

Don't Forget School Opens Monday, September 19th.

VOLUME

1

THE PILOT

NUMBER

43

Devoted to the Upbuilding of Vass and Its Surrounding Country

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.00

VASS, N. C., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1921

PRICE FIVE CENTS

\$500,000,000 ADDED TO COTTON VALUE

In the last 60 days the advance in cotton has made the new crop and the carry-over worth nearly \$500,000,000 more than they would have been worth at the prices then prevailing. Moreover, the gambling bears were bent on beating prices still lower, but fortunately they have been caught in their own trap and are being right gloriously punished.

This \$500,000,000 means a change difficult to exaggerate. It will wonderfully affect the whole atmosphere of the South's business and agricultural interests; it will save many a man and many a business from bankruptcy; it will revive trade; it will nourish every industry with new life blood; it will quicken the hopes of the disheartened; it will put new courage into all the people; it will show the tremendous blunder committed when the former administration curtailed credit and killed the War Finance Corporation, and it will prove the power for good of the freer credit and the re-establishment of the War Finance Corporation by the present administration.

This advance will also show the wisdom of a reduced cotton acreage, with an increase in foodstuff production. In this lesson the South should find the road to permanent prosperity greater than it has ever known.

If the South will, now and forever, be independent and rich, let it cut its cotton acreage heavily for all time to come and intensify the acreage it does cultivate in order to reduce the cost of production and then concentrate on foodstuffs for itself and for the country. Then home-made fertilizers will enrich its soils; grain, grasses, cattle and hogs will diversify its agriculture, enlarge the horizon of its farmers and add enormously to their prosperity. Never was there a better object lesson than the present.

If the South had raised 12,000,000 bales of cotton, the price would probably have gone to 6 cents a pound; but with a crop of only about 7,000,000 bales the price has gone to more than three times that figure and many a farmer will now live who at 6 cents would have been hopelessly bankrupt and in poverty for years to come. A crop of 12,000,000 bales with a carry-over of, say 8,000,000 in round figures, or 20,000,000 bales at 6 cents would have been worth only 600,000,000, which would have meant bankruptcy for the entire cotton-growing interests. A 7,000,000 bale crop and a carry-over of 8,000,000 bales at even 18 cents a pound—and it should go higher—would be worth \$1,350,000,000.

Let the South reverently thank God for this increased wealth, take courage and go forward with new zeal and energy.—Manufacturers' Record.

PIGS AT THE FAIR

The Sandhills of North Carolina are very proud of the active support that the Moore county Boys' and Girls' Pig Club will give the Berkshire Show to be held in connection with the Sandhill Fair and the Southern Berkshire Congress Sale, at Pinehurst, November 16-18 inclusive.

Early in the spring Mr. Leonard Tufts' Pinehurst Farm offered to sell Berkshire pigs to local boys and girls for \$15.00 each, \$8.00 to be paid down (50 cents of this to be for insurance up to \$10.00) the balance of the \$7.50 to be paid at the Sandhill Fair in November, at which time the farm will buy up these same animals, if desired, at the market price for pork on that day. The farm further agreed to allow a credit of \$10.00 on the purchase of second pig in case the first pig died. Eighteen pigs were sold under this arrangement; only one of these died and another has been substituted for it.

The boys and girls are planning to exhibit at the small local fairs this fall, as well as at the Sandhill Fair, and are going after the money in a seriously systematic and businesslike fashion that makes an efficiency expert look like a corner loafer.

They are getting results, too. On

May 3rd the pigs weighed from 26 to 42 pounds. In the first two months they gained as high as 82 pounds, this maximum having been established by a sow barrow owned by W. H. Marlette, of West End.

The next best gain was made by a barrow owned by Bertha Williams, of Pinehurst; a gain of 76 pounds.

The following month Miss Williams' barrow made a gain of 49 pounds, the record gain for that month.

The plan of action followed in establishing and conducting this pig club was laid out by Mr. James E. Downing, the very efficient field secretary of the American Berkshire Association, and like most of his plans, it works. Credit, too, must be given Mr. Wall, the Moore County Demonstrator, for the support he has given the undertaking.

Not only has much local interest been aroused by this club; the boys and girls expect to be in a position to send, if they wish, five or six barrows on to Chicago in the Pinehurst to Chicago Southern Berkshire congress carload of barrows, upon which President Jackson and Secretary Tufts of the Southern Berkshire Congress have set their hearts.

JURY LIST FOR OCTOBER COURT

The following have been drawn as jurors for the October special term of Moore county Court:

Carthage Township: T. C. Cagle, J. L. Cagle, D. A. Morgan. Bensalem: J. M. Cole. Sheffield: W. G. Carter. Ritters: J. A. Howard. Deep River: J. W. Brady, J. H. Matthews.

Greenwood: Chas. C. Jones, M. D. McLean.

McNeill: Alex. Cameron, J. T. Wilson.

Sandhills: H. A. Campbell, E. J. Bethune, R. G. Ferrell, W. G. Smith.

Mineral Springs: W. A. Johnson, Alex. Black.

BIG FIRE OUT

Last week one of the most destructive fires that ever burned in this section raged over a big part of western Hoke county, ranging down around Endon up toward the river in the Piney Bottom country and along the west side of the road between Lobelia and Raeford. It burned the trees to the ground, and burned the vegetable matter of the soil, and probably left the land more a desert than any fire has done in the central part of the state in many a year. Lightning was the cause. Several thousand acres was burned over. It is all in the camp area.

Capt. J. R. Hutchings, of Carthage, was in Vass Tuesday.

ANNUAL PARADE

One of the main established features of the Sandhill Fair is the annual parade. When the Premium Lists were distributed the Secretary was not prepared to announce just what the nature of this year's parade would be. He is pleased to state now, however, that after due deliberation, it has been decided to have each float represent one of the well known fairy tales. The possibilities for a beautiful parade representing these tales are almost unlimited and it is bound to interest the children of all ages. Among the scenes to be represented are: A float representing Fairyland with the Queen of the Fairies, "Briar Rose of Sleeping Beauty," "Cinderella," "Snow White and the Seven Dragons," "Little Red Riding Hood," "Clever Elsa," "Jack and the Beanstalk," "Hansel and Gretchel or the Gingerbread House," "The Fisherman and his Wife," "Mother Hulda," "King Midas and the Golden Touch," "The Three Bears" and many others.

Committees from the different towns will be asked to take charge of these floats and the arranging of the parade will be in charge of Miss Betty Topley of the Farm Life School. \$25.00 will be offered as the first prize, \$15.00 as the second and \$10.00 as the third.

The secretary expects to make a very interesting announcement next week in connection with this parade, and hopes to be able to say something definite about the annual pageant.

COTTON STILL ADVANCING

The tendency of cotton is still to go higher. Last week it had a small backset, but twice it crossed the twenty cent mark, and while no one can guess what is ahead the opinions seems to be that it will slowly crawl up a little farther, while some of the bolder ones argue that much higher figures are in sight. As far as can be seen the crop is so small that the supply of cotton will not be as big as is desired, and the reports from consuming centers says that the call for cotton goods begins to come in, with an outlook that the prices of textiles will be higher. Mills are selling better and wholesalers and retailers are said to be low in stocks to meet an increased call for goods. Sales are not very free yet, as many of the holders of cotton are of the opinion that it will go higher, and it seems that the need to sell is not so great as was imagined. Those who hold cotton appear to be in position to hang on to it a little longer. Time will tell if they are right. Those who are selling go on the theory that it is better to get a fairly good price out of their stocks than to take chances on another slump and be without the money for another period of months. Not much is said about what the market will do when the early crop begins to come in, and as it is about due some of the discreet cotton men are not making many predictions as to its results.

ALL THE WATER WE NEED

Many of the towns of the state have been close to a water famine in the last few weeks, and they are not sure but that they will see more drastic conditions yet before winter has filled the springs and streams. In the Sandhills country we have had some dry weather, but here is one favored section where the streams are rarely dry, for the sand is a great sponge that takes up the rain as it falls, and holds it to filter it out slowly into the streams all the season round. The sandy belt is more uniform in its water flow than any other section of the state and probably the whole country. This is why the small streams of the Sandhill country are such valuable water powers compared with their size. When streams twice as big in the clay country are wholly dry the Sandhill streams are still making power, and neither the electric plants nor the springs, nor the town supplies of water are worrying any in this section, although in the clay territory it is a question where sufficient water is to come from, and the people there are on short water rations.

It is far easier to chase a camel through the eye of cambric needle than it is to pass an amateur wheelman who has just arrived at the wobbling stage.