

# HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

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"If It Concerns Harnett, It's In THE NEWS"

## FIRST 'SHOWING' OF 1946 HARNETT TOBACCO TODAY

**BORDER MARKETS OPENING AND FIRST OF HARNETT'S 1946 CROP WILL MAKE ITS TEST FOR HIGH PRICES**

Warehouses at 17 points comprising the Border Belt tobacco market are scheduled to open this (Thursday) morning, and at least some of Harnett county's 1946 crop will make its appearance in its first test of the season to find its way to "the top dollar."

Markets on the Border Belt in North Carolina are: Chadburn, Clarkton, Tabor City, Fair Bluff, Lumberton, Whiteville and Fayetteville. The latter is the latest of the Border markets to enter the sales field. In South Carolina the Border markets are: Conway, Darlington, Dillon, Kingstree, Lake City, Loris, Mullins, Pamplico and Timmonsville.

Very few Harnett growers ever take their tobacco across the border into South Carolina for sale, but quite a large amount of it goes to the North Carolina Border floors.

Prices that are holding steady on the Georgia-Florida markets at around 45 cents are expected by war-housemen and growers to remain firm on the Border markets, with possibly a slightly higher trend when the better grades go on sale.

With no ceiling prices and no limit to amounts bid in by buyers, the warehousemen on the Border markets expect to see tobacco this year climb higher in price than it did last year, when the average was 44 cents a pound, although the weighted average ceiling was 44 1/2 cents.

The United States and North Carolina Departments of Agriculture issued a statement saying this year's crop would compare very closely with last year's as to quality, color and weight. Transplanting began somewhat later than last year because of blue mold attacks in some areas, but good weather enabled growers to plant their full allotment.

Harvesting is well advanced, although heavy rains have caused second-growth and slow ripening in some sections. Some tobacco was lost from drowning.

Rate of sales this year will be 400 baskets an hour, with a limit of 2,000 a day for each set of buyers. Maximum weight for individual baskets will remain at 250 pounds. Buyers will be restored to markets that lost a set during wartime.

Plue-cured tobacco will have government price support under the recently chartered Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation. The support price will be available to farmers but will be inoperative as long as market prices for the various government grades are above the loan rates.

## AUDITING FIRM STARTS WORK

Geo. E. Scott & Co. of Charlotte are auditing all books at Courthouse Except For Schools

Auditors from the firm of Geo. E. Scott & Co. of Charlotte arrived Monday morning and started work on the auditing of all accounts of officials in the courthouse.

Books and accounts of all county departments except the schools, will be audited, and County Auditor Herbert Carson estimates that the work will require ten days to two weeks, judging by the time required heretofore.

Auditor Carson is awaiting the completion of the audit by the Scott Co. in order to render a financial statement showing the condition of the county's finances. This statement is published once a quarter, but has been delayed for the quarter ending June 30 because of the pending audit of the officials' accounts.

## No Inquest Into Ashworth Death

Coroner C. D. Allred states that no inquest will be held into the death of Albert Ashworth, 35-year-old white man who was killed when a Norfolk Southern freight train struck his car on the railroad track near Duncan two weeks ago.

The coroner says that most of the witnesses and others expressed belief that the fatal accident was Ashworth's own fault. The coroner made no ruling to this effect, however, simply stating that Ashworth died as a result of his vehicle being struck by the train.

It was stated that Ashworth apparently did not see the approaching train and drove his car onto the track. Another man in the car sustained only a slight injury to his hand.

## Prices Still Soaring Despite New Lease On Life For OPA

Regardless of the fact that OPA is trying to stage a comeback in somewhat emasculated form, consumer prices in stores in Harnett county seem not to be hindered in their upward flight. Food articles, in the main, are not under OPA regulation now, and they seemingly vie with each other in attempts to promote inflation.

As a sample of the height to which some prices have attained, fat hog meat is selling in stores—where it may be found—at 45 cents a pound. Other meats are selling at prices ranging anywhere from that figure to a dollar a pound. Common report from housewives is that they are paying 75 cents to a dollar a pound for steak—some "passing fair," some not so good.

Stores in Harnett county are not finding any difficulty, however, in disposing of anything and everything they are able to put in stock. They do not even regard their foods as "stock" any more, they say, because

all of it is gone soon after being put on the counter.

No merchant in the county is willing to openly predict what is to be the outcome. Most common comment, "off the record," is that "this thing cannot last very much longer." Most dealers feel sure that supply will catch up with demand in the near future and prices will begin to "level off" when this occurs.

If they are asked whether in their opinion prices will go any higher, most of them will answer "maybe a little higher, but not much, and not for long."

Dry goods counters are mostly empty of the most-needed articles. Men's shirts, for example, are received by the dozen and are gone soon after they arrive. They are offered only to veterans by most merchants.

Suffering mostly from the inflated prices are the class known as "fixed salary" workers—those who must live within a certain income, whether prices are high or low.

## Baptist Speaker



Dr. Harold W. Tribble of Louisville, Kentucky, author, popular assembly speaker, as well as effective radio speaker, will be the Baptist Hour speaker for the four Sunday mornings in August, as announced by the Radio Committee, S. B. C., S. F. Lowe, Director, Atlanta, Georgia. This is a return engagement on the Atlanta announcement, his former engagement being on January 23, 1944.

His four subjects announced for August will be, as follows: August 4 "Man's Economy—Sin." August 11 "Getting Christ's Viewpoint—Repentance." August 18 "Life's Anchorage—Faith." August 25 "Answering Christ's Prayer—Sanctification."

## MANCHESTER MAN KILLED; TWO HURT

Marvin A. Simonds Dead, Ray Rhodes and David Matthews Injured As Result of Wreck

When the car in which he was riding overturned at the entrance to the Green street bridge half a block from the police station in Fayetteville, Marvin A. Simonds, 23, of Manchester was instantly killed and Ray Rhodes and David Matthews, both of Manchester, were injured. Rhodes, it was stated, sustained a fractured skull.

No details explaining the cause of the crash were given, but it was stated that Rhodes was driving the car at the time of the accident.

Matthews' injuries were less serious.

## With Claws Clipped, Here's The Way New OPA Looks

1. Revises the Office of Price Administration until June 30, 1947.
2. Prohibits price ceilings before August 20 on meats, dairy products, grains, cottonseed and soybeans, and food and feed products made from them; poultry and eggs, food and feed products made from them; tobacco and its products; and petroleum and its products.
3. Empowers a new three-man control board to be named by the President and confirmed by the Senate, to decide before Aug. 20 whether those items will be restored to price control or left free of ceilings.
4. Provides that if this board fails to act, one way or the other, OPA on its own initiative may restore controls on meat, dairy products, grains cottonseed and soybeans, and food and feed products made from them.
5. Permits OPA on direct authorization of the board, and only on that basis, to renew ceilings on poultry, eggs, food and feed products made from them, tobacco and its products, and petroleum and its products.
6. Revises without change the Federal rent controls which expired June 30 with President Truman's veto of the original OPA extension bill.
7. Provides for "reasonable profit" to manufacturers in a pricing formula based on the industry-wide average in 1940, plus industry-wide average cost increases since then.
8. Fixes March 31, 1946—instead of June 29, 1946, as the Senate had voted—as the basis for percentage discounts and markups to be allowed wholesalers and retail distributors in setting their maximum prices.
9. Transfers price controls over farm commodities to the Secretary of Agriculture.
10. Grants an additional \$1,000,000,000 for subsidies but bans any food subsidies after April 1, 1947.
11. Guarantees automobile and appliance dealers full prewar margins and discounts until sales return to the 1939-41 average.
12. Kills OPA's maximum average price regulation which was intended to assure a supply of low-priced clothing.

## SELF-PAYING VETERANS CAN GET REFUNDS

**VETERANS WHO ENTERED SCHOOL WHILE WAITING FOR DISCHARGE MAY RECEIVE TUITION EXPENSES**

Veterans who entered school at their own expense while they were on terminal leave or while they were hospitalized and waiting discharge before Dec. 28, 1945, may receive refunds for tuition, books and supplies under a recent new Veterans Administration procedure, L. B. McLean, county service officer, announced today.

No provision was made for such cases in the original G. I. Bill passed in June, 1944. But the amended G. I. Bill (Servicemen's Readjustment Act) approved Dec. 28, 1945, did cover them.

Under the procedure set up by VA, refunds will be handled through the VA regional office having jurisdiction over the area in which each veteran lives. VA will pay the refunds to the educational institution after it has reimbursed him.

**Requirements**

Regional Manager, J. D. DeRamus, of Winston-Salem said the procedure is as follows:

1. The veteran must obtain a certified statement from the school he attended, giving the period he was enrolled, the course of studies he pursued, and the money he paid for tuition, books and supplies. The statement must indicate that the institution has reimbursed him for the money he spent.

2. The veteran must submit this certified statement to the VA regional office at Winston-Salem. If he was on terminal leave at the time, he must include a photostatic copy of the service order placing him on terminal leave. If he was hospitalized and awaiting discharge, he must include a statement by the proper official of the station, post or hospital in which he was receiving treatment, including information as to the date of his discharge or, if he still is hospitalized, of the probable discharge date. Whether he was on terminal leave or whether he was hospitalized, he must include an official VA application for education or training in event he has not already filed one.

3. The institution must submit to the same regional office a public voucher covering the amount refunded to the veteran.

VA explained it can make refunds only if the institution in which the veteran was enrolled had been approved by the Veterans Education Committee of the State Department of Public Instruction. The money refunded must not exceed the amount which VA would have authorized for education or training under instructions in effect during the period for which the veteran is asking reimbursement.

## Miss Dunn Dies Of Heart Ailment

Miss Berdie Dunn, who is remembered in Harnett county for her many visits here when she was connected with the State Board of Health as a public health nurse, died suddenly at her summer home at Black Mountain at 11 a. m. July 28.

Miss Dunn, who was approximately 65 years of age, resided in Raleigh during the winters. Two girls who roomed with Miss Dunn at her home on Church Street found her lying dead on the bathroom floor upon returning to the house following church services.

Funeral services were held in the chapel of Harrison Funeral Home at Black Mountain Sunday night with the Rev. Grady Hardin, pastor of State Street Methodist Church, officiating. The body was sent Monday to Durham for cremation.

Miss Dunn, who had been in ill health for some time, is survived by one cousin, Mrs. H. S. Gill of Raleigh.

## Red Cross Meeting Friday, August 9

A meeting of the board of directors of Harnett Chapter of the Red Cross has been called by Chairman W. A. Johnson for Friday, August 9, at 8 p. m. in the Red Cross room in the Layton building.

The meeting is for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year and to consider such other business as may come before the Chapter. A full attendance is urged.

## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth B. Jackson announce the birth of a son, Kenneth, Jr., at Rex Hospital on July 28. Mrs. Jackson is the former Miss Janie Wray Williams of Angier.

## Citizens Urged To Vote In School Bond Election Tuesday

**TOBACCO STATE LEAGUE MEMBER FEELING SHAKY**

**SMITHFIELD MAY DROP OUT IN FAVOR OF SOME OTHER TOWN IF LOCAL SUPPORT DOESN'T PICK UP SOON**

Smithfield will lose its franchise in the Tobacco State League before the end of this season unless the Leafs receive greater support from the fans through increased attendance at home games, officials of the Smithfield Amusement Company, which operates the local ball club, has announced, says the Smithfield Herald.

The company president, Brodus Smith, said several North Carolina towns were interested in purchasing the Smithfield club and definite offers had been submitted. Among the towns interested in taking over the Leafs' franchise are Lumberton, Whiteville and Henderson.

"We do not want to sell the ball club and will not sell if we can get enough support to keep us out of the hole," said President Smith. "But we are facing heavy financial losses if the present rate of attendance at home games is continued. Attendance has fallen off so much in recent weeks that we are beginning to lose money."

President Smith said average attendance at the Smithfield park was less than 400.

"We are the only club in the league not making money," he said, declaring that the teams at Angler, Fugate, Clinton, Dunn-Erwin, Sanford and Wilmington were receiving fine public backing.

"It's up to the fans now," President Smith said. "The way they support us in the coming days will determine whether Smithfield continues to have a baseball team."

O. O. Phillips, secretary of the chamber of commerce, joined club officials in an appeal for greater backing.

"Professional baseball is an asset to Smithfield," he said. "It provides recreation for sports lovers and it is an advertisement for the town. To lose our franchise in the Tobacco State League now would give us a black eye and I would hate to see baseball leave Smithfield."

Meanwhile officials of the ball club have taken steps to rejuvenate the team, which is currently playing just above .500 ball and is seven games out of top place.

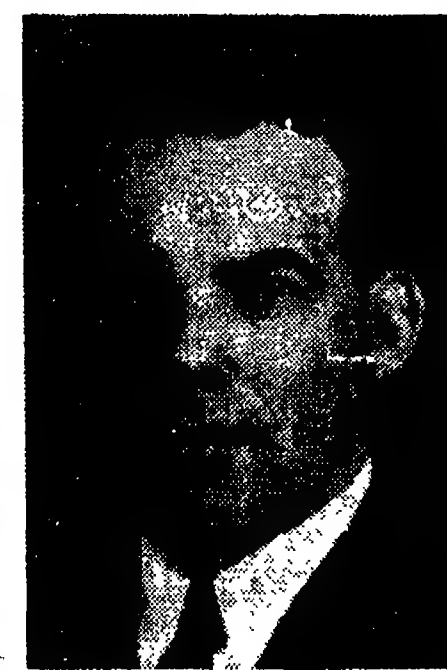
Manager Galtier Riley, it was announced today, has ordered morning workouts and a number of new players are being brought in and other are sought.

## CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our appreciation to our many friends for their kindness and sympathy shown us during the illness and at the death of our Dear Husband and father.

Mrs. T. C. Cutts and Children.

## Addresses Students



LT. GOVERNOR BALLENTINE

The student body of Campbell College, a group composed largely of veterans, was addressed by Lt. Gov. L. Y. Ballentine Friday morning. He chose as his subject, "The Need For And Importance of Education in Society Today."

The governor was sponsored by the International Relations Club, an active student organization. The club has begun a series of chapel programs in which the students and faculty alike will be addressed by prominent men of the State. Last week, Dr. C. C. Crittenden, Director of the Archives and Historical Commission of North Carolina gave a lecture in which outlined certain parallels between efforts toward peace today and those of 1918 and years before.

Mr. Tripp, head of the Social Science Department, is the sponsor of the club; Clarence Barbour is the president; Lee Satterfield, Roger Williams, Gene Palmer, Paul Wardkins and Robert Barbour constitute the program committee.

## U. S. Navy Now Procuring Nurses

The Bureau of Naval Personnel, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., has advised the Office of Naval Officer Procurement that Registered Nurses, who are between 22 and 30 years of age and are High School Graduates may now apply for a commission in the Navy Nurse Corps.

Interested applicants can receive detailed information by contacting the Office of Naval Officer Procurement, 1320 "G" Street, N. W. Washington, D. C.

## Half Price

On your new car, if you can get one, or on an old car, if you can buy one, you can get a "North Carolina sticker" for only half price, now that half the year is gone.

The State is generous enough to reduce the price of its license tags to half price July 1st.

In former years this has meant a great saving to many people, but it won't mean much this year because cars of any vintage are so hard to get.

## Tax Rate Can't Be Fixed Till After Bond Election

Upon the outcome of next Tuesday's school bond election depends the amount of taxes Harnett property owners will be charged for the year 1946. That fact is inescapable since it must be decided whether needed school improvements will be financed out of 1946 taxes or will be spread over a long period of years.

This much is made clear by reason of the fact that not enough funds are immediately available, even after using all of the sinking or reserve funds, for making the improvements which the Board of Education has declared absolutely essential to maintain the schools.

Therefore, if the voters favor the \$750,000 bond issue, the Board of Commissioners may go ahead in fixing the countywide rate, schools included. Best calculations are, though, that because of increased demands due to inflationary prices this rate will be this year around 10 cents higher than the 1945 rate at \$1.35.

But if the voters turn down the bond proposition, then the demand of the School Board for funds for needed improvements will be placed squarely before the Commissioners, who will be compelled to boost the countywide tax rate to around \$2.00. "It may be ten cents less than that or it may be ten cents more," estimates County Auditor Herbert Carson.

## IF ISSUE FAILS TO CARRY, HIKED TAX RATE SURE

**SCHOOL BOARD WOULD DEMAND IMMEDIATE FUNDS TO MAKE ADDITIONS DEEMED ESSENTIAL**

Harnett's school board and county executives are urging every citizen to vote in the special school bond election next Tuesday, August 6th. They want a full expression on the question whether the county shall issue \$750,000 in bonds to obtain funds to construct new buildings, to make additions to present structures and repair old buildings—all of which is deemed absolutely essential to the proper maintenance of the county's school system.

Fear that the tax rate will be boosted if the issue is carried may be entertained by some, and Superintendent C. Reid Ross has secured from County Auditor Herbert Carson some figures which show that the annual levy need not be raised on account of the schools if the bonds are voted.

These figures show that since the school indebtedness has been reduced to such a low amount, the addition of the \$750,000 to the school bonded debt will not call for an increase in the tax rate for bonds, notes and interest. In fact, according to the figures, Harnett county will pay less for debt obligations during the term of the bonds than it has been paying heretofore to retire the old debt.

On the other hand, Auditor Carson sees a sizeable boost in the tax rate if the bond election fails. Supt. Ross declares that the Board of Education will be forced, in that event, to call on the Board of Commissioners for funds needed immediately to construct buildings and make repairs and additions that are absolutely essential. Appropriation of this sum, it is stated, will make it necessary to place the tax rate at somewhere near \$2.00.

Chairman H. C. Strickland of the Harnett County Board of Elections has prepared the ballots for the special election and delivered them, together with the boxes and other voting paraphernalia to the registrars in the 21 precincts in the county. The polls will open at 6:30 a. m. and close at 6:30 p. m.

The school board and the executive believe that right now when interest rate on borrowed money is very low is the proper time for the county to enter into the school construction and expansion program. It is generally agreed that the system sorely needs some expansion in plant and physical equipment, also that many plants have become inadequate, and others are badly in need of repairs.

For one instance of needed construction, it is pointed out that Nell's Creek district must have a building. Heretofore this district has been accommodated by use of one of Campbell College's buildings. All of the other proposed structures, additions and repairs are just as urgently needed, too, the school board emphasizes.

At one time Harnett's school system was one to which her citizens could point with pride because it was accommodating its pupils in a rather handsome as well as adequate way. The population of the county has grown tremendously, however, during the past couple of decades, and facilities that were twenty years ago considered adequate cannot be so termed now. In fact, almost the opposite is true, as every well-posted person knows.

Chairman Strickland of the Election Board points out that only a majority of those voting in the special election next Tuesday is needed to carry the issue. Items that would have required a majority of the registered voters for victory have been eliminated.

## W. H. HAWLEY

W. H. Hawley, 51, of Willow Springs R-1, died suddenly at his home Friday at 1 p. m.

Funeral services were held Sunday at 4 p. m. from the Willow Springs Primitive Baptist Church, with Elder J. G. Lewis of Angler R-2, officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Amelia Austin Hawley; two sons, Andrew and Leon Hawley of the home; two brothers, Jesse and Luther Hawley of Lucama. Mr. Hawley was a veteran of World War I. He was a native of Wilson County.