

**FIFTY CENTS COTTON IS FARMERS HOLD**

Commissioner Harris tells the farmers that this is not the time to sell cotton, merely because the price is on the rise. It has not reached its true value yet, he says. "There is no mystery about selling cotton for a profit," says Mr. Harris. "If a common sense business system is put behind it, any commodity will bring a profit when the world needs it as it does cotton—and has to have it."

"If the farmer would put the same zeal and horse sense behind the selling of cotton that he uses in its production, long ago the South would

have been one of the richest countries in the world. We have had a monopoly of it, but have never used it for our own advancement. Nothing but good, practical business sense will solve the problem of practical marketing of cotton, and this is what the American Cotton association is going to work out for the Southern farmer. I want to urge every farmer banker and merchant and other business man to join the association—be one of the number that helped to win this fight for the financial freedom of the South.

"Let us take a look at the cotton market for a period covering the last 12 months. Middling cotton and above was selling 12 months ago for 25c a pound. Some few of our people were advising the farmer to hold—not to sell until it passed 35 cents. At that time it would have been cheap at 45 cents a pound, when we consider its intrinsic value and what was actually made out of it by the manufacturers. Likewise I say that it is cheap today at 65 cents a pound. This being the case, with the information that the farmer has received in regards to the conditions, surely he will not part with his cotton for less than 50 cents a pound for middling and above. And really we know from the experiments made by the government that three or four grades below middling are just about as profitable to the spinners as middling cotton. I say to the farmers don't let them fool you out of low grades at low prices. Before the end of the season they will be bringing more than middling is doing today.

"This time last year middling cotton was bringing 25 cents and by July 1 it went to 37 cents. It was further from 35 cents then than a 40 cents today it is from 50. What made it go to 37 cents? It was the concerted action of those who took the advice of the few who advocated to the farm-

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ers to hold it from the market until the speculators had to have it to deliver to the mills to whom it had been sold.

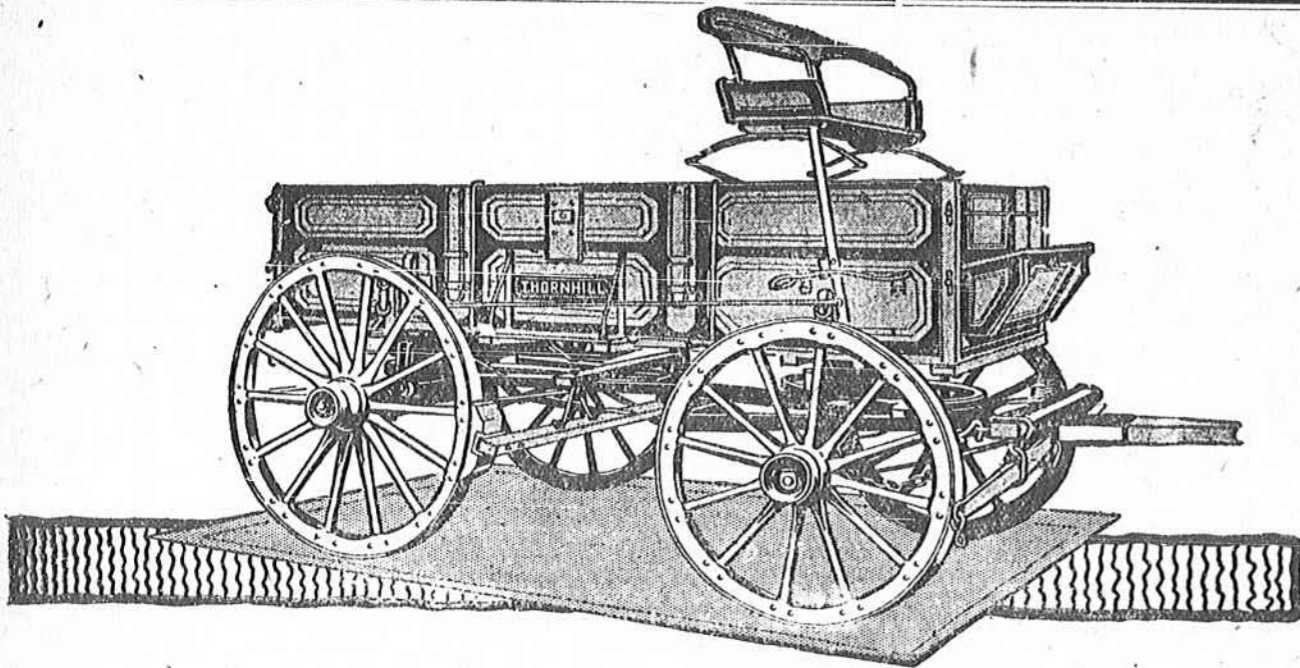
"Also, remember there is nobody in the cotton market today but the bear speculators, and the mills have contracts for their cotton from the bear speculator until October. They have contracted for this cotton all the way from 30 cents to 35. They are going to make the speculator deliver the cotton when they need it—and they are beginning to call him now. That

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is the reason why cotton has advanced to 40 cents and above.

"The bear speculators boasted a few weeks ago that the farmer would turn loose at 40 cents, which some few have done. I am proud to say that not such a great amount was released at that figure, and I firmly believe that spots holders at this time will not turn their cotton loose from now on for less than 50 cents. Don't forget that the bear speculator has already sold your cotton to the mills and we haven't more cotton than just enough to keep the mills on scant running until the 1920 crop comes in.

"Therefore, it is entirely now in the hands of the spots holders to demand their own prices. Spots cotton has the strongest position it has ever occupied. The demand of the world for cotton is twice as strong as it was a year ago. The dry goods market is yet advancing—then why not the price of the raw material? It is entirely up to spots holders and all they have to do is to sit steady in the middle of the boat and the spectators will come to them and say, 'What will you take for this cotton?'

"I have just heard from the market reports that July cotton is selling for above 35 cents. Remember, a few weeks ago I advised the farmers, especially those in the boll weevil section, that when July futures could be bought for 30 cents, they would make more money not to plant cotton, but to buy last year's crop from the speculators and sell it back to them on the rise that was bound to come. The market today sustains that prediction. When a man will sell you your cotton cheaper than you can produce it and sell it buy it from him. It's a business proposition. That's the reason why we farmers are not more prosperous—because we have not applied business principles to our marketing.

"Those who have spots cotton can get their own price for it if they will not give it to the speculator at his price. Freeze on it and say 'Fifty cents and no less.'"

Mr. Harris urges all the farmers in the state who can do so to attend the

**NOTICE OF DISCHARGE.**

I will apply to the Judge of Probate for Clarendon County on the 12th day of April, 1920, at 11 o'clock A. M. for letters of discharge as guardian for Pearl Byrd, formally Pearl Geddings, a minor.

ELIZABETH GEDDINGS, Guardian. Pinewood, S. C., March 9, 1920.

meeting of the American Cotton association in Montgomery April 12-13. "You will come away with more enthusiasm for the cause and more confidence in your own ultimate success," he says.

**CHARLESTON GIRL WINS**

Northampton, Mass., March 30.—Miss Francis M. Cathcart, of Charleston, a senior at Smith College, has been selected by the college faculty to take the part of Lancelot Gobbo in the "Merchant of Venice," which will be presented by the senior class as one of the principal features of this year's commencements.

There were numerous aspirants to the cast and in order to give all applicants an opportunity revealing their ability a series of tryouts were instituted, the contestants electing the character they would portray.

**GENERAL HARTS ARRIVES**

New York, March 30.—Brig. Gen. William W. Harts, who was commander of American troops in the Paris area, after the armistice, arrived from France today on the steamship Loraine. He is expected to answer

charges of other army officers that he was responsible for cruelties to soldiers in prison camps. His home is in Nashville, Tenn.



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