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Tuesday, June 27, 1939.

A Shorter Day Might Help

There is a marked opposition being expressed by farmers to a shorter day for tobacco auction sales, but it is reasonable to believe there is some advantage to be found in the limited selling period, an advantage that should tend to prevent the marked price fluctuations from day to day that have been experienced season in and season out for a long period.

There is something peculiar about the opposition, some suggesting that the big markets are supporting it because the smaller markets will gain an advantage. The time has come to stop giving the buyers and the warehousemen first consideration in every deal under the sun and let the farmer, the fellow who raises and offers the tobacco for sale, be considered for once.

It is reasonable to believe that the seven-hour selling day has choked the factories of the buying companies, making it next to impossible for the companies to buy freely. Give a buyer a clean factory every morning when he goes on the market, and tobacco prices paid the farmer will be stronger and will not reflect a low trend one day and a high trend the next.

The big warehouseman on the big market has never worried before about the farmer's tobacco as it was piled on the floor to wait over night for the buyers late the next day. It is apparent that there is some advantage in the short selling period for the farmer, but not for the big warehouseman. Yet, all the reports maintain that the farmers, the farmers, and nobody else are against the five-hour selling day.

Farmers, the proposed change might delay you a week, two weeks or three weeks in completing the marketing of your crop, but at the same time it might mean you will be more than repaid by being delayed. But don't worry about it for when the United States Tobacco Association and the big market operators get together in West Virginia this week the pleas of a ragged rear farmer in Martin County will never be heard that far, not even with the Farm Bureau Federation, the Grange, the Extension Division and the Advisory Committee around to help him holler.

They say this company is strong today and that company is weak. Isn't it possible that the weak company is holding off the market until crowded conditions in its factory can be relieved, and that the strong company has ample room to take care of its purchases for the day? Of course there is that same old manipulation, but the shorter selling days will lessen by one the excuses for all that price manipulation.

Lost in the Chasm

While there is a lot of loud talking going on about marketing farm products, the farmer, lost in a chasm that has been worn deeper and deeper by the manipulators, continues to cry for help. Senator Josiah Bailey's bill to help marketing activities may be advanced in good faith and may be of some value, but until somebody gets in the thick of the fog and learns why 100 pounds of Irish potatoes are taken away from the farmer at a ridiculously low price and then sold to the "poor, tax-ridden consumer" at an exorbitant price, all this marketing talk will amount to little or nothing.

Experiencing a glutted market a few days ago, farmers were offering Irish potatoes for 20 cents a hundred pounds. It is true the potatoes were graded seconds. At the same time, Irish potatoes were being sold in grocery stores at the rate of 20 pounds for fifty cents. And the potatoes, while graded as No. ones, were of little better quality than those bought at 20 cents a hundred.

There is too everlasting much difference in the prices received by the farmer for his produce and the prices paid by the consumers for that produce.

The whole business of getting farm products from the farm to the consumer is apparently based on robbery of the Jesse James type. If it is not robbery then there is something radically wrong somewhere, and it would seem that an extensive investigation would be worth more to the farmer and ultimate consumer than a half baked plan to advance marketing services for farm commodities. If Mr Bailey is

interested in solving the marketing question then let him get busy and help tear down the monopolies that fix the prices to the farmer on the one hand and the prices to the consumer on the other. Let him get busy at the foundation of the problem, and don't spend millions gathering more data for the monopolies to use at the price-fixing table. Let him face the bare facts such as the cost of production and a fair price for the consumer.

There is no opposition to Mr. Bailey's bill here. Everything that holds promise to relieve the farmer in his desperate plight should be carefully considered, but don't advance some scheme that will make the rich richer and the farmer and consumer poorer. Mr. Bailey can go to the Irish potato to start his marketing improvement program, for there has been enough blood money lost there to feed the starving in China for a generation.

A Timely Warning

The vacation season is underway again, and characteristic of the American, the vacationist spends days and weeks advancing detailed plans that will afford pleasure every minute during the few precious days that the worker can rightfully call his own. Little thought is given to a safety program that increased dangers might be minimized. We go bursting headlong into the dangers-as they come, taking unnecessary chances along the road, in the sun and at the seashore. The time set apart for pleasure, past records show, has proved a time for increased deaths along the highway and in the surf.

There are other dangers allied with the vacation period which the State Board of Health points out in the following release:

"Headlines in the same paper emblazoned the fact that one man had won an automobile race and that another had been killed in a spectacular crash-up of three cars," declared J. M. Jarrett, Consultant in Sanitary Engineering, Division of County Health Work, State Board of Health.

Mr. Jarrett added significantly: "As sad and as regretful as these accidents may be, there were many other deaths during these same days that went unnoticed and will never reach the front page or headlines of the papers, the reason being that we have no compilation of statistics on the number of vacationists and travelers who drank from some open unprotected spring or well and contracted intestinal diseases which will cause them to die."

"Nor do we have any statistics on the number of people who ate tainted or unclean food and were made sick, nor do we have any idea of the total number of people who were bitten by mosquitoes later to develop malaria and possibly die. And most important of all, we never know the number of children who were fed unclean and unsafe milk which will cause their deaths before the summer is over."

"No headlines were given and no headlines will ever be given for such things as these. They are things which we have come to accept as necessary in the normal course of events. We have become fatalists and fail to get excited over the number of babies' or children's deaths and fail to stop and think of the simple precautions we could take to correct this situation. Such items as these have ceased to be news but the fact still remains in spite of what our reactions might be, that many children and many adults too will die as a result of the hazards encountered and ignored on their summer vacations, because someone did not stop to think or beware. Therefore, when you plan your trip this summer, plan not only to have a good time in order that you may return to your home in a refreshed and healthy state of mind and body but plan also to take those little, but necessary, precautions for the protection of your most valuable asset—your health, and the health of your family."

Confusing

Talk and action by Republican Congressmen and a few of the good old Democrats, too, is really confusing when it comes down to economizing and getting the country out of debt.

Many of the Republican boys who have had right much to say about Roosevelt spending are recorded as having voted for the Townsend pension plan. And that was bad enough, but the climax was not reached until just a few days ago when that bitter New Deal critic and ultra conservative Congressman Woodrum, of Virginia, asked for a \$340,000 appropriation to finance Byrd on another escapade to the South Pole.

One of the troubles with the spending program is that every fellow was licking the pork barrel for himself and showing no great concern about the general welfare of the country and the masses.

The acts of the boys up in Washington would not be so confusing if they would stop, as has been suggested, and considered that economy preaching would be more convincing if the preachers could show a greater percentage of consistent practicing.

Splendid Advice But Not Complete

It has been found by State College's Uncle Jim that individual farmers who study and understand national farm problems are better able to manage their farms on a profitable basis by growing the crops for which there is a demand.

This is splendid advice, but it is hardly complete. The Martin County farmer would like to know what kind of a crop is in demand.



Rural Power Improves Bladen County Homes

Rural power for Bladen County has stirred up interest among prospective customers as to the number and kind of electrical appliances they can install in their homes.

Raising Of Capons Is Recommended By Agent

Prices for broilers have been so low this year that Farm Agent G. D. White has been advising Henderson County farmers to caponize at least a part of their male birds.

Service for All

Even though our business has made an increase, we maintain a personal touch with our customers. We find that our patronage, each with individual problems, appreciates the time that we devote to them.

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Farmers Who Burn Timber Penalized

No benefit payments will be made by the Triple-A to any farmer who willfully burns over, or permits or does not attempt to prevent the burning over of woodland on a farm, announces E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer of State College. County and State AAA committees are empowered to withhold payments in full or in part, based on their investigations of the individual cases, he explained.

"Conservation of timber resources is an important part of the Agricultural Conservation program, and a person who willfully destroys woodland defeats the purpose of the program," Floyd declared. "Burned-over woodland not only destroys valuable timber, but it kills vegetation which controls erosion and prevents washing of adjoining cultivated fields."

The AAA officer said the State Triple-A committee will act in cases where a farmer owns land in counties other than the one where the offense occurs.

"The county committee will consider each case of burning woodland in the light of information furnished to it by community committeemen, local and State supervisors, representatives of the State and U. S. Forest Service, and any other person who is in a position to furnish satisfactory information. The Forest Service are requesting their repre-

Tobacco Should Be Harvested When Leaves Turn Yellow

Harvesting of tobacco should begin when the bottom leaves begin to turn yellow. The first leaves can be pulled a little greener than later primings, if the leaf is mature. Only uniform, ripe, well-developed leaves should be pulled as this uniformity in priming will add much to the quality. In normal seasons tobacco should be primed each week for best results. Proper care in handling the leaves so they will not break or bruise will pay dividends in a better quality and grade of the cured weed.

sentatives to report all such cases coming to their attention directly to the appropriate county AAA office," Floyd said.

The penalty for burning over woodland is a part of the Federal Farm act of 1938, and applies to all parts of the nation.

EXECUTRIX NOTICE
Having this day qualified as executrix of the estate of M. D. Ayers, deceased, late of Martin County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to exhibit same for payment on or before the 2nd day of June, 1940, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please come forward and make immediate payment.
This the 2nd day of June, 1939.
MRS. ANNIE AYERS,
Executrix of the estate of
June 6-40 M. D. Ayers, Deceased



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ON HOGS FAST!



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