

# Gray And Neal Team Again Operating Tuggle's House

Two Of The Leading Warehousemen Of The Border And Old Belts Will Operate Tuggle's Again This Year

## MOTLEY WILL CHANT SALES

Martin Motley, With 22 Years Of Warehouse Experience, Will Auctioneer For The Tuggle House This Year

Beginning their sixth year as warehouse-manager team on the Whiteville tobacco market, Dial Gray and Jack Neal are launching Tuggle's Warehouse on another banner tobacco season this year, with auctioneer Martin Motley again chanting sales and with practically the same personnel that kept the sales moving in Tuggle's last year. This year the Tuggle's house

goes well past its quarter century mark of reliable service to tobacco growers of Columbus and surrounding counties.

The co-proprietors of Tuggle's, Dial Gray and Jack Neal, have gained a wide reputation as being two of the leading tobaccoists in both other Border of Old Belts.

On the one side of this manager combination is a man who can understand the farmer and his problems from the bottom up, having suffered many of them himself. Jack Neal, a farmer himself, owns and operates a large farm in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, and through his years of experience there, he is well acquainted with the farmer's point of view on all important issues. Living and working in that land of tobacco, he has been able to gain a vast knowledge of its golden weed from its planting

## CAPE FEAR SOIL CONSERVATIONISTS IN SUMMER MEET

(Continued from page 1) Supervisor in Pitt County, met the group at the district office in Greenville and spent the entire day with us. The visits and discussions with these supervisors were very interesting and helpful.

stages through marketing. Mr. Neal's reputation as a tobacco man is backed by his many years' experience in the warehouse business. He has been associated with the Tuggle establishment for the past 19 years.

Dial Gray has also proven his metal as a tobacco warehouseman in this section for some years. He was associated with the late H. G. Tuggle for nine years and after the latter's death, he teamed with Jack Neal to manage the warehouse. This year makes their fifth as managers of the establishment.

Tobacco-seasoned, veteran chanter, Martin Motley, bolstered by 22 years of warehouse experience, is returning to Tuggle's this year for another season as auctioneer.

At the end of the tour on Wednesday afternoon the supervisors held a short business session. In the absence of the chairman the meeting was presided over by A. B. Herring, vice chairman. The supervisors stated that they received much inspiration and many helpful ideas from the tour. The supervisors of the Coastal Plain District and the employees of the Soil Conservation Service who cooperated in planning and conducting the tour were given a vote of thanks for making the trip possible.

H. M. Stott, District Conservationist, reported that interest in developing in several small community drainage jobs in Columbus County. He reported that one job had been staked out and the farmers had hired a dragline to begin operations within a few days. Approval was given to proceed with these community jobs. He also reported that interest seemed to be growing throughout the district in the general program and that satisfactory progress was being made. The four conservationists developed a total of twenty-two farm plans during the month of May.

Mr. Stott reported that the Soil Conservation Service probably would be able to furnish three additional men during the next fiscal year to assist the present staff in establishing practices and rendering better service to cooperators.

## HORTICULTURIST DECLARES COUNTY IDEAL FOR TRUCK

(Continued from Page One) Largely through the efforts of J. P. Quinerly, assistant county agent of the State College Extension Service, Columbus has done more to standardize the sweet potato crop than any other county in the state. Certified seed stocks were placed with about 2,400 Farm Bureau members. Growers taking care of these potatoes will have an ample supply for their total acreage by 1947.

## STRAWBERRIES

H. J. Watts, living near Whiteville, has definitely shown just what can be done with strawberries in this section. He used Klondyke plants and fertilized with 1,000 pounds of 5-7-5 and 200 pounds of nitrate of soda per acre on September 1 last. About January 1 another application of 1,200 pounds of 5-7-5 per acre was made. He sold his 2½ acres for \$4,196.40 or an average of \$1,678.56 an acre. According to County Agent C. D. Raper, Watts marketed 192 crates at \$10.30 per crate and later 258 crates at \$8.60 from the 2½ acres.

With the breeding program now being conducted by E. B. Morrow, small fruits expert for the Agricultural Experiment Station, and with the possibilities of irrigation in the future, strawberry production may develop along the lines of small, family-size acreages rather than large commercial plantings.

Since the strawberry is one of the best fruits for freezing and since the number of frozen food locker plants is rapidly increasing in North Carolina, the acreage may be increased without glutting the market.

## IRISH POTATOES

Normally about 1,500 to 2,000 acres of cobbler are produced annually and most of the acreage is around Tabor City. This crop gives the growers an early cash income and the opportunity of double cropping the land with such crops as corn, soybeans, peanuts, or sweet potatoes.

While the Irish potato crop in Columbus is relatively small as compared with other truck crops, it is a part of a \$3,000,000 industry in Eastern Carolina which is competing with California growers, about 3,000 miles for the Eastern markets. Much can be done to meet the California competition and improve the potatoes in this area.

Here are some suggestions. (1) Under no conditions should potatoes be planted on land infested with potato diseases. (2) Only certified seed should be used. (3) Cut seed potatoes into blocky seed pieces which will weigh not less than 1½ ounces. (4) Dig potatoes in the late afternoon and pick up early the following morning.

It is highly desirable to use pickers attached to the diggers. This will help to prevent the sun from striking the potatoes. In addition, it will permit more rapid cooling of the potatoes when they are left overnight in the field. Exposure to direct sun causes a rapid development of soft rot.

(5) The greatest improvement in the handling of potatoes can be made by better organization of labor in the field and at the shed. The roughest handling oc-

curring at the hopper and while transporting the potatoes from the grader to cars or trucks. (6) Special attention must be given to grading. Here again organization of the grading crew is important. This is particularly true of graders who are working on the belt. (7) Precooling is an important part of the marketing. Lowering the temperature in the cars reduces to a marked degree the development of rotting in transit.

## PECANS

The leading pecan market in the state is located at Whiteville. The tree is not only beautiful and ornamental but yields of \$150 per tree have been reported in

special instances. There would be more reports like this if growers would make a practice of turning under a green manure crop in spring, clean cultivation during the summer, and the use of 2 pounds of 4-8-6 fertilizer for each year of growth of the tree, but not to exceed 40 pounds per tree.

## OTHER TRUCK

From about May 20 to June 15, some 75,000 to 100,000 hampers of early snap beans go to market. This crop also gives the grower the opportunity for double cropping and an early cash income. Following the snap beans, cucumbers come on the market and last until about July 10.

**MARKETING**  
Excellent auction markets are operated at Chadbourn and Tabor City for the convenience of growers in marketing strawberries, snap beans, Irish potatoes and cucumbers. The Waccamaw Bank and Trust Company takes all the financial responsibility of the buyers on the different markets giving both the growers and the buyers unexcelled cooperation. The business men and farmers are working for still better markets and it is this spirit of cooperation on the part of everyone in Columbus County that means so much to the development and future progress of this section.

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