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BE SURE THAT YOU DON'T KILL THE GOOSE THAT LAID THE GOLDEN EGG

The Farmers Are Burning Plant Beds and Are Preparing For a Bumper Crop Next Year—There is Danger in Overproduction.

Men who study the markets of the world because they must do so for their own guidance in buying and in risking vast sums of money in investment are generally of the opinion that the part of wisdom for grower, dealer and manufacturer of tobacco demands that the 1919 crop, to be planted in a few months, shall be no larger in acreage or yield than that of 1918. In fact, the best assurance of the maintenance of the highly profitable price of tobacco to the grower for several years past lies in avoiding any increase of production during the ensuing season. A slight curtailment of the acreage planted would indeed help to assure a high ruling of prices. Certainly any considerable increase of production by the growers of leaf tobacco, with every indication of a decreased demand for it, owing to various conditions.

In the first place, the warring countries have received considerable stocks of American tobaccos through nearby neutral countries, even though their own normal production had been greatly curtailed by the absorption of labor in war industries. In fact, the people of America generally little realize the growth of the tobacco growing industries in several of the countries of Europe and Asia within the last decade. The large accumulated stocks of leaf tobacco in this country now will almost make up the deficit in European stocks, and this, together with the prospect of large crops in those countries during the ensuing year, must be considered in estimating the extent of foreign demand for American tobaccos in the coming production season. It is on the safe side for the planter if he will avoid any increase of acreage or production this year, for the basic economic fact that supply and demand govern the prices of commodities must always be borne in mind.

The crop of tobacco in the bright tobacco producing section embracing North Carolina, Virginia, South Carolina, Tennessee, and a little of Georgia, is conservatively estimated at about five hundred million pounds.

These States are the three largest producers of bright leaf tobacco for which there is a world-wide demand. Other states produce smaller quantities, but in all of them the rapidly ascending scale of prices following 1916 has greatly stimulated production, notwithstanding the growing labor shortage in the ensuing years. Even with a scarcity of labor and other adverse conditions, the fine prices for bright leaf tobacco in 1917 impelled growers to make extraordinary efforts to augment their yield in 1918. That they have done so is sufficiently indicated by the fact that the sales on the Oxford and the nearby markets will exceed several million pounds. The conditions in the matter of demand were extraordinary, and it was a period of unprecedented money plenty. Now the tendency of prices of almost every thing is downward. Tobacco, like everything else, is likely to show a slightly downward tendency especially if an increased production is secured this year. In a word, with an acreage no greater than last year's tobacco growers will be likely to find that high prices will be more surely maintained than would be possible with an increased acreage and production.

This advice is in the interest of no class. On the contrary the interests of planter, buyer and warehouseman coincide in impressing the wisdom of undertaking no increase in the tobacco yield in the crop to be planted this spring. The prosperity of the growers is as much to the interest and advantage of this community as is the prosperity of any local industry.

An abundant food production for several years to come to feed the people of the starving world, and a limited production of tobacco will insure to the farmers a large measure of prosperity.

NEW MILEAGE BOOKS ISSUED.

Are Good On All Government-Controlled Roads.

Mileage scrip books, good for 3000 miles and costing \$90, with \$7.20 additional for war tax, are placed on sale by the Pennsylvania railroad. The books, issued at the instance of the railroad administration, are good on all government-controlled roads, and the terms will be the same as those of \$30 and \$15 books now on sale.

MURDER CASE ENGAGES THE ATTENTION OF THE COURT

Will Hurt and Ben Teasley Are Charged With Killing Merri-man Young.

The Granville County Court, Hon. C. C. Lyon, judge presiding has made splendid headway this week. The criminal docket was quite heavy, but by keeping everlastingly at it, Judge Lyon, who is strictly business and the sole of brevity, had everything in readiness at two o'clock Thursday to hear the case of the State vs. Will Hurt and Ben Teasley, charged with killing Merri-man Young on Odey Jenkins' place a few weeks ago.

A special venire for 100 men was issued Wednesday for their appearance in court at 2 o'clock Thursday to answer to their names as called. The names of the regular jurors were placed in the hat and three were drawn; namely, J. E. Howard, W. J. Dean and D. S. Howard, and then the names of the special venire were placed in the hat. Of the 100 names in the hat about 60 were drawn before the jury was completed, as follows:

1. J. E. Howard. 7. W. W. Clark.
2. W. J. Dean. 8. R. H. Gregory.
3. D. S. Howard. 9. B. B. Adecock.
4. L. T. Williford. 10. Will Crews.
5. A. L. Clayton. 11. S. R. Howard.
6. D. Brummitt. 12. O. J. Eakes.

Large Number of Witnesses.

The taking of testimony began this morning. There are fifteen or twenty witnesses to be examined and the case is not likely to go to the jury before late Saturday evening.

Gen. B. S. Royster and Frank W. Hancock, Jr., appear for the accused, and Col. Sam Gattis, district solicitor, represents the State. A legal battle is pending and the court room is literally packed.

Other Cases.

State vs. Van Horn, charged with manufacturing liquor. Not guilty.

State vs. Bud Simpson, manufacturing liquor, one year in the pen. This is the man that threw a bucket of slop in Detective Hutchins' face.

STATE REVENUE BILL CUTS LEVY TO 11-2-3 CENTS

Increase State School Tax From 20 To 32 Cents.

The new revenue bill, as hammered into shape by the joint finance committee of the North Carolina Legislature during the past three weeks, was introduced in the House Wednesday by Chairman Doughton, of the house committee on finance, and is regarded as the most notable measure of the kind offered in the legislature in years. It increases the state tax for schools from 20 cents to 32 cents on the hundred dollars valuation and cuts the regular state tax levy from 23 2-3 cents to 11-2-3 cents, however, five per cent of the 23 2-3 cents levy heretofore has been set aside as a state equalizing fund.

Privilege and License Taxes.

The tax rates on inheritance are not charged but these taxes are placed more completely in the hands of the state tax commission. The only additional tax in that part of the bill is one that will reach stock in foreign corporations which have over 50 per cent of their assets in this state. There are not many changes in the sections carrying privilege and license taxes and there are few new subjects of taxation.

Horse Dealers.

A new feature is a \$100 tax on tobacco warehouses, this for the first million pounds sold and an additional \$100 for each additional million pounds. The tax on horse dealers is changed so that, instead of \$50 tax for wholesale dealers, there will be a \$25 tax and an additional \$5 tax for every additional carload of stock sold.

30,000 TEACHERS TO EDUCATE PERSHING'S SOLDIERS

Will Open Schools In All Cantonnments Where 500 Men Are Stationed.

Thirty thousand teachers have been catalogued according to their specialties by the United States Government and put under control of General Pershing. The General, acting under this commission has decreed that wherever there are 500 men in a cantonment schools for the soldiers shall be opened. As a strong inducement to the soldiers to take advantage of the opportunities opened they are excused from the greater part of their regular duties.

The doughboys have responded with typical American enthusiasm and all the French universities are crowded with United States army men. The soldiers receive a special detail while at college and so receive their army pay while studying.

OXFORD AND GRANVILLE BOYS PROBABLY ON THE BROAD ATLANTIC ENROUTE HOME

Expected to Reach An American Port Next Week—May Be Mustered Out By the Middle of March—Their Movements Since Leaving Oxford.

The 30th division (the Oxford company being a part) sailed from France on Thursday and the men are now well on their way to the United States. The division will probably arrive at New York or a Southern port next week and will proceed to Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C., where the soldiers will be mustered out of service as rapidly as possible.

The notorious 30th made a name for itself on the fields of battle and its achievements will go down in history as they should. The division after training at Camp Sevier for about a year, left there early in May, going to Camp Merritt, N. J., leaving there May 16th and going by train to Boston, Mass., where the men embarked on May 17. They then sailed to New York where they stayed in the harbor for two nights and a day. They sailed from New York to Halifax, N. S., where they anchored a day and a night, sailing from there to England. They disembarked at Tilbury, on the Thames, and went by rail to Dover; crossed the channel from Dover to Calais, landing in France on June 5th. From Calais they went by rail to Audruis, remaining there about two weeks, and from there by foot to Belgium, and made camp in Belgium only a few miles from the famous village of Ypres. Later they were around Broncourt. After being used as "shock" troops near Ypres, they were sent up to the St. Quentin Cambrai sector to fight with the 2nd British army. Here after the British and Australians had made five unsuccessful attempts, the 30th division together with the 27th division were sent against the Hindenburg line which they succeeded in breaking near Bellicourt. It was one of the worst slaughters of the war, the Oxford and several other companies having been literally "shot to pieces."

Given a few days' rest after the Bellicourt battle, the division was then moved and on October 17th went into battle at St. Martin-Reville, remaining under shell fire until the night of the 19th, the 120th regiment being relieved at Mazenghein. The men then hiked back for three days, entraining at Tincourt and landing in rest area near Amiens. Since the signing of the armistice the division has been in camp near La Mans, France.

THE YOUNGEST TAR HEEL SOLDIER RETURNS HOME

Weighed When Enlisted Not More Than Eighty Pounds.

The Asheville Citizen says that James B. Mace, the youngest North Carolinian to see overseas service, is back home, having arrived at New York several days ago, and having been discharged from the army. Young Mace, who will not be 17 until March 29, was in the 39th heavy artillery, took part in the drive on the Moselle with the Second American army, and was busily engaged in firing eight-inch shells into Metz up to the minute, on November 11, that the armistice went into effect. The youngster enlisted February 17, 1918 before he was 16 years old, although he had to camouflage his birth record to convince the recruiting officer that he was 18. His parents gave their consent for the youngster to go. He weighed not more than 80 pounds when he enlisted, but he now enjoys the distinction of being a man and weighing 110 pounds.

THE IRISH AND THE LAW.

A Son of Erin Is In Control of the Capital of Dutchville.

If you should see a rather handsome looking man around the court house with a florid complexion and very little hair on the top of his head you may know that it is Mr. F. J. McDuffy, mayor of Creedmoor. He is a son of the Emerald Isle and is full of Irish wit. He is a good lawyer and is popular with the Oxford bar. We are always glad to see the jovial "Pat" on this side of the river.

VISITATION OF THE BISHOP.

At St. Stephen's Parish Next Sunday Evening.

Right Rev. Joseph Blount Cheshire, D. D. the Bishop of North Carolina, will visit St. Stephen's parish on Sunday next. The Bishop will preach at the Evening Service, 7:30 o'clock. All are welcome, and cordially invited to be present.

LUMBER DEMAND THE GREATEST EVER

Great Building Era Soon Will Be Under Way, Lumber Men Think.

The demand for lumber is expected to be greater than ever before now that the war has ended and restrictions on building lifted.

Lumber men state that the indications point to a continued advance in price of material, an advance of from \$3 to \$5 the thousand feet in the near future.

Many persons contemplating building have postponed it waiting to see if prices of material would drop. There is no chance for a drop in prices, and the man that waits will find himself paying a higher price for lumber than he would have to pay now.

There is at present a scarcity of lumber, and the mills are unable to meet the demand. Big building operations in the large cities of the United States, and the demands for lumber from Europe, are keeping the mills going at full speed and even then the shortage is not relieved to an appreciable extent.

The opinion of big lumber men of the north is to the effect that soon the whole country will be engaged in the biggest building activity ever known which will make the demand for lumber greater than ever before. The big idea is for the people to begin building at once. Not alone will they save money by doing so but they will be lending a hand in relieving the labor problem. The time is coming when the big building operations will be under way; the sooner that time comes the better it will be for the country.

THE SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT LOST IN SENATE 4 TIMES

The Federal woman suffrage amendment was drafted in 1875 by Susan B. Anthony.

First introduced in 1878 in Senate.

First voted upon in 1887 in Senate and defeated 34 to 16.

Voted upon in Senate in 1914, 35 yeas, 34 nays, failing by 11 votes.

Voted on in House in 1915 and defeated; vote being 204 to 174.

Passed by House January 10, 1918, 274 to 136, precisely required two-thirds vote.

Defeated in Senate October 1, 1918; 53 yeas 31 nays, failing to get two-thirds majority.

The amendment was beaten again in the Senate last Monday.

Thus ended what leading suffrage champions had said in advance would be the final test in this session of Congress.

Comparatively brief debates preceded the vote which officially killed the resolution adopted by the house on January 10, 1918, by a vote of 274 to 136. Defeat of the measure was witnessed by crowds of women in the galleries but there were no demonstration and dramatic incidents.

OFFICERS CAPTURE STILL

The Moonshiners Were Ready For Big Business.

Former Sheriff Sam Wheeler, I. H. Hobgood and Uncle Ned Booth, acting for Sheriff Dee Hunt, made a hasty trip to the Hurricane Thursday, and at a point below Rodgers Quarter and the Wake county line, found a big still, which appeared to have been in operation for some time. There were 600 gallons of beer on hand and the wood in the furnace was ready to be lighted. The officers demolished the plant and brought the still to Oxford.

WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE PROPOSED DOG LAW?

Success Seems Reasonably Sure For a Good Road Law.

They jump around so quick in the House and Senate at Raleigh you can't place your finger on them. The dog law, the road law and the public educational bill were sidetracked Tuesday for discussion of the cotton question. The school was again taken up Thursday with a great army of teachers in evidence, as all the State's principal educational centers have representation before the joint legislative committee. Opposition to the Brooks bill has become so pronounced that the Legislature has been forced to take notice of the situation. The Public Ledger believes the inequities of the Brooks proposition are going to be smoothed out, if indeed, it is not substituted by an entirely new measure. As to the road law, success seems certain, but we are not going to pronounce salvation for the country yet awhile. The dog law has not been passed.

Major Will Landis has gone north to buy goods for the firm of Landis & Easton.

EBERT RECEIVED MAJORITY OF ASSEMBLY

Of the 397 Votes 277—Second Provisional Constituent First Division.

Basle, Feb. 13.—German national assembly elected Ebert president of the republic by a majority of 102. Ebert accepted the election.

Provisional Constitution.

Wiemar, Feb. 13.—When the second reading of the provisional constitution came up for debate, Herr Cahn concluded with an appeal for the construction of the constitution in such a manner of wording as to leave no possible doubt in any minds that the monarchy was banished forever. Unless this were done, he added, "revolution, which is nourished by lack of raw materials, will live again." The speaker concluded by warning his hearers to "remember the past and make a new government and do not make the mistakes of the old."

Armistice More Drastic.

Copenhagen, Feb. 13.—Great Britain and France have sent notes to Mathias Erzberger, president of the German armistice commission, dealing with the failure of Germany to deliver locomotives and agricultural machinery as agreed. He says the tone of the notes virtually constitute a threat to Germany. The correspondent adds that it is reported a similar note is expected from the United States.

THE BANKHEAD HIGHWAY

It Reminds Us of the Proverbial Flea.

It has been said that the Bankhead Highway would shoot across Granville county. The route adopted and agreed upon enters the county at Bullock via Stovall, Oxford and Fairport. If there has been any change since the route was adopted, we know nothing about it; yet the Henderson correspondent of the Raleigh Times says:

"The news reaches Henderson that the citizens of South Hill, a flourishing little tobacco town, some four or five miles the other side of the Roanoke river are planning to put a bridge across the river at Goode's Ferry. There has been talk at Henderson and other North Carolina towns that a bridge be built at Cannon's Ferry, which is some seven or eight miles down the river. A bridge at either place would cut off some 30 or forty miles of the trip on the proposed Bankhead Highway, the first road, perhaps, to be improved in North Carolina if Federal aid is obtained. Henderson is very much interested in the talk of a bridge, for the bridge means that Henderson is placed on the Bankhead Highway. Many tourists come this way now, but others go by way of Clarksville, Va., where there is a bridge, and thus miss Henderson altogether. The people of North Carolina even as far as Raleigh would even be interested in the bridge either at Cannon's or Goode's Ferry.

THE BLUE TRIANGLE INVESTMENT CAMPAIGN IS NOW ON

Covering Work of the Young Woman's Christian Association of the South Atlantic Field.

The solicitation of this fund is taking place this week from the 6th to the 17th of February. Granville county has been asked to raise \$100 for this cause. Any contribution will be appreciated from any one in the county. It is true the war is over, but it is the history of every great war that there is always a period of great stress and strain following in its wake. As war industries close down there will be thousands of young girls thrown out of employment. These young women will be going from one place to another seeking employment, many of them will obtain employment in strange cities and under conditions entirely new to them.

The Young Woman's Christian Association has most earnestly at heart the welfare of these young women, and it is the purpose of the association to endeavor in every way possible to assist them in adjusting them to the new and untried conditions arising in connection with the reconstruction period.

HELEN WHITE, Chairman Granville County.

Mrs. Emma Rowland Dead.

Mrs. Emma Buchanan Rowland died in Asheville Wednesday. She was the oldest daughter of Prof. and Mrs. L. T. Buchanan of this city. Her mother was with her when she passed away. The remains were interred in Asheville.

TOKIO WARNS DELEGATES OF CHINA NOT TO REVEAL TEXT OF SECRET TREATIES

Japan Demands Rights, Property and Concessions Germany Held at Outbreak of War.

Japan's attitude toward China in the peace conference is causing grave apprehension among the representatives of the associated powers. According to official diplomatic information reaching here, Japan virtually has threatened war if China makes public secret treaties between the two countries and fails to carry out an agreement to make Japan the successor to Germany in rights, property and concessions held by Germany at the outbreak of the European war. China is relying on the peace conference, where her delegates are said to have made an excellent impression, and is seeking support from the United States and Great Britain.

WILL ASK BAKER TO SEND THIRTIETH DIVISION

Entire North Carolina Delegation Plans New Effort This Week Despite March's Contrary Orders.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The entire North Carolina delegation in Congress will call on Secretary Baker some day this week and urge him to arrange to have the Tar Heel boys in the Thirtieth division paraded in Raleigh and demobilize in Charlotte, at Camp Greene. The movement is being supported by Senators Simmons and Overman and all of the house members from the state. Secretary Baker has been leaving these matters to General March, and he has thrown cold water on the Raleigh-Charlotte proposition, but he may yield if asked to do so by his superior officer.

WILSON TO SAIL FROM BREST FOR HOME SUNDAY

He Will Return to Paris By the Middle of Next Month.

President Wilson will sail from Brest for New York February 16. Evidence of President Wilson's intention not to abandon the peace conference upon the ratification of the society of nations' plans was found in the disclosure of his plan to return from Washington to Paris by March 15. This involves so brief a stay at Washington as to permit only the signing of bills during the closing hours of Congress. It is understood that Mr. Wilson intends to give personal attention in Paris to the work of the supreme executive council, which promises to be the most important feature of the peace conference after the disposal of the society of nations.

ENTERPRISING WOMEN WILL BEAUTIFY THE SURROUNDINGS.

The Movement in Oxford Should Extend to the Rural Districts.

The Public Ledger is interested in the announcement of the Forestry Department of the Oxford Woman's Club in its movement to beautify the parks, the lawns and the homes of Oxford during the spring months. Mrs. A. H. Powell, who as chairman of the forestry department, will direct the work.

The ends are to be accompanied by a "drive" to be announced later. It is to be hoped that Mrs. Powell and her aids will extend the "drive" to include the rural homes of the county.

Apart from the esthetic value to be derived from it, beautifying the farm dwelling, modernizing its equipment, is good business. It is an investment that brings profitable returns. The farmer and his family need wholesome relaxation just as much as any person constantly employed. The home should be the place in which to obtain it. An attractive dwelling with an inviting approach acts as a magnet on the tired toiler. The sight of flowers and a well-kept lawn is a relief from the drab clods of the plowed field, the brightness of the blossoms a change from the sameness in the color of growing crops. A flower or a vine upon the porch or at the window makes a cheery interior, dispels care and induces rest.

Will Tighten Loopholes

Paris, Feb. 14.—The supreme War Council has decided, says a Havas report, that the armistice with Germany will be renewed on February 17 for a very brief period with the Allies reserving the right to suspend it at any time in the event of Germany's failure to carry out new clauses or those which have hitherto not been executed. It is said that the terms will provide that the Germans must cease hostilities against the Poles and maintain their forces within fixed limits.