

THE STATE PORT PILOT

A Good News paper in A Good Community

Most Of The News
All The Time

The Pilot Covers
Brunswick County

VOL. NO. FOURTEEN NO. 18

8-PAGES TODAY

Southport, N. C., Wednesday, August 25, 1943

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

\$1.50 PER YEAR

C. Weed Crop Of 555 Million Pounds Is Seen

Statistician For The State Department Of Agriculture Says Crop Will Be Two Per Cent Less Than Last Year

THOUSAND POUND YIELD SEEN HERE
Morgan Predicts That The Border Belt Yield Will Be Around One Thousand Pounds Per Acre

RALEIGH. — Prospects for the North Carolina flue-cured tobacco crop point to a crop of 555,570,000 pounds, approximately two per cent less than last year's production, according to J. J. Morgan, statistician of the State Department of Agriculture.

The rainy period of early July caused unusually rapid growth of flue-cured tobacco, Morgan said, but the dry, hot weather the last month ripened the crop very fast, "producing a comparatively thin-leaf, light-weight crop."

The August 1 outlook for the crop indicated a flue-cured yield per acre of 965 pounds, compared with 1032 pounds for 1942, Morgan said. "In the western half of the Old Belt, weather conditions have been fairly favorable, and crop prospects are promising. In the eastern portion of the belt, however, dry weather has reduced yields sharply. Excessive rains in the Eastern and Border Belts washed fertilizer, packed soils, and caused some tobacco to wilt. Tobacco on light soils was badly damaged by the rains, and yields are very poor.

Throughout the center of the eastern belt, where rains were not unduly heavy, most farmers have a good crop of tobacco. Growers generally are pleased with the color of tobacco coming out of the barn."

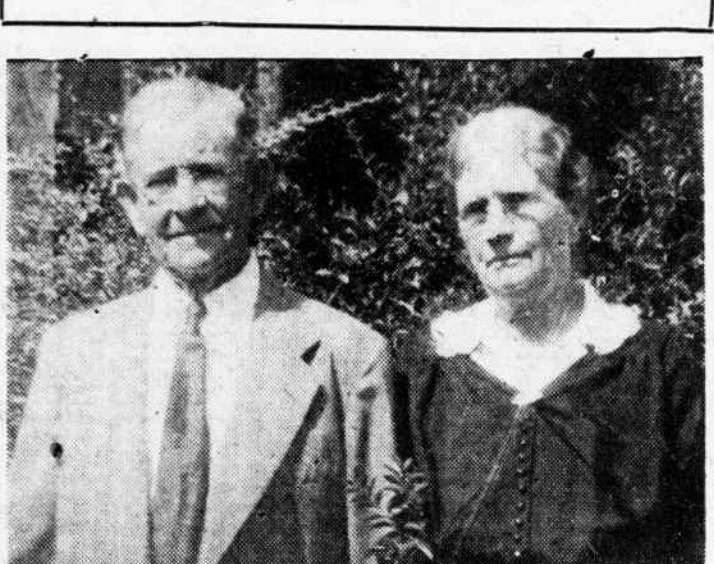
Morgan made the following estimates of yields per acre and production by belts compared with 1942:

Old and Middle Belts—Yields per acre, 880 pounds; down, seven per cent. Production, 201,520,000 (Continued on page 7)

Weed Offerings Continue Heavy
Expected That Today's Offerings Will Run At Or Above A Half Or Three Quarters Of A Million In Whiteville

Tobacco continued to come into the Whiteville market today in increased volume, and estimates of today's sales run between a half and three quarters of a million pounds of weed or better.

WAR MATERIAL



MR. AND MRS. BENJAMIN BENNETT — who celebrated their golden wedding anniversary Friday, Aug. 13 at their home in Shalotte, where they have lived throughout their fifty years of married life. At a reception in their home, there were in attendance seven children, twenty grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren, together with a large group of friends and neighbors. The children of the couple are, M. V. Bennett, G. L. Bennett, L. B. Bennett, and H. C. Bennett of Wilmington; S. T. Bennett of Southport; Mrs. Hattie Bell Smith and Mrs. Oleta Norris of Shalotte. The couple has been prominent in church and civic life.

All Brunswick Schools Open On The First Of September

White And Colored High and Elementary School Grades To Begin Fall Session Next Wednesday Morning

County Superintendent Optimistic As To Session Despite Any And All Of The Prevailing Conditions

Miss Annie Mae Woodside, Superintendent of Schools for Brunswick county, stated last night that apparently everything was in readiness for the opening of all white and colored schools next Wednesday. With few exceptions all needed teachers have been secured. Most of these teachers will be arriving and reporting to the various principals on Saturday and Sunday.

Principal Henry C. Stone of the Shalotte school announced his complete list of teachers last week. This school is the largest, one in Brunswick, employing 28 teachers. It has been under the capable direction of Professor Stone for several years.

At Southport Principal W. R. Lingle will again be in charge. While he has not yet announced a complete list of his teachers it is understood that a full faculty has been secured and is in readiness to begin work.

Principal Glenn Tucker again heads the Bolivia school. He is also understood to have a full faculty in readiness. Under his direction the Bolivia school is credited with having made splendid progress during the past several sessions.

General Grimes In Museum Now

General J. Bryan Grimes, a ground rattlesnake captured here a few days ago, has been added to the collection of snakes in the State Museum at Raleigh. The capture of the reptile was effected by Douglas Jones while accompanying Mrs. Roxie Simpson and other Bird Club members on trips through Brunswick.

Onslow, a huge and famous old Diamond back rattler, died at the museum 13 months ago after fourteen years residence there. At present the museum has no diamond back snake but there is a Canebrake rattler from Pasquotank county and a banded rattler from Spruce Pine. The canebrake rattler is a sub-species of the banded.

Pioneering Boat Sold By Owner

Sea Girl Which Made Sport Fishing History On Frying Pan Shoals Has Been Sold By Captain Watts To Parties At Georgetown

The Sea Girl, a sport fishing boat that made history out on Frying Pan Shoals before the war, through her pioneering work, will not be here to serve the sportsmen again when the fishing restrictions are lifted. Captain T. H. Watts, owner and operator of the vessel, sold her last week to a party at Georgetown, S. C.

The Sea Girl had a record of going to the shoals every possible day during one season and of never returning without at least one barracuda in her fish box. In addition she brought in literally hundreds of amberjack, dolphin, sails and other big game fish. The boat and its skipper became widely known among sportsmen and to readers of outdoor papers in northern and eastern parts.

Captain Watts stated this week that the going of the Sea Girl was not to be taken to mean that he would not be found continuing with the sport fishing when the war restrictions are lifted. When that time comes he expects to have a larger, faster and better equipped boat for the service to sportsmen.

Pointers Given On Growing And Grading Wheat

Wheat Growers Are Warned Against The Marketing Of Moist Or Wet Wheat, And Not To Grow In Onion Infested Land

FINDING BENEFITS OF GOVERNMENT AID Many Farmers In This Area Took Advantage In 1942 Of Federal Wheat And Farm Storage Program

RALEIGH. — "Most mills are now buying wheat on their knowledge of market grades or on the basis of the test weight per bushel—a very good indication of the market grade," remarked W. H. Darst, farm crops marketing specialist with the State Department of Agriculture, recently in commenting on the high-grade milling wheat produced this year by the farmers of North Carolina. It is the opinion of Darst that wheat producers of this State were not encouraged to grow good wheat until recently—"many millers bought wheat on the basis of the daily market price and on the general average quality of the wheat in the community rather than on the daily market price based on the actual market grade of the individual lot of wheat."

"From a survey of the crop grown in North Carolina in 1942, and from observations made in other years, it is obvious that the 'grade or milling quality' of wheat can best be improved by increasing the test weight per bushel, by lowering the moisture content in the wheat and by controlling onion," declared Darst in giving the following grade factors for wheat:

A good milling wheat must weigh at least 58 pounds per bushel. This may be obtained by proper fertilization of the crop, use of improved varieties, and the employment of proper methods of harvesting and handling.

Wheat containing more than 14 per cent moisture is considered wet wheat and must be dried down to around 13 and one-half per cent moisture for safe bulk storage and milling.

Wheat containing onions when milled for flour or feed is objectionable. Wheat should not be grown in fields badly infested with onions. It should be protected at all times from high moisture and excessive heat in storage. Oats, rye or barley found in wheat used for flour tends to lower the grade, as do weed seeds, trash and a mixture of white wheat and red winter wheat.

Now Surfacing Caswell Highway

First Asphalt Poured Last Week And Cline Construction Company Proceeding With Work

The work of pouring the asphalt surfacing on the eight mile stretch of road from Route 103 to the Navy base at Fort Caswell, began the past week. The work will be pushed to completion as rapidly as possible, according to employees of the F. D. Cline Construction company of Raleigh.

State Highway employees state that it is the hope to have the approaches to the bridge all graded and the surfacing laid to the point of permitting the use of the highway.

The old order of paying shrimp pickers a nickel a bucket for their work seems to be a thing of the past. In most of the local packing houses the workers are now receiving a penny a pound. A bucket full weighs fifteen pounds and for full buckets a nickel and a dime is being handed out as fast as the buckets are brought to the washing vats.

Tax Rate Still At Same Level As Last Year

New County Budget Shows No Changes In Tax Rate; Fine Progress Is Being Made

TAX RATE STILL STAYS AT \$1.60 Tax Rate Admittedly High There Appears To Be Good Reasons For Not Making Any Change This Year

The tax rate in Brunswick county will remain at the same level, \$1.60 on the hundred dollars, according to the budget arranged by County Auditor R. C. St. George. The budget has been approved by the board of county commissioners.

Although the tax rate is admittedly high there appears to be several good reasons for making no changes at this time. A few years ago the county became deeply involved in debt. Finally a refinancing program was worked and a tax rate fixed at a level that would insure taking care of the debt and carrying on with current expenses. This program has worked out exceptionally well, according to information. All interest on the debts have been met and much of the principal retired. Current expenses are also being met. Good substantial progress appears to attend the efforts to ultimately retire the county from its former heavy burden of debt.

With war time conditions existing there was no possibility of the county cutting down on expenses. Any lowering of the tax rate at this time might have resulted in the slowing up of the debt paying program to which 70 cents out of each dollar must go. The commissioners and the auditor apparently deemed it wise to continue the rate as it is for at least another year.

Picture Story Of The Mussel

State News Bureau Now Releasing Pictures Of New Brunswick County Coastal Industry

A picture story of mussel gathering operations in this area is now being released to the press of northern and eastern states by Garland Porter, manager of the State News Bureau in Raleigh. The pictures were made by Ben M. Patrick, official photographer for the Department of Conservation and Development.

Some of the pictures will also be released to papers in this state. This work being done by a local news agency.

Mussel gathering is a new industry, gaining great impetus because of the war. The use to which they are being put has never been revealed, beyond the fact that they are wanted by the chemical industry. Like the oyster, the shells appear to be of little or no value. It is the more or less fluid-like contents of the shells that the chemical industries use.

Robert Jones, of Southport, has been having the mussels gathered and has been shipping them daily for weeks. Most of the product has been harvested from around Shalotte Point, Lockwoods Folly and Southport. The pictures show the entire process of harvesting from the gathering of the product in the marshes to the point of shipping.

Other interesting local pictures (Continued On Page Four)

Brothers In North Africa



OF FREELAND—T-4 Cecil C. Edwards (left) and T-5 Earl Edwards, sons of Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Edwards, of Freeland, are now serving with the U. S. armed forces in North Africa. Both were graduated from Waccamaw High School near Ash. Cecil was drafted May 16, 1941, and Earl Jan. 7, 1942.

Non-Deferrable Fathers May Be Taken In October

Quota For The Month Will Approximate 312,000 Men For The Armed Forces, It Is Announced From Washington

WASHINGTON.—War manpower commission officials, disclosing that October's draft quota will approximate 312,000, said tonight that there was a "strong possibility" that the only pre-Pearl Harbor fathers would be those in non-deferrable jobs.

Brothers Meet In The Pacific

Recently at some far away point in the Pacific Henry Law Swan, Boatswain Mate, 2nd Class, met his brother, Reese Earnhardt Swan, Seaman, 2nd Class, for the first time since March, 1942.

From letters received here by the parents of the boys, the warships on which they are stationed were at the same port in the war zone. Henry visited Reese aboard the ship on which the later is stationed and they had shore leave together. Both have been in the Navy and in the Pacific for over two years. Law Swan was wounded right seriously a little over a year ago and came home on a short leave shortly after being discharged from the hospital. The meeting of the boys in the Pacific was a happy one. They are sons of Captain and Mrs. C. N. Swan, of Southport.

Local Red Cross Workers In Meet

Field Representative Met With Local Workers And Was Much Pleased With Way County Chapter Is Carrying On

Miss Mary Pegram, of Greensboro, field representative for the American Red Cross, was in Southport on Monday to meet with various heads of departments in the county chapter. She expressed herself as pleased with the way the Brunswick county chapter is carrying on its work.

Those with whom Miss Pegram talked were Miss Annie May Woodside, chapter chairman. Mrs. Grace Ruark, executive secretary; Mrs. L. C. Fergus, disaster chairman; Mrs. Elizabeth Gilbert, nurse's aide chairman; and A. L. Brown, chairman of junior Red Cross.

New Ration Book Into Use Sept. 12

Brown Stamps To Replace Red Ones At The Time Of The Change; Gasoline Coupons Must Be Exchanged Soon

WASHINGTON. — The brown ration stamps in War Ration Book Three will come into use September 12 for the purchase of meats, oils, fats, butter and cheese, the OPA announces.

The brown stamps will replace the red ones in War Ration Book Two as the latter are used up. They will have the same point value.

Henceforth, OPA announces, the meats-fats ration stamps always will expire on the Saturday nearest (Continued on page 4)

Boll Weevil Cuts Cotton Crop In Brunswick County

County Agent Reports That Weevil Infestation Has Been Great Since Recent Heavy Rains

STATE EXPECTED TO HAVE 695,000 BALES

The Reduction Of The Cotton Crop By Combination Of Causes Is Said To Be State-Wide

Rains during the latter part of June and until around the 15th of July, along with some wet weather since that time, have greatly aided boll weevil infestation of the Brunswick county cotton crop, to the extent that the crop has been drastically cut.

This was the opinion expressed this morning by County Agent J. E. Dodson.

North Carolina's 1943 cotton crop is expected to produce 695,000 bales, according to the crop reporting summary issued by the State Department of Agriculture. This is four per cent less than the 727,000 bales produced from the 1942 crop but 15 per cent more than the ten-year (1932-41) average production. The first yield estimate of this year's crop, which was placed at 390 pounds per acre, is exceeded only by the record yield of 427 pounds per acre in 1940 and last year's excellent yield of 412 pounds per acre. The crop will be harvested from 856,000 acres, or 10,000 acres more than harvested a year ago.

"Although cotton continues to be a few days later than last year's unusually early crop, stands are uniformly good throughout the State. Record high temperatures and ample soil moisture throughout June was favorable for cotton, and the crop made excellent growth, overcoming most of its late start. However, almost daily rains from late June until around mid-July caused plants to put on excessive growth, prohibiting proper field cultivation in some areas, and greatly aided weevil infestation. While late July weather was fairly favorable for maintaining rapid growth of plants and fruiting, recent dry, hot weather has caused considerable shedding. Boll weevil infestation was comparatively high around the first of August, but recent weather has been favorable for some control of the pest," said Reporter J. J. Morgan.

A United States cotton crop of 12,558,000 bales was forecast. This indication is 266,000 bales, or two per cent, less than the 1942 crop but seven-tenths of one per cent more than the ten-year (1931-41) average. The average yield is placed at 279.4 pounds per acre which is 6.9 pounds more than the 1942 yield and 62.4 pounds more than the ten-year average of 217 pounds per acre.

NEWS BRIEFS

FORMER PASTOR VISITS
Rev. and Mrs. Edgar Hall, of Cary, spent part of the past week here with friends. Rev. Mr. Hall was formerly pastor of Trinity Methodist church and the couple are lovingly remembered by the congregation.

TO BEGIN SCHOOL
Mrs. A. W. McDaniel, who has been spending the summer with her husband, who is stationed at the Section Base, will leave next week for Fairmont, where she is principal of the South Robeson elementary school.

AWAY ON VACATION
Rev. R. H. Harrison of the Methodist church is away on a three weeks vacation. He has been spending part of the time in attendance on the conference of Ministers at Lake Junaluska. He will visit relatives at Bostic and other points before returning to his work here.

TRAINING IN FLORIDA
Corporal William R. Sellers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ledrow Sellers, is now receiving training with a medical regiment at Camp Blanding, Fla. Cpl. Sellers enlisted in the army in 1940 and until a few weeks ago was stationed at Fort Bragg, where he served with the Quartermasters Corps and a battalion of Field Artillery.

NURSE ILL
Mrs. Willie Walker, a nurse at the Doshier Memorial hospital, is a patient there.