

TOBACCO MARKETS OPEN NEXT TUESDAY

Williamston's Three Big Warehouses Are Ready for First Sales of 1931

COUNTY SCHOOLS ALLOTTED \$112,275

SUM CONSIDERED INSUFFICIENT TO SUPPORT TERM

Two or Three Thousand Dollars More Expected For Transportation

Martin County will receive from the State of North Carolina \$112,275.04 for the operation of its schools during the first six months of the 1931-32 term, it was learned at the office of the county superintendent of schools here yesterday. In reality, the county receives only around \$89,000 from the State, as approximately \$23,000 is raised in the county by the 15-cent levy imposed by the legislature on the basis of the 1930 valuation.

In short, the allotment is not sufficient to operate the schools on a conservative plan, not even mentioning an efficient standard, it is believed. Official estimates have not been made, pending the next meeting of the county board of education, but it is understood that to operate the schools in an efficient manner and at the same time on an ultra conservative plan, a supplementary budget calling for an 8-cent additional tax will be absolutely necessary. This problem will likely be discussed, and its disposition will be, in all probability, determined at the next meeting of the county board of education and the county commissioners.

Subtracting the approximately \$23,000 the county will pay for the operation of the six months school term, the State will pay around \$89,000 this year, or approximately \$43,000 more than the county received last year. The allotment advanced so far by the State Equalization Board is not complete, as it will care for the transportation of pupils in those consolidated districts which was not included in the allotment recently made. There are around 300 children in those schools that were consolidated this year, and at the rate of \$8 per child, the State will make an allowance of \$2,400 more, making the total sum about \$114,675.04. Then there are a few other items to be cared for by the State from the emergency fund set up for the operation of the six-month term.

Mr. Leroy Martin, secretary of the State Board of Equalization, said, "In making the allotments to the various counties, this board has endeavored to set up such standards and make such division of the fund under its control as would enable the schools to be operated in the best manner possible. That the allotments will not be sufficient to operate the schools, in many instances, upon as high a standard as has heretofore been the case is to be expected. It is useless for any apology to be offered for a failure to allot, in many instances, what appeared to be necessary for efficient operation. The total amount appropriated, with the exception of a small emergency fund, has been allotted.

"It is the hope of this board that every one who receives a dollar from this fund will, at this time, endeavor to see to it that the maximum amount of service to be expected from this

W. J. BENNETT HOME BURNED

Fire of Unknown Origin Results In \$1,000 Loss To Owner Joe Chery

A five-room tenant house, occupied by Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Bennett and belonging to Mr. Joe Chery, was destroyed by fire early yesterday afternoon on the McCaskey road, about five miles from here. All the contents with the exception of a few articles were destroyed with no insurance either the dwelling or the furniture.

Mrs. Bennett, said to have been alone at the home at the time, was near the woodshed and when she discovered the blaze it had gained much headway. The origin of the fire could not be learned, but it is understood that the house had barely escaped burning once or twice before. The loss is estimated at more than \$1,000.

11 Per Cent Drop Estimated In 1931 Tobacco Production

A decrease of 66,400,000 pounds, or 11 per cent of the total 1930 crop, is predicted in North Carolina this year, it was learned from an estimate advanced by C. A. Sheffield, assistant extension director at State College, this week.

Basing his estimates on August 10 figures of the United States Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and upon experience, Mr. Sheffield says there was a reduction of 57,000 acres this year, or 7.3 per cent.

The reduction in total tobacco yield in the State will be from 574,000,000 to 517,600,000, or a re-

duction of 11 per cent, Mr. Sheffield estimates. Mr. Sheffield figures that type 11, in the 21 old belt counties, will be reduced this year by 15 per cent, or 32,900,000 pounds. The acreage was reduced 5 per cent, or 15,000 acres. In 1930 the 21 old belt counties planted 300,000 acres yielding 221,000,000 pounds.

Type 12 tobacco, produced in 22 new belt counties, will be reduced 6 per cent, or 18,500,000 pounds. The acreage has been decreased 8 per cent, or 32,000 acres. In 1930 the 22 counties planted 399,000 acres yielding 297,600,000 pounds.

WHAT A MEMORY

Norfolk, Va., Aug. 23.—A long memory has N. B. Bacon, who yesterday applied for a 50-cent bounty for killing a chicken hawk in 1925 when he turned the remains over to the Norfolk County clerk's office, but, for some unexplained reason, did not wait for payment.

Yesterday Bacon appeared in the clerk's office and asked for his money. Records revealed that the remains of the hawk had been duly turned over to county authorities, so a certificate for payment of the bounty was issued.

CATTLE RANCH INCORPORATED

Incorporation Believed To Be Limited To Side-line Operations

The 15,000 acres of land, commonly known as the old J. and W. or Dymond City tract, was incorporated last Saturday by Messrs. Peter Miltenberger, of Pinetown, and John A. Mayo and W. L. Caughan, of Washington. Details of the incorporation proceedings are not known here, but according to information released by the Secretary of State, the tract will be known as "Diamond Ranch." Authorized capital mentioned was \$40,000, the incorporators subscribing \$150 of that amount.

In the proceedings made public, it was learned that the main office of the corporation would be located at Washington, N. C., the incorporators seeking the right to "own and operate all kinds of eating places, filling stations, repair shops, etc."

The tract of land was recently purchased by Mr. L. A. Thompson, of Wisconsin, and it is believed that the incorporation proceedings are separate for the operation of the ranch itself.

ABOUT TO RAISE SUNKEN BARGE

Pumping Operations, Started This Morning, Halted For A While

While uncertainty surrounds the operations, it was believed by those in charge that the barge, "Lynn," sunk in the Roanoke River here several weeks ago, would be floated late today or early tomorrow. However, unforeseen hindrance might present themselves and delay the raising of the sunken craft several more days.

This morning, pumps were started and the water was lowered two feet in the coffer-dam, but pumping operation were checked when logs and trash, brought down by high waters, nearly wrecked the coffer-dam piling. Repairs were underway at noon today and as soon as they are completed and the pumps are re-set, it is believed that the boat can be floated in a very few hours.

The barge, loaded with 731 tons of costly fertilizer material, went to the bottom of the Roanoke the 22nd of last month. The fertilizer was lost, and much money has been spent in the attempt to raise the barge. High waters have delayed the operations several days, and other handicaps have been experienced during the time that salvage crews started their work.

CHANGES ASKED BY PETITIONS IN SCHOOL SYSTEM

Macedonia and Cross Roads Citizens Carry Requests To State Authorities

The various school consolidations advanced in this county by State school authorities are in line to be changed in two instances if petitions prepared by citizens and school patrons in the Macedonia and Cross Roads school districts are considered and approved by the State head, it was learned yesterday.

Macedonia patrons, approximately 30 of them, representing seventeen high school and 46 elementary pupils, are asking that their school be annexed to the one in Williamston and not to Bear Grass, as arranged by the State authorities. It was stated by the Macedonia petition holder yesterday afternoon that he and other patrons in the district are asking the State to school their children at Williamston, the State paying the transportation costs. If this request is not favored by the State, the school district representative stated that they would provide transportation facilities at their own expense and send their children to Williamston.

The Cross Roads representatives, a large number of them, went before the county superintendent asking that their school be maintained as a separate unit and that the action consolidating it with Everetts be rescinded. As all school consolidations were effected by State authorities, these two perplexing problems rest with them. It is understood that the two petitions will be received by the State authorities, but just when a settlement will be reached is a matter for speculation at this time.

The method of operation of several schools during the coming term rests upon these consolidations, it is understood, and just how changes can be made is a real problem for the authorities.

Autos Sell for 75c Each In Melbourne, Australia

Melbourne, Aug. 22.—An auction lot consisting of two comparatively new automobiles and five fowls were sold on a farm near here for \$1.50.

Other bargains included sheep at 6 cents each, a player piano for \$1, a prize Friesian bull for 12 cents, a stack of 42 bags of new season's wheat for \$1 and a brand new power chaff cutter for \$1.

The auction was a bailiff's sale on a farm. The farmer's neighbors for miles around attended and permitted no strangers to bid. After the goods had been bought at absurd prices they were handed back to the farmer.

Albemarle League Creates Much Interest In Bertie

With the season fast approaching a close and with keen competition in the league, baseball fans in Bertie are much interested in the games to be played in Windsor, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week.

Hertford plays there tomorrow and Elizabeth City goes there for 2 games Thursday and Friday. Many Martin fans have been attending the games this season, and the last contests of the scheduled season are expected to attract many from this side of the river.

Patrolman Braswell Takes Up Duties Here This Week

Mr. R. L. Braswell, of Wilson, recently added to the State Highway Patrol force, started his work here this week. He will move his family here next week and will be at home on West Main Street.

Revival Starts at Vernon Church Monday Night

Starting last night, Rev. A. E. Brown, Methodist minister of Robersonville, is conducting a series of revival services in the Vernon church, near here on the old Everetts road. Services are held each evening at 7:45 o'clock. The public is cordially invited to attend.

All Tobacco Firms Here Are Headed by Experienced Men

"Misplaced Arctic Breezes" Cause of Recent Cool Spell

Yesterday was reputed to be about the coldest day since summer officially began, fires were kindled and summer suits ran for shelter. But there will be some more warm days, the weather prophets stating that the cool spell was attributed to "misplaced arctic breezes," and that another change can be expected shortly.

As temperatures dropped an average of five degrees below normal throughout the territory east of the Mississippi River, with scattered continuous cold rains and

chill northern winds, forecasters of the weather bureau said "an outbreak arctic air" was the explanation.

"There has been a sudden drift, probably from extreme northern Canada," the forecaster continued, "causing an area of high pressure from eastern Quebec southwestward to Texas. This brings the northeast breeze. The effect is intensified because simultaneously a low pressure area exists over a wide strip centered over North Carolina, causing cloudy weather."

BORDER MARKET PRICE IS SAID TO BE SOME HIGHER

Highest Average of Season 18 Cents, Reported at Lumberton

With the opening of the Williamston Tobacco Market and sixteen others in the Bright Belt next Tuesday, State and even nation wide attention will center on Eastern North Carolina, and the prices its growers will receive for what is claimed to be one of the best crops grown in years, particularly in this immediate section.

Local business is tuning up for the opening here next Tuesday morning, and an encouraged look is found among the people as they prepare for one of Eastern Carolina's greatest yearly events, the opening of the tobacco markets.

Warehousemen are ready for a successful season, many of them advancing as their belief that the poundage will be less this year, but that prices will be equally as high if not higher than they were last season. The three warehouses here, with their three acres of floor space, are in a position to handle the golden weed to every advantage, and the proprietors have made every arrangement possible to offer the growers a prompt and reliable service. Efficient forces have been employed at each of the warehouses, storage houses have been put in order and repairs to the large plant of the W. L. Skinner Tobacco Company have been made preparatory to a big season here this year.

Every large company will be represented on the local market this year, including the Export company, it was learned from advices received by the Tobacco Board of Trade recently.

As to prices that will be paid, it is a matter for speculation. But judging from reports from Georgia, South Carolina, and the border markets, poor quality tobacco will sell low, with prices for the better grades offering more encouragement than they did last year.

On opening day last year, Eastern Carolina prices averaged around \$7.53 per 100 pounds. Late next Tuesday, the 1931 opening day average will be determined. Visit the Williamston market that day and on throughout the season. Highest market prices are assured, and courteous and fair treatment are always present for the growers and visitors here.

Reports received late last night for the sales on three border markets, Fairmont, Chadbourne and Lumberton, read as follows:

\$15.69 at Chadbourne
Chadbourne, Aug. 24.—The Chadbourne tobacco market experienced the largest sales of the season today with a most satisfactory price for good tobacco. The market sold 168,398 pounds at \$15.69. The sales continued until late afternoon. The bank remained open and waited on all growers, who were all well pleased with the prices and the satisfactory methods of handling the market.

Blocked Sale at Lumberton
Lumberton, Aug. 24.—Lumberton's tobacco market today experienced the biggest day of the season, with an estimated poundage of from one-half to three-quarters of a million pounds at an average of from \$17 to \$18. Prices were most satisfactory of the season. It was the first blocked sale here this year.

Fairmount Breaks Records
Fairmount, Aug. 24.—More loads of tobacco were in town today and fewer rejections by the farmers than ever before in the history of the market. Notwithstanding the great volume of tobacco prices remained firm throughout the whole today. Today's sales were estimated at 900,000 pounds with an average for the whole of between \$15.25 and \$16.25. The quality was slightly better than that of last week. It is predicted tomorrow's sales will be fully as large as today's sales. The same selling date one year ago the average was \$14.45.

Oak City Community Making Preparations To Take Care of Needy Children Next Winter

SECOND CANNING DAY ARRANGED FOR NEXT WEEK

Preliminary Investigations Point to Need of Relief For 15 Children

In an effort to care for the needy children in the Oak City School district during the coming winter, public-spirited women of the community there are canning quantities of foods this summer. Principal H. M. Ainsley stated yesterday morning. Meeting in the school building there several days ago, Miss Lora E. Sleeper, county home demonstration agent, assisted by Mrs. W. D. Hymn, Mrs. W. D. Smith, and Mrs. H. M. Ainsley, canned more than 20 quarts of soup mixture and vegetables, it was stated.

Next week, a second canning day has been arranged, and an urgent appeal is being directed to all citizens in the section for assistance in making the work successful. Send in all the surplus vegetables you have, and it will mainly possible go to the school building and assist the canning work that the little undernourished children may be cared for during the coming school term. The day will be announced later, but make arrangements now to lend a helping hand.

Making a preliminary survey last week into the existing conditions in the Oak City School district, Professor H. M. Ainsley stated yesterday that there will be no less than 15 children in the school this year who will be entirely dependent upon charity. Approximately that number was cared for last year, the women of the community, donating foods and money to provide lunch two days each week.

PACK HOUSE IS BURNED FRIDAY

H. H. Cowen Loses Barn And Several Hundred Bags of Peanuts

A farm packhouse and several hundred bags of peanuts, belonging to Mr. Herbert H. Cowen and located on his farm one mile west of here on the Everetts road, were destroyed by fire last Friday night. The blaze was discovered by Mr. Exum Ward, who lives near by, but too late to save the structure or any of its contents. The loss, estimated at about \$1,100, was partially offset by insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Ford Caravan of Seven Units Here for the Week

The Ford caravan, sent out by the Norfolk branch of the Ford Motor Company, arrived here yesterday to spend the week with the Williamston Motor Company, local dealers. There are seven units with the caravan.

NO FIRES

Since June 15, the local fire company has not had a call, the volunteers enjoying one of the longest holidays since the company was last organized, it was learned from Fire Chief H. D. Harrison at a regular meeting of the members held last night. The last call came from the county jail when a prisoner fired the bedding in his cell.

TOTAL 8 ARRESTS MADE IN COUNTY OVER WEEK-END

Young Negro Boy Jailed For Peeping in Window Of Local Residence

A number of arrests were made in this county over the week-end, local and county officers jailing eight people, it was learned from the county jail records.

O. W. Stokes, white, was jailed for being drunk. He bought five gallons of gasoline for his truck and started to leave without paying for it. Charlie Moore, station attendant, reached for the switch key and called for the officers.

Charged with an assault, Leander Knight was placed in the hoosegow. After a short stay for being drunk, John Hogard, white, was released yesterday from the jail.

Charged with adultery, Charlie Brunson and Emma Moore were put in the jail Friday.

Theodore Watson, 12-year-old negro boy, and known as "Sunshine," was locked up for trespassing on the property of Robert Taylor. Secreting himself in a porch vine, the boy was caught peeping in a window at the Taylor home.

Charged with violating the prohibition law, Luther Linton remained in jail for a short while and was later released under bond.

Arrested in Jamesville, Frank Armstrong, colored, was placed in jail on a charge of transporting liquor.

J. C. Freeman, Windsor Man, Commits Suicide

J. C. Freeman, 41-year-old farmer of Windsor, committed suicide at the home of his sister, Mrs. W. T. Tadlock, there this morning at 9 o'clock by firing a shot from a 22-caliber pistol into his brain. He died instantly. Despondent and in poor health, Mr. Freeman attempted to end his life a few weeks ago, but failed to secure a pistol at that time. This morning he went down town for a short while, and returning home he went to his room and taking a stand in front of a mirror, he fired the shot. Funeral services will be held in Windsor tomorrow afternoon. Mrs. Freeman with three children survive.