A List of the Members and Officers of the House of Representatives

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A list of the members and officers of the House of representatives. Prepared by John Wallis and Elijah Butler, doorkeepers. Containing the names, birth-places, ages, residences, post-offices; whether married, single, or widower, places of boardi [1849]
A Committee having been appointed by the National Union League of Tennessee, Council No. 1, to prepare a Memorial to their fellow-leaguers, the following is respectfully submitted.

...Further. We recommend that Congress be called on to act at once with respect to confiscation of rebel lands. The entire poor and working class of the South lie helpless at our feet. They look to us for aid and protection. They were driven along the dark track, a helpless mass, into the bloody vortex which has swallowed up their substance, and given their sons, ‘their first born,’ to the sword. Those of them who thus far out lived the common ruin, are now without money; without stock of any kind to till the soil; and without protection for the production of that soil, should they have means to till it. We might further say they are, most of them, without land of their own; for nearly all the lands in the revolted States belong to the Rebel Dictators, AS WE ARE PREPARED TO PROVE. We must act at once, or another year’s sun will shine on miseries without a parallel among the poor of our State and the South, such as have no historical record...
I feed you all!
Elementary Agriculture of Tennessee, With Practical Arithmetic

As the population of our country increases, it is fast becoming evident that two things must be done; poorer soil must be cultivated, and what is already under cultivation must be made to produce more. In either case more thoughtful methods in agriculture are absolutely essential. The farmer of tomorrow, who is today the farmer’s boy, must know how to farm better than his father does. In order to do this, he must acquire a more or less complete knowledge of the sciences on which agriculture is based.

The farmer of the future must be able to read farm papers understandingly, or better still, he should be trained for his life work in some agricultural school as doctors, lawyers, and teachers are now trained. It is the purpose of this book to give to the farmer’s child, who studies it, a start in such necessary knowledge…

…It is hoped that the careful study of this book will lead to a deeper interest in farm life, and to a more careful and systematic study of the soils, crops, feeds, fertilizers, and the like, by the children in the rural schools and perhaps, incidentally, by the farmers themselves.
The Day Book, April 27, 1917

2c LAST EDITION 2c

THE DAY BOOK
An Adless Newspaper, Daily Except Sunday
VOL. 6, NO. 179 Chicago, Friday, April 27, 1917

LOWER BREAD PRICE
BY FEDERAL CONTROL?

Dep't of Agriculture to Be Put On War Basis—Will Have Power to Control Food Prices and Regulate Supply—Rule With Iron Hand.

Washington, April 27. — To combat the high cost of foodstuffs, the department of agriculture is to be put on a war basis. Increasing the production of wheat and lowering of the price of bread are the main objectives.

Department officials say this must be done—soon—and congress will be asked to pass legislation accomplishing it.

With powers of handling situations coming under its jurisdiction in the same manner as the war and navy departments control matters under theirs, the agriculture department would be able immediately to cope with such developments as the sudden boosting of bread prices, officials say.

"Placing the department on a war footing would be the solution of the
Candidate for congress (General Walter Faulkner) and a Tennessee farmer, Crossville, Tennessee [1938]
Construction works at the TVA's Douglas Dam, Tenn. (1942)
CONVERSATION WITH 60 YEAR OLD WHITE FEMALE, WHITE PINE, TENNESSEE [1977-1978]

M= Interviewer
W= Interviewee

M: Do you remember when TVA came and put in Douglas Lake what the reaction of the local people was?

W: Well, they blamed it on Roosevelt. These Republicans down in Dandridge just got rich from what they paid ‘em for their land, the farms. All those people along the lake just got gorgeous sums of money, and they just blamed it on Roosevelt, though. Blamed it on Roosevelt, the whole thing…

M: I’ve heard that there was a lot of resentment, though, towards TVA back during that time.

W: Yeah.

M: Was there?

W: But the ones that were, were grumbling bout it were the ones that got rich from selling their property to the government. They just got fantastic prices for their land. And they, poor old Roosevelt was blamed for everything, you know…
Planting corn along a river in northeastern Tennessee.
The Great Depression, The New Deal, and the Coming of the Modern America, 1930-1950 (Fair Three)

Knox County, Tennessee (Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)). Farm boy uses an electric drill at Farragut Agricultural School [1942]

[Image description: Two individuals are using an electric drill at Farragut Agricultural School in Knox County, Tennessee.]
MR. ELIZABETH E. MILLER (GRAMMY MILLER)

AGE: 90 years old

LOCATION: Mountain and Lake View Farm, West Newbury, Vermont

DATE: November 4 and 16, 1938

INTERVIEWER: Rebecca M. Halley

QUESTION: "Did you ever have to do work that the men usually did?"

MILLER: "One fall we had a five hundred and fifty pound dressed hog hanging in the yard. The men went off to Wells River to take up another hog they had dressed at the same time and left it hanging there and the caldron kettle half full of water. They aimed to get back and take the hog down to cellar before it froze. It would never do to let pork that was going to be salted freeze. I was all alone with the children and I waited until almost twelve. My husband didn't come and so I took a lantern and a saw and a knife and went out to fetch in that hog...I cut up that hog and loaded it piecemeal onto the sled. The worst part was getting it through the front door, but I managed. I had it all done before my husband got home. He asked who had brought the hog in. I said, 'I did.' He asked who helped and I said, 'Alone.' I wasn't wasting many words on him. He was struck dumb."
Farm Women’s Problems
What a Survey of Ten Thousand Farm Homes Shows About Woman’s Work

The United States’ department of agriculture has issued a pamphlet entitled “The Farm Woman’s Problems” from which the facts in the article following are taken. This pamphlet may be obtained by writing the department and asking for Department Circular 148.

The average farm woman works 13 hours a day in summer and 10½ hours in winter. The average woman has an eight-room house to take care of. The majority of them have to keep their own stoves going and carry their own water. Ninety-six per cent do their own washing and the same number their own sewing. Only 14 per cent have any hired help at any time during the year and these only for short periods; almost none report any hired help the year around.

These findings were secured from an actual survey of 10,044 farm homes in 34 northern and western states, made by the United States department of agriculture in connection with state agricultural colleges.

Turning to the farm work outside the house the report shows that 36 per cent of the women helped to milk and that nearly all had some farm work, such as buttermaking, caring for livestock or poultry.

Sixty-two per cent of the farm families have automobiles and 72 per cent have telephones, the report shows. That the League states are among the most progressive is shown by the fact that in the Middle West 73 per cent of the farmers have automobiles and 85 per cent have telephones, while on the Atlantic coast only 48 per cent have autos and 67 per cent phones. That autos and phones are necessities rather than luxuries is shown by the fact that the average farm home is a mile and one-half from a school, six miles from a high school, three miles from a church, five miles from a market and nearly six miles from a doctor.
Farming and forestry dominates Tennessee's landscape with 66,600 farms producing and selling crops, livestock, and forest products. Forty percent, or 10.8 million acres, of the state's land area is in farmland. More than 14 million acres of farm and non-farm forest lands generate about $300 million annually in timber sales, making Tennessee one of the nation's leading producers of hardwood lumber.

Agricultural production alone, excluding forest products, generates more than $3 billion annually in farm cash receipts. Tennessee's top agricultural commodities include cattle and calves, soybeans, broilers, horticultural products, corn, cotton, dairy products, tobacco, hay, tomatoes, eggs, wheat, snap beans, grain sorghum, apples, peaches, farm chickens, squash, goats and sheep. Forestry related industries, value-added manufacturing, marketing and distribution, equine, and other agricultural related products also add significantly to the state's economy.

Tennessee is a major producer of several agricultural commodities. The state ranks second nationally in the number of meat goats and sixth in the number of equine. Tennessee ranks among the top ten states in the production of beef cattle, tobacco, fresh tomatoes and snap beans, hay and cotton. International trade has a significant impact on Tennessee agriculture with exports of raw agricultural products totaling nearly $1 billion each year.
A Look at Tennessee Agriculture

Climate & Soil
- The climate of Tennessee is good for crop growth.
- Tennessee typically receives 50” of rain each year.
- Winds from the Gulf of Mexico bring most of the rain and snow to Tennessee.
- Tennessee averages 40°F in winter and 78°F in summer. West Tennessee averages 5” of snow while northeastern Tennessee gets 16”.
- Tennessee has 3 regional land types:
  - West: row crop land
  - Middle: fertile rolling land
  - East: hilly to mountainous
- The Tennessee state rock is Limestone.
- Tennessee is home to Milan No-till Field Day, the largest field day devoted to conservation tillage.

Crops & Livestock
- Nursery products, soybeans, and corn are the top Tennessee crops.
- Tobacco plants grow five to seven feet tall.
- Cotton is harvested using a picker or stripper.
- Tennessee has more species of trees than any other state.
- Tennessee ranks #2 in the U.S. for hardwood and #3 for tobacco production.
- Tennessee’s top agricultural commodities are cattle and calves, broilers (meat chickens), soybeans,
- corn, and greenhouse/nursery products.
- There are 2,040,000 cattle, 131,400 goats, 2,808,000 chickens and 210,000 horses in Tennessee.
- Tennessee dairy cattle produce over 909 million pounds of milk each year.
- Tennessee farmers produce 323 million eggs per year.

General
- Tennessee has 42,244 square miles of land. (27 million acres)
- In Tennessee, 80 percent of the land is used for agricultural purposes including forestry.
Farm Bureau: Tennessee Farm Facts

Tennessee farming is far from the mule-and-plow stereotype of the past. Staying attuned to the technological times, embracing sustainability and fostering innovation in an ever-changing industry is how agriculture and forestry have remained vital sectors in the Volunteer State, contributing approximately $74.8 billion to Tennessee’s economy each year. Leading agricultural commodities are cattle and calves, broilers and milk, and also soybeans, corn, hay, wheat, cotton, tobacco, and a variety of fruits and vegetables.

The Average Tennessee Farm

Acres: 155
Farmer’s Age: 58
Value of Equipment: $80,447
Value of Land and Buildings: $608,739

Tennessee Ag Fun Facts

Tennessee has 40,097 women farmers.

Tennessee has 9,344 producers who are involved in the care of 7,101 farms.

Tennessee ranks fourth in the nation for meat goat production.

89 percent of Tennessee’s forest composition is hardwoods, making the state one of the top three lumber-producing states in the country.

Tennessee has 125 farmers markets.

Tennessee ranks 15th in the nation for farms selling local foods direct to consumers.

The value of local food sold from farms in 2014 totaled $58,720,441.
Middle Tennessee's farmland is vanishing, and so are billions in economic benefits (May 17, 2018)

Every day after he feeds the cattle, Bob Strasser stops to look across the rolling hills of his family's farm, tucked into a curve of the Cumberland River...Strasser's family has been “scratching a living” off 250 acres in Pennington Bend since 1951, after the original farm was seized for construction of the Nashville airport. When they arrived, it was remote and isolated.

Middle Tennessee's surging growth has since brought Briley Parkway to the neighborhood. Then the Grand Ole Opry, the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center, and the sprawling Opry Mills outlet mall moved in down the street.

It's not just Strasser's neighborhood. Green, undisturbed space across the 10-county metro area is rapidly being turned into housing subdivisions, entertainment venues, restaurants and shops to cater to a booming population.

A 2016 report tallied the progress: 120,000 acres of open land had been developed in Middle Tennessee since 1999. Of that, 55,000 acres — a swath about twice the size of Murfreesboro — were formerly farm and forest land.

Open spaces annually contribute tens of billions of dollars in benefits to the region but are routinely undervalued, according to the 75-page report sponsored by the Cumberland Region Tomorrow and prepared by researchers at the University of Tennessee.

Strasser, the Pennington Bend farmer, hoped policy makers would take note of the significant value of farmland and green space shown in the new report.

He'd like to see more incentives developed so that he can pass farming on to a fifth generation of his family: his 6-year-old daughter Olivia.

"That's the dream," he said
A group of East Tennessee dairy farmers is worried for the future of their businesses. Dean Foods recently told 100 farmers nationwide it would stop buying their milk on May 31.

“Many factors, including a surplus of raw milk at a time when the public already is consuming less fluid milk and companies assertively entering or expanding their presence in the milk processing business, have exacerbated an already tenuous situation in a highly competitive market,” a Dean spokesperson said.

…the loss of these contracts can be devastating for producers. Eddie Gilbert was among those farmers, and said it will be tough to find another buyer.

“If we don’t get somebody, we’ll have to sell-out,” he said…

Brant Stooksbury works on his family’s farm in Jefferson County. Though they have not lost their buyer, he said for the past two years, their milk hasn’t brought in the price it used to.

“We’re getting paid well under the production cost,” he said.

He said for several months, the farm has been losing between $5,000-6,000 a month.

“It’s a tough situation, and I don’t know the answer for it,” Stooksbury said. “I don’t know what all has happened to lead to this point, but I know it’s devastating several family farmers…”

Stooksbury’s family joined several other farmers in a letter to U.S. Rep. Phil Roe, R-Tennessee, with a list of issues – including that milk’s federally set price is well below the cost of production, and that farmers can’t control the price.

“It is certainly past time for the neglected dairy farms to have a change,” they wrote…

But in the meantime, several impacted farmers told 10News that without a buyer and distributor for their milk, they might be forced to sell their cows to slaughter.

“It’s heart-wrenching for dairy farmers because you get an attachment to these animals,” Stooksbury said.
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (WZTV) — Middle Tennessee farmers say they are feeling the pinch of recent tariffs.

Willis Jepson is preparing the eighth generation of Jepson farmers to one day take over the family business that started in 1806 and literally grew from there.

His family owns 5,000 acres in Orlinda, Tennessee where they grow soybeans, wheat, tobacco and other crops.

“My grandfather and dad started growing soybeans probably in the 60s 50s,” Jepson said.

But more than a century of family farming could be in danger because of China's tariffs as farmers lose money from the high cost to trade and decrease in soybean value...

...Less than 12 hours after the tariffs went into effect, Jepson noted soybean prices dropping $2 a bushel. Jepson’s farm has 2,000 acres full of bushels and for him, that $2 adds up quickly. He says farmers don’t control the crop price which puts their business at a disadvantage.

“We don’t get to set our price of what we buy to make our crop, we don’t get to set the price when we sell our crop. There are a lot of things that keep us up at night as farmers.” Jepson said.

While several farmers are worried, President Donald Trump says the tariff war has two perspectives from two points of view. The President says he’s correcting what he calls "unfair trade pricing" from China – a fight for America but a faulty move rattling the bottom line of farmers like the ones in middle Tennessee whose only source of income is what grows on their land.

“Farmers are just like everybody else," Jepson said. "My kids need shoes. They need to go to school. My wife likes to take a vacation, have a car and then I’ll get her back-and-forth where she needs to go.”