

# The Rocky Mount Herald

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## Talking Tobacco With The Tobacco Growers

Every Effort Is Being Made  
To Take Care Of The  
Small Grower

(By Ben Kilgore)

A flood of letters from tobacco farmers has poured into the Tobacco Section of the AAA since the passage of the Kerr-Smith Tobacco Act. Since this far-reaching and pioneering measure appears to be uppermost in your minds right now, I'd like to give you my ideas on some of its important provisions. You can disagree, if you like. This is a friendly personal visit and not an official lecture.

Human nature forges to the front in most of these letters. Non-cooperating tobacco farmers are seeking a loop-hole to escape the tax and are asking that their case be made an exception. A great many of these are doomed to disappointment. If they can secure an equitable base under the reduction contract, the law clearly states they will not be allotted tax-payment warrants, unless they sign a contract. Large growers, especially, who wish to escape payment of the tax, should take advantage of the extension of time to sign a reduction contract. The final day is July 28 or thirty days from the signing of the bill by President Roosevelt.

This seems fair enough to me. I see no logical reason why large or small growers who can qualify for an equitable base, should fare better than cooperating growers, who have reduced acreage and have made higher prices possible. In my opinion these growers should sign up or should take their medicine without complaining.

Every effort will be made to take care of small growers who, through circumstances beyond their control, were unable to qualify for an equitable base, under the reduction program. This is right and is the human thing to do. After all the "New Deal" stresses human values and the greatest good to the largest number.

Contracting growers will receive, without applying for them, tax-payment warrants to cover their poundage allotment under their contracts. Additional allotments, up to six per cent of those issued to contracting growers, will be issued to non-contracting growers, who could not qualify for a fair allotment. Non-contracting growers—tenants or landowners—should make application immediately for these tax-payment warrants to their county agent or their county tobacco committee. Two-thirds of the warrants to non-contract signers shall be to small growers, whose allotments are 1500 pounds or less. The balance can go to small growers, also, if the county tobacco

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## Try Our Advertising Columns

Tell The Herald's 7,500 readers of your needs and what you have for sale, rent or exchange by the use of our Classified Ad Column or Regular Ad Column.

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**THE HERALD.**

## Merchant Found Dead At His Safe

Rocky Mount Police Think He  
Was Killed Just As He  
Opened Depository

George E. Spruill, 59, formerly a Baptist minister but more recently operating a grocery store here, was found crouched before his safe early Monday, his skull crushed with blows from a sharp instrument that police think was an axe.

Receipts of Saturday's sales were missing and a jury hastily summoned by Coroner W. C. Gulley of Nashville, concluded that he was murdered and fixed robbery as the motive.

The body was discovered at 7 o'clock Monday by Henry Gray, Negro, who went to the store to make a purchase. Police think Spruill was killed as he opened the door of his safe, John Ellen, son-in-law of the slain man, said that he drove Spruill to the store at 11 o'clock Sunday night and that afterwards he heard him moving about, apparently preparing for bed. He slept in the store regularly. The bed had been slept in and Spruill was fully clothed when the body was found.

Bowen Dorsey, state prison fingerprint expert, was summoned from Raleigh to aid in the investigation and blood hounds were used in a fruitless hunt in a wooded section near the city in which officers believed that the killer was hiding. Chief of Police O. P. Hedgepeth declined to comment on whether the police had suspects in mind but indicated that several persons would probably be questioned. No arrests have been made.

Funeral services were held here Tuesday afternoon at 4:30 with Rev. J. W. Kincheole, pastor of the First Baptist church and Rev. W. O. Rosser, Baptist minister of Smithfield, in charge. Spruill was an alumnus of Wake Forest College of the class of 1900 and was formerly a student in the Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. He had been in business here for a number of years.

He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. John Ellen, of this city.

Captain Bowen Dorsey, State Prison fingerprint expert, who was called on the Spruill murder, said he was unable to obtain any clear prints from the safe. He did obtain some prints, however, but they were not distinct.

## GEORGE BURTON WILL DISCUSS TRIP ABROAD AT ROTARY MEETING

George A. Burton, local tobaccoist, will address the regular session of the Rotary Club Friday night at 6:30 o'clock in the Ricks hotel dining room, according to announcement by Dr. W. B. Kinlaw, chairman of the program committee.

Mr. Burton will discuss international relations as observed on his recent trip abroad.

## NO ARGUMENT

Atty-General Dennis G. Brummitt and Commissioner of Revenue A. J. Maxwell are the State Capital's best-known debaters. But on one important state question they agree. Mr. Maxwell says: "I agree with him that the absentee voting privilege should be repealed outright." More and more citizens are joining them in their belief. No other feature of North Carolina's election laws is more dangerous to fair elections in the state.

## ARSENIC KILLS GULLS

Portage la Prairie, Man.—Arsenic, put out by farmers to kill grasshoppers, has caused the death of thousands of gulls in the Delta Marshes. A colony of 20,000 gulls is said to have lost 18,000 birds.

## State Board Of Elections Reports

The State Board of Elections, after visiting Carteret county and hearing evidence, state "that the Board does not find evidence of corrupt practices in the primary election of June 2nd, but does find evidence of disregard of the requirements of the elections laws, which, if persisted in, are calculated to destroy the confidence of the people in the integrity of the elections." The statement "that violations and disregard of elections laws by the elections officials of Carteret county are to such an extent, that if persisted in, are calculated to destroy the confidence of the people in the integrity of elections," is probably the strongest indictment that the Board could have made against abuse of the elections laws and the Absentee Ballot law, and if conditions had not been bad, the State Board of Elections would not have made this statement, for before making this statement they stated that the Board did not find evidence of corrupt practices, even though they stated that the condition was such that unless it was desisted in, it would destroy the confidence of the people in the integrity of elections.

According to press reports, Carteret County has about an equal amount of Democrats and Republicans, and in the recent primary, voted more Democrats than there were both Republican and Democrats registered in Carteret County. The State Board of Elections found, from evidence, that the Absentee Ballot law was absolutely disregarded, as to the requirements in issuing same, and the Chairman of Carteret County stated that he estimated at least twelve hundred Republicans voted in the last primary. As many as fifty absentee ballots were sent to one man, without even a receipt being given for same. Mr. McLendon further stated, according to press reports, that he had found that one Justice of the peace alone probated 246 affidavits in one day which he found absolutely impossible for one magistrate to do. Yet, the board, in its generosity, finds there was not evidence of corrupt practices, but there was such an utter disregard of the law in the voting in Carteret County, that if persisted in, would destroy the confidence of the people in the integrity of elections. This report alone, shows that the absentee ballot law should be abolished, except in cases of extreme illness.

In the recent primary for Congress in the Fourth Judicial District, we were informed that as many as five hundred votes by absentee ballot were sent out of Washington, and practically all of them were marked in favor of Mr. Pou, the machine being in favor of Mr. Pou, and when the machine is in favor of a candidate, they control the absentee ballot, and they are generally issued in favor of the candidate that the machine favors.

## PATROL SHOULD ATTEND DUTIES ON HIGHWAY AND NOT LEAD PARADES

In a recent editorial, appearing in one of the leading State papers, the following statement was made: "The Mayor of Chicago has put an end in that city to flying parades of dignitaries behind motorcycle officers roaring behind sirens." This practice, the Mayor said, is "small town." The report further says: "That Chicagoans generally welcome the edict as a relief to ears and the nerves and the elimination as an affront to civic dignitaries." North Carolina, too, would welcome the elimination of this "small town" pageantry to which too great an extent the Highway Patrol has devoted itself.

This practice of having the Highway Patrol to proceed in front of the Governor and other lesser dignitaries at a high rate of speed and the blowing of trumpets and sirens, was first inaugurated by Governor O. Max Gardner and is still being used by his successors in office, which has been designated above, by the Mayor of Chicago, as "small town" stuff. Mr. Clark, of the Statesville Landmark, stated that if the Highway Patrol, which he called "State Paterollers" would go on and attend to their duties on the highway, instead of parading on special occasions, travel would be safer and there would be less accidents and casualties upon the thoroughfares. We do not know who is responsible for this, whether it be under the direction of Captain Farmer, the Chairman of the Highway Commission or the Chief Executive, but it looks like it has become too general and in some instances, quite a nuisance.

Recently, the Governor was expected in Rocky Mount, to attend Rocky Mount's gala event, the June German. Some of the officers and patrolmen took up their beat along some of the principal streets and were there a long time before the Governor was even expected, asking people to not stop on that street, that the Governor was expected to pass that way. On reliable information, we are informed that one of Rocky Mount's most prominent ladies drove down Church Street about six o'clock in the afternoon and wanted to stop long enough to make a call, and she was informed by one of the traffic group that she could not stop in that street, as the Governor was expected to pass that way. This was about six o'clock and we are reliably informed that the Governor did not appear until about seven o'clock, or later. Now this was not the Governor's fault, but it is the condition that those in authority should see that it is not repeated, as it might put Rocky Mount in the "small class" group.

## Funds Awarded For Finishing Airport Plan Program For Farm Week

Definite assurance was given today from Washington that Rocky Mount's airport would be completed, when the Federal Relief Administration announced the allotment of \$100,677 for completion of airport projects in North Carolina. No estimate of the exact amount this city will receive has been made.

The airport will not be finished any sooner than planned, Mrs. R. D. Bulluck, director of relief activities here, stated, but many unexpected improvements will be made possible by the FERA allotment. It is hoped, at the present, that the

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Several thousand North Carolina farmers and farm women are looking forward to an "educational vacation" at Farm and Home week at State College, July 31 to August 4. Periods of study in which they will learn more about living an abundant rural life, will be alternated with delightful recreational activities and informal gatherings in which they can chat with one another about their experiences

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## Consider Street Paving Program

Sections of Ten Streets Affected In Program To Be Presented to Board

A paving program which will embrace sections on ten different streets in the city including approximately 30,000 square yards or more than two miles, will be presented to the board of aldermen in session on August 2 at which time an ordinance will be considered for the adoption of the program, City Manager Leslie B. Aycock announced today.

The approximate cost of the paving program has been placed at between \$8,000 and \$10,000 with money for labor expected from the emergency relief administration.

The city has a sum of \$8,000 set aside for such a program, the city manager pointed out, while the board of aldermen will be asked to assess one-fourth of the total costs against the property owners.

In a letter being mailed today to property owners who will be affected the city manager calls attention to the fact that any property owner who wishes to be heard concerning the matter is invited to be present to offer his views either in person or writing at the August 2 meeting of the board.

The construction, Mr. Aycock has pointed out, will be of a type similar to that now being used extensively by the state highway commission in and around Rocky Mount and is considered the least expensive.

By paving a small portion of the unpaved streets each year, Mr. Aycock shows that no bond issue will be necessary. He said that he was hopeful that no serious objection to the paving program as outlined will be forthcoming.

The streets to be paved under the present set-up, which will be presented at the August 2 meeting of the board, are as follows:

Western avenue, Villa to Pine streets.

North Grace street, Thomas street to Falls Road.

Villa street, Nash to Hammond streets.

Pine street, Western to Sunset avenue.

Clark street, Edgecombe street Marigold street, Cokey road to Redgate avenue.

Edgewood street.

Buena Vista avenue, Clark street to Cokey road.

Edgecombe street, Branch to Marigold street.

Eastern avenue, Lexington to Raleigh streets.

Washington street, Bassett street to A. C. L. Railway.

## DOCTORS HOLD NO HOPE FOR RECOVERY OF MARIE DRESSLER

Santa Barbara, Calif. July 24.—The condition of Marie Dressler, veteran film actress, critically ill with cancer and heart trouble, was reported unchanged today.

Dr. Franklin R. Nuzum said she was in no immediate danger, but holds no hope for her recovery.

## DEMONSTRATION AGENT TO SUPERVISE CANNING

Tarboro, July 24.—Miss Catherine Millsaps, Home demonstration agent, announced that the relief workers who are aiding in canning will can vegetables for those people who desire to have them canned under the supervision of the canning leaders of the county. If it is impossible for the vegetables to be brought to Miss Millsaps' office in the courthouse they will be called for.

## COUNTY AGENT SENDS OUT COTTON CHECKS

Tarboro, July 25.—Herman W. Taylor, Edgecombe county agent, today announced that 662 cotton checks amounting to \$33,842.47 have been delivered from his office here during the past three days.

All the cotton rental checks have been received with the exception of about 300 and all the tobacco rental checks have been received with the exception of about 85.

## PARAGRAPHS ON NATIONAL PROBLEMS AT WASHINGTON

### Child Survey Is Near Conclusion

Mrs. W. G. Williams Directs  
Survey of Children in  
City

Next week will mark the conclusion of a survey of children of World War veterans and physically handicapped children which began six weeks ago under the direction of the American Legion and Auxiliary Child Welfare Service.

A period of three weeks was allotted for the survey but as it was not completed in that time an extra three weeks was granted. Mrs. Ruth Ricks Duty had charge of the survey during the first three weeks and Mrs. W. Gray Williams is now directing activities with the assistance of Miss Sally Shoemaker.

The purpose of the survey is to obtain an accurate and complete record of the number of children of veterans and physically disabled children in this section. Mrs. Williams is directing the survey with the aid and cooperation of various local organizations including the Salvation Army, Welfare department, and churches of the city.

Information gathered in the survey includes records of the child's health and disabilities, approximate income of veteran if employed, need of the children, details of veteran's war service, and mental condition of the children.

Mrs. Williams reports that a large number of children have been found but that all have not yet been reached and urges anyone who knows any children who should be included in the survey to report the cases to her.

### CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS

The United States Civil Service Commission has announced open competitive examinations as follows:

Associate meteorologist, \$3,200 to \$3,800, assistant meteorologist, \$2,600 to \$3,200 a year, Weather Bureau, Department of Agriculture. Closing date, August 21, 1934.

Community worker, and supervisory, head, and assistant community workers, with salaries ranging from \$1,620 to \$3,800 a year, Indian Field Service, Department of the Interior. Closing date, August 21, 1934.

The salaries named are subject to a deduction of not to exceed 5 per cent during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1935, as a measure of economy, and also to a deduction of 3 1-2 per cent toward a retirement annuity.

All states except Iowa, Vermont, Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia have received less than their quota of appointments in the apportioned departmental service in Washington, D. C.

Full information may be obtained from A. D. Cuthrell, Secretary of the United States Civil Service Board of Examiners, at the post office or customhouse in this city.

### TOBACCO BARN DESTROYED BY FIRE

Tarboro, July 23.—A tobacco barn near Leggett belonging to Rurick Gammon was destroyed by fire Friday night about seven o'clock. The loss is estimated at \$700.

Federal relief funds will be used in many counties to operate canning establishments for the purpose of packing meat, vegetables, fruit

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## NOTICE

Those desiring to subscribe to The Rocky Mount Herald may do so by sending \$1.00 with name and address to The Rocky Mount Herald, Rocky Mount, N. C.

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