

# Hertford County Herald

HERTFORD COUNTY'S ONLY NEWSPAPER

A PAPER WORTH WHILE

BEST ADVERTISING MEDIUM IN EAST CAROLINA

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## STATE NEWS IN DIGEST COMPILED FOR READERS OF THE HERALD

Contracts for the State printing, which have been held up for some time owing to the results of the printers' strike in Raleigh, were awarded to five Raleigh printing houses on the 29th day of this month.

F. H. Jeter, formerly editor of the Farm Extension News of this State, while in Raleigh last week, stated that he found farming conditions improving throughout the South, and he also predicted that the cooperative marketing associations now in process of final organization, would be of great benefit to the southern farmers.

Chairman Frank Page, of the State Highway Commission, is seeking to prevent the pilgrimage of troops and heavy trucks over the State roads, enroute from Camp Jackson in South Carolina, to Camp Eustis of Virginia. Chairman Page says the trucks will greatly damage the roads over which they travel.

New Bern defeated Greenville on Monday, in the deciding game of the Eastern Carolina baseball championship, and thus won the pennant in that league. The score was 2 and 1.

Judge F. A. Danuels, speaking to a Durham County jury this week, stated that he believed two-thirds of the crime committed today was due to the influence of liquor.

W. H. Gallup, Sr., of Currituck county, reports that the sweet potato industry is a profitable one for the people of his county. The farmers of his county substituted sweet potato crops for cotton this year.

The cities of Raleigh and Kinston are seriously threatened with a shortage of municipal water. In the former city the situation has become so acute that an ordinance was passed making it illegal to use water for washing automobiles or spraying lawns.

The first bale of 1921 cotton sold in Harnett County brought 17 1/2 cents per pound. Farmers are elated over the prospect of better cotton prices.

Chapel Hill will soon have another railroad, the Southern Railway now extending their line from Carrboro to that town.

Over 11,000 textile employees of the Charlotte and Rock Hill mills resumed their work on Monday morning after having been out on a strike for several weeks.

A watermelon weighing ninety six pounds was produced in Iredell county this season.

Dr. Rankin, State Health Officer, has issued a statement rebuking Surgeon General Cummings for the attitude he has taken relative to the noted report on pellagra in the South.

Te town of Bath—oldest town in the State—has recently completed the construction of a new school building costing \$25,000. The building was constructed by one of the town's public spirited citizens, at actual cost.

The Federal Department of Revenue, according to Collector Bailey, has ruled that donations made to the Red Cross cannot be exempted from the final returns of corporations having to pay excess taxes.

Judge Crammer, of the Superior Court, refuses consistently to lighten the burden of road sentences which he has been imposing upon all violators of the prohibition laws.

The State of Maryland has ordered that no more tick cattle be received into the stockyards of that State, and as a result the stock raisers of north-eastern Carolina are having considerable difficulty in disposing of their tick-ridden stock, apropos the state-wide stock law which becomes effective next January first.

The boll weevil is reported as having done great damage in Robeson County this season.

The average net income reported for this state, under the income tax law, was \$4,346.20.

The Cranberry Mines Corporation of Avery County has had its assessed valuation reduced by Commissioner Watts, from \$500,000 to \$300,000.

Many farmers and farm women are

gathered in Raleigh this week to attend the annual convention which is being held in the State College there.

Coaches of the several Carolina colleges are issuing calls for candidates for the football teams. The 1921 season is expected to be a spirited one among the colleges of this state.

16,000 Virginia growers have signed the contracts for the cooperative marketing associations.

A storm that swept over Lenoir County last Sunday did considerable damage to buildings on the farm of former Superintendent of Education, Mr. A. J. Joyner.

North Carolina Cavalymen of the State Guard are camping at Morehead City.

According to Farmer Millsaps, of the Thomasville orphanage, "a good old nag, wagon and harness was stolen from the institution one night last week."

The North Carolina State Highway announced last week that the cost of building roads in this State had declined fifty per cent within the past year.

The Grand Ball held last Thursday night ended the State Reunion of Confederate Veterans which was held in Durham last week. Here is the picture of the ball as contained in the Raleigh News and Observer: "Southern beauties in evening gowns, sparkling with the freshness and vivacity of youth, veterans, gray clad, and living once more in the age of youth, jazz, two pavilions flaming with multi-colored lights, stretches of Lakewood Park under a starlit sky, a multitude of on-lookers, color, shadow, music and musical laughter—the grand ball."

The 1921 tax rate for Henderson has been set at 80 cents by recent action of the city council.

Governor Morrison has announced his intention of calling a special session of the State Legislature, notwithstanding the fact that the cities that asked for the special session are reducing their expenses for the current year.

M. E. Smith, proprietor of the Capitol Hotel at Raleigh was given a 12 months road sentence for allowing immoral persons to ply their trade in his hotel.

Dr. M. Bolton, prominent citizen of Rich Square and for the past four years Representative for Northampton County in the General Assembly, died last Wednesday.

Commissioner of Revenue Austin Watts has turned down the plea of seven of the leading railroads in the State, for a reduction in the assessed valuation for taxes.

The HERALD is informed that the coming fair will be bigger and better in every department, which we feel is nothing short of what is due the good people of HERTFORD and adjoining counties.

Visitors at the Fair this year are invited to come to the Milk Booth to learn more about nutrition and to sample the numerous milk dishes that will be exhibited there. In addition, such demonstrations as weaving rugs, making home made soap, basketry, cooking in the Steam Pressure Cooker, the Fireless Cooker and many other home devices will be given each day. A display of home made fall hats will be exhibited, also flowers and other hat accessories shown. Made over furniture and draperies for the home will be given a place in the above booth.

The officers of the Fair Association are also inviting outside exhibitors to freely use space for any and every article that will lighten the burden of our good women. They are out looking for demonstrations and facts, and they offer space in the above booth for those purposes. Suppose you consult with the Secretary of the Fair or the superintendents of the various departments, and, in some way, have a direct part in the 1921 fair, which will by far eclipse any previous occasion in Hertford County.

GOOD NEWS ABOUT COUNTY FAIR COMING IN WEEKLY

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## ILLITERACY IN THIS COUNTY GREATER THAN THE STATE

SIXTY-ONE PER CENT IN COUNTY ARE NEGROES

1920 Census Figures Reveals Information About Hertford County, Showing That Only Seven Other Counties Have So Many Illiterates as Hertford. Negro Population in County Outgrew Whites (The Last Ten Years)

The HERALD is in receipt of official 1920 census figures, which will probably interest Hertford County people. One of the facts noticeable in these figures relates to the percentage of illiteracy in Hertford County, as compared with other counties of the State. This report places Hertford in the eighth place from the top in percentage of illiteracy, "illiteracy here being the number of persons above ten years of age who can write neither english nor any other language. Out of this county's total population, 18.8 per cent are classed as illiterates. One of the reasons for this rather high percentage is no doubt due to the predominance of negroes in the county.

Although within the past 10 years the percentage of negro population in the State as a whole has declined from 31.6 per cent in 1910 to 29.8 per cent in 1920, the negro population has outgrown the whites in Hertford County during the same period. In 1910 58.9 per cent of Hertford's population was colored, while last year it had grown to 61.1 per cent of the county's total population. Only one other county in North Carolina has such a large percentage of negroes, Warren County having 64 per cent negroes. However, the percentage of negroes in Warren decreased during the past decade. Our two neighboring counties have the following percentage of negro population: Bertie, 56.8, Northampton, 59.6.

Of Hertford County' negro population, 26 out of every 100 can not write and are classed as illiterates; 8.6 per cent of the whites are illiterate. Combining these totals, on the basis of percentage of population of each, Hertford County has 18.8 per cent illiterates as noted in the paragraph above. According to this report, Hertford County does not rank up with the State Average in the educational qualification. The percentage of illiteracy in the State is 13.1 per cent; whites 8.2 per cent; negroes, 24.5 per cent.

The report as it affects illiteracy, says in part:

"According to the census of 1920 there are 241,445 illiterate persons 10 years of age and over in the state of North Carolina, "illiterate" meaning unable to write. Of this number 104,673 are native whites of native parentage, 171 are of foreign birth or mixed parentage and 474 are of foreign birth. The number of illiterate negroes is 133,516. In the total population ten years of age and over the percentage of illiteracy is 13.1, which, it is gratifying to note, shows a diminution since 1910, when it was 18.5. In the case of negroes, the percentage declined from 31.9 to 24.5,

## CAMPAIGN NOW IN PROGRESS IN THE COUNTY THIS WEEK

MEETING CALLED HERE FOR SATURDAY, 2:30 P. M.

Representative of Cotton Co-operative Marketing Association Will Be Present. Seeking Signers of Contract In Order That Cotton Storage Warehouse May Be Built Here—Northampton County Goes 80 Per Cent Strong

Co-operative Marketing has arrived in Hertford County and a force of men headed by D. J. McMillan will open the campaign in this county with a meeting in Ahoskie Saturday afternoon at two o'clock. On Monday they will go to Windsor for a meeting at two o'clock and will then swing back into Hertford for the balance of the week. Meetings have been arranged in the following towns by County Agent, H. L. Miller, who will have general charge of the campaign in this County: St. Johns, Tuesday morning, at 10 o'clock; Menola at three; Winton, Wednesday at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and at Harrellsville at 10 in the morning; Murfreesboro in the morning and Como in the afternoon Thursday.

Mr. MacMillan said today: "we have just closed the campaign in Northampton County and eighty two per cent of the growers of cotton in that county have signed the contract. The farmers are solid on Cooperative Marketing; they are tired of dumping the cotton on the market and taking the other fellow's price, his weight and grade, regardless of what that price may be. There is no reason in the world why the farmer should not sell his cotton like any other merchandise is sold. The price to be based on the cost of production plus the cost of selling. There is not a cotton grower in Hertford who ever sold a bale of cotton in his life. He has dumped it on the market and taken what cotton speculators have been pleased to give him and we all know that to be true.

"Next year the farmer is going to make the price of cotton through the Association. And the cotton speculator knows it. The handwriting is on the wall for the dishonest cotton broker; the 1922 crop will be controlled by an association of farmers who will demand and receive a price based on what it cost him to produce that crop, and not subject to the whims of a few men comprising the Liverpool Cotton Exchange 3,000 miles away.

"They lost 12,000 bales of cotton last year through oversampling alone; that will be eliminated; they lost \$12.50 on every bale of cotton raised in this county from country damage; that will be done away with; they were cheated out of \$11.60 on every bale of cotton they raised last year because their cotton was not graded fairly. Is at any wonder with these and many other injustices and abuses in the present system of selling cotton—a system instituted by the buyers for the buyers, without giving the growers any consideration whatever—is it any wonder they are signing these contracts when they are shown how Cooperative Marketing will elim-

inate these very items on which they have been losing money ever since they have been trying to raise and market cotton. And, if there is one reason why men who grow cotton should sign this contract there are ten why they who are raising tobacco also should sign. There is no more competition in buying tobacco that there is between members of the same firm buying goods for that firm. The five big tobacco companies absolutely control and agree on the price to be paid for tobacco before the market opens, and their little dummy buyers have about as much authority to make the price as the average clerk in a store. It's a joke, or would be if it were not a tragedy. But these conditions will continue to exist until the farmer, through organization compel a change and mark my words that change is here."

and in the case of native whites of native parentage from 12.3 to 8.2. "There is more illiteracy in the rural districts of the state than in the cities, the percentage being 14.1 for the rural population and 9.3 for the urban. For the native white population of native parentage the urban percentage of illiteracy is 4.0, while the rural is 9.2. In the case of the Negro population the percentage is 20.3 in the urban population as against 25.7 in the rural.

"By counties the percentage of illiteracy ranges from 22.4 in Edgecombe County to 6.4 in Buncombe county."

## KNOWING NORTH CAROLINA

A Little Journey Through Hertford County

By H. M. BERRY, Sect'y., North Carolina Good Roads Ass'n.

A County of farmers voting a half million dollar bond issue to build a system of county roads; an announcement which seems almost an anachronism in these days of calamity howling and business depression, with everyone proclaiming the farmer headed straight for bankruptcy. Pessimism, however, does not predominate in the county of Hertford where "hog and hominy" grow in abundance and such a variety of other crops as to insure plenty of food—enough to ward off all fear of starvation and pellagra.

The people of this county have been suddenly awakened from their century-old nap by Young Blood who has reached its majority and realized the handicap under which he is laboring because of poor transportation facilities. Direct descendants of North Carolina's earliest settlers, these people of Hertford, in a most trying time, have exhibited a foresight and courage worthy of the ancestors who braved the terrors of the unknown, sailed on a frail craft over a trackless ocean to seek new homes where freedom might abide, and settled in the dense forests along the Chowan and Meherrin—a land whose fulfillment has been far beyond the most sanguine dreams of the original settlers. The children of these courageous pioneers are the industrious and cultured people who now own many of the large plantations of their forbears, graced with old colonial houses of beautiful design and construction, a people of gracious hospitality, with prosperity and contentment.

Few people in other sections of the State think of Hertford even in terms of a county and yet it nurtures one of our oldest civilizations and is one of our most intensely developed agricultural areas.

Nestling on the banks of the Chowan and Meherrin rivers are two of the State's oldest and most picturesque towns. Winton, the county seat, with its broad streets, shaded by ancient elms, and the quaint old-fashioned homes set in large yards with flower-bordered lawns, reminds one of an old English town of bygone days. The mighty Chowan sweeps its awe majestic way at the feet of little Winton, shutting off most effectively from the State the "Lost Provinces" of the Northeast. With the building of the great bridge across the river, which will form one of the big projects of the State Highway System and be the gateway of the North-eastern counties into the State, sleepy little Winton will become an on-looker and soon a participant in the fast-moving procession of modern life. Twin to Winton in point of age, beauty and general air of old-world culture is Murfreesboro, mother of education in the Chowan region, for located here is Chowan College which has educated most of the mothers and many of the grandmothers of this and other sections of the State. Murfreesboro enjoys the proud distinction of having been host to Lafayette in by-

gone days when men were willing and eager to sacrifice life and fortune for greater liberty and opportunity for themselves and their children. Tradition has it that Captain Kidd sailed up the Chowan and secreted treasure possibly in or near the great ravines and "canyons" which indent the high cliffs along the river. Many homes are now inhabited which were built of brick brought over from the mother country in the days of the Revolutionary Georges. Indeed, far from the noise and bustle of any railroad, with only the weekly call of a steamboat bringing barter from the outside world up the Chowan to Winton and on up the Meherrin to Murfreesboro, the visitor might well imagine himself living in the age of Queen Bees in one of England's most remote hamlets. The only modern notes are the occasional honk of a motor car and the very rare sound of the telephone. But Hertford has other towns with all the trappings of modern life. Through her southern border the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad has given birth to Ahoskie and other shipping points where lumber plants make the welkin ring, where city conveniences have been installed and where the peanuts, cotton and tobacco output of the county begin their commercial career. Ahoskie has all the earmarks of the modern town—noise, bustle, dust, movies, bun galows.

Hertford constitutes one of the tier of counties between the Chowan and Roanoke rivers, along its northern border are found all the varied geological and topographical conditions common to the Piedmont; in the southern portion, the very flat and swampy areas characteristic of the coastal plain. Abundantly watered, with a soil of rich sandy loam and good clay sub-soil, the county stands well up in the agricultural column. The principal money crops are peanuts, cotton and tobacco; corn yields large returns and sorghum, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, melons, vegetables, soy beans, grasses and alfalfa can be raised with ease and abundance. With the passage of the state-wide stock law and the elimination of the cattle tick, cattle-raising should become an increasingly important industry. Lumbering has attained considerable proportions and there still are some large boundaries of original growth, owned mostly by foreign corporations. One beautiful body of long-leaf pine near Murfreesboro reminds one of the "birthright we have sold for a mess of pottage". Practically all of the cut-over land in this county is under cultivation, but many of the southeastern counties have thousands of acres of idle land which might be yielding a return of millions if the long-leaf had not been devastated by the lumber shark, the greedy turpentine, the scrub cattle and razor backs—which were allowed to roam at large—all permitted by reckless generations which took no "thought of the morrow". Now the farmers of Eastern Carolina are paying high tribute to Virginia, West Virginia and other states and heavy freight rates for coal with which to cure their tobacco. Very soon we will be buying from the West the materials with which to build our homes.

One's first impression in driving through Hertford County is the extremely high percentage of land that is under cultivation; the very careful manner in which most of it is cultivated; the refreshing breezes which come up the river and temper the excessive heat which one expects to find in the east; and the very few mosquitoes. Vast fields of peanuts and corn, whose straight rows stretch into the distant horizon, give one a sense of infinite plenty. The beautiful country homes, with their well-kept yards and carefully nurtured flowers, capacious gardens filled with an abundance of fruits and vegetables, create an impression of happy rural life, in striking contrast to the fevered existence of the average city dweller.

The needs of Hertford are not so many nor so difficult of attainment. A railroad connection would be a benefit and encouragement to the people of the northern and central sections; the system of good roads which the

(Continued on page ten)