

Farmers Hear Barden At Meeting Held In Memorial Auditorium

Other Speakers Also Appear On Program at Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association Gathering.

Raleigh, June 9—What the country needs is a minimum of federal control and a maximum of cooperation on the part of farmers, Congressman Graham Barden of New Bern told some 4,000 delegates to the annual joint membership meeting of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association and the Farmers Cooperative Exchange here last week.

To the assemblage that overflowed into the balconies of the Memorial Auditorium, Barden declared that "control as an emergency measure has been necessary, even though there is something in us that revolts against too much control as a general proposition."

Delegates to the meeting, representing most of the counties in North and South Carolina, were welcomed by Governor-elect J. M. Broughton, a charter member of the Cotton Association. The meeting opened with a concert by the Raleigh High School Band and was called to order by M. G. Mann, general manager of the two cooperatives. John T. Thorne of Farmville pronounced the invocation.

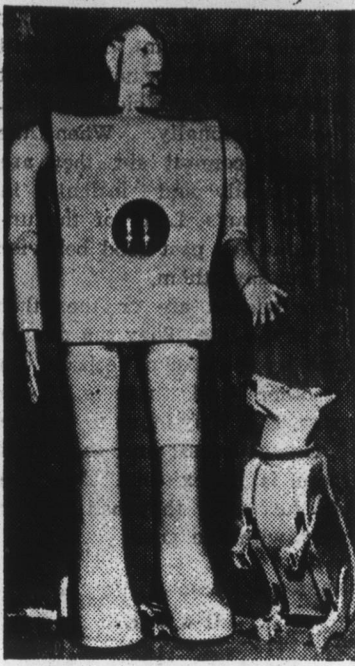
Barden, who has sought modification of the Wage and Hour Laws, called for equal consideration of the rights of farmers and individual workers. "Neither the farmer nor I," he said, "want to lower the worker's wages, but each increase in wages should not be deducted from the farmer. A floor to protect the industrial worker or any other worker is O. K., but for God's sake don't put the farmer under the floor."

Agriculture is in for another rap because of the war, he told the delegates. "Increases in prices reach agriculture last and always leave them with the hardest debts to pay. A proposed additional tax on tobacco to help finance the national defense program would also add to the farmer's tax burden, although agriculture has always shown its willingness to bear an equal load."

"Everything the farmer tries to sell as an individual," he said, "goes to market with a tag on it marked, 'what will you give me', while what he has to buy is marked with the seller's price." He also called for a fairer exchange rate than so-called "good prices", which he termed a relative matter.

The delegates elected J. I. Waggoner, county agent of Guilford County, as chairman of the meeting, and the introduction of the principal speaker was made by Col. John W. Harrolson, administrative dean of N. C. State College.

Mechanical Mutt



Elektro, the mechanical man, and Sparko, the mechanical dog, get together in New York, where they are on display at the fair. Sparko barks, wags his tail and sits up. Elektro is equally versatile.

Pointing out that it is now costing more to get produce from the farm to the consumer's table than the farmer is getting for raising it, H. A. Baum, vice-president of the Atlantic Commission Company of New York City, urged the assembled farmers to work "for a distribution system that will bring you and your consumers closer together commercially and that will pay unnecessary inbetween costs. He pointed specifically to the work that has been done by the citrus growers through their cooperative associations.

Dr. Marvin Brooker, vice-president of the Columbia Bank for Cooperatives, Columbia, S. C., emphasized the importance of an informed membership and urged the members in turn "not to expect too much of their cooperatives too soon.

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W. Kerr Scott, State commissioner of agriculture, pledged the continued support of his department in helping the farmer to get a more equitable share of the nation's income, and L. E. Raper, director of membership relations for Southern States Cooperative, Richmond, Va., told how the Virginia cooperative and the FCX are working together in the cooperative manufacturing of feed and fertilizer as well as on purchasing other supplies.

Greetings were also extended by Howard Hutchinson, state agent for the Cooperative Insurance Companies, who stressed the growth of cooperative insurance and the saving made possible.

In his annual message to the members and patrons of the cooperatives, General Manager Mann reported a highly successful year for the organizations which did a combined volume of over \$6,000,000 during the past year.

Despite an extremely short

crop both last year and the year before, Mr. Mann said that cotton deliveries had held up well and that the Association has sold approximately nine out of every ten bales of cotton on which it had quoted a price under the "Re-Purchase Pool" plan. Under this plan, Mr. Mann explained, the farmer, if he is offered more on the outside, may take his cotton back and sell it elsewhere.

"The Association," Mr. Mann said, "has made it possible through the 'Re-purchase Pool' for the first time in the history of cotton selling in North Carolina for the farmer to know as much about his cotton as the man who is buying it."

He urged the assembled dele-

gates to go back to their respective communities and tell their neighbors and friends about the Cotton Association, "Urge them," he said, "to stop and think for

a moment about the time which they spend in producing a crop, the money they have to invest, and the risk they have to run, and when they have done this I be-

lieve their best judgement will tell them to sell their cotton through the 'Re-Purchase Pool' so they can know they are getting the highest price for it."

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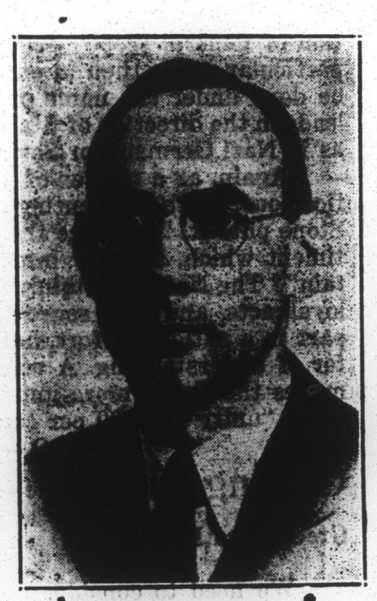
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It is this cooperation that has enabled us to advance as far as we have and for this fine spirit during our birthday year we render sincere thanks.

All local contractors, utilities and electrical companies have been more than nice to us and we appreciate all of the many favors and good business that has been given us. In each case we have tried to render the best service and we hereby assure the public that our service shall continue to be maintained on a high standard. We hope that the next twenty years will see us make even more progress. Indeed we shall try to make them our best. Once again we thank you all.

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Geo. W. Kane
Contractor and Builder