

ASCS ELECTIONS



VOTE DECEMBER 2nd

ASCS MEANS -

AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION

CONSERVATION SERVICE

Last year Negroes were on the ballot for the ASCS committee for the first time in Mississippi. Negroes ran in 12 counties. **SOME WON.** They won in spite of the trouble from the white people and some ASCS employees.

The elections in Mississippi will be December 2nd this year. Here is some information about the ASCS and the elections.

ELECTION DAY





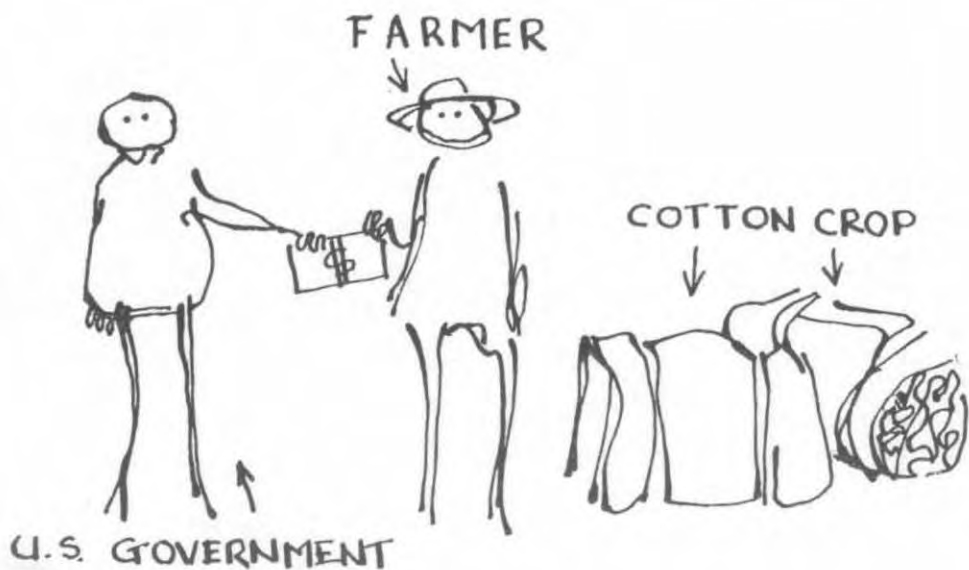
ABOUT THE ASCS

In the 1930's farmers were in a bad way like today, farmers didn't get much money for their crops, but they had to pay a lot for the things they bought from the stores. Because farmers were organizing and protesting the Federal Government tried to do something to help small farmers.



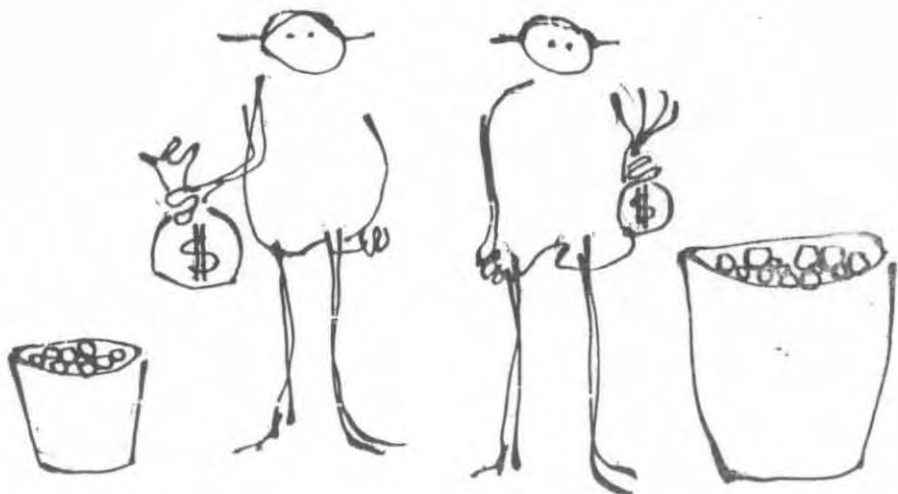
They Set Up Four Programs:

First - PRICE SUPPORTS



These made sure that farmers would be able to sell their crops at something near a decent price. The government buys enough of certain crops (like cotton, corn, tobacco and peanuts) to keep the price up.

Second - ACREAGE CONTROLS



Like white cotton farmers are not allowed to plant too much of certain crops. This way farmers would not produce too much. This means that what was raised would get a decent price.

Third - ACREAGE CONVERSION

People would be hurt if they could not plant all their land because of crop controls. So farmers can get loans and money to plant their land in trees, grass, or certain crops.



Fourth - COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION (CCC)

Prices usually fall at harvest time, so the government set up a loan program. After harvest farmers can store their crops and borrow money from the CCC.

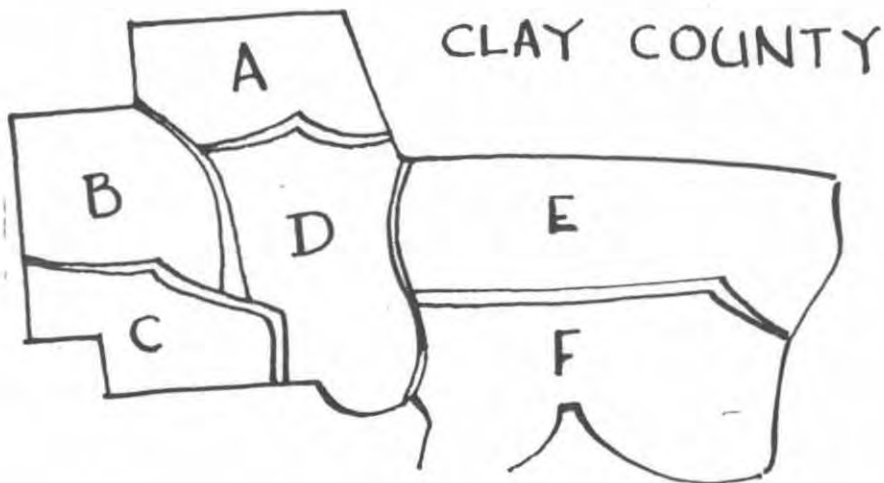
Then they can sell their crops when the price is better.

These programs are still being used today. They are all run through one office, the ASCS office. ASCS stands for Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. Each county has an ASCS office at the county seat.

ASCS COMMITTEES

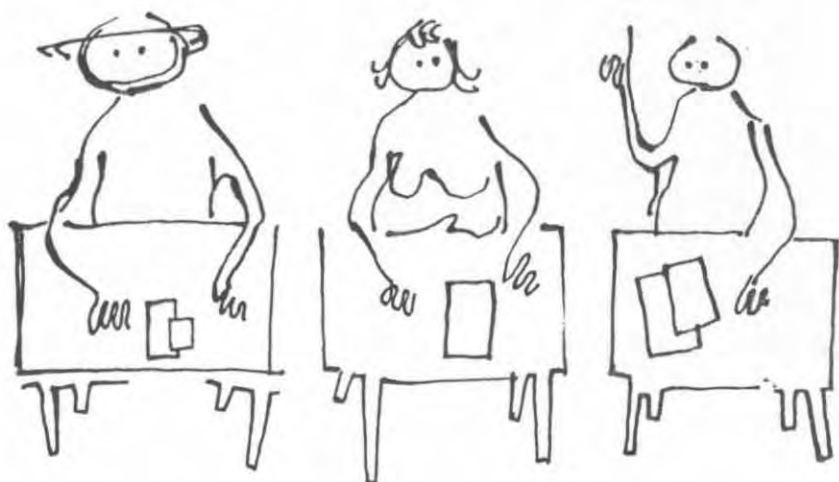
When the government set the ASCS up it tried to make sure that all farmers would have a say in how the ASCS was run. This is how they did that:

FOR AN EXAMPLE
TAKE



1. Each county is divided into communities. The farmers in each community elect three (3) men to the community committee once a year. Anyone who farms can vote; tenants, sharecroppers, landowners, and wives who actively work on the farm.

2. Each county has a 3-man committee. It is elected by the community committmen.



THREE-MAN COMMITTEE

This committee

- a. gives out cotton allotments
- b. decides who gets extra acreage
- c. hires the measurers
- d. decides who gets CCC loans
- e. hires the office supervisor

3. There is a State Director, In Mississippi he is Mr. Sullivan. He can handle complaints.

He is supposed to pass information on the committee.

He is appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture in Washington, D. C.



4. There is a National Director. His name is Raymond Fitzgerald. His office is in Washington, D. C.



5. The Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman, is over him. He is appointed by the congress of the United States.

ASCS Elections

ASCS ELECTIONS

The elections for the community committee will be December 2nd. This is how the election works.

By November 2nd, All farmers, tenants, sharecroppers, owners, and their wives who actively work on the farm should get a letter from the ASCS office.

MAKE SURE
YOUR NAME
IS ON THE
A.S.C.S. BOOK!

If you do not receive a letter and a ballot by the 2nd of November you should go to the ASCS office. If you and your wife own the land you work you should take a copy of the deed showing the names of the owners. Sharecroppers and tenants can take a statement to the ASCS office written by the owner of the land they work on. A receipt for a purchase of fertilizer, seed, farm machinery, etc. can be taken to the ASCS office. The receipt is to show that you have an interest in the crop.

Wives of land owners, sharecroppers, and tenants can vote if they can show that they have an interest in the crop. Their name should be on the deed, statement, or receipt.

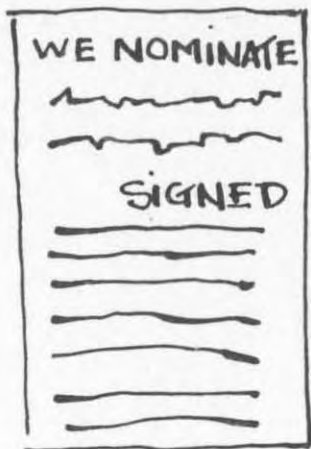
POINTS TO REMEMBER

1. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A REGISTERED VOTER
2. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO OWN THE LAND YOU LIVE ON
3. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE ABLE TO READ AND WRITE

HERE'S HOW TO MAIL YOUR BALLOT

When you get your ballot there will be 2 envelopes. One will be a plain envelope and the other will have a statement printed on the back. You should mark your ballot and seal printed on the back. You should mark your ballot and put it inside the plain envelope and seal it. Then put the sealed plain envelope inside the envelope with the statement on the back. The statement says that the ballot was marked by you personally. If you can not sign your name you can make your sign and have a witness sign the ballot.

After this letter comes out, any eligible voter (anyone who farms) can be nominated and his name put on the ballot.



To nominate someone for the community committee election, six (6) or more eligible voters who live in the same community sign a petition. The petition can say something like: "We nominate Clyde Doe for the ASCS community committee."

Communities in Clay County

SEE MAP ON PAGE 7

Brand and Happy Hollow are in community A on the map, Pheba and Cedar Bluff are in C, and so on.

- A - Brand, Happy Hollow
- B - Montpelier, Pine Bluff, Palestine, Cairo
- C- Pheba, Cedar Bluff
- D - Abbott, Moon Valley
- E - White's Station
- F - Tibbee, Waverly

The person who is nominated must live in the same community as the people who sign his petition. He must be able to vote in the ASCS election. The letter you get should tell you what community you live in.

After the petition is filled out, it should be taken to the ASCS office. It must be in by November 12th. It is a good idea to take it in several days earlier. That way if there are any mistakes on the petition, they can be corrected.

*On NOVEMBER 22nd the ASCS
office will mail out the ballots.*



They must be mailed back by

DECEMBER 2nd!

YOU CAN

VOTE FOR

1

2

3

or 5

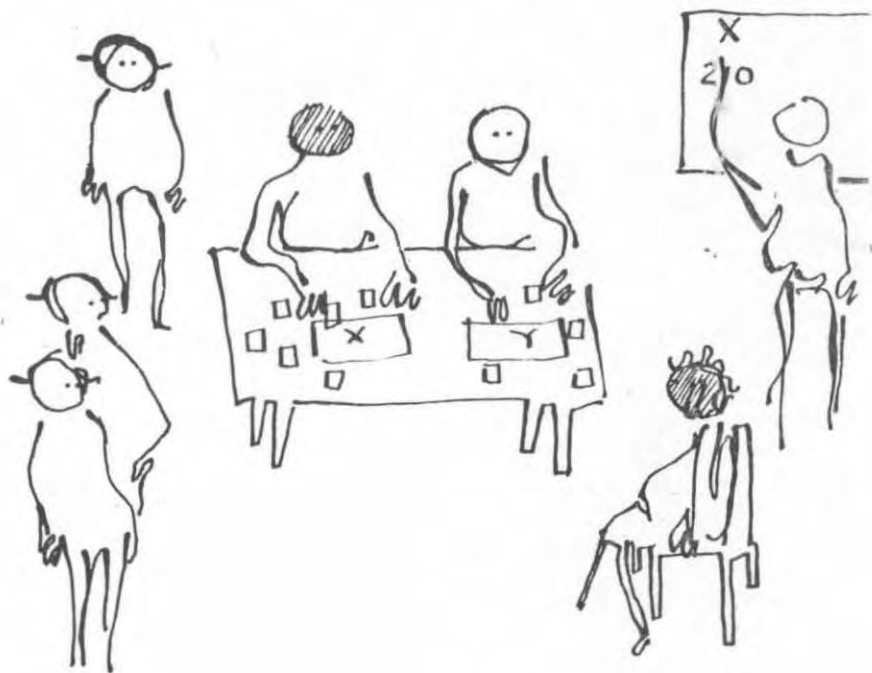
PEOPLE



You DO NOT have to vote for ALL 5

On Election Day -

the ballots will be counted at the ASCS office



EVERYONE WHO VOTED

CAN GO:

and

WATCH

The three (3) men and women in each community who get the most votes are the community committemen. The next two are alternates. They will serve if one of the regular members is absent.

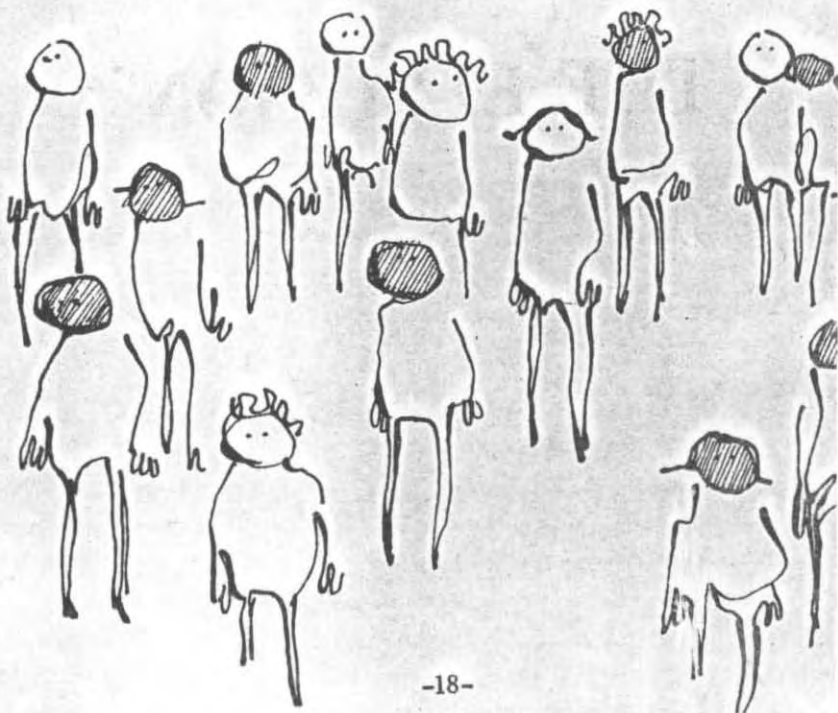


Not long after the election all the community committeemen will meet and elect 3 men to the county committee and 2 alternates.

If people we choose are to get on the

County Committee, we must win more

than half of the seats on the community committee



**TELL YOUR
FRIENDS ABOUT
THE ELECTION**