

Is a Paper Devoted to the Upbuilding of the Sandhill Territory of North Carolina

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DERBY CALLS ERTY ON PEACH OUTLOOK

Says Too Many Peaches Make a Low Price in Market

To The Pilot:—Your editorial in the November 28th issue of The Pilot had many good points and contained much sound philosophy, but I still object to the way you generalize and slide around cold hard facts. You state that laying a given trouble to overproduction is like trying to locate a shifting line that will not be located "for nobody has ever yet found out what is overproduction and what is not."

Well, I am no Isaac Newton but I think I found a case of overproduction in the peach business in Georgia last summer when between four and six thousand carloads of peaches were left to rot in the orchards because the proceeds of a car of peaches in New York, or any other place in the country that peaches could be shipped to, would not pay the freight bill. I am aware that some people will lay this to the avarice and selfishness of the railroads that charge so much money for moving a car of peaches, and others will say it is due to the republican party or something Woodrow Wilson did or didn't do, but it looks to me very much as if they had just raised too many peaches in Georgia last summer.

In other words I claim that you have a clear case of overproduction when you raise more stuff than can be consumed and the surplus is wasted. I would absolutely disregard the prices paid by the consumer for the portion of the product that is sold. These are often maintained at a high level by artificial means, despite an overproduction. Unfortunately overproduction of this nature generally occurs in perishable crops of which the peach crop is one of the foremost sufferers.

I am not trying to lay down any particular theory or to philosophise about this situation. I am simply trying to find out what went wrong with the peach business in this district last summer and see if we in this district cannot profit by the misadventures that have befallen other peach producing sections whose history is common knowledge. I fully realize that the Oriental Peach Moth or the Japanese Beetle may get into the peach orchards of the south, and I understand that the Oriental Peach Moth has appeared in Georgia, and that in a few years from now the culture of peaches may be so hazardous and so few may be produced that the whole situation may be completely changed. That is not only possible but quite likely for these pests are now playing havoc in the north eastern orchards and it looks as if the days of profitable peach growing were numbered unless some control of these pests can be found. This disaster as well as many others may befall us, but they haven't and so far as I can see our immediate problem is to keep production somewhere in line with consumption. Your general view of the operation of the law of supply and demand and the survival of the fittest is quite sound but quite fatalistic. I am not sure at all that society will not eventually work out a plan whereby the terrific waste of overproduction in perishables will be at least curtailed, though that is not in sight as yet in this country. The nearest approach to it is the almost military control the German government used to exercise through the Landschaften Banks over agricultural production in the days of the last monarchy. I do not know whether this still pertains or not.

This week I see that Mr. Ertly is at bat again with a protest against my efforts to ruin the banks of the district and harpoon the whale that he thinks typifies the prosperity of the Sandhills. He alludes only to the prosperity induced by the peach business of the Sandhills and as that is at present somewhat defunct I want to advise Mr. Ertly that neither my an-

cestors nor I were so devoid of sense as to harpoon a dead whale.

Anyhow if there is any life in the whale he has shown mighty little reaction to my harpoon.

Mr. Ertly says that the crop seasons of 1922, 1923 and 1924 were all abnormal. It seems to me that as the seasons of 1922 and 1924 were both large crop years and the season of 1923 a small crop year, so far as the south was concerned, that either '22 and '24 were normal and '23 abnormal or vice versa, depending on what you call normal. I have gone on the assumption that the full crop years were normal and the lean crop years abnormal, but for the sake of an argument I will put it the other way around. At any rate there wasn't so much wrong with the marketing system of 1922 as Mr. Ertly thinks. We got a little messed up down here and laid it all to our poor marketing system. As a matter of fact better distribution that year would not have made much difference in the price obtained. In fact good fruit in 1922 brought a higher premium than good fruit in 1924.

In 1923 the crop was short all round and prices were satisfactory. Which simply goes to prove my contention that the peach acreage in the south is too large and that only in short years will we get satisfactory prices. Also this was not the first killing frost in 30 years. If Mr. Ertly will make some inquiries he will find that we have had a number of killing frosts in the last thirty years. In the old days when there were more early peaches in proportion to the late varieties the damage was not so severe. Neither in 1923 or 1924 were the early varieties hurt by the freeze that wiped out the Elbertas in 1923 and reduced them far more than people thought in 1924. This will happen more often in the future and it was an error for this section to give up its early varieties to the extent it has.

Now to answer Mr. Ertly's questions. (1) We were not caught unawares without a marketing system in 1922. If we had had the same system in operation in 1922 as we had in 1924 we might have received a few cents more per crate but I doubt it. How-

(Continued on page 8)

GOOD DRIVING SAVES CHILD

Mary Lee Hill Struck by Auto at Road Intersection Front of School House

Mary Lee Hill, the nine-year-old girl who live on Mr. John B. Cameron's farm four miles from town, was injured during the noon hour Wednesday when she was struck by an automobile driven by Mr. J. C. Lashley, of Sanford. The accident occurred at he road intersection in front of the school building. Mary Lee, with several other school children, was attempting to cross the highway. A north-bound Ford and the Buick driven by Mr. Lashley were meeting at the crossing. The little girl crossed just back of the Ford and stepped directly in the path of the Buick. The driver swerved his car as best he could, there being children on each side of the road, and applied his four-wheel brakes with such force that his car turned completely around and headed in the opposite direction. The child was knocked down, but fortunately, the car, which was not running at an excessive rate of speed, was stopped before it ran over her. Mr. Lashley rushed her to the office of Dr. Rosser who examined her and found that her injuries were not serious, consisting only of minor bruises and the shock. Mr. Lashley who is a Browne-Buick salesman, got in communication with his employer, Mr. Brown, of Sanford, who hurried down and offered to carry the child to the hospital, but as Dr. Rosser did not think that necessary, she was taken to her home. Eye witnesses considered the accident unavoidable and commented on the expert handling of the car, which doubtless kept the accident from being more serious.



GEO. R. ROSS

Chief of Division of Markets of the Department of Agriculture, North Carolina, returned last Saturday from Chicago where he had been for several days in the interest of his department.

MRS. CHARLES GSCHWIND

Life is made up of glad days and sad days, but sadder days than last Friday seldom come to this community—the day when Mrs. Charles Gschwind was called away from husband, babies and others who loved her so well to enter the Great Beyond. She was so young, only 28, and there was so much for the gentle mother hands to do for four small children that it seemed that she could not be spared; so day by day for a week anxious ones watched her in her losing fight against disease, hoping against hope that she might win out. Skilled physicians and capable nurses did all in their power, but succeeded only in making her last days more comfortable. On Friday afternoon the summons came, and she answered.

The funeral was conducted on Saturday afternoon by a former pastor, the Rev. O. A. Kellar, of Benson, and the body laid to rest in Johnson's Grove cemetery. The many beautiful floral offerings and the crowd of sorrowing friends bore witness to the place Mrs. Gschwind held in the hearts of the people.

Zelma, as she was familiarly known to most of us, came to Vass to live, with her parents, several years ago when she was in the early days of young womanhood. She was a friendly girl, and admired for her beauty and pleasing personality. She joined the Vass Baptist church and Sunday School and attended regularly, winning the love of pastor and teachers by her Christian graces. In 1919 she was married to Charles Gschwind of this place, so when her parents moved away, she continued to make her home here. And to this home she lovingly devoted almost her entire time. The training of the children, which she had begun so well, will have to be carried on by others, but her influence will be felt for years to come. Surviving her are her husband, four children, Edward, not quite four years of age, Harold, Elsie Mae, and a baby boy, twelve days old at the time of her death; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dunk Thomas; one sister, Miss Johnnie Thomas; one brother, Ray Thomas, all of Cameron. Two brothers and one sister preceded her to the grave. Zelma will be sadly missed, but may we be submissive to the will of Him who does all things well.

A FRIEND.

THE LAW AS TO CIGARETTES

Some discussion as to selling cigarettes to minors has arisen recently. To settle the disputes the following is taken from the Consolidated Statutes of North Carolina:

Article 35. Sec. 4438—If any person shall sell, give away or otherwise dispose of, directly or indirectly, cigarettes, or tobacco in the form of cigarettes, or cut tobacco in any form or shape which may be used or intended to be used as a substitute for cigarettes, to any minor under the age of seventeen years; or if any person shall aid, assist or abet any other person in selling such articles

to such minor, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by fine or imprisonment in the discretion of the court.

Sec. 4439. If any person shall aid or assist any minor child under seventeen years old in obtaining the possession of cigarettes, or tobacco in any form used as a substitute therefor, by whatsoever name it may be called, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined or imprisoned in the discretion of the court.

It shall be the duty of every police officer, upon knowledge or information that any minor under the age of seventeen years is or has been smoking any cigarette, to inquire of any such minor the name of the person who sold or gave him such cigarette, or the substance from which it was made, or who aided and abetted in effecting such gift or sale. Upon receiving this information from any such minor, the officer shall forthwith cause a warrant to be issued for the person giving or selling, or aiding and abetting in the giving or selling of such cigarette or the substance out of which it was made, and have such person dealt with as the law directs. Any such minor who shall fail or refuse to give to any officer, upon inquiry, the name of the person selling or giving him such cigarette, or the substance out of which it was made, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to my friends for their kindness during the sickness and death of my wife. I greatly appreciate the loving sympathy and help given my family in these dark days; no friends could have been truer.

CHARLES GSCHWIND.

COTTON REPORT

There were 5,062 bales of cotton, counting round as half bales, ginned in Moore county from the crop of 1924, prior to December 1, 1924, as compared with 4,364 bales ginned to December 1, 1923.

M. McC. BLUE.

MEETING OF HEALTH AND WELFARE ASSO.

Devoted Mostly to Christmas Seal Sale; Reports From Various Towns

The meeting of the Moore County Health and Welfare Association was held with Mrs. A. A. McDonald at Jackson Springs, Wednesday, December 3rd, at 2 p. m., Mrs. has. R. Whitaker, president, presiding.

Much of the meeting was devoted to the Christmas Seal Sale, which is now on. Prospects for a largely increased sale of Seals were reported from every section. The receipts from the Seal Sale will be the only available funds for the present.

The following are the allotments for the various towns and the chairmen in charge:

- Southern Pines—Mrs. J. W. Dickie, seals \$250, bonds \$400, total \$650.
- Pinehurst—Mrs. Herman A. Campbell, seals \$250, bonds \$340, total \$590.
- Aberdeen—Mrs. J. R. Page, seals, \$250, bonds \$340, total \$590.
- Carthage—Miss Margaret McQueen, seals, \$250, bonds \$340, total \$590.
- Spies—Mrs. J. Fulton Monroe, seals \$10, bonds \$10, total \$20.
- Hemp—Mrs. R. F. Lynch, seals \$25, bonds \$15, total \$40.
- High Falls—Mrs. G. C. Shaw, seals \$25, bonds \$15, total \$40.
- Glendon—Mrs. W. T. Stockton, seals \$10, bonds \$10, total \$20.
- Putnam—Mrs. Jim Warren, seals \$10, bonds \$10, total \$20.
- Harrison—Mrs. Tracy Parks, seals \$10, bonds \$10, total \$20.
- Cameron—Mrs. Lula Muse, seals \$150, bonds \$340, total \$490.
- Vass—Mrs. Guy Simpson, seals \$75, bonds \$105, total \$180.
- Manly—Miss Mary Phillips, seals \$10, bonds \$10, total \$20.
- Lakeview—Mrs. J. R. McQueen,

VASS IS ACTIVE IN NEW BUILDING

Fine School House the Main Feature, but Other Structures Under Way

The building activity in Vass is sufficient to arouse enthusiasm among the people, for it tells that things are moving forward on a substantial footing. Of course the big item is the fine new high school building just off the highway over toward Lakeview, for there is one of the most pretentious school houses in the county, where nearly every district in the last two or three years has been building new school houses. The new Vass-Lakeview school will cost about \$50,000, and is now far enough along it shows what it is to signify when it is finished and open for use. The school board selected a fine site on the hill between the two public roads, and on the side of the connecting road, for the school is accessible from all directions. The hill is one of the highest in the neighborhood, and is far enough away from traffic or from villages so that plenty of room is available for all uses. The new house cannot be of service for this winter's schools, but when the next year opens conditions will be wholly different with that big new addition to community school buildings.

In the village Charlie Temple has a two-story brick building half way up. It adjoins the block of buildings that include the postoffice block on the north side. A store room will be afforded on the first floor, with ample basement accommodation, and the upper floor will be of use for other purposes. Mr. Temple has not announced the purpose of the new building, as he has different schemes in mind. But it will be further room for whatever shall be decided on, and is an indication of the expansion of the community.

W. H. Keith has finished his new building at the junction of the highway and the road to Carthage and Clayroad. He has moved his business to the new location, where he has one of the most roomy and convenient places of the kind along the road. The filling station occupies a part of the structure, while repairs and store room are cared for by the rest of the big space. Two floors give plenty of surface for all the work of the institution. Incidentally the removal of the dirt at the cross roads necessary to make the fill for the new building has made the crossing there a much safer one as better view of cars from all directions is now afforded.

A letter this week from R. W. Beadle, of Brockwayville, Penna., says he expects to be down here after the holidays when he wants to look into the water situation further. The last samples of water sent him were pronounced good, and he wants to see more of Vass and determine the wisdom of building a water plant here for the two villages.

KIWANIS CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS

Wednesday night at the annual meeting and election of the Sandhills Kiwanis Club held in the Manor Hotel at Pinehurst, James Talbot Johnson, prominent attorney of Aberdeen, was elected as president of the club to succeed former Congressman Robert N. Page who has led the club for the past year. Mr. Johnson was one of the organizers of the club and has been a

(Continued on page 5)

- seals \$25, bonds \$100, total \$125.
- Niagara—Mrs. D. B. Tew, seals \$10, bonds \$10, total \$20.
- Pinebluff—Miss Lida Hutchings, seals \$25, bonds \$140, total \$165.
- West End—Miss Lucile Eifort, seals \$50, bonds \$155, total \$205.
- Jackson Springs—Mrs. Victoria McKenzie, seals \$25, bonds \$130, total \$155.
- Eagle Springs—Mrs. N. J. Carter, seals \$50, bonds \$130, total \$180.
- Farm Life School—Mr. R. G. Hutchin-son, seals \$10, bonds \$20, total \$40.