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I. M. GORDON SAYS VOTE FOR CONTROL

Pilot Mt. Banker, Farmer and Progressive Citizen Thinks Farmers Should Cast Their Ballots In Their Own Interest Next Saturday, Which Means To Retain Control of Production.

Editor Reporter:

In my humble opinion the election to be held Dec. 10th on the tobacco control question is, and will prove to be, the most important election for our people that has been or will be held in North Carolina in a long time. The result may, and I believe will, determine whether we, as tobacco growers, are to operate on a dependable plan that will give us financial assurance and enable us to make our plans accordingly, or else set us adrift on an unknown sea without either chart or compass—everyone struggling for existence—and the Devil for the hindmost.

On the morning of the 10th we stand at the parting of the ways, and the results of the election will determine which road we travel. We lived long years under the old way—no system. No knowledge where we were headed—and the results pauperized nearly everybody. A few were able to keep afloat for people did not spend much then. Like the Children of Israel when they were slaves and served long years under the cruel lash of a yoke of Egyptian masters, the cry of the tobacco growers went up to Heaven, for some sort of system under which they could keep "soul and body together". In our desperation and "catching at straws" different plans were tried out, and all failed, for the simple reason that there was no provision that could be enforced to CONTROL PRODUCTION.

We came to realize that unless a law applying to all growers, and enforced under Federal Statutes, could be had it was useless to expect any relief. A few members of Congress heard our appeal and became interested, and due to their untiring efforts with the other members of congress we have a splendid law, and it has brought us up out of Egypt, so to speak, and placed our feet upon solid land. Shall we now fail to show appreciation, and for some little dislike for the way someone in charge has handled it, junk the law? If we do it is pretty sure that Congress will have no more to do with it; for the tobacco territory is comparatively small and only about 20 members of that body of more than 500 were concerned enough to take active interest when the bill was passed.

Then, too, if we throw open production one year only, and then repent and undertake to vote control again, all in other states that grow tobacco will come in and vote with us, as tobacco growers. The six states involved in this election are: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Florida. At this time 66 per cent. of all the acres and 71 per cent. of all the pounds allotted to the six states comes to North Carolina. Only the remaining 34 per cent. and 29 per cent. respectively, goes to the other five states. If we vote off control it is predicted that at the end of another year the five will have the 71 per cent. and we the 29. Due to the low price of cotton which is only about 8 cents per pound, or 1-3 received for tobacco, the cotton growers want to turn to tobacco, and they are "all set and ready to go" the day it is announced control is voted down. This will likely destroy them and us too, as we all go down together. It is estimated by those higher up, that the tobacco crop will

then amount to 50 per cent. more than can be consumed the first year control is lost and production is wide open.

We need to keep in mind some certain facts in arriving at our decision on this matter; one of which is that in North Carolina, particularly this part of North Carolina, tobacco is our "money crop", and as we are lined up at this time, without tobacco, or even with tobacco at starvation prices, we could find it difficult indeed to pay our taxes, to say nothing of other obligations. I ask, to what other crop can we turn for money? Such blunder would very probably result in many abandoned houses with weeds growing in the yards. One will remind that it was not that serious when we operated or drug along under the old system. That may be so. But at that time the other states named were not interested in turning to tobacco as they now are. The tobacco and cotton were both about the same in prices. But now when cotton growers are in distress, and they look over into the tobacco territory and see tobacco growers receiving an average of 25 cents, and the roads so full of shiny automobiles that there is not enough room in the towns to park them, they are ready to swing to tobacco. If they do not know how to grow and handle tobacco, it will be an easy matter to employ a few trained men to supervise for them. I am told that inquiries have already come from Alabama for men to assist them. The states named have unlimited lands suited for the growth of the types of tobacco now in demand.

As we stand at this time, I think it safe to say that North Carolina is the most prosperous and favored agricultural section in the U. S. We are vastly ahead of the cotton and grain and livestock growers. Shall we kill the goose that is laying the "golden eggs" for us? It may be well to let well enough alone.

If we tamper with our position, and place our financial structure in doubt, we will all suffer. How will bankers, merchants, dealers in livestock, fertilizers, automobiles, and in all other lines, know how to estimate the safety of such deals and the matter of making proper collections? And on the other side—how will the man desiring credit and pledging his property and his good name know how to calculate on paying and saving his land, his personal property and his good name.

Another thing to remember—tobacco production will be controlled either by our control program, or by the buyers of tobacco, that is the manufacturers and the exporters. Which shall it be? Shall we control the acres and pounds, or shall the buyers? They don't want the job, and it is unfair to them to call them ugly names when they are unable to permit us to dump unlimited quantities on them at high prices and force them to pay interest, insurances, storage and other expenses on tobacco that they cannot use for a long time. We cannot change the immutable law of supply and demand, and we will pay for our folly if we try to.

If the four big companies were to pledge to pay 25 cents average for tobacco for the next five years, at the end of that time, after selling all they could, they would have on hand stock enough to last them 10 years, and we would be bogged down properly.

We have this better control plan in our hands and can carry it along indefinitely unless we foolishly act as did Esau who sold his birthright to his brother Jacob for a mess of pottage.

Only a limited amount of tobacco is and can be consumed. The manufacturers advertise over radios, in magazines, and in every other way possible. They try to put a chew, a pipe, a cigar or a cigarette in every mouth, and this

GOOD TIMES AT SANDY RIDGE

EVEN THE CHICKENS AND THE COWS ARE ENJOYING LIFE—PLENTY OF HOG AND HOMINY AND CHRISTMAS AROUND THE CORNER.

Will R. Stovall, newly elected constable in the Sandy Ridge community, was in town Monday to give his bond and be sworn in as an officer of Stokes county.

Mr. Stovall feels very thankful to his many friends for giving him such a nice vote. He says he will not be stuck up at all, and will serve the people to the best of his ability. He promises to speak to common people when he meets them in the road, and will be good.

Mr. Stovall says times are good at Sandy Ridge. There is more meat to be killed by the farmers than ever before, and most of the people have raised plenty of hog and hominy and feed for their stock. There is a general feeling of good times. Farmers have sold their tobacco for good prices, and while some few of them are dissatisfied over their marketing allotments, Mr. Stovall believes that "control" will carry again, as he says it will not do to say to the government: "We don't want you to help us," and go back to the old ways again when everybody raised all he could plant and nobody got anything much for his tobacco.

Mr. Stovall says that the chickens and the cows feel the good times, and he has an old rooster that can't wait for day to come, but crows all night, while the old cow switches her tail, chews her cud contentedly and is anxious for the flies to come back so she can fight.

Rev. J. A. Joyce

While extending the cordial hand of fellowship to H. H. Brown of King, new county commissioner, the absence of Rev. J. A. Joyce from the board is noted with regret. Mr. Joyce is a gentleman of splendid integrity, and his service to the county's interests is appreciated by the citizenship. He declined to be a candidate for reelection in the late primary. His successor, Henry Brown, is well known for his fine qualities of patriotism, judgment and sincere purpose in the management of the county's business.

is all they can do to consume.

The beauty of our plan is that the men at its head know how many pounds are held in stock, and how many pounds to grow to supply the demand, and they set the quotas accordingly. The tobacco is fed to the manufacturers just like a self-feeding machine feeds itself automatically. It is a worthy and workable plan. To be sure, the plan is not perfect, but will be improved as we carry it along. The first automobiles put on the market were far from perfection. But by correcting weak points, they are now a wonderful piece of machinery.

Things happen in our churches and schools that irk us, but shall we destroy them and lapse back into heathenism—not at all.

Let us rise up on the 10th and all vote to maintain our enviable position, and safeguard our property and our families and our high standards of living. We need a rousing vote to off-set the votes against it from other states. We must carry by 66 2-3 majority to win.

Yours for control by growers. Dec. 5, 1938.

I. M. GORDON.
Pilot Mountain, North Carolina.

NEXT SATURDAY'S TOBACCO ELECTION

COUNTY AGENT BROWN EXPLAINS RULES FOR VOTING—TEN POLLING PLACES—WHO IS ENTITLED TO VOTE

Rules for determining eligibility of farmers to vote in the tobacco crop control referendum next Saturday, December 10, have been outlined by County Farm Agent, J. F. Brown as follows:

1. Farmers who were engaged in the production of flue-cured tobacco in 1938 as owner-operator, cash tenant, standing-rent or fixed-rent tenant, or landlord of a share tenant or as share tenant or sharecropper, are eligible to vote in the referendum.

2. No flue-cured tobacco farmer (whether an individual, partnership, corporation, firm, association, or other legal entity) shall be entitled to more than one vote in the referendum, even though he may have been engaged in 1938 in the production of flue-cured tobacco in two or more communities, counties or states.

3. There'll be no voting by mail, proxy, or agent, but a duly authorized officer of a corporation, firm, association or other legal entity or a duly authorized member of a partnership may cast its vote.

4. In case several persons, such as husband, wife and children, participated in the production of flue-cured tobacco in 1938 under the same rental or cropping agreement or lease, only the person or persons who signed or entered into the rental or cropping agreement of lease shall be eligible to vote.

5. In the event two or more persons engaged in producing flue-cured tobacco in 1938 not as members of a partnership but as tenants or as owners of community property, each such person is entitled to vote.

There will be ten polling places in the county, each open at 8 a. m. and close at 5 p. m. Mr. Brown said. He said the three committees of each township would serve as election officials at the polling places. The townships and polling places were announced as follows:

Big Creek township, Sam Mole's store, Francisco; Beaver Island township, Dillard school; Danbury township, Court house, Danbury; Meadows township, Palmyra school; Peter's Creek township, Lawsonville school; Quaker Gap township, Reynolds school; Sauratown township, Fulton-Davis store, Walnut Cove; Snow Creek township, Sandy Ridge school; Upper Yadkin township, Pinnacle school (Farmers living on the upper side of Little Yadkin River will vote at Pinnacle.); Lower Yadkin township; King school. (All other farmers in Yadkin township will vote at King.)

It is important that farmers in Yadkin township take note that the Little Yadkin River is the dividing line between the two voting districts in the township. All tobacco in '38 are urged to go to the polls on the question of tobacco Stokes county farmers who grew marketing quotas for 1939.

Both For Control

A. H. Kallam of Lawsonville and G. W. Stevens of Francisco—prominent farmers of their respective sections—dropped in the Reporter office today, renewing their subscriptions to the Reporter.

Both of these gentlemen were strong for tobacco control.

Easley Joyce, who has been spending several days here, will leave Sunday to resume his duties with the naval academy at Annapolis, Maryland.

KING HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING

WORK ON NEW ADDITION IS GOING ALONG RAPIDLY—MARRIAGES—BIRTHS—OTHER NEWS.

King, Dec. 7.—Work on the new addition to the high school building is going along at a rapid rate.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Vaughn and Mrs. J. H. Knight have returned from Greensboro where they visited relatives and friends.

Ode Cromer and Miss Marh-jane Barr were united in the holy bonds of Matrimony Sunday. Mrs. Everette Stone was host at a miscellaneous shower given Mrs. Dwight Tuttle, a recent bride, at the Women's Club house Saturday night. Mrs. Tuttle was before her marriage Miss Thelma Newsum, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cladie Newsum, of King. She was the recipient of many nice presents.

Some nice porkers are being slaughtered in and around King. Johnny, the small son of Mr. and Mrs. Rober Hooker, who has been very sick from an attack of pneumonia, is recovering nicely.

Ralph Jennings of Greensboro was here Saturday looking after some business matters.

Edwin Alridge and son, Julius, have returned from a trip to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where they visited Edwin's brother Walter, who was reared here.

Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Hauser of Tobaccoville announce the marriage of their daughter, Lillie Mae, to Mr. Nelson Goodwin, November 19th, at Danville, Va., with the Rev. Carter officiating. Mr. Goodwin is the son of the late Thomas and Della Hendrix Goodwin. The young couple will make their home in King where Mr. Goodwin holds a position.

The following births were recorded here last week: To Mr. and Mrs. Austin Well, a daughter; to Mr. and Mrs. Grover Davis, a daughter; to Mr. and Mrs. Alford Smith, a son; to Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Hill, a daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. Renegar Robertson, a daughter.

Walter Morefield, planter of the Bethel section, was here Saturday on business.

Misses Emma Spainhour and Rena Bennett have returned from a visit to friends in High Point.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Edwards and son, Billy, have returned home to Winston-Salem after visiting Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Edwards and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Sprinkle.

Death of

Mrs. J. J. Stephens

Mrs. J. J. Stephens, 62, died last week at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Will Boles at Pine Hall. She had been ill for some time.

Surviving are six daughters, Mrs. Dewey Reid, Mrs. Noah Reid and Mrs. Will Boles, of Pine Hall; Mrs. John Stultz, of Walnut Cove; Mrs. Charlie Tuttle, of German-ton; and Mrs. Clarence Neal, of Belevs Creek; and four sons, Tom and Arthur Stephens, of Pine Hall; Frank Stephens, of Walnut Cove; and Jonah Stephens, of Madison.

The funeral was held at Clear Springs Baptist Church Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Elders J. Watt Tuttle, J. A. Farg and W. J. Brown, conducted the services. Burial was in the church graveyard.

FLASH

STOKES FARMERS WILL VOTE FOR TOBACCO CONTROL—BIG REACTION LAST TWO WEEKS—WORK AND WIN.

The Reporter learns on good authority that every section of the county is reacting for Tobacco Control.

The election next Saturday will result in a large majority for Control.

Two weeks ago it was doubtful. Today there is no doubt.

It takes two-thirds majority before the government will take hold.

Get out and work, sunrise to sunset.

OFFICERS SWORN IN MONDAY

SHERIFF, CLERK, CORONER AND CONSTABLES GIVE BONDS—COUNTY CITIZENS PRESENT—HOWARD GIBSON CHAIRMAN OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Monday at the regular meeting of the county commissioners, officers chosen at the late Nov. 3 election, both new and old, were sworn in for their respective terms.

John Taylor and Dr. W. E. Braswell, elected 4-year terms as Sheriff and Coroner respectively, of Stokes county, were sworn in and gave bonds. The Sheriff's was \$57,000.00.

Watt Tuttle, elected on a 4-year term, was sworn in and gave his bond in the sum of \$30,000.

H. H. Brown as commissioner in place of J. A. Joyce, was sworn in for 2 years. In the re-organization of the new board, Howard Gibson was elected chairman. Mr. Joyce was not present.

W. H. Hampton, of Meadows township; Rufus Mabe of Peter's Creek township and W. R. Stovall of Snow Creek township were sworn in as constables, and gave bonds of \$500.00 each.

Quite a crowd of citizens from every section of the county witnessed the installation of the officers.

Clerk of the Court J. Watt Tuttle administered the bonds of each of the incoming officers. Himself was sworn in by a magistrate.

James Mabe Gets Five Years For White Slavery

James Mabe was convicted in Federal court at Greensboro this week and sentenced to serve five years in Atlanta prison for enticing Nell Mabe, his 15-year-old sister-in-law across State boundaries for immoral purposes.

The girl, who was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Mabe, admitted she accompanied him willingly. Consequently James was not prosecuted for kidnaping, but was tried under the Mann white slavery act.

Will George, Sam Jessup and Elmer Shelton—all three deputy sheriffs of Big Creek township—visited Danbury Monday.