

EIGHT

CONGRESS GROUP TO PROBE COTTON

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—(AP)—Cotton is in trouble, trouble so deep that a Congressional group tomorrow is beginning a series of meetings to see if some solution can be found.

Some thoughtful agriculture leaders believe cotton has no future—at least no future that can compare with its past when it literally ruled the fiber world.

Competition from foreign cotton and from synthetic fibers produced at home is threatening to shove the king from his throne.

That prospect prompted a special House Agriculture subcommittee, headed by Rep. Pace (D-Ga.) and backed by cotton-state legislators in both the House and Senate, to organize the fact-finding session beginning tomorrow.

Cotton farmers, ginners, warehousemen, crushers, merchants, bankers, railroad men and representatives of State and Federal agencies are to attend. Several foreign nations also have received State Department approval to send representatives to the sessions, which may last a week.



THERE IT GOES!

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12 PRINCESS STREET

WATHA SOLDIER CITED FOR ACTS ON WEST FRONT

(Special to the Star)

WITH THE EIGHTH INFANTRY DIVISION IN FRANCE, Dec. 3.—Staff Sergeant Earl F. Padgett, of Watha, N. C., now serving with a medical detachment, somewhere on the Western Front, has recently been awarded the Bronze Star medal for heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in France.

His citation reads: "While Padgett was attending wounded at the aid station, the enemy laid down a terrific artillery barrage, placing all in the station in grave danger. Without regard for his own safety, he carried four seriously wounded men to places of safety, and then returned in the face of enemy fire to continue treating other wounded men. His heroic devotion to duty is in accordance with the highest traditions of the military service."

Padgett entered the Army March 6, 1941, and was sent to Fort Bragg, N. C. Later he was assigned to the Medical detachment of the 121st Infantry and has been with it ever since. At present, his duties are that of a surgical technician. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Padgett, of Watha.

JAPS NEED MUNITIONS

Premier Warns That Situation Warrants No Optimism

By The Associated Press
Japanese munitions makers were warned today by Premier Kuniaki Koiso that the condition of the empire's fighting power, so far as war materials are concerned, does "not permit any optimism whatsoever."

Radio Tokyo, in a domestic broadcast picked up by the Federal Communications Commission, quoted the head of the Nippon government as saying that an increase in the materials with which to wage war is "the most urgent of our National policies today."

The premier, addressing government munitions superintendents, said "there should be no reason for pessimism so long as we fight with noble fighting tactics and put superior plans into action."

Ceremonies Planned By State Officials For Public Servants

(Special to the Star)

CHAPEL HILL, Dec. 3.—Governor-elect R. Gregg Cherry and Colonel William T. Joyner, chairman of the State Board of Elections, have joined with the Institute of Government at the University of North Carolina in urging that appropriate public ceremonies be held in county courthouses throughout the state at 10 a. m. tomorrow for formal installation of local and county officers elected in the recent general elections.

The ceremonies were initiated by the Institute of Government in 1932, during the administration of Governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus, and have been conducted each year since.

BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

Win 4-H State Honors

SUPERIOR records of achievement in 4-H activities have won 1944 State championship honors for four North Carolina club members. The winners, and brief outlines of their records, follow:

Frances Cornwell (right), 16, of Shelby, receives an all-expense trip to the National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago, Dec. 3-6, as a reward for Montgomery Ward for her "all-around" achievements in the National 4-H Girls' Record Program. During 5 years as a 4-H'er, the girl planned and prepared 503 dishes, sewed and remodeled 33 garments, canned 514 quarts of foods, and made many home improvement articles, as well as completed 17 projects. She cultivated 1 1/2 acres of cotton, handled a baby beef, and raised 162 fowl, and served as club president for 3 years. Her cash prizes on exhibits totaled \$89.50.



Betty Peek (right), 15, of Gneiss, is named State entrant to be considered for sectional-national honors in the Sears-Roebuck Foundation 4-H Victory Garden Activity, which include a trip to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago, Dec. 3-6, and a \$100 War Bond. She put in 19,250 square feet of garden and canned 852 quarts of foods. This year she raised 47 varieties of vegetables. During her 3 years of gardening she has earned \$37.75 in cash prizes, which brought her total income from the project to \$477.11. Seven State co-winners who also each receive \$25 War Bonds are: Tessie Zimmerman, Burlington; Addie B. Parnell, Fayetteville; Ruth Whitfield, Garland; Martha Ruth Johnson, Kinston; Dolly Ann Hedgecock, High Point; Norma Jane Cumby, Winston-Salem, and John Smart, Jr., of Hayesville.



William Waller (right), 19, of Durham, has been chosen to represent the State in the Firestone 4-H Soil Conservation Activity for consideration in the selection of sectional and national winners. His soil conservation achievements include clipping a pasture on a 120-acre farm he has rented, spreading manure and straw to mulch badly eroded spots in fields, and terracing hilly sections. The boy has worked out a crop rotation system for next year. He also helped other club members rake and prepare fields to prevent soil erosion. State co-winners also will receive a \$50 War Bond each.



Betty Teal (right), 15, of Wadesboro, is the State's entrant for sectional-national honors in the William G. Mennen 4-H Farm Safety Activity. The girl's achievements in safety work include picking up broken glass, collecting and destroying old bottles of poison, mending broken chairs, fixing a frayed electric cord, putting butcher knives in a separate drawer, placing screens in front of fire place and numerous other safety measures. Three State co-winners who also each receive a \$25 War Bond are: Emily Cashwell, Hope Mills; Jane Alexander, Gastonia, and Leon Roberts, Bahama.



Nazi Royal Tiger Tank Rated Better Than U. S.

WITH THE SECOND ARMORED DIVISION IN GERMANY, Nov. 28.—(Delayed)—Many GI's and officers of this veteran division believe Germany's new "Royal" or "King" Tiger tank with its "Super 88" gun is the best tank in battle today.

"Our Shermans are all right in their class, but they are out-classed," is the way the men put it. Next in the enemy's armory they rank the regular Tiger and the Panther. Some believe the Panther is the best all-around tank of the bunch.

At least 23 Royal Tigers have been knocked out on this front, but the men who did it say it is a question of a lucky shot or simply overwhelming them with other tanks or tank destroyers.

The new Royal Tiger weighs between 67 and 72 tons, has a top speed of about 20 miles an hour, and its six inches of armor in front will turn American 75 and 76-mm shells at ordinary distances. Armor on the side is two to three inches and on the back three to four inches thick. It has a new super velocity

88-mm. with a shell almost a foot longer than any previously used. Its velocity is higher than any GI's and officers are using against it. Smokeless powder makes it hard to detect.

The new Tiger has a faster turret than the old hand-operated Tiger's. It has 34-inch wide treads, which spread the great weight over a larger area. Officers tell of seeing the tracks of the Tiger cross those of the Sherman on boggy fields and the Sherman's sinking in six inches deeper.

The barrel of the 88 is over 21 feet long. It is used chiefly in defensive positions and the Germans dig in around towns, keep the tank well camouflaged, and wait until the advancing Americans are within 500 yards before opening up.

The Tiger's most vulnerable place is on top, where there is only about a half inch of armor. A direct hit with a high explosive shell knocks them out, but the chance of scoring such a hit on a moving tank with artillery is small.

Carolina Farm Comment

Spending a week visiting among the farmers of Eastern Carolina leads one to the conclusion that there is a trend to better farming methods throughout this territory. Jones county, for instance is one of the smallest in the eastern section and is strictly agricultural, having no town of any size within its borders, with Kinston pulling it one way and New Bern the other.

Hogs and chickens are the two forms of livestock most popular here although there are some excellent pastures on which graze fine herds of beef animals.

Little dairying is done except for family cows. There are 1,500 farms which average only 32 acres each in size. In all, these farms furnish 48,000 acres of open crop land and of this area 25,000 acres are in corn. This will explain why the growers are interested in hogs as the principal form of livestock. The finished animals are marketed through the five-county cooperative association at New Bern and the growers say this method of marketing has meant the best possible income from their animals.

Jack Kelly, farm agent in Jones, believes that probably the best farmer in his county is John Williams Mills, a Negro, now advanced in years but who owns 700 acres of good land near Richards with 300 acres open and in cultivation. Mills made \$150 one season as a share cropper when he first began to farm. With this small sum, he began to farm on his own account and as a result of his experience, he says there is still an opportunity for any person, white or black, who has the will to work and knows how to save and manage. Mills grows about 100 acres of corn each year and for years, while he was paying for his land, he kept 15 brood sows. His corn was marketed through the pigs and he developed quite a market in this Piedmont section of the State among those who wanted to buy a pig to fatten for a home supply of meat.

Jones county farmers go in for sweet potatoes in a big way. George Jarvis, for instance, grew 140 acres of the sweets this year. He and his associates have built a modern storage house with a capacity of 30,000 bushels furnished with a

blower system that carries the heat evenly over the eight rooms into which the house is divided. Mr. Jarvis has been growing sweets for about 15 years with much of his operations down in Pamlico county before moving to Jones three years ago. "We grow the Louisiana strain of Porto Rico potatoes," Mr. Jarvis said. "Our crop is fertilized with about 1,000 pounds per acre of a 3-3-9 fertilizer to which we add from 20 to 25 pounds of borax per acre to prevent growth cracks. We save seed enough to provide our own slips and sell seedstock all over this section."

In Carteret county, Raymond and George Ball furnish an excellent example of the progressive types of farming to be found in that coastal county. When these two men moved into the Newport section many years ago, they cut their farm out of almost virgin timber. They had such a hard time getting a start and paying for their land that they have never yet seen fit to break up their partnership and all the land is owned jointly. They have one bank account and they cultivate 175 acres of as fertile ground as can be found in the east. They are truck farmers and are rated as among the best in the section. Some years ago when the Progressive Farmer was hunting for Master Farm Families in the State, these two were nominated by their neighbors and won easily.

Institute For Attorneys Will Be Held This Week

(Special to the Star)

CHAPEL HILL, Dec. 3.—The 1944 Institute for City and County Attorneys in North Carolina will be conducted by the Institute of Government at the University of North Carolina Friday and Saturday, according to an announcement by Albert Coates, director.

Following registration at 2 p. m. Friday, the first joint session will get underway at 3 o'clock with discussions of foreclosure of city and county taxes, legal problems in the construction, maintenance and operation of municipal airports, and limitations upon the expenditure of public funds.

NATION'S YOUTHS PLAN TO OBSERVE PEARL HARBOR DAY

(Special to the Star)

NEW YORK, Dec. 3.—More than a quarter of a million members of Boys' clubs of America will commemorate Pearl Harbor day Thursday, reaffirming the pledge to victory which has become an annual tradition during the war. The boys will join in a fervent vow to bend every effort toward serving their country and bringing the day of victory nearer.

Since the United States entered World War II, Boys' club members throughout the nation have done an outstanding job of collecting waste paper, salvaging metal and rubber, and selling war bonds and stamps. They have helped to avoid food shortages by cultivating victory gardens and aiding farmers during summer vacations, and contributed to the war effort in innumerable ways.

RAF APPOINTMENTS

Two High Ranking Officers Sent To Southeast Asia

LONDON, Dec. 3.—(AP)—The Air Ministry tonight announced the appointment of two veteran RAF leaders to command posts in Southeast Asia.

Air Vice Marshal Leslie Norman Hollinghurst was promoted to acting air marshal and appointed air officer commanding base air forces.

Air Commodore Alfred C. H. Sharp was named acting air vice marshal and appointed in charge of administration of base air forces in the Southeast Asia command.

Hollinghurst, until recently, was in command of an Allied Expeditionary Air Force group. Sharp is a specialist in armament and gunnery.

BUY MORE WAR BONDS

LOCAL GI'S MEET ON PARIS STREET

(Special to the Star)

WITH U.S. FORCES IN FRANCE, Dec. 3.—In a million persons who lined the Avenue Champs Elysees for the first Armistice Day parade held in the French capital in four years, two Tar Heels from Wilmington met each other.

Sergeant Glenward Blomme, public relations correspondent in the office of the Chief of Transportation and former tennis instructor for New Hanover county schools, recognized his old pupil, Private Kitty Bass, of South 16th street, now a WAC assigned to SHAEF headquarters.

Sgt. Blomme coached the net teams of New Hanover High school for 10 years, during which time they won several state and Southern championships. Pvt. Bass was a member of the tennis team from 1934 to 1937, and was captain of the team for two years. She was the North Carolina high school girls' singles champion during her membership on Sgt. Blomme's team.

Before enlisting in the Army, Sgt. Blomme was sports editor for the Morning Star. His wife, Mrs. Beatrice Fullwood Blomme and daughter, Bebe, live at 2013 Perry avenue.

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