



## THE TUSCALOOSA CURB MARKET

Looking out over the State from Auburn and viewing it through the reports of Extension workers new stars are seen to appear above the horizon every year. One which came into existence in 1924 and has already attracted wide attention is the curb market at Tuscaloosa.

In the annual report of Miss Isadora Williams we read this paragraph: "The market opened as scheduled on the first of May at about 6:45 A.M. There were 19 selling with a goodly number of buyers. We had asparagus, onions, greens, turnips, lettuce, radishes, broilers, hens, eggs, butter, and strawberries. The market steadily increased until dry weather began in September. We have had as many as 67 selling in one day; and, during August, we had to open it every day for eleven days to take care of the fruit, melons, and vegetables."

By a detailed report Miss Williams shows that the market was opened 84 days from the first of May to the 30th of October. This is about 50 percent of the working days. The number of farmers selling their crops varied from 288 in October to 718 in July, the average being 432. The estimated attendance each month varied from 1725 in October to 4500 in May and July, respectively. The average was 3197.

The total estimated sales for the first six months was \$14,522, or \$2,420 per month.

After giving these statistics, Miss Williams quotes extracts from statements from several who sold products on this market, showing that they were well pleased with it. Concluding her report on it she said:

"Mr. Lett, Mr. Holstun, Miss Terry (Farm Bureau Secretary) and myself took charge of the market for three months. At that time I took entire charge of it. On the other days I do demonstration work. We have a full-time agent who has taken over the organized work.

"We charge a fee of ten cents for a permit and ten cents for each day each person sells on the market. We have been able to finance the market so far. The Tuscaloosa News has given us wide publicity. The merchants' bureau and the Farm Bureau have supported us in every way possible. They each paid for an ad just before we opened.

"It was so dry this fall that we may not be able to have everything that we have planted to put on in the way of vegetables, but there will be many things to supply the wants of the city housewife."