

Federal Programs
Canton, Mississippi

September 12, 1964

WEEKLY REPORT

Eartia James Crawford

We canvassed the farmers two days before we met with Mr. Robert R. Hodges, who is Madison County ASCS Board Chairman. Earlier Mr. Hodges refused to speak for the second time, but came on the third invitation as he promised the farmers that he would.

Mr. Leach, the FHA agent of this county, accompanied Mr. Hodges on his visit. The farmers held their meeting at Mt. Zion Church; Mr. Otis Williams presided. Mr. Hodges was the main reason that this meeting was planned, he promised them that he would speak to them, which he did. He covered precisely the cover crops for winter and summer, marketing cards would be mailed out, and the farmers could come to his office and he would be happy to discuss any problems.

The price for cotton is down 2-1/2 cents. He also advised the farmers to plant their cover early enough so that it would serve its purpose. Such cover crops are vetch, rye grass, wheat. He specified that these crops (covers) should be at certain height before stock is able to graze on them.

Mr. Leach talked on the crops insurance and poverty bill that was passed earlier this summer. He made clear who, farmers and those who aren't farmers, could take advantage of these offers. This coming Saturday at 10:00 A.M. to 12 Noon in the Madison County Courthouse a county-wide meeting is to be held and all farmers are invited to attend.

The second canvass was to inform 2100 farmers of the ASC elections. The ASC County Committee gives you (farmers) the chance to be equally represented. With a man on the committee you (farmers) will be assured of a fair share in the crop allotments and other services. The colored farmers in Madison County outnumber the whites three to one. We can win the election if we work together.

Eligibility

Any farm owner, tenant or sharecropper of legal voting age has the right to vote.

This meeting is being held at Mt. Center Church, Monday, September 14, 1964.