

Harnett County News

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CORRESPONDENCE
This paper desires correspondence from all reliable sources interesting to the people of this section. We ask that the name of the correspondent be signed for the purpose of attesting reliability.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1948

PROPERTY VALUES TAKE BIG BOOST

Tax Supervisor Berles Johnson and his appraisers, Herman Holloway and Charlie Thornton, estimate that since the equalizing of taxable values Harnett county now has close to forty million dollars worth of property on its books.

That estimate may be lowered a bit after the hearings before the Board of Equalization and Review, but it is reasonably certain that the total values will be considerably boosted for the levy to be fixed for 1948.

Right now it should be borne in mind by the members of the Board of Equalization and Review that it will be well to follow closely the line of equity set by the appraisers. These men have labored faithfully to get property values in the county as nearly as possible "in line" with the figures at which they should remain on the abstracts. Complains there will be, but unless it can be shown that there is a distinct inequality in the booked values, no tampering with the work of the appraisers will be justified.

The most gratifying hint to come out of the re-appraisal is that the Commissioners will be able to lower the tax rate this year. The tax rate should be lowered if possible.

HARNETT'S NEGRO FARMERS PROGRESSING

On the many things to which people of Harnett county can point with pride, none is more gratifying than the progress to be noted among Negro farmers. Not content merely to join in the healthy program of "living at home and boarding at the same place," this county's Negro farmers have branched out with diversification in farm practices that is destined to make them more and more independent of single income from staple crops.

L. K. Boston, the Negro Farm Agent, started out about a couple of years ago with some of his more progressive farmers to improve the breed of swine and cattle. His report of success with the placing of high-bred pigs shows what can be done when there is a determination to do it.

Inquiries which The News has made throughout the county reveal that Boston is constantly active in giving advice and assistance to all his people. And, to learn the secret of his successful efforts, it is only necessary to learn that he is meeting with hearty cooperation.

Harnett county has some of the most progressive Negro farmers to be found anywhere. They not only keep diligently at work on the programs they map out, but they are continually seeking for the "know how" of improved methods, realizing that no one ever becomes so expert at anything that he cannot improve his lot by seeking and gaining more knowledge.

The advantages to be gained by following such a course need not be pointed out to intelligent people. It is sufficient to note that our Negro farmers are becoming more and more intelligent all the time, and that means success in any language in any country.

A SUBSTANTIAL FARM-BUILDING PROGRAM

The News heartily commends the undertaking by County Agent Ammons to form a 4-H Club Pig Chain at Harnett county. For a long time we have felt that diversification in our farm program should be extended to include the efforts of the young people who will in the near-future years be at the helm of our most important industry.

We consider Mr. Ammons' venture one of the most substantial farm-building programs that could be inaugurated. If he succeeds in securing the interest of our young farm people in a program that has produced remarkable results elsewhere, he will have accomplished at least the initiative in making this county far more productive in the form of cash crops than ever before.

This is a good county for all the crops it produces. We may say it is far above the average. But it is also a good county for producing in much larger quantity those things that put

farmers on the road to security and independence.

To long we have clung too closely to the staple crops for our livelihood. We should branch out and gain some of the profits that are being reaped by farmers in other sections where all of the eggs are not placed in one basket.

Mr. Ammons tells us he is intending to add calves to pigs in the chain he is forming. It reminds us of the old saying that "Everything added to what we've got makes a little bit more." That's what Harnett needs—more!

There's a movement to encourage our farmers to grow alfalfa, more potatoes, and a number of other crops. There is prospect of feed mills and a dehydrating plant being located in this section.

It's an intriguing idea, this branching out to make use of our natural advantages in this gloriously sublime piece of country.

Let all of the oldsters join with the youngsters in making our county blossom forth!

TIME NOW FOR THE WHEELS TO TURN!

The directors of the Lillington Chamber of Commerce have at last secured a manager. This, it should be recognized by all, has not been the easy task it might seem. Screening of applicants who wanted the job required much time and patience as well as executive ability on the part of the directors. They reserve the thanks not only of members of the Chamber but of everyone in Lillington.

The manager of the Chamber of Commerce undertakes a man's size job. He is to inaugurate the initial step of the town to build itself into what it should by all means be—the most progressive community in Harnett.

Lillington has the peculiarly favorable advantage of being surrounded by a highly developed farming area—an area that is high, wide and handsome, peopled by the very best folks on earth. These people hold a natural preference for this town, because it is their countyseat. They like to come here—and it is squarely up to all of us to make them like it more and more.

It is time for Lillington's wheels of business to turn. We must not be satisfied till they are fairly humming.

In order to bring this to pass, there must be wholehearted cooperation on the part of everyone. The manager of the Chamber of Commerce cannot hope to do much without cooperation. With it, he can do wonders.

Dashing out the window any conceit, if we have any, we must admit that there is plenty of room for improvement in our good town. There is room for improvement not only in business development but in many other respects.

It is for the specific purpose of improving our town that we have formed a Chamber of Commerce. Operation of such an enterprise is not an inexpensive undertaking. Like all other such undertakings that are worthwhile, it requires money. But the cost is easily overlooked when the wheels are turning!

Again, the time has arrived for every person in Lillington to manifest the spirit that makes for community development. Let no one deny the manager and the Chamber of Commerce what they have a right to expect. Let's all get busy and stay on the job.

Letters To The Editor

97 Chestnut Street, Dumont, New Jersey, Feb. 26, 1948.

Mr. Henderson Steele, Editor and Publisher, Harnett County News, Lillington, N. C., Dear Mr. Steele:

I wish to thank you for your card letting me know that my subscription was about up for it is true that I would have overlooked it as most times the wrapper has already been torn off when I see the paper as the wife wants to look at it, or someone else. I am inclosing a postal order for \$2.06 for another year of news from Harnett.

I notice in your paper where you said that you had a big snow and you had not seen the ground for more than a week. Ha! got a load of this: we had more than two feet of snow the day after Christmas and I have not seen the ground yet, but if the weather reports are right I think we can see the ground by Sunday. At one time last month I stuck a yardstick down in the yard and the stick was just level with the top of the snow. Thanks to the good well service out here, I did not miss a day going on the job. I had to walk the mile from my house to the railroad station some of the mornings till the town could get the streets plowed, but the trains were on the job every morning.

Hope you best of luck and that you keep up the good work that you are doing.

Yours truly, Herman Rambeau. Grover Cleveland will be remembered as the President who extended the "Monroe Doctrine."

OBSERVATIONS

BY A COUNTRY SCRIBE

GOOD LOOKING TOWN.—During the past week or so, a number of bright young men have visited Lillington. They came to interview, or be interviewed by, the board of directors of the local Chamber of Commerce, which was seeking services of a competent executive secretary. Each of these intelligent young men have remarked that "Lillington is a good looking town." This column might mention this anyway, but is prompted to much quicker grab it because of the unanimous agreement among the applicants that this is a good looking town. It's said that "you can't beat education." Also, it may be said "good looks is a great asset."

NEW ENTERPRISE.—New enterprise got a big lift recently when The News revealed that Billy Byrd and John Sutton are erecting a large building they will use in the automobile business. Judging from what these men tell us, the garage and sales rooms will be one of the finest in this section. They tell us they will have important announcement sometime in the near future.

GOOD SERMONS.—Some of our readers have remarked to us that those were fine sermons the Bank of Fuquay and the First Citizens Bank & Trust Company delivered in their advertisements in The News recently. One of the finest points emphasized was the wisdom of avoiding wasteful spending. It is timely that such preaching should be given. Something is just around the corner—and it might not be prosperity. Certainly not, if all of us spend every cent we can get our hands on, regardless of whether we need what we buy.

DOWN AND UP.—One robin doesn't make springtime, neither does one sign indicate a real trend. But just for your information this column directs your attention to the fact that the first batch of school bonds of Harnett county, sold a month or so ago, carries only 2.11 per cent interest, while the last batch sold a week or so ago carries 2.68 per cent. You can very clearly see that the .57 per cent increase in interest means but one thing: that money is a wee bit tighter. When interest rates go up, you may rest assured that something is coming down, either now or in the near future.

OPEN FORUM.—The News feels justified in its belief that everyone should know the paper's columns are open to correspondents who may wish to air their views upon matters pertaining to the public weal. If there be those who are ignorant of this, however, we hasten to assure them they can have opportunity to say their piece in the columns, provided of course they stay within the bounds of propriety, stay with their subject, and, please give us something that will be worth reading and considering. We may not agree with your views, at all times, but we will defend your right to say what you think. And—oh yes, it's free.

ANOTHER LITTLE MATTER.—Please, if you send anything to The News to be printed, sign your name. Otherwise it will not be printed. Not that we want to print your name, but we want to know from whom it comes. Of course, anything put in print for those not connected with the paper will carry more weight with readers if a name is signed. But, take your choice about that. Let us have your name, otherwise the wastebasket will get your communication.

THOSE REMINDERS.—Cards are being sent out to remind subscribers when their subscriptions expire. If you've received one of those cards, don't lay it aside till you've attended to the little matter. The News revises its lists once a week, and that means if your time is allowed to expire you'll miss a copy of your favorite newspaper. Please be careful. Thank you!

NOT LONG NOW.—Pretty soon you'll be seeing announcements in The News from candidates who want your vote next May 29. They have until April 17 to let the Board of Elections know their intentions, but you can bet your bottom dollar they won't wait that long to let you know. Watch for the announcements!

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Dupree of Angier announce the birth of a daughter, March 2, at Rex Hospital. Mrs. Dupree is the former Miss Lucille Honeycutt of Willow Springs.

Cigarettes accounted for nearly 75 per cent of all tobacco used in 1947 compared with around 40 per cent in 1925-29.

Total tobacco use in United States manufacturers increased from an annual average of 750 million pounds in 1925-29 to around 1,300 million pounds in 1943-47.

BOSTON REPORTS

PROGRESS WITH 4-H PIG CHAIN

SUPERIOR SEED & FEED CO. AND NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS SPONSORED BUYING OF PIGS FOR CHAIN

One of the outstanding features of 4-H Club work with Negro 4-H Club members has been the progress made with the Pig Chain. The project was begun in July, 1945 under the sponsorship of neighborhood leaders and the Superior Seed & Feed Co. in Lillington at a cost of \$419.00.

Twelve registered Poland China gilts were purchased from Craig Holloway of Fuquay R-2 and J. C. Langdon of Coats R-1, breeders here in Harnett county. These gilts were placed one each with twelve club members in twelve different communities. They grew the gilts to breeding age and bred them to a pure bred Poland China boar. Each member who received a gilt, gave two gilts in return. The twelve original sows are: Weldon Bule, Jonesboro R-1; James Covington, Erwin R-1; Lousie, R. McLean, Bunnlevel R-1; Garnell Swann, Jonesboro R-1; Robert Artis, Dunn R-4; Roosevelt McLean, Erwin R-1; Roosevelt Owens, Lillington R-2; Lousie R. McCoy, Erwin R-1; Layton McNeill, Jonesboro R-1; Shawtell Ragland, Angier R-2; and Dayton McKinney, Fuquay Springs R-2.

Other owners are: Bettie Dewar, Fuquay R-1; Vivian McLean, Lillington R-1; Booker T. Taylor, Lillington R-3; Braxton Cameron, Lillington R-2; Carrie Johnson, Erwin R-1; Maylon McCoy, Dunn R-3; Norman Brinkley, Cameron R-2; Louise McLean, Fuquay R-2; Connell Allen, Lillington R-2; Fozzo Burton, Fuquay R-1; Elizabeth Roberts, Fuquay R-2; Edward Lee, Angier R-1; Carl Yarbrough, Jonesboro R-1; Robert Armonson, Broadway R-1; Gilchrist Smith, Cameron R-2; Neal McAuley, Jonesboro R-2; Curtis Talton, Angier R-1; Robert Bule, Jonesboro; Freeman Ledbetter, Jonesboro R-1; James Douglas, Broadway R-1; Tobbia Cameron, Erwin R-1; James R. Williams, Holly Springs R-1; Marvin Saunders, Fuquay R-2; Jackson Brower, Cameron R-2; Harvey Washington, Cameron R-2; Bennie Overby, Angier R-1 and Royster L. Dewar, Angier R-2.

Eight registered Poland China boars have been placed with farmers over the county, some of which have served as breeding stock for the Pig Chain. Only desired off-springs from the Pig Chain gilts have been kept for breeders while the undesired have been used to supplement the family food supply. One of the original gilts died from the effect of a local contagious disease. The gilts have averaged six pigs per litter.

As the Pig Chain is well developed in Harnett, the big job to follow is the placing of non-related boars to keep the Pig Chain pure. We are encouraging members to grow more grazing crops for their gilts and also try and grow ten litters from the second farrowing of their sows. As a result of the Pig Chain, Harnett county has 58 brood sows and gilts added to its hog population.

L. K. Boston, Negro County Agent.

CP&L Again Sponsors Better Methods Contest

Carolina Power & Light Company again will co-sponsor with the Westinghouse Educational Foundation the annual 4-H Club Better Methods Electric Contest conducted by the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service for 4-H Club boys and girls, according to an announcement by D. E. Stewart, director of agricultural development for CP&L.

Harnett county entries in the 1948 contest now are being accepted by Harnett county Extension Service leaders in 4-H club work. Judges will be selected by the Extension Service.

Last year, 24 Harnett county 4-H club members—26 boys and 38 girls—entered the contest, with Tillman Smith and Helen Jewel Pruitt as county winners.

Carolina Power & Light Company is sponsoring the contest in the 28 counties of North Carolina in which it serves. The contest is being sponsored in several other counties by Virginia Electric & Power Company and Nantahala Power & Light Company.

Participants in the competition select a farm or farm-home chore, and on the basis of a detailed study of the chore work out methods of performing the task quicker and more economically by the use of electricity.

One boy and one girl from each county will win an all-expense trip to Raleigh to the 4-H Club Electric Congress in October and will receive a silver medal of honor from the Westinghouse Educational Foundation. At the Congress, CP&L will award to the winning boy and girl in its territory a \$100 scholarship each. To the second-place boy and girl in CP&L territory will go engraved gold watches. Territorial winners will be eligible to compete for an all-expense trip to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago in December, and the State winner will

NOW

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

By a Mere Thinker

This is a year in which the people of the United States will elect a President. What is commonly called the Third Party will try to wrest leadership from the two major political groups—the Democrats and the Republicans. Henry Wallace is the idol of the Third Party, and if it should so happen that he is elected, would his crowd become the First Party? And, whether that is so or not, which is the First Party now? It's a bit confusing, isn't it, when you try to determine which is the First Party and which is the Second? I suppose they must be graded according to which, for the time being, holds the reins of government.

You see, I'm a bit confused myself; but I'm not feeling at all lonesome. The whole world is confused, and that includes the Greatest Nation on earth—US.

The politicians tell us we need a definite foreign policy. I will agree with them if they will reciprocate by agreeing with my contention that we also need a definite domestic policy.

I've been reading a lot about the "revolt" of the Southern Governors. They are backing President Truman's "civil rights" program. So far as I can see, there is no necessity for the President to get all hot-up about civil rights—whether for the white or the colored people. It is a well-known fact that every well-governed State jealously guards the rights of its citizens, regardless of their color. In some isolated instances, the rights of Negroes are trampled; but haven't you observed that this is the case too often in instances where poor and non-influential white people are involved?

Surely the civil rights of all people should be safely guarded. No one in his right mind would argue against that. To me, it simply means that we should at all times be careful in selecting those who are to sit in the seats of the mighty—those who are supposed to see to it that everyone's rights are respected.

I was standing on Capitol Square in Columbia, South Carolina, when Governor Cole Blease was delivering an address. Noise and disturbance in the great crowd caused Blease to halt his speech for a moment to shout: "If there are any roughnecks in this crowd who think they are going to disturb this meeting, they are sadly mistaken. Just try to start something and you'll get your heads cracked." There wasn't any more noise.

I wasn't a Blease supporter and he knew it; but he always held for me the greatest respect, which he demonstrated on more than one occasion. I admired him for quieting the disturbers; he had a perfect right to make his speech; furthermore I wanted to hear him, as did a number of my friends.

I could defend Cole Blease in a number of charges hurled at him—unfounded charges, some of them. But that isn't part of this story.

I was listening to Drew Pearson on the radio a few nights ago. He is given to making predictions. And this is the most amazing prediction I've ever heard him make regarding political movements in this country: He said that when the Democrats in convention come to realize they cannot elect Harry Truman they will name Henry Kaiser as their Presidential nominee!

Now I have come to regard Mr. Kaiser as a very dynamic sort of fellow. And certainly this country at the present time could do very well with a man in the White House who is a "doer" as well as a talker. Seems to me it might not be a bad idea to inject some good business judgment into the top-flight office.

But how can it be determined whether Mr. Kaiser wouldn't be equally if not more "civility minded" than the incumbent? We simply can't stand much more "revolting" if we are to lead the ruck and the bonighted nations into thinking and acting the American way.

The political prophets tell us the Democratic party is split. Every intelligent person knows very well that the GOP is badly split. And the Third Party cracked from the start.

Seems to me it's time for all of us to do some thinking along lines that will bring order out of chaos in these United States so that we can prove to the balance of the cockeyed world that we're the great people we claim we are.

What do YOU think?

have opportunity to compete for one of six \$200 scholarships to be awarded in Chicago.

BIRTH AND DEATH

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lasater, Jr., of Erwin R-1, announce the birth and death of a son, Feb. 24, at Good Hope Hospital, Erwin. Mrs. Lasater is the former Miss Lucy Johnson of Lillington R-1.

It's Red Cross Time

A is for achievement in reaching our goal. M is for membership, so join with the shoal. E is for endeavor to do our work well. R is for the right, this story to tell. I is for interest to help those in need.

C is for caution in doing each deed. A is for advice we'll give you today. N is for no—which we seldom say. R is for red—our color on white. E is for eagerness to serve day and night. D is for distance; no place is too far. The Red Cross will reach you wherever you are.

C is for campaign we have once a year. R is for relief we've given right here. O is for organize; join the Red Cross today. S for your share—the part you can play. S for sincerity—sympathy too. Won't you please help us so we can help you?

Helen E. Hofmann, Executive Secretary, American Red Cross.

Vet Allowances To Be Increased

Effective April 1, 1948 assistance allowances for veterans training in institutions under the GI Bill will be increased.

Veterans who are now drawing \$65 a month will be raised automatically to \$75 and those now drawing \$90 for one or more dependents will be upped to \$105 and if satisfactory evidence has already been established for two dependents or more to \$120 a month as a maximum.

Heretofore a veteran with one dependent received as much as a veteran with more than one dependent. Consequently it was only necessary to submit evidence to establish one dependent to receive maximum benefits. Now it will be necessary to produce proof of more than one dependent with conditions existing in order to get full entitlement.

The Veterans Administration advises that this information be submitted before July 1, 1948. The higher payment will be retroactive to April 1, 1948. When evidence is received after July 1, 1948 the establishment of a higher subsistence will only be paid from the date the information is received.

The increases do not affect in any way veterans involved in on-the-job training.

Erwin Boy Wins Rifle Match Honors

(Special to The News) Waynesboro, Va., March 10.—Two North Carolina boys, cadets, R. Jerome Parker and James G. McMillan, won high honors when Fishburne Military School's rifle team won the State championship in the annual Individual Shoulder to Shoulder Rifle Competition held at Fishburne's Saturday afternoon, February 28.

With a score of 1374 points, Fishburne placed first, and scoring 1324 points, Augusta Military Academy placed second.

Cadet Parker, son of Dr. and Mrs. Paul G. Parker, Erwin, N. C., with a score of 285 points, received a gold medal for high individual score and also a silver award as a member of Fishburne's first five top marksmen. This is the second time Cadet Parker has received highest individual score medal in marksmanship this season.

MRS. B. F. O'BRIANT

Mrs. Rena Mae Langston O'Briant, 29, of Angier and Clinton, died at the Harnett County Hospital Monday night after giving birth to a son. The child was born dead. Funeral services for Mrs. O'Briant and the infant will be conducted from St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church near Newton Grove Thursday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock. Burial will be in Hillcrest Cemetery near the church. Surviving are her husband, B. F. O'Briant of

Angier; one daughter, Roxie Ann O'Briant; her mother, Mrs. Bonnie Ann Langston of Clinton, Route 1; three brothers, S-Sgt. Whitley W. Langston, with the Army in Germany, Charles N. Langston of Durham and Lindy G. Langston of the home; and one nephew. The body will lie in state at the church for one hour prior to the services.

In 1946 the average farm wage for farm hands in the United States was \$521 per year.

CASH PRIZES

ARE OFFERED IN SPEAKING TEST

BANKERS' ASSOCIATION OFFERS PRIZES TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR SPEECHES ON SOIL CONSERVATION

In cooperation with the North Carolina Bankers' Association, the high schools of the county, and the Soil Conservation Service of Harnett county headed by W. E. Boykin, a Soil Conservation Public Speaking contest will be held in eight of the high schools of Harnett county, started C. R. Ammons, County Agent.

Attractive school, county, district, and state cash prizes will be awarded for the best speech written and delivered by any high school student, grades 9-12, either boys or girls, in the county and in the state. These speeches should be written by the contestant; however, they may receive help from any source available. In this connection, material is available in the County Agent's office and in the Soil Conservation Service office, both offices located in the Agriculture Building in Lillington.

The rules and regulations may be secured in the various high schools from the Teachers of Agriculture. The subject for this year's contest is "Soil Conservation and Its Relation to the Economy of North Carolina." Contestants may narrow the subject by replacing the words "Soil Conservation" in the title with one of the following practices most important to his or her community: Contour planting, Strip cropping, Crop rotations, Meadow waterways in draws, Soil sampling, Cover crops, Use of lime, Good use of correct fertilizer, Pasture management, Pasture rotation, Pasture mowing, Fire control.

Temporary pastures, Hay storage for best quality, Fish pond establishment and management, Windbreaks, Terracing, Wildlife borders, Land use selection, Reforestation, Forest management, Harvest cuttings; Controlling grazing on forest lands, Roadside erosion control, Diversion ditches, Drainage, Stream bank protection and improvement, Irrigation, Mulching, Pasture fertilizing and liming.

The maximum length of the speech is 12 minutes, and each contestant shall attend a supervised farm tour on farms where good soil conservation practices are carried out, which in most cases will be in his own local community.

Contestants will be introduced by numbers only, and no reference will be made to the name of the speaker or the County represented in either speech or introduction when it comes to district and State contests.

The dates for the various schools in Harnett County to hold their elimination contest has been set not later than March 25; the County elimination contest not later than April 2; with the group elimination contest not later than April 9, and the State finals to be held April 16.

We expect for the winners in each school who prepares and delivers a speech in his Soil Conservation Public Speaking Contest to receive at least \$10.00 in cash as a school winner. The first and second County prizes will be \$25.00 for first place and \$15.00 for second place. The State prize as set up by the North Carolina Bankers' Association is \$400.00 first prize, \$100.000 second prize, and \$50.00 third prize.

HAVE YOU THE BOLD LOOK?