

COTTON GAMBLERS FLEECE SOUTH OUT OF MILLIONS

Member of New York Cotton Exchange Writes J. S. Wannamaker Some Pertinent Facts on the Situation.

Some startling inside information on the raw cotton industry has been furnished the America Cotton association by William Ray, a charter member and the oldest living member of the New York Cotton exchange, who says that through actual experiences gained in the handling of cotton in various lines and a study of the cotton question extended over a period of some fifty-odd years, he feels that he can speak with some degree of accuracy on the cotton question.

Among the interesting statements contained in Mr. Ray's letter are the following:

That either the cotton consumer is being charged far in excess of a reasonable price for the manufactured product or the producer is failing to receive anything like a fair price for his raw cotton.

That the markets of the world are restricted so that cotton cannot secure free access to the people needing it.

That the purchase by southern farmers of 100,000 bales of futures and a demand by them of the actual cotton would force the gamblers to run for their lives.

The letter by Mr. Rays is addressed to J. Skottowe Wannamaker, president of the American Cotton association, and promises to create a sensation. It follows in full:

"During the war between the states, as a Union soldier, I spent much time in the various sections of the south, especially in the state of South Carolina. At the close of the war I engaged in the cotton industry in New York and have been in business there ever since, and was one of the first members enrolled on the New York Cotton exchange. I have been an active member of this exchange ever since, and am probably the oldest living member of the exchange today. Through actual experience gained in the handling of cotton in its various lines, and a study of the cotton question, extended over a period of some fifty-odd years, I feel that I can speak with some degree of accuracy on the cotton question.

"Since the close of the war between the states I have visited the south many times. It is a great country. If the cotton industry is put upon a business basis; if the south takes charge of the handling and marketing of same; if the people of the south (and there is no question but that this can be done) will stand behind your movement, the south is facing, as a proper solution of the cotton question, a great period of prosperity.

"The world is so much in need of agricultural products, and this is

startlingly true of raw cotton, that I feel it the duty of the government, both state and national, to take an active part in the promotion, protecting and upbuilding of agriculture. The government should assist, through financial means, the creation of the proper machinery for the handling and marketing of agricultural crops, and in no crop is there a greater need for this than in the great cotton crop of which America produces 62 per cent. This proper handling and marketing is a question that is of vital concern to the entire world. Your present system of handling and marketing is 50 years out of date.

"As a result of the work you have conducted since 1914, the attention of the world today is concentrated upon the raw cotton industry of America and the south as never before. You have thoroughly convinced the world that the south will not continue to produce and sell its cotton crop as it has since the sixties. The proper handling and marketing of your crop would most assuredly mean that you would remove the enormous loss of one entire cotton crop out of every ten. Your-cotton would move from ginhouse to the warehouses. It would only be sold when the manufacturer would pay a profitable price for same. It is criminal to sell 70 per cent of this great crop, regardless of the demand for same, into the hands of the gamblers in four short harvesting months. It is unjust, not only to the producer but also to the consumer, to sell your crop in this way. It does not require an expert or an economist to see this; simple common sense plainly shows that the marketing of your cotton crop should be transferred to the warehouses of the cotton belt in the south. It is farcial to continue to handle it and market it as at present. You should have warehouses, government graders and expert market men. You should have co-operative marketing associations, the same as they have in Europe. Every county should be covered with such an association and all be governed by one great state central association.

"In Holland, as a result of these organizations, all waste is removed from the handling of agricultural products. The producer deals directly with the consumer and receives for his product 97 1/2 per cent of the average of the amount paid by the consumer. In fact, throughout all Europe the producer receives on an average of 90 per cent of the amount paid by the consumer.

"In America, a recent investigation shows that the farmer only receives an average of 50 per cent of the amount paid by the consumer on all agricultural products, and on cotton alone he receives far less than 50 per cent. When you realize that cotton is not permitted to be sold upon the law of supply and demand, it is handled by an army of unnece-

sary men, and is the football of the gambler who gains his wealth by largely controlling prices, this is no surprise.

"I view with extreme alarm the practices being conducted and the manipulations of prices on cotton today. Cotton future prices have been manipulated up and down for quite a long time, without rhyme or reason. For the last two years prices on futures have been running from 200 to 500 and 899 (and in some cases 1,000) points below spots, regardless of the fact that as a result of the work that you have accomplished since 1914 the world has rendered a verdict in your favor. Still, this seems to have enraged certain people who control and manipulate the great American cotton crop. Every known effort has been made to minimize the effect of your work. It is the first time in my active experience of some fifty-odd years that I have found that these people were unable to absolutely control the prices on raw cotton as they saw fit. No student of economy, in fact, no one who is endowed with the slightest degree of common sense, can fail to realize anything like a fair price for his cotton—cotton which has been sold under the law of supply and demand.

"Mills in this country and in England show enormous earnings. How would it be possible to make these enormous earnings if a fair price were paid for the cotton? Either the consumer is being charged far in excess of a reasonable price for the manufactured product, or the producer is failing to receive anything like a fair price for his raw product. There is no other reason for this and it would be as possible to explain as it is to explain the difference between 'six' and 'half a dozen.' England, of course, has always made enormous earnings out of the raw American cotton. In fact, it is the backbone of her financial strength. During the first six months of 1920 she has broken all recorded records. In this period England's export trade largely composed of manufactured products from cotton being shipped into European countries, many of which countries are in desperate need of raw cotton, amounted to \$2,500,000,000, this amount exceeding her total export business for the entire year of 1913.

"In 1790, 87 per cent of the people of America were engaged in agriculture. One hundred years later we find that there is only 32 per cent of the population so engaged. The world needs an enormous increase in production. There has never been a time since Columbus landed, or, for that matter, there has hardly been a time in recorded history when we were in greater need of increased production. How will we secure this increase unless the people and the government unite for the purpose of destroying those who, it seems, are determined to destroy our agricultural interests by refusing to allow to the farmer a profitable price, thus driving him into other lines of business.

"Only a fool or a liar would make the statement that we are not in need of an enormous increase in the production of cotton; that the markets of the world for raw cotton are restricted so that cotton cannot secure free access to the people needing it. However, the people who have long absolutely controlled this great crop are not willing to permit changes which will deprive them of the privilege of reaping unjust wealth from same.

"On three separate occasions a special committee was appointed by the New York cotton exchange. They unanimously recommended market reforms in the New York exchange cotton contract.

"It is well said that history repeats itself. Will this be the case in the handling and marketing of the American cotton crop, worth \$2,500,000,000, a crop which, strange to say, under present methods of marketing, brings a total of more money when there is a short crop. In 1918 the south got around \$2,500,000,000 for a little over an eleven million bale crop. In 1914 it only got \$500,000,000 for a crop of over fourteen million bales. You reverse the law of nature and justice; the less you produce the more you realize for your crop. If you had warehouses and were financially able to do so, you could put the surplus in the warehouse until the manufacturer would pay a fair and just price.

"Your association has an opportunity to win the fight you are facing. There is no way to dodge it. It is well organized and will be fought to the bitter end. Why don't your southern manufacturers buy a part of their cotton on the New York exchange and demand the actual cotton. It would force the bear gamblers who are fleecing you to run for their lives and the southern manufacturers say they want high-priced cotton. If 100,000 bales of cotton were bought by them for October, a like amount for December, January, March and May, and the spots demanded, their efforts to rob you of this crop would be defeated. Why not try this plan. Give every man a chance to show where he stands. I believe the southern manufacturers, where mills are under southern control and management, will buy far in excess of this amount and demand the cotton. You often say they cannot spin paper cotton, but remember, the bear gambler who fattens on the farmer, also cannot deliver paper cotton. You would kill him if you would make him deliver cotton.

"If your people who are able to do so would not plant a hill of cotton but plant the land in other crops and buy your cotton from the gamblers of New York and their friends who are selling it far below the cost of production, would make a handsome profit without any risk of crop failure, could produce food crops on your lands to feed the famished world and make good money on it. Anything is fair in a fight with a bear. Try this and he will become as scarce as the grizzly now is and will stop feeding on humanity.

"The world needs food and feed crops. Plant your lands largely in small grain during the fall. Carry this campaign into every county in the cotton belt. Plant largely in grain crops again in the spring. Plant only your surplus lands in cotton. If you produce cotton to supply the needs of the world, the same as you have been doing for the last 60 years, you will go down in defeat. The world cannot secure cotton to fill its needs. As long as we at present and as it has been for the last 50 years of certain great and powerful interests in England and America, you must only produce cotton sufficient to supply the pressing demands of the people who are in control of the crop, not of the people of the world.

"By adopting this plan and putting into effect and force your reforms in handling, marketing, erection of warehouses, expert government graders, expert market men organizing mutual fire insurance companies, and, if necessary, the organization of your own banking institutions, only in this way can you win. You are opposed by a thorough organization, backed by enormous wealth, and, regardless of the needs of the world, under existing conditions, if you fail to reduce your acreage as outlined above and put in the reforms in the handling and marketing of your crop crop so that it will be handled and marketed at the cotton fields of the south, if you fail to do this, history will repeat itself. Failing to realize these facts, regardless of the great

cultural interests by refusing to allow to the farmer a profitable price, thus driving him into other lines of business.

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opportunity now facing the south, unless these reforms are made, conditions which existed after the war between the states will be repeated.

"I commend in the highest terms your work. I have watched it since it was begun in 1914. People from all sections of the world recognize the justice of your fight. The south, most assuredly, will stand to a man behind you. If this is done, victory is certain. The demand for cotton will enormously increase.

"The raw cotton producing industry of America, in which there is invested in the manufacturing end \$1,500,000,000; in which there is invested in the entire world in the raw cotton producing end \$6,100,000,000, while the total investment of the entire world in the manufacturing end is \$6,060,000,000, should, of course, receive a profitable price, based upon the investment. In addition to this, the production of cotton is the most hazardous end of any line of the cotton industry, purely and simply a gamble. America maintains an absolute monopoly in the production of raw cotton, a world necessity. The production of cotton requires more labor and a larger expense than any known crop. All of these matters point clearly to the fact that the producer should receive a profitable price for the production of raw cotton. Strange to say, the reverse is the case. Every line of the commercial side of the cotton industry have grown wealthy from the handling of cotton, except the producer. He has failed to receive anything like just returns for the production of cotton for the last five years, amounting to a stupendous sum. Common sense and simple justice plainly show that based upon the above conditions the producing end should have been by far the most profitable end. It will never become such until you have arranged to take control of cotton from the gamblers and leeches who now receive the profits which justly belong to the producer."

STEADFAST CONFIDENCE

The Following Statement Should Form Conclusive Proof of Merit to Every Monroe Reader.

"Could stronger proof of the merit of any remedy be desired than the statements of grateful endorser who say their confidence has been undiminished by lapse of time? These are the kind of statements that are appearing constantly in your local papers for Doan's Kidney Pills. They are twice told and confirmed, with new enthusiasm. Can any reader doubt the following? It's from a Monroe resident:

J. L. Rallings, proprietor of grocery, English St., Monroe, says: "I think Doan's Kidney Pills are a fine remedy, as they do just as represented. My kidneys were weak, inactive and my back ached, too. I saw Doan's Kidney Pills advertised and got a supply at the English Drug Co. They quickly regulated my kidneys." (Statement given Feb. 26, 1912.)

On May 4, 1918, Mr. Rallings added: "I am glad to say a good word for Doan's Kidney Pills. They did good work for me some time ago and I am grateful for this. I advise others to try this remedy."

Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Rallings had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y.

NOTICE

North Carolina, Union County—In the Superior Court.

Henderson Roller Mills Co., Inc., vs. Rosenbaum Brothers, Inc., et alia. To Rosenbaum Brothers, Inc., take NOTICE:

That an action entitled as above has been commenced in the superior court of Union County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff to recover the sum of \$1500.00 damages to two car loads of corn purchased by plaintiff from you, which was damaged and did not come up to contract, and you are furthermore notified that a warrant of attachment was issued by said court on the 13th day of August, 1920, against the property of said defendant and levy was made upon the proceeds derived from two certain drafts paid by the plaintiff to the First National Bank, Monroe, N. C., drawn by you for the purchase money of said two cars of corn, which said warrant of attachment is returnable on the 20th day of September, 1920, and you are hereby required to appear at the office of the undersigned clerk of the superior court of Union county, North Carolina, at the court house in Monroe, N. C., on Monday, the 20th day of September, 1920, and answer or demur to said complaint or the relief demanded therein will be granted.

Herein fall not at your peril. This the 13th day of August, 1920. R. W. LEMMOND, C. S. C. John C. Sikes, Atty for Plaintiff.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Having this day duly qualified as administrator of the estate of Robert H. Wolfe, deceased, all persons holding claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to the undersigned administrator on or before, August 9, 1921, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said estate are notified to make prompt payment without further notice. This August 9, 1920. W. H. WOLFE, Administrator Robert H. Wolfe, dec'd.

English Drug Co. Says

EATONIC

(FOR YOUR ACID-STOMACH)

Instantly relieves Heartburn, Stomach Gassy Feeling, Stops food souring, repeating, and all stomach miseries.

Also dissolves and softens. Keeps stomach sweet and strong. Increases vitality and pep.

EATONIC is the best remedy. Taste of lemon and wonderfully pleasant. Only one cent a glass or you will refund money. Get a big tin today. You will see.

English Drug Co., Monroe, N. C.

UNCLE "MARSH'S" TABLE WAS CAUSE OF ABSENCE

Corn Cracker Lays the Blame on Distinguished Wingate Citizen—Personnel of the School.

Wingate, August 16.—A word of explanation might be necessary to explain why my contribution for your last issue was not forthcoming. The reason is sickness, and there are many people who lay the cause to my voracious appetite. I board with Mr. G. M. Stewart, and his table groans with the triumphs of culinary art. Hence, the usual result happened. Gluttony had the opportunity of repletion. The attending physician was Dr. Jerome, and he limited my food and cut out all my tobacco. Now I have Jim Jams, and an appetite like that of an ostrich. In answer to query as to whether I am a man of veracity, a Wingate man said he could not say, but he was prepared to give me a clean bill of health on voracity.

All of which suggests that rain and fruit are plentiful in this region, and I get a child's part of both blessings. My good looking pupils and assistant teachers provide me with luscious peaches, apples and grapes; while Providence continues to send rains on the just and the unjust, and I fare with the latter.

During past week our Baptist brethren have been conducting a successful series of meetings at Meadow Creek church. Dr. Sherwood officiating. Despite rainy weather the attendance has been excellent, the interest enthusiastic; and the results very encouraging. Very much to my disappointment I could not be present owing to acute indigestion; but heard very satisfactory reports. All who know the gifted pastor Sherwood can be assured that he helped the cause of spiritual kingdom in their borders.

The Farm Demonstration force had an encampment at the dormitory of Wingate High School that afforded enjoyment to many young people and promoted interest in farming and domestic activities.

Some biographical and historical knowledge of the staff of teachers in charge of Wingate public school may be of interest to some of your readers.

Miss Flora Barnes is a comely damsel hailing from Harnett; and is an excellent and popular instructor.

Miss Louise Irvin hails from historic Mecklenburg, and has the sturdy Scotch-Irish characteristics of the redoubtable defenders of the "Harnett Nest" and is as zealous a teacher as I ever saw and a comely lass, withal.

Misses Chaney and Gaddy are products of Wingate and its excellent school; and, like ladies just mentioned, are well equipped and sustaining good reputations.

Your uncle Corn Cracker is a product of the martial commonwealth of Kentucky, and was transplanted in Cleveland where office-seeking is the whole duty of man. His realm has been in the field of education; and he has neither fame, fortune nor emoluments. But he hopes that he has pointed many boys and girls to the open door of temple of knowledge and guided their halting steps up the hill of difficulty.—Corn Cracker.

How about loading up the pantry shelves? Extension Circular 76, about canning with 4 H recipes, is yours for a postal to the Extension Service, Raleigh.

The important thing in life is to have a great aim.—Gotho.

SALE OF LANDS NEAR WINGATE, NORTH CAROLINA.

Under and by virtue of a judgment of R. W. Lemmond, Clerk of the Superior Court of Union county, made in a special proceeding wherein the heirs at law of Ann Long and others are parties and being entered on Special Proceeding Docket as No. 58, to which reference is hereby craved, we will on

Monday September 6th,

A. D. 1920, at twelve o'clock M., at the court house door in Monroe, N. C., offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash all of that tract of land lying and being in Union county, N. C., near the town of Wingate, N. C., and described as follows:

Beginning at an iron stake, Mariah Hamilton's line, and runs with her line S. 1-2 W. 7.45 chs. to a P. O. stump on southwest side of road, H. P. Meigs corner; thence with his line and said road S. 45 E. 4.25 chs. to a P. O. H. A. Redfearn's corner; thence with his line N. 47 1-2 E. 2.25 chs. to an iron stake in a ditch, McCuller's corner in Redfearn's line; thence with McCuller's line N. 1-2 E. 9.16 chs. to an iron stake in said line; thence a new line S. 87 W. 4.56 chs. to the beginning, containing 4 1-4 acres, more or less, and being Lot No. 8 in the division of the Bala Barrino estate lands.

Bidding to begin at \$750.00. This the 13th day of August, A. D. 1920.

J. C. M. VANN and JOHN C. SIKES, Commissioners. Armfield, Maness & Vann and John C. Sikes, Attys.

We Have 50 Head Fresh Mules from 900 to 1200 pounds, well broke ready for work.

ALSO SOME FINE BROOD MARES.

Give us a look.

FOWLER & LEE.

Dr. Kemp Funderburk DENTIST

Office over Waller's Old Store. Modern Methods Employed

Dr. Kemp Funderburk DENTIST

Office over Waller's Old Store. Modern Methods Employed



Certain-teed is Impervious to Driving Rain

The severest rain storms only make you appreciate Certain-teed Roofing the more.

It keeps the interiors of your house, barn or other buildings dry and prevents damage from water.

Certain-teed, properly laid according to the instructions enclosed in every roll, is firmly cemented together into a one-piece roof impervious to rain or snow.

It provides complete weather protection.

Certain-teed is spark-proof and fire-retarding. It is guaranteed for five, ten or fifteen years, according to weight.

With all its superiority, Certain-teed costs less to buy, less to lay and less to maintain than any other type of good roofing.

See your dealer about Certain-teed Roofing. If he hasn't enough in stock, he can get more for you quickly from a nearby Certain-teed distributing center.

Certain-teed Products Corporation  
General Offices, St. Louis  
Offices and Warehouses in Principal Cities



CERTAINTY OF QUALITY AND GUARANTEED SATISFACTION - CERTAIN-TEED

"ALL O. K. FOR THE BLOOD"

Is What a Citizen of Georgia Says of ZIRON, the New Iron Tonic.

Iron is needed by the blood to keep men and women strong and healthy. Iron is needed by the nerves to keep them toned up. Ziron, the new iron tonic, will put iron into your blood and should help renew your lagged nerve forces in the way it has done it for many others.

Read what Mr. J. R. Bell, Rt. 2, Oconee, Ga., says about the effects of Ziron:

"I think Ziron is all O. K. for the blood. That was what I have been taking it for my blood. I liked Ziron so well that I went back to the store and got two more bottles of it."

Ziron is a combination of a pure medicinal inorganic iron salt, mentioned in the U. S. Pharmacopoeia, with the hypophosphites of lime and soda, and other valuable tonic ingredients, endorsed and recommended by the best medical authorities and mentioned in the medical text books.

All druggists sell Ziron on a money-back guarantee. Look for the formula on the label. Get a bottle today, and give it a fair trial.

ZN 14  
Your Blood Needs ZIRON



ALSO SOME FINE BROOD MARES.

Give us a look.

FOWLER & LEE.

Dr. Kemp Funderburk DENTIST

Office over Waller's Old Store. Modern Methods Employed

For Sale by Monroe Hardware Company