

Martin Farmers Are Rejoicing Over The Condition Of Crops

Politics and Other Topics Overshadowed by Outlook

With one of the best outlooks in many years for bumper crops this season, Martin farmers are openly rejoicing, leaving politics and other controversial subjects in the backgrounds for slight consideration later on. Even the prospects for prices next fall are not entering into the conversations, the farmers talking principally now about how early he will likely be curing tobacco, how fast his cotton crop is growing and how well the season is advanced.

"We'll be curing tobacco by the middle of June if weather conditions continue favorable from now on," farmers from up Robersonville way say. "Tobacco is knee high and some of the leaves are already as large as they were at curing time a year ago," Williams Township farmers said yesterday. "I have never seen better looking crops at this time of year than those out in our section," a Farm Life farmer explained this morning.

A year ago, numbers of farmers in this county had just started transplanting their tobacco, the working continuing well into June. Curing activities did not get underway on any appreciable scale until early July, and quite a few farmers left the tips in their fields for the worms in late August and early September. A world of sorry tips, tips without a friend in the world, were placed on the markets and sold for little or nothing.

With indications pointing to one of the earliest crops on record, they can open the tobacco markets anytime after August 1, "and we'll be ready for them," numbers of farmers from all over the county are saying.

This week will likely mark the close of the peanut planting season, reports stating that most of the goobers are already in the ground.

In the potato communities of the county, quite a few farmers have already started digging the crop. Prices are now ranging around \$2.25 a barrel. In the Hassell section yields slightly below normal are being reported, the early diggings netting around 50-60 barrels to the acre.

The crop situation is so pleasing that the farmers have found little time to talk about anything else. Politics, ordinarily a topic for warm discussion this close to a primary, is little heard in conversations on the streets and around the rural centers. Few farmers are even mentioning the depression, and it is an actual fact that nearly all the complaining about tobacco quotas, cotton allotments and so on is little heard these days.

Martin farmers are possibly more optimistic now than they have ever been. They realize that economic conditions aren't blossoming to capacity, but they are looking to the future with hope and are not digging into the good earth looking for any unnecessary worries.

Ouster Hearing Moves On Slowly

Greenville, May 23.—Bills of cost that have been under discussion for the last three days in the Superior Court ouster hearing against Sheriff S. A. Whitehurst took the spotlight again today.

Disposition of 31 bills of cost list on the audit of bills of cost made in Sheriff Whitehurst's office were testified to by J. Frank Harrington, clerk of Pitt County Superior Court. On Friday of last week he testified to 139 bills of cost, several of which had been not pressed and settled.

Attorney Jones, representing the prosecution, objected to Harrington's testimony on grounds that settlements had been made after the time of the audit. Albion Dunn, defense counsel, moved that the items in the audit which they said had not been presented in court should be removed from the audit as admitted into the evidence. A heated discussion then arose about the bills of cost.

Harrington again testified in connection with the bills of cost this afternoon. Accountants Ausbon and Wall were questioned as to the purpose of the audit made in the sheriff's office. They explained that its purpose was a preliminary to establishing a new bookkeeping system for the county.

No Action Yet
While the closing of local stores each Wednesday afternoon during the summer has been mentioned, no action has been definitely taken to adopt the half-holiday schedule.

Government Moving Peanuts From Storage Houses Here

Sold to a Wilmington oil mill, approximately 28,000 bags of peanuts are now being moved out of the Farmers warehouse here today. Six truckers moved out the first loads this morning, reports stating that it will require about three weeks to clear the house.

Bids were received yesterday in Edenton by the North Carolina Peanut Stabilization Cooperative for approximately 33,000 bags of the goobers stored in the Planters warehouse here. The name of the successful bidder has not been announced, but it is understood that the sale was made to an oil mill operator.

With the removal of its peanuts here, the stabilization organization will have reduced its stocks almost to a minimum, reports stating that nearly all if not all of the peanuts sold went to crushing mills.

No prices have been officially announced, but it is understood that few peanuts bought at 3 1-4 cents a pound have been sold for more than \$1.80 a hundred pounds, the organization adhering to its announced policy calling for the diversion of all its purchases into oil if the cleaners did not offer a price sufficient to offset the purchase, insurance, storage and handling costs.

It would have been possible for the stabilization cooperative to have sold much of its stock to the cleaners at a price of about \$1.50 a hundred above the oil mill quotations, but the lower figure was accepted with the aim of removing the crop surplus from the edible trade.

The peanuts here are among the last to be sold, the stabilization organization having already moved several hundred thousand bags to the oil mills from various sections in the peanut area.

Maple Grove Builds Sunday School Unit

Construction work was started yesterday on four new Sunday school rooms for the Maple Grove Christian Sunday school, reports from members of the religious body in the Farm Life community of Griffins Township, stating that it was planned to have the new rooms ready for use on June 5.

Recognizing the need for adequate housing for the Sunday school, the membership willingly donated the building materials and large numbers are offering their services free in advancing the building program, which calls for the construction of four rooms, two of them being 12 by 16 feet and two being 12 by 12 feet. The smaller rooms will be connected to the church auditorium for use at the regular preaching services as well as for use by the Sunday school.

Ranking as one of the largest rural Sunday schools in the County, the Maple Grove unit has an enrollment of approximately 100 pupils and reports an average attendance of about 80. Reports state that the Sunday school is enjoying a steady growth, and it is believed the unit will experience a marked increase in membership as soon as the enlarged plant is made ready for use.

Poppy Day Will Be Observed In County

Poppy Day will be observed in Martin County this year on Saturday, May 28, Mrs. J. E. Boykin, chairman of the poppy committee of John Walton Hassell unit of the American Legion Auxiliary, has announced. Extensive preparations for the observance of the day are being made by the Auxiliary women.

Nearly 1,000 poppies, made by disabled veterans, will be placed in the hands of the Auxiliary members for sale in this county.

Memorial poppies, to be worn in honor of the World War dead and to raise funds for the welfare of the disabled veterans and needy families of the dead and disabled, will be distributed throughout the county. Organizations of corps of "poppy girls" to offer the flowers to everyone on the streets during the day and to receive contributions for the legion and auxiliary welfare funds. The flowers have been ordered from Oteen hospital where they have been made by disabled veterans.

"Poppy Day is the day of personal tribute to the men who gave their lives in the nation's defense," explained Mrs. Boykin. On that day everyone can show that they still remember and honor the sacrifices of those who lost their lives in the war. The poppy is their flower, made in their memory by their disabled comrades.

"The American Legion Auxiliary will ask no set price for its poppies. We want everyone to wear a poppy and to contribute as he is able for the flower. All contributions will be used for the work of the legion and auxiliary among the men who lost health and strength in the war, and among the children whose fathers are dead or disabled. The bulk of the money will be expended right here in Martin County.

Highly Respected Colored Citizen Dies Near Oak City

Scott Pittman, highly respected colored man of Goose Neck, died at his home here late last Thursday night from heart trouble. He was 70 years old. Pittman was a leader of his race, and took much interest in the affairs of his community.

The funeral held in an Oak City church Sunday afternoon was largely attended. Burial was on his home farm, near Oak City.

AUCTIONEER



Clarence "Jakie" Taylor, one of the best tobacco auctioneers in any old bell, has signed a contract and will again be with Messrs. Claude Griffin and Jimmie Taylor at the Roanoke-Dixie warehouse here this coming season. Mr. Taylor's continued presence on the local market is recognized as a valuable asset.

Will Start Work On Warehouse Addition By Middle of June

Farmers House Will Have 42,200 Feet of Floor Space

Construction work on an addition to the Farmers Tobacco Warehouse will get underway here about the middle of next month, or just as soon as the government moves out the 28,000 bags of peanuts stored there, Mr. Leman Barnhill, owner-partner, said yesterday. The owners handling the construction contract themselves, plan to have the addition ready for use two weeks or more before the market opens possibly during the middle or latter part of August.

The addition to the house will provide 5,600 more square feet of floor space and will make the house one of the largest for the sale of leaf tobacco in this section. According to present plans, the owners will widen the "L" part of the building by 35 feet. The first addition, made several years ago, made available 9,600 square feet. The main section of the house, 270 feet long and 100 feet wide, has 27,000 square feet, the additions boosting this figure to 42,200 square feet. It is estimated the house when the addition is completed will hold almost a day's sale.

Timber for the addition to the house has been placed on the lot, and arrangements for the construction work have been completed, the builders stating they will start activities there just as soon as the government moves out the peanuts it has in storage there.

Messrs. Joe Moye, Holt Evans and Leman Barnhill will again operate the house, and they are planning for a successful season.

These men are well known throughout eastern North Carolina as able warehousemen and excellent judges of tobacco. Forming a partnership last year, they made record sales and laid the foundation for a continued growth this coming season.

Cancer Control Nets \$43.14 in Drive Here

The nation-wide drive for cancer prevention just recently concluded was ably supported in this community, Mrs. Frederick Hoyt, local chairman, stating that the 26 \$1.00 memberships and contributions totaled \$43.14.

Those joining the movement were: Members: Miss Lora Sleeper, Mrs. Vernon A. Ward, C. A. Plyler, R. L. Cain, Mrs. Grace Swain, L. T. Fowden, C. B. Clark, Dorothy Ward, Irving Margolis, Nat Israel, Urbin Rogers, Proctor Hat Shoppe, D. R. Davis, Edwin Peele, W. E. Dunn, Mrs. G. P. Hall, J. L. Hassell, B. S. Courtney, Mrs. J. E. King, Mrs. C. A. James, C. B. Roebuck, Dr. J. H. Saunders, Mrs. Titus Critcher, A. Friend, R. H. Goodman, Jamesville Home Demonstration club.

Contributors: Bill Haislip, Mrs. W. K. Parker, Mrs. W. J. Melson, Mrs. J. C. Anderson, Mrs. Dewey Hayman, Mrs. A. L. Roebuck, Mrs. Frederick Hoyt, Willard Shoe Shop, J. D. Woolard, Ruth Norton, Annie Mae Odell, Mr. Miller, R. L. Smith, Sam Woolford, Buddy Talman, Gaylord Harrison, Anne's Variety Store, The Enterprise, Mr. Eugene Rice, Herman Bowen, Clyde Griffin, Mr. Joe Boykin, Garland Barnhill, Annabelle Brown, Mr. C. B. Leggett, Mr. W. S. Hatchett, Edna Barnhill, Garland Woolard, Jane Parker, Dolores Long, Mammie Clyde Taylor, Kate Manning, L. T. Williams, Edwin Trahey, L. B. Harrison, J. W. Bailey, A. P. Grocery, Ella Ramsey, Pender's, Ben Courtney, Jack Horner, Mrs. B. S. Courtney, Sara Cone, Reginald Simpson, A. J. Manning, Wheeler Manning, Mrs. R. H. Goodman, Mrs. K. B. Crawford, Mrs. C. C. Parker, Mrs. Charles Peele, Mrs. Carrie Rhodes, Mrs. C. O. Carver, Mrs. Erah Cobb, Mrs. E. D. Woolard, Mrs. T. B. Brandon, Mrs. J. E. Cooke.

Canvassers: Mrs. G. P. Hall, Mrs. W. J. Melson, Ruth Norton, Miss Lora Sleeper, Mrs. J. C. Cooke, Mrs. T. B. Brandon, Mrs. Dewey Hayman.

Kiwanians And Lions Play Ball Thursday

Lions and Kiwanis athletes will meet on the high school diamond here next Thursday afternoon to settle an argument that has been raging ever since the Lions tied the victory count at one-all. Both teams are anxious to meet the other, and the boys are promising a good game. Proceeds from the game will be turned into the library fund.

District Methodist Conference To Bring Over 300 Church Leaders Here Next Thursday and Friday

ELIZABETH CITY DISTRICT CONFERENCE
Williamston, N. C., May 26-27, 1938.

PROGRAMME

Thursday Morning
10:00 Devotional by presiding elder
10:20 Roll Call and organization of conference
10:30 Words of welcome by Pastor Host, Dr. Maxwell
10:45 Appointment of conference committees
11:00 Pastors' reports and other interests
12:00 Determine method of nominating annual conference delegates
P. M.
1:00 Lunch
2:00 Committee meetings
2:30 Afternoon Session, Devotional by M. W. Maness
2:45 Laymen's Hour: C. G. Morris, District Lay Leader; Hon. W. I. Halstead, W. J. Woodley and W. H. Burgess, Associate Lay Leaders
3:15 Election of Lay Delegates to Annual Conference
3:30 Address by Hon. Cale K. Burgess
4:00 Reports and miscellaneous business
4:30 Adjournment

Evening Session
8:00 Devotional by J. L. Smith. Sermon by H. K. King, "Aldersgate's Continuation"

Friday Morning
9:00 Devotional by Carl K. Wright
9:15 Reports: Quarterly conference Records, John R. Poe. Licensing Committee, L. B. Jones; Lay Activities, C. G. Morris; Election of District Lay Staff; Church Finance, C. A. Flynn; Local Preachers, E. W. Downum; Golden Cross, Judge A. P. Godwin; Christian Education, George Blount; Adult Work, E. D. Weathers; Young Peoples' Work, R. E. Walston; Children's Work, Mrs. B. B. Slaughter; Assemblies, Allen C. Lee; The Woman's Work, Mrs. J. L. Delaney, Secretary Woman's Work; Missions, H. K. King, District Missionary Secretary; Evangelism and Spiritual State, D. M. Sharpe; Findings Report, W. N. Vaughan.
"Youth Crusade", Dr. S. A. Maxwell

Burgess' Address To Be Added Feature on Thursday's Program

Delegates Will Be Guests In Various Homes on Thursday Night

Interest in religious activities for all of northeastern North Carolina will be centered here next Thursday and Friday when the local Methodist church membership entertains the Elizabeth City District conference which will bring here more than 350 church leaders and a number of prominent speakers. The district is composed of 32 pastoral charges reaching from Manteo in the east to Williamston in the west, reports stating that each of them will be represented during the two-day meeting.

Rev. B. B. Slaughter, district elder, will preside over the conference which opens at 10 o'clock on Thursday morning and adjourns at noon Friday.

Extensive preparations are nearing completion for entertaining the conference, the first to be held here in slightly more than five years. The visitors will be guests in private homes, the several denominations joining the Methodists in entertaining the delegates and other representatives of the various churches. Dr. S. A. Maxwell, pastor of the host church, states that nearly 200 official delegates are expected and that approximately 150 others will accompany them here for the three sessions.

Following the organization of the conference Thursday morning and the reading of reports by the various pastors of the 32 charges, the meeting in the afternoon will hear a series of addresses by prominent speakers and churchmen. A feature on the afternoon program is the scheduled address by Cale K. Burgess, chairman of the United Dry Forces of the State. Mr. Burgess, his subject likely to center around an appeal for support of temperance, is to address the assembly at 3:30 o'clock that afternoon. The evening session, convening at 8 o'clock, will hear a sermon by Rev. H. K. King, who will have for his topic, "Aldersgate Continuation."

The Friday morning session, convening at 9 o'clock, will be given over to conference business including reports from the various department heads. The conference will close with an address by Dr. S. A. Maxwell in which he will interpret the new legislation enacted by the recent general conference in Birmingham as it relates to the "Youth Crusade."

Williamston is glad to be host to this large and representative body of Methodists from northeastern North Carolina.

Goals In The County Setting Up Potato

Plans for setting up Irish potato goals for individual commercial growers are being advanced today by the county agricultural office, the authorities explaining that these goals must be established and maintained to assure maximum participation in the soil conservation program benefits.

The growers are asked to submit their acreages planted to Irish potatoes and yields for the years 1936, 1937 and 1938, and the number of tenants sharing in the proceeds from the potatoes this year.

It is estimated that there aren't more than 50 or 60 commercial growers in this county.

Local Methodists Join In Aldersgate Celebration

The local Methodists will join in the world-wide celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of John Wesley's Aldersgate experience to-night at 8:15. A special thirty-minute program has been arranged. The principal features are the singing of Wesley songs and the participation in the communion service. A very brief description of Wesley's visit to Aldersgate will be made by the pastor. All Methodists in Williamston are expected to enter into this service. Throughout the world at the same hour over eight million will celebrate Wesley's Aldersgate hour.

Roberson's Chapel Holds Bible School

The annual Daily Vacation Bible School of Roberson's Chapel got underway on Monday, May 16th at 9 a. m. The school will continue on through next Friday, the 28. There is an enrollment of 80 with an average attendance of 71. The school has been divided into four departments. The beginners are being taught by Miss Josephine Gurganus and Miss Melba Grace Peel; the primaries by Misses Ruby and Louise Wynne; the juniors by Miss Louise Paschall, who is the director of the school and Miss Ezefferlee Griffin; and the intermediates by the Rev. Z. T. Piehoff and Rev. John C. Whitley.

Most of the older boys and girls are playing volleyball this year. A few boys are playing softball.

A course is being offered to the intermediates on the "Land Where Jesus Lived". They are drawing maps of Palestine and are outlining its physical and political divisions and placing the various cities visited by Jesus on the map.

A very enjoyable course is the course in music offered by Rev. J. C. Whitley to the juniors and intermediates.

The commencement exercises will be held next Sunday.

Ascension Day Will Be Observed In Church Here

There will be a celebration of the Holy Communion on Thursday, Ascension Day, at 7:30 a. m. in the Church of the Advent, this being the day Our Lord ascended into Heaven. It is urged, since this is one of the four most important days in the life of Christ, that each individual make a special effort to attend.

Funeral For Small Child Held Sunday Afternoon

Funeral services were conducted last Sunday afternoon by Rev. John Whitley, Presbyterian minister for Edith Cavell Wynne, five-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Wynne. Interment was in the Stephenson cemetery in Poplar Point Township.

Makes Record Fish Catch In Gulf Stream Recently

Vacationing in Florida, Mrs. Charles H. Godwin, Sr., made a record catch while fishing in the Gulf Stream last week. She hooked and pulled in a sailfish measuring eight feet and one inch and weighing 125 pounds, reports stating that the fish was the largest caught there this season.

TOWN MEETING

Meeting in special session this afternoon, the local town commissioners are to formulate plans for advancing a proposed \$75,000 improvement program including the paving of a number of streets, the construction of additions to the water and sewer systems and the creation of a playground center.

Tentative surveys advanced by Engineer Henry Rivers call for a \$34,000 street program, \$15,000 for additions to the sewer system, \$8,000 for a swimming pool, and around \$17,000 for a fourth deep well.

The authorities plan to place the program before the people in a special election within the next few weeks.

Bible School Has Finals Program

Williamston's third annual daily vacation Bible school was brought to a successful close last Friday evening when the pupils participated in a commencement program at the Christian church before a large audience.

Entering the special school two weeks previously, the children had made marked progress in the study of Bible stories, and offered a splendid program, one that was much enjoyed.

During the school period \$15 was raised by general collection, the leaders announcing that a portion of the money would be used for the purchase of books for the public library and the remainder would be used for the purchase of playground equipment.

"We are well pleased with the progress of the school and the teachers are to be highly commended for their splendid work," Rev. John Hardy, Episcopal minister, who kept in close touch with the school, said at the commencement exercises Friday evening.

Visitation Day At Junior Orphanage Next Sunday

Visitors' day will be observed at the Junior Order United American Mechanics Orphanage Home in Lexington next Sunday, reports stating that Martin County will be represented.

The home, supported by the Junior Order, is caring for 225 children, and the annual visitation is usually well attended by member of the organization from all parts of the State.

Governor Hoyt will speak during the day, his address to feature the program.