MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE CLEMSON BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD AT CLEMSON COLLEGE AT 10 A. M. ON SEPTEMBER 6, 1940

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman of the Board, Mr. W. W. Bradley. The following members of the Committee were present: Messrs. W. W. Bradley, W. D. Barnett, J. B. Douthit, Paul Sanders, S. R. Sherard. Absent Mr. Christia Benet. The Secretary informed the group that Mr. Benet had written and expressed his regret at being unable to attend the meeting. The following members of the College staff were present: President R. F. Poole, Messrs. H. P. Cooper, R. A. McGinty, B. D. Cloaninger, W. K. Lewis, D. W. Watkins, George Prince, T. W. Morgan, E. H. Rawl, G. E. Meares, and J. C. Littlejohn.

The Chairman of the Board, Mr. W. W. Bradley, stated that this was a meeting of the committee authorized at the June 1940 meeting to represent the Board of Trustees in connection with the Bill introduced into the 1939 Legislature to provide for a Bureau of Marketing in the South Carolina Department of Agriculture, it being understood that this committee was in turn to meet with representatives from the State Department of Agriculture and the Sub-Committee of the House Committee on Agriculture from the Legislature. Mr. Paul Sanders was elected Chairman of the Trustee Committee and took the chair for the proceedings.

Director Watkins of the Extension Service was called upon to make a statement and to present any information or facts. Some of the points brought out by Director Watkins were:

When the A. A. A. work was started by the Federal Government the Commissioners of Agriculture of the several states felt that they were not properly recognized. It was understood that Mr. Hanson, representing the fats and oils interests, was in Washington a great part of the time during the consideration of the Bailey Bill by the United States Senate and that Mr. Hanson was favorable toward the arguments and reasons set forth by the Commissioners of Agriculture in behalf of the Bailey Bill. Before this Bill was sent to the House for consideration by the House Agricultural Committee, a group of five directors of Extension and five Commissioners of Agriculture met to discuss the proposed Bill, but no agreement was reached between these two groups. In November 1939 the Bill was also discussed by the Land-Grant College Association in Washington. The Executive Committee of the Land-Grant College Association took the position that they would not oppose the Bill if all educational work were left to the colleges. In the House, the Bill was introduced by Congressman Cooley. At first it was understood that some of the high officials in the Federal Government did not look with a great deal of favor upon this Bill, but later on it was assumed that when the Budget Bureau agreed to the appropriation of one million that consent of the authorities must have been given. Director Watkins stated that the American Farm Bureau, which is very strong in some sections of the country, is opposed to the Bailey-Cooley Bill. It is understood that if the Bill were passed it would allow much latitude to the Secretary of Agriculture, who would be authorized to designate the agencies to carry out the provisions of the Bill.

Director Watkins explained to the group that the set-up in the several states of the union varied greatly as to the Agricultural agencies. The proposed Bill introduced into the 1939 South Carolina Legislature is a definite departure from practices which have been in this state for a number of years in that the Commissioner of Agriculture would be the designated agent in all marketing activities. Under the terms of the Bill, Clemson may be placed in the position of assisting the State Department of Agriculture.

Director Watkins presented item by item the Bill introduced in the State Legislature and commented on the contents of each paragraph. Director Watkins suggested that the Trustee Committee visit at least five adjoining states for the purpose of studying the agricultural activities in these states. He called special attention to the set-up in Alabama.
Following Director Watkins' statement there was general discussion by a number of those present.

Mr. Bradley next suggested that Mr. George Prince, Marketing Specialist of the Extension Service, outline his duties and explain just what his department was doing, whether or not any improvements could be made, and if some other agency could better do the work. Mr. George Prince made a brief statement in which he outlined the necessity for coordination between production and marketing and said that the low cost of production is a vital factor with the grower. Mr. Prince outlined the activities of shipping point inspection and called special attention to the work done this year with peaches, watermelons, cantaloupes, etc. He stated that the shipping point inspection is now voluntary, but that approximately ninety-eight per cent of the peaches shipped were inspected and graded. He called attention to the educational side of this work which he feels is a vital part of the activity. He gave instances of how the inspection is carried on at the packing house for the purpose of helping the producer keep up the grades and quality of the products. He stressed the point that this inspection is not regulatory work since it is a voluntary service and he felt that it has been a means of improving the quality of the produce sent out from South Carolina. There was general discussion by members of the Committee and others with Mr. Prince.

The Chairman next called on President Poole for a statement. In talking to the Committee Dr. Poole explained the set-up in North Carolina with the Extension Service having charge of certain activities and the State Department of Agriculture having charge of other activities and stated that from his personal experience he was of the opinion that the work as carried on in South Carolina was superior to that of the neighboring states. President Poole gave several examples to illustrate his statement.

He said he felt that the question resolved itself into whether or not Clemson through its many activities is not better qualified to administer the marketing program in South Carolina than some other agency. President Poole also suggested that the Committee place before the General Assembly the fact that if the Bill were passed, the duplication which would be inevitable when two agencies are performing the same functions could create misunderstandings and an unwholesome atmosphere among organizations and workers who should function cooperatively. He stated that such duplication would increase the cost of carrying on the activities. He said he believed that in the State of North Carolina that it was approximately twice what it should be. He stressed the fact that marketing is wholly an educational matter both as to production and sales. President Poole raised the question as to whether or not South Carolina is in a position to support two agencies doing the same work; also that the administration of marketing through the Clemson organization would be administered by a continuing board of control which would not be liable to more or less complete disruption due to changes in connection with elections.

Dr. W. K. Lewis of the Live Stock Sanitary Department was next called upon and Dr. Lewis stated to the Committee that he had been present at certain of the hearings before the Agricultural Committee last winter. Dr. Lewis said that while it was not specifically so stated at the hearings he had gained the impression that the Bill gave such wide latitude that the activities authorized could be extended to include other activities of the Clemson organization. He called attention to the fact that South Carolina is one of the few states where the State Veterinarian is under the Board of Trustees of the Agricultural College and that much done in South Carolina has been favorably commented on for this reason. Dr. Lewis said that his department was contributing to the production of high grade live stock in cooperation with other Clemson agencies. He called attention to the tremendous growth of the live stock auction markets in South Carolina, especially to the one in Columbia. There was general discussion by the group following Dr. Lewis' Statement.
The next person presented to the Committee was Dr. H. P. Cooper who stated that he understood the proposed agency would not be much concerned in either teaching or research work. He did say, however, that he had heard some mention that there might be a division of the agricultural functions by having all the regulatory duties administered by the State Department of Agriculture and other duties administered by Clemson. He felt that if any such division of activities should be made that the work of fertilizer inspection and analysis and the work of the Crop Pest Commission would then be transferred to the State Department of Agriculture, because both would be considered as regulatory duties. Dr. Cooper said he believed that South Carolina was now recognized as having one of the best fertilizer set-ups in the Southeast. He explained that in North Carolina the several agricultural Sub-Experiment Stations are under the North Carolina State Department of Agriculture instead of State College.

Following Dr. Cooper's statement Mr. Bradley requested that there be filed with the Chairman statements and other facts and that all those present at this meeting should again meet with the Committee.

President Poole suggested that the Committee now prepare and set forth certain principles for the information of not only the College employees, but of the Trustees and others. The Chairman then excused all present except Messrs. Cooper, Watkins, Lewis and Littlejohn. After discussion, the Committee proceeded to prepare resolutions for the information and guidance of all and for the October meeting of the full Board of Trustees. Mr. Bradley stated that it was his idea to have the Committee make a declaration as to points to be considered and that the resolution should be properly drawn up and carefully worded.

Mr. Douthit raised the question as to what effect the correspondence between the late A. F. Lever and Commissioner Roy Jones should have in connection with further consideration of the proposed law. It was suggested by Mr. Barnett that since Mr. Benet was absent the resolutions should be drawn up and with any other facts be sent Mr. Benet prior to the next meeting of the Committee.

It was moved by Mr. Douthit: That the resolutions of this Committee and other information be presented to the Trustees at the regular meeting in October 1940.

Motion Adopted.

It was moved by Mr. Barnett: That Director Watkins secure statements from cooperative marketing associations and other organized farm associations for possible use before the Legislative Committee or other groups; Director Watkins to consult with Chairman Bradley in the preparation and mailing of requests for information since these requests should go out over the name of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

The following resolution was dictated by Mr. W. W. Bradley and upon being typed and presented to the Committee which made several minor changes it was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of the Special Committee of the Board of Trustees of Clemson College intrusted with hearing facts and particulars as touch the proposed Marketing Bill introduced in the South Carolina Legislature that the following recommendations and suggestions be presented to the Special Committee of the Legislature.

1. It is believed that marketing and production go hand in hand and that trained help in both activities is absolutely essential. It is suggested that an institution whose business is to develop trained men along the lines stated should be best qualified to administer both production laws and marketing laws.

2. Our information is to the effect that the present marketing organization of the state is most satisfactorily received by the farmers
and in so far as limited facilities will permit that it is giving every possible assistance to them. This service to the farmers extends over fruits, vegetables, and perishable farm products all of which is covered with apparent satisfaction to the farmers themselves. The matter of perishable field crops or marketing field crops generally is being covered as much as possible in that the Clemson Agricultural College Marketing Association is really a clearing house for notices to the farmers of both commodities available and commodities sold. If there is any lack of service in this respect it is due to inadequate finances rather than to any lack of zeal on the part of the College agencies to meet the needs of the farmers. It is felt that to augment the College facilities rather than to increase general expenses would be a better policy.

3. Clemson College is interested first in what may be the best possible service for the farmers of South Carolina. It is interested again to see that that service is rendered at the least expense. In view of this, the College authorities fail to see wherein service to the farmers may be improved by a mere overlapping of work between two departments of state. In order to justify the establishment of some other agency to do this work in South Carolina, it would first be necessary to show that the present agency, which has drawn favorable commendation from many other sister states, has been derelict in its duty or is incapable of doing the work suggested. It stands to reason that men trained scientifically in both the matter of production and sale of products can at least render as good service to the farmers of the state as any other non-professional agency could possibly set up.

4. In view of the fact that Clemson has served and has developed a marketing program to its present efficient state and the help has not been hampered by politics this should be considered wisely before setting up a new organization.

Motion and Resolution Adopted.