

Indifference Threatens Planned Program For Tobacco

Goldman Package Manufacturing Company Makes First Basket At Its New Factory Here Yesterday

Hundreds Attend Opening Of New Industrial Plant

Officials Make Special Visit Here from New Jersey For Opening

New life was added to Williamston's industrial front yesterday morning when the Goldman Package Manufacturing Company turned out the first basket in its new plant here on East Main Street, near the river. The formal opening, attracting well over a thousand visitors from this and neighboring communities as well as several officials from the company's headquarters in New Jersey, was quite successful and without incident, according to a statement released by M. L. Goldman, assistant secretary and head of southern operations.

From early morning until late afternoon, crowds visited the plant to observe the hundreds of operations necessary in the manufacture of simple basket containers. Many of them were amazed when they saw long rows of machines and were advised that everyone of them was needed in the manufacture of the various types of packages and crates.

Without incident
Depending on a "green" crew, the plant management was well pleased with the developments of the first day's operation. Gradually the workers tuned their efforts to the speed of the machines and operations settled down to a smooth schedule. There were the minor adjustments, and delays and interruptions were fairly frequent during the early hours, but by noon and later in the day operations were speeding up. The formal opening was without incident, the visitors handling themselves well and the new workers adapting themselves to their tasks in a remarkably short time. No accidents marred the program, and officials were quoted as saying they were well pleased, that the opening had been very successful, and that they enjoyed and appreciated the cooperation and friendly interest shown by the general public.

\$30,000 Basket
That \$30,000 basket, a bushel container, rolled off the machines by mid-morning, and officials moved it immediately to the office where it now stands on exhibition. The cost will be materially lowered as the plant approaches normal operations and baskets are turned out by the tens of thousands.

Normal Schedule
Today the factory is gradually moving toward a normal operation schedule which will likely be reached within the next three or four weeks. Additional employees will be added from time to time until around 150 are on the company's payroll. Commenting on the labor situation, a representative of the company explained that they had been literally swamped by applications, that sufficient help could be had from the

(Continued on page six)

Farmers To Decide Price for Tobacco

Flue-cured tobacco growers will go to the polls Saturday and decide whether they want three-year marketing quotas, one-year quotas, or no quotas at all. They also will be deciding to a large extent the price they will receive for their 1940 crop of tobacco, it is pointed out by E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer of N. C. State College.

If quotas are approved for a three-year period, 1941 through 1943, the Federal government has promised to protect prices of the 1940 crop "at or slightly above last year's 14.9 cents per pound level." The Triple-A officials also have announced that if three-year quotas are voted, the allotments in 1941 will be the same as in 1940. Recent amendments to the crop control law provide that no quota can be reduced more than 10 per cent. Without any quotas, predictions of the price the 1940 crop would bring range from 5 to 10 cents per pound.

Floyd said that any person who will share in the proceeds of the 1940 crop of flue-cured tobacco is eligible to vote in the referendum Saturday. Community polling places will be set up, to be opened not later than 9 a. m. and to close not earlier than 5 p. m.

It will require a vote of two-thirds or more of those voting do not favor three-year quotas, but the total of the three-year and one-year votes is two-thirds or more of the total vote cast, then one-year quotas will be in effect.

OFFICIALS HERE FOR FACTORY OPENING



Heading an official party, Messrs. M. L. Levin, vice president, right and Samuel Goldman, secretary-treasurer of the Goldman Package Manufacturing Company, were here from New Jersey for the formal opening of the company's new factory on East Main Street.



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Commission Maintains School Consolidations

Warrant Is Issued In Assault Case

A warrant, charging an assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, was issued in Justice J. L. Hassell's court here yesterday against Edgar Harrell, Oak City filling station owner-operator. The warrant was drawn at the direction of Herman Manning, Oak City man who was critically shot by Harrell in his filling station on the night of March 7th.

No date for a hearing in the case has been determined, and as far as it could be learned here today the warrant had not been served on the defendant who continues at liberty under bond. The case is expected to occasion much interest in the upper part of the county where the two men are well known. Harrell, shortly after the attack, alleged that he shot the man in self defense. No direct statement was offered by the victim who lay in a critical condition in a Tarboro hospital for weeks and later continued gravely ill at his home in Oak City.

Hobgood Lumber Plant Destroyed

The large plant of the Farmville-Woodward Lumber Company at Hobgood, was destroyed by fire late last Friday afternoon, resulting in a loss estimated at approximately \$100,000. Several hundred employees were thrown out of work. Officials of the company are meeting in Suffolk today to determine future plans. Unofficial reports state that the plant will not be rebuilt in Hobgood, that a new site will possibly be selected.

The fire swept over the large plant in a very short time, destroying the mill house, dry kilns and thousands of feet of timber on the yard. Timber, coming through the fire little damaged, is being brought to the company's plant here for manufacture.

Name Personnel for Holding Leaf Referendum Saturday

Arrangements for holding the tobacco referendum in this county on Saturday of this week are nearing completion, T. B. Slade, of the agricultural force, announcing today that the poll holders would discuss final plans at an election school in the agricultural building Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock. The personnel for conducting the referendum has been announced, and polling places at 11 points. The names of the pollholders, by districts, are as follows:
Bear Grass: Joseph S. Griffin, Herman Rogerson, Tommie L. Robertson;
Cross Roads: W. L. Aushon, G. H. Forbes, Gaston James;
Goose Nest: H. A. Early, L. L. Harrell, L. H. Rawls;

Everetts' Appeal To Re-establish School Is Rejected

Consolidation Program Continues To Hold Favor of State School Group

Started nearly two decades ago, the program to tear down small school houses and shift community interests to centralized points continues to hold the favor of the State School Commission judging from a recent decision of that body refusing an appeal of citizens for the re-establishment of a high school at Everetts. The stand of the commission was further substantiated by action denying a community in Moore County a high school.

Earnestly prosecuting their claim, a large number of interested Everetts citizens will be forced to accept the decision of the State School Commission since there is no higher authority to turn to. That the action is disappointing is proved in comments offered by Everetts citizens. However, there should be some consolation for the Everetts citizens in the fact that the group of Moore County citizens was turned back after it was explained that there were 85 pupils in the district where plans were being advanced for the re-establishment of a high school.

The movement to re-establish a high school at Everetts has been advanced on several previous occasions, but the claim was vigorously pushed only a few months ago when nearly 100 per cent of the patrons appealed to the county board of education. The petition was recognized by the board, and numbers of citizens then went before the State commission to present their claim before the dozen or more members. The delegation, advised that no action would be taken until adequate housing facilities were provided, were disappointed by the decision.

(Continued on page six)

Surrender Or Face Destruction, Italy Warns The English

Lull Comes in Attack By the Germans On Sea and In the Air

A boastful and yet frightening declaration came out of Italy yesterday through semi-official sources, warning Great Britain that she would within the next few days be given an opportunity of surrendering or face total destruction.

Authoritative fascist editor, Virginio Gayda, indicated that Mussolini and Hitler would serve an ultimatum on England shortly, offering her a choice between surrender and destruction.

"Preparations will be completed in a very few days," he said. "Britain will have to settle her last account. She will have to choose between submission to the renovating, restorative forces of Europe or exterminable grim violent war in which inexorable destruction a fateful precipitous step toward final overthrow will be measured not by years or weeks of which Churchill spoke but by days or hours.

Apparently anticipating a merciless attack sooner or later, England today called for American volunteers who are trained for air service and radio. A general lull in air raids over Britain was reported today, but late reports maintain that a heavy damage is being inflicted upon the British shipping and that the British Navy is bearing a heavy blow from Italian and German planes.

George Bernard Shaw, world-renowned author, said today England will fall without aid from the United States, and that if this country stays out it will fall in due time into the hands of Hitler.

English land forces suffered defeat in Ethiopia yesterday, but Italian properties taken from Haile Selassie were damaged by British airmen.

A late report released late yesterday on a bombing in France before that country surrendered stated that 4,200 bodies had been removed from the debris in Riems as a result of an air attack by German forces.

Arrest Three For Alleged Violation Of the Liquor Law

Two Taken at Manufactory in Bear Grass Saturday By Officers

Shifting their attention from the consumption end to production, county and local officers last week-end dealt another blow against the illicit liquor business in this county. Two men were taken at a manufactory in Bear Grass Township and two others were cited to the courts for the possession of illegal liquor allegedly for sale.

The courthouse law-enforcement group went into action in Bear Grass Saturday morning and interrupted illicit operations there. Henry Nathan Bailey and John L. Wynn were taken into custody after a spirited dash for freedom, and a huge plant was wrecked. Bringing the prisoners in for a hearing before U. S. Commissioner Walter Halberstadt, officers took a truck and went back for the plant which included a 100-gallon capacity copper still, twelve fermenters, 1,400 gallons of beer, fifteen gallons of liquor, a few gallons of fuel oil, a number of oil cans and a complete oil burner. Jailer Roy Peel did most of the footwork, it was reported. The case was turned over to federal officers, and the two men were released under bond in the sum of \$500 each. They are to appear before Judge Meekins in federal court at Washington next October.

That afternoon, A.B.C. Officer J. H. Roebuck raided the home of Buddy Rogers and confiscated half gallon of illicit liquor. Charges are pending against Rogers.

Saturday night local officers raided the home of Charles Francis Gray and found a small quantity of illicit liquor. Only two drunks were arrested and jailed during the week-end. Unconfirmed reports maintain, however, that there were numerous drunks, that the spirit-laden happened to "pass out" at those spots little frequented by officers.

NO CUSTOMERS

For the first time on a regular business day, the local municipal swimming pool went without a single customer all last Saturday and Saturday evening. Rainy weather and falling temperatures during the day ran the bathers to cover. Reducing the price of season tickets and favored by warmer weather yesterday and today, the pool management is reporting a gain in business.

Democratic Party Opens Convention In Chicago Monday

Balloting For Presidential Nominee Slated To Get Underway Thursday

Opening in Chicago yesterday at noon for the selection of its standardbearers and to battle over a meaningless platform, the National Democratic Convention had not progressed very far before there was a Roosevelt third-term outburst.

Welcoming the convention, Chicago's Mayor Kelly and the senior senator from Illinois yesterday noon dug deeply into the ranks of the opposition party and assailed Insulism and the power trusts. No blows were drawn by the speakers as they assailed the Republican platform and pointed with pride to the eight-year record of the present administration.

Calling for an aggressive campaign on the "record" of performance, Speaker William B. Bankhead voiced last night a 1940 Democratic keynote of uncompromising resistance to "malignant" aggressors abroad and assailed the Republican platform as "political subterfuge." He spoke a few minutes after Chairman James A. Farley, of the Democratic National Committee, delivering an address which sounded to some like a formal farewell to his party colleagues, had denounced Republican leaders for "an effort" to "pin the odious label 'War Party' upon the Democratic Party."

Both speakers joined in asserting that the coming campaign against Wendell L. Willkie and the Republican party must be waged upon the record of eight Democratic years in office. Farley asserted that "unless we give the country a ticket and a platform that will satisfy the majority, we have no certainty of victory."

Auditorium Packed

Both speakers addressed a crowd which packed the big red-white-and-blue-decked stadium to the rafters. The seating capacity exceeds 20,000. The addresses closed a day which had seen three term leaders considering a plan to win renomination for President Roosevelt without so much as placing his name in formal nomination; and an opening session transformed from the usually dull routine to a rousing Roosevelt rally by an address of welcome from Mayor Edward J. Kelly, which was, in effect, a nominating speech.

High spots in Senator Bankhead's keynote speech follow:
The Republican platform... is a document filled with equivocation and political subterfuge but the most remarkable significance of that platform is the fact that despite their clamorous and bitter denunciation of the legislative program of this administration, they did not have the confidence or courage to demand the repeal or abolition of any single one of the major laws we have passed for liberal government and a better state of life for the masses of the American people.

How can the Republican party go before the electorate in November, urging the removal from power of that party whose wisdom and progressive policies they were compelled, even if by indirection, to endorse?

My fellow countrymen, we are assembled at the most fateful moment in the history of mankind. The sinister shadow of a cruel, savage and ruthless despotism hangs like a pall of doom over the homes and the lives of every citizen of democratic and liberty-loving people.

I do not know what attitude this convention may take on that subject, but I know that it is the attitude of the American people that we will resist to the death any compromise of our domestic principles which those malignant disturbers of the peace of the world; that we do not propose to appease those aggressors whose doctrines wage war upon every principle of liberty for a free

(Continued on page six)

Community Meetings Are Poorly Attended

Examine Nearly 400 Persons At County Clinics

Nearly 400 persons were examined in a series of tuberculosis clinics conducted in this county recently by the county health department in cooperation with the State Sanatorium, it was announced today by Dr. John W. Williams, health department head.

Commenting on the work, Dr. Williams said:
"Of the 244 whites and 139 colored adults examined at the tuberculosis clinic conducted by Dr. Godwin, of the State Sanatorium, 29 white and 10 colored were referred to the health department for follow-up work regarding advice, sanatorium care, and home visits."
Another clinic will be asked for in six months.

Mrs. W. H. Adkins Dies In Hospital

Mrs. W. H. Adkins, highly esteemed citizen of Robersonville, died in a Rocky Mount hospital about four o'clock yesterday morning following a major operation performed almost two weeks ago.

Born and reared in Tyrrell County, Mrs. Adkins moved to Martin about 40 years ago, locating in Robersonville where Mr. Adkins was prominently associated in the founding and operation of the tobacco market. Holding membership in the Baptist Church, she was in deed and truth a Christian woman, one whose goodness, love and thoughtfulness of others gained for her a warm place in the hearts of the many.

She leaves besides her husband, three children, Mrs. W. M. Smith, of Red Springs; Mrs. J. H. Edwards, of Williamston, and Mr. Robert K. Adkins, of Robersonville. She also leaves three brothers, Messrs. R. A. Knight, of Durham; R. S. Knight, of Columbia, and W. A. Knight, of Norfolk.

Funeral services are being conducted in the Robersonville Baptist Church this afternoon at 3 o'clock by Rev. E. C. Shoe and Rev. Daniel Boone. Interment will follow in the cemetery there.

Motorists Escape Injury In Wrecks

No one was hurt but a property damage, estimated at \$350, resulted in two road accidents in this county last week-end. The two wrecks were the first reported in the county in nearly two weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Irving Waldron, of P. Pantan Avenue, Lenden, N. J., did not receive a scratch when their car, a 1935 Studebaker, turned over on the Washington road near the home of Commissioner R. L. Perry Saturday afternoon about one o'clock. They were traveling south when their car skidded on the pavement and turned over in a ditch. Damage to the car was estimated at \$250.

Traveling through Jamesville late Saturday night, William Randolph Gardner, of Williamston Route 1, side-swiped a truck that was backing out of a filling station. Attempting to run around the truck, Gardner ran on the shoulders of the road, the car skidded and tore into a post, causing a damage to his car of about \$100. William Noah Perry was driving the truck. No one was hurt and no damage was done to the truck.

Cold Atmosphere Is Reported in Number Of Farmer Meetings

Frank Discussion of Problem Facing Tobacco Held in Oak City Last Night

Reliable reports from community meetings in this and many other counties in the tobacco territory maintain that indifference on the part of the growers is threatening a planned program for the crop during the next three years. Few farmers are attending the meetings in this county, and comparatively little interest is being shown in the program, the reports declare. Agricultural leaders are of the opinion that Martin farmers will favor a three-year program for tobacco in the referendum on Saturday of this week, but unless there is a marked increase in interest a comparatively small vote will be cast in this county.

While this county is expected to favor the plan, reports from other counties are said to be not at all encouraging. Some of the counties bordering the main tobacco territory will hardly give the program 50 per cent of the vote, reports declare, and in some of the counties where very little tobacco is raised, the opposition vote will exceed more than 50 per cent of the total. Some are doubtful that the program will carry. These reports are not offered to build up support for the program, but to inform the farmers that if they want a three-year program they will have to get out and vote for it next Saturday.

A cool atmosphere is surrounding the campaign being conducted now in this county in behalf of the program. There isn't the interest in the program that was shown last October when the farmers had their tobacco in the packhouses and could not sell it and they were given an opportunity to vote for a program. There is no tobacco left unsold in the packhouses in this county. "But there will be some next fall if we don't carry the referendum Saturday," tobacco farmers said in a community meeting at Oak City last night. The group of fifty farmers there discussed the program after a frank fashion, and while they expressed a 100 per cent support the attendance was hardly large enough to offer a representative opinion of the farming interests in that community.

Farmer Ross pleaded with his fellow farmers to support the program. He explained that industry had curtailed production, that steel mills at one time were running less than 17 per cent of capacity, that tobacco farmers must advance a planned program if they are to avoid disaster. In Jamesville last Friday evening there were hardly a dozen farmers present for a discussion of the problem. The meeting was of the opinion that the program would be carried by a sizable majority and that a substantial vote would be cast. Later reports declare that the opposition there will poll a stronger vote than many believe will be cast.

At meetings held in Everetts and Hassell last night, thirty farmers were in attendance, while Hassell, a smaller community, reported 35 present for a discussion of the all-important problem.

Hamilton Church Has Home-coming

Holding a home-coming service program, the Hamilton Methodist Church last Sunday enjoyed the return visits of many of its former members and the fellowship of former pastors. A large crowd was present for the two services and the picnic dinner served on the school grounds. Rev. L. C. Larkin, former minister in the Williamston-Hamilton charge, preached at the morning service, and Rev. S. J. Starnes, Williamston minister, occupied the pulpit during the afternoon worship period. No services were held that evening. Rev. Daniel Boone, the pastor, briefly reviewed the history of the church, expressed his appreciation for the donations for improving the church property and read cards and letters from former members and pastors who were unable to return for the special service program. Special features on the program were a solo, "The Lord's Prayer," by Miss Ellen Taylor, and a violin selection, by Miss Juanita Stokes, of Greenville. She was accompanied by her mother, Mrs. W. C. Stokes. The church membership, assisted by friends of the church, amply prepared for the event which was greatly enjoyed.

Rain, Valued Around Million Dollars, Falls in This County

With a value estimated to range from one-half to a million dollars, the first rains in weeks fell in this section last Friday night and Saturday, bringing relief to rapidly deteriorating field crops and renewing hopes for farmers, and others, too. Approximating three and one-half inches, the week-end rainfall at this point was nearly twice as large as it was for the entire month of June and the first eleven days in this month. According to the weather station on the Roanoke River here, 2.67 inches of rain fell during Friday night and .75 of an inch fell Saturday.

Farmer faces and those of others, too, for that matter, were covered with smiles as threatening clouds covered the heavens early Saturday evening. A new world greeted this agricultural section Sunday morning as some of the crops showed effects of the rains which checked threats of marked shortages in all crops. While some damage resulted to the corn crop, it is generally believed that other crops will show no great ill effect from the long dry season. The tobacco crop was already late, and the rains will possibly delay harvesting for another few days, but the outlook for a better leaf crop is far better than it was last Friday when a blistering sun and hot winds were sapping the life out of all crops. While one or two farmers expressed fear that since the heavens had opened up the rains might come too often and damage the crops, the majority were so thankful for the break in the weather that they expressed no concern over future weather possibilities.