

Officers Explain Stabilization Plan For Peanut Crop

Farmers Urged to Support Bureau in Urging Crop Control

Meeting here last night at the direction of the Farm Bureau Federation, more than 100 representative farmers were urged to lend their support to the movement to protect the peanut grower after the peanut stabilization corporation tides them over during this perilous marketing period. It is quite apparent that the stabilization plan will serve to the advantage of the farmer this year, but the drive behind the meeting last night was to rally support behind the Farm Bureau which in turn will rally behind the movement to have peanuts included as a basic commodity in the federal agricultural program.

Tobacco farmers are almost certain of a control program because they are fighting for it. There is doubt if the peanut crop will be included in the program simply because peanut farmers in any great number are not fighting for control. But the fight is not over, Mr. Sam Everett, president of the Martin County Bureau, said last night. If we fight, we will win; if we fail to work we will fail, Mr. Everett explained. E. F. Arnold, secretary of the State Federation, pleaded for the support of the farmers in pushing the peanut control plan through. He pointed out that the Bureau was trying to get the House Agriculture Committee to hold hearings in this State, and get the sentiment of North Carolina growers as to whether they want or need control for peanut production.

Messrs. B. B. Everett, director in the Peanut Stabilization Corporation, and J. B. Fearing, secretary and treasurer of the organization, explained in detail the plan for stabilizing the peanut market. They reviewed the legislation that had helped the peanut grower in past years, and pointed out the trials and tribulations. Mr. Fearing went on to say that the Farm Bureau has given valuable aid toward saving the peanut farmer.

The stabilization cooperative is in position to take care of the farmers this year, Director Everett said, and it will go the limit in protecting the market. He advised the farmers to deliver to the stabilization warehouses if the cleaners do not offer more than the price established by the cooperative. "The plan is merely to stabilize the market, and if the farmer can get more on the open market, then he is not asked to deliver to the cooperative warehouses," Mr. Everett added.

Mr. Fearing explained that the only cost to the farmer was a \$1 membership fee which entitled him to deliver as many or as few peanuts and without further obligation as he chose to the cooperative. The peanuts are stored, and if they are later sold to the edible trade, the farmer shares in any premium price his peanuts might command. However, when he delivers his crop to the warehouse, the farmer is paid the stipulated price, and the sale is completed unless the cooperative sells at a figure that will entitle him to a dividend.

Applications have been filed for the operation of two warehouses in Williamston, and it is understood they will start receiving the crop within a few days.

Tobacco Thefts Are Reported In County

They were late starting, but reports from the sheriff's office state that tobacco thieves have recently and possibly still are active in this county. Three farmers reported tobacco stolen from them this week, most of the thefts being limited to small quantities of the leaf.

Robert Nelson, Robersonville man, reported the theft of a barn of tobacco from his farm near there last Sunday night. The leaf has not been recovered and no arrests have been made in the case as far as it could be learned here today. Sam and Eddie Moore, both colored men of Williams township, were arrested Tuesday for the theft of a small quantity of tobacco from Farmer Major Gardner Monday night. The two men are also believed to have stolen about 150 pounds of tobacco from Farmer Kader Perry the same night. They deny the theft of the Perry tobacco, but officers have convincing proof connecting them with the Gardner theft, it is understood. The Moores are in jail awaiting trial in the county court.

State, County and Towns Cut Pie at Liquor Profits Table

The State of North Carolina, Martin County, Williamston, Robersonville, Oak City and Jamesville gathered around the liquor profits table this week for the third quarter pie cutting. The State getting the largest slice, proportionately.

Martin County gets \$2,854.43 as its share of the profits made during the third quarter. North Carolina gets \$2,115.97, the towns sharing, as follows: Williamston, \$452.58; Robersonville, \$229.94; Oak City, \$49.14; and Jamesville, \$29.08.

Participating to the extent of 7 per cent on gross sales, the State came in for the lion's share. Deducted before expenses are paid, the seven per cent amount runs into figures fast, leaving the local governments to share in any profits that remain after expenses and sales are met. Profits to the county were nearly \$2,000 less last quarter than they were in April, May and June. Williamston's share was smaller by nearly \$200, and Jamesville with its sales drastically reduced hardly participated at all, the profits dropping from \$292.46 in the second quarter to \$29.08 last quarter. Oak City's liquor revenue dropped about \$10, while Robersonville with greatly increased sales gained nearly a \$100 in profits over those for the previous quarter.

After splitting the "spoils" six ways, \$401.58 was placed in the reserve fund for law enforcement.

Postal Receipts Here Reach New High Peak

BOARD MEETING

The Martin County Board of Education will meet in called session here next Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock, it was learned today.

While the authorities will handle routine matters connected with the operation of the schools, it is understood they will receive a delegation from the Farmville colored school. The business of the delegation was not disclosed.

Three Face Trial In County Court For Driving Drunk

Judge Peel Continues Six Cases for Trial Next Monday

Sandwiched between the trial of a number of alleged violators of the liquor laws, six cases constituting a part of the regular docket were tried in the county recorder's court last Monday. A half dozen other cases were continued, Judge H. O. Peel realizing that it would be impossible to clear the docket of the large number of actions in a single day.

Among the cases continued was the one charging Geo. Beck, Jamesville police chief and Jamesville Township constable, with breaking and entering and larceny. This case is expected to attract much attention when it comes up for trial along with a number of other ones next Monday.

The proceedings, other than the cases charging violation of the State Alcoholic beverages control laws, are:

Charged with drunken driving, Lorenzo Bryant was fined \$50 and taxed with the trial costs. His license to operate a motor vehicle was revoked for one year.

Harvey Mordecai, charged with being drunk and disorderly and resisting arrest was sentenced to the roads for a term of three months.

Judgment was suspended upon payment of the cost in the case charging E. R. Holloman, Rocky Mount man, with reckless driving.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, Isaac Willis was adjudged not guilty.

Wm. Satterthwaite, charged with drunken driving, was fined \$50 and taxed with the cost. His license to operate a motor vehicle was revoked for one year.

Charged with drunken driving, Geo. W. Mullins was fined \$50, taxed with the cost and had his license suspended for one year.

Masquerade Dance In H. S. Gym Tonight

A masquerade dance will be given tonight in the high school gymnasium from eight thirty until eleven o'clock. Prizes for excellence in "trucking," "the big apple," best costume, best dancing couple, will be awarded.

Admission will be twenty five cents per person. The dance is not just a high school affair, and town people are urged to come.

Record Number Arrests Expected In This Month

Seventy-four persons have been jailed in the county bastille so far this month, and it is now certain that the October turn-key will break the record established in September when 77 persons were incarcerated by county officers.

Business Expected To Double That of Lean Year of 1932

Receipts Through the Third Receipts Through the Third By \$2,890.80

Postal receipts at the Williamston office continue to show a healthy increase over those of corresponding periods in recent years. Postmaster Leslie T. Fowden stating today that business here during the first three quarters of this year had established a new high record. So far this year or during the first three quarters, the business handled by the local office amounted to \$14,659.26 compared with a total of \$12,368.38 handled during the first nine months of 1936.

The current year opened with a bang, the local office reporting receipts in the amount of \$5,197.34 during January, February and March. In the same months last year the total was \$3,970.90. During the entire year, 1936, total receipts amounted to \$17,935.26. If the current quarter receipts even equal those of the fourth quarter a year ago, the 1937 business will exceed \$20,000. Postmaster Fowden explains that amount represents a lot of one- and three-cent stamps.

The mounting postal receipts, Mr. Fowden says offer a clear indication that business in this section is increasing, that it is better than it was a year ago. More business letters and love messages, too, have been handled by the local office so far this year than ever before. With an assured financial stability this season, the office should continue to show gains.

A slight increase in the money order business was reported during the first nine months of this year over the same period in 1936. The money order business in the first three quarters of 1936 amounted to \$80,910.23. In the same months this year the business increased to \$81,007.21. Briefly stated, the money order business has not kept step with the postal receipts increase.

In addition to handling an increasing business that commanded revenue, the local offices has handled large volumes of free mail for the federal agencies, making for a busy time all the year through for workers in the local postoffice.

E. F. Thomas, Local Man, Driver of Death Car

E. F. Thomas, employee of Roberson's Slaughter House here, was badly injured about the head and killed when the truck Thomas was driving struck a telephone pole near Saratoga in Wilson county last Tuesday afternoon.

Thomas, formerly of New Bern and an employee at one time for Frank's Sanitary Grocery here, stated that he picked up Thomas as a hitchhiker along the highway, that the steering gear of the car locked and caused the accident.

Occupants Escape Injury In Car-Truck Accident

No one was injured but considerable property damage resulted when a truck loaded with pickles from New Bern crashed into the car of Leonard Coltrain on the Old Mill Inn bridge, near here, yesterday noon.

The driver of the truck started to pass another large truck on the bridge and pulled right into the Coltrain car, tearing down the front part.

Columbian Peanut Company Factory Begins Operations

Plant Had Twice as Many Willing Workers as It Could Use

After a long period of inactivity, the Columbia Peanut Company resumed operations at its local plant this week, the regular schedule calling for normal operations possibly well into next March. Announcing the reopening of its plant with long blasts from its bass whistle at 5:30 o'clock Wednesday morning, the plant had twice as many willing workers as it could use when the first wheel started turning at eight o'clock, opening time. Most of the workers, idle for the past several months, were old hands of the company.

Operations were resumed without mishap, Manager W. S. Pritchard stating that it was unnecessary to stop the machines even for minor adjustments.

At the present time, the company is employing 125 workers in its local plant. Wages range from \$1.25 for women up to \$2 a day for men. The company operates only nine hours a day and remains idle on Saturdays. At the present time the plant starts operations at 8 a. m., closes for a half hour at noon and ends the day at 5:30. Beginning next week, the plant will likely start operating at 7:30 and close for the day at 5 p. m.

All of its old stock milled and shipped, the company is now handling the new crop, deliveries coming in fairly rapidly for this time of the season. Stocks from farms as far away as New Bern was delivered to the plant here this week. Rains on Wednesday delayed picking activities, and light deliveries were reported yesterday. Prices this week are ranging from slightly over three cents to three and three-eighths. Market observers believing that best quality offerings will sell for three and one-half or possibly more.

Reports clearly indicate that while there is a large production of shell stock to the south, the production in this section of the country is little larger if as large as it was last year. If these reports are accurate, and there is reason to believe they are, then prices for the fancy types should move upward.

Commissioners To Hold Meet Monday

The regular meeting of the Martin County Board of Commissioners will be held here next Monday morning. Chairman J. E. Pope stating today that little special business had been placed on the calendar for consideration at that time. Listed among the routine duties is the selection of a jury for the one-week term of superior court convening the second Monday in December.

Made aware of increases in their assessed property valuations by notices of taxes due recently distributed by the collector, several owners are expected to appear before the board and file protests. Meetings for hearing complaints have been held, and it is understood that the commissioners will be unable to recognize the protests except in those cases where errors were made.

Legion Post To Sponsor Auto Show And Circus

Meeting in brief session here last Tuesday evening, members of the John W. Hassell Post of the American Legion made plans to sponsor an automobile show and indoor circus in an effort to raise funds for completing the construction of the legion hut on Watts Street. Messrs. J. R. Winslow, H. H. Peel, J. R. Leggett and H. G. Horton were named on the committee to make arrangements for holding the event.

Dates for holding the auto show and circus will be determined later, reports stating arrangements for the event could hardly be completed within the next few weeks.

HIGH WATER

The turbulent Roanoke, its waters three feet over the banks at this point, reached its crest here today, late reports from the weather bureau stating that the waters were expected to recede slowly.

A second rise was reported yesterday at Weldon, the stream to reach flood stage there tomorrow or Sunday. The rise there is not expected to effect additional rises here, but it will cause the stream to remain out of its bank for about a week.

Non-Suit Is Likely In Action To Condemn Land for Street

That the town will take a voluntary non-suit in the case brought to condemn the Cherry property for extending Smithwick Street was expressed as a possibility by Attorney R. L. Coburn yesterday following the filing of a commissioners' report earlier this week. However, no action in the case will be taken until the report is placed before the town commissioners at their regular meeting next Monday evening, it was said.

The commission, Messrs. W. H. Biggs, P. H. Brown and C. O. Moore, appointed to appraise the damage, if any, that would result from the opening of the street, mentioned \$700 in the report filed last Tuesday. The commissioners, considering the improvement, were of the opinion that the street extension would enhance the value of the Cherry property. The price was recognized.

Pulp Plant Operation Is Started This Week

Initial Shipments Of Pulp Will Start Moving Next Week

Will Turn Out About 250 Tons of Pulp a Day at Full Time Operation

The new pulp plant of the North Carolina Pulp Co., in the lower part of this county began operating Wednesday night, following nearly two weeks of tuning up and adjustment. The first cars loaded with pulp are expected to start on their way north to the Kieckhefer's finishing plant at Belair, N. J., early next week.

Some pulp was produced last Monday and Tuesday, but much of it was torn and mangled as it came off the rollers of the machine supposed to strain out the water and form it into sheets.

Most of this was turned back into the vats to be softened and rolled out again after the machinery had been adjusted as required. Some, however, was salvaged and this was enough to make about half a box car full.

When the mill is operating at full capacity it will turn out about 250 tons of pulp a day, according to L. J. Meunier, vice president of the company. He figures on 40 tons of pulp to each box car, so it is estimated that about six cars a day will be loaded at the mill as soon as everything is operating smoothly.

Company officials expect that it will take a while to train the necessary crews of from 250 to 300 workers in the operation of the complicated machinery of the mill.

The crew of experienced men who have come from mother mills to form a nucleus for the new organization has been working almost day and night for weeks in getting things started. And Vice President Meunier as the man who designed the mill and is responsible for its successful operation, has hardly left the plant for more than a few minutes at a time during the tuning-up process.

Because of the nature of the chemical process involved, once the wood chips are started through the long series of tanks, ovens and digesters, they must be kept going. For this reason the mill will operate on a 24-hour a day schedule, and for the same reason, once the tuning-up process began, it had to be completed as rapidly as possible to prevent loss of pulp.

The last machines used in the process are the ones which convert the liquid pulp into half-finished paper, and it is these that have been causing trouble. They were imported from Norway, and for a time it was thought that the company might have to get someone from Norway to come here and run them. However, Vice President Meunier declared this was unnecessary, and after some adjustments eliminated the trouble.

Town Commissioners To Meet Monday Night

Williamston's town commissioners will meet in regular session next Monday night at 7:45 o'clock, Mayor J. L. Hassell stating that very little new business has been placed on the calendar so far for consideration at that time.

The street improvement program which ran into a snag this week, will be considered.

as "fail" by others close to the defendant in the action.

The owner of the property, Mr. Joe Cherry, states that he will fight condemnation unless the town offers him the amount he has in it. He is said to have paid \$5,000 for the entire property.

While future action rests with the commissioners, it is likely another commission will be appointed if a voluntary non-suit is accepted. The new commission will then make its report, from which the defendant is almost certain to appeal and the case will then go to the courts, provided, of course, the town considers the damage allowance reasonable.

The proposed extension of Smithwick Street is part of an improvement program planned by the town authorities. The program calls for opening to traffic Railroad Street from Smithwick to Washington Streets.

Wilson Court Has Liquor Cases Like Those Tried Here

Fines of Thousands of Dollars and Costs Imposed by the Judge

The last of forty-seven liquor cases rounded up in wholesale raids by detectives of the Branch agency were cleared from the docket in a Wilson court yesterday, reports reaching here stating that 43 of the 47 defendants were found guilty. Only one of the 47 was found not guilty, the court disposing of the remaining three. While the one defendant was found not guilty of selling liquor, the court found him guilty of illegal possession.

Reporting the campaign against the illegal liquor traffic, the Wilson Times in its today's edition says:

"For three weeks the attorneys have battled the courts in an attempt to get their clients free and for three weeks the evidence has been so overwhelming against the violators that they have been found guilty."

"Thousands of dollars in fines and costs have been imposed by Recorder Charles B. McLean in the cases, and although, a few have paid these fines and costs the majority of the defendants have appealed to the Superior Court and were placed under bond pending trial in the high court."

"Though 47 warrants were issued for individuals at first during the trial of the cases some 147 warrants were issued. When a man appealed he was served with another warrant to bolster the state case against him in Superior Court."

"The warrants were issued by E. P. Renner, of the Norfolk detective agency, who obtained the evidence through undercover work here in September for the Wilson County ABC board."

"Officers and the ABC board seemed pleased with the work done on the cases today as Charlie Lowe, negro, was found guilty and the last of the cases disposed of."

Deadly Drug Not Distributed Here

Local druggists and local doctors stated this week that none of the elixir of sulfanilamide had been distributed here. A sample of the drug that has caused at least 57 deaths over the nation in recent days, was received here, but it had not been unpacked. Its use was not considered, and the drug has been returned.

The elixir and sulfanilamide, harmless when separate, develops into a poison when mixed, first tests apparently failing to show any trace of poison.

According to unofficial reports, the drug claimed a victim in Rocky Mount, the nearest death reported.

Official statements released yesterday maintained that all of the elixir of sulfanilamide had been retrieved by the manufacturers or turned over to government authorities.

Sidelights On Trial ABC Liquor Cases

The trial of twenty-two alleged violators of the liquor laws in the courts of this county recently brought forth some interesting comment from people all over the county, some stating that the judge was sensible and reasonable in meting out justice, others maintaining that, in their opinion, the sentences were light, very light.

That the methods followed in obtaining evidence did not meet with general approval was evident in possibly a majority of cases. In the opinion of others, for one to compete with the lowly bootleg business he must stoop to the same level to do battle.

That the business was dealt a death blow, is seriously doubted in the minds of many. The round in court marked the end of the business for some, but for others it approached the issuance of free license to sell liquors, others reasoned.

"I wish the judge would name the amount of my fine so I can pay it as I must hurry home to receive delivery of five gallons of liquor," one defendant in the court Monday is alleged to have said.

That there will be a flareback in the cases at the instance of the prosecution is possible, but no action has been taken in that connection, it was learned today.