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The Johnstonian-Sun

TODAY

Thursday, July 21—Sun-
rise, 5:12 a. m. Sunset, 7:26
p. m. Length of the day, 14
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SELMA, N. C., THURSDAY—JULY 21, 1949.

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REFERENDUM REMINDER—"I'm no tobacco farmer," says young Larry Allen of Wake County, N. C., "but Saturday, July 23 is an important date for everybody. That's the day every flue-cured grower—landowner, tenant and sharecropper—should go to his community polling place to vote on TOBACCO ASSOCIATES and MARKETING QUOTAS. My Daddy says tobacco farmers have the best program they've ever had, but they must vote Saturday, July 23 to keep that program."

5,000 Expected for Farm Week

More than 5,000 Tar Heel farmers and homemakers are expected to gather on the State College campus in Raleigh early next month for what promises to be the most outstanding Farm and Home Week program ever held in North Carolina, John W. Goodman, assistant director of the State College Extension Service, said this week.

The four-day annual event, not held last year because of a polio epidemic, will begin with registration on Monday, August 8, and continue until Thursday night, August 11, when Bob Hawk, national radio show quizmaster, will preside over a grand-finales contest during which more than \$50,000 worth of farm machinery and equipment will be given away.

Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan, author of the much-discussed Brannan farm program, will headline a list of notable speakers for the occasion. He will address a joint session of men and women on Tuesday night.

Other featured speakers will be Governor Scott, himself a farmer and former county agent; Rep. Harold D. Cooley of Nashville, chairman of the House Agriculture Committee; Mrs. Camille McGhee Kelly, of Memphis, Tenn., one of the best-known juvenile court judges in the nation; and Mrs. Raymond Sayre, president of Associated Country Women of the World.

Congressman Cooley will speak on proposed national farm legislation and will then participate in a round-table discussion on the same subject with Dr. J. H. Hillton, dean of the State College School of Agriculture; L. Y. Balentine, State agriculture commissioner; R. Flake Skaw, executive secretary of the North Carolina Farm Bureau; Harry B. Caldwell, master of the State Grange; G. T. Scott, State director of Production and Marketing Administration; E. B. Garrett, State soil conservationist; and Dr. I. O. Schaub, director of the State College Extension Service.

Selma Firms Get Safety Awards

Worley Beverages, Inc., and Jean-M-Right Cleaners today were awarded a Certificate of Safety Achievement signed by State Labor Commissioner Forrest H. Shuford for having achieved a perfect record of no lost-time accidents during 1948.

The safety award was presented to the firms by T. B. Knight, safety inspector representing the North Carolina Department of Labor in the Raleigh District.

The certificate cites these two firms for having made an outstanding record in the field of accident prevention last year and for preventing the human suffering and economic loss which are caused by industrial accidents.

The award is presented to establishments which qualify by having perfect safety records, having accident rates at least 75 per cent below the State average, or by reducing their accident rates 40 per cent or more during any calendar year, Mr. Knight explained.

Qualification of industrial plants for the Certificate of Safety Achievement is one phase of the Labor Department's Manpower Conservation Program, which also includes safety education work and periodic inspection drives, the inspector said.

Small Change Paper Money Still Good

Miss Blanche Mitchener of Selma has several pieces of American paper money in small denominations ranging from 15c to 50c. The dates on the money range from 1845 to 1866. The money was taken to London, England in 1895 by a Mr. Powell, who sent them to Mr. Lahey of Umatilla, Fla., who in turn gave them to John A. Mitchener, Miss Mitchener's father.

Stork Club

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Kirby of Fremont announce the birth of a son, on Sunday, July 17, in the Goldsboro hospital. Mrs. Kirby is the former Miss Rebekah Fulghum of Kenly.

TO FURNITURE SHOW
Talmage Corbett, of Selma Furniture Co., left Wednesday to attend the furniture show in High Point.

Selma Test and Repeater Telephone Station Is An Important Link In Nation's Communication System

Perhaps the most unique history of any business in Selma is that surrounding the American Telephone and Telegraph Company's station in Selma. In addition to the local telephone exchange, the long lines department of the Bell System has a test and repeater station located here. The A. T. & T. and the Southern Bell render two separate services.

Established in 1913 in about the same location as the City Barber Shop on Raeford street, the station has a record of 36 years of continuous service. In 1915 the station was moved to its present location at the corner of Anderson and Raeford streets. "How interesting to know the exact part that the station has played in the communication life of the nation throughout this time were it possible to relate just the last World War would prove a fitting example.

The initial force in Selma consisted of two men, under the late Norman M. Screws as Chief Test-board Man. As is to be expected, economic conditions and technological improvements have resulted in the number of men being varied up and down but at its peak the station required about 17 men.

In 1920 Mr. Screws was succeeded by E. O. Wood, now deceased, who served about eight years. He in turn was succeeded by Charles W. Scates, who remained about 10 years and was transferred to Greenville, S. C. Mr. Scates served from April 15, 1926 until September 1, 1936. Mr. Wood went to Denmark, S. C., serving there until his death a few years ago. Mr. Scates continues in Greenville. He was followed here by C. F. Carty who served six years.

Mr. Carty was succeeded by Bernard C. DuBose, present chief of the station. In a way, the correct designation for the station in Selma is a Test and Repeater station and not just the "telephone office." Mr. DuBose has been in Selma since 1928, he having served as telegraph service man, transmission man and test-board man prior to his appointment as chief.

Perhaps a brief technical description of the function of Selma's most unusual business should be given here. The station acts as a "repeater" point on long-haul telephone circuits; ie, long distance circuits that connect two switchboards at considerable distances from each other. For example, direct circuits between New York, Washington, or other cities in the North pass through Selma where they are "repeated" or amplified enroute to the next switchboard which may be Augusta, Atlanta, Charleston, Miami, Jacksonville, Palm Beach or Key West. By the same token, the distant termination may be the Pacific coast. These may be direct circuits, as previously noted, with no intermediate operators.

Another important but possibly lesser known phase of the communications industry as it relates to activities in Selma is the leased wire services provided by the Long Lines department. These are provided newspapers and radio stations and the huge press associations themselves for their use in the transmission of news and photographs which make up the daily fare of the large crops of readers and listeners in our country. Included, too, is the provision of an unusually high grade type of telephone circuit—or circuits—employed to interconnect the broadcasting networks.

The leased wire telegraph service is also employed on a large scale by commercial concerns, such as stock-brokers. Thus it may be easily seen that through the sometimes humdrum and placid daily life of a small town is the day-to-day participation by a small group of highly skilled technical men in the momentous miracles of modern communications. This is true largely because Selma acts as a repeater and distribution point from which any number of points in eastern North Carolina are bridged from the main through lines to the outlying point. Hence the person (or persons) on duty at any given time at the Selma Testboard exercise supervision over the provision, and maintenance of a number of types of service over an area extending from the Virginia line to Darlington, S. C., and to Raleigh west and to the ocean towards the east.

The Long Lines test and repeater station at Selma is one of the oldest in existence in the

Giant Test Board at the Selma Test and Repeater Station



J. C. Diehl, test board man is shown at the large test board in the Selma station. On this board wire trouble is located between Selma and Richmond and Selma and Denmark, S. C.

System. It is well known over the nation to telephone men, and many people now serving in various parts of the United States have at one time served here. Or they have been connected with it in some capacity.

Men assigned to the local station are, in addition to Mr. DuBose, J. C. Diehl, G. H. Younger, Ben A. Brantley, J. L. McMillan, W. H. Hightower, Jr., and Howard V. Gaskill. The system takes considerable pride in the fact that these men and their families—as their predecessors—were recognized as good citizens. Professionally all of them are known and recognized by their fellows as being able technicians. The work is so divided that each man has his own responsibilities, and he has the ability and knowledge to assume and discharge them.

In addition to the day-to-day job of furnishing the various services the station forces attend to the job covering inter-company work performed at the various offices in its area. Plans and specifications are prepared locally as required by job conditions. They also are responsible for maintenance of technical equipment attached to pole lines, although ordinary maintenance of these outside facilities are cared for by a staff of three section linemen reporting to Selma.

The test and repeater station in Selma contains thousands of miles of wire. The nearest station north of its type is Richmond, while the nearest southern station is Denmark, S. C. The station is equipped with a C carrier system which is so scientific that two wires can carry four two-way telephone conversations and two telegraph circuits at the same time and not get them mixed up.

On the first floor is located the company's power plant. The plant takes regular alternating city current and puts it through rectifiers and its comes out 24 and 130 volts direct current. In case of power failure there are three engines that can be switched on to produce current. One engine generates 130 volts of negative direct current, while another one generates 130 volts of positive direct current. The third engine develops 24 volts of direct current.

In the event that the city current fails and the engines also fail, the office has storage batteries that will produce current in sufficient quantity to last eight hours. The engines are started up and tested every Thursday. The office has its own lighting system that switches on automatically when local current fails. The system works on 24 volts, instead of 110 as in the case of regular city current. The light bulbs used on the 24 volt lines all have left handed threads and cannot possibly be screwed into 110 volt receptacles.

The second floor of the building is taken up with test boards and hundreds of miles of wire. All toll wires passing through Selma terminate at the test board. All wires running between Selma and Richmond and Selma and Denmark, S. C., are tested on the local board.

The third floor is taken up with repeaters and amplifiers. These machines take voices and signals and amplify them. This is necessary every 200 miles. An electrical

Johnston Beer and Wine Election September 20th

A referendum on the sale of beer and wine in Johnston County will be held Tuesday, September 20.

No special registration will be required. Registration books will open in the 29 precincts in the county from Saturday, August 20, to Saturday, September 10.

- Johnstonians will vote on the two beverages separately as follows:
- (1) For the legal sale of wine.
 - (2) Against the legal sale of wine.
 - (3) For the legal sale of beer.
 - (4) Against the legal sale of beer.

A majority of those persons actually voting in the election must cast ballots against the sale of beer and wine for the two alcoholic beverages to be outlawed in the county.

If the citizens vote out beer and wine at the referendum, places of business in Johnston County would have 60 days from the date of the election in which to dispose of their stocks of beer and wine. Date of the referendum was set by the County Board of Elections at a meeting Saturday.

The election was originally scheduled for Tuesday, July 26, but was cancelled in early May by the elections board because the date set for the vote would have fallen within 60 days of the statewide school and road bond issue election of June 4.

The 1947 General Assembly act providing for county and town referendums on beer and wine sale stated that such an election could not be held within 60 days of any other election.

The movement for the beer-wine referendum got under way in Johnston County last winter. Dry leaders, headed by Judge F. H. Brooks of Smithfield, circulated petitions at the general election in November requesting the vote. These petitions, containing 4,432 signatures, were presented to the County Board of Elections. The law provides that the referendum must be called if the petitioners are 15 per cent of the voters in the gubernatorial contest at the November 2 general election. The required number was 1,937.

The check of the names of petitioners from only half of the precincts against the registration books turned up more than 2,000 signatures of voters in the general election.

The election was called and set for July 26, but later had to be cancelled.

Text of the order signed by Elections Board Chairman C. H. (Hub) Brown of Selma and calling the September 20 vote:

"Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 1084, of the laws of North Carolina, Session 1947, the Board of Elections of Johnston County has called a special election in Johnston County for the purpose of submitting to the voters of Johnston County the questions of whether or not wine and beer, or either, shall be legally sold within Johnston County, said 1949."

Legion Installs New Officers

The officers of Selma American Legion Post No. 141 were installed as follows:

- Wilbur D. Perkins, Commander;
- Roland Fields, First Vice Commander;
- Fuller Suber, Second Vice Commander;
- Newton A. Branch, Third Vice Commander;
- C. A. Bailey, Adjutant;
- J. L. McLaurin, Finance officer;
- Wilson Broadwell, Chaplain;
- Alton Meece, Historian and publicity;
- Leland M. Grice, Sergeant-at-Arms.

The following committees were appointed:

- C. B. Fulghum, Grave registration;
- H. S. Ward, Guardianship;
- E. B. Creech, Athletic officer;
- John Jeffreys, Sr., Americanism;
- H. V. Payne, Boy's State;
- Dr. E. N. Booker, Boy Scout;
- Dr. Will H. Lassiter, Child Welfare;
- H. L. Boney, Employment;
- Hunter Price, Membership;
- R. H. Griffin, Oratorical contest;
- Norwood J. Jackson, Sons of Legion.

Commander Perkins stated that he felt very humble in accepting the responsibility as leadership of so great an organization, but he hoped to continue the high standard of service of his predecessors in office, and to bring to the members a fuller realization of the Legion's responsibility and position in the community.

He also, stated the objectives of the post for the forthcoming year would be the continuation of the sponsorship and support of the American Legion Junior baseball activities. The sponsorship of sending a boy to the "Boy's State" forum at Chapel Hill, for instruction in local and state government affairs. The assisting other local civic organizations with the community underprivileged opportunities and to carry out the Veteran's grave marker project, for the Selma community, hoping that all information be given to C. B. Fulghum, the Post's Graves Registration officer, so that all Veteran's graves could be properly and permanently marked.

RETURNS FROM MARKET

C. H. (Hub) Brown of the Economy Furniture Co., Selma attended the furniture show in High Point, Monday and Tuesday of this week.

Special election to be held on 20 day of September, 1949, in accordance with the provisions and pursuant to the terms of Chapter 1084 aforesaid.

The registration books will be open in all voting precincts of the County for the purpose of Registering qualified voters beginning on Saturday, August 20, 1949, and closing Saturday, September 10, 1949.

Johnston Has \$7,562,800 At Stake In Vote Saturday

Johnston County flue-cured tobacco growers have a \$7,562,800 stake in the Tobacco Associates referendum Saturday, July 23 for that's the amount they received for the exported portion of their 1948 crop.

G. Willie Lee, Willow Springs, county chairman for the referendum, last week pointed out the vital interest local farmers have in the export program. He urged every grower who will share in the proceeds of the 1949 crop to "get out and vote" on the 10-cents an acre self-assessment to support Tobacco Associates, and on Marketing Quotas. The Marketing Quotas referendum will be held at the same time and in the same polling places.

Other committee members are: A. J. Whitley, Smithfield, and Oscar L. Boyette, Princeton. "Every flue-cured grower depends upon exports for the sale of about 40 percent of his crop," the chairman said. "In our county last year, we produced 37,815,938 pounds of tobacco on about

28,197.2 acres, with an average per acre yield of 1,341 pounds. "Our county's flue-cured crop in 1948 was worth approximately \$18,907,000, but without our export market we would have suffered plenty. There would have been no place for that 40 percent we usually export, and the resulting depressed prices surely would have placed our loss far above the \$7,562,800 we received for our exported tobacco.

"There's no doubt that two-thirds of the farmers voting in North and South Carolina in the Tobacco Associates referendum will approve the continuation of the program. However, we must register an overwhelming vote—just as we did in 1947 when more than 125,000 voted for the program and less than 2,000 against it. A big vote will show everyone tobacco farmers are eager to do something to help themselves. Let's get out that big vote Saturday, July 23 for Tobacco Associates and Marketing Quotas, vital parts of our board tobacco program."

Too Much Speed Blamed for Most Highway Wrecks



JEFF B. WILSON

Raleigh.—Speeders lose! With this warning the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicle today launched its July safety program against the dangers of excessive speed. This concentration on speed is part of a continuing year-around traffic safety program conducted nationally by the National Safety Council and in North Carolina by the Department.

"Too much speed is a contributing factor in one out of every three fatal traffic accidents," said Jeff B. Wilson, director of the Highway Safety Division. "This means that too high speeds play a part in the deaths of approximately 250 persons yearly on North Carolina highways."

Fully as important as posted speed limits—if not more so—according to Wilson, are the speed limits that each motorist should impose upon himself.

"Call them conscience speed limits if you wish," the Highway Safety Department director said. "But in every driver there should be a sense of responsibility toward his driving—a realization that posted speed limits are an in-physical condition, and countless safe speed on a road under ideal circumstances.

"Too seldom, however, is the road traveled under circumstances. Night, rain, fog, other traffic, the road surface, the driver's physical condition, and countless other factors must be taken into should be a guide. Often conditions.

(See A Page Four)

Woodard Takes Civil Service Job

Ernest V. Woodard, Jr., left by plane Sunday morning for Radford, Va., where he has been appointed analytical chemist by the U. S. Civil Service Commission. Since his graduation from Atlantic Christian College in February, he has been employed in the Chemistry Department of the State Laboratory of Hygiene, Raleigh. Mrs. Woodard will join him in Radford in the near future.