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REVIEW OF PRODUCERS' PRICES

Cotton Market

Raleigh, N. C., February 10—The month closed with the cotton market rather dull, and with little change from the previous. The demand for better grades still continues good with very little demand for the lower grades. The producers show no indication to sacrifice their lower grades at these prices, as they realize the better grades are scarce, and nothing would be gained by pressing the lower grades at this time.

Following are given quotations for middling cotton on January 31st, at a few of the different designated spot markets over the belt: New Orleans, 39.88@; Savannah 39.50@; Galveston 42.25@; Norfolk 39.00@; Memphis 40.50@; Little Rock 39.50@.

Cowpeas and Soy Beans Much Higher
Cowpeas are exceedingly scarce and in unusually great demand. Growers apparently have sold what few they had and only a very limited quantity remains in the hands of the dealers. Prices have increased steadily, good seed now bringing \$.75 to \$.60 under limited supply and heavy demand.

The great shortage of seed Cowpeas has largely increased the demand for soy bean seed. The anticipated \$4.00 level has been reached and passed, and best seed stock is now under heavy demand at \$4.50 to \$4.75. Only very limited offerings remain unsold.

Apply Market Slow and Dragg
Apples continue weak with movement slow and dragg. Shipments of barrel stock are decreasing. New York Baldwins A 2 1-2 in. ranged \$7.50 to 8.50 per barrel in most consuming markets, and Northwestern Winesaps were bringing \$2.50 to \$3.50 per box in leading Eastern jobbing markets. Washington and Idaho extra fancy Jonathans ranged \$2.25 to \$3.25 per box. Box holdings are considerable greater than this time last year.

White Potatoes Make Considerable Gain

White Potatoes continued their upward trend during most of the month and closed steady with Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota, No. 1 round whites at \$4.35 to \$4.55 cwt. F. O. B. leading points. Maine bulk Green Mountains advanced to \$4.00 to \$4.05 cwt., but dropped at the last of the month to \$3.65-3.75. Bad weather and bad roads have caused decreased haulings although the movement this season has been proportionately heavier than last year, and supplies on hand evidently are very much smaller.

Sweets Steady
Sweet Potatoes strengthened early in the month and continued steady. New Jersey and Delaware Yellow varieties ranged \$2.00-2.85 per bushel, hamper at the close of the month with Tennessee Nancy Halls at \$1.75-2.35. North Carolina Cloth Stave Barrels Yellow varieties closed in Washington at \$7.00-7.50; mostly \$7.00.

Peanut Growers Waiting
Reports from leading North Carolina peanut production centers indicate that growers are being offered locally 8 1-2 to 9 1-2@ per lb. for Virginians and \$3.00-3.40 per bushel for Spanish. There is a strong tendency to hold for 10@. Only a very small percentage of the crop remains in the hands of the growers at their leading points although some have stored their stock in Suffolk warehouses. A limited quantity of good seed stock can still be purchased direct from the growers.

Live Stock
Moderate receipts of hogs at packing centers during January, combined with a steady demand for pork products, resulted in a substantial increase in the prices of fat hogs. An increase in hog prices during January is unusual, as receipts are unusually heavier during this month and prices relatively low. Still further advance in prices during February and March is being predicted. On the Richmond market December 29th hogs weighing 125 lbs. were quoted at \$14.90, by January 26th prices had advanced to \$16.50. On December 29th on the Baltimore market light and medium weight hogs 130 to 200 lbs. were selling at \$15.40, and on

CONDITION FAVOR HOLDING PEANUTS

After a month of heavy bearish efforts to break the peanut market prices are still steadily for Virginians at or close to ten cents with some Fancy Jumbos going at 10 1-4 to 10 1-2 cents and with almost any kind of shelling stock bringing 9 1-2 cents. Spanish peanuts have made some gains, now readily commanding \$3.40 to \$3.50 in Virginia markets.

The big factor that has held the market up has been the shortage of the American crop, while the heavy offerings of Oriental peanuts for future delivery has been the weapon for trying to beat the market down. But official figures now available show that the Chinese crop of 1919 is nearly fifty per cent off in quality as compared with the 1918 crop, and no larger than that crop. Other official trade reports from the Department of Commerce show that the total production of China and Japan for the past three years has not equaled that of America. These official reports are proving that the bugaboo of Asiatic importations has been worked over-time.

The most encouraging feature of the peanut situation is that notwithstanding the government statistics show that the movement to the trade during the past month has been comparatively light, yet the total percent of the crop of Virginians which has passed through the mills is decidedly larger than any previous year up to February 1st. It is conservatively estimated that while only one-fourth of the peanut year has passed, nearly one-half of the crop has been milled. It is also figured that the trade has been buying from hand to mouth and that neither the trade nor the cleaners have enough surplus stock to carry them for thirty days.

Both from the standpoint of short production and increased consumption with the strong probabilities of a decrease in Asiatic importations conditions are most favorable for an advance on peanuts in the near future. Even with the great disturbance of the money market there is no reason why the rest of the 1919 crop should decline in price, nor will there be any effort to rush peanuts to the market in this time of financial depression will result in a break, from which there would be but little chance of recovery during the rest of this season.

and around 4 to 5 cents on the Baltimore market. The Chicago market closed with bulk of hogs quoted at January 26th this some grade passed over the scales at \$17.40. Soft and oily hogs are being heavily discounted on both these markets. Richmond from 1 to 3 cents is being deducted \$15.00 to \$15.25 per cwt.

North Carolina cattle feeders who have been feeding cattle on high priced feeds this winter have been watching Northern cattle markets with considerable concern during the past month. Fairly liberal receipts combined with slow markets have resulted in a decline in prices. Some improvement was made during the last few days of the month however, and cattle men are again growing hopeful that their feeding operations will prove profitable. The quality of the cattle being fed over the State is generally of a better grade than local markets demand. These markets handle mostly a medium grade of meat, which can be obtained thru Western packers or locally from medium grade of cattle at a relatively low price. For this reason Northern packer markets where there is a demand for the best grade of beef have to be depended upon largely to furnish a market for the better grades of cattle. A good many North Carolina fed cattle will be marketed during February. The Baltimore market closed with cattle selling as follows: Choice finished steers, 1200 to 1400 lbs. \$14.25 to \$14.75; good butcher steers, 1000 to 1150 lbs. \$13.00 to \$14.00; medium butcher steers 800 to 950 lbs. \$10.50 to \$12.50; good fat heifers \$11.00 to \$13.00; light heifers \$8.00 to \$10.00. While the general cattle market has been slow and low, veal calves have moved readily at advancing prices. The month closed with good veals selling at \$21.50 to \$23.00; common kind \$16.00 to \$19.00 on the Baltimore market and still higher on the New York market.

THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS LOST EACH YEAR TO DAIRYMEN THROUGH IMPROPER COOLING



In Times of Cold Weather Prepare for Hot Weather—Harvesting Ice in a Northern State.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Each year dairymen lose thousands of dollars from returned sour milk, poor butter, and low-quality cheese. These losses are largely due to improper cooling of milk and cream on the farm, according to dairy specialists. For good results milk and cream should be cooled to 50 degrees or lower and held there; and as this usually can best be done by the use of ice, dairymen should take advantage of any nearby lake or stream to obtain a supply of ice for next year.

Ice Costs Little.

The ice harvesting season fortunately comes at a time when there is the least work on the farm for men and teams, and consequently the actual money cost is usually not very great.

The quantity of ice needed depends upon the location of the farm—whether in the North or in the South, the number of cows milked, and the method of handling the product. In the northern states it has been found that, with a moderately good ice house, one-half of a ton of ice per cow is sufficient to cool cream and hold it at a low temperature for delivery two or three times a week. One and one-half or two tons per cow should be provided where milk is to be cooled.

Capacity of Ice Houses.

A cubic foot of ice weighs about 57 pounds, so in storing ice it is customary to allow from 40 to 50 cubic feet per ton for the mass of ice. At least 12 inches must be left between the ice and the wall of the building for insulation, unless the ice house has permanently insulated walls and an unusually large space for insulation beneath and above the ice.

Where a lake, pond, or stream of clear water is not available, some preliminary work in preparing the ice field will be required before freezing weather sets in. It is therefore advisable to make all plans for the work as soon as possible. Water for the ice supply should be entirely free from contamination or pollution. Ponds and sluggish streams usually have grass and weeds growing in them, so that the ice harvested is likely to contain decayed vegetable matter, which is always objectionable. They should, therefore, be thoroughly cleared of such growths before the ice has formed. In some sections it is necessary to impound the water for producing ice. This may be done either by excavating, and diverting a stream into the excavation, or by constructing dams across low areas. In localities where very low temperatures prevail for several weeks at a time, and the supply of pure water is limited, blocks of ice may be frozen in metal cans or in special fiber containers.

In harvesting ice it is desirable to have a field of sufficient size to fill the ice house at a single cutting, as the thickness and quality of the ice will

be more nearly uniform, and the necessary preparation for cutting and harvesting need be made but once. In many instances, however, the size of the pond or stream is such that it is necessary to wait for a second crop in order to fill the ice house. The average farmer requires only a comparatively small quantity of ice, so that even a small harvesting surface will usually prove large enough, especially if ice is cut the second time. The square feet of surface required per ton when the ice is of different thicknesses is shown in the following table. Size of cake, 22 by 22 inches.

Square Feet of Ice Surface Required Per Ton of Ice.

Thickness of Ice Inches	Number of Cakes Required Per Ton	Cutting Space Required Per Ton
1	31.3	106.4
2	15.6	53.2
3	10.4	35.4
4	7.8	26.5
5	6.3	21.1
6	5.2	17.1

Few Tools Required.

When a small quantity of ice is to be harvested, but few tools are required. The following list contains those actually needed for harvesting ice on a small scale: Two ice saws, one hand marker, one pulley and rope, two pairs of ice tongs, two ice hooks, one pointed bar, and one straight edge. While these tools are all that are necessary, additional ones, such as the horse plow and marker, horse scraper and marker, and a calking bar are convenient and will help to expedite the work of ice harvesting.

U. S. BUTTER EXPORTS SMALL

This Country Furnishes Less Than 1 Per Cent of Product That Figures in Trade.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

In spite of vast grazing lands in the United States this country furnishes less than 1 per cent of the butter that figures in world or international trade, according to statistics recently compiled by the United States department of agriculture. However, the same fact, expressed in terms of the total number of pounds of butter exported does not look so insignificant, since the annual total for at least one year in each of the last six decades has approached 30,000,000 pounds. They have been marketed throughout in the country's exports of butter, the amount frequently dropping to less than one-third of the total for the years. The relation between domestic and foreign prices has been a determining factor in these changes. During the last few years our exports small as they are relatively, have been going to 70 different countries, colonies, and dependencies.

ORGANIZATION IN N. C.

Altho there are practically 500 companies and organizations licensed to do business in North Carolina, having complied with the law respecting such privilege, still there are many from outside the state who want to reach the people, and try to evade the law, never failing to so present their claims by letter as to make the impression they are offering something better than licensed operators are offering. In all such cases, Commissioner James R. Young of the North Carolina Insurance Department, gives specific notice today, that these contracts are not allowable under the law and cannot be enforced. Among this class, he says, the "Clergymen's Beneficial Association of Pennsylvania" should be rated. From inquiries being received at the department every day recently, it would appear to be trying to impose upon the clergymen of the

state he says. Responding to these enquiries, a good practice for many others if they doubt the bona fida of any such proposition, Commissioner Young, sends this reply—"The Company is not listed in North Carolina and its contracts cannot be enforced." "It has no substantial financial standing".

A Good Medicine for the Grip.
George W. Waitt, South Gardner, Me., relates his experience with the grip "I had the worst cough, cold and grip and had taken lot of trash of no account. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the only thing that has done me any good whatever. I have used one bottle of it and the cold and the grip have left me.—advertisement.

Watch that label on your paper. To be on the safe side it would be better that the last two figures were '20.

666 has proven it will cure Malaria, Chills, and Fever, Bilious Fever, Colds and LaGrippe.—adv.

AMERICAN COTTON ASSOCIATION

Raleigh, Feb. 12.—North Carolina producers of cotton dealers have cooperated with the American Cotton Association in the effort that is being made by President J. S. Wannamaker to sell 300,000 bales of low grade cotton to foreign spinners, and a large number of the signed options, have been received by the North Carolina office of the Association.

These options are merely options, and carry, of course, no guarantee of the sale, President Wannamaker, however, has had negotiations with the foreign spinners and believes he will be able to put the deal through. In view of the fact that there is a possibility of the whole deal failing to materialize, Cotton Association officials are stressing the importance of understanding that it is merely an option.

That a decided fight is being made against the whole scheme is indicated in the present trend of the cotton exchange. It would very materially hurt the interest of gamblers who have sold the cotton market short for low grade cotton to bring the prices the Association is trying to get for these low grades of cotton. These prices range from 35 cents for ordinary cotton to 41 cents for low middling. These prices are not to the seller, f. o. b., his shipping point. The terms are eighty percent cash and twenty percent deferred payments, bearing interest at six percent.

Because it would be impossible to handle options of individuals in a deal of this magnitude, the Association has found it necessary to get the collective options from county and township organizations of the Cotton Association. In a number of instances county meetings have been held and the county chairmen or some official has signed the joint option blank for the cotton of all members who wanted to get in on this deal.

Some definite decision is supposed to be made about the sale of this cotton, in the near future. February 11th was the original date set for closing the deal, but there have been delays in getting the options in, and other delays not unexpected in a deal of this nature. Cotton men in all parts of the state are very enthusiastic over the proposed plan and every effort possible is being made by Mr. Wannamaker to complete it as early as possible.

JULE B. WARREN,
Publicity Director.

COLERAIN NEWS

Mr. Dick Leary, of Edenton, was in town last Monday night.

Mr. J. T. Long had the misfortune to slip on the pavement Tuesday afternoon breaking out the plate glass to Mr. E. White's store window and cutting his hand badly.

Mr. C. B. Morris went to Norfolk last Wednesday on a business trip.

The ground hog must have seen his shadow somewhere last Monday, judging from the amount of rain recently.

Mr. Orton Montague came home Friday on account of the "flu" epidemic at Trinity Park.

Mr. Clarence Myers left Saturday morning for Norfolk where he will enter the Davis Mayer School and take a business course.

Rev. R. B. Lineberry was called to Mill Neck Friday to preach the funeral of Mr. Joe Holloman who passed away Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. White returned from Baltimore last Friday.

Mr. W. B. Brown, of Norfolk, was the guest of Mr. E. White the past week.

Mrs. Clarence Beasley is spending this week with her mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Coy Smithwick, of Merry Hill, were the guest of Mr. J. H. Myers last Sunday.

Town Buys Site For New Light Plant and Water Works.

The town of Ahoosie bought a site from Mr. J. A. Mitchell, south of the Columbia Peanut Mill Tuesday, and have already started a new building for the Ahoosie Light and Water Works, which location has been highly favored by the best citizens of the town. This site is located on high ground and will make an ideal location. From the looks of things the town will soon have the long expected day current, water and sewer system, some of the sewer pipe was unloaded Tuesday.

REVALUATION & NEW TAX RATE

To the People of North Carolina:

After hearing the reports made by the District Supervisors in charge of the Revaluation Act, and after a full conference with the State Budget Commission, the State Tax Commission, and the State Treasurer, I find that I will be justified in giving to the people of the State the following information:

I propose to submit to the Special Session of the General Assembly, which is expected to meet in July, the following recommendations:

1. That the State take no advantage of that part of the Revaluation Act which authorized a ten per cent increase of revenues for the year 1920, but that the General Assembly fix a rate for 1920 that will yield all State purposes exactly the same amount of revenue from real and personal property as was collected in the year 1919. There may be one exception to this recommendation and that is that it may be necessary to increase the funds provided by the State for public schools to the extent of five per cent, certainly not more than this. This increase will be only half the amount contemplated by the General Assembly of 1919 for this specific purpose.

Purely Equalization Act.

It will thus be seen, in the light of this recommendation, that the Revaluation Act becomes one of equalization, pure and simple, and with the vast quantities of property now going on the tax books that was not taxed at all heretofore both of lands and of intangible personal property, it is certain that many thousands of tax payers will actually pay less taxes in 1920, than they paid in 1919.

2. I will also recommend that there be inserted in the Revaluation Act a clause providing that in any year at any time before the taxes are actually levied by the county authorities, any property owner may ask for a re-assessment of his property upon filing an affidavit supported by two disinterested freeholders that his property is on the tax books at a sum greater than its market value.

3. I will also recommend to the Special Session of the General Assembly that there be embodied in the Constitutional amendments now pending and to be voted on in November a provision greatly reducing the present constitutional limitation of 66 2-3 cents on the one hundred dollars worth of property. It was the purpose of the Finance Committee of the House and Senate to revise this limitation downwards. It is now apparent that the revised valuations will be large enough to permit a substantial reduction of this limitation, and will leave a reasonable margin for the necessities of our future development. Just what figure will be a proper limitation cannot be determined until the total values under the new assessment are ascertained.

Outstanding Facts

Three facts in regard to the Revaluation Act are now outstanding, and no longer the subject of controversy:

1. The one purpose of the act is to wipe out the inequalities of the existing system.

2. Under the Act the tax rate will be so low that no class of property will be outlawed and driven from the State.

3. The extraordinarily low rate under the Revaluation Act will uncover millions of dollars in the State that have never been on the tax books at all, and will draw into the State millions of capital from the ends of the earth.

T. W. BICKETT, Governor.
Raleigh, January 30, 1920.

PARKER DUNN

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Dunn announce the marriage of their daughter Bernice to Mr. Dewey Parker on Wednesday, February 4th. The ceremony taking place at the Baptist parsonage of Winton, N. C., Rev. A. P. Wainstein officiating. Mr. and Mrs. Parker left on the morning train for New York, Baltimore and Washington; upon their return they will make their home in Union, N. C.

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