

# The Mount Airy News.

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## MARKETING TOBACCO

### Mount Airy Market Leads Others in Prices —Satisfaction Reigns in Cooperative Ranks Over First Payment

What's the matter with tobacco? Quality and not the price say warehousemen and buyers. Many farmers interviewed on the Mount Airy market agree with them. If any hint is to be registered against present prices it should be charged up to weather conditions during the growing season and not, as some farmers say, to the tobacco trusts or any fancied failure on the part of the Cooperative Association to bring in the millennium. All agree that the excessive rains of the late summer caused tobacco to grow too rapidly and as a consequence the leaf is too coarse, "bony", and lacking in the essential oils. And, too, much of it is spotted with fungus and dried in spots with "wildfire."

Mount Airy's two warehouses and the Association all did a fine business last week. According to J. W. Lovill, special floor man at Banner's warehouse, about a million and a half pounds have been sold on the local market to date. This particular warehouse on Tuesday disposed of 68,000 pounds at an average price of \$18.25 per hundred pounds. Last week's total sales for this warehouse ran about 275,000 pounds, according to Mr. Lovill. When asked if there was an overproduction of the weed this season, Mr. Lovill replied, "Do not think so. While the acreage is doubtless 25 per cent larger than that of last year and the tonnage some larger still I think when the light weight of the leaf is taken into consideration, there is not anything approaching an overproduction. In fact, owing to the poor quality of the leaf, it looks as though there would be an actual shortage of the best grades." He qualified this statement by suggesting that for the most part only the first primmings, of the poorer grades were being offered for sale to date.

Tobacco is bringing on the Mount Airy market from two to seven cents more per pound than on any of the nearby markets in western North Carolina. Mr. Lovill says. Ten buyers representing as many big manufacturers are daily in the local floors.

There had been sold up to Saturday on the Haynes warehouse floor 412,768 pounds of tobacco with an average price around \$16.50 per hundred, according to W. T. Haynes of the firm of Haynes, Brown & Haynes. But Mr. Haynes said the sales at his house would have totalled more but for the fact that the city of Mount Airy has had nearly all the streets approaching his warehouse torn up or else poured with fresh cement so that many of his patrons found it difficult to get into his place.

He pointed out that the streets had now been opened to traffic and is expecting a heavy run of business the present week. "Anything with quality is selling good," declared he. Farmers who know tobacco understand that it is the quality of the leaf that is creating the impression that tobacco is low in price. He thinks that when the better grades of tobacco are offered for sale that the farmers will quit their kicking and put the blame for present low prices not on the buyers but on the weatherman. He, too, insists that too much rain is what produced so much off-grade tobacco.

Over at the warehouse of the Co-operative old man Gloom is no friend of either Manager Joe Dobson or any of his associates. While he could not give the total amount of tobacco turned in by association members to date, he was free to admit that business was most satisfactory. His inability to give out figures is due to the fact that the local here mails to headquarters in Richmond each night the receipt stubs for that day and no records are kept locally. When asked about prices the Co-op members were receiving for their tobacco he smiled a smile as broad as the full moon and, pointing to a farmer in the office said, "Ask him." The farmer grinned, turned clear back to his cart and dug out of his pocket a check which he had just received from the cashier for a load of tobacco. The attached memorandum showed that the first advance payment on the load of tobacco amounted to over \$85.00, and that his best

grade had brought him 18 cents as a first payment.

Friday was a big day at the association headquarters. The trailer was busy as a bee all day, as truck load after truck load passed in review before him. Here and there on the floor groups of members were holding animated conversation and for the most part all seemed to be in the best of good spirits. New members are joining the ranks daily. The only sourdoughs are the fellows who fell from grace last year and were induced to sell elsewhere tobacco which they had pledged to the co-ops. Some of these have been restrained by the courts from selling elsewhere and when they brought their tobacco to its rightful market they looked like the boy who accidentally swallows his first "chew."

That the Co-ops number over 92,000 members and 10,000 of this number have joined in the past two months, was the declaration made Friday by J. E. Swain, field agent for western North Carolina before more than a hundred members gathered at headquarters in this city. Over 150 new members are coming into the ranks daily, he says.

In an interview later in the day Mr. Swain stated that the association still has on hand 14,000,000 pounds of high grade tobacco. This tobacco has been held for a higher price to be sure, but it was also feared that to throw it on the market just as the market was opening this fall would depress the price of the present crop. Since there is so much poor grade tobacco this fall Association managers hope to realize handsomely from their holdings when it is marketed.

Mr. Swain is authority for the state. ment that last week Richard E. Patterson of Richmond sold for the Association \$2,000,000 worth of tobacco. As it will take 90 days to make final delivery it is hoped the Association will be able to make its members a handsome payment as a Christmas present. According to Mr. Swain the Association up to September 29 had received from its South Carolina members 29,000,000 pounds. Of this amount the Association has sold to manufacturers in the green state about one third, or 10,000,000 pounds, at the average price of \$21.00 per hundred. Auction houses in South Carolina at the same time and covering the same run of tobacco advertised that their average sales amounted to only \$18.09 per hundred, asserted Mr. Swain.

### Negro John Gause is Convicted at Once

Bakersville, Oct. 22.—John Gause, negro, who went on trial in Mitchell court this morning on a charge of attacking a white woman, was found guilty after five minutes' deliberation by the jury and was sentenced to death by electrocution November 30, 1923.

The attack on the woman precipitated a racial disturbance at Spruce Pine, N. C., last month and about 200 negroes were deported from the town and its vicinity by the white citizens. Troops were ordered there by Governor Morrison of North Carolina and remained on duty for 10 days before order had been restored but only a few of the negroes returned to their jobs.

The negro formally entered a plea of not guilty when arraigned before Judge T. R. F. in the special term of Superior court convening here today.

The courtroom was packed, numbering among those present many persons from the Spruce Pine section. Judge Finley appointed D. J. Black, local attorney, to defend Gause. The negro was brought from there yesterday for trial today. He was escorted by a company of national guardsmen from North Wilkesboro, commanded by Maj. E. F. Robinson.

The trial of 11 persons including a minister, of the Spruce Pine section on charges of conspiracy in connection with the white man's violation of negroes from Spruce Pine immediately after the assault is expected to start at once.

### R. O. GARRETT IS GIVEN 8 YEARS

#### Cumberland's County Clerk Was on Trial For Killing Preacher

Cumberland Courthouse, Va., Oct. 20.—A verdict of second degree murder with the minimum punishment of five years in the state penitentiary was the verdict late today of the jury in the trial of R. O. Garrett, Cumberland county clerk, for the killing last June 5 of the Rev. E. S. Pierce, Baptist minister.

A motion to set aside the verdict, as contrary to law and evidence and for various other causes, was immediately made by the defense and Judge B. D. White announced he would hear arguments on the motion in Richmond November 22.

Pending the outcome of his argument, losing which the case will be appealed to the higher court, Garrett was released on bond of \$35,000. The state through Commonwealth Attorney Milton P. Bonifant and Attorney Richard Evelyn Byrd, opposed granting bond in any amount when counsel for the prisoner moved for renewal of the old bond of \$25,000. Judge White, however, stated he would permit a bond but increased the amount by \$10,000.

The verdict today of the jury which was brought here from Southampton county under a change of venue granted at the request of the state brings to an end for the present the trial phase of a case that has been regarded as one of the most stubbornly fought and one of the most remarkable in the history of Virginia. The jury deliberated just two hours and 30 minutes and predictions of another hung jury were being freely made when the jurors came into court and asked to be told the penalty for conviction of murder in the second degree.

Further consideration by the jury it was understood, was over the question of the number of years.

The trial had been in progress since last Tuesday morning and was the second time that Robert Garrett had been put on trial for his life as a result of the shooting to death of the Baptist minister at his home here, for which both he and his younger brother Larkin C. Garrett, were indicted for first degree murder. The latter also was once brought to trial, his case ending in a mistrial after it was alleged three members of the jury before going into the jury box expressed opinions on the case. His case has been set for retrial December 11. The jury in Robert Garrett's first trial came from Amherst county, Judge White having decided after the Larkin Garrett mistrial that it would not be possible to obtain a fair and impartial jury in Cumberland county because of the two factions in the county and which were said to involve most of the citizens of Cumberland. The state which has asked the change of venue, also had requested a change in venue but that was denied in each case.

Judge White's action in sending outside the county for a jury is one of the chief grounds upon which defense bases its motion for setting aside the verdict. It claims the court has such right until every effort had been made to obtain a jury from Cumberland.

### Dies Driving a Car

Durham, Oct. 20.—Funeral services will be held for Andrew J. Weatherspoon, of East Durham, Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock from the home. Mr. Weatherspoon died from a sudden heart attack while out riding in his automobile on the Raleigh road. The car was occupied by himself and his wife.

When the attack came, Mr. Weatherspoon was driving the car. The car swerved to the right of the road and ran into a pole, throwing the deceased out of the car and on the road. The car was badly damaged. Mrs. Weatherspoon escaped without injury. Not knowing that Mr. Weatherspoon was dead he was picked up and rushed towards a hospital when it was discovered that he was dead.

The deceased had been in charge of the Southern railway ticket office for the East Durham station for the past 15 years and was a very popular man. He was 62 years of age.

The doctor looked gravely at the patient. "I cannot hide from you the fact that you are very ill," he said. "Is there anyone you would like to see?" "Yes," said the sufferer, faintly. "Who is it?" "Another doctor."

### 43,776 MILES FOR EACH POUND HONEY

#### That is What Busy Little Bees Travel—Don't Forget Males to Wash—Support Males, Too.

Raleigh, Oct. 17.—In this day of modern conveniences and step-saving devices the lot of the common honey bee is a hard one in comparison with that of any other housekeeper who works during the summer to conserve food for winter use, according to C. L. Sams, specialist in beekeeping for North Carolina State college and the department of agriculture. Mr. Sams said today that he had been moved to do some figuring on account of the demands being made by rural women that their men fix up water-works and other conveniences in the farm homes. "Of course," said Mr. Sams, "these rural women are aided and abetted by another group of extension workers, Mrs. Jane S. McKimmon and her corps of home agents but I wish to present the case of the honey bee, which also is a feminine housekeeper and one whose efficiency has never been doubted."

To gather one pound of honey, declared Mr. Sams, the bee has to travel 43,776 miles.

Bees generally gather nectar from flowers in a radius of from two to two and a half miles from the apiary (hive), said Mr. Sams in beginning an explanation of the process of deduction by which he arrived at the estimate of the distance a bee has to travel to gather a pound of honey. "Most of it is gathered within a two-mile limit, and so we could state with reasonable accuracy that the average flight in gathering a drop of honey would easily be three-fourths of a mile. But the bee has to go to the flowers, probably search around a while and return with the load. This means that the little housekeeper must fly one and one-half miles for each drop of nectar."

"It takes one-half gallon of raw nectar to make one pound of finished honey. The bee carries one small drop at each load. There are 58,368 drops of water in one gallon. It takes one half of this, or 29,184 drops or bee loads to make the pound of honey. Therefore, if the bee has to fly one mile and a half for each drop, this shows that the little worker must fly 43,776 miles for each pound of the delicacy."

At the same time the bee carries honey nectar, said Mr. Sams, it carries water and pollen for rearing the young brood. "Nor do they ever grumble at their lot," he added, "but work quickly and tirelessly without requiring the men to do any work, and they keep the household well provided with food and the quarters comfortable at all times."

### Drought Will Force Power Curtailment

Charlotte, Oct. 18.—A drastic program of power curtailment, effective Monday, and involving manufacturing enterprises in the Carolinas, was announced today at headquarters here of the Southern Power company, conditioned on failure of rainfall in the meantime to refill reservoirs now nearly empty.

The conditional curtailment plan devised by the company contemplates shutting off power from lines serving consumers in each of several zones on one day of each week, insuring a temporary operating schedule of five days weekly for all plants.

The announcement said the company had deferred curtailing its output of power regarded as possible. Vice President Burkholder said "nothing less than a water famine exists over the watershed draining into the Catawba river, and the reserve of water in the great bridge water reservoir has been depleted in an effort to maintain the river's flow throughout the continuing shortage."

Continued drawing on the bridge-water reserves would imperil the entire supply of power the company is furnishing many large plants in the Carolinas, should the drought continue, the announcement said.

### FARMER WAGE HIGHER AND LABOR IS SHORT

#### Average "Hand" Gets \$37 Without Board and \$28 With Board on Carolina Farms

Raleigh, Oct. 17.—Farm wages in North Carolina have increased during the past year on account of the bright outlook of the crop production, farmer is unable to compete with the urban and public work wages, declared Frank Parker of the co-operative crop reporting service, today when he issued a report on farm employment conditions in North Carolina.

The report said: "The present wages by the month with out board averages \$37, according to 400 reporters from different parts of the state. This is \$2 more than a year ago. With board, the average wage is \$28, or 10 per cent above last year. The wages by the day, without board, including the daily earnings of piece workers, are \$1.90, and with board \$1.44. This also is slightly above last year's wages."

"The demand for farm labor is quite equal to last year with a supply of only 80 per cent of the normal need. It is common over the state to see the farmer and his family doing the work, unable to secure, and often unable to pay, hired labor. Farmers living near the larger towns find that they have to carry labor back and forth in automobiles, they no longer being satisfied to walk or even ride in wagon, although their wages are much higher than in former years."

"The total acreage in all field crops is about the same as last year in most parts of the state. In some parts of the central and piedmont area there is evidence of increased idle acreage. This would make the total about 1 to 2 per cent less than the five-year average, there being much less idle land in the east than elsewhere. The state statistician while traveling over a large section of the state last autumn counted all fields passed in traveling 1,100 miles. The result offered a good check on the crop reporters' data which was compiled as of October 1."

### Oglethorpe to Rest in His Native Soil Forever

Cranham, England, Oct. 16.—General Oglethorpe, founder of the state of Georgia, like the Indian Princess Pocahontas, and his more distant and remote precursor, Tutankhamen, is to remain in his original burying place. Yielding to British public opinion which had almost reached the point of unanimity, Thornwell Jacobs, president of Oglethorpe university, today abandoned his project to transport the Georgian hero's ashes to America.

### Hue and Cry Raised

The hue and cry raised throughout England that Americans desired to take possession of the bones of England's distinguished dead as well as its most prized art objects and reliquaries is thus silenced.

Dr. Jacobs accepted defeat with true sound grace and deference. He feels at least that one result of his excavations is to make General Oglethorpe a world figure and not merely the builder of a single state. Indicative of his great spirit of reverence for the famous general was his last act this afternoon in returning to the rector of All Saint's church, a small fragment of General Oglethorpe's coffin which had dropped off in the course of his one hundred and thirty-eight years' interment, and which Dr. Jacobs intended to preserve as a memento. This was immediately deposited in the grave and the vault closed forever.

It is an interesting coincidence that both the Rev. Leslie Wright, rector of the church and Robert F. Skinner, the American consul general, who gave Jacobs most sympathetic aid and counsel from the beginning, decided before they even saw Dr. Jacobs today to counsel him against pursuing the enterprise further, in view of the growing British sentiment.

### King Petitions King

One of the things which most influenced the president of the Oglethorpe university to give up his mission was a petition to King George from James George Oglethorpe, a great-great nephew of the general, asking his "sovereign lord to protect the ashes of one who loyally served his majesty's predecessor, George II." Dr. Jacobs also felt that if the matter were pursued to the end it might place the state department at Washington, which had endorsed the idea, and the government and consignment of Georgia in an awkward position in their attitude toward England.

### GASTON MEANS AGAIN IN TROUBLE

#### Charged With Wholesale Violation of Prohibition Laws

New York, Oct. 22.—Gaston B. Means, former special agent of the bureau of investigation of the federal department of justice, today was arraigned on four indictments charging use of the mails to defraud and violation of the prohibition and internal revenue liquor laws in the transfer of 512,000 cases and 12,000 barrels of whiskey from licensed distilleries to bootleg channels. He was also charged with leading a conspiracy to bootleg the liquor.

Means once was acquitted of the murder of wealthy Maude A. King, of Chicago; he figured in the famous King forged will case; he confessed to have been financial agent for Captain Karl Hoy-Ed, German naval attaché in Washington in 1917; for years he has been an investigator for the department of justice and William J. Burns.

With his secretary, Elmer W. Jansneck, he was indicted by a federal grand jury last week, the indictments having remained sealed until Means could be apprehended. He appeared before Federal Judge Knox with counsel, and said: "I hear you want me," and was released on \$15,000 bail. Jansneck would appear tomorrow, said Means attorney.

### 10 Persons Are Named

At least 10 persons are named in indictments as parties to the alleged conspiracy but will escape prosecution because they testified before the grand jury, federal attorneys said.

In the transfer of 512,000 cases and 12,000 barrels of whiskey from licensed distilleries and government warehouses, to bootleg channels, Means and his secretary are charged with having:

Used the mails to defraud bootleggers by promising to use his influence as a department of justice operative in getting liquor out of bond for them.

Conspired to violate the Volstead act through the illegal transportation of liquor.

Conspired to defraud the government by removing vast quantities of liquor from licensed distilleries to places other than designated government warehouses.

Means smiled as the indictments were read to him. Through his attorney he immediately pleaded not guilty and asked that bail on all four indictments be set at \$10,000 instead of the \$20,000 demanded by the prosecutors. Judge Knox made it \$15,000, offering to give the prisoner until tomorrow to produce the money.

"We'll put it up right now," said Means.

William Chilvers, counsel for Means, said his client stood ready to submit to Congress for investigation the result of a general investigation he had made in prohibition conditions in and around New York city. The Means investigation he said, was discontinued when it brought to light the names of "certain high officials connected with the internal revenue department."

Means has been a prominent figure since the early days of America's entrance into the war when he was reported as an employe of the German government through Captain Karl Boy-Ed, the former German naval attaché at Washington. In September, 1917 he was alone with Mrs. Maude G. King, wealthy Chicago woman, when she met death near Concord, N. C. He was excoriated of blame in that tragedy. He is a native of Concord.

In 1920 during his attempt to have probated the second will of James G. King, wealthy lumberman of Chicago, Means admitted his German connections before the war. He created a sensation then by declaring that an old tomb in Trinity churchyard in lower New York was used for the transfer of sums of money between himself and Boy-Ed.

### North Wilkesboro Military to Protect Negro

North Wilkesboro, Oct. 23.—Fifty members of company A, North Carolina national guard, left here this afternoon for Hibernia where they will protect for Spruce Pine, Mitchell county. They will be used Monday for protecting John Gause, negro, who will be tried on the charge of attempted assault at a special term of Superior court.