

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER AND SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

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The Land of Opportunity—Who Shall Possess It?

RECOGNITION of the fact that the South is a land of wonderful opportunity—indeed, to the farmer THE land of opportunity—is becoming general. About a year ago Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson told the Editor of The Progressive Farmer and Gazette, that with good farming average Southern lands would be worth \$100 an acre in six or seven years. We have printed, too, the conviction of a leading Iowa stockman that the South is the live stock country of the future. It has not been long since Collier's Weekly spoke of the South as "The next West." Better still, Southern farmers are themselves coming to realize undreamed-of possibilities in the land which they own. Big corn crops have become so common as to attract little attention, unless they are very big. Indeed, when 500 boys in one county average 70 bushels of corn to the acre, it is evident that the South is, as we have said, the real corn belt. Two-bales of cotton to the acre is now recognized as an attainable ideal, and some men make more. Men are making hogs in the South for three or four cents a pound and selling them for 10 cents or more.

Yes, the South is the land of opportunity for the alert, intelligent, progressive farmer. All over it there are waiting golden opportunities for such farmers to acquire wealth and to do their part in making this land of ours what it should be—the fairest and most fruitful farming section in America.

The one great question of today is: "Who is going to profit by these opportunities?" Who should profit by them, admits of no question. They rightfully belong to the farmers who are now tending Southern soils, and to their sons. If these farmers and farm boys neglect their rightful heritage, and do not

opportunities, which they neglect. Now, we are glad to see people coming from other sections, because the South needs them. But what we wish to see, above all else, is an awakening of the farmers who belong in the South to the possibilities that lie



AS THE PREPARATION IS SO WILL THE HARVEST BE.

latent in their soils—to see them set about studying the science of agriculture, improving their methods, taking a deeper interest in their work, and so getting their rightful share of the wealth that good farming in the South is sure to produce. So to every reader we would make this appeal: Begin right now to do better farming, to get better stock and tools, to make each day's labor count for more, to plant better seeds, to prepare the soil better and cultivate the crops more thoroughly, above all, to build up your soil and keep it fertile.

For those who will do these things there are waiting splendid opportunities and wonderful rewards.

Men and boys of the South today, will you improve these opportunities and get your share of these rewards, or will you go on in half-hearted fashion and leave them to others?

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THE PROOF OF GOOD FARMING IS GOOD CROPS YEAR AFTER YEAR.

bring to their farm work the trained mind and the earnest purpose which are necessary to success in any work, we may depend upon it that people from other sections will come and profit by the