for the life support of the aged and infirm."

"So it was with the old-time aged servant. He was the pet of the plantation. He basked in the sunshine of ease, his gray hairs respected, his infirmities cared for, his whims and vanities humored."