

THE SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

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Random Comments on This Week's Features.

It seems to us that this week's paper is about up to the standard. Our cotton crop reports, of course, constitute a notable feature, but there are other articles of no less practical value.

The article suggesting share rents for all crops is especially timely and ought to be seriously considered by all landlords and tenants before making 1909 contracts. There is no doubt but that our present renting system is largely responsible both for the one-crop system and for the waste of our lands—two of the greatest evils of Southern agriculture. Our correspondent strikes the keynote when he declares that "a land-owner who is to receive a share of what the land produces will always look more carefully after the working of it," and this fact alone is almost enough to demonstrate the superiority of the share system.

Our summary of Mississippi boll weevil conditions on page 4 ought to quicken interest in diversified farming, and President Walter Clark seems to size up the situation properly when he declares that at last "the great God of Nature,

Leaders in the Movement for Better Cotton Prices



PRESIDENT C. S. BARRETT.
Of the National Farmers Union.



PRESIDENT HARVIE JORDAN.
Of the Southern Cotton Association.

President Barrett, of the National Farmers Union, representing millions of members, has called a conference of the officers and Executive Committee of the Union to be held in New Orleans, November 11th, followed by a great public meeting November 12th, of all Southern farmers and business men interested in better cotton prices. President Harvie Jordan, of the Southern Cotton Association, has also issued a call for a Mammoth Cotton Conference to be held in Memphis, November 10, 11 and 12, to which everybody is invited. These meetings will undoubtedly be largely attended, and we urge every reader who can do so to be present.

Meanwhile The Southern Farm Gazette, endeavoring to get the fullest possible information about the size of the crop, cotton conditions and the tendency of farmers to hold or sell, is printing this week notable reports from agricultural leaders in every Southern State from Virginia to Texas. This feature is undoubtedly one of the most interesting and valuable we have had for many a day.

despairing of man's efforts, has taken the situation in hand, by sending the boll weevil to compel a diversification, that the lands may be saved for future generations to whom the lands belong." Director Seymour, of Alabama, offers a wise suggestion for our coming cotton conventions in the assertion that the only way to help cotton prices is to grow more corn.

If your water supply is not what it ought to be, an article on page 7 may get you to thinking of something better. The time and labor that has

been needlessly spent in the Southern States on account of water supplies badly planned, or not planned at all, would dig the Panama Canal—and the burden of it in large and shameful measure has fallen on our country women. On page 7 there is also some good counsel about gardening, which should be read in connection with Mr. Durban's article last week.

Mr. French is right in urging more light in the stables, but the best thing in his letter this week (Continued on Page 4.)