

## Settles For Two Crops of Tobacco This Month

General Manager Patterson Explains Settlement To Be Made Old Bright Belt Members on 1922 and 1923 Crops March 16

(By R. R. Patterson, General Manager.)

As you know the association is to make final settlement on the Old Belt 1922 crop of tobacco, and on 35 grades of the 1923 crop of tobacco. This final settlement is to be made on the 16th of March.

There are certain facts which I wish to call to your attention regarding both of these settlements. I am going to treat the 1922 crop first and am making very definite statements regarding this crop.

First: The association has paid to its members on 25 of the grades of the 1922 crop more than these grades were sold for; or, in other words, the members of the association have been overpaid on these 25 grades.

Second: That on 27 grades of the Old Belt, 1922 crop, the members have not received as much as these grades sold for and have been underpaid.

Third: That where a member of the association produced and delivered an average normal crop of tobacco, these over-payments and under-payments will practically balance.

Fourth: That where an exceptionally good crop of tobacco has been produced and delivered, the member of the association will have been over paid.

Fifth: Where a low grade crop of tobacco has been produced and delivered to the association, the member will have been under paid.

Sixth: In instances where the account of a member balances, the member of the association will have actually received his money and we need not discuss this account.

Seventh: In instances where the members have been over paid, it is the policy of the association to charge this over-payment against that particular member's account, deducting it from amounts invested by the particular member in common stock of the warehousing corporations, and from the commercial reserve which has been contributed by that member.

Eighth: Where under-payments on total accounts have been made, checks will be forwarded to these members of the association.

Ninth: You will doubtless want explanations of how this whole matter occurred. I want to call your attention to the fact that no one in any of these instances is a loser, but has or will receive every cent for which his tobacco has been sold, less reasonable and legitimate deductions for expenses of the association; or, he will repay any over-payment from his warehouse and commercial reserve deductions. This matter should alarm no one.

Now, as to the explanation of how this occurred: The entire system of handling the tobacco of members of the association on co-operative basis was a new one with us when we began to receive tobacco of the 1922 crop. It was necessary to establish our grades. This was a difficult job. Some transfers and adjustments of grades had to be made. Methods of keeping accounts were entirely new and we had to evolve or work out a system adequate to meet the handling of accounts of the members of the association.

There was an urgent demand from members of the association for as rapid payments as it was possible to make, and the association paid to its members money borrowed as a first advance and subsequent and future payments as rapidly as money was derived from sales, or equities in tobacco permitted. On this basis of payment, we were paying our members as money was being accumulated, rather than waiting until such a time as the total pool was disposed of and its actual average per grade had been determined. In our final settlement, these percentages did not hold good on each grade pool, and we find we have over paid on a portion of the grades, or paid the members more than the amount for which this grade of tobacco was sold. This was unfortunate.

Present plans and policies of the association and resolutions adopted by the board of directors will prevent a recurrence of a payment of this kind, for the reason that grade accounts will be kept against each grade of tobacco delivered to the association

and members will be paid in accordance with the net average per grade value of tobacco which they deliver to the association. As a further precaution and benefit to the members of the association, grades will be settled quarterly as they are disposed of.

The quarterly payments and statements will adequately take care of and in the future prevent a recurrence of this kind.

In 1923, we had the second largest production of tobacco ever known in Virginia, North and South Carolina, being second only to the crop of 1920 and being a total of 615,000,000 pounds. It was thought advisable, and an urgent demand came from the members of the association, that its directors and officials put forth every effort to secure as high a first advance as possible.

The bankers' valuation committee had had a year's experience with the handling and operation of the Tobacco Growers Co-operative Association; had dealt with its business management and had developed confidence in its business managers. In consideration of this confidence and the experience of the previous year, a very liberal advance was given the members of the association.

We maintained this average throughout the season, even though there was much variation in the prevailing prices of tobacco. The crop turned out to be much larger than farmers, tobaccoists or any one else assumed that the 1923 crop would be. We have sold 35 grades of the 1923 crop at an average of 91.21 per cent of the bankers' valuations in cash and your investment in the warehousing corporations and the commercial reserve to the amount of 2.859 per cent. Thus, we have either given you in cash or have invested for you in capital stock of your organization 94.076 per cent of the bankers' valuations which was a liberal valuation on the tobacco when the total size of the crop was finally calculated.

We have secured the highest prices possible to obtain, when the size of the crop is fully realized and considered and with the additional fact that during the year 1923, two of the largest purchasers of tobacco produced in this area maintained practically a boycott against the Tobacco Growers Co-operative Association. In saying that a boycott was maintained, I refer particularly and specifically to the fact that the American and Imperial Tobacco Companies purchased none of the tobacco delivered to the association of this year's crop.

There has been for each of the different pools a sales committee composed of three directors appointed by the association, and these committees have passed and approved of all sales made by the sales department.

In my opinion and in my experience as a tobaccoist, having had a long period of service in the trade, we have secured for our members a fair price for the 1923 crop of tobacco and have made a record for our association which we should all be proud of and which the members of the association should recognize as being of material benefit to them.

## Dies on Trip Around World

Morganton, March 9.—A cablegram received here today from Shanghai, China, brought news of the death of J. C. Taylor. The message simply announced that Mr. Taylor had died of pneumonia in Shanghai and requested instructions as to the disposition of the body.

Mr. Taylor left Morganton about the 15th of January for a trip around the world, a journey to which he had been looking forward for more than a year. He was a student and reader and enjoyed travel very much.

For the past ten years Mr. Taylor had resided in Morganton, coming here in 1915 from Chapel Hill to make his home with his aunt, the late Miss Marriett Cole.

He had followed his profession as chemist and engineer in several states finally returning to Chapel Hill to locate, remaining there until he retired from business.

The body will be brought to New Bern for burial. It will likely take six or seven weeks for it to reach North Carolina.

## Postage Rates Will Be Higher

New Schedule Becomes Effective April 15

After That Date Two Cents Will Be Required to Send Post Cards—Other Changes

Copies of the new schedule of postal rates, to become effective April 15, have been received by J. B. Sparger, postmaster in this city.

Under the new schedule, postal rates on all post cards, whether they bear written or printed matter, will be two cents. This rate also obtains for double or "reply" post cards on the initial portion. When the "reply" portion is detached and mailed, two cents will also be required for this.

There will be no change in the rate on government postal cards nor on any other mail of the first class.

Charges for domestic money orders, for amounts not in excess of \$100, will be: Amounts not exceeding \$2.50, five cents; above \$2.50 and not exceeding \$5; seven cents; above \$5 and not exceeding \$10, ten cents; above \$10 and not exceeding \$20, 12 cents; above \$20 and not exceeding \$40, fifteen cents; above \$40 and not exceeding \$60, eighteen cents; above \$60 and not exceeding \$80, twenty cents; above \$80 and not exceeding \$100, twenty-two cents.

After the new schedule becomes effective April 15, mail of the third class will embrace all matter now included in the third and fourth classes up to and including eight ounces in weight, while the new fourth class will include all matter formerly in third and fourth classes over eight ounces in weight and not exceeding 70 pounds in the first, second and third zones, and not exceeding 50 pounds when mailed for delivery in any of the other zones.

The rate of postage on all matter embraced in the new third class will be one and one-half cents for each two ounces up to and including eight ounces in weight, except the rate on books, catalogues, seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, scions and plants shall continue to be one cent for each two ounces on parcels not exceeding eight ounces in weight.

The present fourth class pound rates, according to distance or zone, will apply to all matter weighing more than eight ounces, except that of the first and second classes and in addition thereto there will be a service charge of two cents for each parcel except upon parcels originating on rural routes, such charge to be prepaid in the same manner as the regular postage. Parcels mailed on rural routes should be endorsed "mailed on rural route," in order that the parcels will show that they are exempt from the service charge.

## TWO AVIATORS SAVED BY THEIR PARACHUTES

First Time in History Men in Aerial Collision Escaped With Lives

San Antonio, Texas, March 7.—For the first time in the history of aviation, according to local Army aviators parachutes Friday saved the lives of two fliers who crashed in mid-air.

The pilots, Lieutenant C. D. McAllister and Cadet Charles A. Lindberg, students of the advanced flying school at Kelly Field, were flying at the time of the accident in a nine ship formation, simulating an attacking in V-shaped formation. The flier by Lieutenant Russel L. Maughan at an altitude of 5,000 feet.

The pursuit fliers came down from above in diving attack, three ships attacking in V-shaped formation. The first and second formations had pulled away and the third formation, with Cadet P. R. Love in the lead, divided for the attack.

As Cadet Love pulled away from the slower observation ship, Cadet Lindberg passed almost directly beneath it while Lieutenant McAllister attacked from the west side at the same time. The ships came together as the pilots began to regain altitude approximately 200 yards in front of Lieutenant Maughan's plane. Cadet Lindberg was the first to clear the falling ships.

The pilots fell several hundred feet before they pulled the rip-cords opening their parachutes. A moment later the wrecked ships hurtled by them, bursting into flames as they crashed to earth, and were destroyed.

## ORDERS REMOVAL OF ENTIRE TOWN

Bustling Oil Community in Wyoming Must Find New Home in Sixty Days

Cheyenne, Wyo., March 6.—The town of Lavoys literally was wiped off the map of Wyoming today and its 1,500 residents deprived of their homes by a ruling of Federal Judge T. Blake Kennedy, who ordered that the entire village and its populace must be moved in order to make a clear path for a giant of industry—petroleum.

Public buildings, business houses, homes—everything—must go, for Judge Kennedy decreed that the Ohio Oil Company, which leased the land on which the town is located from the Government, is entitled to full possession within 60 days. On April 21, 1924, he held that the town had been established without legal basis, but did not provide for enforcement of a removal order.

Today's decision means that if any sign of the town is left in 60 days, those responsible will be subject to citation for contempt of court. Lavoys is a modern incarnation of the typical boom mining town of the old West. Prosperity has been general since the town was established in 1920 and the hundreds of men employed in the breathless rush for oil spent as freely as they earned.

Lavoys is located in the heart of the Big Salt Creek oil field. It puffed up between patches of alkali and sage brush almost overnight, forty miles north of Casper, when oil drilling called hundreds of men in that vicinity. In 1922 it took on another spurt of growing which continued until 1923, and it still is the same bustling village, having one large mercantile establishment, three weekly newspapers, numerous motion picture theatres, automobile agencies and other institutions of work and play which the pleasure-seekers demand.

Like the mushroom town that it is, its buildings are flimsy—hastily thrown together shacks for the most part—and easily can be demolished. It is expected that the business interests of the town will be transferred mostly to Salt Creek, a nearby oil town.

## AFRAID OF DYING TAKES OWN LIFE

Columbia Student, Unable to Conquer Fear, Kills Self

New York, March 9.—Henry Mead, a Columbia student at Columbia university, was unable after 12 years to conquer his fear of death, so today he killed himself, leaped to the street from the window of his dormitory room on the sixth floor of Hartley hall. He had received the degree of Ph. D. at Brown university in 1922, and was studying for a doctor's degree in dramatic literature. He had registered home addresses at both Fall River, Mass., and Brooklyn. He was 25.

Mead left four notes behind, one addressed to Dr. G. Alfred Lawrence, a neurologist here, said:

"You have failed."

Another addressed to "my mother," read:

"You might try to console yourself with the knowledge that I consider this act necessary for my happiness, and that whatever pleases me would be pleasing to you."

Dr. Lawrence described Mead as possessing two conflicting personalities. One was distinguished by high hopes and ambition, the other was a "fear" complex—a dread of death before his time.

The police found three bottles of a poisonous liquid in Mead's room which poisonous liquid in Mead's room which led them to believe he had considered suicide by poisoning before he finally decided on the window. His cot was in disarray as if he tossed on it most of the night planning out his last decision.

## Patrick County Youth Must Spend His Life in Prison

Danville, Va., March 7.—John Wagoner, a Patrick county youth indicted several months ago of the brutal murder of Ada Whaling, a 15-year-old girl who was shot through the body has been convicted in the Patrick circuit court held at Stuart and sentenced to serve the rest of his life in the state penitentiary. Wagoner was arraigned before a jury before which he pleaded guilty. The facts were submitted and the jury permitted to fix the penalty whose life imprisonment. Fletcher Whitlock and Claud Boyd indicted as accomplices in the murder remain to be tried.

## Five Bills That Women Supported Were Beaten

North Carolina Council Secretary Declares Organization Is Not Discouraged, However, As She Prepares To Close Headquarters

Raleigh, Mar. 8.—Although defeated in each of the five instances where it sought to persuade the Legislature of North Carolina to provide greater safeguards for child, home and social life, the legislative council of North Carolina women will close its third session with the adjournment of the present General Assembly not at all discouraged, according to Mrs. Mary O. Cooper, executive secretary who is preparing to close headquarters maintained in the Sir Walter for this term.

Five bills were sponsored by the council. Each met defeat at the hands of the legislators.

### Bills for Homes and Children

"Our program this year was directed mainly of bills relating directly to our homes and children," said Mrs. Cooper in explanation of the measures advocated. "Although they were not chosen with this consciously in mind. Both environment and tradition have made it natural for us to think in terms of the home even in legislative matters."

Two of the bills dealt with removing objectionable persons from society by providing a reformatory school for colored girls and an establishment of a farm colony for women offenders older than those received at Samarcand. A bill requiring marriage banns to be published two weeks before marriage, and a bill limiting the working day of children under 16 to eight hours in industrial and mercantile pursuits were also included in the program, and a State-wide Australian ballot law.

### Australian Ballot Bill

The Australian ballot bill was one of the most popular and hardest fought measures sponsored by the council. It was referred to the Committee on Elections and reported unfavorably, but the House accepted the minority favorable report. It was finally defeated by a vote of 55 to 56.

The Australian system provides for absolute privacy in voting. All ballots are printed under the direction of public officials at public expense, and are distributed at the polling places by legally appointed officials. Each ballot contains on a single sheet the names of all candidates nominated by any political party. On the back of each ballot is an official endorsement and a detachable number stub. After the stub number has been compared with the number written by his name in the voting book, it is detached and the ballot placed in the box. It is said to be quicker than the old way of voting, and is now in use in one form or another in all the States in the Union except North and South Carolina.

The bill limiting the working day of children under 16 to eight hours in industrial and mercantile pursuits was killed in the committee with an almost unanimous vote.

The bill providing for a reformatory school for girls and an establishment for women offenders older than those received at Samarcand were referred to the Public Welfare Committee and reported favorably, but later re-referred to the Appropriation Committee and reported unfavorably.

### Marriage Banns Bill

The Judiciary Committee reported the bill providing for the publishing of marriage banns two weeks before marriage favorably, but the House tabled the bill. It was recalled and tabled the second time. This bill was urged by the council because "we believe that many hasty and ill-advised marriages would be prevented and consequent divorces if there were a legal requirement that marriage banns be published two weeks before marriage."

### Privacy in Voting

After the defeat of the Australian ballot bill another bill requiring the space around the polls to be roped off so as to provide a comparative degree of privacy while voting was introduced by the council, but this also was defeated.

In addition to the bills introduced by the council a program was formally endorsed to show their sympathy. The council was in no way responsible for the introduction of these bills, however. The measures endorsed were: The program of the State Board of Charities and Public Wel-

fare, the program of the committee of 100 on prison reform, more effective enforcement of the prohibition law, an educational program composed of an increase of the equalization fund, compulsory school term of eight months fixed by constitutional amendment, attainment as well as age to be made the basis for compulsory education.

At the last meeting of the council of representatives held Friday afternoon, final reports were made, and plans for the 1927 session discussed. Four representatives from each organization are chosen to make a council of representatives who direct the general management of the legislative council. This council of representatives also makes up the program from resolutions relating to legislative matters that are passed by the various organizations. When a bill is adopted by the legislative council, however, it is sponsored by all organizations belonging to the council.

## CLASH ON RULES ALMOST CERTAIN

Vice President Expected to Attempt to Curtail Debate

Washington, March 9.—A clash over the rules of the senate will come when Vice President Dawes undertakes to curtail debate. Southern senators cannot forget the old Force bill, and they are grateful to the rules of the senate for its defeat. Senator Overman is particularly opposed to making it possible for a majority to run over a minority. The gesture of Senator Oscar W. Underwood to amend the rules has raised the dander of the North Carolina senators. A row is brewing over the Underwood proposition. Senator Simmons doubts if any democrats will join him.

Old men in Washington cannot recall anything like the Dawes performance inauguration day in herding the senators to be sworn in. It was more like the branding of a lot of Texas cattle than the swearing in of dignified members of the senate. "Bring 'em all up," he said, and the galleries roared and senators waxed wrathful.

Something about the Dawes episode frightens congressmen, they fear that in a rough and tumble set-to with the vice president the public would be against them. There is a suspicion that Mr. Dawes thinks the sympathy would be on his side, and that he will continue the fight started Wednesday. Had it not been for the rules that permit unlimited debate the Muscle Shoals bill would have been passed at the last session. Right or wrong, it would have gone through. The North Carolina senators think fudging from the letters that came to them that the people considered that a bad piece of legislation.

The Dawes address, his snappy manner, and the Underwood resolution the following day have caused lots of speculation.

## Damage Asked in The Sum of \$75,000

Rockingham, March 7.—The complaint in the suit against the Yadkin River Power Co. for the death of the three Martin children, has been filed in the office of the Clerk of Court. It was reported the attorneys would ask for \$50,000 damages for each child's death, but the amount stated in the complaint is \$25,000 each—or \$75,000 altogether.

The three children 16, 11, and 9, were killed Dec. 26th near Roberdel when the older Martin boy shot to pieces an electric insulator with a shot-gun, breaking the insulator and causing the wire to fall, with result that the three children were instantly electrocuted.

## Skyscraper Church and Office Will Be Built

Dallas, Tex., March 9.—Plans for an eighteen-story combination church and office building, to be erected in the downtown district at a cost of \$2,000,000, were announced yesterday by Dr. L. D. Young, pastor of the City Temple Presbyterian church.

The City Temple congregation is divided into two controversial factions over the pastorage of Dr. Young and the new edifice will be used by the pro-Young faction.