

## Meadows Township Man Killed With Axe

Smithfield, April 19.—County Coroner J. H. Kirkman was called to Meadow Township last night to investigate the death of George R. Hudson, age 40, who was reported to have been killed with an axe by L. B. McLamb, age 35. McLamb was reported to have admitted the killing, but claimed self-defense, and exhibited a mark on his neck and throat which appeared to have been made with a knife.

The men are said to have attended a "barn raising" at the home of a neighbor in the afternoon and were on their way to their homes about 8 o'clock when an argument started, which developed into a fight, and resulted in the killing.

Coroner Kirkman said the gash which reached across the front portion of the dead man's head and the upper portion of his face, was large enough so that a man could have laid his hand in it, which indicated that he had been hit in the face with the blade of an axe. There were said to have been three eye witnesses to the killing, and a hearing will be held in the county commissioners room in the courthouse here Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

McLamb was taken to the Johnston County Hospital where several stitches were required to repair the wound made upon his throat in the fight.

Both men were well known farmers residing in the vicinity of Peacock's Cross Roads. Both were married, but Hudson did not have any children. McLamb is the father of 8 children.

The axe which was reported to have been used in the killing was placed in custody of the sheriff, and from blood stains left on this axe it appears to have been stove up to the eye in Hudson's head.

### WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

(Editorial in Hoards Dairyman)  
"What do you think of the new farm bill passed by the House of Representatives on March 23?" is the question submitted by one of our readers.

It is difficult, if not impossible, to form any definite opinion as to what this bill will accomplish. Reading of the summary given previously shows that it grants practically supreme power to the Secretary of Agriculture to adopt such measures of price and production control as he may deem best, and from his decision there is no recourse, except the promise of the President to discontinue the operation of the plans if they fail to achieve the declared purpose. Secretary Wallace says, "the basic purpose of the farm bill, first of all, is to increase the purchasing power of the farmer and the goal of the bill is pre-war parity between the things the farmer sells and the things he buys."

In presenting the bill Secretary Wallace asked this question: "Has the time come when all elements of our society are willing to pull together to restore economic balance and attain social justice?" In other words, will farmers be willing to rent a portion of their land to the federal government at the price set for such rentals, and to follow out the practices outlined in order to secure these rentals? Will the consumer be willing to have a tax placed upon products he consumes that farmers may receive more for their commodities?

The bill, in reality, makes the Secretary of Agriculture a dictator in the field of farming. It means, if this bill works, that the farmer will have to submit to arbitrary rules and regulation instituted by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is declared that he will call in conference representatives of the various farm commodity groups to formulate the plan. We may well ask, can any group of men formulate a plan that will meet the approval of the millions of farmers who, in many instances, are farmers because they have been permitted to carry on their industry in their own way and to express their own individuality? They have preferred the mode of life which farming has given them to being regulated.

Will the consumer who is on wages or is living on a small surplus that he has accumulated in past years, be willing to be taxed so that farm products can be sold to return the farmer a higher income?

All of these questions and many more must be considered when drawing conclusions concerning the new farm bill. There is not much to encourage us to think that a bill like this will work. When we look about for example of price fixing, we are unable to find any country in which it has been successful. In recent years several attempts have been made to fix prices and in every instance the results have been disastrous. England, for example, attempted to fix the price of rubber. For a time it looked as though the scheme would work, for rubber went from 23 cents a pound, which was then declared to be below the cost of production, to over \$1.00 a pound. Then prices receded to 19 cents and England discontinued the act in the fall of 1928. Rubber is now selling for 5 cents a pound. Brazil attempted to stabilize the price of coffee and the scheme ended in revolution. Attempt has been made to stabilize the price of sugar, which is controlled by only a few large industries. Sugar sold in June, 1932, at the lowest price of all times.

So we might go on, giving other illustrations where nations have tried to fix the price on their leading product and where they controlled a high percentage of that product, but in no case have we discovered where price fixing has become successful. Will price fixing on agricultural products in this country under a dictator become successful? Or, will it end in failure the same as the stabilization feature of the Federal Marketing Act? Our federal government spent millions of dollars in attempting to stabilize the price of wheat and cotton. This scheme ended in failure and it cost us over \$300,000,000 to learn that we couldn't buy agricultural products and store them and maintain the price at profitable levels.

Who knows or who can forecast what will be the cost of returns of such an ambitious program? Will it take on a bureaucracy and cost far beyond this much discussed phase of prohibition enforcement? Or, will it have such universal support that enforcement will be relatively efficient and inexpensive? Its original proponents are now advising their followers not to "expect too much," that some must "sacrifice for the good of all," and that other things must accompany this program, such as inflation, tariff adjustments, etc. It is particularly difficult to answer these and other questions, because the bill outlines no definite proposal of action. It primarily gives the President and Secretary the authority to outline a program. If the bill becomes a law, their judgment and understanding will write and execute the plan.

How will the proposal be applied to dairy products? That is in the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture. Some assert it will be the application of the domestic allotment plan in a manner similar to that outlined in our issue of March 10. It may be applied to one dairy product and not to another. Some assert it may be applied to some particular section and not to the nation as a whole, although we fail to find authorized in the bill.

It is asserted by some of those who have been in on the discussions in Washington, that probably the contract method of raising prices will be applied to any dairy product that is bought under control. This is, in effect, an authorized trade agreement between processors to raise selling prices, subject to the approval of the Secretary, whereby farmers can be paid prices of a pre-war purchasing power. This would not necessarily involve any excise tax as provided in the allotment plan. Secretary Jensen, of the American Association of Creamery Butter Manufacturers, says: "A control measure might be used in the New York milk shed or other milk sheds to reduce production of milk and yet not to be in effect as to other dairy products."

As we survey the field, we see no opportunity through any price fixing scheme under the direction of a dictator to raise the prices of agricultural products to a satisfactory level. Further, the working-out of the plan is in the nature of a trial and error method. Various and sundry schemes may have to run their course on this rather new and uncharted sea of the economic theory of planned production. For

## Interesting Items From Smithfield

Everett S. Stevens won over W. B. Wellons in the second Democratic primary held Monday to settle the mayoralty contest, Stevens getting 513 votes to Wellons' 259.

The contest was a rather warm affair, and it brought out 777 votes, but 5 votes were thrown out because of irregularities. In the first primary, with 5 candidates in the field, 803 votes were cast, and 290 of these went to Wellons, who led the ticket. In the first primary held on April 3rd, Stevens came out second best with 269 votes. While rather young in the game of politics, the fact that he was able to almost double his vote in two weeks time, shows Stevens to be an apt political student, as well as an efficient worker in the field; and this is calculated to make the older politicians sit up and take notice.

An interesting program is being prepared for the meeting of the Young People's Conference of Greenville Presbytery, which will be held in the Smithfield Presbyterian church next Saturday. During the meeting talks will be made by Rev. W. C. Cummings, of Henderson; Rev. D. F. Waddell, of Selma, and Rev. James P. Smith, the local pastor. There will be morning and afternoon sessions.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Ragsdale, Lawrence Stancil and Frank Skinner spent several days in New York, returning to their homes last Friday morning. They report that they found the big city very wet; not only with large quantities of water in the shape of rain and snow which fell there during their stay, but with foaming products of the big breweries which were running day and night in a vain effort to keep up with their orders.

John L. Stancil, who is now doing construction work for the War Department at Fort Bragg, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Stancil, last Sunday.

The county commissioners at a special meeting held last Thursday voted to extend the time for paying 1932 taxes without penalties to July 1st. After that time 3 per cent will be charged until October 1st when it will be changed to 4 per cent. The commissioners adopted a resolution asking the Johnston County members in the Legislature to introduce a bill making certain changes in the tax laws applicable to Johnston County.

## GERMANY'S "SECRET ARMY" IS WORRYING OTHER COUNTRIES

Paris.—"With the means at her disposal, Germany could transport an army of 150,000 men in a 24 hours from the right bank of the Rhine to the French frontier."

This statement is published here today following investigations into what is described as Germany's secret army.

It is added that in the event of Germany could quickly equip and put in the field an army of about 4,000,000.

Included in this force would be Germany's legal army of 100,000, 400,000 Hitlerite "storm troops," 300,000 "steel helmets" and 120,000 reserves, with 60,000 trained members of flying clubs.

instance, the provision of the bill that the excise tax may be revised at any time, either up or down, by the Secretary of Agriculture may tend to uncertainty among processors and distributors. Will these handlers of farm products be fearful and hesitant of increasing or even maintaining reasonable inventories? Will they be willing to maintain cash markets except a conditions look decidedly in their favor? If they are, will not the farmer pay the piper?

In our opinion the proposal contained in the farm relief bill is unsound, it cannot fulfill the expressed purpose of the bill, and it may do positive injury to agriculture. Yet under conditions in which we find ourselves, with farm products at altogether too low a level, and realizing that with better prices the whole nation would be benefited, it may be well to let these men who ask for this legislation have it. It is possible that only in this way will we learn what can and what cannot be done by government fiat in a country not under control of a military dictatorship.

## Proceedings County Recorder's Court

State vs. Ben N. Royal, white laborer, aged 43, for worthless check, who enters plea of guilt. Continue prayer for judgment upon payment of cost.

State vs. Harvey Stanley, white merchant, aged 32, for operating slot machine. Guilty, and prayer for judgment is continued upon payment of cost and on further condition that defendant does not operate any slot machine or gambling device again in two years or permit one to be operated in his place of business.

State vs. George H. Barnes, white laborer, aged 24, for larceny of gasoline, value less than \$20.00, property of Bill Stevens, Jr. Guilty, and defendant is given 90 days on roads.

State vs. Jack Dudley, colored laborer, aged 23, for assault with deadly weapon. Guilty, and given road sentence of 60 days, to be suspended upon payment of cost.

State vs. Hubert Cole, colored laborer, aged 22, for assault with deadly weapon. Guilty, and given road sentence of 60 days, to be suspended upon payment of cost.

State vs. Valton McLamb, white farmer, aged 23, and J. Randall Beasley, white farmer, aged 17, for violation of prohibition law. Both guilty of possession of still outfit, beer and manufacturing of whiskey. Each defendant given 90 days on roads.

State vs. Leon Joyner, for abandonment and non-support. Open.

State vs. James Smith, transferred to Superior Court.

Wednesday, April 19th.

State vs. Ausley Pilkington, white laborer, and Paul Pilkington, white laborer, for larceny of chickens, value less than \$20.00, property of J. A. Lamm. Not guilty and discharged.

State vs. Raymond Norris, white farmer, aged 22, for assault with deadly weapon with intent to kill. Probable cause found and defendant bound to Superior Court. Bond fixed at \$200.00.

State vs. Dalton Harrison, white laborer, aged 19, for violation of prohibition law. Guilty of possession of one-half pint of whiskey. Continue prayer for judgment upon payment of cost.

State vs. C. F. Parrish, white laborer, aged 43, for violation of prohibition law. Guilty of possession of one-half pint of whiskey. Continue prayer for judgment upon payment of cost.

State vs. Harmon B. Williams, colored laborer, aged 16, and Clarence Dublin, colored laborer, aged 14, for larceny of chickens, value less than \$20.00, property of Mrs. C. B. Fulghum. Dublin under 16 years of age and this case as to him is transferred to Juvenile Court. Williams guilty and given 60 days on roads.

State vs. Charlie Morris, white farmer, aged 33, for assault with deadly weapon. Guilty and given 90 days on roads.

State vs. Charlie Morris, white laborer, aged 33, for violation of the prohibition law. Guilty of possession and transporting whiskey. Defendant given 90 days on roads, this sentence to run concurrently with sentence in above case.

State vs. Raymond Norris, white farmer, aged 22, for assault with deadly weapon. Guilty, and given 90 days on roads.

State vs. Raymond Norris, white farmer, aged 22, assault with deadly weapon. Guilty, and given 90 days on roads, this sentence to run concurrently with sentence in above case.

## LIVE OAK NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Creech spent the week-end with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Barbour.

Miss Nera Mae Vauce spent the week-end with Miss Myrtle Stallings.

Mis-es Bertie, Allie and Lela Phillips went to a Birthday Supper last Friday night given at Mr. Waylon Brown's, near Corbett-Hatcher.

Mr. Luby Foster and Needham Foster from Pleasant Plain spent a short while here Monday night at the home of Mr. Wilmer Phillips.

Mr. James Stallings from University at Chapel Hill is spending the Easter holidays here at his home.

For the past nine weeks, the new curb market at Lenoir in Caldwell County has averaged \$113 a week in sales.

## The United States Goes Off The Gold Standard

### Many Visits Made by Training School

Smithfield, U. C., April 15.—The teachers in the Training School here, realizing that the worth of a teacher to the school and community, cannot always be accepted by what is actually done in the classroom, or by what we think of what we do ourselves. In the final analysis teachers are rated on the basis of how much they are able to convince the public that what they do in the classroom and in the community represents a real asset. What the public thinks is quiet important in the life of a school, and it should be the teachers' ambition, as well as to teach Mathematics, English, etc., to harmonize the progress of the school with the progress of the community, thus building up, warm friendly helpful relationships.

With the above conviction in mind the Training School teachers started out this year to make a new mark. Nine hundred and thirty three visits were made during the first six months of the present school term. This number does not include the visits made by the Principal, locally and out in the school district. Records compiled the program of the school was presented by the teachers. A monthly average of eighty six church services were made by the teachers per month or a total of five hundred sixteen church services attended by the teachers during the first six months. The teachers have participated in fifty community projects in the past six months, which projects were conducted by parents. Eight teachers are now engaged in the development of community projects.

It is to be accepted that the community spirit in general is better, and that the parents are becoming more interested in the school and the possibilities of their boys and girls. To make such contact may seem a mere trifle, but it is fundamental in the estimate of a good teacher.

### Vote To Keep Gas Tax, Cut Postage

Washington, April 18.—The House Ways and Means Committee today approved the Doughton bill to continue the one-cent-a-gallon gasoline tax for another year, reduce first-class drop-letter postage from 3 to 2 cents and give authority to President Roosevelt to increase or decrease first, second and third class mail rates.

### Hundreds Of Farmers Get Crop Loans

J. B. SLACK  
Hundreds of Johnston County farmers have taken advantage of the crop production loans that have been put out both by the Regional Agricultural Credit Bank and the Seed Loan Office. The season is getting rather late and any others who are expecting to get these loans should get their applications in not later than April 20. This is especially true of the Regional Bank since it takes some time for these papers to go through the regular channels and be approved.

### Belgian Sent to Court To Prove He's Alive

Jemepe Sur Sambre, Belgium, April 9.—A youth here had a bit of a shock when he was calmly informed by the communal registrar that he could not marry for the simple reason that he didn't exist.

His name was not registered because a physician had failed to report his birth.

He had to appear before a judge with witnesses to prove that he was a real live flesh-and-blood human being.

### TWO COAST GUARD STATIONS WILL GO ON INACTIVE LIST

Elizabeth City, April 9.—Two coast guard stations, the Gull Shoals and Dam Neck Mills stations, both with crews of nine men each, will go on the inactive list on July 1, it was announced at seventh district coast guard headquarters here today.

### Revaluation of Gold Downward and Silver Upward Is Promised As Result of Latest Act of Administration At Wash- ington—Leaves Gold Dollar To Tender Mercies of For- eign Exchanges.

Washington, April 19.—In a baffling and bewildering acceleration of events today America passed definitely and avowedly off the gold standard in the international field; in the domestic field there was a promise of a revaluation of gold downward, and silver upward, the while federal reserve officials were preoccupied with plans looking to a liberalization of credit facilities as the quickest means of promoting trade and industry.

In the senate yesterday Senator Bailey referred to the farm relief bill as self-contradictory, inadequate, and anachronism, and declared that a remedy for the distressing and continuous process of deflation must be sought in a controlled inflation. He said the floating debt of the federal government, a few months hence, would approximate 10 billions, and that a refunding of this debt could be provided for in no other way.

Apparently the administration has adopted this general view; wherefore, Washington today was amazed, the while such members of the senate as Robinson, Democratic leader, Harrison and Wagner, professed ignorance of what was transpiring. However, both at the White House, and at the capitol, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Raymond Moley, of the Roosevelt brain trust, Senators Byrnes, Pittman and Thomas, were at work on the details of an inflationary measure which, it is believed tonight, will be ready for presentation to the senate tomorrow.

This is a revised version of the Thomas amendment, and, it was said tonight, this will be introduced as section six, of the farm bill. Its declared purpose is to "relieve the existing national economic emergency by increasing agricultural purchasing power, to coin money and to regulate the value thereof." At the conclusion of the conference, participated in by Professor Moley, Senator Byrnes, sometimes spokesman of the administration, and the two silver senators, Thomas and Pittman, it was explained that the first section, authorizing the issuance of United States notes, and for funding the floating debt, would stand virtually in its present form.

Uniform Gold Standard Basis.  
The second section, to authorize the President to fix the ratio of the proportional value of silver to gold in all coins, would be changed to read more like the old Pittman silver bill, with its provision to authorize the government to accept payments on the foreign debts in silver at a ratio not to exceed 50 cents an ounce.

At the White House earlier in the day there was recorded the belief that all the principal governments of the world, eventually, would return to the gold standard, and a section of the amendment now being formulated would authorize the President to enter into agreements with foreign governments to return to the gold standard on a basis that would be uniform, and that would remove the exchange difficulties that have resulted in confusion and injury to commerce in all the world markets.

Our own passage from the gold standard, our new policy, which is to leave the gold dollar to the tender mercies of the foreign exchanges, will, in the opinion of the White House, result in improved prices for commodities in the world markets, a fact especially true with respect to cotton. The dollar is simply to be left to its fate, it will be permitted to slide, abroad, and to some extent at home, for the brand new idea now is to permit the dollar to come down, rather than to adopt methods to force prices up, under present conditions. Sterling increased in value today, in its relation to the dollar, while there has been some increase in late days in the home markets in anticipation of some inflationary, or reflationary move, albeit it is doubtful whether the most imaginative person anywhere foresaw the lengths to which the administration is now fully prepared to go in its determination to put an end to the process of deflation.