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THE MARKETS

New York Cotton

New York, Feb. 17.—Cotton was quiet today, but prices ruled generally steady and closed steady, but unchanged to 9 points higher. After some scattering liquidation there was very little pressure against prices. The cables were about as due, but the local market opened steady at a decline of 2 to 5 points underselling attributed to recent buyers. With first prices here lower than due on the showing of Liverpool, there was considerable buying by houses with English connections, possibly to reverse straddles, which helped to absorb the early offerings.

NEW YORK MARKET.

	Open	High	Low	Close
Mar	12.22	12.24	12.19	11.24
May	11.90	11.96	11.90	11.97
July	11.84	11.90	11.84	11.90
Oct	11.47	11.49	11.44	11.49

Spots 12,90—Same.

New Orleans Cotton

New Orleans, Feb. 17.—It was a dull, but steady session in the cotton market today. The net results were small, the close being unchanged to 2 points up, compared with the last figures of yesterday.

At the highest of the day prices were a net advance of one to three points. Bullish reports from the spot department were chiefly responsible for buying orders.

Spot cotton steady unchanged. Middling 13c.

Liverpool Cotton

Liverpool, Feb. 17.—Cotton—Spot in fair demand; prices easier, middling fair 7.49; good middling, 7.41; middling, 7.35; low middling, 7.05; ordinary, 6.95; good ordinary, 5.87; ordinary, 5.43. Sales, 8,000; including 7,600 American and 500 for speculation and export. Receipts, 42,000, including 33,300 American.

Futures close steady. Feb. 6.67; Feb-March, 6.66 1-2; March-April, 6.67 1-2; April-May, .64; May-June, 6.64; June-July, 6.59 1-2; July-August, 6.55 1-2; August-Sept., 6.35; Sept-Oct. 6.32; Oct-Nov. 6.24; Nov-Dec, 6.20; Dec-Jan. 6.19; Jan-Feb, 6.19.

Cotton Seed Oil

New York, Feb. 17.—Cottonseed oil today was quiet, nearby positions showing firmness on demand from shorts and light offerings of crude, while the balance of the list was slightly lower with lard. Final prices were 5 points higher to 2 net lower. Sales, 2,700 barrels. Prime crude, 6.00 sales; prime yellow, 7.15.

Cotton Goods

New York, Feb. 17.—Men's wear agents today advanced prices 5c a yard on staple fall goods. Cotton goods markets were steady with a fair trade reported by the jobbers. Deliveries were greatly impeded by snow. Silk markets were active.

Stocks and Bonds

New York, Feb. 17.—The stock market was about steady today. Trading was light. The market turned heavy toward the close, with few price changes.

The day's significant development was the series of announcements of forthcoming capital issues. New York Central applied for permission to issue $70,000,000 bonds, Great Northern made known its proposed sale of $19,000,000 stocks, and Interborough Rapid Transit sold $10,000,000 bonds. With the recently announced issues of $35,000,000 Southern Pacific convertibles, the amount of new securities arranged for in the last few days runs up well over $150,000,000.

Money Market

New York, Feb. 17.—Call money steady 1 3-4 @ [illegible] closing 1 3-4 @ 7-8. Time loans easy; sixty days 1-2 @ 3-4; ninety days, 2 3-4 @ [illegible], six months, 3 1-4 @ 1-2.

Chicago Grain and Provisions

Chicago, Feb. 17.—May wheat today touched the highest price of the year. Active demand from Europe was reported. Closing figures were steady at virtually the top level of the day, an advance of 5-8 to 3-4 @ 7-8 net. Other grain took shares in upturn, corn 5-8 to 3-4 and oats 1-2 to 5-8. In provisions the outcome was 2 1-2 to 3 1-2 @ 5 decline.

	Open	Close
WHEAT—		
May	94¾	96¾
July	32	93¼
CORN—		
May	67⅞	68⅝
July	39⅝	69⅞
OATS—		
May	39⅝	40
July	37⅞	38⅝
LARD—		
May	——	10.92
July	——	11.12
RIBS—		
May	11.65	11.62
July	11.80	11.75
PORK—		
May	21.90	21.72
July	——	21.75

CARD OF THANKS

Please allow us space in your paper to express our thanks to our friends and neighbors for the kind assistance rendered us during the death of our dear wife and mother. To them we will ever hold a sweet remembrance.

J. W. Bradley and children.

COTTON CLUBS FOR BOYS WILL BRING RICH PRIZES

THE GOVERNMENT WISHES BOYS TO SPECIALIZE ON COTTON AS THEY HAVE BEEN DOING ON CORN — SPECIAL PRIZES HAVE BEEN OFFERED

In most of the territory now covered by the Farmers' Co-operative Demonstration work, cotton is the principal crop grown by the farmers. The education of a southern boy will be far from complete unless he has made a study of this wonderful plant which does so much to clothe the world, and which in recent years is becoming important as a source of oil and feed. Sufficient investigations have been made and trials had to convince us that there is a need and demand for cotton clubs.

The object of the Boys' Demonstration work are: First, to afford the rural teacher a simple and easy method of teaching practical agriculture in the schools in the way it must be acquired to be of any real service, namely, by actual work upon the farm. Second, to prove that there is more in the soil than the farmer has ever gotten out of it; to inspire boys with love of the land by showing how they can get wealth out of it by tilling it in a better way and thus be helpful to the family and the neighborhood. Third, to give the boys a definite worthy purpose and to stimulate a friendly rivalry among them. These objects were stated in the beginning and the boys' corn clubs organized in pursuance thereof, opened the eyes of the south to its possibilities in the production of corn and have stimulated an interest in agriculture and especially in the production of home supplies. Practical lessons, like the lessons in any system of education must be progressive. Hence we believe the time has arrived when a few of the best of the corn club boys can progress from corn production to cotton production and thus widen their useful knowledge and at the same time give them a basis for a thorough system of modern agriculture. The lessons of preparion, seed selection and intensive cultivation will be continued as applied to cotton and in boll weevil sections they will be shown the department's method of raising cotton under boll weevil conditions. As in the case of the boys' corn clubs, where the work is being organized the county superintendents of education and teachers can best reach the boys in all sections of the county and thus the teacher be be able to maintain interest in things of the farm and the boys to acquire valuable knowledge. The lessons of diversification will be made prominent. It will thus become an easy matter to impress the members of the clubs with practical and economic principles of farming such as abandonment of the system of raising all cotton and the using of more acres for food crops, more for soil improving crops and relatively less for cotton in each general farm plan. The advent of the boll weevil makes such a system imperative.

The Corn Clubs.

No better agency can be found to teach these great lessons than the energetic, persevering southern boys who have made such a great success in the corn clubs. Nor is it proposed that interest in the corn clubs shall be allowed to decrease. It is suggested that the cotton clubs be organized as an advanced class. The boy who has made a study of corn for one, two or three years is far more competent to take up the more complicated study of cotton. It is recommended therefore that boys entering our clubs for the first time be urged to join the corn clubs and that the cotton clubs be organized so far as possible from among the membership of the corn clubs. It will be all right especially for the larger boys, to continue the corn work and at the same time take up the cotton.

The members of the cotton clubs will be expected to work at least two acres. Thus ractically every boy will grow enough seed cotton to make a bale. The boy is advancing in this work and is more capable of handling a larger amount of land. Likewise he must have enough cotton so that it can be ginned separately and two acres is emphasized as the basis for the work. This plan will also have a tendency to classify he work. The boy who has time and strength to work but one acre should be a member of the corn club only.

It is not advisable to get large numbers of boys into the cotton club this year. It is far more advisable to have successful demonstrations in every case. After that the question of numbers will take care of itself.

The prizes in this work will be arranged for in the same manner as in the corn clubs, and, except as changed by this circular, the general rules for organization as contained in our circular No. A-74, will be observed in the cotton club work as well as with the corn clubs.

It is strongly urged that the organizations be perfected at once and the names and addresses of the members of the clubs be sent to this office before the close of the year, so that they can be enrolled and circulars of instructions sent to the boys. It is quite a disadvantage to the work and the workers for the lists to come in as late as March or April, and then pour in by the thousands. It will be well to instruct the club members at the first meeting in regard to getting the best seed suited to their various localities, and also to urge upon them the necessity of deep and thorough preparation of the soil before the heavy frosts and freezes. Organize only such counties as are ready for the work and select only boys who are in earnest. Success in this work means a practical training and education for the boy in a line which will be useful. Thorough knowledge and wise and judicious application to the task of production brings prosperity and contentment to the farmer.

Approved: B. T. Galloway, chief of bureau. Bradford Knapp, special agent in charge Farmers' Co-operative Demonstration Work. O. B. Martin, assistant in charge Boys' demonstration work.

Atlanta Letter

Atlanta, Feb. 17.—The national vacancy caused in the United States senate by the death of Senator Bacon may have vital and far reaching consequences in Georgia politics for years to come, independently of and in addition to the immediate question of who will be his successor.

During the past couple of years bitter factionalism in Georgia has begun to die down and a harmoniously united democracy has become more nearly a fact than for a decade before. The two partisan factions which fought each other tooth-and-nail on the Joe Brown-Hoke Smith issue have been merged into one. In the past six months there have been rumors in the air of a complication that would almost inevitably bring back a part of the old bitter spirit and mean another terrible political wrangle in Georgia, i. e., the possibility of a fight-to-a-finish between Hoke Smith and John M. Slaton.

It has been an open secret that Governor Slaton's ultimate ambition was the United States Senate. With Senator Bacon alive, there were several reasons why he could not have entered the field against him, and Governor Slaton's only chance was to enter the lists against Senator Smith. No matter how much a race would have resulted—and of course it would be futile to speculate on the result—it would have meant a mighty mean night. Senator Hoke Smith would have been extremely anxious to defeat it if possible, independently of whether or not he was sure he could hold his own, and Governor Slaton while feeling that his would be a logical step from the gubernatorial chair to the U. S. Senate chamber would certainly not be sure he could have achieved his ambition in any other way than by seeking to go there by trying to beat a man who is rendering immense service to Georgia and the South in the Senate today, and who is naturally perhaps the weightiest figure Georgia has produced in two generations. Likewise, the friends, that is the conservative ones, of Slaton and Smith, hoped, the fight would not [illegible] feared that it would.

The death of Senator Bacon, mourned by all alike, has in the estimation of many far-seeing politicians relieved the tension above described. Governor Slaton appoints Tom Clark Howell, or some other prominent Georgian to the short term to fill the vacancy caused by Bacon's death, with the prearranged understanding that the appointee shall retire when the primary comes and not run to succeed himself, it is quite within the bounds of reasonable possibility that Governor Slaton can then himself offer as Bacon's successor in the primary and election. The only possible obstacle would be the notion which has prevailed for some time that both of Georgia's U. S. senators should not come from North Georgia, but it is pointed out that in many other States the United States senators come from the same community, and that the one essential thing after all is that wherever they come from it depends after all entirely on the individual as to how well he will or will not serve the interests of the whole State.

Judge Tindall of the local juvenile court, who says that many per cent of the cotton mills of Georgia are violating the provisions of the State child labor laws, is inclined to the view that conditions rather than individuals are to be held to blame.

Judge Tindall sees in compulsory education the only permanent solution of the child labor problem. He says that the negro problem has to be faced any way, and that the complications of it which would come with compulsory education could be handled just like other phases of the problems have been handled in the past.

That "turn about is fair play," or in a manner of speaking, will be part of the defense of C. A. and William Paul Gray who are charged with robbing a taxicab chauffeur.

The charge is that the two young bandits not only took all the money the chauffeur had, except his carfare, but also marked up his taxi and drove it away, leaving him standing by the roadside.

The Gray boys are suspected of other hold-ups, but deny that they have ever figured in police court before.

Although babies and poppies and all other varmints except angels have been barred from the U. S. mails under the parcels post regulations, Uncle Sam is endeavoring to act as carry-all for pretty nearly every thing else that can be done up in a package, and the railroads complain that they are being made the beasts, just as bitterly as before.

The National Committee on railway mail pay is in communication with the railroad officials in the South, with headquarters in Atlanta, looking to the carrying out of a general movement looking to the convincing of U. S. congress that a great and growing injustice is being done the roads in the matter of compensation they receive for carrying the mails.

The railroad companies have not in this case any of the ordinary means of recourse, since it is congress which fixes the compensation, while the railroad companies that do the work have never been permitted to have anything to say about the pay. No other shipper, of course, can fix his own rates, and in other instances, when rates are regulated by the government, it is always on a basis, as near as can be figured out, of just and reasonable profit to the railroads. In the matter of carrying mails, the railroads insist that they are not only not making any profit at all, but that they are being forced to lose immense sums of money each year.

That the alleged barbarities and horrors of the Fulton county convict camps have not been due to bad state laws or general conditions, but are the result of the autocratic power of harsh and cruel man—Tom Donaldson—is the practical meaning of the grand jury presentment that so stirred this community yesterday afternoon.

The local board of county commissioners is blamed for letting Donaldson exercise so much power, but the actual conditions are put upon Donaldson's head, and his complete elimination from the county convict system is recommended in the presentment.

From the State prison board comes the statement, packed up by obvious facts from many sources, that if the conditions in Fulton are what the grand jury says, then Fulton is the exception to the rest of the State, and it would be unfair to the whole of Georgia for the outside world to judge prison system by the cruelties that have grown up in one county because of one man.

The State prison commissioners, R. E. Davison, T. E. Patterson and T. L. Rainey, have been particularly busy during the past few months in investigating general conditions throughout the State. They have found a remarkably good showing in the health conditions of the various camps. During the month of December there were only two convict deaths in the entire State, and for the past six months the deaths throughout the whole State among felony convicts averaged only four a month. During the entire month of December there were only 107 cases of sickness in the prison population of the State.

As for local conditions here in Fulton, the county board will immediately take up the grand jury presentment, and if the principal recommendations are carried out it will mean the end of the Donaldson regime for good and all.

The sixteenth annual Atlanta Bible Conference, which will begin March 1, and which will bring famous preachers from all over the world, will be remarkable for the presence of a famous Chinese statesman and teacher, Dr. Ng Poon Chew, now of San Francisco, and one of the most notable Christian figures of the present generation in the far east.

Dr. Ng Poon Chew will have a prominent place on the program. London, England, will send two distinguished divines, in the persons of Dr. Campbell Morgan and Rev. William Souper. In addition to preachers and Bible scholars, there will be distinguished archaeologists and scientists in attendance on the conference. Dr. Sol C. Dickey, who has been famous for years as the active figure of the Winona gatherings, will be the director of the Atlanta conference. Dr. Lon G. Broughton who has presided in previous years, will not be able to come over from London for this occasion. It is said of Dr. Dickey that he is "the only man in America who can adequately fill Dr. Broughton's place."

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THE DAY IN CONGRESS

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 17.—The day in Congress:

Senate.

Met at 12:45 o'clock to hold funeral services for the late Senator A. O. Bacon of Georgia.

Adjourned at 1:31 p. m., to noon Wednesday.

House.

Met at 11 a. m.

Recessed to attend Senator Bacon's funeral.

Independent tobacco manufacturers urged the judiciary committee not to amend the Sherman law.

Secretary Lane urged a leasing system for Alaskan coal lands.

Representative Sloss urged action on rural credits legislation before the banking committee.

Debate continued on immigration bill.

Naval bill taken up by naval committee.

Tentative bill for the pay of the six proposed vice admirals reported.

Adjourned at 5:47 p. m. to noon Wednesday.

WELL KNOWN WRITER

Ridgefield, Conn., Feb. 17.—William Henry Boardman, aged 83, for many years president of the Railroad Gazette, now the Railway Age Gazette, and for eight years its editor, today died at his home here.

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