

## Farmers Paying More, Getting Less Agriculture Dep't Figures Show

Receiving Lowest Proportionate Price for Crops Since 1918.— Cotton Exports Off

The April Bulletin of Crops and Markets, published by the U. S. Agricultural Department, in its index numbers of prices paid to farmers and paid by farmers for what they buy, shows that in February at 66 and March at 67 as the comparative ratios, with 100 as the normal number, the farmer is receiving the lowest proportionate price since 1918. Against this index price of what the farmer sells the index price of what he buys was in March 136 and in February 137, against a normal of 100, a ratio that consistently followed the farmer since 1819, the period covered by the figures. The index figures during the period 1910 to 1914 were 100, showing that the farm is paying decidedly more now than then, and getting a third less for what it has to sell. These figures are taken from the official bulletin issued the first of the week from Washington.

The downward course of farm prices as compared with prices of things the farm buys has been going on for nearly twenty years. A slight ray of comfort is found in the fact that a small upturn has been noted in March, although extremely small. Cotton is possibly the worst affected among the crops, and it catches the trouble both ways: in price, and in the falling off of the demand. During the eight months ending with March of this year the mills used 3,390,000 bales in America, as against 3,765,000 bales for the same period in 1914, and an average for the last five years of 4,574,000 bales. This is 74 per cent of the average for the

### BLUE MOLD APPEARS

Mr. Mayfield, agriculture teacher, was seen down town Monday morning with a handful of tobacco leaves, and in response to an inquiry, said that the blue mold had appeared on several farms around Vass. The farmers are fighting it and it is hoped that by starting early, they will be able to get it under control before much damage is done.

last five years. Our exports of cotton in the past eight months reached 5,806,000, as against 8,142,000 for the same period 17 years ago, and an average for the last four years of 7,80,000. This shows how the cotton trade has been cut to the marrow, and explains something of the situation. To go a little into detail, seventeen years ago the cotton exported to Great Britain in the eight months it is less than a million. Germany is off forty per cent in the same time in her cotton purchases here, France twenty per cent, Japan very materially increased, and other countries nearly all down in the quantity taken.

From the figures gathered by the government the signs are that the world cotton crop will be nearly a million bales less than last year, but the stocks on hand in this country appear to be about 2,300,000 bales above the amount this time last year. In the United States sales of cotton cloth are running above production, and stocks on hand are said to be the lowest in several years. Cotton mill activity in Europe is reported to be slightly more promising, and Japan announces better conditions, which is of consequence as Japan has been

gaining more prominence as a buyer of American cotton.

As an indication of the farm situation over the country it is shown that in January, February and March last year 80,372 horses and 125,188

mules were sold at the public stock yards as compared with 60,202 horses and 59,674 mules this year in the same three months, less than half as many mules and three-fourths as many horses.

## THE WEEK IN VASS

### Birthday Pageant

"From Africa's Sunny Fountains" is the title of a pageant which will be given in the Vass Presbyterian church at eight o'clock on Friday evening of this week by members of the women's auxiliary and girls' circle in celebration of the birthday anniversary of the auxiliary.

Pageants of like nature have been held annually in the local church for several years and they have proved both instructive and interesting. The offering this year will be for a group of schools in Africa. The public is cordially invited to attend.

### Presbyterian Auxiliary Meets

The May meeting of the Presbyterian Auxiliary was held at the home of Mrs. D. C. McGill, with Mrs. N. N. McLean as leader of a delightful program on the birthday objective, and Mrs. R. G. Rosser, Mrs. Stacy Brewer, Mrs. D. A. McLaughlin and Mrs. Sarah M. McNeill taking part. The Bible lesson on James was conducted by Mrs. McGill.

The auxiliary adopted its budget for the year, and in spite of the depression, it is undertaking to raise a larger amount this year than last. A committee was named to appoint a delegate to attend the colored women's conference which is to be held in Winston-Salem.

### Youngsters Get Thrill

Vass youngsters who live on the east side of town got a real thrill, such as their dads used to enjoy, on Monday morning when a runaway horse came tearing wildly down the street dragging a farm implement behind him. Mr. Ring, who lives a mile and a half down the Lobelia road was later seen driving the horse out of town, and so far as we know, no damage was done.

### Club Women Study Bread

Bread making, from start to finish, was discussed by Mrs. Walter L. Ryals at the Vass home demonstration club meeting which was held last week, and tasty rolls of various kinds were prepared, and later enjoyed by the members. Each club woman was given a package of yeast and a cook book containing full directions for making bread, in order that she might try out in her own home what had been learned.

A short business session, presided over by the president, Mrs. R. L. Oldham, preceded the demonstration.

### Attend Game

C. L. Tyson, Monroe Chappell, S. D. Byrd, D. A. Smith and Albert Graham attended the ball game in Raleigh Thursday.

Robert E. Leslie of Rockingham spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Leslie.

Rev. W. C. Ball filled his regular appointment at the Methodist church Sunday morning. He was accompanied by Mrs. Ball and little daughter, Mary Katharine, and they were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Cameron. On account of the revival services at the tabernacle, the evening service was called off.

### Personals

Mrs. J. M. Tyson and granddaughter, little Miss Marie Cameron Tyson, are spending this week in Carthage with Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Wallace.

Mrs. Ossie McManus returned Sunday from a short visit to her sister, Mrs. Seth W. Lassiter, at her home near Smithfield.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Mayfield spent Friday in Raleigh.

Mr. Clark, known throughout this section as the "berry man," has arrived for the berry season. Mr. Clark has been an annual visitor here for many years.

W. H. Keith was a business visitor to Florence, S. C., on Wednesday.

Miss Lola Martin of the Cranes Creek community is very ill in the Pinehurst hospital. Blood transfusions have been made and it is hoped that she may soon show signs of recovery.

Mrs. W. D. Wilson who has been visiting relatives in Norfolk and Washington, D. C., for several weeks is expected home within a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Cox and children and guest, Miss Rose Cox, of Wadesboro, spent Friday in Raleigh. Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Callahan and Miss Mary Smith visited in Lexington on Sunday.

Edward Griffin of Sanford paid a short visit to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Griffin Saturday.

Leon Keith is spending a few days in Albemarle with his sister, Mrs. W. C. Byrd.

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Taylor and Misses Louise and Marjorie Leslie were Raleigh visitors on Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Cameron and children went to Buie's Creek Sunday and Mrs. Cameron and the children remained for a visit with relatives there.

## Cameron and Community

Misses Lillian and Thurla Cole were hostesses Friday afternoon when they charmingly entertained four tables of bridge, complimenting Mrs. J. H. Sutherland of Wilmington. Those playing were Misses Jacksie Muse, Katie Harrington, Kate Hunter, Margaret and Effie Gilchrist, Lady Loving, Beulah Thomas, Elizabeth Ray and Mesdames L. B. McKeithen, J. H. Sutherland, H. C. Gibson, Jewell Hemphill, J. D. McLean, J. B. Tally, H. D. Tally, J. E. Snow and J. M. Guthrie. High score was won by Mrs. J. M. Guthrie, while consolation fell to Miss Katie Harrington.

Mrs. L. B. McKeithen entertained at a lovely children's lawn party Friday afternoon, honoring little Betsy Jean and Maryland Tally of Buffalo, N. Y. The guest were thirty little tots. From out of town came Carol Graves, Valeria Miller, Mary McLaughlin, Billy Warner, Jr., and Dan Ray III of Lakeview. A cunning gypsy nook, presided over by Miss Katie Harrington as fortune teller, furnished fun and laughter for all except Master Murdoch McKeithen, who grew gravely solemn when the gypsy told him that in the coming years he would be president of these United States, and that he and his wife would live in the White House. Merry games were played with zest and pleasure, after which Dixie cups and cakes were served, which brought to a close this delightful fairy-like party.

Circle No. 2 of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Presbyterian church met Thursday afternoon with Miss Elizabeth Ray. The chairman, Miss Annie McFadyen presiding. The program was a study of "Women of Africa," especially their problems and difficulties. Miss McFadyen tendered her resignation as chairman, which was regretfully accepted and Miss Kate Hunter was unanimously elected her successor.

The singers from Leaflet Presbyterian Church of Harnet county will be here the fifth Sunday in this month. The entire community is cordially invited to join in making this a wonderful day of praise. Everybody come

and bring a well filled lunch basket and enjoy Christian fellowship.

The Rev. M. D. McNeill filled his regular appointment Sunday evening, giving an unusually helpful discourse based on the Queen of Sheba's visit to King Solomon. Special music, with Miss Margaret McLean at the piano, accompanied by Marie Parker on violin, was given by the John McNeill society.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Thomas entertained at dinner Friday evening, honoring Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Tally of Buffalo, N. Y., and Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Tally.

Mrs. J. H. Sutherland and children, who were guests of Miss Beulah Thomas of Route 1, last week, returned to their home in Wilmington Sunday.

Miss Mollie Reid of Pinehurst is visiting her parents on Route 2 this week.

Miss Gertrude Rogers, trained nurse of Winston-Salem is visiting her mother, Mrs. Laura Rogers this week.

Mrs. Rosa Thomas of Route 1 continues seriously ill at the home of her son, Lufe Thomas.

The little five-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Thomas of Route 1, fell from the porch at his grand father's last Thursday and broke his arm.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Tally and children returned to their home in Buffalo, N. Y., Sunday.

Julian McDougald of Washington, D. C., after spending a week with his father, Alex McDougald of Venus, Fla., visited his grandmother, Mrs. Julia McDougald and his aunts, Mrs. H. D. Tally and Miss Manda McPherson last week, returning to Washington Sunday.

Mrs. A. J. McRae and Miss June McIver Hemphill spent several days with Mrs. K. M. Foosee, near Sanford last week.

J. B. Tally, Arch McDougald and Andrew Muse Hemphill spent Friday at Oak Ridge, Duke University and Chapel Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald McDonald spent Sunday in Carthage with Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McDonald.

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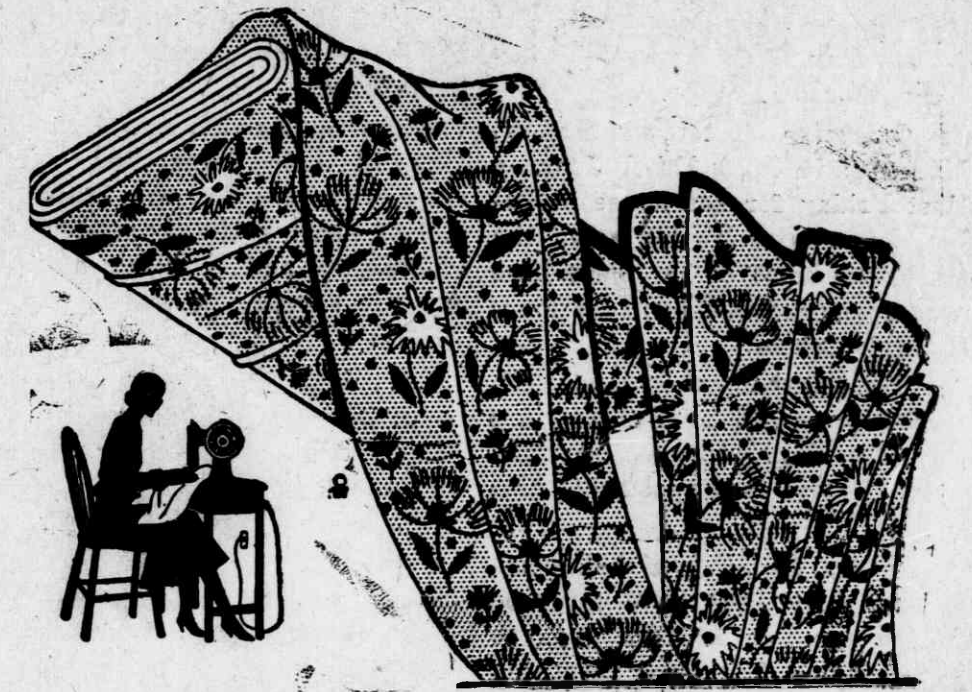
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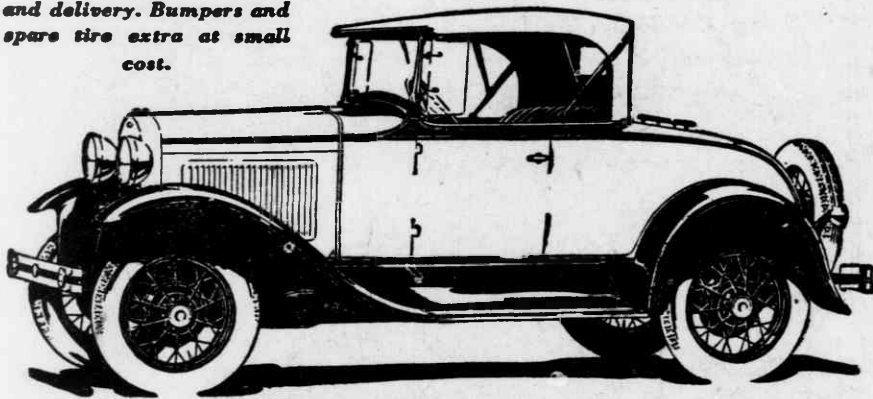
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