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THE ROBESONIAN

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Cotton And Tobacco Exporting Problems

McLean Gives Views on Situation—Market Overstocked With Low Grades of Tobacco—Estimates on Cotton Vary—War Finance Board is Having Some Success in Its Efforts to Increase Exports But the Difficulties Are Very Great.

Hon. A. W. McLean, of Washington and Lumberton, arrived here yesterday from Chapel Hill, where he attended a part of commencement and the annual meeting of the board of trustees of the State university, also a reunion of his fraternity, Sigma Nu. He will leave tonight to return to Washington.

The War Finance corporation, of which Mr. McLean is a director, is working hard on the problem of exporting cotton and tobacco. During the past 3 months contracts for exporting \$10,000,000 worth of these products have been approved. An application for \$1,500,000 worth of bright tobacco produced in eastern North Carolina and South Carolina has just been approved for export to China. This is from last year's crop which has been held over. A number of other applications is under consideration.

Cotton and Tobacco Outlook. Low grades of tobacco, Mr. McLean says, will bring a very low price this year, for the reason that there is a big supply on hand, practically all of last year's crop and a part of the crop of the year before. Better grades will bring a better price because there is not such an accumulation on hand.

In conversation with a representative of The Robesonian, in reply to a question in regard to the outlook for cotton, Mr. McLean said: "The main thing that is depressing the price of cotton is the fact that many statisticians estimate that 10 to 11 million bales will be carried over from the year ending July 31 and that 10 million bales will be produced this year, making 20 to 21 million bales to be consumed for the year beginning August 1st. If this estimate proves to be correct, there cannot be improvement in the price.

"My own opinion is, however, that the carry-over will not exceed 7 to 8 million bales and that this year's crop will not exceed 8 million bales of spinnable cotton. If my estimate proves correct and the supply of cotton, including carry-over and this year's crop, amounts to only 15 to 16 millions bales, the price probably will improve. Sometime about September 1st there will be more reliable information, both as to the carry-over and the 1921 crop. Statistics are so uncertain that no one can estimate with any degree of certainty now either the amount of cotton on hand or the size of the new crop."

Trying to Increase Exports. When he will move his family back to Lumberton, Mr. McLean said, depends entirely upon the success of the work he is now engaged in, increasing the export of cotton, tobacco and other products. He will stay in Washington a few months longer if he can help in this movement. He was overpersuaded to remain in Washington after March 1st, the time he had intended to return to Lumberton. Senators Simmons and Overman and others urged that he should remain in Washington and make an effort to help increase prices of cotton and tobacco, even though it might involve a sacrifice. If he resigned from the War Finance board, these men urged, it was extremely improbable that another Southern man, familiar with the condition of cotton and tobacco farmers, would be put on the board. Mr. McLean yielded to these sentiments and so far he feels that results have justified his decision, for many conferences have been held with prominent exporters and bankers and they have been induced to export larger amounts of cotton and tobacco than otherwise would have been the case. Mr. McLean is holding conferences nearly every day with exporters and others in an effort to increase exports not only of cotton and tobacco but of other American products.

The Difficulties Are Great. The difficulties of the situation are very great, Mr. McLean said, for the reason that Americans concerns are very reluctant to extend the long-time credit necessary for foreign buyers because they contend that very great political risk is involved in selling to many of the countries of Europe now. No treaty of peace has yet been signed, stable trade relations have not yet been established, and in many of the countries of Europe the danger of internal revolution or external warfare is still very great. Many of these countries are in almost as bad condition as the South was at the close of the Civil war. While they have great need for products, they are unable to buy for cash or to give the adequate security on which long-time credits are extended.

Heck McNeill Bound Over to Court. Heck McNeill, negro, was bound over to the Superior court by Recorder Jno. S. Butler of St. Pauls Tuesday under a \$2,000 bond on the charge of making improper remarks to a white married woman who lives at the St. Pauls cotton mill village. McNeill was remanded to jail in default of bond to await the July term of criminal court.

Mayor And Commissioners Stand Pat

Town Fathers Are Standing by Ordinance Requiring Auto Drivers to Pay \$5 Tax—Provisions of the Ordinance—McGill's Salary as Tax Collector Fixed at \$85 the Month.

Mayor White and town commissioners decided at a meeting Tuesday afternoon to stand pat on the ordinance recently passed providing that each person who drives an automobile in town pay a tax of \$5. The ordinance follows:

An Ordinance to Provide for the Regulation, Controlling and Licensing of Chauffeurs and Drivers of Motor Vehicles.

On motion of J. L. Stephens, seconded by Dr. N. A. Thompson, the following ordinance was duly passed. Commissioners J. L. Stephens, N. A. Thompson and E. M. Johnson voting in favor of said ordinance and Commissioner M. M. Rozier voting against the same:

Section 1. No citizen or person residing within the corporate limits of the town of Lumberton shall be allowed to operate a motor vehicle within said town until he shall have been granted license as a chauffeur or driver, as provided by this ordinance.

Section 2. Every person desiring to operate a motor vehicle within the town of Lumberton shall file written application with the town clerk and treasurer, accompanied by a certificate signed by two reputable, disinterested citizens, certifying that said applicant is of good moral character and in their opinion has sufficient knowledge of motor vehicles and sufficient experience and training as a chauffeur or driver to enable said applicant to safely operate the same; and that applicant is at least 16 years of age. If said certificate is sufficient to satisfy said town clerk and treasurer that the applicant is qualified, he shall, upon payment of the fees as hereinafter provided, issue a license authorizing the applicant to operate motor vehicles within the said town of Lumberton. If the certificate, or other accompanying evidence, does not satisfy said town clerk and treasurer that said applicant is qualified and entitled to a chauffeur's or driver's license, he may decline to grant the same, and it shall be his duty in such cases to file the said application and present it at the next meeting of the board of commissioners of said town, at which time the said board may either grant or refuse said license, as they may deem proper; provided, that until the meeting of the town board, applicant shall be allowed to operate his motor vehicle in the same manner as if said license had been granted.

Section 3. A fee of \$5 shall be paid by each applicant to cover the costs and fees of investigating the qualifications of the applicant for driver's or chauffeur's license and the expense of granting of same. The said license shall expire June 30, 1922, but the same may be renewed from year to year by complying with the provisions of this ordinance. If as much as half of the fiscal year has expired at the time of application for license, then only one-half of the foregoing license fees shall be charged.

Section 4. That every person violating the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined the sum of \$25 for each and every offense; provided, that each day such person shall operate a motor vehicle in violation of the ordinance shall constitute a new and separate offense.

Section 5. That this ordinance shall not apply to persons operating cars for hire.

Section 6. That this ordinance shall become effective on June 30, 1921.

The tax on livery cars was changed from \$25 to \$20 and each driver of such a car will be required to pay the \$5 license tax in addition to the \$20 privilege tax, making a total of \$25.

The license tax on peddling ice cream from house to house was fixed at \$15. A person paying such license will be allowed to fill orders given on Saturday on the following Sunday morning.

The salary of Mr. Vance McGill, who was employed at a recent meeting to collect taxes, was fixed at \$85 the month.

Number of Automobiles in Town. In view of the ordinance just passed by the town fathers requiring auto drivers to pay a tax of \$5 each, it is interesting to note the number of automobile licenses issued. Year before last 226 licenses were issued locally for pleasure cars. Last year 264 licenses were issued for pleasure cars and 50 for autos for hire. Judging the probable increase by the past, Town Clerk and Treasurer Russell has ordered for this year 300 tags for pleasure cars and 75 for autos for hire.

Club Encampment Called Off. The encampment for girls and boys of the county which Miss Flax Andrews, home demonstration agent, and Mr. O. O. Dukes, farm demonstration agent, had arranged to hold at Lake Waccamaw June 28 to July 1, has been called off on account of the fact that the cottage that had been engaged will not be available. Notice to this effect has just been received and it has not been possible to make other satisfactory arrangements.

Boy Drowned In Lumber River

14-Year-Old Woodie Currie Was Gathered-in by the Swift Current When Swimming Alone Tuesday Morning—Body Not Recovered Until Two Hours Later—Funeral This Morning.

Lumber river took another victim Tuesday about 10 a. m. when Woodie Currie, 14-year-old son of Mr. Willie Currie, was drowned near the Jennings cotton mill. The unfortunate boy went to the river with two other boys about his age to fish. After fishing a while young Currie decided to go in swimming, the other boys—Barden Ward and Rowland Thompson—remaining on the bank. Although he could swim, he was carried out into the swift current and was drowned. Ward and Thompson ran to the cotton mill, a few hundred yards away, and told what had happened. Search for the body was begun at once, but the body was not recovered until about 12 o'clock—two hours or more after he went down. Drs. T. C. Johnson and T. F. Costner were present when the body was recovered, but soon found that it was lifeless.

The body was located by Master Frank Floyd, son of Mr. J. H. Floyd, and was brought to the surface by Mr. Lucious Page. A number of boys and young men from Lumberton assisted in the search for the boy.

Young Currie was the son of Mr. Willie Currie, who lives at High Point, and lived with his grandmother, Mrs. Harriet Barnes, at the Jennings cotton mill village. His mother died last winter.

The funeral was conducted from the Barnes home this morning by Rev. W. D. Combs, pastor of the Gospel Tabernacle, and interment was made in Meadowbrook cemetery.

Drownings in Lumber river have not been as frequent in recent years as formerly. It has been just a little over 3 years since any one was drowned near Lumberton, the last person being Escar Bullard, who was drowned during commencement of the local schools, where he was a student, three years ago.

Major G. G. Emery New Legion Head

Michigan Man Succeeds Col. Frederick W. Galbraith; Saw Service Overseas Indianapolis, June 14.—George G. Emery, of Grand Rapids, Mich., was unanimously elected national commander of the American Legion at a meeting of the National executive committee today. He succeeds Colonel Frederick W. Galbraith, Jr., who was killed in an automobile accident here last Thursday.

Thomas J. Bannigan, of Hartford City, Conn., was elected vice-commander, succeeding Mr. Emery in that position. The other candidate for the place was William Q. Setliffe, of Chicago.

Major Emery saw much of the fighting the American troops participated in during the World War. He entered the second officers' training camp at Fort Sheridan August 27, 1917. After finishing the course he was commissioned a captain of infantry and sent to France with the first group of Americans. He at first was assigned to the railway transportation office at Blois, France, and remained there until February 20, 1918. Later he attended the first corps school at Condrecourt until March 24, when he took charge of Company F, 18th infantry, 1st brigade, first division.

He participated in all the major actions with his regiment in 1918, at Cantigny in April, May and June; at St. Mihiel in September; and in the Meuse-Argonne offensive in September and October. He was commissioned a major of infantry August 30, 1918.

On October 9, 1918, during the Meuse Argonne drive (Major Emery was wounded in the left arm and was invalided home.

ROBESON-UNION POST WILL MEET NIGHT OF JUNE 17.

Meeting Will Be Held at Pembroke Normal Building—Membership Campaign On. Correspondence of The Robesonian. Fairmont, R. 2, June 14.—There will be a meeting of the Robeson Union post Friday night, June 17th, at Pembroke normal school. We especially urge every member to be present. This will be an important meeting, lots of business to be attended to. Also we invite every ex-soldier to attend and join with us. There is a membership campaign on throughout the month of June. We would be glad to enroll every ex-service man.

J. R. LOWRY, P. C. L. W. Jacobs, Adj.

County Pension Money Ready. Clerk of the Court C. B. Skipper asks The Robesonian to state that county pensions have arrived and that those entitled to the pension can obtain same by calling at his office in the court house.

Mr. J. D. Morrison and daughters, Misses Dorothy and Clara, of McColl, S. C., are guests at the home of Mrs. G. G. French, Fourth street.

Liquor Car Negroes Bound To Court

Negroes Charged With Shooting Lumberton Policemen and Transporting Whiskey Held in Jail for Trial in Superior Court Next Month—Jim Wells Admits Buying Liquor and Doing the Shooting But Claims Did Not Know the Men Were Officers—Story of the Affair as Told by Witnesses.

Jim Wells, James Grice, Spencer James and Bennie Rogers, negroes, were bound over to the Superior court Monday by Recorder David H. Fuller on the charge of malicious assault and conspiracy to kill Policemen Vance McGill and J. B. Boyle of Lumberton and transporting whiskey. Wells and Rogers were placed under a \$5,000 bond each, while Grice and James were placed under a \$2,000 bond each. None of the negroes made bond and all were remanded to jail to await the July term of Superior court for the trial of criminal cases.

Negroes Plead Not Guilty. Spencer James and Bennie Rogers were represented by Mr. W. H. Cox of the law firm of Cox & Dunn of Laurinburg, Wells and Grice not being represented by counsel. Solicitor W. B. Ivey was assisted in the prosecution by Messrs. S. McIntyre, T. L. Johnson and J. Dickson McLean, all of the Lumberton bar. The negroes all entered a plea of not guilty and all went upon the witness stand.

Policeman McGill's Testimony. Policeman Vance McGill was the first witness put on by the State. Mr. McGill testified that on the morning of the shooting—April 23—he saw the automobile driven by Spencer James running about town, first about 8:30 or 4 o'clock. The curtains were up on the car. Policeman Boyle halted the car in front of the municipal building. Mr. McGill then stepped upon the running board on the west side of Elm street, the automobile being headed North. Spencer James was driving and Jim Wells was in the front seat with him. Grice and Rogers were in the rear seat and appeared to be asleep. The officers saw something in the car and upon investigation found that it was whiskey. Policeman Boyle took the whiskey out of the car. There were three gallons of whiskey in 1-gallon tins and one quart in a quart fruit jar. Wells climbed into the rear of the car and fired upon McGill as he leaned into the car from the west side, the first shot striking him in the abdomen. He then fell back and began firing at Wells, firing six shots. He did not know he had been shot in the arm until after the shooting took place. Wells was firing at Policeman Boyle when McGill shot. Wells took pistol from his hip pocket before he fired. Mr. McGill stated that he did not know how many shots were fired by the negroes.

Policeman Boyle Corroborates. Policeman Boyle was next called to the witness stand. His version of the shooting corroborated the story told by Policeman McGill. When he halted the car Spencer James, who was driving, told him that he had been hunting the iron bridge for two hours and that he wanted to go to Dillon. Officer Boyle stated that Wells shot McGill first and that he fired five or six shots. He recognized Wells as the man who did the shooting.

When the Negroes Were Arrested. Deputy Sheriff A. H. Prevatt told of tracking the car driven by the negroes to Fayetteville and of locating the negroes there. Spencer James and James Grice were sitting in the car when located. The car was backed in between two buildings. The negroes were eating. The negroes were ordered to throw up their hands and did so. The negroes then told of Wells being shot, said the car belonged to Bennie Rogers and that Wells did the shooting. The negroes stated that they got the whiskey between Fayetteville and Parkton. A six-shot 38-caliber Smith & Wesson pistol was found in the right hand pocket on the car door.

All Agreed That Wells Did the Shooting. Mr. R. H. Crichton, who was in the posse that followed the negroes, testified that when he saw Wells he said that he was asleep when the shooting took place and did not know who did it. Rural Policeman A. R. Pittman and Mr. D. W. Biggs, other members of the posse, corroborated testimony of Messrs. Prevatt and Crichton. Chief of Police D. M. Barker told of the arrest of the negroes in Fayetteville and stated that Rogers told him that "Big Boy" (Wells) had got them in trouble. Rogers also stated that Wells paid him \$40 to make the trip from Florence, S. C., to Fayetteville and return. He also said that there were four men in the car and that Wells did the shooting.

Spencer James' Story. Spencer James said his home was at Florence, S. C., and that he had never been indicted before. That Bennie Rogers owned the car and asked him to make the trip to Fayetteville with him to assist him in driving, as he (Rogers) had a sore hand. That Rogers said he was going to Fayetteville to see about putting on a transfer there. They left Florence about 11 a. m. and reached Fayetteville at 11:30 p. m. They spent a short time in Fayetteville and left about 12 o'clock. He was asleep when the liquor was bought, and did not know it was in the car until the officers

(Continued on Page Five)

Recorder's Court

Several Cases Aired Before Recorder Fuller—Two Negroes Up on Five Counts.

Will Jones was before Recorder David H. Fuller this morning on two charges—being drunk on the streets and cursing and raising a disturbance yesterday. On the charge of being drunk, judgment was continued on good behavior and payment of the cost. On the second charge judgment was suspended on payment of costs.

Giles Mercer was up yesterday, charged with exceeding the speed limit. He pleaded guilty and judgment was suspended upon payment of cost.

Paul Richardson, negro, was before the recorder Tuesday on three separate charges—having too much peach cider in his possession, assault on his wife with his fist and a drinking glass, cursing and raising disturbances on a public highway. The charge of having too much cider was dismissed; on the charge of assault, Richardson was fined \$5 and the cost; and on the charge of cursing and raising disturbances on public highway, judgment was suspended on payment of cost.

Temus Cummins, Indian, was up Tuesday for shooting a dog. He pleaded guilty and judgment was suspended on payment of cost.

Will Gavins, negro, was up Tuesday on the charge of riding a bicycle with out lights at night. Gavins pleaded guilty and judgment was suspended on payment of cost, all the cost being remitted except \$3 for officers fee. Gavins was found to be a very good negro.

Boll Weevil Has Arrived Early in South Carolina. Messrs. Miles and R. R. Prevatt, Mrs. Alice Prevatt and Miss Pearl Britt of R. 3, Lumberton, were among the visitors in town yesterday. Mr. Miles Prevatt returned Monday from a trip to Kingstree, Williamsburg county, S. C.

Mr. Prevatt says that the boll weevil is giving the people down there lots of trouble. It seems that the "visitor" has arrived a little earlier this year than last.

A few of the farmers are plowing up their cotton and planting corn now, according to Mr. Prevatt, and one farmer who has 12 acres in cotton, was so discouraged with his cotton crop that he went far enough to say that he would take four bales for his crop and furnish the stock to gather it with.

Mr. Prevatt says the boll weevil that is raging down there now resembles very much the bug that was found in Robeson county last summer and claimed by some to be the boll weevil.

REMAINS OF CLAUDE PHILLIPS ARRIVED HERE LAST NIGHT. He was a Soldier Who Died in France Son of Mr. Dick Phillips—Funeral and Interment Will Take Place Tomorrow Afternoon at 3 O'clock.

The remains of Claude Phillips, a soldier who died in France during the war, arrived here last night and were taken this morning to the home of the father of deceased, Mr. Dick Phillips, in Wisharts township, near Boardman. The funeral and interment will take place at the home tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Messrs. Knott & Young Will Operate Planters' Tobacco Warehouse. Messrs. Knott & Young of Henderson will have charge of the Planters' tobacco warehouse here this year. They are experienced warehousemen. Mr. G. W. Knott, senior member of the firm, is well and favorably known to the planters of this section, having been associated with Mr. Smith in conducting the planters' warehouse the first season it was opened, three years ago. Messrs. Knott and Young are expected here next week. It is expected that the tobacco market will open here about July 15.

Messrs. N. J. McRimmon, J. F. Sinclair and Fred Alford, all of the Rae-moon section, were Lumberton visitors this morning.

Fairmont Review: Mr. J. F. Johnson, cashier of the Bank of McDonald, has been employed by the directors of the First National Bank of Fairmont as cashier, with Mrs. C. D. Baker as bookkeeper. Mr. E. V. McDaniel has also been duly elected 1st vice president of the above institution. It is expected that the new business will open on July 1st. However, this is not official.

Mr. B. Leroy Jordan of Aberdeen, formerly of Lumberton, and Mr. J. Worth Williamson of St. Pauls were among the 27 white applicants, including one woman, who were successful in passing the examination this week before the State Board of Pharmacy at Raleigh. The class included 40 whites, 2 of whom were women, and 2 negroes. The examinations were held Monday and Tuesday. Mr. Jordan was sent to the State university for the term that has just closed by Mr. D. R. Shaw, of Grantham Bros. Drug Co. here, and he is proud of Mr. Jordan's success. Mr. Williamson took his course in Richmond, where he was sent by Grantham Bros. drug store at St. Pauls.

Mrs. G. G. French and children, little Miss Margaret and Master Berry Godwin, have returned from Wilmington and the near-by beaches, where they spent several days. They attended the pageant of the Cape Fear in Wilmington last week.

COTTON MARKET.

Midling cotton is quoted on the local market today at 10 cents the pound.

BRIEF ITEMS LOCAL NEWS. License has been issued for the marriage of Katie Groves Northrop and Marion McNeill.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Markham, Tuesday morning at the Thompson hospital, a fine girl.

Mrs. Zeb Ivey, who was operated on about a week ago at the Thompson hospital, was able to return last night to her home in town.

Mr. Fitzhugh Lewis, who was operated on at the Thompson hospital 2 weeks ago, returned to his home in the Fairmont section this morning.

Miss Cornelia Steele left Monday for Asheville, where she will take a course in community work. She has been community worker at St. Pauls for some time.

Mr. Frank Gough returned Tuesday from the Northern markets, where he spent ten days buying goods for his new store, which he will open in a few days.

State Senator and Mrs. L. R. Varner will leave tonight for Baltimore, Md., where Mrs. Varner probably will remain for a few days under treatment of a specialist.

Mrs. N. A. Thompson is expected home tonight from Wrightsville Beach, where she went Tuesday night to attend the annual convention of the State Nurses association.

Mr. L. P. Stack spent Tuesday night in Hamlet on business, returning home yesterday morning. Mr. Stack says that Hamlet was visited Tuesday night by one of the worst electrical storms they have had in years.

Mr. Chappell Wilson of R. 7, Lumberton, left Tuesday evening for Nashville, Tenn., where he will attend a summer school at Peabody college. Mr. Wilson was principal of the Lumber Bridge high school during the last term.

Mrs. F. P. Gray and small daughter, Isabelle, left Tuesday morning for Columbia, S. C., to attend the wedding of Mrs. Gray's sister, Miss Helen Bruton, and Mr. Quitman Marshall, both of Columbia. The marriage took place last evening.

Mr. C. B. Redmond left Monday night for Baltimore, Md., to attend the graduating exercises of St. Charles college. His son Mr. Leo A. Redmond is a member of the graduating class. The Messrs. Redmond will return home next week via Norfolk.

Miss Maitland Thompson arrived home Tuesday night from Montreat where she had been on a camping party for ten days. She was a student at Mary Baldwin seminary, Stanton, Va., during the term just closed, and came by Montreat on her way home from Stanton.

Mr. W. P. McAllister returned Tuesday from Hendersonville, to which place he accompanied Mrs. McAllister and their little daughter, Nancy Pope, who will spend the summer there. Mr. McAllister owns a home at Hendersonville and will spend much of the time there himself this summer.

Mayor A. E. White went yesterday to Raleigh to attend today a meeting of mayors and other town officials called to consider the difficult problems confronting municipalities in the matter of finances. He was accompanied by Mrs. White and their daughter, Mrs. Russell S. Beam, making the trip across country.

The fire company was called out last evening about 8 o'clock when a short circuit caused the automobile of Mr. T. A. McNeill, Jr., to catch fire at his home on North Chestnut street. The fire was blazing around the battery when the fire company arrived but it was quickly put out by the use of chemicals before much damage was done.

Mr. W. B. Covington, county road superintendent, has received from Mr. J. Bryan Grimes a letter with a copy of the amendment, advising him that all trucks, tractors and cars owned by the State, county, highway, towns or cities are not required to pay the registration fee required of cars, or other like vehicles, but they must be marked plainly to show ownership.

Rev. J. M. Fleming writes The Robesonian this morning: "An operation for appendicitis is now the writer's immediate need, and accordingly he cheerfully enters the hospital—Dr. Baker's sanatorium—for the operation, which will be performed tomorrow morning. It is the writer's sincere wish and request that his friends will pray that he may have an early recovery."

At a called meeting of the Woman's Club yesterday afternoon, a petition was drawn up and a committee appointed to canvas the merchants of the town requesting them to close their stores on Thursday afternoon of each week in order to give their employees a half holiday. In this petition it was stipulated that all the merchants are requested to close, not a few to close while others remain open, but to apply to all.

Examination Called Off. The examination announcement to be held in Lumberton July 2nd to fill the vacancy in the postoffice at Tar Heel will not be held. It has been called off since the page on which the item in regard to it in this issue was printed.