

CO-OPS GRATIFIED BY DOUBLING CASH

Virginia Senate Passes Bill To Safeguard Contracts Of the Association.

The payment of a million and a half dollars last Saturday by the Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association to its members in the dark-fired belt of Virginia and in Eastern North Carolina brought satisfaction to thousands of growers in two states.

The dark-fired growers of Virginia at all of the cooperative markets have received more from their first two advances by the association than the price of average years would bring from their season's sales. Numbers of growers in the cooperative association have now averaged around \$20 per hundred on their two payments and reports from several points last Saturday stated that new signers were coming into the association, which is certain to make a third substantial disbursement to its members in the dark belt.

Among high averages reported from deliveries of dark tobacco to the association were the receipts O. W. Parker & Bro., of New Canton, averaging \$23.25 per hundred in advances to date; C. W. Melton for \$21.75; R. B. Hudgins for \$21.50; and S. E. Fuqua for an average of

\$22 per hundred on all deliveries to date.

The Eastern Carolina farmers were much elated over Saturday's cash payment and a number of growers stated that they were out of debt for the first time in years and were now in position to pay cash for their fertilizers. The merchants who have recently advertised their desire to help the marketing association in Eastern Carolina are enjoying a rush business and according to all reports, as the members of the association are said to be spending the money freely.

Cooperative farmers of Virginia are much pleased by the passage in the Virginia senate of the bill to prevent the sale of tobacco contracted to the cooperative association upon auction warehouse floors, which imposes a fine of from \$100 to \$500 upon warehousemen who knowingly sell such tobacco. Another bill which passed the senate with a large majority requires the sale of tobacco only in the name of the true owner thereof, also a record of all sales, and gives permission to representatives of either cooperative association or of warehousemen to inspect the records for the other and provides that any violation of the bill shall constitute a misdemeanor. The passage of these

bills by the Virginia house of delegates is confidently predicted this week, and is regarded as a very important step by officials of the marketing association in the safeguarding of their contract.

All of the cooperative warehouses will close for the season during the next six weeks and officials of the tobacco association are urging the members to complete deliveries. The last bright markets of the cooperative association in Virginia and North Carolina will close on March 30th, according to the latest announcement of T. C. Watkins, Jr., Director of Warehouses for the association.

Members of the association in the dark fired district must complete their deliveries before April 14th, when every cooperative warehouse for the receipt of the dark leaf closes for this year, while members in the sun-cured area of Virginia have until April 30th to complete their deliveries according to F. D. Williams, Manager of the association's dark leaf department.

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INCOME TAX FALLS OFF CONSIDERABLY

Will Likely Be Short Of Legislature's Calculations By Half Million—No Uneasiness Is Felt About State's Finances, However.

Raleigh, March 20.—Income tax collections, in spite of a slow climb daily, seem certain to fall a half million dollars below the \$5,500,000 estimated by the state budget commission. The state department of revenue today reported total collections of \$2,662,000, and that most elaborate of responsible estimates at this time does not place the ultimate total at more than \$3,500,000. Some 3,000 returns are yet to be filed under extension.

The income tax is important because of its use as a basis for estimated revenues in framing the appropriations measures of the late general assembly. Estimates submitted on the eve of the legislature by the then revenue commissioner, Col. A. D. Watts, placed the income tax at \$3,500,000 with inheritance taxes of a half million dollars.

The appropriations committees of the house and senate came out of the turmoil and disturbances of the finance investigation and its allied difficulties by raising the estimates of the commissioner and the budget commission and increasing appropriations accordingly.

No expressions of concern as to the financial condition of the state, and the possible inability to raise revenue sufficient to meet the extraordinary appropriations, have come from persons in officialdom, but from the outside there has already begun to arise the protest and "I-told-you-so's" of political antagonists. The loss of anticipated revenue through the slump in income taxes will not cause unusual difficulty if other sources yield in accordance with the estimates of the budget commission. With a slump in yield from other source corresponding to the income tax fall down, however, it is thought an acute situation may be developed.

The governor and council of state have authority, under legislative enactment, to sell short

term notes to make up for any shortages in the yield or revenue. In spite of this provision, a falling off of revenue would furnish material for the wildest cries of complaint from those on the other side of the political fence.

Little Margaret Fowler Hurt By Automobile

Pilot Mountain, March 17.—Margaret, the four-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. T. Fowler, narrowly escaped being killed Wednesday afternoon when she started to cross the street behind a truck. As she passed from behind it a Mr. Gordon passed, driving at a rather rapid gait. He was hurrying a man who had cut his foot to a physician. When Mr. Gordon saw he was going to hit the child he turned his car so that only the fender struck her. However, this was enough to render her unconscious for a short while. Medical aid was given the little girl at once. She is doing all right now. No serious results are expected.

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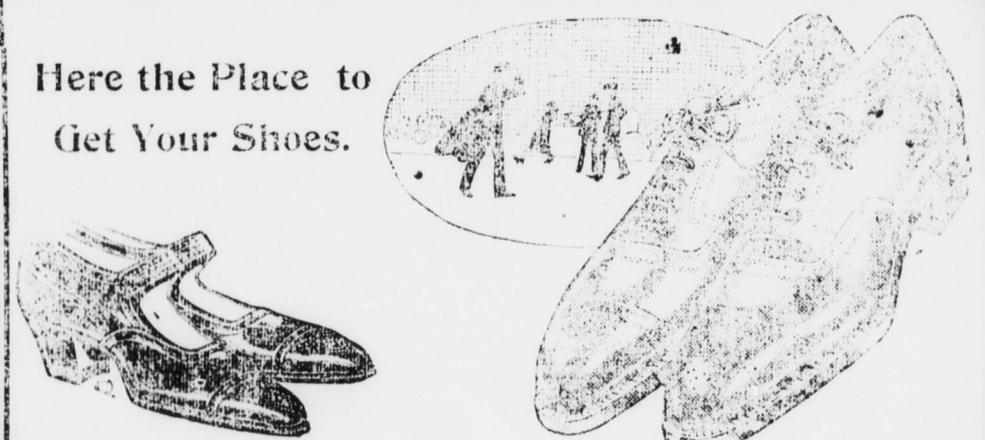
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