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## Tenant Homes Corporation

By GUY A. CARDWELL, Agricultural and Industrial Agent Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Co.

Senator J. H. Banhead, of Alabama, has introduced a bill S. 1800—"To Create The Farm Tenant Homes Corporation, to promote more secure occupancy of farms and farm homes, to correct the economic instability resulting from some present forms of farm tenancy, and for other purposes."

To the South, and I think to the Nation, this is one of the most important measures before Congress. If you are interested in checking the future spread of farm tenancy, and wish to abolish the abuses and poverty which are an accompaniment of the system, get a copy of the bill, study it and take the usual way of letting your Congressmen know of your interest in the subject and in the bill.

In testifying at hearings on the Bankhead Tenancy Bill, March 5th, 1935, Secretary of Agriculture, Henry A. Wallace, stated in part:

"During the past half century, the increase in farm tenancy has been one of the undesirable and yet wide-spread characteristics of rural America. Only two generations ago we were at the heights of the Homestead movement, which had as one of its fundamental aims the creation of an agriculture made up predominantly of small farm operators. Today we find that half of our farm lands are operated by tenants, and nearly that large a percentage of our farmers rent all of the land they farm.

Tenancy is closely associated with the specialized production of the major cash crops, the surplus of which has been troubling this country for more than a decade. Because it is associated with commercial farming and specialized crop production it is closely associated with and related to that other great evil of our land system—land speculation.

The fact that the tenant farmer has been entrusted with some of the best soils of the Nation is especially serious because a large proportion of our tenants have little permanent interest in soil conservation. The average period of occupancy by tenants is only a little more than four years. Since few tenants' contracts provide compensation for improvements made by the tenant and since both landlord and tenant are usually interested in the production of cash crops, it follows that in general tenancy is largely responsible for the serious progressive depletion of soil fertility. We can hardly deal fundamentally with the erosion and other types of soil wastage until we bring about a change in the relationship of tenant farmers to the land they operate.

Some of the worst characteristics of the American tenancy system are found in the South. A great many people think southern tenants are mostly negroes. On the contrary, of the 1,800,000 tenants and croppers reported in the sixteen southern States by the 1930 census, only 700,000, or less than 40 per cent were negroes. Notwithstanding the tremendous increase in tenancy which occurred in the South between 1920 and 1930, all the gain was brought about by an increase in the number of white tenants. In fact, there was a slight decrease in the number of negro tenants and croppers between 1920 and 1930, but there was a gain of 69 per cent in the number of white croppers during that decade. A large number of southern owners and share tenants, particularly white owners and tenants, were forced to revert to the propertyless status of croppers by the agricultural depression which started with the fall of prices in 1920.

The disintegration of the farm system in the South, particularly the plantation phase, has become progressively more rapid since the World War. Factors which contribute to this include the increased mechanization of cotton production, especially in the western areas and in the alluvial portions of the lower Mississippi valley; adverse influence on older areas of the competition in cotton production by the newer western areas; soil erosion and depletion of soil fertility from the one crop system; the gradual depletion of timber resources which formerly supplied employment and income in many areas; a series of price crises since the World War that impaired the ability of many landowners, supply merchants and plantation operators to supply their tenants and the pull of industrial employment which attracted labor from the South until the advent of the depression in 1929. Since the depression, the displacement of Southern tenants and the increase in the number of rural "squatter" has been sharply increased. In the South, as in many other regions, the real problem is to

reassociate labor, land and capital in such manner as to enable the people to maintain a better standard of living than formerly under more wholesome conditions of operation both for the people and the land.

We have been talking about the evils of farm tenancy in this country for a great many years. It is high time that America faced her tenant situation openly, and pursued a vigorous policy of improvement. Studies made by the Department of Agriculture, State experiment stations, and other research agencies have repeatedly shown that in communities where tenancy is extensive, there is an unusual degree of rural instability and lack of a well knit social life. It is almost impossible for tenant families who move from place to place every two or three years to participate in the activities of schools, churches and other similar rural institutions.

An active Government program aimed at making owners out of desirable tenants, through a system of long term loans which can be repaid by taking the ordinary rent as payment toward the ownership of a farm, is a thoroughly sound and justifiable procedure for creating greater security and more desirable homes for our rural tenant population. During the period when the purchasers are slowly creating an equity in the farm they operate they will have all the security of an owner and should develop a real and lasting interest in maintaining their homes and permanently participating in the social life of their communities.

I am happy to support a measure which has as its aim the creation of a substantial group of farm owners out of our present tenant class. I know of no better means of re-constructing our agriculture on a thoroughly sound and permanently desirable basis than to make as its foundation the family-sized, owner-operated farm. I believe that the provisions of this bill can be put into effective operation in such manner as to bring greater individual opportunity and security to thousands of tenants. At the same time, they should be of substantial aid in our crop adjusting programs, and in our attempts to conserve soil fertility and prevent erosion. Moreover, these provisions will aid materially in bringing about the development of a rural civilization embodying a higher standard of living and a better developed and more stable community life than has been possible under a system characterized by land speculation, absentee landlord and migratory tenants.

### Buy Boy A Calf Start Dairy Herd

Every farm boy is interested in animal life and desires something of his own to feed and handle.

"One of the best ways of fulfilling these natural desires is to buy the boy a pure bred, registered calf and enroll the boy into the 4-H club where he can learn how to feed and care for his animal to best advantage," says F. R. Farnham, dairy extension specialist at State College. "We now have 4-H calf clubs in nearly every county of the State and the county farm agent or his assistant will be glad to give the boy advice and suggestions as to proper methods of handling his animal."

Mr. Farnham says, in the past, farm boys have selected crops for their club projects and have changed from one crop to another each year forgetting in a large measure some of the good ideas learned about handling the previous crop. This does not encourage the proper attitude of sticking to a thing until it is finished.

"If the boy is given a purebred calf, his club activity in connection with handling the animal will develop into a long-time, supervised farm practice," Farnham says. "The boy builds on the small project of one calf each successive year until at the end of the high school period, this young man has organized an actual business of sufficient size to challenge his best managerial ability."

Garnham says many North Carolina boys at the age of ten or twelve years have started with one calf and are today owners of splendid small dairy herds that are providing a source of cash income to pay the owner's way through college. It need not be an expensive undertaking to start. Many breeders are glad to co-operate in supplying a pure bred animal at a very normal cost.

### Carmel Men Like Present-Day Type

London, April —Men who lived 80,000 years ago are the nearest approach to modern human beings yet discovered, according to Theodore D. McCown, of California University, 26-year-

## Says Production Of Cotton Shows Decrease Abroad

Secretary Wallace Refutes Claims That AAA Program Spurred Foreign Yield

### DISCUSSES DECLINE IN COTTON EXPORTS

Says Much Of Reduction Due To Foreign Customers Using Stocks Already On Hand; House Members to Seek Interview With President On Textile Problem

Atlanta, April —Foreign cotton production shows a decrease for the 1934-35 season despite claims of opponents of the United States curtailment program that it would force other nations to raise more of the staple.

That's what Secretary of Agriculture Wallace told a meeting of more than 1,000 farmers when he announced the processing tax would be continued.

Wallace said foreign cotton acreage did increase nine per cent in 1933, but this preceded the cotton program launched in this country the same year.

"For the 1934-35 season," the secretary said, "present reports indicate that the foreign crop is about 12,966,000 bales, as compared with 13,053,000 bales in 1933-34. In other words, foreign cotton production shows, not an increase, but a slight decrease."

"Foreign cotton production in 1934-35 is larger in China, Russia, Brazil and minor producing countries, but these increases are more than offset by decreases in Egypt, India and Mexico."

**Production in Brazil**  
"Much publicity has been given to the increase in cotton production in Brazil. The production this season is now estimated at 1,591,000 bales as compared with 969,000 bales in 1933-34 and 488,000 bales in 1932-33."

"Expansion which had already gained much headway before our program was launched was continued. The increase of 622,000 bales since our program was launched represents more than 64 per cent increase of Brazilian production, but it amounts to about 6 per cent of the United States' production in 1934."

"The expansion in Brazil has been seized upon and magnified by interests in this country in an attempt to stampede the American cotton growers into abandoning the program which has lifted them out of the mire of a four-year depression."

Wallace said the contention that the cotton program has caused customers of the United States to turn elsewhere for their cotton arises primarily from the decrease in American cotton exports since last August 1.

**Using Present Stocks**  
He said the reduction in exports, when analyzed, leads to the discovery "that much of it is due to the fact that foreign users of cotton, instead of buying new American supplies, have been using up the stocks of American cotton already on hand."

"Whereas," he continued, "foreign nations since August 1 of last year through February, 1935, have cut their imports of American cotton by 41 per cent, they have reduced their consumption of American cotton by only 26 per cent."

He said America must face the fact that there have been shifts in consumption abroad from American to foreign growths during the first half of the 1934-35 season.

Foreign consumption of American cotton during this period was

old American anthropologist. McCown is working with three other research experts—two women and a man—at Downe Research Farm, Kent, on prehistoric remains brought from the northwestern slopes of Mount Lebanon, Palestine, by a joint expedition undertaken by the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem, and the American School of Prehistoric Research, during 1932.

Among the petrified fragments that were discovered in naturally cemented rock which evidently was a primitive settlement, were found skulls of Carmel men showing fiercely protruding, powerful bony ridges above the eyes, which would have given a terrible ape-like appearance to the face. The skulls also showed strong, squarely jutting chins, not uncharacteristic of the ape-type, but nevertheless more like the chins of modern human beings than the lower jaw of the Neanderthal man living 25,000 years ago.

The teeth of the Carmel men, which are perfectly preserved, are small and regular and almost identical with the present-day human teeth.

estimated at \$3,629,000 bales, whereas the consumption of foreign growths was 8,101,000 bales. This represented a decrease of 1,276,000 bales of American cotton from a like period one year earlier and an increase of 1,521,000 bales in consumption of foreign growths.

"Studies made by the representatives of the Department of Agriculture and others," he said, "show that one reason for this shift is the unwillingness of this country to accept goods or services in adequate amount in return for exports of our cotton."

Wallace said economic trends, set in motion by the World War, have aggravated America's difficulties in relation to cotton exports. Prior to the war, he said, America was primarily a debtor nation—today it is on the other side as a credit country.

**Would Be Worse**  
"Proposals that this country should do anything and everything, aside from accepting foreign goods in exchange, to preserve its cotton exports do not offer the South any advantages comparable to the loss that would result in dismantling the cotton program," he said. "That such proposals would mean discarding the program is almost openly admitted by their sponsors."

### Only Intelligent Truly Beautiful

Philadelphia, April —Beauty and brains are synonymous, according to the deans of women at three universities here.

Each dean pointed to numerous women students, who not only ranked high in their studies, but possessed the qualifications for competing in beauty contests. None of the deans would admit that there was any basis for the oftused phrase, "beautiful but dumb."

"There never was a girl who was both beautiful and dumb," Miss H. Jean Crawford, director of women at the University of Pennsylvania, declared. "It was just a myth. The two things are incompatible. For true beauty is born of intelligence and character. "The girls who do the best work in our colleges invariably are handsome girls. Their intelligence is reflected in their faces, and most of all, in their eyes. Only intelligent people can be truly beautiful."

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"I don't know where the 'beautiful-but-dumb' theory originated," said Miss Edna Clark, acting dean of women at Temple University, "but an examination of scholastic records at almost any co-educational institution would disprove it."

Miss Ruth M. Dorsey, dean of women at Drexel Institute, also said that the old maxim was a fallacy. She expressed the belief that the saying was probably originated by a man, "one entirely unfamiliar with the scholastic work of many beautiful girls."

### USE COTTONSEED MEAL AS LIVESTOCK FEED

The almost unlimited supply of cottonseed meal at a reasonable price is considered one of the greatest natural advantages available to southern livestock producers.

Tests conducted at the N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station have disclosed that one pound of cottonseed meal is the equivalent of two pounds of grain when used as a protein supplement in animal feeds.

Earl H. Hostetler, in charge of animal husbandry research at the station, stated that recent experiments have shown that cottonseed meal can be fed safely to horses and mules, provided that the meal is used as a supplement to adequate pasturage and proper roughage in the diet. A good way to feed the meal

is to distribute it over the corn, preferably at the night feeding, Hostetler pointed out.

He suggested that only a small amount of meal be given when first starting horses or mules on cottonseed meal. Later, when the animals get used to eating it, the ration may be increased to one or two pounds of meal daily for each 1,000 pounds of live weight. However, he warned, cottonseed meal is not a complete substitute for grain in the diet.

It has also been found that when pigs are fed, free choice, a diet of corn and a mixture of equal parts of cottonseed meal, fish meal, and mineral, they gained 12 percent more rapidly and were 24 per cent more profitable than those fed in the same manner without the meal.

Cottonseed meal is not only a nutritious feed for all kinds of livestock, Hostetler added, but it also contains important soil-building elements which furnish excellent plant food when returned to the land in the form of manure.

Practically all cotton growers of Catawba County are renting the maximum of 35 percent of their base acreage under the adjustment contracts.

The Mecklenburg Jersey Breeders Association is planning a more aggressive campaign for popularizing the breed in that section. A Jersey calf club sale will be held in May.

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