

Mr E D Smith Back From Texas Trip

Says Crop Will be Short.—Boll Weevil, Rains and Other Forces Will Help the Cotton Association to Increase Prices.

The State, 18th inst.

Mr E D Smith, president of the South Carolina division of the Southern Cotton association, has returned from a trip of two weeks in Texas. Mr Smith is also field agent of the general association and his energy and enthusiasm have been potent in fusing the many interests in the cotton States so that they would be united in making this a successful movement.

Mr Smith is very much pleased over what he saw in Texas. He believes that the cotton association has won its fight anyway, but the rains and the early appearance of the boll weevil mean that the next crop will be short.

"In the letters sent to the press from the west I did not in any way exaggerate the condition existing there up to the 11th of May," said Mr Smith yesterday. "There was scarcely one-third of the cotton in Texas planted at the time I was there."

"Through the State of Indiana, from Shepport to Vicksburg, conditions similar to those in Texas and the territories existed. In Mississippi the conditions were no better."

Throughout the boll weevil section of Texas, unless the cotton is planted the latter part of March or the first of April, it is practically useless to plant it at all; because in normal years the boll weevil comes out of its habitation about the first of July, and under these conditions a crop of bolls is matured sufficiently to guarantee a partial crop. This year the conditions have been ideal for the propagation of the boll weevil. Excessive heat and humidity are conditions necessary for the prolific crop, on this basis. Already he has appeared on the scene.

"Prof Cornell, editor of The Farm and Ranch, was shown specimens of the adult weevil about the first of May, which show that he is from four to six weeks earlier than normally. Under these conditions to plant cotton now would be absolute folly. The government report bears out this statement.

NO SHELTER FOR COTTON.

"As to the farmers of Texas keeping the pledge of the New Orleans convention, I find them as determined and enthusiastic as any part east of the Mississippi, in fact, more so. I found that in this State, and in fact in most of the western States, the need of warehouses for protection of the crop was more acute than here. In those vast cotton fields there is absolutely no shelter to protect the cotton, and their method of storing it is to enclose a space with barbed wire, called the cotton yard, and into those the farmers haul their cotton (paying a monthly rental for the use of it) and dump their cotton on the ground, exposing it to the weather and to the moisture of the ground; and as a consequence, of all cotton bought in Texas and in fact most of the Mississippi valley states, as well as the western, 40 pounds is deducted for 'country damage,' whether it is damaged or not, which at 10 cents per pound is \$4 per bale average loss to the farmers of Texas annually. Multiplying the number of bales by this figure will give you some idea of the loss of the farmers, and the gain of the buyers, a sufficient amount to erect and equip warehouses sufficient to

warehouse the entire cotton crop. East of the Mississippi river I find that the conditions are from 20 to 30 per cent. worse than the same date last year; I mean as to weather and preparation. This coupled with the reduction of acreage, in my opinion, will guarantee a small crop, and such price within the reasonable bounds as the farmer sees fit to put upon it.

"I want in this connection to urge upon the merchants and bankers, and farmers and business men generally, the absolute necessity of a system of warehouses throughout the south for the protection of cotton, as a means of facilitating the holding and marketing the crop so as at all times to command the remunerative price for it. I found that the bankers and merchants of the west would agree to join forces with the farmers upon this proposition of warehousing and holding cotton, in that it promised fine security for money that the banker had to lend, a dividend upon the capital invested by those who erect warehouses, and its tremendous saving to the farmer who wished to hold for higher prices. The prospect for success, permanent I mean, for the Southern Cotton association was never brighter than it is now.

"By practically holding his cotton from the market the farmer has forced the price to its present level, and with the conditions I have indicated above, by holding on still he can force it still higher.

"On May 30th there will be issued a report as to acreage and fertilization, and I take this occasion to urge every county president in South Carolina to see to it that the acreage report which has been sent him is properly filled out and returned to this office promptly. It is absolutely essential that we get out this report so that we may use it as a correct basis upon which to fix the price of the coming crop."

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NOTICE.

The board of county commissioners in their meeting Monday passed a resolution to the effect that hereafter no magistrate in Lancaster county will be paid for holding a inquest unless it is impossible to get the coroner, and then the magistrate must comply with the law by securing affidavits from three citizens of the immediate community that it is important that an inquest be held in the particular case under consideration. M C Gardner, County Supervisor.

NOTICE!

The Board of Control for Lancaster County will meet at Lancaster C. H., S. C., on Tuesday, June 6th, 1905, for the purpose of electing dispensers for the dispensary at Lancaster C. H., and the dispensary at Kershaw for the ensuing year beginning July 1st 1905. Applications for these positions must be filed with said board at least twenty days before said 6th of June 1905. J E W Haile, Chr Board of Co Control L C. May 5, 1905—1m.

Cotton Much Delayed.

Continuous Heavy Rains Have Interfered with the Planting.

Washington, May 16.—The weather bureau's crop report says that in consequence of continuous heavy rains planting has been greatly delayed. In the main central and eastern districts of the cotton belt good stands and satisfactory growth are generally reported. Considerable planting remains to be done in Arkansas and northern portion of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, and planting is unfinished in the Carolinas.

Planting is about completed in Georgia, where the stands are excellent and the plants healthy and growing fast. In Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama and Arkansas many fields are foul.

In Central and Northern Texas planting has been further delayed and the crop which is very weedy has been much damaged by heavy rains, and is doing well over limited areas only. In Southern Texas the condition of the cotton ranges from fair to good and much has been chopped and cultivated.

Boll weevils and other pests are attacking the crop in localities.

Senator Tillman has returned to his home at Trenton from Atlanta, where he went for a course of treatment for the nervous disorder from which he has been suffering. It is reported that he is greatly improved and appears to be entirely cured.

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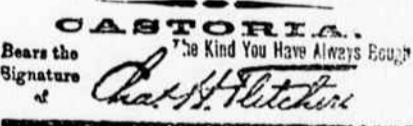
It is surprising how soon people begin to practice economy after they go broke.

A bachelor farmer says that the quickest way to remove weeds is to propose to a widow.

Prosperity has ruined more men than adversity—but that kind of ruin is so much more delightful.

That man never lied who can repeat the Ten Commandments while removing a porous plaster from his anatomy.

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Notice.

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LANCASTER AND CHESTER RAILWAY

Schedule in effect Jan 8, 1905 (Daily except Sunday)

Station	Time	Time
Lv Lancaster	7:15 a m	3:45 p m
Lv Fort Lawn	7:34 a m	4:15 p m
Lv Bassonville	7:44 a m	4:30 p m
Lv Richburg	7:50 a m	4:37 p m
Ar Chester	8:15 a m	5:15 p m
Ar Charleston, So R	9:55 a m	7:10 p m
Ar Columbia, So R	11:30 a m	1:05 a m
Ar Yorkville & N W	9:43 a m	
Ar Gastonville	10:33 a m	
Ar Lynch	11:06 a m	2:12 p m
Ar Atlanta, S. A. R	4:55 p m	

CONNECTIONS. Chester—Southern, Seaboard and Carolina & Northwestern railways. Lancaster—Southern Railway. A P. MURPHY, Asst Traffic mgr. LEBEL & SONS, Pres and Traffic Manager.