FARM FEDERATION TO SPEND $250,000 IN FARM PROGRAM

(Continued from front page)

000, has a comparatively small expert of food products.

To Secure Experts

The trustees will place experts in the field to work up production and will cooperate with the state extension department, county agents and the extension department of the Southern Railway in establishing small agricultural industries along the line of the railroad from Murphy to Marion.

The United States department of agriculture has offered its services in working out plans for the application of the fund to the marketing and production problems that are facing Western North Carolina.

Farming interests all over North Carolina will be interested in knowing just how this money is to be used, where it is to go and what practical results it is expected to produce.

Three Projects

The answer to these questions is found in three marketing projects:

"1. Poultry can be made to bring in 75 million dollars a year to the mountain counties of Western North Carolina. It now brings in some three million dollars. The Farmers Federation in 1926 was instrumental in placing over 200,000 baby chicks on farms in this territory. The installing of poultry fattening plants, and egg collecting stations will make poultry one of the chief sources of wealth in the Appalachian counties.

"2. Vegetables and fruits thrive in the mountain area. These can be shipped green, but because of the uncertainties of the market, small, inexpensive canneries should be established at strategic points. This, together with the proper field promotion work, will be the means of starting up great agricultural industries, and will furnish a market that will mean better living conditions for the mountain farmer.

"3. There is a growing and almost limitless market for butter. The abundant pasture, the long grazing season, and the cool streams of Western North Carolina make dairying profitable. Ten cows per farm not only bring in a substantial revenue, but also build up the farm. Cream buying stations and creameries must be installed and seen before the farmer will engage in the dairy business. Initiating markets for cream will stimulate a great western producing dairy industry."

Budget Is Devised

In order to accomplish the three projects outlined above the work is to be spread over a [illegible] year period and the following budget has been devised:

Poultry, field men and [illegible] for developing the industry $[illegible] a year for five years, $25,000; vegetables and canneries, $5,000 a year for five years, $25,000; other products, $5,000 a year for five years, $25,000; butter, $5,000 a year for five years, $25,000. Research—this promises to discover new and profitable uses for many farm products. It will also ascertain new and profitable crops and agricultural industries suited to the soil and climate of the Appalachian region, $5,000 a year for five years, $25,000. Administration—this will embrace overhead, keeping of records, office expenses, [illegible] year for five years, $[illegible]. [illegible] fund will be furnished by the Farmers Federation, [illegible] and other [illegible] agricultural societies and [illegible] together until sufficient money is developed to put them on a self-sustaining basis. They will then be [illegible] by the Farmers Federation and the money again made available for use in initiating new projects. The total of this budget is $250,000.

The fund, of which $100,000 has already been raised, will be administered through the Farmers Federation by a board of trustees consisting of five men. They are: Arthur W. Page, vice-president of the American Telephone and Telegraph company, New York City; Monroe N. Buckner, chairman of the board of the New York Trust company, New York City; James G. Stikeleather, [illegible] of the North Carolina State Highway Commission, Asheville; [illegible] G. K. McClure, Jr., president of the Farmer's Federation; and Geo. [illegible], co-publisher of The Asheville Citizen.

The idea of establishing a fund for agricultural promotion work in the mountain counties dates back to the interest of the late Dr. H. W. Grove in the Farmers Federation. In a letter to Mr. McClure, Dr. Grove pledged $5,000 a year for five years providing $75,000 additional was subscribed. In this connection Dr. Grove wrote:

"The time has come when the mountain farmer must change his old traditional methods of farming and must plant crops and raise livestock which the modern markets demand. This change will require education. It is for this reason that promotion or educational fund is necessary."

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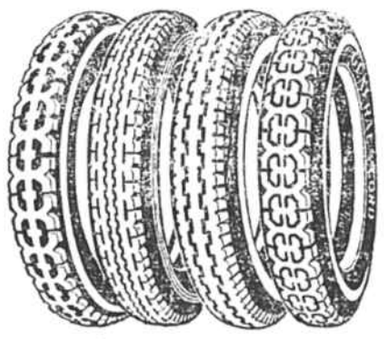

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