

Good Season Ahead For Ahoskie Tobacco Market

GROWTH OF TOBACCO IS BETTER THAN USUAL AND QUALITY OF WEED IS FINE

All Large Companies Will Be Represented Here, As Well As Several Independent Buyers. Two Auction Warehouses and Co-Operative Association Will Provide Sufficient Floor Space To Take Care of Needs

BASNIGHT WAREHOUSE SPACE INCREASED AND BRICK WAREHOUSE RENTED FOR PACKING

Reports Coming From South Carolina Markets and Robeson County, North Carolina Markets Indicate Better Prices Than Last Year, An Increase of 25 Per Cent Being Opening Day

Unless something revolutionary in its nature happens between this date and August 23, when the Ahoskie tobacco market opens for the 1923 season, tobacco farmers who bring their first load to Ahoskie are going to leave here after the sales with complete satisfaction written all over their faces. The crop has a fine growth, and tobacco raisers say the quality is tip-top.

C. H. Phaup, veteran tobacco warehouseman of Ahoskie and who will be here again this year, also says the quality is excellent, and predicts a reign of fair to good prices for the crop. This eastern Carolina belt, especially through the northeastern part of it, has one of the best crops in years, and farmers are in for a bountiful harvest.

Ahoskie is more able to take care of the 1923 crop than at any time since the market was established here. The two auction warehouses open last year will again receive tobacco this year. The Old Basnight Warehouse has been enlarged since the last season, another driveway having been added to the south side of the warehouse. Repairs have also been made to the old part of the structure.

The prize warehouse will be used by the Tobacco Growers' Co-Operative Association this year. Last year the Association rented the large brick warehouse, now owned by the Bank of Ahoskie. This house has been rented by a local business house, and will be sub-rented for the purposes of packing tobacco. It will take the place of the prize house, thus affording more accommodations for the buyers.

All of the larger tobacco companies will be represented here this year, including all of the buyers who were on the market last year. Several independent buyers will also be on the market through the season.

Prices Good This Year

Going back to the matter of prices for this year's crop, we are quoting from last week's issue of the Lumberton Robesonian, a newspaper published in Lumberton. The market there is in the same belt as the South Carolina markets and opened for the season on August 1. According to the news conveyed in the following article, prices are almost 25 per cent better this year than they were last.

The Robesonian says:

Lumberton's tobacco market for the auction sale of leaf tobacco opened yesterday with record-breaking sale and fair prices, the exact figures for the market being 88,067 pounds, which sold for \$16,830.24, an average of \$19.11.

Figures of accuracy for last year's opening sale are unobtainable today but estimates show that about 55,000 pounds were sold at an average of about \$15 per hundred.

Both the Banner and Star warehouses were taxed to their capacity, it being necessary to hold two sales in the Banner. Both houses were filled early in the morning and streets to them were congested practically all day. The quality of the tobacco offered yesterday was very good and primings and lugs brought better prices according to grade than did the better grades. All the big companies were represented and many independent and smaller buyers were competitive bidders.

A large number of warehousemen from the Eastern Carolina markets were here as spectators, getting a line on prices and quality. If the quantity and quality of the tobacco increase on this market will rank among the leading markets of the South Carolina belt. Except one or two who suffer with chronic grouching, those selling yesterday were very well pleased with the result. The warehousemen are exceptionally well pleased at the big sale yesterday and consider the opening a huge success.

Fairmont Farmers Pleased

Fairmont tobacco market opened yesterday with strong sales and sold 81,318 pounds at the sum of \$15,969.41 an average of \$19.63 per hundred, which in comparison to opening sales last year make a good showing for the market there. On the opening last year Fairmont sold (Continued on page 2)

POSTMASTER WILLOUGHBY GETS ON ROLL OF HONOR

He Makes Fine Record In First Half Year By Selling Treasury Certificates

The name of Postmaster A. T. Willoughby will appear on the "Honor Roll" of postmasters of the Fifth Federal Reserve District to be sent to Washington, D. C., as a mark of distinction and merit for excellency in sales of Treasury Savings Certificates during the present year.

The quota of \$5,000, assigned the Ahoskie office for twelve months, was reached and passed by this post office before July 1st, thus assuring a place of distinction among similar class offices of this state and district.

This post office reported sales of these savings certificates to the amount of \$10,200 for the first half of the calendar year. When it is recalled that limit of purchase for any one person during a single calendar year is \$5,000, the record made by the postmaster and associates is highly commendable.

Commenting on the attainment of this post office, the postmaster said, "Our cooperation with the program of the government savings system, which has for its purpose the encouragement of thrift and the protection of the savings of the individual of limited means, has been successful. The movement is not at all an effort to compete with banks or other legitimate financial institutions, but solely to encourage savings on the part of a greater number of people and to protect them from unsound investment schemes by offering a government security, in convenient denominations of \$25, \$100, and \$1,000, which guarantees safety of principal, yields a good rate of interest, is not subject to market fluctuations, and is readily convertible into cash at values increasing every month. The fact that the new "baby bonds" have important tax exemption features, are insured, without costs, thus protecting the owner against loss or theft, makes them most attractive to many people. While our post office has already sold its quota for the year.

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Best Cotton Crop In State Is Here

Forecasts made in the HERALD lately about the prolificacy of the prospective harvests of farm crops in Hertford County are firmly substantiated in so far as cotton is concerned, by the latest bulletin of the North Carolina Crop Reporting Service. According to this report, which is issued as of July 25, this county has the best cotton crop in the entire State.

In other words, the Department of Agriculture says Hertford County lacks only one per cent having a perfect crop of cotton, on July 25, the percentage of normal being 99. Durham county has a 98 per cent cotton crop and is next to Hertford. Other counties contiguous to this county rank as follows: Northampton, 87; Bertie, 90; Gates, 96.

Last year on the corresponding date, the cotton crop in Hertford was reported as 61 per cent normal. A comparison of the reports for 1922 and 1923 shows this year's crop to be one-third better than it was last year. This county also has a much better cotton crop than the average in North Carolina. The State average for July 25 is only 82 per cent; last year it was 78.

Government reports indicate a poorer crop of cotton in the United States than last year. The 1923 crop is rated at 67 per cent normal throughout the Nation; last year it was 70.8. Last year's report for the country at this date was 11,449,000 bales as based on 70.8 per cent condition. With an eighth larger acreage, this year's production forecasted is 11,516,000 bales. Last year's final production was only 9,761,817.

Hertford County farmers have but little worries over the richness of their 1923 cotton harvest; the one and only thing that concerns them is the price to be paid for their product. Only an unusually bad harvest period as to weather conditions and a low price for the product can keep local farmers from reaping a fair return for their crops. They are not worrying about the boll weevil this year.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MADE A GOOD JOB OF IT

Local Representatives At Mt. Gould Say Free Lemonade Was Appreciated

Ahoskie's Chamber of Commerce did much to win the favor of Bertie county tobacco farmers last Friday when it served free lemonade at their annual picnic at Mt. Gould. Right in the middle of the hot summer day, the Ahoskie booth, manned by representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, announced by a large sign that it was ready to dish out the lemonade just as fast as the thirsty called for it. And, for two or more hours, thirst quenchers were handed over to the farmers and their families without charge with an invitation to come and get more of it.

With every glass of the lemonade served, an advertising card was passed out, inviting the farmers to come to Ahoskie with their tobacco during this season. Fifteen hundred of these cards were printed and a large portion of them went to the Bertie farmers Friday.

Ahoskie was represented by a delegation especially sent there for the purpose of mingling with the tobacco growers and inviting them to market in Ahoskie this year. They made a good job of it, and, according to one of them, "if every farmer brings his tobacco here that said he was, Ahoskie will have by far its biggest season this year."

The tobacco farmers appreciated the interest Ahoskie was taking in the tobacco market and announced that they would reciprocate by bringing their 1923 crop to the Ahoskie market.

Among those who were at the picnic from Ahoskie were: Messrs. W. L. Curtis, V. D. Strickland, W. W. Rogers, S. M. Applebaum, Mayon Parker, and an automobile filled with young ladies.

Here's Another Man Knows His Business

Dan P. Boyette Leads Entire Sales Force of Well Known Company

Dan P. Boyette is another Ahoskie man to win high honors in the life insurance field. He represents one of the South's largest insurance companies, and, although he is among that organization's youngest agents, he has worked himself up to the leading agent working for the company.

In the July bulletin issued by his company Mr. Boyette is credited with having sent in more applications, with examinations, than any other single agent of his company. Within that period, he wrote \$88,500 of insurance, representing 24 3-10 applications. This is an average of about \$3,400 per working day, and almost one application for every day of the month.

Mr. Boyette, a member of the Rocky Mount agency, has led all agents in this agency for three successive months, May, June and July. He had a wide margin during each month's work, and, although there was talk of a "dark horse" stepping in to head him off, the competition among agents never overtook him nor did it approach the amount written by him in but one of the three months.

Not until this week, however, did he become aware of the fact that he had led the entire sales force working for the company. The bulletin came to him Monday, and across the front page his name was written as being the leader of them all.

Mr. Boyette is a hard and consistent worker, and added to that is his faith in insurance. He believes in it, lives it, and above all he works it. Practically all of the insurance he has written is embraced within the following three counties: Hertford, Bertie, and Gates.

The farmer girls in Holland wash their faces with whey to improve their complexions.

W. O. W. MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THIS TOWN

Delegates From Twenty Counties Will Be Here For Convention, August 23

Two or three hundred visitors are expected in Ahoskie on Thursday, August 23rd, to attend the district meeting of the Woodmen of the World of twenty counties in Eastern North Carolina. The last convention was held at Roanoke Rapids, when and where Ahoskie was unanimously chosen as the next convention town, upon the invitation of Mr. A. O. Kiff, organizer and lecturer for the Woodmen.

Tuesday evening, members of the Ahoskie Camp met in the Richard Theater to discuss plans of entertainment, and the order of business for the convention to be held here. At a previous meeting, a committee had been appointed to make suggestions and outline plans, including the securing of speakers for the day. The committee reported that Hon. W. W. Rogers, former mayor, would welcome the visitors to Ahoskie. Mayor Williams will not be here on that date. Judge Francis D. Winston, of Windsor, will make one of the principle addresses, and he will be followed by Mr. E. B. Lewis, a leading official of the W. O. W.

The visitors will use the high school building for their convention, and will be entertained at dinner by the members of the Ahoskie camp and friends. Dinner will be served in picnic style. Other entertainment features will be planned for the recess hour, between the morning and afternoon sessions.

J. Roy Parker, representing the Chamber of Commerce, was in attendance Tuesday night, and, pursuant to instructions from the directors at a meeting held the same night, offered the assistance of the chamber of commerce in providing entertainment. The offer was accepted, and suggestions will be made at next week's meeting of the chamber. Banners will be painted by this organization welcoming the visitors, and other assistance will be given in making the final plans.

This County Costs More Than Others

Hertford County, according to figures just released by the Department of Rural Social Economics of the State University, stands twenty-third in the per capita state, county, and local taxes paid. Its per capita tax, which also includes state income taxes, is higher than that of any of its neighbors. Bertie county pays \$6.08 per capita; Northampton, \$8.95; Gates, \$6.83. For every person in Hertford County \$9.55 is paid in state and local taxes.

The State per capita rate is ninety-five cents less than the Hertford County per capita, being \$8.60 per inhabitant. These figures were for the year 1921. Since that time taxes in this county have increased in larger proportion than the population, and for 1923, a larger per capita rate would be shown.

Wilson county has the most expensive county government in the State, leading all others by more than \$2 per capita; its rate being \$16.10. Halifax and New Hanover rank next to Wilson county, in the order named. Chowan county, just across the river from us, is included in the four counties paying the least per capita rate for its government. In that county, each person is rated as giving \$4.82 for county and State governments. Alleghany is at the very bottom of the list, with a rate of \$3.58.

The figures for Hertford County were compiled before the half million dollar bond issue was voted, and also before the increase in the rate for schools. There have also been several township and school district bonds issued since that time, all of which will materially boost the amount of taxes paid according to the population.

TWO SAME DAY

Two new citizens were added to Ahoskie's population on Wednesday, August 1. A boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Dan P. Boyette, and a girl to Mr. and Mrs. Willie Copeland.

AHOSKIE QUICK TO HEAR OF DEATH OF PRESIDENT HARDING

News Came Here By Telegraph Less Than One Hour After Death Overtakes President in Hotel

NEWSPAPERS CARRY ALL DETAILS OF FUNERAL

Postoffices Will Be Closed For Full Hour Friday Afternoon, By Order

Ahoskie shared with other towns and cities the advantages of modern methods news dissemination when in less than one hour after President Harding died at his hotel in San Francisco last Thursday night news was common property here. The message was caught by the local railroad telegraph operator about eleven o'clock that night. Few people were up-town but those who were still on the streets were soon in possession of the news.

By far the largest number, however, learned of the President's death on the following morning. It came as a distinct surprise to all persons, especially to those who had been keeping up with the progress of his swing around the country, and the developments of his attack of sickness which had confined him to his hotel room and caused the cancellation of his speaking engagements in San Francisco.

The arrival of the morning papers Friday brought all of the details surrounding his sudden death, caused by an attack at the heart while lying in bed, as his wife read to him an article on himself by the noted correspondent and student of governmental activities, Samuel G. Blythe. From that time until now, newspaper readers have kept up with all the details of the funeral train which arrived in Washington Tuesday night, and the plans for the funeral at his home in Marion, Ohio.

Next to these matters in interest has been the train of events wound around the former vice-president and now President Calvin Coolidge. Receiving the news of the President's death while at his father's home on a Vermont farm, he was sworn in by his father who is a notary public, immediately set out for Washington, and, arriving there, busied himself with funeral arrangements and matters of government.

The former President's body lay in state in the capitol from the time of arrival Tuesday until Wednesday night when it was borne by rail to Marion, Ohio, his native home. Arriving there Thursday morning, his body will lie in state until Friday, when funeral services will be held and the body interred in the old Harding plot in the city cemetery. The funeral and burial services will be simple. President Coolidge has already issued a proclamation setting aside Friday as a day of National mourning; and all Governors have issued similar proclamations.

Ahoskie Office To Close

Conforming to an executive order from Postmaster General New, of the former President's cabinet, the Ahoskie postoffice will be closed for one hour Friday—from 4 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon. No calls will be answered, no mail distributed, and no work of any kind transacted at the office during that hour. Postmaster Willoughby says he will conform strictly to the order.

Since early last Friday morning the large United States flag floating from the flagpole erected over the local postoffice has been at half-mast as a mark of respect to the dead Chief of the Nation. This flag was just greeted two or three days before President Harding's death, a former flag having been torn to pieces by the winds.