

## AROUND THE FARMS IN CHOWAN COUNTY

By C. W. OVERMAN, Chowan County Agent

**ASC Community Committee Elections In Chowan County** will be held on Thursday, September 8. It is very important that every farm family and others who have interest in crops participate by casting their ballot in this election.

In each of the three communities the three nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be elected as community committeemen and the three receiving the next higher number of votes will serve as alternates. One representative from each of the three community committees will formulate the county convention committee to select the three people to serve on the county committee for next year. The county is divided into three communities involving about the areas as follows: Community (A) constitutes what we know as Yeopim, Edenton, Advance and Enterprise communities. Community (B) is comprised of Rocky Hook, Cross Roads and Center Hill areas. Community (C) is composed of Ryland and Gliden areas.

There will be three polling places in each community as follows: Community (A), C. T. Dixon store, Harry Perry's store and Grove Cale's store. Community (B) will be Earl Smith's Store, Melvin Evans' store, and M & R Servicenter. Community (C) will be H. R. Peele's store, Morris & Hinton store and L. C. Briggs store. The polls will be open from 8:00 in the morning until 6:00 in the afternoon.

The community slates of nominees are as follows:

In Community (A) the nominees are Tom Brabble, John N. Bunch, Woodrow Lowe, Ward Hoskins, Gus Spruill, Vernon Lane, Morris Small, Jarvis Skinner, Edgar Earl Hollowell and W. T. Forehand. In Community (B) the nominees are W. M. Hare, Ernest Privott, Alvin Evans, Ray Byrum, Murray Bass, Charlie Asbell, Carlton Goodwin, Preston Monds, J. B. Hollowell and Earl Bunch. In Community (C) the nominees are E. M. Howell, Ralph Hollowell, E. G. Blanchard, A. D. Ward, Radolph Ward, Ernest E. Boyce, Tom Corprew, Lycureus Perry, Beecher Ward and Wince White.

The agricultural program is your program and it is administered by the committeemen you elect. In this election you should elect the men who you feel will best serve your community and your county. Farmers do a lot of physical work with their hands and bodies and along with this a lot of mental work but so often we neglect the vital business end of our farming operation. The agricultural program is a vital part of the business end of your farm operation. Please remember this and go to the polls and cast your ballot in this election. We have tried to locate a polling place as convenient as possible to you with the number of polling places we are allowed to use.

**Quality Cotton:** Last Wednesday and Thursday nights I scheduled quality cotton meetings at the Court House and at

the Chowan Community Building respectively. At each of these meetings there were four cotton growers present. If this is an indication of Chowan cotton growers' interest in harvesting and selling quality cotton to market this year for highest returns, I am sadly disappointed.

Chowan County, Perquimans County and Gates County are about the only counties in North Carolina in which a very large portion of the cotton grown is sold in the seed. Much of the cotton grown in Chowan County is picked trashy, oftentimes with too much moisture and is packed down in bags so that it cannot dry out and may possibly go into a heat, damaging the fibers and seed, before it is ginned. No matter how good the gin equipment is, and how carefully the ginners operate his equipment, he cannot gin quality cotton out of damp and trashy cotton that is brought to his gin. Many of you growers take the attitude that it doesn't make any difference, you are selling your cotton in the seed so the more moisture and trash that you can put in the more weight you will get paid for. This is true if the cotton ginners or buyer does not make any price difference between clean, dry picked cotton and damp trashy cotton, but that is not the end. The ginners or buyer cannot afford to consistently pay more for cotton than he can get out of it and stay in business. Therefore, if he is going to operate on a one-piece basis it is necessary for him to penalize the grower who picks and delivers clean dry cotton in order to break even on his operation with damp and trashy cotton.

Remember this, the cotton sent to market from Chowan County is representative of Chowan County cotton. If Chowan County markets quality cotton then it has a reputation of quality cotton but if it markets poor quality cotton then the reputation is accordingly established and we are penalized in the market place. I want to urge you to check your pickers carefully each day you are picking cotton and see that they pick it as free of trash as possible. Don't pack it down in bags, but empty it out on open sheets at the end of the row and let it get the benefit of the sun. If your pickers don't waste time packing cotton in the bag they will pick far more cotton during the day than the pounds that dry out in the sun during the

day. This will result in more money for your pickers and considerably more money for the grower.

Now, let's look at the possible marketing of cotton and prices involved this season. The CCC or government purchase price of middling 1-1/32 staple is \$34.09 per hundred pounds on Choice "A" allotment cotton.

The government loan price on Choice "B" allotment cotton is \$5.70 a hundred pounds less. There will be both Choice "A" and Choice "B" cotton sold in the seed to the ginner or buyer. These buyers may set their seed price as low as the Choice "B" price on seed cotton, in any event it will not likely be up near the Choice "A" price. Therefore, if you have Choice "A" allotment and sell your cotton in the seed you will be selling it at a lower price than you could get for it to have it ginned. What you get for your seed should at least pay for the ginning and maybe some over. If you want to get the most out of your cotton this year I don't see how you can afford to sell Choice "A" cotton in the seed. Again, if you want to get the most out of your cotton this year and are going to have it ginned, I don't see how you can afford not to pick your cotton when it is dry and to have it picked as clean as possible so that you will get the best quality and in turn the best price.

Cotton is still one of our good cash crops. I have heard a few growers say that they didn't care whether they kept their cotton allotment. I would like to ask this question: If you don't plant cotton, what can you plant that will make you more money? If there is a crop that you can grow which will consistently make you more money then you are foolish to continue to grow more cotton. You must think of this in terms of not just one or two years but on a long range basis of many years. We can grow cotton as profitably in Chowan County as it can be grown anywhere, I believe. So far, most of our growers and maybe all of them have not been willing to follow the practices necessary to do the best job of producing, harvesting and marketing the highest yields and best quality. Our cotton is in competition with areas where growers are employing these practices and doing a good job. We need to give this our serious consideration and if cotton is determined to be one of our good cash crops, let's keep it and let's make the most out of it.

There are some things that you can do toward harvesting quality cotton. Either chemically defoliate your plants when two-thirds of the bolls are grown and cracking or else go over your fields and cut the tops off your plants so that the sunshine can be turned in to open your cotton crop and prevent boll rot. Only pick cotton when it is dry. Let it dry before you take it to the gin. Pick your cotton just as clean as possible. Have your cotton ginned, asking the ginners to draw a sample and have it graded and classed for you under the free grading and classing program. When you receive your grade and class card then you are in a position to market your cotton intelligently.

## Weekly Devotional Column

By JAMES MCKENZIE

"For the love of money is the root of all evil; which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows" (1 Timothy 6:10).

I have always been fascinated by the fascination money has for those who see it not a means, but an end in itself. Perhaps society is partly to blame for we have exalted money to the position of supreme high status symbol. No matter how boorish or uncouth or crude a man may be, if he commands a bit of coin he is held up to our young people as one on whom they may pattern their lives.

But the love of money, like the love of power, corrupts. Today, as in Jesus' day, men, and churches, eagerly sell their souls and betray their Saviour for a few dirty pieces of silver. Unfair, dishonest business practices, traffic in the things of sin are defended violently on the ground that they are profitable. Many men, I fear, would not defend the honor of their homes, or their Christian faith, nearly as quickly as they defend the shady, questionable deals which enlarge their bank accounts. When there is a conflict between business and a church it is church which suffers. When there is a conflict between God and gold it is God who is placed in the back seat, if He is invited along for the ride at all.

Churches must face this temptation. As in Peter's time (Acts 8:9-24) there are those who would buy their way into church prominence and position with a check-book, and too often we have not had the courage and faith to say, with Peter, "Thy money perish with thee." The result is the same as in the old joke about the rich man who was asked if he belonged to a certain church. "Certainly not," he answered, "that church belongs to me." And they act like it, too!

Our Lord Jesus had more to say about money than anything else, even our eternal salvation. He taught that a man's attitude toward money is the key to his entire character. If he looks upon his wealth as a trust from God and seeks to use it in God's service, all well and good. But if he covets money as an end in itself, and uses it as a tool to bribe his way to power and position where he can undermine the Lord's work, he deserves the condemnation of Jesus spoken



**RETIREMENT**—Somebody seems to have taken a plunge outside a Monticello, N.Y., gas station. Actually, the legs were rigged by an advertising-minded owner.

to another who made the same mistake: "Thou fool!"

For all our possessions are a trust from God, and we are stewards of what we have and what we are. We may spend ourselves and our possessions on the things of earth, and leave our wealth behind when the day of our departure is at hand. Or we may invest our wealth and ourselves in the work of God's Kingdom; and receive it again, in full, and increased a thousandfold, when we go to be with Christ.

Perhaps it is all summed up in the words of a motto I saw on a church bulletin board in Ohio some years ago: "You can't take it with you, but you can send it on ahead."

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**MISS REBECCA CRAFT WEDS JEROME T. PUNO**  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Ashley of Norfolk announce the marriage of their niece, Miss Rebecca Craft to Jerome T. Puno, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerome A. Puno of Bayside, Va. The wedding took place Monday, August 8, in Elizabeth City.

Mrs. Puno is the daughter of J. A. Craft and the late Mrs. Mary Davis Craft. She is employed by the NBC Lines in

Norfolk. Mr. Puno is manager of the Hanover Shoe Company, also of Norfolk.

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