

FARMERS AID FLOOD FUND

In Chichester, auctioneers get up to their old tricks for a new kind of jumble sale. From all over West Sussex, farmers have brought gifts from their own land to be sold to raise funds for victims of the floods. Cattle by the dozen plus numerous little piglets are among the very "live" stock to be sold. Farmers' wives give eggs and chickens and their children bring even their own pets to swell the funds.

Anything which can squeal, grunt, bray, moo, neigh, bleat or quack is welcome. But not everything has to be alive - a single bottle of Scotch brings in sixty-three pounds. A target of £1,000 has been set, but the Sussex folk bid high and generously. And, when accounts are finally checked, flood victims will receive a gift of more than £1,900.