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'Orderly Marketing' Is Dealt Hard Blow in South Carolina

Miss Kelly Blames Failure of Tobacco Co-Operatives Sign-Up to Greed, Indifference and Ignorance—Declares Co-Op Marketing Has Increased Prices in Palmetto State.

Raleigh, March 6.—While Senator W. M. Pearson was today regaling Apex farmers with stories of the recent co-operative tobacco growers' collapse, Miss Elizabeth Kelly, who quit a great state job to carry this gospel to the uttermost parts of the state, was telling why South Carolina has repudiated its record and returned to the old ways.

Miss Kelly does not accept the South Carolina fall-down as irremediable; she does not admit that the cause is dead. She probably feels that never was mass psychology moving less in the direction of enlightened self-interest than it is doing today in state and nation. One almost reads in her statement a suggestion that North Carolina leaders have not led. She gives an interesting observation on this recent breakdown. She was in it and of it, she went everywhere. The co-operatives have not quit, though they might easily enough decide that distress will come again to minister to the cause of co-operation in the marketing of a great North Carolina and South Carolina crop.

This, in part, is the way Miss Kelly sees it:

"Greed, indifference and ignorance, were the trinity of forces which crushed the recent efforts of forward looking tobacco growers in the South Carolina belt to reorganize their association for orderly marketing on a 65 per cent landlord control basis.

"The above statement is my own personal opinion based upon a careful study of the situation during the sign-up period of 90 days ending March 1. During this time I attended numbers of districts, county and local meetings of tobacco growers and of other business men all in the interest of the new sign-up. I also talked with hundreds of individuals in all kinds of business throughout the territory. Every group and individual agreed that co-operative marketing has increased and maintained an increased price for tobacco in the South Carolina belt. Almost without exception they agreed it would be a tragedy if the association to go out of existence thus placing tobacco growers at the mercy of the auction market.

But:
"1. Greed kept many large land owners from signing and kept many in other business from helping because they prefer to let the other fellow carry the burden or break under the burden since in either event this other fellow is just so much more grist for the mill which battens and fattens greed.

"2. Indifference kept many who were interested from giving active aid and support to the sign-up because they continued in the belief that 'some how' the association would continue and there was no real danger of its ceasing to function.

"3. Ignorance kept a majority of tenants from wanting orderly marketing. Landlords used this as an excuse for not signing. His ignorance is largely due to the fact that landlords and time-merchants and others who supply these tenants purposely keep the tenant misinformed because they do not want for these tenants any system of marketing that might ever free the tenant from the bondage of ruinous time prices.

"Of course, the report of the Federal Trade Commission and other well timed propaganda on the part of enemies of co-operative marketing were particularly aggravating as was the apparent lack of immediate remedial action with reference to these things on the part of the board. These things were hindrances, but a careful summary of the situation interested in income from tobacco want an association to use as a threat over the head of auction buyers and as a point of vantage from which they may bargain according to temporary price conditions on auction floors. They have not yet the vision to recognize in orderly marketing a healing agency for the galling cankerous sore which continues to be inflicted on agriculture by other business organized to despoil it. . . .

"Was the attempted sign-up in South Carolina a failure? It did fail to secure 65 per cent of the land planted in tobacco during 1925, but it did in a short campaign sign around 50 per cent which is five per cent

more than the cotton association of North Carolina states it hopes to sign in the next 18 months. Failure here simply means that the best judgment of thinking tobacco growers is that it is not wise or just to continue their association until people interested realize orderly marketing can only function properly when properly understood and adequately supported.

"What is the remedy? In my opinion there is no remedy until leaders among men and women become willing to face facts and recognize conditions. I have faith to believe that once these leaders face facts they will be shocked into constructive action in place of dallying with issues and undertakings that must remain impossible of fulfillment so long as agriculture, the chief business of the whole section, is producing no income for underwriting these issues. Perhaps this may be made clear by making an example of one North Carolina county involved in the recent attempted sign-up of Tobacco Growers association. Robeson county last year produced around ten million pounds of tobacco. The difference between pre-association average prices and average prices since the association was formed is around eight cents per pound for Robeson territory. It seems, therefore, that the association last year caused more than a half million dollars more than otherwise would have been paid for tobacco to be circulated through various channels of business in Robeson county."

FLU CLOSES NORTH WILKESBORO SCHOOL

Precautions Are Taken as Epidemic Reaches Dangerous Stage in Wilkes

North Wilkesboro, N. C., March 8.—With approximately thirty-five per cent of its student body ill with influenza, Prof. Horace Sisk, principal, today suspended the high school here until next Monday in anticipation of an improvement in conditions. No fatalities have as yet been reported, it is understood, but many have developed pneumonia.

The malady is widespread in Wilkes County, too, according to reports of conditions by many county doctors. Sheriff G. G. Elledge has two patients in his home, his two children, and one of his neighbors has three or four ill with flu. There are numerous other cases that have come to public notice. Many are fearful that it will be a repetition of the fatal year of 1918 which took a heavy toll of life here.

Moslem Swains Find Brides Too Costly

Nishniy-Novgorod, Russia, Feb. 15.—Two hundred Moslem youths, wishing to marry, petitioned the Government today to abolish the present system of "selling marriageable girls like cattle."

Complaining that times are bad and the cost of living high, the swains say they cannot pay the parents the prevailing compensation for young brides, which consists of \$100 in cash, 100 pounds of sugar, 35 pounds of butter, 4 pounds of Chinese tea, 35 pounds of honey and two pairs of shoes.

In addition to this, the bride receives from her spouse a dowry comprising ten yards of material for a coat, nine yards of satin, three woolen shawls, two pairs of shoes, a woolen neckerchief and a set of necklaces and a bracelet made of old silver coins.

Over Ton of Sugar Used at Whiskey Run

Jonesboro, March 6.—Deputy Sheriff Alton Grace and Jailer Zeb Hunter captured a still of 50 gallon capacity in Pocket Township Friday.

The negro blockader who was very busily engaged in making things ready for a "run" had the surprise of his life when he turned around and saw the approaching officers.

A "run" was then made but it was by the frightened negro disappearing through the tall timbers and not the liquor. 21 bags of sugar, containing 100 pounds each had been emptied into 2,500 gallons of beer.

The officers estimate the sugar and beer would have made \$3,000.00 worth of moonshine.

LOW GAP VS. ENNICE ROUTE

Grayson Gazette, Galax, Va.

David Crockett had a motto "be sure you are right and then go ahead," which is a splendid one to follow in building roads as well as in other undertakings. Enough bonds cannot be issued to build both roads, then the question naturally arises which route would best serve its purpose to the tax-payers of the Old Town District for they are the ones who must put up the money. All of us would like to see both roads built, and built they will be in time. Since we can get but one road now every citizen and taxpayer should be interested in seeing his money expended where it will serve to the best advantage to the district as a whole.

As we see it the facts in the premises are about as follows: The Low Gap road, about eight miles in length, parallels the Carroll-Grayson boundary line and the average distance between them is probably not above two miles; thus throwing the road on the edge of the district, where in the very nature of the case but a small per cent of the people of the district would be benefitted.

On the other hand the Ennice road runs through the very heart of the district and traverses the Old Town, Reavistown, Creola and Dalhart communities, and is in close touch with Round Meadows and Baywood neighborhoods.

This road would unquestionably serve more people of the district and the county than the Low Gap route possibly could. Then too, it intersects the Ennice-Sparta road thus forming a direct route to the county seat of Alleghany.

As an asset to the merchants of Galax there isn't much comparison between the two roads. The Low Gap road would bring little business which is not now coming to Galax, while the Ennice road running as it does into the very heart of Alleghany County would bring back to Galax a large part of the business of that county which has been lost to Galax since the construction of the Sparta-Elkin road.

Alleghany farmers say they prefer to come to Galax, that they have a better market here for their produce, and if there is any one thing in the world that will surely bring this business back to Galax it is the building of the Ennice road. What are the points in favor of the Low Gap road? One argument is that it will give Galax a direct outlet South, and that it would bring tourist travel our way. The Gazette would like to see all the tourist travel possible routed through Galax, but while we are building roads to accommodate tourists, and that seems to be the big idea in the minds of many what about getting roads to accommodate the farmer whose business is really the life of the town.

Many with whom we have talked are of the opinion that a good road connecting Galax and Sparta and Roaring Gap will turn more tourists this way than will a road to Low Gap. Anyway it is a matter that should be gone into from every angle and whatever is best for Galax and her trade territory should be done.

Bryan Estate More Than Half Million.

Miami, Fla., March 6.—Official appraisal of the estate of William Jennings Bryan, filed yesterday in Dade county court, placed a valuation of \$668,303.74 upon the properties of the late Congressman.

The larger portion of this amount was in real estate. The present Bryan home in Coconut Grove was valued at \$95,000, with other items including life insurance, \$12,647.53; household furniture, \$2,903.55; cash in bank \$6,827.23; stocks and bonds \$64,338.54, royalties, etc., \$992.86.

Appraisal of the estate had been in progress for several months and completion will permit immediate distribution by executors of the various bequests, many of which will go for the continuation of religious and educational work sponsored and aided by Bryan.

Three Small Boys, Watching Train, Are Instantly Killed

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 28.—Three small boys were instantly killed this afternoon when struck by a Union Pacific train. They were standing on the tracks watching a passenger train go by on a parallel track and apparently did not see a freight train coming from the opposite direction.

TEMPORARY PAROLE FOR A. W. GEORGE

Surry County Man Released to Appear as Witness in Surry

Raleigh, N. C., March 8.—A. W. George, of Surry County serving a five to seven-year term in State prison for violating the banking laws was granted a temporary parole by Governor McLean today to permit him to appear as a witness in an important case pending in Surry Court. He will be allowed his freedom until March 27.

A petition for a permanent parole for Mr. George was recently placed before the Governor and is expected to be acted on soon. He has served about two years of his sentence. For many years he was a school teacher and many of his former students have appealed to the executive in his behalf.

Jonas Allen Working Streets of Galax

Galax Gazette,
Jonas Allen, a negro of about fifty-five years of age was found guilty in the mayors court Tuesday morning of storing liquor and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 and costs and to work on the streets three months.

The negro came to Galax several months ago from Dobson, North Carolina, where it is reported he had gotten into the meshes of the Prohibition law.

The officers had been suspicious for some time that Allen's job as furnace tender for a number of Galax establishments was not his only means of support. Early Tuesday morning they got a tip that a considerable quantity of ardent spirits were stored in Allen's home, so officers Anderson and Dotson made a search and found three gallons hidden in different parts of the house.

It is very evident that this old darkey has been paid by men of a different color and of higher order of intelligence to break the laws of the land in order that their depraved appetites might be satisfied.

Sentence of Thompson Is Army Precedent

Washington, Feb. 10.—President Coolidge's action today in formally approving the court-martial death sentence imposed on Second Lieutenant John S. Thompson made a precedent in the history of the American system of military justice.

Lieutenant Thompson shot and killed Miss Audrey Burleigh of Memphis, when she was on a visit to her stepfather, an officer in the Army Medical Corps in the Philippines. He had quarreled with the girl because she had taken part in an amateur theatrical, and then fired five shots at her. He surrendered to the military authorities, pleaded guilty at the trial and the death sentence followed.

He is the first American officer ever convicted by court-martial in a peace time on a murder charge and ordered to forfeit his life.

It was not until 1916 that the articles of war authorized court-martial trial of persons in military establishments for crimes punishable by death. In that year the Ninety-second Article of War, under which Thompson was found guilty, was revised to make possible such procedure. Search of War Department records today failed to bring forth a similar case.

Advised that he had lost a long fight to save his son from being hanged, the Rev. J. Milton Thompson, Presbyterian minister, returned to his home at Far Rockaway, N. Y., without the executive clemency he had hoped to obtain from President Coolidge.

For a long time the elder Thompson waged a lone fight to prove that his son's act was the result of hereditary insanity. He obtained from a number of the officer's classmates at West Point, where Lieutenant Thompson was graduated in 1924, affidavits to show that he was unbalanced.

Finally Mr. Thompson enlisted the services of Senator Wadsworth and Representative Kindred of New York and Charles D. Hilles, Republican National Committeeman from that State. Through them also his plea was transmitted to the White House, asking for clemency on the ground that the young officer was insane.

Mr. Thompson whose wife and 17-year-old daughter are in Far Rockaway, had not seen his son since the killing of Miss Burleigh.

MOST IMPORTANT
Lawyer—I'll take hold of your case for \$50.
Client—And how much to let go if you win it?

Talks By the County Agent

By H. E. White,
Surry County Farm Demonstration Agent

This past week has been devoted to orchard development in this county. Mr. H. R. Niswonger, Extension Horticulturist, from Asheville spent four days in the county. We distributed our work over the county as much as possible to get growers to follow latest practices in orchard management with the idea of following definite plan for a number of years. Using these orchards as centers we expect to hold meetings from time to time and invite in other growers to study the effect of the practices suggested. It is impossible under the present conditions to visit every individual grower so we are trying to work thru groups of people with the idea of reaching as many growers as possible. In these meetings practical orchard management, fertilization and care are discussed. Keep in mind that we are trying to reach as many people as possible through certain definite demonstrations hoping that others will come and study the methods and results and return home and carry out the same plan in his own orchard.

The first orchard visited is owned by T. N. Woodruff, Lowgap. This orchard has been over pruned and a great deal of good fruiting wood has been cut out so we recommended the growing of more fruiting spurs and spraying also proper fertilization. With proper care we think this orchard will be producing a larger amount of fruit in a few years.

Mr. Curt Blue, White Plains is planning to sow some white sweet clover in his apple orchard with the idea of building up the fertility of the soil at the least possible expense. Sweet clover is a great soil builder and goes well with orchard management.

Mr. E. C. Bivens, near Mt. Airy is planning to grow soy beans in his orchard this year to build up the soil fertility. He is thinking seriously about liming his soil and the growing of sweet clover.

Mr. A. V. West is following the light method of pruning. Most orchards have been rather over pruned than under pruned so he is following the newer methods on pruning. Mr. Niswonger pruned several peach trees to illustrate the new method and explained the reasons back of light pruning.

Mr. Curran Smith, State Road is developing his orchard in connection with other cash crops on the farm—he is running a few dairy cows and chickens with hogs to bring in ready cash at all seasons of the year—this is an excellent idea of having some cash crops along with fruit growing.

Mr. J. M. Wood, Thurmond has a very nice orchard and is anxious to get some one to take charge of the management of it on the share basis. This orchard is just about ready to produce heavy crops and with proper fertilization, spraying and care in two or three years will be producing heavy crops. Mr. Wood asked us to help to find him a man who is willing to assume the management for a few years. He is not able to see after this himself.

It seems to me to be a very good opportunity for some one to get in the fruit business on a short notice without waiting several years before returns can be expected.

We are going to mail out letters to all orchard owners who are anxious to learn more about fruit growing. You will find a copy of this letter in another column of this paper and if you want us to send this letter to you regularly send in your name and we will put it on the mailing list. It will give timely hints as the season develops and we hope to make it as practicable as possible.

Mr. Niswonger is very optimistic about the possibility of fruit growing in this county and I hope to give in this column some more of his observations, so watch for them.

I have just received plan for making a home-made crusher for nitrate of soda. This soda crusher can be made at a low cost and will save the buying of one. This plan will be furnished to anyone who is planning to make one.

I have sent out a plan and a bill of material to Mr. Terry Beamer for a silo. Mr. Beamer is planning to have the timber cut and cured, then build the silo this summer so he can fill it with ensilage this fall. I will be glad to furnish plans and bill of material

for any one free.
Mr. Neal Hennis of the Sunset Poultry Farm has made an interesting offer to the boys and girls clubs—we quote part of his letter, "We will give two settings of eggs from our highest production and best blood strain matings to each poultry club in the county, one to a boy and one to a girl. There is no strings tied to this offer and all a boy or girl will have to do is to present their membership card at our farm to get the eggs. In this way we hope to get some really worth while producing White Leghorns in the hands of these boys and girls. To further help the boys and girls we will sell them hatching eggs from the same matings that we are giving these eggs from at \$1.00 for 15 if they will present their card when calling for them. These are the eggs that we sell and have listed at \$2.25 for 15 and this is not a scheme to sell eggs as we are paying more than this for hatching eggs not as good as these." I will be glad to furnish any member with these identification cards which are to be presented when securing these eggs by writing or seeing me.

COLE CASE REVIVES INTEREST

Hearst Papers Use It as Basis for Page Spread of Killings

Charlotte, March 9.—Echoes of the famous Cole episode at Rockingham continue to reverberate through the country, the latest outburst on the bewildering case being a page spread in the Hearst papers, which circulate from New York to San Francisco.

The feature is lavishly illustrated with photographs and pen sketches, showing large pictures of Elizabeth Cole, the girl in the case, and Bill Ormond, her sweetheart, slain last August by her wealthy father.

The article purports to be a treatise on the cheapness of human life—a "whither are we drifting?" effort—but contents itself with a review of the sensational facts, leaving conclusions to the reader.

Other Cases
The same story less prominently mentions the Wiles case in Durham—Durham, South Carolina," it asserts confidently—wherein the husband, tracked down his wife and her lover, killing them both, and—like Cole—was found not guilty of murder.

A complete history of the Cole case is given in the story, beginning with the boy-and-girl courtship between Bill Ormond and Elizabeth Cole, his departure for duty in France, his return, deaf and shattered, his desire to marry her and her father's objections, his audacious attempt to convince Cole that the laws of morality demanded that he and Elizabeth marry, Cole's placing the construction of slander and threat upon the letter—and the shooting. Cole claimed he was temporarily insane.

Damage Suit
North Carolina is before a great while to have another chapter in the affair when Rev. A. L. Ormond's suit for damages against the Rockingham cotton mill man comes up for trial. The minister, failing to get what he considered to be essential justice in criminal court, is attacking Cole's financial resources. Chief public interest, as expressed, lies in whether the trial will bring to light the letters which Elizabeth Cole wrote to Bill Ormond, these being suppressed through rules of evidence in the murder trial.

In the meantime, the Cole family, having passed through an ordeal which attracted the interest of millions of people, continues in Rockingham. No one questions the sanity of the father. He operates his cotton mill as usual. Many friends have supported him through troublesome times and among them now he finds companionship.

Flat Rock News

Mount Airy Route No. 2, Mar. 2.—Miss Myrtle Valentine student at Salem College, Winston-Salem spent the past week end with her parents here.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Deatherage, have returned to Greensboro after spending the week end with relatives here.

The "Earnest Workers" class of the Flat Rock Presbyterian Church met last Friday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Monroe, the business being dispensed with, the program was thoroughly enjoyed by all after which coffee and chicken salad were served.

The "Ever Ready Class" of the Flat Rock Presbyterian Church will meet at the home of Miss Marie Midgett Friday night 7:30 P. M. March 26th. An interesting program has been arranged for the occasion.