

The Mountain Daily News

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Tobacco Co-Op Members May Lose Four Million Dollars

Heavy Losses by "Overgrading" if Prices Fail to Go Higher.

Raleigh, Dec. 18.—Overgrading and lowered prices are responsible for an estimated reduction of more than four million dollars in the members' equity of the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association since the receivers took it in charge last June, according to the November report of the receivers, James H. Fox, Herbert S. Ward and Weston L. Corey, filed in the United States District Court yesterday.

Co-operative marketing is the only principle which will save the farmers from the ruinous prices of disorganized marketing, the receivers state in the report which goes on to say that they are conducting a thorough and continuous investigation into the management of the defunct association, and if the facts justify such a course actions will be recommended in each case.

The \$2,585,740 pounds of bright fine cured tobacco on hand November 30 was overgraded, the report states, giving the banker's valuation of this tobacco as \$5,113,703.06. The \$2,268,168 pounds of dark fired Virginia tobacco is valued at \$3,839,265.52. Not only will the market not absorb all the dark fired tobacco, but if it could be sold at the present price the receivers would sustain a loss of \$3,000,000 as compared with inventory value.

Actual loss from the sale of tobacco up to November 30 was \$466,435.22, the report states.

The report continues:

Participation Certificates.
Our statement as at November 30, 1926, shows a member's equity of \$7,255,329.00. This, as heretofore explained, being based upon valuations which cannot be maintained and which have doubtless already been reduced in a sum in excess of four million dollars.

"It is apparent, therefore, that we shall not be able to make a very large return to the grower members in accordance with our earlier expectations. Despite the probable further reductions in our inventory values, we anticipate that with the collection of the obligations due from the Warehousing Corporations, as well as the amounts yet to be realized upon the tobacco over and above the secured indebtedness, we will be able to redeem the participation certificates at some figures. We shall certainly be able to pay the entire indebtedness of the association.

"The present market conditions furnish abundant proof of the necessity for the sound development of co-operative marketing in the South. A strong, well managed association would be such a potent factor in this market as to assure greatly increased prices for the association stocks of tobacco and enhanced returns of millions of dollars to the growers upon this year's crops.

A combination of economic and market conditions and unwise management brought about the disastrous failure of this association. Receivership was inevitable. Had it been longer postponed the losses would have been materially increased. Great as the financial losses upon the grower will prove to be, even this is not so serious as their shakiness of confidence in the value of co-operative marketing and, in the business capacity of the men upon whom they must rely to manage these organizations. It is to be hoped that despite this discouragement, the tobacco growers will not permanently abandon co-operative marketing, for it is their only safe guard against the ruinous prices of disorganized marketing.

Investigation of The Management.

"Your receivers and their counsel have continuously since their appointment been mindful of the requirement of the Court of their primary appointment to investigate the management. They have, therefore, collected such information as would bear upon this question from time to time in connection with the growing organization and marketing problems.

"During the past month they have

effectuated plans for a thorough and continuous investigation of every phase of this problem. Counsel have been assigned to particular questions connected therewith, and if the facts so reported justify such course, actions will be recommended in all such cases as, if and when they are developed.

In the meantime, we believe that we should report fully upon the expenditures of the grower members' funds, and we shall, therefore, shortly file a special report setting out with some detail the items included in the very large expenditures of the Association.

Surry Officers Must Go To Prison

The Supreme Court of this state handed down an opinion last week that means the fight to clear Deputy Sheriff Simmons and Smith of this county is at an end. These two Surry county officers must now begin, within a few days, to serve a term of not less than fifteen months in the state prison for the part they played in attempt to arrest some young men, thought to be hauling liquor, near this city and in which attempt to make the arrest one of the young men was killed. The case was tried in our Superior Court and appealed to the Supreme Court. The action of the Superior court was sustained by the high court.

This case is important for the reason that it seems to settle for the present the question as to the right to arrest on suspicion. For a long time officers have gone about the country arresting men, searching their automobiles, their homes, their buggies, searching any place any time, when they thought liquor could possibly be found. So strong has been the public sentiment here against liquor and in favor of law enforcement, that all this searching without warrant was permitted so long as no serious consequences followed. But the habit soon developed among the liquor folks to step on the gas when accosted by an officer and run over him if it could be done. In return the custom soon developed among the officers to attempt to stop a car by shooting at the tires in an effort to cause punctures.

Out of this disposition to shoot some deaths have been caused, and the whole business took on a serious aspect.

The right to arrest without warrant was the main point at issue. Officers contend that if they are required to secure a warrant the liquor car is gone clear out of the country before a warrant can be written out. Liquor men and their friends, stand on the sacred rights that date back to the time when King John signed the Magna Charta at the point of the sword at Runnymede, in the year 1215, and in which agreement with his lords he pledged the right to freedom from arrest without due process of law.

Our Supreme court re-affirms all this and lays down the law that no man shall be stopped on the public highway even if he is under suspicion of being a law violator, until a warrant is issued for his arrest. The decision of the high court puts an end to making arrests, searching houses, automobiles and any other private property for liquor until a warrant is in the hands of the officer. And so this is the law of this land for the present whether you think it right or not.

There is a sacred principle in all this, men are not yet ready to have officers approach them or their homes or their automobiles and arrest them on no more evidence than a suspicion in the mind of the officer. There is a degree of humiliation in being arrested or searched that most citizens resent and are not willing to have forced upon them if it can be prevented.

WOMAN IN DEAD AT 163.

CART FIRST VOTE AT 180
Washington, Dec. 13.—Mrs. Mary Keating, a native of Ireland, who came to America when a young girl and voted for the first time at the age of 136, is dead here. She was 163 and next her last child for John W. Davie two years ago at Martinsburg, W. Va., where she will be buried.

BARS ALL DETAILS OF DIVORCE CASES IN ENGLISH PRESS

Measure Passed By House Of Commons Now Goes To The House Of Lords.

London, Dec. 11.—Newspapers are forbidden to publish the details of divorce cases under a bill which passed its third reading in the House of Commons last night and goes to the House of Lords next Monday. Reputable papers have always excluded offensive details in such cases, but as soon as the bill becomes law, it will be illegal to publish witnesses' evidence or "details injurious to the public morals."

The proprietor, editor, newspaper printer or publisher of any offending paper will be liable to four months' imprisonment and a fine of \$2,500,000.

Most of the newspapers commenting on the bill thus far welcome it as making for a cleaner press. The Daily Mail points out, however, that one of the results may be to make divorce commoner because of the secrecy. The Westminster Gazette attacks the measure on the ground that it curtails freedom of the press, and that the open trial system is one of the safeguards of justice.

The bill will not affect the importation of foreign papers carrying details of foreign divorces unless they are indecent. It covers the reports of English proceedings in foreign papers, however, if such papers are imported into England. In such cases, action could be taken against persons republishing these accounts in England or against the reporters sending the court proceedings abroad.

Should Prohibit Divorce Declares Baptist Leader.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 11.—"It would be better for them to pass a bill forbidding divorce on any grounds except on the one Scriptural ground," Dr. George W. McDaniell, of Richmond, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, declared today in commenting on the passage by the British House of Commons of a law to forbid publication of details of divorce cases.

"Until that is done," Dr. McDaniell added, "the press should of its own accord eliminate from its columns indecent publicity in connection with divorce proceedings."

IMMENSE HOG IS GROWN BY DURHAM COUNTY MAN

Durham, Dec. 12.—Meat sufficient to warrant the opening of a meat market is stocked away in the meat house of L. Tharrington, a resident of the western section of this city, through the killing of one of the largest hogs to reach the attention of The Durham Herald. The animal, slaughtered on its ninth birthday, weighed 1,035 pounds after it had been cut up.

Happenings Twenty-one Years Ago

Interesting Items Gleaned From the Files of The Mount Airy News 21 Years Ago This Week

Mr. Reid Christian and Miss Jennie Neal, of Westfield, were married last Sunday morning by Rev. R. D. Haymore at the home of the bride's parents.

Jim Rierson has been bird hunting at his old home near Walnut Cove.

A ten year old child of James Griffith was badly injured this week by a fire cracker exploding in her hand.

Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Mills, of Stateville, announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Katie Lee to Mr. Thomas Garnet Fawcett, of Mount Airy. The marriage will take place the latter part of January. Miss Mills is one of Stateville's most popular young ladies. Mr. Fawcett is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fawcett and has a position in the First National Bank of which his father is president. Garnet is the people know him, is one of the most popular young men in the city.

Last Thursday afternoon a boy named Timothy Bray, aged 13 years, accidentally shot and killed his friend, Jesse Gates, at the home of the boy's father, Robert Bray. They were in the house and the boy was in the act of taking shells from the gun when it was accidentally discharged, the lead falling off in Gates' breast killing him almost instantly. The boy is almost crazed with grief

SHOT BY HIS WIFE IN CRITICAL FLIGHT

Brevard Man Wounded By Wife Second Time; She Declined Suicide Pact.

Asheville, Dec. 9.—Lying at the point of death for the second time in six months as a result of bullet wounds from a revolver in the hands of his wife, Dave Henry, prominent Brevard automobile man, for the second time takes the blame for the shooting, declaring that no culpability should devolve upon the mother of his three children, as a result of the affair.

The fact that Mrs. Henry refused to enter a suicide pact with him was revealed today when she told officers that "the last time he came home" he asked her to die with him. This time his visit ended in a pistol duel with his wife having the better of the argument.

Henry is at a local hospital in a critical condition. He believes that he is going to die as a result of the second wound through his lungs in six months. On the last occasion, which occurred in July, he lingered between life and death for weeks before finally recovering slowly.

In Terror For Years.

The story of how the frail little woman, member of a prominent Leicester family and the mother of three children, has been living in mortal terror of her husband was revealed today in her conversations with Sheriff Lawrence E. Brown. She declared that she has feared for her life for five years as a result of an alleged homicide mania on the part of her husband, who operates a large automobile establishment in Brevard.

On the last occasion she shot him in self-defense and the affair was accepted as such. This time she also claims self-defense, and witnesses state that when Henry approached the door of her father's home, where she was with her children, she refused to open the screen door and he drew a gun and began firing at her. She secured a pistol, according to the witnesses, and returned the fire.

Asked For Officer.

One strong point in her self-defense plea is the fact that upon hearing that her husband was coming to her father's home where she was staying, she called the sheriff's office and asked that a detective be sent to protect her. The officer arrived, but saw no sign of violence until he heard the sound of the shots from his position at the store across the street.

Tax on Electric Users Proposed by George Ross.

Raleigh, Dec. 12.—Take the ad valorem road and school tax off land and put a tax on electric power collected from householders burning electric lights. This was the suggestion of George Ross, chief of the state bureau of markets, to increase state revenue and relieve county taxpayers.

Not Guilty of Manlaughter Charge Against Two Youths

HOLDING GIRL ON ROBBERY CHARGE

Governor's Stenographer Accused of Bold Hold-up of Bank in Texas.

Austin, Texas, Dec. 11.—Rebecca Bradley, stenographer in the office of Attorney General Dan Hooley, governor-elect, and graduate of Texas University, working on her Master's Degree, was taken into custody here tonight in connection with the robbery of the Farmers' Exchange Bank at Buda Saturday noon.

Chief of Police J. N. Littlepage said that charges of robbery were to be filed against the girl. He said that she had been identified by Cashier S. A. Jamison and Waymon Howe, bookkeeper, whom she is alleged to have locked in the vault of the bank.

Upon learning of the arrest, Mrs. G. E. Bradley, the girl's mother, instituted habeas corpus proceedings. The writ was granted by Judge James R. Hamilton, of the 53rd District Court, who ordered Chief of Police Littlepage, Sheriff W. G. Miller and Ranger Frank Hamer to produce the girl in court at 11 o'clock tonight.

Mrs. Bradley charged that her daughter was being illegally restrained.

A mere slip of a girl, alone and unmasked, robbed the Farmers' National Bank at Buda, a typical "main street" town near here, of an undetermined amount of money.

Calmly the girl walked into the bank, posed as a newspaper woman and borrowed a typewriter in the rear of the building. When all but two employes had left for lunch the girl of about 17 whipped out a revolver from a coat pocket and robbed the institution. After locking Cashier Jamison and Raymond Howe, bookkeeper, in the vault, the flapper bandit escaped in her coupe.

Officers said the girl got away with between \$1,200 and \$2,400.

The woman was described as a quietly dressed, slender brunette, weighing from 110 to 115 pounds. She appeared at the bank an hour before the robbery and told officials she had been sent to write an article about the town of Buda, which has a population of about 300. She chatted with half a dozen or more visitors and waited until all customers had left at noon. Jamison and Howe were preparing to go to lunch when she suddenly drew a gun from her coat and commanded: "Stand where you are."

Jamison was just coming out of the vault. Howe was in his cage at the bookkeeper's window. "Move over closer to him," she commanded Howe. He obeyed. The woman then ordered both men into the vault.

She told Jamison to unlock the safe. "Dig that money out" she commanded, her gun leveled at Jamison's head, with Howe also in front of its muzzle.

Jamison handed out two packages of currency, each containing \$1,200. Another he dropped to the floor without the girl seeing it.

She then slammed and locked the door, leaving the men inside. Persons on the street, who had not suspected the robbery said they saw her easily enter her coupe and drive away on the post road toward Austin.

With a screw driver, Jamison and Howe succeeded in opening the vault door from the inside within ten minutes and immediately telephoned officers at Austin and other towns.

High School Opens at Flat Rock.

The boys and girls of the Flat Rock district felt somewhat grand December the first, when they walked into their new high school building. This school is supplied with two high school teachers this year, and there were twenty-eight present in the high school the first day. Others have come in since, making a total of thirty-two. The membership of the school are working to arrange to make the average in a standard that will entitle them to a degree. They are looking to make it a second-year degree, being high school work the first year.

Dobson, Dec. 12.—The following couples received marriage licenses at the register of deeds office the past week: John G. Cook, Pilot Mountain, to Letha Boyles, King; G. E. Hamner, to Ethel Scott, both Shooks; Herbert Falk, Fincastle, to Kate Marion, Shooks; Rufus Jordan, to Beaula Johnson, both Mount Airy; William Byrd, to Irene McCraw, both Mount Airy; Marion Graybill, to Elsie Proba, both Mount Airy; John Deamer, to Mary Hill, both Mount Airy; Burton Manning, Winston-Salem, to Cora Brown, Pilot Mountain; Henry Graham, to Connie Rowley, Surry County.

A two weeks term of Surry Superior Court came to a close Friday night, with a large number of cases disposed of during the term. Judge Hiram L. Godwin, presided and Solicitor E. Pater Graves presented the criminal docket. The last case of any importance disposed of was that of State vs. Sam McKnight, of Mount Airy, charged with manslaughter, the jury after deliberating over the matter for a short time returned a verdict of not guilty. McKnight accidentally ran over Dave Adels, colored, of Mount Airy, last July while driving a Ford touring on Rockford Street. Attorneys representing the state were W. L. Bece, Oaker Welta and E. C. Freeman, Jr. John H. Folger, of Mount Airy, represented the defendant. William Cornwell, the 14 year old son of Mrs. Harrison Brooks, of near Mount Airy, plead guilty to involuntary manslaughter, several months ago he accidentally shot James Meredith, son of Mrs. Cora Meredith, of near Mount Airy, age 9 years, while playing with a small pistol. The judgment of the court was that the boy's parents pay the hospital bills, funeral expenses, and costs of the action. Another case that consumed several hours of the court's time was that of State vs. Cornwell Corn, charged with seduction. The jury returned a verdict of guilty. The next term of Surry Superior Court begins on January 10th, for a two weeks term, for the trial of a civil cases only.

W. L. Bece, attorney, is attending court at Yadkinville this week.

Rev. M. B. Phillips, of Mount Airy, assisted by Rev. Mr. McCarter, of Mount Airy, began a ten days revival meeting last night at the Dobson Baptist Church.

Miss Lula Davenport, of Mount Airy, spent the week end with her sister Mrs. Early Collins.

Mr. H. E. White returned home Sunday from Raleigh where he spent a week attending a county farm agents conference at State College.

The condition of A. D. Folger, attorney who has been a patient at the Martin Memorial Hospital, Mount Airy, for the past three weeks shows much improvement. It is thought that a few more days of rest and he will be able to return to his home here.

Members of the Junior Epworth League enjoyed a social Saturday evening at the home of Mrs. Rufus Tilley. Miss Eliza Capehart, leader, directed the games and contests participated in during the evening. Later in the evening delicious refreshments were served to those present.

The Baptist Young Peoples Union organizations of our country will meet at the Dobson Baptist Church, Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, Dec. 19th, for the purpose of organizing a county wide union. Every organization in the county is expected to send 5 delegates to this meeting.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Festus Leno, of Stateville, Thursday, a son.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. William Dudley, Friday, Dec. 10th, of Salem Fork, a daughter.

Mr. Walter Scoble, of Buda, was a recent visitor here with his daughter Mrs. S. R. Coakley.

Notice

On Dec. 13th, at 9 P. M., in front of my garage in Mount Airy, N. C. will sell at public auction for cash one Buick coach belonging to Mark Robinson to satisfy a judgment and storage on same in the amount of \$37.75. All the same time and place will also sell one Oakland touring car belonging to Joe Wells to satisfy a judgment and storage charges to the amount of \$23.20.

Sales made in equity and debt, and cost of sale to be paid.

The Dec. 11, 1926.

T. J. Brantley, Mount Airy, N. C.