

Prices Continue Upward On Williamston Tobacco Market

Peanut Cooperative Squabble Is Aired In Washington Tuesday

Congressman Bonner Asks Fair Representation for North Carolina

Differences of opinion centering around a dead-locked directorate in the Virginia-Carolina Peanut Growers Cooperative were aired before the United States Assistant Secretary of Agriculture in Washington last Tuesday when North Carolina peanut grower representatives appealed either for a new organization for this State or for a fair representation on the board of directors now serving the current organization. No ruling in the case is expected immediately.

Championing the cause of the North Carolina directors, Congressman Herbert C. Bonner explained to the assistant secretary of the agriculture department that he did not wish to enter into any argument, that it was apparent that North Carolina did not have fair representation on the two-state board, and that he would leave it up to the high department officials to decide whether a separate organization should be set up for North Carolina or whether representation should be based on production and the number of growers in each state. North Carolina, producing more than 60 per cent of the combined crops for the two states, has no more directors in the cooperative than Virginia has, and the board has been dead-locked on several occasions, according to a review of the minutes heard at the meeting last Tuesday.

The following brief, read by J. B. Fearing and carrying his signature and those of the other directors; namely, W. R. Everett, of this county; L. E. Hassell, of Washington County; J. G. Fields, of Halifax County; R. V. Knight, of Edgecombe County, and J. G. Wood, of Chowan County, was filed with the Department of Agriculture:

That notwithstanding their doubts from the beginning with respect to the possibility of successful operations of Growers Peanut Cooperative, Inc., due to the representation of the board of said association from the states of North Carolina and Virginia, the directors mentioned have earnestly and conscientiously endeavored to make the association a smooth running and efficient organization and have tried as best they could to promote unity and harmony therein, however, they do not consider the operations of the Association during the past peanut marketing season to have been successful, nor do they believe that it is possible under the present distribution of representation on the board for said association to operate a government peanut program that will fully guarantee and protect the best interests of the peanut growers and shellers in North Carolina.

That from the very beginning there has been sharp disagreement between the directors of the association representing North Carolina and Virginia with respect to the management of the association. For examples see copies of minutes of directors' meetings hereto attached. That sometime in March of this year it was determined that some of the peanuts purchased by the association would be needed for the edible trade and the undersigned understood that these peanuts would be available to the shellers in North Carolina and Virginia as the demands required, at prices approved under the contract existing between the association and the Secretary of Agriculture. That the undersigned

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Enrollment Gains In Local Schools

Slight increases over the opening day enrollment have been recorded in both the high and elementary departments of the Williamston schools according to information coming from the principal's office today. Since opening day the elementary enrollment has increased by 17 bringing the total to 579, while the high school enrollment has now reached 205, or 8 over the original enrollment. Today's total of 784 falls short of last year's opening enrollment by 18.

In the high school the commercial department is attempting to provide instruction for the largest class since the establishment of the department four years ago. 52 students, including juniors, seniors, and 10 post graduates are enrolled in bookkeeping, typing and shorthand classes. Classes in industrial arts include rather large groups from the eighth, ninth and tenth grades. In addition to the morning class of post graduates and older boys which now numbers 12. Plans for work in this field are rapidly taking shape, and all indications point to a successful year under the direction of Mr. Colard, instructor in charge of the department.

Martin Farmers Plan to "Hog Down" Excess Peanut Acreage

The approximately 2,000 excess acres planted to peanuts in the county this year will, it is believed, be "hogged down" with some few exceptions, of course, according to reports received during the past few days in the office of the county agent. Several factors will likely determine this action, it was pointed out. Among them is the penalty for marketing the excess production. Farmers are of the opinion that they can sell the excess production in the form of pork and make more money than they can by harvesting it and selling to the oil mills. Based on current market quotations, deliveries to the oil mills will gross hardly more than two cents and deliveries to the mills will, it is understood,

be chargeable to the growers. The issuance of marketing cards to farmers planning to market excess peanuts will be very confusing, it has been pointed out. Even under normal conditions, farmers and picker-operators will be required to submit definite reports. A form, No. 509, will be mailed to all growers and picker-operators with instructions calling for a report of operations on the first and fifteenth of each month or just as soon as the crop is picked. The number of bags and estimated poundage will be asked for. Farmers, hogging down the excess acreage are urged to report such action just as soon as the allotted acreage is dug as excess plantings disposition of the excess must be checked before marketing cards may be issued.

Stern Warning Issued To Rattlesnake Hitler



Judge Henry L. Stevens, of Warsaw, will preside over his first term of Martin County Superior Court convening here next Tuesday morning for a two weeks' term.

Branch Bank Will Move To New Home Over The Week-end

To Open for Business in Its Modern Building Next Monday Morning

Moving into its ultra-modern building between the Watts Theatre and the Woolard Hardware Company over the week-end, the Branch Bank and Trust Company will open for business in the new quarters promptly at 9 o'clock next Monday morning. While all detailed construction work has not yet been completed on the structure, Cashier Herman A. Bowen announced that the main banking room, lobby and offices are now ready for occupancy, and that the banking force would be in its designated quarters and ready to serve the general public. The Martin County Building and Loan Association, housed by the Branch Bank for a long number of years, will move over the week-end also. Its quarters, conveniently arranged and strictly modern to fit in with the construction plans of the bank itself, will be open to the public without interruption.

According to Mr. Bowen, special workmen will start moving the banking equipment soon after closing time tomorrow afternoon about 2 o'clock. No definite hour was mentioned for transferring the money itself, but a special police escort will be detailed to the bankers when that task is undertaken. "All equipment ordinarily used in serving the public and an ample cash supply will be available," Mr. Bowen stated.

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PAYING DEBTS

One of the most encouraging reports heard following the opening of the tobacco markets the latter part of last month came from Merchant John W. Eubanks at Hassell Wednesday afternoon when he said that tobacco farmers were paying their debts and that they were glad to be able again to do so. Business houses are reporting increased purchases of necessary goods, and much tobacco money is being used to clear old and new tax accounts, but along with that action comes reports telling of increased liquor sales and the increased purchase of non-essential goods.

Judge W.H. Coburn Calls Six Cases In The County's Court

Docket Very Small Compared With Record Number of Cases Called Last Week

Following a record-size docket last week when fifty-four judgments were entered in the records, the county court last Monday had an unusually light schedule. Judge W. H. Coburn called only half a dozen cases, and the session, attracting very few spectators, lasted only a short time.

Proceedings: State vs. Alonza Hassell: Failure to list taxes. Hassell pleaded guilty. Judgment was suspended upon payment and listing of taxes and pay the costs for which the county would be liable.

State vs. E. R. White: Careless and reckless driving. He pleaded not guilty. The court for its verdict declared the defendant not guilty.

State vs. Harvey Bryant: Non support. Bryant pleaded not guilty. The court declared the defendant guilty. Judgment of the court that the defendant pay into the court for the use and benefit of his wife and children the sum of \$4 a week, pay the costs and re-appear when called for further judgment.

State vs. Robert Crowell: Violating liquor laws. Was Continued until September 29th.

State vs. Willie Smith: Assault with deadly weapon and non-support. This case was continued until September 29th.

State vs. James Lloyd Price: Bastardy. Pleaded not guilty but was declared guilty. The defendant was ordered to pay for the use and benefit of his illegitimate child the sum of \$2 per week for a period of six months, pay the cost and re-appear at the end of that time for further judgment. The first payment to be due and payable on the 15th of September, and each week thereafter.

Nearness of Hunting Season Brings New Warning By Abbott

Reports Have It That Game Is Plentiful Locally; Open Seasons

With hunting season in the offing, Game Warden Bill Abbott is warning against the shooting of game before the seasons officially open, as well as to strict observance of bag limits when the seasons open. Reports have it that game is very plentiful this year which always invites a tendency to disregard the limit. Mr. Abbott, too, feels that some hunters fail to observe the opening of the seasons as well as purchasing hunting licenses, and in event any are caught violating the game laws, the penalties prescribed by law will be carried out.

For the information of hunters, Mr. Abbott announces the following open seasons, as well as the bag limits in this section:

Bear—October 1 to January 1. Bag limit, day, two; season, two.

Deer (Male)—October 1 to January 1. Bag limit, day, one; season, three.

Opossum and Raccoon (with guns or dogs only)—October 1 to February 15. No limit.

Opossum, Raccoon, Mink and Muskrat (trapping)—November 1 to February 15. No limit.

Quail—No open season.

Other—November 20 to January 31. Bag limit, day, 10; season, 150.

Rabbit—November 20 to January 31. No limit.

Squirrel—October 1 to January 15. Bag limit, day, 10; season, no limit.

Turkey—November 20 to January 31. Bag limit, day, one; season, three.

Dove—September 16 to October 27. Bag limit, day, 12; season, 12.

Duck—November 2 to December 31. Bag limit, day, 10; season, 20.

Geese—November 2 to December 31. Bag limit, day, three; season, six.

Mr. Abbott especially warns against hunting on Sunday, which is unlawful, and urges those who hunt to secure a copy of the game laws, so that the provisions may be understood and thus prevent any possible expense and embarrassment by being arrested for any violations.

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Individual Averages Reported As High As \$44 Per Hundred Pounds On The Market Here Early Today

Receiving Applications For Soil Conservation Payments

The first of the applications for 1941 soil conservation payments are being received in the office of the county farm agent this week. Mr. T. B. Slade stated that those farmers who did not overplant any of their crops and who have met their soil-building requirements are being notified to file their claims. Other farmers who overplanted will not be notified to file applications for payments until certain conditions are met, it was stated.

No estimate as to the amount Martin County farmers will receive in soil conservation payments for the 1941 crop years could be gained, but it is believed that the total amount will be equally as large if not slightly more than the amount received under the 1940 program. This opinion is based on the belief that in those cases where excess plantings

were made to peanuts, the farmers will "hog down" the excess and qualify for maximum benefits allowed under the program. Applications are being made about sixty days earlier than they were received last year, meaning that the first payments under the 1941 program will be effected possibly some time during the month of December.

Plans for the 1942 program are being signed in the county today and tomorrow, and farmers are discussing with their respective committees ways and means of meeting the soil-building requirements for the crop year. Any farmer finding it inconvenient to contact his committee today or Saturday may sign a worksheet later at the office of the county agent.

Will Draw Permanent Grand Jury Next Week

Superior Court Has Small Number Cases On Criminal Docket

Judge Henry Stevens To Hold Two Weeks' Term of "Mixed" Court

Martin County will get its first permanent grand jury next Tuesday morning when Judge Henry L. Stevens, of Warsaw, comes here to open a two weeks' term of superior court for the trial of criminal and civil cases. The jury will be drawn in accordance with a special legislative act passed the early part of the year. The first nine men drawn will be called upon to serve for a year, and a foreman will be selected from that group. The second group of nine men will serve only six months and at the end of that time nine additional men will be drawn for a year of service as members of the jury. It has been pointed out that a permanent grand jury will be in a position to render a better service to the county because its members will gain through longer experience an increased knowledge of crime conditions as they exist and also because they can check up on their recommendations.

The jury was to have been drawn next Monday, but Judge Stevens notified Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne earlier this week that his son was entering the university and the naval reserve and that it was necessary for him to accompany the youth that day. A fairly complete charge to the jury is expected when the court convenes Tuesday morning.

No far, very few criminal cases have been placed on the docket, and members of the county bar association declare that the civil docket is a poor one. Little importance is attached to the cases, and the criminal docket carries nothing that will even approach the sensational.

Several of the dozen cases on the criminal docket are carry-overs, and quite a few of the others are slated for trial from judgments handed down in the county recorder's court.

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First Hunting Law Violation Reported

Charged with opening the squirrel hunting season ahead of the law, M. R. Gurganus, Cross Roads resident, was fined \$5 and taxed with the cost in Justice J. L. Hassell's court here this week. The violation was cited to the court by County Game Warden Bill Abbott who explains that the squirrel season does not legally open until October 1.

In the justice's court Wednesday, Horace D. Dixon, Bear Grass man, was fined \$5 and taxed with the cost for permitting a minor to operate an automobile. The base was brought into the court by Patrolman Whit Saunders.

Charged by Patrolman J. G. Spivey with operating a automobile without a driver's license, Lonzer Dempsey, colored, was fined \$5 and taxed with the cost in Justice Hassell's court here yesterday.

Estimate Between 40 And 45 Per Cent Of Crop Has Been Sold

Market Will Narrowly Miss Block Sales Late This Afternoon

A definite trend upward was noticed in prices as the local tobacco market brings its third week of marketing activities to a close today. Farmers were agreed that the better tobaccos are bringing the highest prices of the year, while the common end of the tips remain about the same or slightly weaker than they were on opening day. The high prices are attracting considerable attention, the market officially reporting sales up to \$47 this morning with a few sales going above 50 cents, but those in the latter group were few and far between with the warehouses bearing the brunt.

As for individual sales, averages were reported at \$44 this morning. One farmer sold more than one-half of an entire barn for \$46 per hundred, and averages between forty and forty-four cents a pound were fairly numerous. There is no doubt but what the better grades are selling higher today than at any time this season.

Sales yesterday boosted the poundage to above the three-million pound mark, and today's offerings will add well over a quarter or nearly a third of a million pounds to that figure. Despite the large amount of inferior types of tobacco being offered, the average for the season still holds to average 27 cents.

The market early this afternoon was expected to narrowly miss a block today, warehousemen believing at that time that the floors would be cleared and ready for sales according to schedule next Monday.

Official reports released by the State and Federal Departments of Agriculture yesterday and covering sales during the last few days of August show that Williamston was one of the highest markets in the entire belt. According to the department reports, the market here sold \$29,208 pounds for an average of \$29.33. This average compares favorably with the \$26.88 figure reported for the belt as a whole, and also with averages released as follows: Greenville, \$26.13; Kinston, \$25.39; Wilson, \$26.37. While it is possible the type of tobacco offered for sale here is of a better quality than that offered on other markets, the official report would indicate that no matter what kind of tobacco is offered for sale, it brings a price that will stand up against any in the belt.

Estimates released today indicate that between 40 and 45 per cent of the crop in this section has been sold. The production outlook is not as bright as the preliminary reports indicated it would be, late estimates dropping the production figures several per cent.

Pointing out that the market is gaining new customers daily, Sales Supervisor Henry Johnson said that the market this week is expected to set a new high sales record. Sales have progressed smoothly, the buyers are interested in every pile, and there is some keen competition for all. Indications point to another big selling period in the history of the market next week.

Fill Paving Half Completed Today

The paving project on the Roanoke River fill here is now half completed, reports direct from Superintendent Poole this morning stating that every effort is being made and would continue to be made to complete the project within the next three weeks. Pouring concrete to within thirty feet of the river bridge this afternoon, the pavers made ready to move their equipment back to the eastern end of the fill where paving work will be resumed possibly next Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning. Traffic will be turned on the new concrete from Conine Creek bridge to the eastern end of the project the early part of the week.

With favorable weather and under normal conditions, the contractors are expected to get ahead of the schedule, meaning that operations will have to be delayed a day or two or until the first half of the road hardens during the fourteen-day curing period.

Facing a bottle neck while work was in progress near the river bridge today, through traffic was diverted for the most part over an alternate route.

NOT SO BAD

Home on a few days' leave, Private William C. Halslip declared this week that the Army was not half as bad as it had been pictured to him. Explaining that he is not any too happy over his new affiliations, the former local banker stated that he survived three weeks of heavy drilling after a fashion, that he had been promoted to a job in the office at Camp Craig, Selma, Alabama.

DRAFT CALL

With a call for eleven colored men already pending, Uncle Sam this week issued a call for seventeen Martin County white men to report at Fort Jackson on October 8th.

The following eleven colored men are to report next Thursday: William Jones, Richard Haywood Reed, Marvin Lloyd, William Henry Black, Willie Roy Brooks, Edmond Pierce, Sylvester Godard, Elwood Bellamy, Gabriel Williams, Jr., William Paul Albritton, and Ezekiah Spruill, Jr.

All Questionnaires Placed In Hands of County Registrants

October White Draft Quota To Reach To About 1,530 Order Number

Sending out the last of its questionnaires on Wednesday of this week, the Martin County Draft Board is expecting to get the low down on all of the 3,493 registrants in the county within the next week or ten days. No official explanation accompanied the order for the complete distribution of all questionnaires is recognized as the first step toward induction, but it is possible that the actual call to service will not be received within a year for those whose order numbers run into the high figures. No one knows, however, for it is possible that the entire registration list will be exhausted and a call issued to those men of the lower classifications within six months or a year.

Reviewing the distribution of questionnaires, Draft Board Clerk Marion Cobb stated that 1,832 went to young white men and 1,661 went to colored registrants. Of the 3,493 to receive questionnaires, 51 were volunteers outside the draft. They received questionnaires just as the others did, however. Most of those volunteering their services were young colored boys.

To date, the draft board members have classified 2,300 registrants, giving

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CRAZY—NO SENSE

Word from representative taxi drivers in Washington is not very flattering for one Bob Reynolds, one Burton K. Wheeler, and the one-time Colonel Chas. Lindbergh. "He's a Moose and I am a Moose and I can't say much about him, but he just hasn't any sense," one taxi driver said referring to "Our" Bob. "Mr. Wheeler, why he's crazy," another taxi driver said. And still another taxi driver averred that there has been something wrong with Lindbergh ever since the child was kidnaped. There was general agreement of opinion on the subject of the three persons.