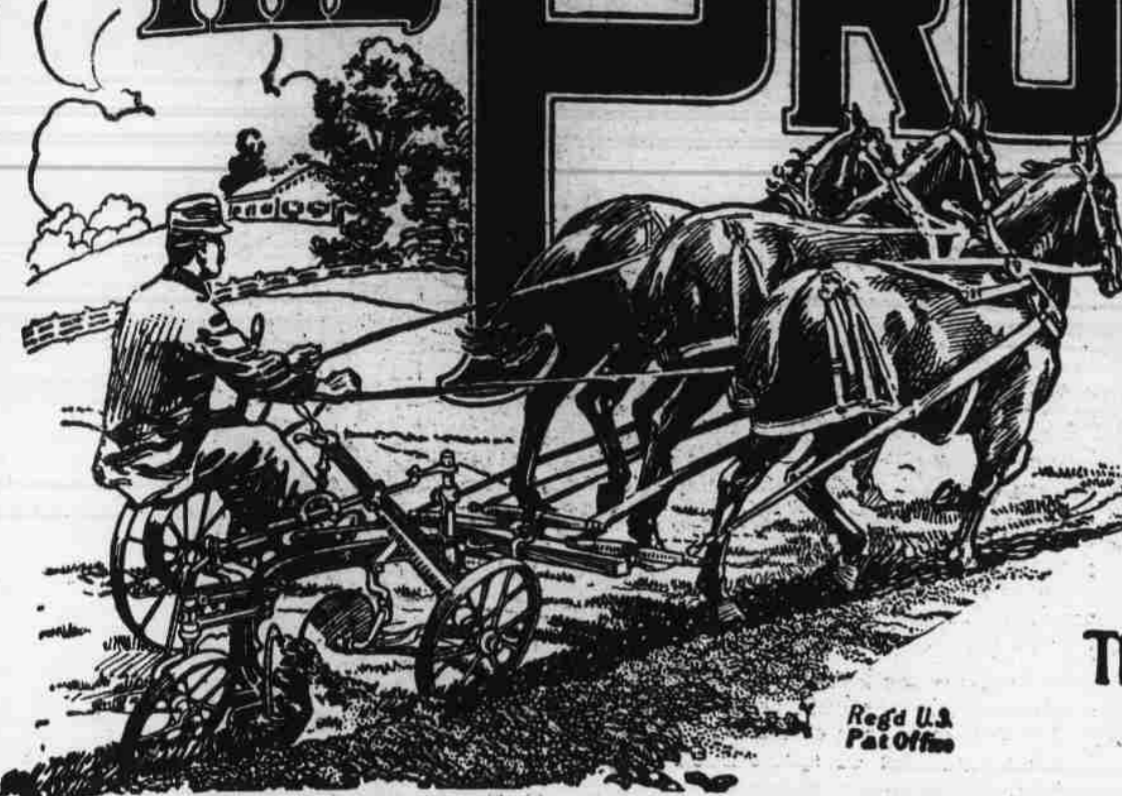


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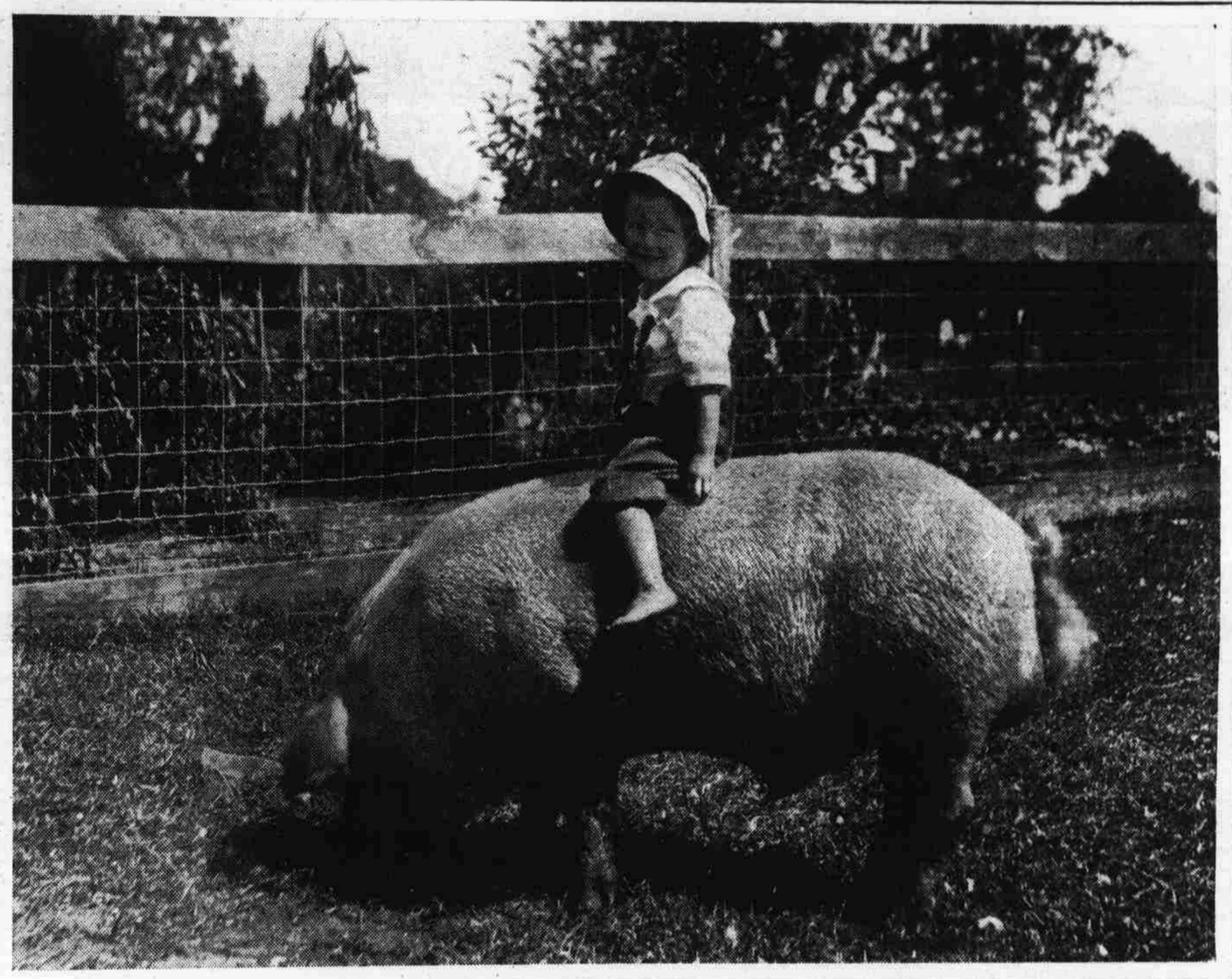
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Gin Slowly; Save Some Money; and Ask for the National Warehouse Bill

ONE of the most important articles that The Progressive Farmer has ever printed—that is our opinion of the letter from Congressman A. F. Lever, on another page, explaining the provisions of the proposed Federal Warehouse Law, a measure to whose support all American farmers should quickly rally.

The advantages of the plan should be self-evident. It will standardize the cotton warehouse receipt, and make it literally "as good as gold" as collateral paper. It will insure scientific grading of all cotton stored in such warehouses and thereby save the farmers millions of dollars—millions now being lost, as Mr. Lever points out, as a result of shrewd, unfair graders taking advantage of the grower's ignorance, and millions more lost as a result of incompetent buyers grading too low in order to protect themselves from their own ignorance.

We have already been urging farmers to establish state warehouse systems, and expect to continue to do so, for as Mr. Lever points out, there will be plenty left for the states to do in ware-



TWO GOOD FARM CROPS—BOYS AND PIGS
Jimmie Patton, the three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Patton, Charlotte, N. C., and his eleven-months-old O. I. C. Boar (weight 450 pounds)

housing and marketing after this National measure is passed. But the first great need, as we see it, is the passage of this National warehouse law. If each state has a separate system without responsibility to the National Government, one state might be lax in enforcing its rules, might be too careless in licensing graders, might be too negligent in safeguarding receipts, etc., etc. And then, as Mr. Lever says, the bad receipt might injure the credit of the good one. But with National supervision and control, and the reputation for thorough and scientific work, utterly free from politics, for which the National Department of Agriculture has a reputation, the warehouse receipt would be absolutely unquestioned as collateral, and money would be available in unlimited quantities not only through the Federal Reserve system, but from all the great financial centers where dollars are always seeking investment on safe security.

Of the three things that we now appeal to cotton farmers to do, therefore, the first of all is this: *Sit down and write to your Congressmen and ask them to support the Smith-Lever National Warehouse Bill or its equivalent.*

The next thing we wish to urge is the *importance of ginning slowly*. It is commonly reported that owing to the remarkably hot fall, cotton has opened with unprecedented rapidity. There is grave danger, therefore, that excessive ginning receipts, due to early opening and picking, will give an impression of a bigger crop than really exists and thereby set back prices.

Our third and last point is that this is a good year—perhaps the best year in all their lives for many—for the poor man to save a little money. It was a blessed thing for Southern farmers that cotton stayed low all summer. It kept them from buying much, and now that cotton has gone up, they are going to find themselves with more surplus money than they had expected. And if you have such a surplus, Mr. Farmer, please invest it wisely. Put it in a bank where it will not have a tendency to burn a hole in your pocket whenever some slick-tongued agent or merchant gets after you, and then check on it like a business man from time to time for better comforts for the home, better tools and machinery for the farm and better hogs and cattle.

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