

## Committee Suggests Two Forms Sales Tax

### REGULATIONS OF SEED LOAN ACT ARE ANNOUNCED

#### Fee for Preparing Blanks Is Expressly Forbidden This Year

While no application blanks have been received for floating loans under the seed and feed loan act, regulations governing the loans have been released by Secretary Hyde, of the Department of Agriculture, as follows:

"In making available for crop production loans this year \$90,000,000 of R. F. C. funds, Congress specified that the Secretary of Agriculture might require, as a condition of any loan, 'that the borrower agrees to reduce his acreage or production on such basis, not to exceed 30 per cent, as may be determined by the secretary. The secretary's regulations, however, stipulate that acreage reduction will not be required of farmers who, in 1933, plant no more than eight acres of cotton; 2 1-2 acres of tobacco; 40 acres of wheat; 20 acres of corn, 2 1-2 acres of truck crops, 12 acres of sugar beets, 8 acres of potatoes, 30 acres of rice, 8 acres of peanuts. Farmers seeking crop production loans this year are advised to obtain application blanks and copies of the regulations in their home counties, rather than from Washington. Field agents of the crop production loan office are now designating representatives in each farming county to inform prospective borrowers of the requirements governing loans and to distribute application blanks and other necessary forms. These agents will assist farmers in filling out applications, without charge.

Accompanying the required 30 per cent reduction in acreage planted to cash crops, above the established minimum, the 1933 regulations limit the amount available to any farmer to \$300. In 1932 crop production loans were made to 507,632 farmers, averaging \$126 each. No loan in excess of \$100 will be made to any applicant who is in arrears on as many as two previous loans made by the Secretary of Agriculture. As last year, interest is fixed at 5 1-2 per cent, to be deducted when the advance is made. All notes are due October 31, 1933. Advances to borrowers may be made in installments, the regulations state, inasmuch as expenditures for crop production are usually made over a considerable period.

One million dollars of the \$90,000,000 fund is available for livestock feed in drought or storm-stricken areas. Charging a fee for the preparation of a borrower's application is expressly forbidden this year in section three of the act of Congress authorizing crop production loans. Congress further declared these loan funds "to be impressed with a trust to accomplish the purposes provided for by this resolution—and it shall be unlawful for any person to make any material false representation for the purpose of obtaining any loan or to dispose of or assist in disposing of any crops given as security for any loan made under authority of this resolution, except for the account of the secretary of agriculture, and for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this resolution."

Teeth for section three are provided in a clause which orders a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding six months, or both, for any person found guilty of violating the above provisions.

#### Arrest Two Young Boys for Stealing Two Bicycles

Robert Hollis and Bruce Moseley, two young white boys, were placed in the county jail early Sunday morning for the alleged theft of two bicycles, one from the Parker Grocery Company and another from the J. O. Manning Grocery, here last Saturday night. Robert Lee, a third party to the theft, was arrested but was later released when the other two boys declared him innocent.

The wheels were recovered by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck and Officer Albrooks near the Everett Mill on the Hamilton road.

The two boys are scheduled to appear in the county court today for trial.

#### Escape Unhurt When Car Wrecks Near Washington

Albert L. Clark, Joseph Godard III, and William James escaped injury when their car, a Ford sedan, turned over near Washington early last Sunday morning. Very little damage resulted to the car, and the three boys were able to continue home after righting the machine.

### Indications Now Pointing To Early Plant Beds This Year

Present indications point to an early tobacco crop in this section, number of farmers questioned during the past few days stating that their plants are up and growing fairly rapidly. However, a goodly number of farmers have not planted their beds, remembering that many of the early plants were killed by cold weather last season.

While the indications point to an early crop, they do not mean that there will be one. Last season farmers were making early preparations for the crop, but a late freeze killed plants on a whole

sale scale, and by the time the blue mold took its toll the section experienced one of the latest seasons in several years.

According to authentic reports, there are more tobacco plants in the making in this county than ever before. While there is a tendency for an increased acreage, the increase is not expected to be as large as the number of plants would indicate. Farmers, realizing the resulting handicap when there is a shortage in plants, are making every effort possible to have sufficient plants ready for transplanting at the right time.

#### WELFARE WORK

Approximately 600 unemployed were given work on various county and local projects by welfare authorities in this county last week. Nearly 900 were given work the week before.

Finding that many of the men preferred work under welfare direction rather than seek jobs in other places, welfare leaders decreased the wage scale to 50 cents a day and offered employment for only three days each week. The number working under the welfare agencies this week is still further reduced, it was learned from welfare headquarters yesterday.

#### MRS. DARDEN IS HURT IN WRECK

##### Auto Turned Over Three Times Near Kinston Last Sunday

Mrs. Dred Darden suffered severe injuries to her back, and Mr. Darden was bruised, when their car, a Ford coupe, was wrecked near Kinston on Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Darden was removed to a Kinston hospital, where her injuries were described as very painful but not serious. Mr. Darden was able to return to his home here Sunday night.

The Darden car turned over three times when a rear wheel was struck by another car starting to turn off the road. Mr. Darden was passing the car, driven by a young woman of near Kinston, and before he could clear the machine the driver turned, the front wheel striking the rear right wheel of the Darden car.

Mrs. Darden returned to her home here last night.

#### Bad Weather and Roads Might Close the Schools

"If the bad weather experienced during the past week or two continues much longer, we will be forced to close the schools," Principal William R. Watson said yesterday afternoon.

Trucks are running late and several routes are almost impassable, the school man said.

#### Cottage Prayer Meeting for Methodists Tomorrow

The regular weekly cottage prayer meeting of the Methodist church will be held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Norton on Houghton Street tomorrow evening at 7:30 o'clock, it was announced today by Rev. C. T. Rogers.

#### Battle Yearby Here

Battle Yearby, popular representative of the Storrs-Schaeffer Company, leading tailors, will be at Barnhill Brothers' store here all day tomorrow. He will be glad to meet his old and new friends there.

#### Large Shipment of Paper Unloaded at Local Wharf

Fifteen or more tons of newspaper—the News and Observer—unprinted—was hauled through here yesterday. The heavy rolls of paper were unloaded at the local wharf from the N. B. and C. steamer, "Emblane" and loaded on trucks for delivery to the "Old Reliable's" office in Raleigh yesterday.

#### Herbert Cullipher Loses His Finger In Woodsaw

Herbert Cullipher, farmer living near here on the Everetts road, lost one finger in a woodsaw while operating the machine last Saturday morning. A second finger was partly cut off by the saw, but the attending physician believes it can be saved.

### SMITH BILL FOR RELIEF COTTON FARMERS PASSED

#### Believe Measure Will Be a Boon To the South's Economic Structure

Relief for the cotton farmer bobbed up in the United States Senate last week when that body passed a bill providing for the setting aside of three million bales of cotton. The measure known as the Smith bill, the house and Mr. Hoover being willing, may prove to be one of the most significant and salutary pieces of legislation enacted in a number of years in its effect upon the South's economic structure. "It should, and it doubtless will help."

Senator Smith, from the Committee on Agriculture, submitted the following report to accompany his bill:

"The purpose of the bill is to afford relief to the cotton growers by allowing them the opportunity of substituting the government cotton in lieu of production by them in 1933. The details are as follows:

"There is in existence now a surplus of cotton of such magnitude that it has already reduced the price far below the cost of production. Cotton is the chief cash crop of the South. Every industry in the South is vitally dependent upon the price of cotton for the proper carrying on the enterprises in that section. The plan under this bill is to take contracts from the farmers that they will decrease their production of cotton, say 50 per cent, in 1933; the government furnishing 50 per cent out of the 3,500,000 bales controlled by the government. The bill requires no additional appropriation. The producer of the cotton takes an option in writing that he will reduce his production. On the 15th of August, which is the beginning of the cotton marketing year, he may exercise this option to buy the number of bales by which he has reduced his 1933 cotton and no more. To illustrate, if he has reduced his production 30 per cent, he has 30 per cent in the pool; if he has reduced 50 per cent, he has 50 per cent allocated to him in the pool."

"This gives the producers of cotton a chance to recoup out of the cotton already produced some of the loss that they sustained in the original sale. In a word, it reduces the surplus, gives the producer the benefit of the rise in price of cotton already made as well as the advanced price of his 1933 production. In addition to this, it is confidently believed that the inevitable rise in price that will take place as a result of this plan will strengthen the condition of the banks still existing and stimulate other commodity prices. "The machinery now set up in the regional agricultural credit banks, the extension service, or existing agencies make it possible to administer the act without material increase in cost."

### SCHOOL NEWS AT OAK CITY

#### Advise Uninterested Pupils To Remain at Home and Work

Oak City, Feb. 20.—The athletic association of Oak City will present an entertainment Friday evening, Feb. 25 at 7:30 p. m. There will be several interesting features on the program—a play, "Monkey Shine"; Virginia Reel; many popular chorus numbers, and several musical numbers by the Etheridge family. A full evening's entertainment for only ten cents.

It can be taken for granted that no one plans to be a failure. Yet, what about the goal for the average child in high school now? Thursday, the high school faculty met with the students that had made failures during the past month. Each student was taken into conference and particularly these points were discussed: attitude, interest in school, home and extra curricula activities; confidence, study, responsibility, friends, environment, ideals, sportsmanship and many other points. The students were given advice so that they may be encouraged to try to pass their work. Those students admitting no personal interest in school were advised to remain home and go to work. Those students interested in removing failures were assigned definite work to do at home so that tests could remove "F's" from report cards.

#### Important Meeting of Woman's Club Thursday

An important meeting of the local Woman's Club will be held in the club rooms Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock, it was announced today. Election of officers will be in order at that time, and very special business will be placed before the members for discussion, the president said. All members are urgently requested to be present.

## Either Method Will Balance State's Budget, Members Say

### "Ghost" Starts Two Negroes On Wild Race for Three Miles

Believing they saw a ghost, two young negroes, George James and Stephen Dickens, almost ran themselves to death near Oak City early last Saturday night, according to reports received here yesterday morning. The two men, traveling the Tarboro-Oak City road, declared they saw a white object fall from a tree about three miles out from Oak City. When it started rolling toward them, they started a race of their own. Stephen was leading a while and then George would take his place. When they reached Oak City they had run out of their shoes and were just about out of breath.

They fell exhausted in front of the drug store there, and a doctor was called to them.

As the two covered the three miles in a very few minutes they yelled as they passed the homes along the road, daring not to stop at any of them for fear their imagined ghost would overtake them. Alarmed at the actions of the two men, residents along the road, 15 or more of them, are said to have followed them into town to learn what it was all about.

The two men were lodged in the jail there until Sunday morning, when they were released to continue their run from the ghost.

### SUMMARY WORK BY HOME AGENT FOR TWO MONTHS

#### 4-H Club Girls Helped To Make Christmas Merry For Children

By Miss Lora E. Sleeper

Following is the report for December and January submitted by Miss Lora E. Sleeper at the last regular meeting of the board of county commissioner:

The home agent conducted 24 meetings during the month of December, with the girls and 11 with the women. There were 468 in attendance at the meetings. The meetings were devoted to helping girls and women plan an inexpensive but happy Christmas. All 4-H clubs were taught to make soft toys from rags and one club contributed to the Red Cross all toys for the benefit of children who would otherwise have had no Christmas.

The home agent spent 13 1-2 days in the field, and 1 1-2 days in the office, and 12 days on leave. Thirteen different homes were visited.

Total sales on the curb market for the month of December were \$85, a gain of \$40.09 over December, 1931. Mileage, 474.

January: The home agent traveled 614 miles during the month, conducted 22 meetings, 13 with girls and 9 with women. There were 388 in attendance. One meeting was attended in Plymouth, planning for the district meet which will include five counties and one meeting was held with the colored teachers, at which time planning for spring and year-round gardening to relieve those now applying for food was the subject under discussion. Seed exchanges were suggested in the schools as one means of eliminating expense. Eighty-seven bulletins were distributed during the month on gardening alone. One leader's school was held by Miss Estabrook and as many women as possible will begin this year keeping accounts. This can only be done through the cooperation of the entire family.

All girls clubs during the month of January were given clothing inventory blanks and each girl was asked to take account of all clothing she had on hand to determine her needs for this year, and plans will be made in May to replace a garment necessary in the girls' wardrobe. Expense account blanks made out in very simple form were given all girls, and the girls asked keep these for two months. In every group the girls were asked to estimate the value of the clothes they wore to school on the club day, and as a result it was found that the average expenditure on each girl in the Jamesville section was \$5.81, while the average spent per girl in Williamston was \$11.50.

#### Automobiles Kill More People Than Does War

During all the wars in which this country has engaged as a nation—the Revolutionary, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Spanish-American, and the World War—Americans killed in action or who died of wounds numbered under 300,000. During the last 15 years—a period approximating of these six major wars—Americans killed in automobile accidents within the United States or who died of such injuries have numbered 325,000.

### COUNTY NATIVE DIES IN NORFOLK

#### Last Rites for Jas. S. Jones Held There Sunday Afternoon

James S. Jones, a native of this county, was found dead in the bathroom of his home in Norfolk last Friday morning about 9 o'clock, death resulting from a stroke of apoplexy, it was believed. Mr. Jones fell in the bathtub, his head striking the side of the tub. There was a small amount of water in the tub, but doctors are of the opinion that he did not drown, as there was no water in his lungs.

Mr. Jones was born near Jamesville 65 years ago and grew up on the farm. In early manhood he moved to Jamesville and engaged in the mercantile business, moving from there to Norfolk 28 years ago. Since that time he was in the employ of the Norfolk & Western Railroad. He first married Miss Notrie Hassell, one son, Hubert Jones, of Philadelphia, surviving that union. His second wife, Miss Maude Harrison before her marriage, and also of Jamesville, died a year ago. Four children survive that union. They are Leroy, of Philadelphia; James, Miss Lucille Jones, and Mrs. Evelyn Holland, all of Norfolk. He also leaves three brothers, Messrs. D. Jones, of New York; W. B. Jones, of Norfolk; and Tom Jones, of Arkansas; and four sisters, Mrs. W. B. Lilley and Mrs. J. L. Brown, of Jamesville; Mrs. Henry C. Spruill and Miss Cornelia Jones, of Plymouth.

Funeral services were conducted from the home last Sunday afternoon and interment followed in a Norfolk cemetery.

#### Woman's Club To Hold Dance Next Friday Night

The local Woman's Club will hold its regular weekly dance in the club hall Friday evening of this week, beginning at 9 o'clock, it was announced.

#### Local Junior Council To Hold Meeting Thursday

Important business is scheduled for consideration at the next regular meeting of the local council of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, it was announced today. The meeting will be held in the American Legion Hall at 7:30 o'clock on Thursday evening.

#### Suggests Doing Away with the Animal, Mr. Groundhog

Walking around in a drizzling rain here yesterday, Pete Fowden up and suggested that a nannie goat be run out next February 2 instead of that old groundhog. Those who have found it necessary to travel over rain-soaked and muddy roads and wander around in the rain readily second the motion to Mr. Fowden's suggestion. With a bright sun shining and a strong blowing, one is reminded of March weather today.

#### First Shad of Season Is Caught In the Roanoke

Herring were reported running in fairly large numbers up the Roanoke at Jamesville yesterday. However, the catches are far from a commercial scale. The first shad of the season was caught this week by Kader Godard there.

### WOULD TAKE 35 CENTS OFF TAX LEVIES LOCALLY

#### Committee Would Place 2 Percent Tax on All Gross Sales

Joint senate and house finance committee yesterday afternoon, in the biggest Monday meeting of the General Assembly, took the eight months' school term for an objective and the sales tax for revenue.

The rate agreed upon for the general sales tax, Senator MacLean explained, is 2 per cent of gross sales. The committee of course had a hard time getting the amount to be expected. But allowing generously for continued slumps in business and protracted low prices, the committee saw \$300,000,000 gross business done in the state and that would raise \$6,000,000. But of course there is no dogmatism in the report. The selected commodity tax would be expected to lift about the same six millions. Whichever the state takes, the committee feels somewhat as Plato did when asked if a man should marry. "Whether you do or do not, you will regret it," the philosopher observed. The finance committee does not expect to have any great fun.

But it hopes to add to the \$19,000,000 which it sees in the regular forms of conventional taxation \$6,000,000 to make a total of \$25,000,000, and that's a heap of money. The very least that anybody hoped to spend on the six months' term was \$14,000,000. The eight months term will require the toll \$25,000,000. To run it without any of the drastic economies imposed, cost two years ago \$23,000,000. The finance committee thinks the same term may be financed now for \$17,000,000.

With a general fund yield of approximately \$25,000,000 annually and about \$16,000,000 yearly in highway revenue, the state's prospective appropriations of \$81,000,000 for 1933 and 1934 would be met with \$1,000,000 to spare. The biggest relief would be the 35 cents reduction in ad valorem. That contemplates the universally promised abolition of the 15-cent levy left by the 1931 general assembly. This substantial reduction would virtually guarantee the redemption of thousands of homes and farms now lost by these very heavy local taxes.

The willingness to take either form of emergency sales tax stops the furious drive against all appropriations for maintenance, salaries and the like. The committee feels that these have reached low mark. The present plan contemplates the 15 per cent teacher cut and the 25 per cent superintendent's reduction. It considers also a great scheme of consolidation by which superintendencies will be greatly reduced in districting of the schools. All these are considered in the new plan. The salary level with the plans now under consideration have struck a 38 per cent level as measured by the 1930 rate.

In case there should be a decision not to adopt the eight months term there would be revised schedules on franchises and perhaps incomes. The sum and crown of the report is the balanced budget. The best heads in these houses believe this scheme does it.

#### School Truck Drivers in Meeting Here Saturday

Economical transportation and travel safety were stressed before 39 Martin County school truck drivers at a meeting held here last Saturday. Patrolman Russell Braswell stressed safety and explained laws that should be observed particularly by truck drivers. He also pointed out a few objectionable acts detected by him during the past few weeks. "Trucks should be properly loaded, for when too many children occupy one side of a bus it makes the danger of turning over greater," he said. Following the meeting, the truck drivers enjoyed an oyster roast.

#### Many Planning To Hear College Band Tonight

A large crowd, both white and colored, plans to hear the A. and T. College band at the colored high school here tonight, it is understood.