

## IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS ON COTTON FARMS

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In the United States in 1929 there were one million, seven thousand farms with an annual income (including products sold, consumed, and traded) of less than \$600. In order to sell cotton at 10¢ per pound the farmer must work at the rate of about 5¢ an hour, because it takes about two hours labor per pound of lint cotton produced. The average per capita income in the cotton states is about one-fourth that of the nation as a whole and less than that of any other states.

Conditions could be improved, at least temporarily, by direct grants from the government; but a much better procedure would be to teach the farmers how to become more self-supporting. About one-half of them own calves and only about three-fourths of them own hogs or chickens. Few have vegetable gardens. Teaching them how to use and care for such enterprises as these, and how to rotate crops, would go a long way toward improving their conditions. It is a matter of education, which must come not only through the school room, but also through as many other means as possible.

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