

Lumberton Physician Says Co-Operative Marketing Is Only Hope For Farmers

Farmer Is Doomed Unless Something Is Done Says Dr. T. F. Costner At Close Of Big Mass Meeting Of Farmers and Business Men Here.

DR. CLARENCE POE TELLS FARMERS OF ADVANTAGES

Begs Farmers To Remedy Defects of Association Instead of Getting Rid Of It—Have No Right To Seek Aid In Auction System When Mistakes Are Made There—Cowardly Mistake Not To Work Out Own Salvation—Secretary Wilson Says Contracts Will Not Be Sold.

"I have never been a member of the co-operative marketing association. I thought I had a valid reason for not becoming a member—on account of my tenants. But I see, and you intelligent, thinking man, can see that the farmer is doomed unless something is done, and co-operative marketing is the only remedy I can see. I am now willing and waiting to sign a contract."

That is what Dr. T. F. Costner, Lumberton physician, said Saturday afternoon in a mass meeting of farmers held in the court house here for the purpose of stimulating interest in the new sign-up campaign for co-operative marketing.

Dr. Clarence Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer, was the principal speaker of the occasion, and his remarks were made by M. O. Wilson, secretary of the tobacco growers association, Miss Elizabeth Kelly, field director of the association, and Mr. L. S. Townsend, president of the Robeson county associations.

Signs Voluntarily
Dr. Costner's remarks followed the appeals of Dr. Poe and the other speakers to join the association and assist in getting a 65 percent sign-up. Dr. Poe having explained that unless this amount of acreage was signed the members would be under no obligations legally to market their tobacco systematically, and unless 50 percent sign-up was made the association would be history.

Rights of Members.
"Co-operative marketing is a machine for self government of the farmers for ruling our own affairs in matters that affect our own financial conditions," said Dr. Poe in his address, which lasted forty minutes and which was chock full of common-sense reasoning and the plausibility of systematic marketing.

More Democratic
Dr. Poe stated that he had heard when a boy that when one had the stomachache, it was logical to get rid of the ache and not the stomach. It has been the contention of some members of the old association that because mistakes were made and everything did not run as smoothly as they thought it should, the proper thing to do is to get rid of the trouble without trying to get rid of the association, but remedy its defects," said Dr. Poe.

"Evils Multiplied"
"No mistake that we could make would be as bad or as cowardly as being down and saying that we could not work out our own salvations. If we go back to the auction system, its evils will be multiplied," said Dr. Poe. "The auction system is a machine to make as much out of the farmer as possible, and the co-operative marketing system is one to make as much for the farmer as possible," he said.

A DECADE AGO

How Time Does Fly.
Cotton, 11 1-2 cents the pound, seed 65 cents the bushel.
Many tobacco plants killed on account of freeze. Mercury down to 10 above zero.
Mr. Wingate Lawson of near Barnesville dies of pneumonia.
Mr. D. R. Shaw of Wilmington accepts position here with Grantham Brothers drug store.
Miss Fannie Belle Taylor of Fairmont and Mr. Grady McCormick of Rowland married in Methodist parsonage here.
Miss Vashti White entertains in honor of senior class of local high school.

TEN YEARS BEFORE THAT

Cotton, 10 3-8 cents the pound; eggs 12 1-2 cents the dozen.
Grand jury recommends bond issue for new court house.
Moon in total eclipse.
Jim Crow bill passes House of Delegates in Virginia.
Mr. R. C. Lawrence returns from Charlotte sanatorium much improved.
Mr. N. A. Townsend of Raynham passes law examination.

of courage who never gave up, and said that these forefathers would be ashamed if the farmers now did not continue their chance for relief and fight like brave men. "Thank God, our forefathers never said 'we are making so many mistakes and errors we will just let England take charge of us,'" said the speaker. Dr. Poe said that the auction people had been less dictatorial since the operation of the association was begun, that there had been less discrimination, but warned of all this and many other evils would flourish with the death of the association.

Dignity and Respect.
"Not only does the co-operative marketing system give a farmer a few more cents for his tobacco, but it gives him a better sense of dignity and respect as a man," he said. His last statement was to criticize the members who had not tried to learn of the defects of the organization and help remedy them. Going back to the courage of all the forefathers, Dr. Poe said he would not be proud of being an American if King George had handed liberty over on a silver platter.

Pre-War Prices
In closing Dr. Poe told those present that the sign-up must be a voluntary action on their part, and unless this was done before March with 65 percent, hopes were lost, in face of the fact that the salvation of the farmer is co-operative marketing in its second summer, the most trying time of its life. He called attention to the fact that only 2 crops had held prices above pre-war prices, these, tobacco and cotton, both under co-operative marketing control. All other crops, he said, have reached the level of price before the war. He said that he hoped a subsidiary corporation could be organized to take care of any remnants of crops that might accumulate and profits from this organization be diverted to the association from which it might originate.

Person Suit
After closing several questions were asked. The first was about the person suit, to which Dr. Poe said it was so ridiculous that very brief comment was all that was necessary, giving little importance to it. When asked about high salaried officers, Dr. Poe explained that the man in the association doing the same work for the association that the man in the auction system did received \$20,000 a year while the man in the auction system was making more than \$100,000 annually.

Not Selling Contracts.
In his short talk to the farmers' Secretary Wilson said "If I was given unlimited money I would not sell contracts. It isn't worth doing it that way." Secretary Wilson said he wanted to take contracts home with them, study them and if they found it to be reasonable and right to work for it, and if they found it to be unfair and wrong to forget it.

Better Living
Miss Kelly wasn't when she said "I sometimes think some men have boats tied in their backbones to keep them from untraveling, instead of being a hand." Her answer was to the farmer to sign up for their own benefit for better living and better education, better homes and better opportunities.

Mr. N. J. McRimmon of Maxton R. 3 was a Lumberton visitor today.

TEN YEAR FARM LOANS

IN SUMS FROM \$100 TO \$100,000
LOWEST COST TO BORROWER
PREPAYMENT PRIVILEGES ON ANY INTEREST RATE
APPLY TO
LEE AND LEE, ATTYS,
LUMBERTON, N. C.

Tobacco Co-op Meetings This Week

At Barker-Ten Mile and Long Branch Wednesday Night, Antioch and Cedar Grove Thursday Night and Raft Swamp Friday Night, Each Meeting at 7:30.

All tobacco growers are urged to attend meetings this week, at the following places, each meeting at 7:30 p. m.:
Barker-Ten-Mile and Long Branch school houses Wednesday night, February 11.
Antioch and Cedar Grove school houses Thursday night, February 18.
Raft Swamp school house Friday night, February 19.

Speaking of these meetings, Mr. Thos. Woods, local manager says: "New contract and sign-up will be discussed and there will be speakers present at each meeting to explain the new contract. All tobacco growers must come to the meeting most convenient for them to attend if they want the association to continue. It is left for them to decide. It is in their power to have an association and it is also in their power not to sign the contract and thereby let their association die a natural death. What are they going to do about it? They have only 12 more days in which to decide. We make or break by March 1st."
"Miss Elizabeth Kelly will speak on co-operative marketing and the importance of the new contract at the Raft Swamp meeting and probably some of the other meetings."

"If we fail in this sign-up we all know what will be the consequence, also we will know whose fault it will be. Think it over and let's decide before it is too late."

Inspecting Officers Give High Rating

Local Unit of National Guard Gets Highest Mark Offered by War Department—Annual Inspection in Armory Here Friday Night—Major Caldwell Finds Pleasure in Inspecting Such Outfits.

"Very satisfactory," the highest rating that can be given a National guard outfit, is the stamp placed on the local unit of the National guard by inspecting officers in charge of the annual inspection held in the armory here Friday night.

Capt. F. Eli Wishart is to be congratulated on the fine showing made by his outfit, which is not only a compliment to his command, but to the town and county. Major Kenneth E. Caldwell, state inspector of National guard outfits, stated to the command that it was a pleasure to inspect such outfits. Major Caldwell was assisted by Captain W. A. Sweet of the war department, who also paid high compliment to the outfit and its commander.

Including three officers the outfit has a roster of 67 members. The officers, other than Capt. Wishart, are, First Lieutenant W. H. Humphrey Jr. and Second Lieutenant J. P. Cashwell. The outfit is not yet two years old.

New Company Takes Over Red Springs Mills

Dora Mills company, Red Springs, with authorized capital stock of \$600,000 and \$150,000 subscribed by H. Grantham, B. W. Townsend, W. J. Johnson, W. J. Council, J. A. Singleton and W. E. Garrett, all of Red Springs, was granted a charter Friday by the secretary of state at Raleigh.

This company is successor to the Red Springs Cotton Mill company, the property of which was purchased at forced sale in Lumberton on January 14 by Mr. Hiram Grantham, representing himself and the other six directors, who were endorsers of the mill's notes in the sum of \$180,000 and were forced to bid in the property to protect themselves. All other stockholders were given the opportunity to go in with the directors on the same basis. The mill has a modern plant and is understood to have been operated without loss, though at little profit, during recent months.

Charged With Shooting Into Tourists' Camp

County officers were called Saturday night to a filling station about 3 miles west of here where a shooting had been reported. James Hall was arrested and brought to jail, charged with assault with a deadly weapon, and was released yesterday under \$1,000 bond. It is alleged that Hall was drunk and shooting into a camp of tourists near the filling station he owns and operates. He will be tried tomorrow morning.

LOST
POINTER dog. Small white dog with liver colored head. Strayed away Saturday night or Sunday morning. Liberal reward for immediate return to H. B. Willson, Hunter's Lodge (N. C. Stubb's farm) R. F. D. No. 6, Lumberton, N. C.

Melton Sellers Gets Full Pardon

Convicted of Stealing Hog From Van Walters and Sentenced to 2 Years on Road—Judge Dunn Said It Was Mean Thing—Officers Fail to Find Marks on Hog Like Prosecutor Described.

ENTIRELY INNOCENT OF CHARGE
"I can't conceive of a meaner thing than a white man stealing a hog," said Judge Albion H. Dunn in Superior court here last November just before sentencing Melton Sellers, white man, to two years on the county chain gang, after a jury had convicted the defendant.

Sellers is now a free man, Governor A. W. McLean having issued a full pardon Friday and upon doing so stated, "This pardon is granted because of the statement of that after the case was tried and upon thoughtful investigation it is apparent beyond any reasonable doubt that the prisoner is entirely innocent of the charge for which he was convicted."
After the trial, which was the result of the theft of a hog, Van Walters, prosecuting witness, testifying that Sellers had stolen his hog, which bore certain ear marks, the hog was brought to Lumberton and shown to the solicitor, sheriff and several members of the jury, some of whom were acquainted with the peculiar ear marks of hogs, and as a consequence an application for pardon was started pending an appeal to Supreme court.

W. J. McDonald Will To Be Contested

Caveat Filed to Will of Late Wealthy Robeson County Farmer in Behalf of Wife and Infant Son—Latter Not Mentioned in Will.
A caveat has been entered to the will of W. J. McDonald, wealthy Robeson county farmer who died recently, in the interest of his widow and 11-months-old son, the latter not mentioned in his will. It will be recalled that Mr. McDonald left the bulk of his estate to Barium Springs orphanage.

As will be seen from a legal advertisement published in this issue of The Robesonian, Sandy McNeill, general guardian of Alice McDonald and William J. McDonald Jr., widow and son of deceased, has entered a caveat to the probate of the will, has filed the bond required by law, and the case has been transferred to the Superior court of Cumberland county for trial at the term beginning March 15 next. McLean & Stacy of Lumberton and J. G. McCormick of Wilmington are attorneys for the guardian.

Wide-spread interest will be manifested in this case. The estate of Mr. McDonald was estimated at the time of his recent death to be worth around half a million dollars, and the fact that his infant son was not provided for in the will caused considerable speculation. Sensational disclosures are expected at the trial. Liberal provisions made in his will by deceased of the Presbyterian orphanage at Barium Springs caused much admiring comment.

Record Of Deaths

MRS. A. MORTIMER BRITT SR.
Funeral Services For Well Known Lumberton Woman Held Friday—Large Crowd Attends Services—Interment in Meadowbrook Cemetery.

Funeral services, attended by a large crowd of sorrowing friends and relatives, were conducted Friday afternoon for Mrs. A. Mortimer Britt, Sr., who died Thursday night in the Baker sanatorium here, where she had been undergoing treatment for cancer for several weeks.

Dr. Charles H. Durham, pastor of the First Baptist church conducted the services, assisted by Rev. I. P. Hedges, pastor of several Baptist churches in the county. Interment was made in Meadowbrook cemetery, where beautiful designs of floral tributes from a large number of friends and relatives of deceased completely hid the grave.

The passing of this good woman is a great loss to the town and community. She was considered one of Lumberton's best women and was held in high esteem by all who knew her. Before her marriage to Mr. Britt she was Miss Belle McLaughlin, member of a prominent family of the Western part of the county. Besides her husband she leaves one son, Mr. A. M. Britt Jr., both of whom were devoted to her and were faithful and especially comforting to her during her last illness.

Funeral services over the remains of Mr. John Griffin, 72, who died Saturday at the home of his son and

aged man passes at home of son near Raynham—Funeral and Interment Yesterday.

"COME"
to Moore's Gift Shop
West 3rd St., Phone 454.
National Bank Building.

Fayetteville and L. H. S. Play Here Tuesday Eve

Second Round of State Series On Local Court Tomorrow Night at 8. L. H. S. WINS FROM STRONG RED SPRINGS QUINT

(By George B. Lay)
Thursday night Lumberton won for the second time this season over the strong Red Springs quint, this time in the first round of the State championship series, when the locals ran up a count of 16-7 in the first half and Red Springs was unable to overcome the lead in the last half despite fine team work on the visitors' part, the game ending with the score 25-21 in favor of the locals. It was the third time the two teams have met in basketball this year and the second victory for Lumberton. In each game the margin of victory has been the small figure of four points.

Due to the victory here Thursday night and the defeat of South River by Fayetteville at Fayetteville Friday night by a score of 19-13, Lumberton will meet Fayetteville here next Tuesday night at 8 o'clock in the second round of the state series. It is believed that the locals will be able to win this game also. Wilmington drew a bye last week and will meet the winner of the Atkinson-Bladenboro game; the winner of that will play the winner of the Fayetteville-Lumberton tilt. If the locals win over Wilmington, Lumberton will have won group honors and will be headed for a high stand in the State race.

A Thriller
The game Thursday night was a thriller with the locals in the lead the whole way but in plenty of danger during the last half, particularly.

Principal Changes Made By Senate In House Tax Bill

The principal changes made by the senate in the house tax reduction bill, as given in an A. P. dispatch from Washington, were:
Repeal of the inheritance tax.
Repeal of the taxes on automobile passenger cars, admissions and dues.

Increased reduction in the surtax applying on incomes between \$24,000 and \$100,000, involving an additional savings of \$23,000,000 on those taxes.
Repeal of the capital stock and the one per cent increase in the present 12 1-2 per cent corporation tax.
Increased reductions in the stamp and cigar taxes.

Both the senate and the house agreed on the following general provisions which therefore are sure to become law:
Repeal of the law allowing publication of the amounts of income tax payments.
Increase in the personal exemptions from the income tax from \$1,000 to \$1,500 for single persons and from \$2,500 to \$3,500 for married persons, which will relieve 2,300,000 federal tax payers of all taxes.

Reduction of the normal income tax rates from two to one and one half per cent on the first \$4,000 of taxable income, from four to three per cent on the next \$4,000 and from six to five per cent on the remainder.
Reduction in the maximum surtax rate of 40 per cent applying on amounts of income in excess of \$50,000 to 20 per cent on the amounts of income in excess of \$100,000 with corresponding reductions on the lower rates or the graduated surtax schedule which now starts at one per cent at \$10,000.

A supposed suicide pact resulted in the death at San Diego, Calif., of Thomas M. Petet, his wife and two daughters, owing to grief and humiliation over assault made on the young women at Ti Juana, Mexico. A letter left by the father expressed the hope that the government would avenge their wrongs. The girls also wrote letters accusing a man named "Louie" and "the chief of police" of taking them away from their parents and attacking them.

John Gray of Dillon, S. C., was taken to Albemarle Friday and placed in Stanley county jail on the charge of murdering "Dad" Watkins, whose charred remains were found in the ashes of a burned barn near Albemarle last October.

Mr. Anderson Taylor of Clarkton R. 2 was among the visitors in town Saturday.

daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Griffin, near Raynham, were conducted yesterday at Ten Mile church by Rev. A. P. Stephens of Red Springs.

Deceased had been in ill health for a long time. A large crowd attended the services and the floral offerings were many and beautiful.

AUTO ELECTRICIAN
EXPERT MECHANIC
All Automobile Electrical and General Repair Work done promptly.
OLIVER BROS.
236 Elm St., Lumberton (former Studebaker place)

Senate Passes Tax Reduction Measure

Provides Saving of \$456,000,000 This Year to Federal Tax-Payers. The senate late Friday night passed the tax reduction bill, providing a saving of \$456,000,000 this year to federal taxpayers and sent it to conference for adjustment of differences with the house, states a Washington Feb. 12 A. P. dispatch, which continues:

Passage of the bill, which came suddenly and somewhat as a surprise even to senate leaders, is expected to assure benefits of the proposed tax installment March 15.
The vote was 58 to 9.
Senators opposing the bill were: Frazier, North Dakota; LaFollette, Wisconsin; McMaster and Norbeck, South Dakota; Norris, Nebraska; and Nye, North Dakota, republicans; Shivers, farmer-labor, Minnesota, and Reed Missouri and Wheeler Montana, democrats.

Going far beyond the appointed hour set for adjournment, the senate accepted all reductions voted by the house and in addition slashed taxes by another \$125,000,000.
Not more than a week is expected to be taken by the conference in reaching a compromise after which the senate and house must ratify the agreement before the bill is sent to the White House for the signature of the President.

The vote was preceded by considerable fireworks, the democrats engaging in a party row over the surtax rates while the administration leaders made a futile attempt to cut down the total amount of reduction by restoring to the bill the taxes on admissions and dues.

Although Senator Reed, democrat, of Missouri, violently denounced the democratic members of the finance committee for making a compromise with the republicans for a 20 per cent maximum surtax rate in return for greater reductions on the lower incomes, the minority members stood by the agreement.

Senator Simmons, North Carolina, ranking democrat on the committee, vigorously defended the action.
A last minute effort by Senator Norris, Republican, Nebraska, to increase the surtax rates on incomes over \$100,000 from the maximum of 20 per cent provided by the bill to a maximum of 25 per cent, which would apply on incomes of \$1,000,000 and over, was defeated 44 to 22. On this vote 15 Democrats stood by the agreement for the 20 per cent maximum rate which was kept.

The final vote did not come until 11 o'clock after 12 continuous hours of work on the bill, during which more than a dozen roll calls were taken on amendment after amendment. Few important changes were made in the measure, however, during the day.

In a parting shot, Senator Norris who has led the opposition in the more than two weeks' of strenuous debate upon the bill, described the measure as "a gift to the millionaires." Senator King, Democrat of Utah after the bill was passed, announced that while he voted for it he was bitterly opposed to some of its provisions.

As the senate finally applied the brakes today on tax reduction, confidence was expressed at the White House that the revenue bill as finally drafted by Congress would be within the limit permitting the President to sign it.

Successfully pleading with the senate to halt its "generous tax slashing," Chairman Smoot of the finance committee tonight declared the reductions already voted amounted to \$545,216,000 for this year.
This is \$104,000,000 more than recommended by the finance committee and the outside limit set by Secretary Mellon as possible without creating a deficit. The house voted tax reductions totaling \$339,000,000.

The optimism at the White House was based on the belief that the conference committee, which must work out differences between the senate and house, would draft a compromise bill within the bounds set by the administration.

President Coolidge does not think it is safe, however, to order tax reduction which would curtail revenue below the amount declared necessary by the treasury to meet the expenses of government.

Cotton Market

Middling cotton is quoted on the local market today at 18 3-4 cents the pound.

Miss Myrtle Prevatte spent yesterday in Fayetteville, where she visited Mrs. M. C. Taylor of Maxton, who is a patient in the Cumberland General hospital.

Miss Kitty Kline Benton spent the week-end with her mother, Mrs. M. E. Benton, at Cerro Gordo.

TIRE SALE
30x3 1/2 Cord Tires \$10.00 Cash
FULLER'S SERVICE STATION
Lumberton, N. C.

Items Of Local News

—Today is the last day for paying light and water bills for month of January. One dollar penalty will be added to all bills not paid today.
—An oyster roast will be given by the men's Bible class of Chestnut street Methodist church at the coast club house at 6 p. m. Thursday. All members are invited.

—Dr. T. C. Johnson returned Friday night from Rochester, Minn., where he spent a few weeks taking special courses in major surgery and specializing in other medical work.
—Nell Rose is the name of the little daughter born Saturday night at the Baker sanatorium to Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Parker, who are receiving congratulations.

—At the regular meeting Thursday evening of the I. O. O. F. barbecue supper will be served and a musical concert by members of the local high school band will be given.
—Ollie Hamilton's dramatic shows, a vaudeville company, will play at the Pastime theatre here tonight, Tuesday and Wednesday nights. The company comes highly recommended for clean and pleasing amusement.

—Young people of Chestnut Street Methodist church had charge of the music at the morning service yesterday. The choir loft was full of younger members of the congregation and the music was delightful and inspiring.

—Mrs. A. H. Stone, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Atkinson and their daughter and son, Miss Pauline and Mr. Avery Atkinson, of Fairmont, were in Lumberton Saturday en route to Bunnsville, Harnett county, to see Mr. Dick Byrd and Mrs. L. E. Byrd, who have been very sick.

—Former Justice L. R. Varner entered the Charlotte sanatorium at Charlotte Friday night for treatment and Mrs. Varner joined him there Saturday. Judge Varner suffered an acute kidney attack on the train returning from Gates county ten days ago and stopped over in Sanford a few days at a hospital, returning home last Tuesday.

—Dr. and Mrs. W. W. Parker and Miss Louise and Master Frank McLeod visited Mr. Frank McLeod, father of Miss Louise and Frank and brother of Mrs. Parker, at the Charlotte sanatorium in Charlotte yesterday, returning last night. Mr. McLeod was overjoyed to see them. His condition is improving nicely and he is expected home the latter part of this week.

—Mr. F. P. Gray spent a while with Dr. R. C. Beaman at the Methodist parsonage at Tarboro yesterday and found Dr. Beaman's condition very little improved since his return last week from the Mayo hospital at Rochester, Minn. Dr. Beaman sat up part of the way on the return trip from Rochester, but is now confined to bed for the most part with little likelihood of being able to resume work in the near future. Dr. Beaman formerly was pastor of Chestnut Street Methodist church here and has a host of friends among Robesonian readers who are deeply concerned about his condition.

—Hamp Speight, charged with assaulting Ira Wilkins at Bellamy about 2 weeks ago, was arrested Saturday by county officers and is in jail here awaiting trial. Asha Speight, brother of Hamp, is under \$500 bond for appearance at trial, charged with being an accessory to the assault.

TWINE FISH TRAP "FISHED" OUT OF ASHPOLE SWAMP

State Inspector W. J. Alexander Finds Unlawful Trap Near Marietta—\$50 Fine for Setting Such Trap.

A twine fish trap, all set with sinkers, corks, etc., was found Thursday by Mr. W. J. Alexander of Lumberton, State inspector for the State fisheries department at Morehead City, in Ashpole swamp, near Marietta. It was a cold day for such work but when Mr. Alexander got word that such a trap might be found he did not stand back by the weather. He brought the trap back to Lumberton with him.

Mr. Alexander says it is \$50 fine for conviction of setting a trap for fish in Lumber river or any of its tributaries.

Will Decide Route of Belt Highway Later.
Members of the county road board met Friday morning in Fairmont and went over the two proposed routes of the county belt highway between Fairmont and Rowland, but no decision was rendered, being withheld until the regular meeting of the board here the first Monday in March.

MONEY TO LEND
ON IMPROVED FARM LANDS
SEE
FRANK MCNEILL,
McLeod Building,
LUMBERTON, N. C.

SPRING AND SUMMER SUITS
\$23.50 and up
Hand-Tailored To Fit
J. D. PURVIS, Tailor