

Lea's Personnel Remains Much The Same This Year

Hunter Y. Lea Begins His Fifth Year As Operator Of The Lea Tobacco Warehouse, Is Man Of Wide Experience

WIDE EXPERIENCE IN HOUSE PERSONNEL

Louie Love Will Be Back As Auctioneer, and Thurston Lennon Will Be On Floor; Powell And McDaniel Back As Bookkeepers

Once again the well known tobaccoist, Hunter Y. Lea, will be ready to start another season off for Lea's Warehouse at the opening of the Whiteville Tobacco market on August 12. Beginning his fifth year on the Whiteville market, Mr. Lea is prepared to see that Mr. Tobacco Farmer will get the same service and satisfaction that has made Lea's Warehouse famous for over 27 years.

Such experience, gained in Danville, Lake City, S. C., and other places, has made the name Lea famous throughout Virginia and the Carolinas.

The personnel of Lea's will remain the same. The same men are ready and anxious to serve the tobacco farmers of Columbus and surrounding counties.

The familiar chant of Louie Love will ring out the merry tune of high dollars for the farmers who bring in their leaf from far and near. Recognized as one of the best auctioneers in the business, this veteran will begin his third year as chanter for the Lea Warehouse.

Thurston Lennon of Welches Creek township, will again hold the responsible job of floor manager. This Columbus county man has been associated with the Lea Warehouses in Danville and Whiteville for a number of years and is known to thousands as a capable manager.

Assisting Mr. Lennon on the floor will be Jud Hooks, of Whiteville, who, for many years, has been an outstanding figure in the warehouse personnel. L. B. Hester for ten or eleven years operated warehouses in Clarkton and Sanford, will be back again to help with the work on the floor. Others prominent in the tobacco business such as Walter

Pierce, Townes Lea, and Joe Pruitt, will return to give the same brand of efficient and courteous service that has made more farmers come back.

Lee Gore, of Tabor City, and Charles Collier, of Western Prong round out the familiar floor force.

Bookkeeper Fred Holderby will again head the list of warehouse veterans behind the desk. Lester Powell, completing 11 years on the local market, and Stephen McDaniel, another big name in the tobacco business, are to be found in their familiar positions as clerks. Frank Matkins will be ticket marker.

SAVING FOOD IS SEEN ESSENTIAL TO NATIONAL DEFENSE

(Continued from page one) A good garden on every farm will not only serve the food needs of the family, it can serve also as a means to add to the family income if a surplus is planted to sell.

Meat, poultry, milk, butter, cheese, eggs, vegetables and fruits are the makings of a good, satisfying food supply. Much of this food can be as available in winter as in summer with the improved methods of storing, freezing, and canning that are in use today.

Freezer-Lockers Available

Every year valuable supplies of meat are lost by farmers during the slaughtering season due to sudden changes from cold to hot weather. It is important to chill meat thoroughly immediately after it is slaughtered, whether it is to be canned, frozen, or consumed fresh. Freezer-locker plants have the facilities for chilling, cutting, curing and freezing meats. This method of curing for meats extends the period of consumption over several months and prevents losses that might occur without refrigeration.

Fruits, vegetables and other foods can be stored in the freezer-lockers with equal success. Drying, too, is a satisfactory method of taking care of many fruits and vegetables. If proper equipment is used and directions are followed carefully, home canned foods can be as safe as the commercial products. A pantry filled with canned meats, fruits, and vegetables is not only a

gratifying sight, but it will release cash income for other purposes.

This year more than ever before every housewife needs to know the fundamental principles underlying food preservation and should permit no food to go to waste. Every can of food saved is a vital contribution to our defense program. The North Carolina State College Extension Service will be glad to send bulletins on canning and other methods of food preservation to anyone who desires this service.

At present there are 88 Home Demonstration Agents who with their local leaders are teaching thousands of farm families approved methods of canning. In 1940, 37,018 families canned a total of 6,725,773 containers of food with a conservatively estimated value of \$1,010,787.59. These figures do not include products canned under the supervision of 18 Negro agents.

Plant New Vegetables

When buying seed and making plans for surplus vegetables, remember to plant a few new ones to sell on the curb market. A good asparagus bed will yield a steady income after it is well established; cauliflower, eggplant, Brussels sprouts, and broccoli are a few other vegetables that are in demand and are not found in every farm garden. Plant one or more of these this year.

Early radishes and spring onions are favorites too, and the woman who gets them to the market first is the one who raps the profits. Tomato and other plants and herbs find ready sale on the curb markets. The favorite herbs are parsley, chives, sweet marjoram, thyme and savory. Customers like these herbs for their kitchen windows where they are convenient to use in stews, sauces, omelets, and poultry stuffing.

For successful marketing, whatever the product, quality is essential and products must be well graded and attractively displayed to attract customers. More than 2,000 farm women are now engaged in selling home produced goods on the 48 organized curb markets that are scattered over the state from Dare county in the East to Macon in the West. Sales for 1940 were \$401,108.19. This addition to the cash farm income will do much to bring health, efficiency, and security to the 2,000 families participating.

World Famous Chant Once Resounded In Local House

(Continued from page 1.) Considered typical and representative of that most unusual profession.

Mr. Riggs got his nickname "Speed" because of his splendid record of selling 462,000 pounds ago.

of tobacco in a single seven-hour selling day. He spent four years as an independent tobacco buyer before becoming an auctioneer, and he has been an auctioneer now for more than nine years.

In order to keep up his standing as a top-notch tobacco auctioneer, Mr. Riggs returns to the South frequently to sell at many of the auctions. He has sold tobacco all over "Tobacco Land," namely, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Tennessee.

Mr. Riggs figures that he's sold more than 7 1/2 million pounds in one year, amounting to some \$2,000,000 in money.

His famous chant is heard each Saturday evening over the CBS network at 9 p. m. E.D.S.T.

MERCHANTS ASS'N PROVES ITSELF AS FARMER'S FRIEND

(Continued from page one) The present officers and Directors of the Merchants Association are: President, W. W. Schulken; Vice-President, S. L. Braxton; Treasurer, J. R. Marks; Secretary, M. S. Smith. Directors: J. A. Maultsby, J. H. Leder, George Gold, S. L. Fuller, Eugene Sears, R. L. Sholar, W. C. Black and L. S. Thompson.

Hocutt Warns Of Traffic Hazards In Tobacco Season

(Continued from page 1) haulers carry flags and flares for use in case of break-downs necessitating emergency repairs on the highway.

Still another thing about which Hocutt warned is the practice of carrying passengers on the rear of trucks or trailers. In past seasons, he said, he has observed that many drivers on their way back home after selling their tobacco make a habit of loading the back of their trucks with neighbors looking for a ride home. Several persons have been killed in the state this summer as a result of falling off or being bounced off the rear end of trucks, he said.

"Getting your tobacco to market is important", he added, "but the really important thing is that the vehicle hauling your tobacco gets to market and back to the farm without endangering the lives of your drivers and helpers or other people on the highway."

USE OF TOBACCO GROWS

More tobacco will be consumed in the United States this year, says the Department of Agriculture, "but not enough to offset the loss of export markets."

Stocks of old flue-cured tobacco were reported as 1,500,957,600 pounds on April 1st, a decrease of around 125,000,000 pounds from January 1st, but about 170,000,000 pounds above a year ago.

Ways To Improve Cotton Quality Are Outlined

Few Years Ago When Cotton Was In Bad Repute, Realized Necessity Of Improving Quality

BY P. H. KIME
Cotton Breeding Specialist
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Here are some of the ways in which we may improve the quality of our cotton, together with a brief review of the changes which have taken place in the staple length of our cotton during the past 15 or 20 years and some of the reasons for these changes.

A few years ago North Carolina grown cotton was in bad repute. Most of it was less than 15-16 inch in length, and often badly mixed both as to staple length and spinning quality. The consumption of 15-16 to 11-16 inch cotton was on the increase. Our mills were not using as much short cotton as we produced, therefore, much of our cotton was shipped to mills in other states or was exported in competition with short staple cotton grown with cheap labor in India and China. Prior to 1915 there were very few well bred varieties, most of the careful breeding work done up to that time had been in the development of long staple varieties. There were very few varieties producing the medium staple lengths of 15-16 to 11-16 inches, and the short staple varieties usually produced much larger yields of lint per acre than did the long staple varieties.

Mexican Variety Introduced

The Wannamaker Cleveland and Mexican varieties were introduced between 1915 and 1920, and other varieties of medium staple length were developed later. However, improvement in the staple length was very gradual up to 1928. Since that time rapid progress has been made due to the more general use of improved varieties.

The great improvement in staple length which has taken place has had a very noticeable effect on the sale of our cotton. North Carolina mills are now using a large part of the cotton grown in the State, particularly the better staple length, and many markets are paying fair to good premiums for medium staple cotton.

Means by which we may further improve our cotton are by growing only those varieties which produce high spinning quality as well as the desired length, by taking every precaution to prevent mixture on the farm and at the gin, and by producing a uniform length and quality in the vicinity of each local market.

Varieties which have proven to be good yielders and which produce the staple lengths and qualities desired are Farm Relief, Mexican, Cleveland 884, Cleveland 5, Wannamaker Cleveland, the Foster strains, Coker 100, Dixie Triumph and Clevevilt. Most of these varieties have been grown extensively in the State for several years and are largely responsible for the great improvement in staple length and quality of our cotton.

Varieties Which Are Recommended

Varieties recommended for various parts of the State are as follows: For the Piedmont area, Mexican, Coker 100, Farm Relief, Cleveland 884-4 and Cleveland 5-7. For the Upper Coastal Plain area, Farm Relief, Cleveland 5-7, Cleveland 884-4, Coker 100, Mexican and Wannamaker Cleveland. On the heavy and poorly drained soils of the lower Coastal Plain, Coker 100, Coker Foster, Carolina Foster and Farm Relief are recommended. Desirable varieties for planting on wilt infected soils are Dixie Triumph, Cleveland and Humco Dixie.

Most cotton is now ginned at public gins and unless extreme care is taken the seed will become badly mixed after a few years. When this happens, they should be replaced with new seed stocks, which should be secured direct from the breeder, a certified grower, or some other reliable source.

There are several methods which may be followed in keep-

ing up the quality of the seed. Some farmers buy enough seed from the breeder each year to produce seed for planting the entire crop the following year. Saving a two or even three year's supply of planting seed is almost a good practice. Many farmers buy certified seed or purchase from their neighbors.

One of the chief difficulties in keeping the seed pure and also in marketing the cotton is that too many varieties are grown in the same locality. The seed quickly become mixed and lint from different varieties varies in staple length and quality.

Mills Prefer Large Lots

Misses Prefer to secure their cotton from markets where large lots of uniform cotton can be secured. Better prices are usually paid on such markets for the same grade, staple and quality than is paid on other markets where a wide range of staple lengths are sold.

The best solution of these problems is for each community or larger area to grow only one variety of cotton and thus get mass production of a uniform staple length and quality. The local market will develop a reputation for selling good cotton, buyers will be attracted, better prices will be secured, and mixtures of seed will be reduced to a minimum. The one-variety plan has already been started with local gin community, and gradually it is being expanded to include whole counties and groups of counties.

Clip Lespedeza Urges Authority

Amendment To State Seed Law Limiting Weed Content Of Fields Make It Essential To Clip Lespedeza

RALEIGH.—Amendments to the State seed law limiting the weed content of lespedeza seed offered for sale and federal standards designate "U. S. No. 1" hay as having 10 per cent or less foreign material "make it essen-

tial for farmers to clip lespedeza fields to control weeds," W. Darset, marketing specialist, the State Department of Agriculture, said today.

Warning that "lespedeza has little ability to suppress weeds," Darset said that "while the hay may grow and survive in competition with weeds, under conditions the yields will be materially reduced."

Newly seeded lespedeza intended for seed, hay or pasture should be clipped soon after grain harvesting," he emphasized. "A second or third clipping may be necessary especially on fertile soil or after heavily fertilized crops."

Darset reported that "during a comparatively dry spring year, newly seeded lespedeza suffered severely, and for the most part the stand was not established in certain localities particularly destroyed," adding that "stands of lespedeza are usually accompanied by a heavy growth of weeds, especially after rains."

"Newly seeded lespedeza small grains should be clipped not only to control weeds, but to remove the tall stubble from the field after the combine," he said. "This material should be removed from the field if the crop is to be harvested for market hay should not be destroyed, but pending on quality, may be used for litter or it may be piled in the barnyard for cattle to eat over and tramp down for manure."

"In second year lespedeza weeds are often even more troublesome than the first year. The clipping of weeds in lespedeza fields will pay well in yields of higher quality hay and seed."

North Carolinians cash in from livestock and livestock products sold in 1940 was only \$591,000 which ranked the State as 30th in cash income from livestock and livestock products reports the State Department of Agriculture.

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