

# The Farmer Is Puzzled And He Has Reason To Be Wondering

Pushing To See World Crisis In Midst Of Plenty, Supply And Demand.

(Spartanburg Herald.)

The American farmer wonders what it's all about. He can't understand a world-wide economic crisis in the midst of plenty. Starving men burning wheat to keep warm and ragged women making cloin baffle him. Puzzled and discouraged, he has probably reached the conclusion a few have got all the money and something's got to be done about it.

He has been told to produce much then to cut down. Farm products hit bottom; other prices stay up. The government says one thing; the people another. The farmer is puzzled. Kansas' Senator Capper, a man who has spent his life among the people of the soil and been their fearless spokesman in the halls of legislation, has written of the puzzled farmer. In part says he:

A year ago the Western farmer was a pretty much puzzled man. Today he is just as much puzzled more indignant, and in many quarters inclined to be belligerent. From what I can learn, the Kansas farmer wants to believe in the farm board, in its long-time program. But actual conditions and the actions of the farm board are making it more and more difficult for him to have the confidence that he really wants to feel.

The farmer understands, of course that there is a world-wide depression. He has been reading and hearing for the last two years of this world-wide depression; that commodity prices are dropping to lower levels. A year ago he was puzzled to understand why the prices of his products had dropped so much lower than other commodities. Since then he has seen prices received for crude oil drop almost to the same level with wheat. But not the prices of transportation, of electricity, of natural gas, of talking over the telephone.

Also the farmer is having trouble adjusting himself to the changed attitude of his government, as expressed through advice received from the Department of Agricultural colleges, the county agents and advisers from chambers of commerce.

For generations these agencies have been urging the farmer to become a more efficient producer. He was told that the man who made two blades of grass grow where one grew before was a public benefactor—and would be rewarded for his efficiency and benefactors by getting more profits from his farming operations. Twelve years ago he was urged and implored to grow more wheat and win the war. The agricultural colleges taught his children how to grow more to the acre on good ground; how to grow wheat on the arid and semi-arid lands that had been a few short years ago marked on the maps as the Great American Desert.

The farmer responded to the advice, benefited by the instruction. He followed improved methods; he bought the latest machinery; he increased his efficiency; he became the most efficient producer of foodstuffs the world has ever seen.

And what has been the result? His taxes, his living expenses, his cost of production, his transportation and marketing costs have increased as his efficiency increased, and in even larger proportions. But his reward for increased efficiency has been lower prices for his products, an increase in the mortgage on the farm, probable foreclosure of the mortgage, bankruptcy, and no place for him to go when he leaves the farm.

For several years he has heard a lot about the law of supply and demand. He still is hearing about that law. He has increased the supply, he is told, beyond the demand for his products.

That would all be very well, but the farmer reads in the newspapers and magazines, and hears over the radio, that in industrial sections of the country the supply of foodstuffs is not greater than the demand. He reads that families are starving; that charity is feeding by bread lines; that the city of Detroit has gone "broke" trying to feed the starving and shelter the homeless.

Now, all that does not appeal to him as indicating that the supply of foodstuffs exceeds the demand for foodstuffs. He is told there are at the same time too much wheat and not enough bread; too many cattle and hogs for the market to absorb, not enough steaks and chops and hams and beef stew to feed the hungry; and that there are hundreds of thousands—some folks say millions—of hungry.

Then he is told to reduce his acreage and production; and, frankly, he is puzzled by the situation.

and Miss Selma Branton of Shelby third grade; Miss Madge Spurling of Shelby, fourth grade; Miss Lucy Yelton of Union, fifth grade; Mrs. Fred Washburn of the Double Springs community, 6th grade; Miss Ruth Whisonant, seventh grade; Miss Catherine Estep of Statesville, foreign language; Prof. W. E. White of Poikville, history; Mr. Broadus Simmons of Boiling Springs, science; Prof. Glenn Stine, mathematics; Miss Alma Smith of Middlesex,

English; Miss Lyda Poston, Home Economics; Miss Willoree Calton, music; Miss Evelyn Huggins of Boiling Springs Public School, music; and Prof. P. M. Coley, Agriculture.

Mr. and Mrs. Ab. Spangler and children and Mr. Spangler's mother, Mrs. Jim Spangler of Double Shoals were the spend the day, guests of Mr. and Mrs. P. D. Crowder, Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Shiers spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Ramsey of the Pleasant Ridge Community.

Miss Mary Rooks of Macon, Ga. is visiting her brother-in-law Mr. Forest Jones, and children. Miss Rooks plans to take the children home with her for awhile.

Rev. W. C. and Mrs. Lynch were the supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Raburn Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. P. D. Crowder and children spent the day Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wilson of the Zion Community.

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FIRST CUSTOMERS  
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Your Choice These Last Three Days  
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Limited assortment of sizes  
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Special Job Lot  
MEN'S PANTS  
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Quality you can't match for less than twice the price  
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Sounds unbelievable, but we've cut them to  
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# Campbell Dept. Store

## Lattimore News Of Current Week

Faculty Announced—Large Enrollment of School at Opening: Personals.

Lattimore, July 28.—The Lattimore High School began its session of school Monday. The enrollment: