

UNION FIGURES

11,500,000 BALES

COTTON CROP ESTIMATE GIVEN OUT AT FORTH WORTH.

12 Cents the Minimum Price—Union and Government Estimates Vary.

Fort Worth, Tex., September 2.—Today's meeting of the National Farmers' Union was devoted largely to the reports of committees.

The union has given out a report on this year's cotton crop, placing the figures at 11,500,000 bales. The government's report indicates a yield of 13,500,000, and this wide difference is causing considerable comment among delegates.

President Neill, of the Texas branch of the union, was made chairman of the minimum price committee. He is known to favor not less than 12 cents per pound as the price for the season.

THE CARE OF COTTON.

Farmers Urged to Take Better Care of Their Cotton—Saving to Them.

Hon. B. Harris, President Farmers' Educational and Cooperative Union, Pendleton, S. C., and Hon. E. D. Smith, President S. C. Division Southern Cotton Association, Columbia, S. C.

Gentlemen:

The time for picking cotton having arrived, has it ever occurred to you to look into the question of damage brought about by a lack of care for the staple from the time it is ginned to the time of marketing? Having lived on a plantation for twenty-one years, and at present owning and operating one, as well as being in the cotton business for the past ten years, I thought possibly that my observations along this line might tend to show the great amount of money lost to this cotton producing country. I desire to impress upon the farmer the necessity of caring for his cotton after laboring hard all the year to make it, and thereby lessen friction between producer, buyer, and manufacturer. A large portion of the farmers, as well as the carriers, treat the staple as though it were coal, allowing it to lie on the ground for months after ginning subject to climatic conditions, which results in rot and country damage.

When the cotton is ready for the market it is picked up and offered for sale, the damage, as a usual thing, being disregarded until subjected to the buyer's inspection, who, in protecting his interests, will either dock for the damage or have the cotton picked, resulting in great loss to the farmer. Unquestionably it is to the farmer's interest to store his cotton in a reputable warehouse, thereby protecting himself from loss from fire as well as damage, and in addition he can secure warehouse receipt for same, which is prime mercantile paper, and can be discounted at any bank, allowing the farmer to sell his cotton when he desires to do so.

My object, however, is to impress upon the farmers to house their cotton as soon as it is ginned, whether it be in a warehouse, or in their barns, or dwelling, thereby reducing the element of damage to a minimum.

To my mind, one of the most important things the Farmers' Union and the Southern Cotton Association could handle is the caring for cotton after it is ginned, and up to the time it is marketed. Having personally handled, during the past ten years, about 300,000 bales of cotton of all grades and staple, this cotton being shipped here from Texas and Oklahoma on the West, to North Carolina on the East, I go think I am in a very fair position to speak intelligently of the item of damage, largely caused by carelessness.

In addition to the rotten cotton on thousands of bales, varying from five to as much as three hundred pounds per bale, all of which has to be picked off before settling for and which is caused by allowing the cotton to lie on one end or lie on one side in the mud and rain for months before being offered for sale; there is another element of damage which is not easily detected, but which has a more reaching effect on the buyer, as well as the manufacturer. I refer to what is called country damage.

When cotton is allowed to stand in the weather after being ginned for any length of time, although the farmer may turn it about from side to side to keep it from rotting, the staple of the cotton on the outside of the bale is effected just in proportion to the time it is allowed to remain

exposed to climatic conditions. To illustrate, a bale of cotton ginned and packed December the first and allowed to remain in the weather until the first of March, will have about half as much country damage as the same bale would have if it remained in the weather until May the first, and when the manufacturer opens this bale, he will find that the cotton, sticking to the bagging and extending inward is practically without any strength of staple, and as a result all of this effected cotton will go in waste or be found in the shaftings overhead. Should the buyer detect this country damage, the farmer, is the looser; should the buyer not detect it, the buyer is the looser; in any event, dissatisfaction is the result, all of which could have been avoided by housing the cotton. The amount of country damage varies in proportion to the time the cotton lies out in the weather, and will vary from three to twenty-five pounds per bale. I have 11,000,000 bale crop produced, the producer, the carrier, and the compress together, allow 250,000 bales to be destroyed by rot and country damage, and when you figure this at ten cents per pound it amounts to \$12,500,000, all of which could be saved to the producer, the buyer, and the manufacturer, should they exercise the proper precaution against damage. Three years ago a farmer brought twenty bales of cotton to the warehouse for storage in March, which had been out in the weather since it was ginned in the fall. Some of the bales were so badly damaged and water soaked that they weighed one thousand pounds per bale. I asked him why he allowed his cotton to get in that condition; he replied, that he was so busy making preparation for another crop that he had not cared for what he had already made. When this cotton was conditioned for market, he had about ten bales of merchantable cotton left out of the twenty. A bale of cotton ginned dry and housed until marketed will hold out better than one allowed to remain in the weather subject to climatic conditions, and will not possess the element of damage, and will also retain its strength of staple, even to the bagging.

Travel where you will, and you will see cotton sitting at railroad stations in the mud and rain, or you will see it lying on the ground around farm houses, where it will remain until ready for market, and when marketed, the bagging will be so rotten that you cannot handle the cotton.

Owing to the seeming negligence displayed in the care of cotton after ginning, the buyer, when purchasing a lot of cotton, has to take into consideration the element of damage, or he would rather send his classer to receive the cotton, thereby establishing the amount of damage before payment is made. Where you find a section of country where great care is taken with the cotton after ginning, and before marketing, there you will find cotton sought after by the buyers, and everything else being equal, a premium will be paid for same.

The manufacturers will pay better prices for cotton free from rot and country damage, because his percentage of waste will be decreased.

The point I desire to impress is; take care of your cotton, handle it as though you thought something of it. If you cannot put it in a warehouse where it is insured and you can use the receipt, put it in your barn, or shed room, or anywhere to keep it from climatic conditions until you market it, and by doing this every pound will be spinnable and no dissatisfaction between producer, buyer, and manufacturer will result.

There are some places in South Carolina where warehouse facilities are adequate, but are unfortunately not utilized. My own experience is that four lots of cotton out of every five shipped from places where cotton is not warehoused are badly damaged, due to the fact that it is allowed to sit on one end for weeks and months in the open before it is offered for sale, and as a result, heavy claims are made, and yet the best character of cotton, so far as body and staple is concerned, is produced at these places, and would be very much sought, were the element of damage eliminated.

In conclusion, I would strongly urge that this matter be brought to the attention of all concerned, and thereby save twelve and one-half million dollars per year to the southland.

Very truly yours,
Jno. D. Frost.

The total value of the stone product of the country in 1906 was \$66,378,794, an increase of \$2,570,046 over that of 1905.

IMPORTANCE OF DRAINAGE.

Ridding Roads of Storm and Underground Water Subject of Thoughtful Paper Sent Out by the United States Office of Public Roads—Will Soon Issue a Bulletin on Concrete Drains.

With an average of 27,000 tons of water falling in the form of rain on each mile of public road in the United States annually, it is scarcely to be marvelled at that the ten commandments of the road builder can be summed up succinctly in the word "drainage."

The saying has truth for a basis, as good drainage is the primary requisite for all roads. Even in sand roads this holds true, for there "good drainage" means such as will safely remove the storm water without erosion or gullying and still retain the surface moisture.

To secure good drainage one must take into consideration both the surface water and the underground water. The surface water must be removed quickly and completely and without subjecting the road to excessive scour or erosion. For this reason, the center of the road should be raised and the slope towards the side ditches should be from one-half to one inch to each foot distance, or so that the water will run freely to the side ditches and not flow down the road or remain in puddles on the roadway. The side ditches should be of ample size to care for the severest storms with a fall of not less than 6 inches to each 100 feet. Frequent and ample cross drains should be constructed and every opportunity taken to get the water away from the road as quickly as possible. Any road along which you see water standing in the side ditches or on which puddles of water have collected or which has been badly gullied and eroded by the rains has poor drainage and is in need of immediate attention. In fact earth roads nearly always require a little attention after each rain. The split-log drag is essentially a tool to maintain good drainage on our earth roads, and should be used after each rain. On a heavy clay or gumbo soil the drag when properly used tends to puddle the road surface, keep it free from ruts, dense, smooth and hard, thus securing the best surface drainage possible.

But in many places the underground water is too near the surface and must be removed before a good road will be possible. This means that some form of sub-drainage must be resorted to, usually tile drains, of clay or concrete. Water from whatever source must be gotten rid of effectively, for water plus clay or gumbo invariably equals mud when mixed in spring and summer. Water becomes ice in winter and as water in freezing expands one-eighth its volume, the road heaves out of shape and when the ice melts the road disappears beneath the rising tide of mud constantly fed by rains, melting snows and underground springs.

In seepy and boggy places the sub-drainage in order to be fully effective should lower the water level to not less than three feet below the road surface. If tiles are used they should be carefully laid, true to grade. Most failures in tile drainage can be attributed to carelessness in laying, or too flat grade. Tile less than 4 inches in diameter should rarely be used, nor should a grade of less than 6 inches to the 100 feet be used unless absolutely necessary. In a very dense soil, it is always advisable to cover the tile to at least a depth of 6 to 12 inches with coarse sand or fine gravel. Care should always be taken to secure a free outlet for the drains and to protect the outlet with a concrete bulkhead or catchbasin, which can always be kept clean and the outlet free.

The kind of tile to be used depends on local conditions. Concrete tile if properly made are equally as good as clay tile. Which kind to use is entirely a local question of dollars and cents. If concrete tile can be had, use concrete; if not, use clay tile.

One great advantage of the concrete tile is that they can be easily made by the local users at or near the place where they are to be placed, so that the freight charges are dispensed with as well as the large breakage losses due to handling. Placed in the ground, both are durable. If concrete is used, great care should be taken to see that good grade of Portland cement is selected, and that the drains are properly constructed. The impression, which prevails to some extent, that tile disintegrates in erroneous.

A bulletin is now in course of preparation by the United States office of public roads telling how to make concrete drains. This bulletin will treat the subject fully, explaining carefully every point that may arise in making drain pipes and culverts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR LEGISLATURE.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the house of representatives, subject to the rules of the Democratic primary.

Godfrey Harmon.

J. Simpson Dominick is hereby announced as a candidate for the legislature from Newberry county and will abide the rules of the Democratic party.

FOR CORONER:

J. N. Bass is hereby announced as a candidate for coroner of Newberry county, subject to the rules of the Democratic primary.

W. E. Felker, (better known as Mose), is hereby announced as a candidate for coroner of Newberry county and will abide the rules of the Democratic party.

FOR COUNTY SUPERVISOR.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of county Supervisor and will abide the rules of the democratic party.

H. H. Abrams.

I announce myself as a candidate for Supervisor and will abide the result of the Democratic party.

L. I. Feagle.

FOR MAGISTRATE.

Townships Nos. 1 and 8.

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for Magistrate for Nos. 1 and 8 townships and will abide the rules of the Democratic party.

S. G. Carter.

I am a candidate for Magistrate for Nos. 1 and 8 Townships, and will be governed by the rules of the Democratic party.

Jno. Henry Chappell.

For Magistrate No. 11.

C. L. Graham is hereby announced as a candidate for Magistrate for No. 11 Township and will abide the rules of the Democratic party.

W. L. Kibler is announced as a candidate for Magistrate for number 11 township and will abide the rules of the Democratic party.

FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER.

I am a candidate for reelection to the office of county commissioner for Newberry county, and will abide the result of the Democratic primary.

Very Respectfully,
Thos. J. Wilson.

I am a candidate for reelection to the office of county commissioner for Newberry county and will abide the result of the Democratic primary.

Very respectfully,
W. H. Wendt.

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for County Commissioner subject to the rules of the Democratic convention.

C. L. Leitzsey.

The friends of L. C. Livingston announce him as a candidate for county commissioner. We pledge him to abide by the rules of the Democratic party.

NOTICE.

The County Board of Registration will be at the places mentioned below for the purpose of granting registration certificates to those who have not secured same, viz:

- Township No. 2, at Mt. Bethel school Sept. 1st.
- Township No. 3, at Mt. Pleasant school Sept. 2nd.
- Township No. 4, at Whitmire Sept. 3rd.
- Township No. 5, at Jalapa Sept. 4th.
- Township No. 9, at Prosperity Sept. 5th.
- Township No. 1, at Newberry C. H. Sept. 7th.
- Township No. 6, at Longshores store Sept. 8th.
- Township No. 7, at Chappells Sept. 9th.
- Township No. 8, Utopia Sept. 10th.
- Township No. 10, at Jolly Street, Sept. 11th.
- Township No. 11, at Pomaria Sept. 12th.

E. Lee Hayes, Ch'm'n.
J. W. Wertz.
B. B. Leitzsey.

Frank Wearn,

With the Globe Tailoring Co.'s samples of Fall and Winter Clothing, will be in Newberry Monday and Tuesday, the 7th and 8th of September. Call and take a look over the line and have your measure taken. Fit guaranteed.

Smith & Wearn, Agts.,
GLOBE TAILORING CO.

JONES' GROCERY,

S. B. Jones, Proprietor.

DEALER IN

STAPLE & FANCY GROCERIES, PRODUCE,

Confectioneries, Fruit, Cigars and Tobaccos.

Phone 212.

Newberry, S. C., Jan. 17, 1908.

Dear Madam Housekeeper:

We wish to call your attention to our stock of Fancy and Staple groceries and solicit at least a portion of your patronage during this year.

We feel safe in saying that our stock is the most complete that is offered here and that we can serve you in a satisfactory manner.

We will ever keep in mind three very important points: quality of goods prompt service moderate prices.

If you are not already a customer of ours we would be pleased to add you to our long list of satisfied customers.

We wish 1908 to be our banner year. Will you join us in making it so?

Yours for business,

Jones' Grocery.

WANTED

To call your attention to our line of Box Paper, Tablets, Note Books, Ledgers, Cash Books. Also Extracts, Talcum Powder, Toilet Water and Tooth Powder. We will make the prices right. Come and see us before making your purchase.

Broadus & Ruff

HERALD & NEWS BUILDING.