

ANNUAL STATEMENT

—Or—
RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE CARTERET COUNTY GENERAL FUND.

From December, 1st, 1920 to December 1st, 1921.

RECEIPTS

T. M. Thomas, Jr. Sheriff, 1920	\$17,950.50	
Clerk of Superior Court, Fees	1,488.11	\$17,950.50
Registrar of Deeds, Fees	740.60	
		\$2,223.71
BORROWED MONEY		
Loan from Road Fund	\$49,206.20	
Loan from Bank of Beaufort	7,500.00	
		\$56,706.20
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE		
Eld'g. & Loan Tax	51.33	
Refunds	53.51	
Refund, Beaufort Graded School	76.35	
Other Revenue	32.56	
Excess Fund, Thos. Thomas, Acc't (old balance)	271.25	
Court Huse Bond Fund (old balance)	409.97	
County Home Bond Fund (old balance)	1,498.76	
		\$2,394.23
TOTAL RECEIPTS From Dec. 1st, 1920 to Dec 1st, 1921		\$79,279.64

DISBURSEMENTS

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE		
Commissioners per diem and mileage	\$819.40	
Registrar of Deeds, Salary & Expense	1,425.71	
Auditor, Salary & Expense	1,702.41	
Veterinarian, Salary & Expense	852.00	
County Health Officer Salary & Expense	1,360.29	
County Welfare Officer Salary & Expense	412.09	
Stationery & Printing	783.75	
Other Office Fixtures & Supplies	2,691.22	
Water, Light and Phone	397.28	
Fuel and Janitor	895.17	
Interest	421.03	
Typhoid Campaign	490.00	
Vital Statistics	230.50	
		\$11,980.85

COUNTY HOME AND POOR

Light Plant, Deep Well & Fixt., Co. Home	\$2,611.08	
Clothing, Groceries & Supplies	1,945.52	
Keepers Salary	1,108.00	
Pay Roll	1,083.53	
Medical Services	78.50	
Interest on County Home Bonds	150.50	
		\$6,997.13

Allowances to Out-Side Poor \$2,210.00

Total for County Home and Poor \$9,187.13

COURTS AND JUDICIAL EXPENSE

Clerk Superior Court Salary & Expense	\$1,410.77	
Sheriff, Fees & Expense	614.05	
Witness Fees	15.50	
Expense of Prisoners	1,706.78	
County Attorney	325.00	
Jury Tickets	2,115.20	
Court Stenographer	273.46	
Court Cost	572.65	
		\$7,033.41

OTHER EXPENSE

Listing Taxes	\$1,416.24	
Leg. Services	740.00	
Insurance & Bond Premiums	359.00	
Improvements on Court House Square	7,870.63	
Per Diem, Pension Board	18.00	
Repairs to Court House & Jail	1,072.03	
School Election Notices	125.00	
Refunded to Road & Bridge Fund	25,449.27	
Special Elections	48.00	
Coroner's Expense	86.80	
Loan to Beaufort Graded School	76.85	
Expense Confederate Veterans to Re-Union	36.76	
Auditing County Records in 1920	2,531.07	
Borrowed Money Paid	8,406.61	
Tax Refunds	298.53	
All Other (incidental)	101.30	
		\$76,831.48
		\$48,630.09

Total Disbursements from Dec. 1st 1920 to Dec. 1st 1921 \$48,630.09

E. LANCE IN TREASURER Dec. 1st, 1921 \$2,448.16

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CARTERET,

I, W. L. Stancell, County Auditor of the above named County and State, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing statement of receipts and disbursements, is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

W. L. Stancell County Auditor.
Carteret County, North Carolina.

ANNUAL STATEMENT

—Or—
RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE CARTERET COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND.

From December, 1st, 1920 to December 1st, 1921.

RECEIPTS

T. M. Thomas, Jr. Sheriff Maintenance Tax	\$10,506.50	
T. M. Thomas, Jr. Sheriff Sinking Fund Tax	21,282.19	
		\$31,788.69
Borrowed Money		
Transfers of Deposits	\$216,553.34	
Loans Paid by General Fund	6,200.00	
Loans Paid by General School Fund	5,000.00	
Loans Paid by Beaufort Graded School	540.82	
From State Highway Commission	571.84	
Interest	1,613.39	
Miscellaneous Revenue	371.27	
		\$248,550.46

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$248,550.46

\$279,333.17

Continued on Page Three.

Some Aspects of the Farmers' Problems

By BERNARD M. BARUCH

(Reprinted from Atlantic Monthly)

The whole rural world is in a ferment of unrest, and there is an unparalleled volume and intensity of determined, if not angry, protest, and an ominous swarming of occupational conferences, interest groupings, political movements and propagandas. Such a turmoil cannot but arrest our attention. Indeed, it demands our careful study and examination. It is not likely that six million aloof and ruggedly independent men have come together and banded themselves into active unions, societies, farm bureaus, and so forth, for no sufficient cause.

Investigation of the subject conclusively proves that, while there is much overstatement of grievances and misconception of remedies, the farmers are right in complaining of wrongs long endured, and right in holding that it is feasible to relieve their ills with benefit to the rest of the community. This being the case of an industry that contributes, in the raw material form alone, about one-third of the national annual wealth production and is the means of livelihood of about 40 per cent of the population, it is obvious that the subject is one of grave concern. Not only do the farmers make up one-half of the nation, but the well-being of the other half depends upon them.

So long as we have nations, a wise political economy will aim at a large degree of national self-sufficiency and self-containment. Rome fell when the food supply was too far removed from the belly. Like her, we shall destroy our own agriculture and extend our sources of food distantly and precariously, if we do not see to it that our farmers are well and fairly paid for their services. The farm gives the nation men as well as food. Cities derive their vitality and are forever renewed from the country, but an impoverished countryside exports intelligence and retains unintelligence. Only the lower grades of mentality and character will remain on, or seek, the farm, unless agriculture is capable of being pursued with contentment and adequate compensation. Hence, to embitter and impoverish the farmer is to dry up and contaminate the vital sources of the nation.

The war showed convincingly how dependent the nation is on the full productivity of the farms. Despite herculean efforts, agricultural production kept only a few weeks or months ahead of consumption, and that only by increasing the acreage of certain staple crops at the cost of reducing that of others. We ought not to forget that less than when we ponder on the farmer's problems. They are truly common problems, and there should be no attempt to deal with them as if they were purely selfish demands of a clear-cut group, antagonistic to the rest of the community. Rather should we consider agriculture in the light of broad national policy. Just as we consider oil, coal, steel, dyestuffs, and so forth, as sinews of national strength. Our growing population and a higher standard of living demand increasing food supplies, and more wool, cotton, hides, and the rest. With the disappearance of free or cheap fertile land, additional acreage and increased yields can come only from costly effort. This we need not expect from an impoverished or unhappy rural population.

It will not do to take a narrow view of the rural discontent, or to appraise it from the standpoint of yesterday. This is peculiarly an age of flux and change and new deals. Because a thing always has been so no longer means that it is righteous, or always shall be so. More, perhaps, than ever before, there is a widespread feeling that all human relations can be improved by taking thought, and that it is not becoming for the reasoning animal to leave his destiny largely to chance and natural incidence.

Prudent and orderly adjustment of production and distribution in accordance with consumption is recognized as wise management in every business but that of farming. Yet, I venture to say, there is no other industry in which it is so important to the public—the city-dweller—that production should be sure, steady, and increasing, and that distribution should be in proportion to the need. The organized farmer naturally act blindly and impulsively and, in consequence, unrest and death, accompanied by disconcerting price-variations, harass the consumer. One year potatoes rot in the fields because of excess production, and there is a scarcity of the things that have been displaced to make way for the expansion of the potato acreage; next year the potatoes rot because their fields on some other crop, and potatoes rot in the class of luxuries; and so on.

Agriculture is the greatest and fundamentally the most important of our American industries. The cities are but the branches of the tree of national life, the roots of which go deeply into the land. We all flourish or decline with the farmer. So, when we of the cities read of the present and worse plight of the farmer, of a drop of six billion dollars in the farm value of his crops in a single year,

or their inability to meet mortgages or to pay current bills, and how, seeking relief from their ills, they are planning to form pools, inaugurate farmers' strikes, and demand legislation abolishing grain exchanges, private cattle markets, and the like, we ought not hastily to brand them as economic heretics and highwaymen, and hurl at them the charge of being seekers of special privilege. Rather, we should ask if their trouble is not ours, and see what can be done to improve the situation. Purely from self-interest, if for no higher motive, we should help them. All of us want to get back permanently to "normalcy," but is it reasonable to hope for that condition unless our greatest and most basic industry can be put on a sound and solid permanent foundation? The farmers are not entitled to special privileges; but are they not right in demanding that they be placed on an equal footing with the buyers of their products and with other industries?

Let us, then, consider some of the farmer's grievances, and see how far they are real. In doing so, we should remember that, while there have been, and still are, instances of purposeful abuse, the subject should not be approached with any general imputation to existing distributive agencies of deliberately intentional oppression, but rather with the conception that the marketing of farm products has not been modernized.

An ancient evil, and a persistent one, is the undergrading of farm products, with the result that what the farmers sell as of one quality is resold as of a higher. That this sort of chicanery should persist on any important scale in these days of business integrity would seem almost incredible, but there is much evidence that it does so persist. Even as I write, the newspapers announce the suspension of several firms from the New York Produce Exchange for exporting to Germany as No. 2 wheat a whole shipload of grossly inferior wheat mixed with oats, chaff and the like.

Another evil is that of inaccurate weighing of farm products, which, it is charged, is sometimes a matter of dishonest intention and sometimes of protective policy on the part of the local buyer, who fears that he may "weigh out" more than he "weighs in."

A greater grievance is that at present the field farmer has little or no control over the time and conditions of marketing his products, with the result that he is often underpaid for his products and usually overcharged for marketing service. The difference between what the farmer receives and what the consumer pays often exceeds all possibility of justification. To cite a single illustration. Last year, according to figures attested by the railways and the growers, Georgia watermelon-raisers received on the average 7.5 cents for a melon, the railroads got 127 cents for carrying it to Baltimore and the consumer paid one dollar, leaving 79.5 cents for the service of marketing and its risks, as against 26.3 cents for growing and transporting. The hard annals of farm-life are replete with such commentaries on the crudeness of present practices.

Nature prescribes that the farmer's "goods" must be finished within two or three months of the year, while financial and storage limitations generally compel him to sell them at the same time. As a rule, other industries are in a continuous process of finishing goods for the markets; they distribute as they produce, and they can curtail production without too great injury to themselves or the community; but if the farmer restricts his output, it is with disastrous consequences, both to himself and to the community.

The average farmer is busy with production for the major part of the year, and has nothing to sell. The bulk of his output comes on the market at once. Because of lack of storage facilities and of financial support, he cannot carry his goods through the year and dispose of them as they are currently needed. In the great majority of cases, farmers have no outlet storage—in warehouses and elevators—and the financial carrying of their products to others.

Farm products are generally needed at a time when there is a congestion of both transportation and finance—when cars and money are scarce. The outcome, in many instances, is that the farmer not only sell under pressure, and therefore at a disadvantage, but are compelled to take further reductions in net returns, in order to meet the charges for the service of storing, transporting, financing, and ultimate marketing—which charges they claim, are often excessive, bear heavily on both consumer and producer, and are under the control of those performing the services. It is true that they are relieved of the risks of a changing market by selling at once; but they are quite will-

MORTGAGE SALE.

Pursuant to a power of sale contained in a certain mortgage deed executed by J. T. Ewell to Antony Willis, bearing date December 22nd, 1914, and recorded in Book 15, page 387, in the office of Register of Deeds of Carteret County, the undersigned Administrator of the Estate of Antony Willis, deceased, will offer for sale and will sell to the highest bidder, for cash, at 12 o'clock M., on Monday Feb. 20th, 1922.

The following described property, to wit:
A certain piece or tract of land lying and being in Carteret County, North Carolina, in Smyrna Township, and described and defined as follows, to-wit: Beginning at John Jarrott's corner known as the Red Oak, running North 52 degrees West 125 poles to another of Jarrott's cor-

ners, thence with his line of the patent and the dividing line between the lots set off to Antony R. Willis and Benj. Tyler, respectively in the John S. Smith survey of 1857, to the Main Road, thence with the Main Road 27 poles to Jumping Run Bridge, thence up the various courses of Jumping Run Creek to the David Shebon line, thence with said line S 54 degrees West 6 poles to the beginning, containing 60 acres, more or less, being the same land conveyed to Jas. T. Ewell by deed of the date of December 22nd, 1914.

O. C. Willis,
Administrator of the Estate of Antony Willis, deceased.
This January 18th, 1922.
M. Leslie Davis, Atty.
Feb 9th.

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