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A CHALLENGE TO COTTON FARMERS—

The only hope for better prices for cotton in the United States next year seems to be in reduced acreage this spring and a better quality of staple. Carl Williams, representing the cotton farmers on the Federal Farm Board, says that practically no governmental aid will be given the Dixie farmers in 1930 unless immediate steps are taken to reduce the yield of cotton. Last year 47,000,000 acres were planted in cotton and 46,000,000 were harvested. If the yield had been as good as that of 1914, the cotton belt would have produced 22,000,000 bales last year. During the last three years the per acre yield has been below the 10 year average, and that is the only reason the present surplus is not larger than it is. Several years of low yield in succession are unusual, and if there is normal production per acre this year, the surplus will be beyond control. Forty million acres is considered the red line for cotton acreage in the United States, and anything beyond this year may mean disaster for southern farmers.

The increase in consumption of cotton is not commensurate with the increase in production, and profitable returns cannot be expected so long as this is true. Consumption during the last six months of 1929 was much larger than that of the first six months, and a larger percentage than usual of world consumption was of foreign production. In times past this country has supplied 65 per cent of the world's needs outside of the United States, but now it exports only 47 per cent. Cotton grown in India, while of the same quality as that grown here, sells for two and half cents a pound lower than American cotton, and foreign manufacturers are purchasing Indian cotton. Russia now produces over a million bales, and it is rapidly increasing acreage. Russian cotton is grown from high quality seed produced in the United States, and will soon be grown in sufficient quantity to offer American cotton serious competition in world markets.

There are two things that southern farmers must do if they hope to make farming profitable again. They must reduce cotton acreage, and they must improve the quality of their staple. Now is the time to give these facts due consideration, and plan this year's crop accordingly.

THE COST OF CARING FOR THE POOR—

Sixty-five of the one hundred counties in North Carolina have invested in county home plants, valued at \$2,784,713.52. The 1,674 men, women and children in these county homes last year were housed at an additional cost of \$440,182.25, or an average per capita cost of \$262.95 per year.

These figures are quoted in the January issue of "Public Welfare Progress," a publication issued monthly by the North Carolina State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, to show that counties could maintain their poor comfortably for a much smaller amount. The idea is to care for the poor old man or woman in the home of some relative or friend with assistance from the county. What would be lacking in the comfort of bigger, better buildings would be made up in the happiness of being among kinspeople or friends. Vance county is cited as an example of a county caring for its poor in this manner, the county poor house having been replaced with a county hospital sharing in the Duke Endowment, which serves the entire community. Here, the few aged, sick who cannot be boarded out are cared for.

Interesting facts are revealed in the Welfare publication concerning the manner of operation of the county homes of the State. Of the sixty-five counties that have County poor houses, fifty-five have salaried keepers. In the other ten, the superintendents are paid no salary, but are given the use of the farms and so much per head for the care of each inmate. The amount is usually small, as the paupers are said to be let out to the lowest bidders.

Johnston County is among the ten counties that pay the keeper no salary. In Johnston the inmates, averaging in number 35 per day the year round, are kept at an annual cost of \$4,745, or \$11.29 per capita per month.

WHO'S THE GUILTY PARTY?

Agricultural conditions in North Carolina will never show an improvement until that type of farmer who refuses to diversify his crops and follow the instructions of home demonstration

though it is not of common acceptance in practice.

The interest here is that Professor Brown said by implication that some sort of compulsion should be applied to the farmer who gives all time and attention to growing the cash crop and none to food supply; and he would have bankers and supply men "persuade" such farmers by refusing them aid unless they diversified. And here a lot of folks had been thinking, because assertion is frequently made to that effect, that it is the landlord and the bankers and supply men who demand all attention to the cash crop. They fear that a division of time with food crops might leave them short at settling time, as the story runs. Probably these people are being slandered, but that is being said about them, more especially about the landlords who tell the tenant what he shall grow. But if it is the farmer who is so contrary, the people mentioned are in position to "persuade" him quite effectively, as Professor Brown suggests. — Greensboro Daily News.

when that stock turns in increasing numbers to lives of crime?

From the Winston-Salem Journal we learn that on January 28, 1930, there were 297 convicts in the state's prison. Since the population at that time was 1,393,750, there was one state prisoner for each 4,691 people. The prison rate then was about 21.20 per 100,000. By January, 1929, the population of the state had grown to 2,777,000 and the number of convicts to 720, or one to every 3,858 people, or a rate of 30.59 per 100,000. On January 1, 1930, there were 2,339 convicts with an estimated population of 3,000,000 people in the state is in the state prison. This is at the rate of 80 per 100,000. While the state's population was increasing fifty per cent the state prison population was increasing 800 per cent. Three hundred per cent of this increase has taken place in the last ten years. "Here," says The Journal, "at least is one item in which the state is by no means making progress. Instead, it is retrograding and at an alarming rate. "It is a situation that offers a sharp challenge to the white people of the state. In 1880 only 80 of 297 convicts were white. In 1930 the prison population is pretty nearly equally divided between the two races—1,064 whites to 1,173 negroes. "The prison population is increasing too fast. Every public spirited citizen should give this alarming situation careful thought. There is something definitely wrong when opportunities and the prison population keep increasing at the same time. "Every citizen the state is vitally interested in this matter whether he realizes it or not. Prison populations cost a tremendous sum of money each year and they have an unwholesome influence. When crime, as represented by the prison population, increases six times as fast as population in a ten-year period, something drastic needs to be done. — Concord Times.

The Way of Life

By BRUCE BARTON

HAVE YOU SEEN A MIRACLE?

Here is an important distinction that many people overlook. God made the world; but He does not make your world. He provides the raw materials, and out of them every man selects what he wants and builds an individual world for himself. The fool looks over the wealth of material provided, and selects a few plates of ham and eggs, a few pairs of trousers, a few dollar bills—and is satisfied. The wise man builds his world out of wonderful sunsets, and thrilling experiences, and the song of the stars, and romances and miracles.

Nothing wonderful ever happens in the life of the fool. An electric light is simply an electric light; a telephone is only a telephone—nothing unusual at all. But the wise man never ceases to wonder how a tiny speck of seed, apparently dead and buried, can produce a beautiful yellow flower. He never lifts a telephone receiver or switches on an electric light without a certain feeling of awe. And think what a miracle it is, this harnessing of electricity to the service of man! Who, unless his sense of awe had grown blunt through constant familiarity, would believe it?

The sun, the center of our universe, goes down behind the western horizon. I touch a button, and presto! I have called it back—the room is flooded anew with light.

The thunder that men once called the voice of God rolls out its mighty waves of sound, and the sound carrier only a few score miles. But I—puny speck upon the face of the earth—I lift a little instrument and, behold, my whisper is heard a thousand miles away.

Do we want heat? We press a button: and lo, heat, invisible, silent, all-pervasive, flows into our homes over a copper wire. Do we need power? We have but to press another switch, and giants come to us over the same slender roadway. Clothed in invisible garments, they cleanse our homes, wash our clothes, crank our automobiles—do everything that once taxed the strength of men and hurried women into unlovely old age.

Don't let your life become a prosaic affair: don't let familiarity with the marvels about you breed thoughtlessness and contempt.

If you had stood with Moses on the shore of the Red Sea, and had seen it divide to let the Children of Israel pass over, you would have had no difficulty in recognizing that as a miracle. But every night when the sun goes down, a man stands in a power house in your city and throws a switch, and instantly the city and the country for miles around are flooded with sunshine. And you say to yourself casually: "Oh, I see the lights are on."

Leave For Gastonia.

Mrs. W. J. Stallings and little daughter, Bettie Wade, left Sunday for Gastonia, to spend some time with the family of Mrs. Stallings' brother, Mr. Wade H. Sanders.

WHAT IS THE REMEDY?

What is North Carolina to do with her prison population problem? We have made fine progress with highways, industry and schools, but unfortunately we have not made progress in meeting the serious problem of increased prison population. The problem is serious from a financial standpoint, but still more important is it from the standpoint of citizenship and good government. What is to be done in a

THE FUTURE OF COTTON PRICES

RALEIGH, Jan. 17.—With the present low price of cotton, the question among farmers is whether to hold or sell their cotton. What to do can only be determined by a study of figures relative to the supply and demand.

"While the demand is uncertain, the chances are that prices have reached the low point for this year and a gradual improvement may be anticipated," says Dr. G. W. Forster, agricultural economist at State College. "Whether this improvement will warrant holding the cotton is a matter for the individual farmer to decide." A carry-over of 4,500,000 bales together with an estimated production of 15,000,000 bales, gives an available supply of 19,500,000 bales of American cotton says Dr. Forster. This is approximately the same amount as was available last year. The estimated consumption for this year is 24,500,000 bales and from these figures it does not seem that the low price of cotton can be traced to supply, he states.

Since about sixty per cent of our cotton is shipped to European countries, the economic conditions there naturally affect the prices received for the staple. An increase in demand for cotton and cotton goods is reported from practically all these markets with a slight increase in the Great Britain demand.

In the Japanese and Chinese markets, importations of American cotton have fallen off to a considerable extent. Stocks of raw cotton in these markets declined over 100,000 bales during September and American cotton alone fell off 41,000 bales.

"With the depleted supply in foreign markets and a gradual improvement in demand, prices for American cotton should go up but farmers who plan to hold their cotton should watch closely the information given by Federal and State governments as to foreign and domestic conditions," says Dr. Forster.

SMALL INCOMES PREDICTED FOR THE YEAR OF 1930
Smaller incomes even than in 1929 are in store for the farmers

Each Year More Mothers Treat Colds Externally

The Dangers of "Dosing" Colds Now Avoided by Use of Modern Vaporizing Ointment

When Vicks VapoRub was introduced, mothers especially were quick to appreciate it, because it is just rubbed on and cannot upset children's delicate stomachs, as "dosing" is so apt to do. Today, the whole trend of modern medicine is away from needless "dosing."

As more and more mothers adopted this modern external treatment, the fame of Vicks spread until today it is the standby for colds—adults as well as children's—in over 60 countries. Just rubbed on throat and chest, Vicks acts through the skin like a plaster; and, at the same time its medicated vapors, released by the body heat, are inhaled direct to the inflamed air-passages, loosening the phlegm and easing the difficult breathing.

Ever-increasing demand for this better method of treating colds is shown in the familiar Vicks slogan. Made famous when Vicks reached "17 Million Jars Used Yearly"—later raised to "21 Million"—there are now "Over 26 Million Jars Used Yearly."



When Food Sours

Lots of folks who think they have "indigestion" have only an acid condition which could be corrected in five or ten minutes. An effective anti-acid like Phillips Milk of Magnesia soon restores digestion to normal. Phillips does away with all that sourness and gas right after meals. It prevents the distress so apt to occur two hours after eating. What a pleasant preparation to take! And how good it is for the system! Unlike a burning dose of soda—which is but temporary relief at best—Phillips Milk of Magnesia neutralizes many times its volume in acid.

Next time a hearty meal, or too rich a diet has brought on the least discomfort, try—
PHILLIPS Milk

of North Carolina in 1930, Dr. G. W. Forster, head of the department of agricultural economics at North Carolina State College, cautions in an article on the farm outlook for 1930, appearing in a publication of the State College Extension Service.

Big carryovers from last year in cotton, tobacco and peanuts make acreage reduction in tobacco and peanuts and no further increase in cotton acreage necessary this season, says Dr. Forster. Indications point to fair conditions for early Irish potatoes but for a very heavy yield and small prices for potatoes in general.

Only for the production of hogs and strawberries do the conditions seem more than normally favorable. "If the acreage changes suggested by this outlook report are adopted," declares Dr. Forster, "a curtailment in the acreage of cotton, tobacco, potatoes and peanuts will result. On land thus released, additional hay, pasture and feed grains may be grown. Such feed can then be utilized by hogs, poultry and dairy cows that will more nearly supply the demand in the farm home and the nearby locality.

"Two important benefits would result: first, a better balanced diet would be available for the farm family; and second, more satisfactory prices would probably be received.

"The 1930 outlook may appear a gloomy one, but to North Carolinians who are working for greater prosperity and better times for our farm population, it may be advantageous."

Dr. Forster praises Governor Gardner's "live-at-home" program and advocates a "farm plan" that will furnish more of the household and animal feed requirements.

We Pay Eight Profits When We Buy Western Corn, Meat, and Hay
In spite of the general acknowledgment of the wisdom of live-at-home farming, one still runs across a man now and then who says:

"The Northern and Western farmers can raise corn, hay, and

MRS. L. H. Hauss has returned from Philadelphia where she attended the Hair Dressers Association and style show. Let her tell you about the new hairdress at the Dorothy Beauty Shoppe.

666 Tablets
Relieves a Headache or Neuralgia in 30 minutes, checks a Cold the first day, and checks Malaria in three days.
666 also in Liquid

meat more cheaply than the South; plainly, therefore, we should buy those things instead of trying to grow them."

The answer is that even if the West can grow corn and meat and some hays more cheaply than we can, the man who advises buying these things forgets that when we pay the Western farmer his cost of production for hay, corn, and meat, we have only just started the round of payments. Besides cost of production to the farmer there are seven and possibly eight other costs we must pay as follows:

1. The Western farmer's cost of negotiating sales.
2. Cost of packing, sacking, or baling the product.
3. Cost of hauling to Western farmer's depot.
4. Expenses and profits of middleman buying from Western farmer.
5. Expenses and profit for wholesaler selling to Southern merchant.
6. Expenses of a nearly 1,000-mile freight haul with a big profit for the railroad.
7. Expense of hauling from merchant's store.
8. Extra charges by merchant.

when bought "on time" to cover risk, interest, and collections.—Progressive Farmer.

One Cumberland county farmer never goes to Fayetteville but that he carries vegetables, poultry, eggs or cured meats for sale. He grows tobacco and cotton for his main cash crops but never fails to have money throughout the year.

T. L. Shelton of Madison county reports a yield of 864 pounds of high quality burley tobacco from one-half acre of ground fertilizer with 400 pounds of a 12-4-6 mixture. The first cooperative car of domestic limestone for use under tobacco in Caswell county this season was recently ordered by eight growers.

LOST MONDAY near courthouse black handbag with chamol bag pinned inside. Chamol bag had a \$50 bill, one \$20 bill, one \$10 bill, a \$2 1/2 gold piece, and some silver. Several dollar bills were loose in the handbag. Also receipt for \$40 from A. A. Corbett. Liberal reward if returned to Mrs. N. F. Hawkins Worley, Princeton, N. C., Route 1.

WHY TAKE CHANCES?

When You Can Phone Us
267
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