

# Abbeville Press and Banner

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## COTTON FAMINE INDICATED NOW

**RECORD FOR YEARS—CROP PRODUCED IN 1922 WILL BE SMALLEST SINCE 1903, ACCORDING TO THE FORECAST.**

Washington, Dec. 17.—Harvie Jordan of St. Matthews, S. C., national secretary and treasurer of the American Cotton association, said today, relative to the present and future cotton situation:

"The recent forecast of the federal crop reporting bureau indicates the smallest cotton crop grown in the United States since 1903, with the exception of the disastrously short crop of 1921. The heaviest reduction in production this year is in the old cotton growing states east of the Mississippi river. If better success is not had in 1923 a world famine in raw cotton supplies is definitely assured.

The most serious factor developing in connection with the cotton boll weevil menace is found in the steady and increasing exodus of thousands of negro and small white tenant farmers from the South Atlantic and Middle Gulf cotton states. The white farmers, with their families, are moving to cotton mill centers in the Carolinas and Georgia, while the negro farmers are migrating to large industrial centers in the Middle, Eastern and Western states. Due to the extreme hazards of growing cotton under heavy weevil infestation and in the absence of usual credits from landlords, supply merchants or local banks, these people are becoming discouraged and forced to secure other employment to obtain a living wage for themselves and families.

"Numbers of cotton plantations are being depopulated and this condition presents a most serious agricultural economic situation in the sections affected. The negro farm laborers who have gone and who are leaving are not likely ever to return. There have been no young mules shipped into the old cotton states for farm purposes since the spring of 1920, and this shortage in mule power, together with hundreds of abandoned farms, gives a gloomy outlook for cotton production in 1923.

"The American Cotton Association is making every effort through the establishments of county demonstration farms and boll weevil measures, to overcome the disasters of the weevil in 1923.

"I came here to attend the convention of the National Cooperative Marketing Associations, as a representative of the American Cotton association, which has actively aided in the organization of cooperative marketing associations throughout the cotton belt.

"For the last three years the American Cotton association has waged a persistent fight for federal legislation for a comprehensive system of intermediate agriculture banking credits. Officials of the association have spent time in Washington and in appearing before the senate agricultural committee in advocacy of this imperatively needed legislation. Conditions now appear satisfactory, and American farmers, I feel, can be assured of a solution of this matter in the near future, as both the present administration and the congress are definitely committed to the speedy enactment of an agricultural banking bill that will give necessary credits to farmers. The advocacy of this legislation is among the principal reasons of my presence in Washington, together with other officials of the American Cotton association."

## FIGHT IN SOUTH FOR FARM CREDITS

**NORRIS BILL URGED—WOULD CREATE GOVERNMENT CAPITALIZED CORPORATION TO BUY AND SELL FARM PRODUCTS**

Washington Dec. 17.—Advocates of immediate action by congress for the relief of the farmer began on the senate floor today their fight to shoulder the administration shipping bill out of its position of advantage and put into its place the Norris bill creating a government capitalized corporation to buy and sell farm products.

A motion to lay aside the shipping measure and take up the agriculture corporation proposal was made late in the day by Senator Norris (Republican) of Nebraska, chairman of the agriculture committee, a member of the newly organized progressive bloc. Action on the motion went over until Monday but its injection into the senate proceedings developed immediate indications of a bitter fight.

Senator Norris' motion was forwarded by an announcement from Senator Jones (Republican) of Washington, in charge of the shipping bill, that he intended to press his measure more vigorously next week and by recess of the senate until Monday. Considerable debate is expected to precede the vote on the motion, which will be the first test of strength since the shipping bill was taken up in the senate the first of this week.

Those behind the move count on the support of the Democrats opposed to the shipping bill and of the Republicans who have been most insistent on early action on agricultural aid legislation. Senator Brookhart (Republican) of Iowa, one of the leaders in the attempt early in the week, made a poll, which he said showed that about 55 senators or more than majority favored displacement of the shipping bill for farm credit legislation.

Proponents of the shipping measure declared today, however, that this strength could not be counted upon to support a motion to take up the Norris bill, which is one of several farm relief measures pending.

### CHANGES IN BUSINESS

Messrs. J. Allen Smith, Jr., Robert Cheatham and R. L. McCantey have purchased the stock of goods belonging to the estate of S. J. Link and they will continue the business under the name and style of the Farmer's Mercantile Co., occupying the same store room.

Mr. L. C. Haskell has sold his stock of merchandise to Messrs. Miller and Evans, and according to announcement made some time ago he will retire from business January 1.

### MR. COX SICK

Mr. J. C. Cox was operated on at the County Hospital Sunday morning by Dr. R. E. Abell of Chester, assisted by the physicians of Abbeville. Mr. Cox has rallied from the effects of the operation and is resting comfortably. His friends over the county hope that he will soon be in his accustomed good health.

### LEAVING ABBEVILLE

Mrs. Frank B. Gary and Ensign Frank B. Gary left yesterday for Charleston where they will visit Mrs. Marie Gary Eason for a short while. Afterwards Frank will return to his post on the U. S. Ship Delaware and Mrs. Gary will go to Richmond for an extended visit to her sister, Mrs. Henry C. Riely.

## TREASURY MEETS HEAVY PAYMENTS

**MORE THAN ONE BILLION DOLLARS PAID OUT—SEVEN HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS TO HOLDERS OF VICTORY NOTES**

Washington, Dec. 16.—The treasury completed tonight one of its greatest post war financial operations, which included a payment in one day of \$1,000,000,000 to holders of Victory notes called for redemption and maturing certificates of indebtedness and in interest on the public debt.

The day's transaction also included the floatation of \$300,000,000 in two and one-half year treasury notes and \$400,000,000 in certificates of indebtedness, part of which mature in three months and the remainder in one year and the collection of \$275,000,000 in income and profit taxes.

Preliminary figures received by the treasury tonight indicated that subscriptions to the offerings of notes and certificates would reach about \$800,000,000. This was the basis for statements by officials that the two and one-half year notes had proved attractive as investments. It was said also that the oversubscription indicated a healthy condition in business and finance.

The tax payment proved about equal to expectations, it was said. If that amount were added to the receipts from the two issues of government securities the treasury's ledger theoretically would carry a larger balance tonight than last night. The outgo for the day, which included \$700,000,000 to the holders of Victory notes, called for redemption, \$200,000,000 to pay off maturing certificates of indebtedness and \$100,000,000 in interest on the public debt is set against receipts of approximately \$1,075,000,000. The treasury, however, is announcing the offerings of notes and certificate reserved the right to reject oversubscription or to refund additional Victory notes in the amount of the oversubscription.

### COTTON GINNERS REPORT TO DEC. 1

**Abbeville County Has Ginned 8,392 Bales Against 16,114 to Same Time Last Year.**

The Department of Commerce, through the Bureau of the Census, announces the preliminary report on cotton ginned by counties, in South Carolina, for the crops of 1922 and 1921. The total for the state was made public at 10 a. m., Friday December 8.

County	1922	1921
The State	493,001	734,705
Abbeville	8,392	16,114
Aiken	13,993	13,655
Allendale	6,067	4,331
Anderson	37,343	60,368
Barnwell	8,391	7,795
Cherokee	11,659	14,022
Chester	17,700	25,228
Chesterfield	17,454	23,223
Darlington	11,423	21,881
Dillon	13,854	33,311
Edgefield	5,586	7,195
Florence	6,223	21,093
Greenville	31,338	40,457
Greenwood	6,096	13,524
Hampton	4,551	2,892
Kershaw	11,654	12,400
Lancaster	11,091	15,020
Laurens	17,912	34,101
McCormick	1,686	4,144
Marion	3,792	11,469
Newberry	10,029	17,716
Oconee	14,403	20,890
Orangeburg	13,839	17,475
Pickens	16,295	21,024
Richland	5,971	8,194
Spartanburg	53,721	65,508
Sumter	9,573	18,241
Union	10,604	16,325
York	24,903	37,898

## FARMERS TO JOIN FOR PROTECTION

**IN CONNECTION WITH TRIAL IN ILLINOIS—LIVES OF MEMBERS APPEARING AS WITNESSES WILL BE SAFEGUARDED, SAYS REPORT.**

Marion, Ill., Dec. 17.—Sworn to protect the lives of their members who have testified for the prosecution at the trial of five men charged with murder in connection with the Herrin mine riots, a secret organization of farmer today was reported to have been formed in Williamson and Johnson counties, according to investigators from the office of Attorney General Edward Brundage.

"For the life of every farmer taken as the results of his testimony, we will exact ten lives of his attackers," were said to have been the words spread over the countryside.

One of the witnesses heard yesterday just before the adjournment over Saturday and Sunday was said by one of the state's lawyers to have broken down and wept just before taking the stand and to have pleaded that he be excused.

"I don't mind for myself," he was quoted as having said, "but I have a wife and family to consider.

William Goodman, a farmer, who took the stand yesterday in overalls and testified that he had seen Otis Clark, one of the defendants, in the crowd coming from the mine with 30 or 40 prisoners, was asked to tell what he heard Clark say.

"Do I have to answer that?" he asked the judge, and when answered in the affirmative he stated:

"Well," he said "we ought to take these men out and kill them."

Equal reluctance was experienced with several other farmer witnesses, who have appeared during the first three days sessions of the trial and have pointed out several of the defendants as men they had seen with guns on the morning of the tragedy.

Both the defense and prosecution expressed pleasure today with the course the trial has taken and the speed with which the witnesses have been heard and legal technicalities been cleared away.

### PRICES OF FOOD SHOW AN INCREASE

**Forty-four Per Cent Higher in Charleston Than During the Year 1913.**

Washington, Dec. 17.—Both retail and wholesale food prices increased 2 per cent or more during November, according to figures made public today by the Department of Labor. Notwithstanding this increase, the department said there was a decrease of 5 per cent for the year ending November 15, on the retail food prices, while wholesale food prices increased about 2½ per cent during the year.

As compared with 1913, retail food costs in November were given as 56 per cent higher in Richmond; 54 per cent in Boston, Buffalo, New York, Providence and Washington; 51 per cent in Scranton; 50 per cent in Baltimore; 49 per cent in Fall River and Philadelphia; 45 per cent in Birmingham; 44 per cent in Charleston, S. C., Dallas, Milwaukee and San Francisco; 43 per cent in Atlanta and St. Louis.

The trend of wholesale prices of commodities such as farm products, textiles, metals, building materials, chemicals and house furnishing goods, was upward during November to the extent of 1-2 per cent. Farm products led with an increase of 3½ per cent.

### THE SHERIFF BETTER

Sheriff McLane who has been sick since Friday is beginning to improve, which will be good news to his many friends over the county.

## MARKETING BODIES TO BE HELPED

**OFFICIALS PROMISE SPECIAL ATTENTION—DECLARE THE FARMERS HAVE RIGHT TO DEMAND RELIEF FROM DEPRESSION**

Washington, Dec. 16.—Cooperative marketing of farm crops received assurances of special attention from member of administrative executive and Congressional branches of the government today. Secretary of Commerce Hoover, Eugene Moore, managing director of the War Finance Corporation and Adolph C. Miller, member of the Federal Reserve Board, told delegates to the First National Council of Farmers' Cooperative Marketing Associations that commodity associations had done more toward restoring financial stability in the United States than any other factor, and Senator Capper, of Kansas, leader of the Senate farm bloc, declared the prospects were growing better daily for action on rural credits legislation.

Secretary Hoover said the farmer had every right to demand relief from the depression into which his industry had fallen because it had suffered more than any other. He expressed the opinion that the farmers' greatest hope for relief lay in cooperative marketing.

Senator Capper declared "the cooperative idea offers more encouragement in pulling the farmer out of the hole in which he finds himself due to financial and industrial conditions, than any other factor."

He said the fact of the farmers' plight were being brought home to Representatives and Senators and that more attention was being given by Congress to the farmers' condition.

Mr. Meyer joined Mr. Hoover and Senator Capper in praising the work of the several hundred associations represented by the delegates who are here from thirty-six states. Such organizations he said had provided an element of stability of which the financial world was greatly in need. Their success, he declared, has demonstrated the soundness of their methods by which funds can be made available and has shown that loans can be made safely to associations that are without capital.

Mr. Miller expressed not only his individual sympathy with the cooperative movement, but that of the entire reserve board. He declared that relatively few farmers, or cooperative associations had taken full advantage of the facilities of the system available to them.

### DEATH OF MRS. NORRIS

Mrs. Lila Norris, age 34, wife of Mr. Sam Norris, died at her home near town Monday morning after a short illness. Mrs. Norris is survived by her husband and four children. Mrs. Norris was Miss Lila Sheriff and moved with her family from near Liberty to Abbeville County about two years ago. No funeral arrangements have been made so far.

Mr. and Mrs. Sheriff, the parents, were visiting at the Norris home during the illness of their daughter.

### NEW YORK VISITORS

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Tusten will leave New York on Christmas Eve and will come to Abbeville to spend the holiday season at the home of Chief Justice and Mrs. Eugene B. Gary. Since their last visit to Abbeville the Tustens' have made a tour of the world being away from New York for a year.

## BIG INCREASE IN VALUE OF CROPS

**\$7,572,890,000 IS THE WORTH PLACED ON ALL PRODUCTS. RECORD PRODUCTION IN RYE, WHITE POTATOES AND WHEAT.**

Washington, Dec. 17.—The nation's crops this year are worth \$7,572,890,000, based on their farm value as of December 1, the Department of Agriculture announced today in its final crop report of the year.

Their value is \$1,842,980,000 more than last year's crops, reflecting improvement in prices for farm products prevailing now as compared with a year ago, and increased production in some crops. This year's farm production is worth about the same as that of 1916, but is lower than 1920 by \$1,500,000,000, and lower than any year since 1915, except last year. It is only a little more than half as much as the record value year of 1919.

Record production was made this year in rye, white potatoes, sweet potatoes and hay. Other bumper crops this year were rice, the third largest production; tobacco, with the fourth largest crop in history; wheat, with the fifth largest production, and corn, with its seventh largest crop. Cotton this year is the fourth most valuable crop of that staple ever grown, although a small crop in point of production.

Corn, as usual, is the country's most valuable crop, being worth this year \$700,000,000 more than last year, with a total value of \$1,900,287,000. Cotton stands second, with \$1,368,517,000, the lint being valued at \$1,190,761,000 and the cotton seed \$177,756,000. Hay is the third most valuable crop with a total of \$1,331,679,000. No other crop reached a billion dollars this year. Wheat was valued at \$864,139,000, standing as fourth most valuable crop of the country.

In today's estimates, based on revisions to conform with the Census Bureau's decennial crop production statistics, the preliminary estimates of production announced last month were somewhat changed. There was a reduction in the corn crop of about 6,000,000 bushels. Increases were shown for other crops, including:

Winter wheat, 45,000,000 bushels; spring wheat, 1,700,000 bushels; oats, 14,278,000 bushels; rye, 15,874,000 bushels; buckwheat 1,407,000 bushels; rice, 2,806,000 bushels; potatoes 17,280,000 bushels and hay, 4,055,000 tons.

### BACK FROM A VISIT

Dr. and Mrs. F. E. Harrison have returned from a visit to Dr. and Mrs. Randolph of Rahway, N. J. Dr. Harrison has been greatly benefited by the rest as well as by Dr. Randolph's treatment and hopes to be well in a short while.

### SUNDAY VISITORS

Mr. J. S. Dupre and his sister, Miss Gussie Dupre, were here from Florence spending over Sunday with Miss Mary Dupre and Mr. Frank Dupre. The young people were on their way to Walhalla to spend the holidays with their parents.

### COTTON MARKET

Cotton on the local market today was 26 1-4 cents. Futures closed December ----- 25.92 January ----- 25.84 March ----- 26.15 May ----- 26.26 July ----- 26.25