

### Co-operative Marketing Pays Oklahoma Cotton Grower.

Clemson College, July 31.—South Carolina cotton growers will read with interest the story below of the outcome of the co-operative marketing sale of Oklahoma cotton for the 1922 crop.

"Oklahoma City—With the distribution last week of checks totaling more than 1 1/4 million dollars in final settlement with its members by the Oklahoma Cotton Growers' Association, there was brought to a successful close the first session of operation of the first state-wide co-operative organization ever formed by growers for the orderly marketing of cotton. The final payment brings the total turned over to members to 8 1-8 million dollars. That amount represents the proceeds from the sale of 91,300 bales of cotton of the 1921 crop handled by the organization.

"The average 'basis middling' price received is 18 cents a pound. That average is said to be remarkable. It was f. o. b. Oklahoma points and was obtained when cotton was selling at ports at prices ranging from 12 to 20 cents a pound. Reports on association sales in comparison with sales made on the street by non members have shown a gain for the association members of approximately \$6.50 a bale. That also is remarkable, it is stated, because of the determined fight by street buyers early in the season on the rising market. In that period buyers paid as much as \$10.00 and \$15.00 a bale more than the cotton price. That resulted in a narrower margin between the association's average price paid on the street.

#### Expense Well Below Limit.

"The sales and general operating expense has been but 2 1/2 per cent of the gross proceeds from the sale of cotton handled, this covering fourteen months. That also includes the purchase of much equipment which will not have to be duplicated another year, and heavy expense incident to building from the ground up machinery to transact an 8-million-dollar business. The amount allowed under the contract with the members for such expense is 4 per cent."

### This Insect Cuts Off Weevil's Head.

The weevil destroying insect was discovered in a cotton field of Sherald Smith, a well known and perfectly reliable farmer of Donalds. Mr. Smith says that the insects are rather numerous and are destroying the boll weevils. Wherever the weevil and other insect are found together, the weevil is always minus his head. Whether the weevil destroyer will also be destructive to cotton is not known but Mr. Smith is positive that some weevils are being killed by it.

The weevil killer is not much larger than the weevil itself but apparently it is more warlike and appears to be always victorious, boldly attacking the cotton pest in its own boll.

The discovery of the new insect has caused excitement in Donalds only equalled by the arrival of the trains during the influx of letters from girls who had heard of the womanless Eden several months ago when the word went out that Donalds was without a marriageable woman.

#### Fuel for Next Winter.

Warnings are given that there will be a coal shortage next winter. Anybody is obliged to know that there will be who reads the newspapers.

Coal was high last winter—very high. We do not know what soft coal was, but this print shop paid \$18 a ton for five tons of hard coal. Next winter the price may be out of sight and out of reach, and it will be proportionately high for soft coal.

The Observer is no "prophet of evil," but is only stating facts so that the people may have some idea of what is coming and may prepare for it as far as possible; particularly it would impress upon persons who have surplus wood on their farms or premises that they turn it into firewood. It will pay them to take every chance to get this wood ready for the market, and not wait till the weather gets cold and the roads get bad and the busy harvest season.

With the losses in cotton crops that are sure to come from the boll weevil, farmers will need to avail themselves of every means and opportunity to supplement their income from some other source. Just now we do not know of any "sideline" that promises a surer profit than the prep-

### Not More Farmers, But Better Farmers.

The American farmer does not lack in ability to produce. Indeed, he is very apt to overproduce in both foods and fibers, much to his own disadvantage. Although proportionately decreased in numbers, compared to the ratio between producers and consumers of a decade or two ago by the use of machinery the American farmer has been able to keep just a little ahead of the demand for his products. He has supplied the home demand and furnished millions of Europeans and Asiatics with the necessities of life. In fact, it has been conclusively demonstrated that the foreign customers of the American farmer are essential in the consumption of the surplus production.

The thought has occurred to many farmers in all sections of the country that they must either retain their foreign market or reduce their production to fit the needs of American consumers. Should a tariff wall be constructed so high that Europeans can not trade with America, it is a foregone conclusion that they will be unable to buy agricultural products. In such a case, farmers will find it necessary to cater to home trade, limiting production as to quantity but increasing the quality.

The American consumer, taken as a class, has cultivated a taste for the best the market affords. He demands quality first, and because of this fact, the farmer who succeeds in producing above the average quality in any commodity always finds a ready market at above the average price. The demand for quality products marketed in good condition has never weakened even in times of depression. It is the vast amount of low-grade and inferior products produced that keeps prices down and impoverishes the grower.

In a political campaign in Texas a few years ago the slogan, "Fewer Laws and Better Laws" became quite popular. The modern farmers' version of that slogan should be: "Fewer Farmers and Better Farmers."

In periods of unrest in cities the cry goes out: "Back to the Farm." The average city man, and every association organized for the purpose of doing charity work, relieving distress, taking care of immigrants, or providing work for the unemployed, has the erroneous notion that anybody can successfully farm. There is

stock industries require trained men to make them profitable.—Farm and Ranch.

#### For Winter Eggs.

Farmers' wives who observe know that winter eggs bring better profits than spring or summer eggs. Prices are always better for winter eggs than for the eggs marketed in the summer.

Now is the time to prepare for winter eggs. The pullets hatched very early and young hens must be in laying condition before winter arrives if they are to lay when eggs are highest. Farmer-poultry raisers should begin now to prepare for better profits in eggs production.

Green crops are essential for the winter layers. These crops should be planted so they will afford grazing in late summer and early fall. To do this, plantings should be made of suitable crops to come in succession and these should be supplemented with grain such as there may be available on the farm without buying expensive mixtures, mash, etc.

Rape is a most suitable crop to plant for chickens. The yield is generally heavy on good soil and the crop is ready to graze in a very few weeks after sowing. Wheat or winter oats may be sown with rape if desired and the grazing greatly increased.

For late summer, peas make good chicken grazing. Peas will grow even if the summer is dry and hot, once they germinate and get a start. Hens begin on them soon after they germinate.

Rye, barley, emmer, and winter oats may be planted for the fowls. Something green should be available from late summer till mid-winter so that the fowls will have exercise and green food as well as what is given from the granary.—Farm and Ranch.

Preparation of firewood by persons who are fortunate enough to have wood that can be turned into fuel for the market.

What we poor folks living in town are going to do to keep from freezing the Lord only knows.—Newberry Observer.

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### Some Hens Are Born Loafers.

Hens that are born loafers usually begin by July to quit their job of egg laying and start moulting, taking most of the summer and fall to finish the replacement of old feathers with a new coat of plumage. This is one of the outstanding characteristics of the unprofitable hen, and the poultryman who keeps close watch of his flock may use it to his advantage in culling out the undesirable birds. But this is not the only dependable indication of what may be expected of the hens in a flock.

There are several things that the wide-awake poultryman looks for at this season. The low producer, having small demand for the yellow coloring matter manufactured by her body, puts it into her legs and back, making them a rich yellow. The busy hen uses the color in touching up the yolks of eggs and her legs and beak become pale. These birds with pale legs and beaks may not look so well or so healthy as the others, but they are the ones it pays to keep. In fact, the hen that is most beautiful in summer and fall should always be under suspicion.

#### Other Marks of the Loafer.

On closer examination it will be found that the loafer has a scaly and shrunken comb, while the busy hen will have a plump comb of bright red color. The hen that has stopped laying will have her pelvic bones considerably contracted and the distance between the bones of the pelvic arch and the lower end of the keel will be materially reduced. She should be an early candidate for the kettle.

The heavy layer will show no signs of moulting at this season, although she may have been producing since last fall, but will stick to business until late fall, sometimes rounding out a full year of continuous egg production. This year-round laying not only means more eggs, but also that a higher price is received for them as a large proportion of them are laid in winter, late summer and fall when prices are up. The early moulter lays most of her eggs during the flush season. The hen that can keep up production under the comparatively unfavorable conditions that obtain outside of the natural breeding season has outstanding vigor and stamina.

If the only result were to get rid of the poor birds in the present flock,

vigor. A convincing demonstration in this way was made at the United States Experiment Farm, Beltsville, Md., in recent investigations. The late moulters, selected from a flock of 100 Rhode Island Reds in the fall of 1920, laid several more eggs per bird during their second year than the original flock as pullets. They were used as breeders the following spring, and the first Red pullets to begin laying in the fall of 1921 were found to be the offspring of these late-moulting hens. Their pullets, in a period of seven months, have already averaged about two dozen eggs more per bird more than the original flock. The value of their product would be about \$1.04 per bird more than the value of the eggs from the original flock during the same time. It is probable that this large margin will be increased even more in the next five months. In the original flock the bulk of the production was in March and April.

The wise poultryman will lose no time in culling out these poor producers of cheap eggs. He will start this summer building the foundation for a flock of long-distance layers. The birds can be selected now and next spring; after a short rest in the winter, their eggs will produce a high percentage of strong, healthy chicks that are almost certain to make better records in flock production. If good sires are selected the improvement will be surprisingly rapid.—Farm and Ranch.

#### Recovers Car In Asheville.

A Buick car, stolen from Jack Lott, salesman for the Greenwood Grocery Company, a few nights ago in front of the Moreland Apartments was recovered yesterday in Asheville. A negro in the car at the time was arrested. The car is alleged to have been stolen by a white man who has not been identified. Mr. Lott and Deputy Sheriff, W. C. Townsend went to Asheville last night to bring back the car and the prisoner.—Greenwood Index Journal.

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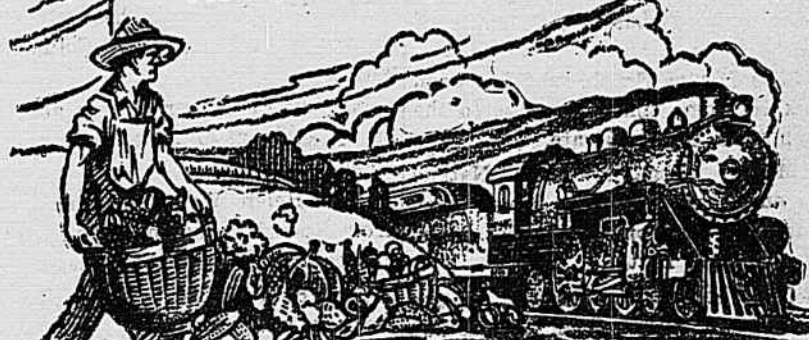
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