

Buy a Bale of Cotton.

Atlanta Journal.

When a man's country is invaded he will give his blood and his life for its defense. The South today faces a situation as serious in its economic aspect as though an alien army were swarming toward us to blockade our ports, lay waste our fields and trample out the very sources of our subsistence. The effect of the European war is felt as distinctly, if not as heavily, in the cotton growing states as in Belgium or France. Our staple crop, the backbone of our business life, the product on which millions of our people depend for their daily bread is virtually without a market. Europe's mills are closed, the foreign demand for cotton has suddenly ceased, and, for the time being, the American demand has almost flickered out. We are thus besieged with conditions as oppressive and dangerous in a business sense as though they were the bayonets of an invading foe.

But the South will not surrender. It will not suffer its fortune and freedom to be crushed. Its manhood and womanhood, its heart of patriotism, its very instinct of self-preservation will rise to this emergency, and show the world what brave and resourceful people can do. In this spirit, acting together with promptness and vigor, we can turn the cotton crisis to a splendid achievement; we can create a market of our own, we can bring safety to the farmer, cheer to the business man, prosperity to all the people. Without own means and our own pluck, we can build up a demand for cotton, a self-made South-wide demand that will soon set millions of money free, and make the mellowing autumn a season of unexampled bounty.

This, in fact, is already being done. The Buy-a-Bale-of-Cotton campaign is under way. In Atlanta, Rome, LaGrange and other Georgia towns, patriotic citizens are buying cotton. Some are buying one bale, others more. They are paying ten cents a pound, and are pledging themselves to hold it out of the market for a year, or until normal prices are restored. The campaign, however, has just begun. It must be pressed swiftly forward, far beyond the boundaries of Georgia, until it has enlisted every Southern state, every Southern community, every Southern man and woman who are true to their homeland in the hour of peril and distress.

This is not to be the work of a few men for the benefit of a few interests, but the work of the rank and file for the salvation of our common interests. It is not a device of financiers but a crusade of patriots, a battle for the people and by the people. Therein lies its power, and there, too, lies the public's responsibility. Nothing can carry this plan to success unless the mass of Southern citizens are behind it, but nothing can prevent its overwhelming triumph if they are. It has been well said that great reforms and great achievements come not from the top but from the bottom, "come from the masses of struggling human beings, from the instinctive efforts of millions of human hearts trying to beat their way up into the light and into hope of the future!" It is the peculiar virtue and glory of the present campaign that it depends upon the million, not upon the few; that it calls to all men throughout the South, and bids them stand together in defense of their native land.

In such a movement each man has his particular obligation, each town and county and state has particular duties. Each man must do his right part without delay. Every bale of cotton that is bought and retired brings a normal market that much nearer. Every fifty dollars thus invested puts that much more money into circulation. We are attacking a great problem, with the loyalty of the people as a weapon. The people must be responsive and true, if their cause is to be won.

As one of the largest cotton growing states, Georgia has peculiar concern and responsibility in this undertaking. Her citizens, therefore, should take the lead in the cotton-buying campaign. It should be their aim to care for a million bales by means of individual and collective purchases, supplemented with the system of federal aid that will soon be in operation. That system, based upon warehouse receipts, will enable many farmers to store their cotton until fair prices return. It is inevitable, however, that much distress cotton will be offered for sale, and it is at this point that the rank and file of Georgians should step in to protect the commonwealth against ruinous prices. If they do so, and the splendid beginning they have made shows that they will, the amount of cotton thus bought, together with that the farmers themselves can hold, should approximate a million bales.

If other states do proportionately well, eight million bales of cotton will be retired from the market for a year. American mills will consume the remainder of the crop, sacrificial prices will be forestalled, the present crisis will be averted and the South's welfare will be secure. Texas, with its great population and magnificent resources, should be able to care for two million bales. Oklahoma and Arkansas can press the good work forward; and so with Mississippi and Louisiana, Tennessee, Alabama, Florida and the Carolinas—all should swing promptly and vigorously into this campaign of patriotism and self-preservation.

Patriotism and self-preservation! They are the master motives of the hour. No one alert to his own interest and true to his country's interest will do less than his utmost to make the Buy-a-Bale-of-Cotton campaign a success. The merchant, the banker, the manufacturer, the laborer and the capitalist, the professional man and the business man are all as vitally concerned as the farmer himself. For, if the cotton crop is sacrificed, the very heart of our prosperity will be stilled. No community or household or citizen in the South would escape the ill effect of ruinous prices for this staple.

In buying a bale of cotton, therefore, the individual is helping to build a bulwark for his own as well as his neighbor's security. Furthermore, he is making a good investment. The intrinsic value of cotton is much more than ten cents a pound; no one doubts that it will be worth more when the war is over, or when our industrial and commercial affairs are adjusted to the extraordinary conditions brought about by the war. Next year's crop will certainly be far smaller than this year's and next year's demand considerably greater. If eight million bales are withdrawn from the market the price will improve immediately, and will continue to advance. Ten cents a pound, or fifty dollars a bale, is the lowest figure at all commensurate with the needs of the grower or the welfare of the South. As a matter of good business and self-interest, everyone who possibly can afford the modest investment should buy at least one bale of cotton at ten cents a pound and hold it for a year.

At the end of the Franco-Prussian war, Germany demanded of France an indemnity of a billion dollars, to be paid within three years. So enormous a tax was expected to crush the defeated nation. But the government issued notes of small denominations, some of them as low as a few dollars, and appealed to the mass of the French people to buy them. Rich and poor, humble and great, the people responded, so that in an incredibly short time the stupendous sum was raised, the debt was paid, the German army withdrawn, and the honor of France redeemed.

What the French peasantry did in 1871 for their country's sake, our people are now asked to do for the sake of the South. Let us prove our patriotism by standing together in this crucial hour. Let us, man by man, lift the crushing burden which a foreign war has laid upon the heart of our economic freedom. We can do it, and we WILL.

A SOUTH CAROLINA NEED.

The Example of North Carolina is an Object Lesson. Gastonia, (N. C.) Gazette.

South Carolina needs to follow her sister state, North Carolina, in passing a compulsory education law. The recent primaries held in South Carolina indicate the woeful deficiency of education in that state. Take three counties for example, York, Marlboro and Spartanburg; in these counties practically 25 per cent of the voters "made their marks" because of their inability to write their names. To be exact, 21 out of every hundred in York county were declared illiterates; 27 out of every hundred in Marlboro "made their marks." It should be said here in defense of this county that there is no finer county in the state of South Carolina when the fertility of the soil or climate conditions are considered. This county produces as great a yield of products as an average any county in the state. In one voting precinct of Spartanburg county, Pelham, out of 119 voters 60 were educationally deficient; so much so that this number could not write their names.

We do not purpose to throw off on South Carolina. If the truth were known there are perhaps certain districts in North Carolina that are just as illiterate as those mentioned in South Carolina. North Carolina, however, has passed a compulsory school law, and the statistics show that 40,000 more children were enrolled this past year than ever before. In one county the enrollment increased 17 per cent and in another 30 per cent. Good results are therefore being seen already in North Carolina.

Now the word "compulsory" is obnoxious to freemen because they hate to be compelled to do anything. Compare the young child with the young colt that is being broken. If you were driving a colt for the first time and he stopped, would you unhitch him and lead him home with a bundle of fodder or sheaf of oats? If so you have a balky horse. If the child, who needs to be trained to do his duty, is allowed to remain at home at will, then his fitness and usefulness as a citizen are curtailed. Follow the example, South Carolina, of your sister state by providing ways and means of eradicating your illiteracy.

Two years from now we hope there will be no Bleasites or anti-Bleasites.—Spartanburg Journal.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

"Premier Carrier of the South." PASSENGER TRAIN SCHEDULES. Trains arrive Lancaster from: No. 112—Yorkville, Rock Hill and intermediate stations 8:31 a. m. No. 113—Charleston, Columbia and intermediate stations 10:05 a. m. No. 114—Marion, Blacksburg, Charlotte and intermediate stations, 1:35 p. m. No. 117—Columbia, Kingsville and intermediate stations, 7:48 p. m. Trains leave Lancaster for: No. 112—Kingsville, Columbia and intermediate stations, 8:31 a. m. No. 113—Rock Hill, Blacksburg, Marion, Charlotte and intermediate stations, 10:05 a. m. No. 114—Kingsville, Columbia, Charleston and intermediate stations 1:35 p. m. No. 117—Rock Hill, Yorkville and intermediate stations, 7:48 p. m.

N. B.—Schedule figures are published as information only and are not guaranteed. For information as to passenger fares, etc., call on W. B. CAUTHEN, Agent. W. E. MCGEE, A. G. P. A., Columbia, S. C. W. H. CAFFEY, D. P. A., Charleston, S. C.

FARMERS CAN DO WITHOUT POTASH

Manufacturer of Fertilizers Asserts That Sufficient Potash is in the Soil.

(By George Braden, President Federal Chemical Company, Louisville.) The brokers engaged in the sale of fertilizer material are getting unnecessarily hysterical over the possible consequence of a materially diminished supply of German potash, which will probably be entirely cut off from America until the end of the war in which nearly the whole of Europe is now engaged. The situation is this:

Germany is the sole source of our agricultural supply of potash. The American manufacturers of commercial fertilizers have contracts with the German Kall Syndikat for their potash wants, running over five years from 1911. It is provided that each succeeding year's requirements shall be shipped in equal monthly parts over eight months, beginning in May of each year. It will be seen, therefore, that when the war began in which Germany is at present engaged, only three-eighths of the American requirements for the coming year had been shipped. All chartering of vessels is practically at a stand, and the Kall Syndikat has advised American buyers that no more shipments can be made until present war conditions are materially changed.

It will be difficult for our perturbed brokers to impart their excitement over potash either to the dealer in fertilizers or to the farmer who uses them for the very obvious reason that a large number of the most intelligent farmers in the East and the Middle West have long used fertilizers and are continuing to use them, in which the element potash is entirely absent. They claim that soil tilled by greater depth of plowing contains a sufficient supply of this element for many years hence, and that at the present money is needlessly spent in America therefor. In this they are substantially supported by leading American agronomists who have given serious study an deficient field service to the subject.

It is further substantiated by the fact that the most profitable yields of wheat, followed by clover, that were ever produced in America before the general introduction of soluble phosphates were grown with ground bone carrying about 4 per cent of phosphoric acid and no potash, which formerly sold as low as \$24 per ton, and this product, were it to be had at this price now, could be still sold for fall seeding in practically unlimited quantities. The ground bone was not used for grain planted in the spring, because it was assumed that it was not readily enough soluble for spring crops; so that the grain crops of spring planting were not fertilized until the general introduction of the soluble phosphates. It was some time after the advantages of the soluble phosphates were demonstrated for spring crops before they were used for wheat; but as the demand for bone increased for use in the general arts, the price advanced so materially that soluble

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phosphates were substituted for it in wheat fertilization, and their use has steadily increased.

For many years after the introduction and successful use of the soluble phosphates they were compounded with nitrogen alone in the form of animal tankage from the packing industries, nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia, while potash was of no consideration. When the German potash producers put their product upon the American market they established a rich propaganda to exploit its advantages, and in time it came to be quite extensively used. Whether our agronomists are correct in their theory that we are at present uselessly spending millions of dollars annually for German potash I am not ready to say, but what is well attested is that in instances without limit our farmers are using for grain fertilizers formulas high in the soluble phosphates and well balanced in nitrogen, in which the percentage of the element potash is so insignificant as to count for absolutely nothing in crop production, and that these formulas are producing 30 to 40 bushels of wheat per acre proportionately as the soil requirements are met by the quantity supplied.

From the experience I think we may be assured that American agriculture will get on comfortably and profitably without potash until the European war is over, however long it may last, and that in the meantime our American farmers may be able to determine by practice for themselves whether the theory of our agronomists that we are spending money uselessly for potash is grounded in fact.

A simple fact which our agricultural experiment stations have formulated is that, given favorable seasons and cultivation, crop production is limited within narrowed range by the greatest lack in the soil of that element of fertility which the crop demands in the greatest quantity. That lacking element of fertility in most all American soils is found to be phosphorous, derived from phosphate or lime. With all the efforts which agronomists have made to induce our farmers to use this element in increased quantities, they have not been able to persuade them to return to the soil artificially an equivalent of what is annually removed through crop production. It must, therefore, be accepted, conceding to the function of potash in agriculture all that is scientifically claimed for it, that the money annually invested in it by American farmers can at the present be more profitably used in the purchase of increased quantities of soluble phosphates, and that potash should be considered only after soluble phosphates have been returned to the soil in quantity equivalent to what has been removed. What far more vitally concerns American agriculture at the moment than potash is that we should have shipping for our wants of pyrites, that the soluble phosphates may be produced to meet the increased demand which the ab-

sence of potash supply will naturally entail, and it is hoped that the secretary of agriculture will use the influence of his great office to see that America is supplied with the shipping for this commodity with neutral Spain.

Do It Now.

Never before has there been so much need for the farmers of this section turning to something besides cotton. Plenty of oats and other feed crops should be planted this fall.—Pee Dee Daily.

COULD SCARCELY WALK ABOUT

And For Three Summers Mrs. Vincent Was Unable to Attend to Any of Her Housework.

Pleasant Hill, N. C.—"I suffered for three summers," writes Mrs. Walter Vincent, of this town, "and the third and last time, was my worst. I had dreadful nervous headaches and prostration, and was scarcely able to walk about. Could not do any of my housework.

I also had dreadful pains in my back and sides and when one of those weak, sinking spells would come on me, I would have to give up and lie down, until it wore off.

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