

FARMERS' PAGE

A Regular Weekly Feature for the Farmers of Anderson and adjoining Counties. Contributions for this page gladly received.

Facilities Now Ample For Financing Cotton

WAREHOUSE COMMISSIONER SETS OUT LOAN VALUE OF STATE'S COTTON RECEIPTS

SAYS HOME BANKS CAN SAVE THE DAY

Tells of Interviews in Washington and New York—Exhibits Letters From Reserve Board: Farmer's Note Eligible for Rediscount at Richmond.

"Now this means that we have two avenues of relief: First, the Wade loan fund (\$135,000.00); second, the discount feature of the federal reserve act," said John L. McLaurin, State cotton warehouse commissioner yesterday, in discussing the result of a trip to Washington and New York. "In both cases the situation is squarely up to the banks in South Carolina. The federal government offers the machinery; if we fail to take advantage of the opportunity, we are responsible for the consequences."

Mr. McLaurin has prepared a statement which defines the attitude of the federal reserve board and others toward South Carolina's cotton warehouse system. The statement follows:

I am making this statement in response to numerous inquiries as to how much money may be obtained on State warehouse certificates, and you can hand inclosed copies to your local banks and other interested.

When in Washington I visited treasury officials and conferred with

members of the reserve board to whom matters relating to cotton are especially referred.

I will make a clear statement, just as I see it, because our people need enlightenment on financial matters more than on any other subject.

If this question is to be settled to our advantage, it must be on sane business principles.

On November 17 I addressed a letter to Secretary McAdoo, setting forth the terms of the warehouse and acreage reduction act, calling specific attention to the former, viz:

"1. The title of the cotton is made absolute to the holder of a State warehouse receipt.

"2. The weight, grade and condition of the cotton are guaranteed by the State of South Carolina.

"3. The identity of each bale is fixed in the receipt so as to prevent substitution. I give a heavy bond, and bonds are exacted from managers, weighers and graders.

"4. The State grants holders of receipts permission to sue and establish rights under same. This right does not exist even as to State bonds, as they can be repudiated and the holder can not sue the State."

I asked Secretary McAdoo if "a farmer's note indorsed by his lien merchant and accepted by a member bank, would be discounted by the federal reserve bank at Richmond." I sent a copy of this letter to Senator Tillman and a copy to Congressman Lever. The following letters are self-explanatory:

"Washington, D. C., December 4, 1914."
"Hon. John L. McLaurin, Columbia, S. C."

"My dear Senators: I have just received the inclosed letter from the reserve board, which explains itself. I had to write Secretary McAdoo again before I could get a reply, but I suppose this was due to the fact that they were figuring just what kind of answer to give. If I can you further let me know.

"Very truly,
"A. F. LEVER,"
Reserve Board Replies.

"Federal Reserve Board, Washington, Dec. 2, 1914."
"My Dear Congressman: Your letter of November 13 addressed to Secretary McAdoo was referred to and has been considered by the federal reserve board. In this letter you transmitted an inquiry from Mr. John L. McLaurin, State warehouse commissioner for South Carolina, asking whether notes and receipts described therein would be eligible for rediscount under the provisions of the federal reserve act.

"In reply I am having forwarded you today copies of all regulations issued to date by the federal reserve board relating to paper eligible for rediscount by federal reserve banks.

"You will, of course, understand that the board can not consistently make ruling on the subject of the eligibility of any paper unless the request for such ruling emanates from one of the federal reserve banks. The general regulations of the board are designed to inform both the public and the banks what qualifications the paper must possess in order to be eligible. These regulations having been issued, any interpretation of them must be based upon a concrete case growing out of an application for rediscount made to a federal reserve bank. You will, of course, appreciate the fact that this course is necessary to avoid confusion and to insure a systematic and expeditious handling of applications.

"Respectfully,
"C. S. HANLIN,"
"Governor."

"Hon. A. F. Lever, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C."
I left on November 26 for Washington, accompanied by W. D. Grist of Yorkville. I found that Mr. McAdoo was off on a vacation and saw the assistant secretary, Mr. McPurpur, and John Skelton Williams. I went over the situation fully and was referred to Mr. Harding. The latter has a thorough understanding of the situation and expressed pleasure at the action South Carolina had taken. He agreed to bring the matter before a full board meeting on the following Monday and communicate with me in

New York. On the following Tuesday I heard from Mr. Harding, as follows:

South Carolina's Leadership.
"I desire to say that at this meeting yesterday the board discussed the cotton situation at great length. I reported what had been done in South Carolina and the individual members of the board were greatly interested. I am sure each member of the board is glad to know that your State has taken the lead in so progressive a measure."

On my return to Columbia I addressed the following letter to Mr. Harding:

"Columbia, S. C., Dec. 3, 1914."
"Mr. W. P. G. Harding, Federal Reserve Board, Washington, D. C."
"My Dear Sir: I thank you for your letter of 1st inst., addressed to me, Imperial hotel, New York city.

"I find many inquiries awaiting my return and I would like to get the following information:

"If a note, with State warehouse receipts as collateral, is given by a farmer to a merchant for advances, and the note is indorsed by the merchant and accepted by a member bank, is such a paper eligible for discount under section 13 of the federal reserve act?

"I would greatly appreciate also any information that you can give me as to the loans contemplated by the Wade plan. It seems to be understood as little by our bankers as by farmers.

"Yours truly,
"JNO. L. McLAURIN,"
Farmer's Note Eligible.

The following is his reply:
"Washington, December 4, 1914."
"My Dear Sir: Replying to your letter of the 3rd inst. would say that it is the policy of this board to refrain as far as possible from reply to inquiries as to what constitutes paper eligible for discount under section 13 of the federal reserve act. The board has issued a circular on the subject which has been published and which is in the hands of all of the federal reserve banks and the board greatly prefers that direct inquiries should be made to the officers of the respective federal reserve banks and I would respectfully suggest that you refer inquiry to the federal reserve bank of Richmond. I have, however, no objection to stating, as a matter of personal opinion, that notes given by a farmer to a merchant for advances and indorsed by the merchant and discounted with a member bank are unquestionably eligible for rediscount, upon the indorsement of the member bank, with a federal reserve bank.

"In regard to the cotton loan fund, would say that cotton loan committees have been appointed in the various States and the South Carolina committee is as follows: P. G. Rhett, chairman, president People's National bank, Charleston; Henry Schachte, president Germania Savings bank, Charleston; E. H. Pringle, Jr., vice president Bank of Charleston, N. B. A.; E. W. Robertson, president National Loan and Exchange bank, Columbia; C. G. Rowland, president Bank of South Carolina, Sumter, and John M. Kinard, president Commercial bank, Newberry.

"I inclose for your information an unofficial analysis of the plan which has been substantially followed in the completed draft and also a typical bank statement showing how a bank can ease itself by participating in the fund and place itself in position to discount more freely all classes of good paper that may be offered to it.

"Very truly yours,
"W. P. G. HARDING,"
Member Federal Reserve Board.

"Hon. John L. McLaurin, State Warehouse Commissioner, Columbia, S. C."
Two Relief Sources.
Now, this means that we have two avenues of relief:

1. The Wade loan fund.
2. The discount feature of the federal reserve act.

In both cases the situation is squarely up to the banks in South Carolina. The federal government offers the machinery; if we fail to take advantage of the opportunity we are responsible for the consequences. I have been carefully over the papers sent me by Mr. Harding and will endeavor to explain them so the average man can understand it. The Wade plan contemplates a loan for one year direct upon cotton on the basis of a cent per pound. There is a loan committee in each State who pass upon applications and they will soon make some announcement as to South Carolina. I found in New York that the mere statement by the secretary of the treasury that the loan fund was complete had a steady effect on the market and created a better feeling in financial circles toward cotton.

An Example.
In order to illustrate the operation of the Wade plan, I will suppose the case of a farmer who has just written to me that he has 600 bales of cotton in a State warehouse and desires a loan of \$15,000. Mr. Harding said that one of the difficulties that he was experiencing was the title of the cotton and weighers and graders—that banks were objecting to responsibility on that score. This can cause no trouble in South Carolina, as our State receipts cover title, weight and grade. Supposing that the 600 bales average middling and 600 pounds in weight. The receipts would be attached to a note for \$15,000. It

is made a clear statement, just as I see it, because our people need enlightenment on financial matters more than on any other subject.

On my return to Columbia I addressed the following letter to Mr. Harding:

"Columbia, S. C., Dec. 3, 1914."
"Mr. W. P. G. Harding, Federal Reserve Board, Washington, D. C."
"My Dear Sir: I thank you for your letter of 1st inst., addressed to me, Imperial hotel, New York city.

"I find many inquiries awaiting my return and I would like to get the following information:

"If a note, with State warehouse receipts as collateral, is given by a farmer to a merchant for advances, and the note is indorsed by the merchant and accepted by a member bank, is such a paper eligible for discount under section 13 of the federal reserve act?

"I would greatly appreciate also any information that you can give me as to the loans contemplated by the Wade plan. It seems to be understood as little by our bankers as by farmers.

"Yours truly,
"JNO. L. McLAURIN,"
Farmer's Note Eligible.

The following is his reply:
"Washington, December 4, 1914."
"My Dear Sir: Replying to your letter of the 3rd inst. would say that it is the policy of this board to refrain as far as possible from reply to inquiries as to what constitutes paper eligible for discount under section 13 of the federal reserve act. The board has issued a circular on the subject which has been published and which is in the hands of all of the federal reserve banks and the board greatly prefers that direct inquiries should be made to the officers of the respective federal reserve banks and I would respectfully suggest that you refer inquiry to the federal reserve bank of Richmond. I have, however, no objection to stating, as a matter of personal opinion, that notes given by a farmer to a merchant for advances and indorsed by the merchant and discounted with a member bank are unquestionably eligible for rediscount, upon the indorsement of the member bank, with a federal reserve bank.

"In regard to the cotton loan fund, would say that cotton loan committees have been appointed in the various States and the South Carolina committee is as follows: P. G. Rhett, chairman, president People's National bank, Charleston; Henry Schachte, president Germania Savings bank, Charleston; E. H. Pringle, Jr., vice president Bank of Charleston, N. B. A.; E. W. Robertson, president National Loan and Exchange bank, Columbia; C. G. Rowland, president Bank of South Carolina, Sumter, and John M. Kinard, president Commercial bank, Newberry.

"I inclose for your information an unofficial analysis of the plan which has been substantially followed in the completed draft and also a typical bank statement showing how a bank can ease itself by participating in the fund and place itself in position to discount more freely all classes of good paper that may be offered to it.

"Very truly yours,
"W. P. G. HARDING,"
Member Federal Reserve Board.

"Hon. John L. McLaurin, State Warehouse Commissioner, Columbia, S. C."
Two Relief Sources.
Now, this means that we have two avenues of relief:

1. The Wade loan fund.
2. The discount feature of the federal reserve act.

In both cases the situation is squarely up to the banks in South Carolina. The federal government offers the machinery; if we fail to take advantage of the opportunity we are responsible for the consequences. I have been carefully over the papers sent me by Mr. Harding and will endeavor to explain them so the average man can understand it. The Wade plan contemplates a loan for one year direct upon cotton on the basis of a cent per pound. There is a loan committee in each State who pass upon applications and they will soon make some announcement as to South Carolina. I found in New York that the mere statement by the secretary of the treasury that the loan fund was complete had a steady effect on the market and created a better feeling in financial circles toward cotton.

An Example.
In order to illustrate the operation of the Wade plan, I will suppose the case of a farmer who has just written to me that he has 600 bales of cotton in a State warehouse and desires a loan of \$15,000. Mr. Harding said that one of the difficulties that he was experiencing was the title of the cotton and weighers and graders—that banks were objecting to responsibility on that score. This can cause no trouble in South Carolina, as our State receipts cover title, weight and grade. Supposing that the 600 bales average middling and 600 pounds in weight. The receipts would be attached to a note for \$15,000. It

is made a clear statement, just as I see it, because our people need enlightenment on financial matters more than on any other subject.

On my return to Columbia I addressed the following letter to Mr. Harding:

"Columbia, S. C., Dec. 3, 1914."
"Mr. W. P. G. Harding, Federal Reserve Board, Washington, D. C."
"My Dear Sir: I thank you for your letter of 1st inst., addressed to me, Imperial hotel, New York city.

"I find many inquiries awaiting my return and I would like to get the following information:

"If a note, with State warehouse receipts as collateral, is given by a farmer to a merchant for advances, and the note is indorsed by the merchant and accepted by a member bank, is such a paper eligible for discount under section 13 of the federal reserve act?

"I would greatly appreciate also any information that you can give me as to the loans contemplated by the Wade plan. It seems to be understood as little by our bankers as by farmers.

"Yours truly,
"JNO. L. McLAURIN,"
Farmer's Note Eligible.

The following is his reply:
"Washington, December 4, 1914."
"My Dear Sir: Replying to your letter of the 3rd inst. would say that it is the policy of this board to refrain as far as possible from reply to inquiries as to what constitutes paper eligible for discount under section 13 of the federal reserve act. The board has issued a circular on the subject which has been published and which is in the hands of all of the federal reserve banks and the board greatly prefers that direct inquiries should be made to the officers of the respective federal reserve banks and I would respectfully suggest that you refer inquiry to the federal reserve bank of Richmond. I have, however, no objection to stating, as a matter of personal opinion, that notes given by a farmer to a merchant for advances and indorsed by the merchant and discounted with a member bank are unquestionably eligible for rediscount, upon the indorsement of the member bank, with a federal reserve bank.

"In regard to the cotton loan fund, would say that cotton loan committees have been appointed in the various States and the South Carolina committee is as follows: P. G. Rhett, chairman, president People's National bank, Charleston; Henry Schachte, president Germania Savings bank, Charleston; E. H. Pringle, Jr., vice president Bank of Charleston, N. B. A.; E. W. Robertson, president National Loan and Exchange bank, Columbia; C. G. Rowland, president Bank of South Carolina, Sumter, and John M. Kinard, president Commercial bank, Newberry.

"I inclose for your information an unofficial analysis of the plan which has been substantially followed in the completed draft and also a typical bank statement showing how a bank can ease itself by participating in the fund and place itself in position to discount more freely all classes of good paper that may be offered to it.

"Very truly yours,
"W. P. G. HARDING,"
Member Federal Reserve Board.

"Hon. John L. McLaurin, State Warehouse Commissioner, Columbia, S. C."
Two Relief Sources.
Now, this means that we have two avenues of relief:

1. The Wade loan fund.
2. The discount feature of the federal reserve act.

In both cases the situation is squarely up to the banks in South Carolina. The federal government offers the machinery; if we fail to take advantage of the opportunity we are responsible for the consequences. I have been carefully over the papers sent me by Mr. Harding and will endeavor to explain them so the average man can understand it. The Wade plan contemplates a loan for one year direct upon cotton on the basis of a cent per pound. There is a loan committee in each State who pass upon applications and they will soon make some announcement as to South Carolina. I found in New York that the mere statement by the secretary of the treasury that the loan fund was complete had a steady effect on the market and created a better feeling in financial circles toward cotton.

An Example.
In order to illustrate the operation of the Wade plan, I will suppose the case of a farmer who has just written to me that he has 600 bales of cotton in a State warehouse and desires a loan of \$15,000. Mr. Harding said that one of the difficulties that he was experiencing was the title of the cotton and weighers and graders—that banks were objecting to responsibility on that score. This can cause no trouble in South Carolina, as our State receipts cover title, weight and grade. Supposing that the 600 bales average middling and 600 pounds in weight. The receipts would be attached to a note for \$15,000. It

is made a clear statement, just as I see it, because our people need enlightenment on financial matters more than on any other subject.

On my return to Columbia I addressed the following letter to Mr. Harding:

"Columbia, S. C., Dec. 3, 1914."
"Mr. W. P. G. Harding, Federal Reserve Board, Washington, D. C."
"My Dear Sir: I thank you for your letter of 1st inst., addressed to me, Imperial hotel, New York city.

"I find many inquiries awaiting my return and I would like to get the following information:

"If a note, with State warehouse receipts as collateral, is given by a farmer to a merchant for advances, and the note is indorsed by the merchant and accepted by a member bank, is such a paper eligible for discount under section 13 of the federal reserve act?

"I would greatly appreciate also any information that you can give me as to the loans contemplated by the Wade plan. It seems to be understood as little by our bankers as by farmers.

"Yours truly,
"JNO. L. McLAURIN,"
Farmer's Note Eligible.

The following is his reply:
"Washington, December 4, 1914."
"My Dear Sir: Replying to your letter of the 3rd inst. would say that it is the policy of this board to refrain as far as possible from reply to inquiries as to what constitutes paper eligible for discount under section 13 of the federal reserve act. The board has issued a circular on the subject which has been published and which is in the hands of all of the federal reserve banks and the board greatly prefers that direct inquiries should be made to the officers of the respective federal reserve banks and I would respectfully suggest that you refer inquiry to the federal reserve bank of Richmond. I have, however, no objection to stating, as a matter of personal opinion, that notes given by a farmer to a merchant for advances and indorsed by the merchant and discounted with a member bank are unquestionably eligible for rediscount, upon the indorsement of the member bank, with a federal reserve bank.

"In regard to the cotton loan fund, would say that cotton loan committees have been appointed in the various States and the South Carolina committee is as follows: P. G. Rhett, chairman, president People's National bank, Charleston; Henry Schachte, president Germania Savings bank, Charleston; E. H. Pringle, Jr., vice president Bank of Charleston, N. B. A.; E. W. Robertson, president National Loan and Exchange bank, Columbia; C. G. Rowland, president Bank of South Carolina, Sumter, and John M. Kinard, president Commercial bank, Newberry.

"I inclose for your information an unofficial analysis of the plan which has been substantially followed in the completed draft and also a typical bank statement showing how a bank can ease itself by participating in the fund and place itself in position to discount more freely all classes of good paper that may be offered to it.

"Very truly yours,
"W. P. G. HARDING,"
Member Federal Reserve Board.

Commercial and Financial

LARGEST COTTON CROP IN HISTORY OF NATION

Production Exceeds Any Crop Ever Grown, But Its Value Will Be Far Less.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The United States this year has produced the greatest crop of cotton in its history. More than sixteen million bales, or 15,964,000 bales of fine cotton and lint cotton, unofficially estimated at from 600,000 to 650,000 bales, constitute the crop.

Last year 14,342,367 bales, including linters, were produced and in the previous record year, 1911, the production was 16,250,276 bales, including linters.

The production of lint is estimated at 7,637,115,000 pounds or 69,500,000 pounds more than in 1911.

While the production exceeds any crop ever grown its value will be far less, and the smaller than any other year during the past five. Based on the average price of 8 cents a pound on December 1, the lint is worth \$131,684, while last year it was valued at \$887,160,000.

The estimated production by States follows:

Virginia	24,000;	North Carolina	950,000;
South Carolina	1,500,000;	Georgia	2,650,000;
Florida	75,000;	Alabama	1,690,000;
Mississippi	1,275,000;	Louisiana	460,000;
Texas	4,500,000;	Arkansas	1,040,000;
Tennessee	365,000;	Missouri	75,000;
Oklahoma	1,250,000;	all other States	52,000.

New York Cotton

NEW YORK, Dec. 10.—The government report estimating the cotton crop of this year at 15,964,000 bales, excluding linters, exceeded average expectations in the local cotton trade.

European houses were heavy sellers, while there was liquidation by recent investment buyers. The market closed barely steady at a net decline of 12 to 17 points.

Trading was quiet before the report was issued and after opening at an advance of 2 to 3 points prices worked about 2 to 7 points net higher, on covering by yesterday's late sellers and a more favorable view of the war situation, but the market showed little trading feature until the break in the last hour. Closing prices were the lowest of the day.

Spot cotton quiet; middling uplands 7.40; Gulf 7.65. No sales.

Cotton futures closed barely steady. Open high low close:

January	7.16	7.18	7.16	7.02
March	7.25	7.28	7.16	7.17
May	7.53	7.56	7.35	7.35
July	7.68	7.74	7.50	7.50
October	7.94	7.98	7.96	7.76

New Orleans Cotton

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 10.—The government's estimate of a record-breaking cotton crop this season caused a break of 22 to 23 points in the prices of most active future months on the local market today. At the lowest, prices were 16 to 17 points under yesterday's final quotations. The close was at a net loss for the day of 12 to 17 points.

The market acted short all day and gossip on the floor late in the session was to the effect that if the short interest had been smaller more selling would have followed the estimate and the break in prices would have been wider.

Spot cotton quiet. Sales on the spot 65; to arrive 1,850.

Cotton futures closing:

January	6.92	March	7.03	May	7.21
July	7.40	October	7.67		

Liverpool Cotton

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 10.—Cotton, spot, quiet; prices easier; American middling fair 5.24; good middling 4.60; middling 4.34; low middling 3.83; good ordinary 3.23; ordinary 3.12. Sales 5,000 bales, including 5,100 American and 1,900 for speculation and export. Receipts 19,331 bales, no American.

Futures closed steady. May-June 4.10; July-August 4.16; October-November 4.20; January-February 4.31.

Cotton Seed Oil

NEW YORK, Dec. 10.—Cotton seed oil started steady but later broke sharply under the bearish government report on cotton which brought out general liquidation. Final prices were 10 to 17 points net lower. Sales 12,400 barrels.

The market closed weak. Spot \$5.70@5.80; December \$5.70@5.75; January \$5.84@5.87; February \$5.92@5.96; March \$6.03@6.04; April \$6.10@6.14; May \$6.25@6.26; June \$6.30@6.32; July \$6.40@6.47.

Dry Goods

NEW YORK, Dec. 10.—The buying of domestic cotton was stimulated by the price reductions announced today. Raw silk was firmer and slightly higher. Overstockings for fall were offered at an advance of 10 a yard.

INCREASED DEMAND FOR GOOD SECURITIES

Conspicuous Feature of General Financial Situation on the Stock Exchange.

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 10.—Continued broadening of the demand for high grade securities was the conspicuous feature of the general financial situation on the stock exchange here today.

Both bonds and stocks of speculative quality moved irregularly. The scope and extent of trading was below that of recent active days. In the stock list the weakest feature was New York Central, which reflected yesterday's dividend announcement.

Routine news included the November tonnage statement of the United States Steel Corporation, which was more favorable than most forecasts, and the government cotton report, which estimated the 1914-15 yield at almost 16,000,000 without linters. Cotton options broke precipitately on publication of the report.

Leading steel mills, according to report, have increased their production thus far this month, and indications of genuine betterment were offered by advances in special products.

Bankers again were in conference with representatives of European governments planning the placing of additional credits in this market, but no details concerning these projects were obtainable.

Chicago Grain

CHICAGO, Dec. 10.—Fear of grave damage by frost in Argentina more than offset the bearish influence today of the Gerzan naval defeat and the illness of Emperor William. The wheat market although much unsettled, closed 1.08-1.4 to 3-8 above last night. Corn scored a net gain of 1-3 @ 3-8 to 3-8, oats finished 1-8 down to 1-4 up, and provisions at a decline of 2-1-2@5 to 2@22-1-2.

Grain and provisions closed:

December	1.16
May	1.20 5-8
Corn:	
December	62-4
May	63-7-8
Oats:	
December	46-7-8
May	51-5-8
Cash wheat No. 2 red	\$1.15@3-4
No. 3 hard	\$1.15-1-4@1.16
Corn, No. 2 yellow	63@1-2
Oats, No. 3 white	47@3-4

Live Stock

CHICAGO, Dec. 10.—Hogs lower. Bulk \$7@7.40; light \$6.70@7.20; mixed \$6.80@7.40; heavy \$6.75@7.40; rough \$6.75@5.90; pigs \$3.25@7.40.

Cattle firm. Christmas heaves 11@13; native steers \$5.70@10.85; western steers \$5.25@8.40; cows and heifers \$3.25@8.50; calves \$6.50@9.25.

Sheep strong. Sheep \$5.40@6.50; yearlings \$6.50@7.75; lambs \$6.75@8.65.

MARKETING IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Clemson College to Give Marketing Facts Each Week From Every County in the State.

(Statement of W. W. Long, state agent of demonstration and director of Extension of Clemson College.)
"We know too much things and not enough facts about marketing conditions in South Carolina. The great barrier to marketing progress is that one corner of the state is utterly ignorant to what another is paying for cotton seed or pork or corn or beef or butter or any other products which our farmers have to sell.

"In view of this situation, Clemson College proposes to give to the public each week the essential marketing facts from every county in the state, arranged in parallel columns in such a manner that valuable comparisons will be strongly impressed upon the mind. As an experiment, a table of cotton and cottonseed figures was compiled from quotations received by telegraph at the same hour Saturday, December 5, from every county demonstration agent in South Carolina.

"In the weekly market reports which we expect to compile, we hope to give information on two grades of cotton, on cottonseed, beef, pork, corn and butter. Each Saturday the county demonstration agents will report to Clemson College the prices obtained that day on their markets. The tables will go to the press as soon as practicable.

"The public is asked to be indulgent with the reports in the beginning, since it is altogether a new undertaking for our agents and in many cases they will have to get information from others.

"We expect to make no comments on the market reports. The facts will be given plainly, with great care for accuracy, and in the present and the future will be the only reliable source of information on the market."

Producing Sheep on Southern Farms

Sheep have a place on southern farms. By keeping a flock of from 6 to 12 ewes, farmers in that section can provide themselves with meat for the table, sell a few lambs for mutton and secure additional revenues through the sale of wool. For those who have no sheep, let us consider just how to get started in the business with a small outlay of capital and how to handle the flock after obtaining it.

Choosing and Buying.
Your first ewes can be native ewes, purchased from near-by sheep owners. Go into a flock and pick out vigorous ewes with compact bodies. Get young healthy ewes, if you must buy old ones, do not take those having spread, rotten, or worn-off teeth. Such ewes can not eat well and will make no money as breeders for their purchasers.

Do not use anything but good rams of a mutton breed upon your ewes. A Southdown, Shropshire, Hampshire, or Dorset Horn ram will prove most desirable. He should be about 2 years of age, healthy, and carry plenty of mutton. Such a ram will cost, delivered, from \$15 to \$25, and can be bought by a half dozen farmers clubbed together. He will breed from 40 to 60 ewes.

Protection from Storms and Dogs.
Sheep do not require closed buildings for protection from cold, as their fleeces afford protection if kept dry. A low shed, built on dry ground and opening to the south, is sufficient. Such a shed need cost but very little, as scraps of lumber about the farm can be utilized in building it.

Place your flocks within a dog-proof fenced enclosure at night, as dogs often attack and destroy sheep. A fence that will turn a dog must be at least 50 inches high, have a barbed wire stretched flat to the surface of the ground at its bottom, and three barbed wires 7 inches apart stretched at the top. The space between the barbed wires can be filled in with old boards, poles or any other fence-building material, provided it is so built as to keep the dog from crawling through.

General Care of the Ewes.
Often ewes become lanky or have dungy locks collect on the wool about the tail and between the hind legs. Such locks should be cut off and the ewes kept clean about this part of the body.

Ticks and lice frequently infect sheep. Guard against this by dipping once each year in dips for this purpose. A rain barrel or tub can be used to hold the dip. Pick up bodily and work it round gradually in the dip until all parts are submerged and drenched to the skin.

Keep salt before the flock at all times. Sheep require a great deal of salt and it is essential for them.

Give the sheep access to all harvested and vacated fields, but do not depend entirely upon such forages. The ideal way is to provide lots of forage of such size as will pasture the flocks for only two week periods during warm weather. By changing the pasturing ground of lambs every two weeks there is little danger of loss from stomach worms, as clean pastures do not infect sheep. Rape, sweet peas, oats, vetch, crimson clover, and soy beans should constitute the principal forages used. During the fall and winter permanent pastures can be used. Even regular fields of winter wheat and barley can be pastured without injury to them.

When pasture is not available feed hay or fodder to the flock. Keep up the appetites of the ewes by adding small quantities of rape, collards, chopped cut-axe, or roots along with the hay. Do not feed sugar beets and mangie wurtzels to your rams or weathers.

Begin feeding the ewes a little grain about two weeks before lambing and gradually increase the amount to one-half pound daily at that time. After lambing, slowly increase the amount to 1-1-4 or 2 pounds daily, and continue this ration during the suckling period. Ewes need not be grazed when dry if good pasture is provided.

Give the ram just enough grain to keep him in good condition. The amount fed should be increased during the breeding season.

Teach the lambs to eat grain as soon as possible after birth, and continually feed them what they will eat cleanly until ready for the market. Feed them twice daily, using creepers to keep out the ewes.

The following grain ratios, generally available on the farm, is suitable for sheep: Corn, 3 parts by weight; cottonseed meal, 1 part by weight.

Breeding and Lambing Seasons.
Probably August and September are the best months for mating, as this will bring your lambs in January and February. Do not leave the ram with the ewes continually, but take the ewes to him for a few minutes each morning. Allow only one service to each during each period of heat, but be certain that the ewe gets in lamb before dropping breeding operations.

Watch the ewes carefully during

the lambing season, but do not interfere with them unless necessary. All lambs are born, see that they are promptly dried and suckled. Frequently ewes disown their lambs unless forced to nurse them.

Give the ewe little, if any grain ration for two or three days after lambing. At the expiration of this time it can be gradually given her until the full ration is reached.

Shearing Sheep.
In small flocks the fleeces can be most economically removed by using hand shears. After the sheep is shorn remove all tags and burrs from the fleece, carefully roll it up inside out and tie neatly with cotton or paper string. If only a few fleeces are to be sheared they can be placed in clean gunny sacks and sold to local dealers. There is a woolsen mill in your vicinity, perhaps it will make you wool cloth for you.

Returns from Six Ewes.
Now let us summarize the returns to be expected from six of properly handled ewes.

1. Four fat lambs ready for the table or market and weighing from 70 to 85 pounds when 3-1-3 or 4 months old.
2. Two ewe lambs to remain in the flock.
3. One old ewe culled for the butcher.
4. Six fleeces, giving 40 pounds of wool.
5. Increased valuation in flock due to improved breeding.
6. Increased valuation in flock due to forage crops and manure produced.
7. A new source of income provided for the farm.

Let us paper that room at a very small cost to you.

Drop in and look it over.

Just Arrived