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THE FARMER AND THE PRODUCE HE SELLS

If He Peddles It From House to House He Should Charge More Than If He Sold Direct to the Merchant.

A large number of people accuse the farmer of holding up prices of farm stuff because when he comes to town to sell something he asks the same price that the corner grocer asks, and because he does that the complaint says the farmer becomes a middleman, instead of that salvation which he is expected to be.

There is a right pertinent question and probably it will be decided in the farmer's favor, says the Raleigh News and Observer, because he is the man who makes the decision. When he produces his stuff he is a producer, but when he brings it, to town and distributes it to the ultimate buyer he is exactly what he is accused of being, the middleman. Now, it cannot be a question as to whether the farmer is right in being a middleman, and asking the middle man's profit, for the farmer, if he sells the stuff at retail, seems determined to get the retail price and the only way to keep him from getting it is to refuse to pay what he asks. But the householder seems to be as willing to pay the farmer who comes to the door with his goods as to pay the grocer at the grocery.

It is not material who is the middleman. We seem to want the farmer to retail to the houses at the price he would wholesale at the grocery and the farmer is not disposed to give his time that way. He wants the middleman's pay if he does the middleman's work, and evidently he gets it. He gets it because we all appear to prefer to have him act as the retailer and come to the house rather than to go to the grocery to get what we want and pay the retailer there for serving.

We can't get along without the middleman. The farmer makes the stuff. He may retail some of it, but he prefers to turn it over in bulk to the retailer and get back home, leaving the retailer to distribute to the buyer. The retailer will not do this without he is paid, and no way has yet been suggested to dispose of him. He is an essential factor in our organized industry. The only real question about him is whether he is paid too much. He does not think so. When the farmer acts as middle man he does not think he is paid too much. All the years of human existence have not been enough yet to settle this thing, and that leads to the conclusion that a few years more will come before it is passed over. So we may as well pay the farmer and let him go his way happy, for that is what we will have to do in any event.

HERE'S WHAT IT COST TO TRANSPORT ONE MAN

Washington, Aug. 25.—For each man transported overseas in British vessels, the United States government will pay Great Britain \$8.75 under an agreement reached between Brig-Gen. Frank T. Hines, director of transportation in the War Department, and Lord Reading, representing the British government.

Secretary Baker, it was learned today, has approved the agreement, which fixes a price a little more than half that tentatively put forward by the British at the beginning of the negotiations.

The total cost of the British tonnage used in troops transportation is estimated at \$98,757,250, the number of men carried having been 1,027,000. Similar negotiations are in progress with the French and other governments.

JUDGE GRAHAM HAS STRONG BACKING IN NEW FIELD

Judge A. W. Graham formerly of Oxford, has strong backing in his new work as president of the American Cotton and Grain Exchange. This is indicated from the following item taken from the New York Evening Post:

"The following have been elected directors and officers of the American Cotton and Grain Exchange: A. W. Graham, president; Thomas C. Burke, vice-president; G. W. Pratt, secretary and treasurer; L. S. Wellington, Darlington, S. C.; banker and cotton merchant; James N. Williamson, Jr., Burlington, N. C., cotton manufacturer; T. L. Hickman, Augusta, Ga., cotton merchant; W. S. Forbes, Richmond, Va., manufacturer; Edward L. Patton, New York, capitalist and broker; T. T. Graham, Brooklyn, N. Y., president of the D. & C. Co., and W. S. Thomson, attorney, of Towne, Bailey & Thomson, New York.

—Judge Devin is presiding at Nash county court this week.

OXFORD GRADED SCHOOLS WILL OPEN SEPTEMBER 8TH

Buildings Are Now Being Put In Order For the Occasion.

Oxford is to be congratulated on being able to retain Mr. Guy B. Phillips as head of the Oxford schools for another year. Undoubtedly Mr. Phillips is one of the finest superintendents in the State and any school system is fortunate to have him at its head. He has shown marked ability in his chosen profession and is steadily forging to the front as one of the State's foremost educators. His success in the Oxford schools has been very pronounced and he is loved by every pupil. He announces that the Oxford public schools will begin work on Monday, the 8th day of September, at nine o'clock. At this time he expects there will possibly be the largest opening in years.

The buildings of the Oxford schools are now open in preparation for the pupils who will enter them in a few weeks. A thorough cleaning will be given each room before the opening and plans will be worked out to keep them well suited for the home of the boys and girls during the nine months of school. Proper ventilation and disinfecting will be provided and every precaution taken to preserve the health of the pupils.

The teaching force for the coming year is the strongest that Oxford has ever had. Each teacher has been selected because of his or her special fitness for the work to be done. In this day of specialization the teacher must do the work for which she is best suited. Increases in salary ranging from twenty to forty per cent have been given. A salary schedule has been adopted that will recognize merit and length of service in the system. While the salary is not for twelve months this year, the plan will very likely be adopted for the next year.

The ground has already been broken.

CAPT. B. S. ROYSTER, JR. GIVEN LAW LICENSE

Will Enter His Father's Law Office In Oxford Immediately.

Having successfully stood the State law examination, the Supreme Court last week issued license to Capt. B. S. Royster, Jr., of Oxford, to practice law in North Carolina. He will immediately be associated with his distinguished father, Gen. B. S. Royster.

Capt. Royster is a graduate of the University of North Carolina. He attended the Carolina Law school during the term just closed.

Capt. Royster was a student at Chapel Hill when the United States declared war on Germany. He volunteered his services and was sent to Camp Jackson, where he was commissioned first lieutenant and assigned to the Newbern battery, 113th Field Artillery. He was in several engagements in northern France, notably, the battle of the Argonne. He was on Col. Cox's staff, and at his right was Major Thad G. Stem, of Oxford, who is a living testimony of Capt. Royster's enviable war record. He was commissioned a captain on the battlefields in France.

Capt. Royster is a deep student and is well equipped in body and mind. He comes to the bar with a vigorous constitution and his recuperative powers will stand him well in those cases that require mental and physical endurance.

U. S. SOLDIER SENTENCED TO DEATH, PARDONED AND LATER KILLED IN BATTLE

Record of Private Sebastin, Whom President Wilson Saved From Firing Squad—Private Cook Wounded.

(Washington Post.) One of the two American soldiers sentenced to death for sleeping on outpost duty in France and subsequently pardoned by President Wilson, was killed in the great Aisne offensive in July, 1918, and the other was twice wounded and finally honorably discharged.

Private Forrest D. Sebastin, of Eldorado, Ill., 20 years old, was killed in the Aisne battle. Private Jeff Cook, of Lutie, Okla., aged 19, was wounded in the same battle, but recovered to again fight gallantly in the Argonne offensive, where he received his second wound.

—The following ladies were in town during the week: Mrs. Pittard and daughter, Hester; Mrs. Brooks Davis, Stovall; Mrs. P. W. Knott, Route 1; Mrs. Ernest Dean, Harrogate; Mrs. Sam Howard, Stovall; Mrs. W. P. Vaughan, and daughter, Mrs. A. R. Hicks, Route 3; Mrs. J. F. Dean, Route 2; Mrs. Harper Renn, Route 6; Misses Nannie, Pearl and Belle Knott, Route 2; Mrs. B. J. Blackwell, Franklin; Mrs. Harper Renn, Route 6.

PRICE CONTROL ACT BEFORE THE HOUSE

IS DRASTIC MEASURE

Amendments to Food Regulation Law Broadened to Include Wearing Apparel As Well (Washington Special.)

The act as amended by the agricultural committee, and unanimously reported was broadened to include wearing apparel, fertilizer and fuel oil, brings retailers within the scope of its provisions and provides a maximum penalty of two years imprisonment, and provides a \$5,000 penalty for profiteering. Farmers are exempted.

Should the recommendations of the committee be adopted, government officials and members of Congress believe that a long step forward will be taken to lower the cost of living, which continued to hold front rank in Capitol discussions.

OXFORD-HENDERSON HIGHWAY TO BE BUILT SOON

Bridge Plans Will Be Submitted To Washington In A Few Days.

Most encouraging news concerning the Oxford-Henderson Highway received here last Friday from Capt. D. H. Winslow, acting division engineer, who wrote Mr. James B. Powell, Register of Deeds of Granville county, as follows:

"In reply to your telephone message regarding Granville project, I will state that on Saturday we received notice that the plans had been passed to the Chief Engineer for his approval and that the work could be advertised subject to his approval. I had returned to the office Wednesday and had not opened all my mail when you called up.

"From the bridge department I learned that they are working on the bridge plans and these will be ready to submit to Washington in a few days.

"It takes time to get things thru and one project started in April, 1917, will be ready for work September 2nd, so you see Granville, starting in 1919, is not so very far behind compared with other projects. There are hundreds of projects on file at Washington with more going in all the time and I feel we have been fortunate with the project, for all it has seemed to take so long. I believe Granville county has got through its project quicker than any I have known and we appreciate your help and patience even if the general public does not."

FOOD ADMINISTRATION OFFICES MAY BE OPENED

At a conference in Raleigh last week former Food Administrator Henry A. Page, District Attorney W. C. Hammer and Thomas D. Warren and Special Agent F. C. Handy, of the department of justice, indicated not only prospect of early and drastic procedure against profiteers, but it may result in the reopening of the food administration and establishment of offices in Raleigh.

Mr. Page could give nothing definite on this, but Attorney General Palmer's mind appears to be moving in that direction.

SINGING CONTEST IN THE COURT HOUSE SUNDAY, SEPT. 28

Being Organized By Prof. William M. Moser.

Mr. W. M. Moser is actively engaged in organizing a singing contest of all the Sunday school and church choirs and quartets of the county to be held in the Court House on Sunday, September 28th.

Prof. Moser urges the singing people of the county to tune up and be on hand at the time and place mentioned above.

MR. JOSH KING RETURNED FROM THE NORTHERN MARKETS

Miss Simmons Will Be the Long Company's Milliner This Season.

Mr. Josh King, buyer for the Long Company, returned Sunday from his second trip to the northern markets this season.

Miss Simmons, a native of North Carolina, with large experience in the millinery business, will be the Long Company's milliner this season. She will arrive in Oxford tomorrow and take up her work immediately.

MR. DOVE URGES ATTENDANCE ON FARM MEETING

A special appeal to the farmers and farm women of the county to attend the Farmers' and Farm Women's convention at Raleigh this week is urged by County Agent Dove.

The farm convention is to be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week at the A. & E. College at West Raleigh.

TOBACCO MARKET WILL OPEN TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Delay in South Carolina Makes It Impossible For Buyers to Come—Date Had Been Agreed Upon Ten Days Ago As Tuesday, Sept. 9.

Upon the urgent request of the large and small companies buying in this section, the Oxford Tobacco Board of Trade, in conjunction with the other cities and town in the old belt, was voted to postpone the opening of the tobacco market until Tuesday, September 16. The opening had been set for Tuesday, September 9, at a meeting held ten days ago.

The closing of the South Carolina market for ten days on account, it is learned of the tie-up in freight traffic due to the recent strike of shopmen, the end of the season there has been greatly delayed. As a consequence the buyers must remain there until the crop had been sold, and for that reason it would have been impossible for them to be here the first week had the market opened on the date originally fixed.

Surrounding markets, including Henderson, Warrenton, South Hill and others will occur in the change of the opening date, as will Durham as well.

MILLIONS POUNDS FOOD FILL OLD BUILDINGS.

Six Million Eggs Among the Items Enumerated.

(New York Sun)

Millions of pounds of food stuffs were found in warehouses and other storage places in this city by the Fire Department in the recent inspection ordered by Mayor Hylan. Eggs to the number of 557,352,080 were discovered. Next in point of quantity were beans, of which the firemen found 62,180,328 pounds.

The following is the tabulation:

| Foodstuffs | Quantities |
|--|-------------|
| Eggs (in cases) | 557,352,080 |
| Butter, pounds | 4,823,275 |
| Sugar, pounds | 8,471,173 |
| Flour, pounds | 7,316,135 |
| Coffee, pounds | 44,356,593 |
| Tea, pounds | 1,171,850 |
| Tea, cases | 86,687 |
| Tea, chests | 82,981 |
| Meat (fresh), pounds | 15,772,846 |
| Poultry, pounds | 623,045 |
| Poultry, cases | 121,500 |
| Fish, pounds | 5,325,340 |
| Fish, (canned), cases | 121,703 |
| Pork, pounds | 3,416,998 |
| Beans (in bags), pounds | 62,180,328 |
| Vegetables (canned, including corn, peas, tomatoes, beans and asparagus) cases | 231,990 |
| Rice, pounds | 123,347 |
| Rice (in bags), pounds | 10,235,890 |
| Peas (in bags), pounds | 9,663,440 |
| Milk (evaporated), cases | 121,579 |
| Milk (condensed), cases | 67,880 |
| Pork and beans, cases | 22,930 |
| Pork and beans, carloads | 11 |

RECURRENCE OF INFLUENZA It Will Not Be As Plentiful As Last Year.

The state health officials are of the opinion that while there will be a recurrence of influenza in North Carolina this fall and winter it will not be as plentiful as last year. It is estimated that something like 40 percent of the people are susceptible to the disease, and as 35 percent already have had it, there remains approximately five percent yet to go through with it. These figures, the state officials say, are approximate, and may be slightly underestimated. Some communities have already had their proportionate part of influenza, and these will hardly have a recurrence this winter. But other communities had only mild attacks last year, therefore under the natural order of things they should have many cases this winter.

After going through with the epidemic last winter and studying every phase of the disease, the health authorities are as much in the dark as to the causes, preventives, and remedies as they were nearly a year ago when influenza first made its appearance in this state. Of course there are certain general health rules that should be complied with in order to make the body better prepared to combat the disease germs, but outside of these there is nothing definite and direct to be used against it.

SOLDIERS AT OTEEN HOSPITAL To Be Entertained By Baracas and Philatheas.

Asheville, N. C., Aug. 22, 1919.

A special request has been received at Oteen Hospital from the War Department and the National A. R. G. to make Labor Day the biggest and best holiday yet for the boys who are still at Oteen Hospital.

The A. R. G. at Oteen have asked the Baracas and Philatheas of North Carolina and their friends to furnish the "eats" for this big celebration. We are planning to serve the 1,300 boys and nurses at Oteen, fried chicken, biscuits, ice cream, cake, pickles, hot doughnuts and coffee, and would appreciate any donations of these articles, or contribution of money to purchase them.

MRS. N. BUCKNER, General Secretary

—Miss Fannie Thompson, of Morganton, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. J. S. Bradsher.

A LETTER OF EXPLANATION FROM THE MAYOR

Oxford, N. C., Aug. 25, 1919.

To the Editor of the Public Ledger, Oxford, N. C.:

Dear Sir:—In the last issue of your paper under the heading "Caught in the Act of Gambling" there appeared an article to the effect that "two prominent business men of Oxford and highly esteemed in the community were actually caught in the act of shooting crap." In my opinion an injustice was done these men, although I do not think it was intentional on your part. At the time you wrote your article these men had not been before the Mayor, but since that time the matter has been heard and the cases against these men were dismissed. It appeared from the statements of the two men involved and from the statement of a disinterested witness that these men were not gambling and that not a cent of money passed from one to the other. They were not engaged in the game commonly known as shooting crap, but the evidence was that, purely for the purpose of amusement, they were throwing a quarter to see who could come closest to a crack in the floor, one of the men standing on the sidewalk tossing the coin through the window. This would certainly indicate that there was no effort to conceal the matter. It is a fact that at the time you wrote your article these men had paid a fine of \$5.00 each, and the costs, which was paid to the police officer on my authority after I told him this would be the amount if the matter should be settled out of court.

The police officer inadvertently stated to you that the game in which these men were engaged was that of shooting crap. This was an unintentional error. Upon hearing the matter, including the statement of a disinterested witness, who was present and looking on, I was convinced that these men were not gambling and therefore dismissed the cases against them.

In justice to all parties concerned I desired to make this brief statement of the facts in the case. This the 25th day of August, 1919.

T. G. STEM, Mayor of Oxford.

The Public Ledger publishes the above statement from Mayor Stem with great pleasure. It very gladly retracts the statements contained in its article of August 22, headed "Caught in the Act of Gambling" and which referred to the two gentlemen as being engaged in gambling. Mayor Stem's statement sets out very clearly what occurred, and he also very candidly absolves the Public Ledger from anything more than an unintentional error based upon what the police officer inadvertently stated.

The Public Ledger regrets exceedingly that the error occurred and apologizes to the two gentlemen referred to for having made the erroneous publication.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

The following real estate transfers took place during the past week:

D. F. and T. R. Lanier to W. D. Stimpson, 1 lot, Front street \$3,100.

W. W. Clark and others to Frank S. Clark, 57 acres, \$1,640.

W. J. Evans to Mrs. Anna I. Peace, 1 lot, Raleigh street, \$2,500.

I. W. Mangum and H. G. Williams to Ernest Herron, 1 lot New College street, \$750.00.

Creedmoor Lodge, A. F. & A. M., No. 499, to Amis Fleming, lot in Creedmoor, \$325.00.

R. W. Harris and wife to Lillian Turner, one lot on Cherry street, \$500.00.

Mrs. M. L. Chuning to I. W. Mangum, 211 acres \$7,367.50.

HONORABLE DISCHARGES GIVEN MEN IN THE NAVY

Ordinary Discharges Will Be Exchanged for More Desirable Ones If Requested.

The war department announces that honorable discharges will be granted to all men who served in the navy during the war with Germany with good records, and who have since been released with "ordinary discharges." It was announced today by the Navy Department, Honorable discharges may be had by forwarding the ordinary discharges to the Navy Department.

MORE FOOD ORDERED SENT TO ATLANTA

The government announces that another supply of government food valued at about \$10,000,000 has been ordered shipped to Atlanta for distribution throughout the southeast. The shipments will require 847 freight cars and to handle them about 500 workers will be added to the force at the depot. Some 400 freight cars loads of food already are being distributed here.

"The Oyster" is now being rehearsed for its annual opening.

SEVEN THOUSAND AMERICAN SOLDIERS WILL REMAIN IN OCCUPIED AREA OF GERMANY

The war department announces that the American forces which will remain in Germany after September 30 are the eighth infantry, 7th machine gun battalion, second battalion of the 6th field artillery, 35th field signal battalion, first supply train, first mobile ordnance repair shop, company A of 1st engineers, field hospital number 13, and ambulance company number 26.

The aggregate strength of these units will be nearly 7,000 officers and men. The infantry regiment comprises 3,800, the machine gun battalion 775, the artillery 750 and the engineers 250, giving a total combatant strength of 5,500.

OUT OF ALL PROPORTIONS.

Freight Engineers Get More Pay Than the Governor Of Texas.

A comparison made public in the House shows that a freight engineer draws \$59 a month more pay than the Governor of Texas. The Governors of eleven States in all get salaries less than the pay of the freight engineer. One gets barely over half.

Let us suppose that the members of the professions, who have studied their callings at their own expense in most cases for years and who comprise the best brains in the country, deserve as much pay, we will not say in all cases, but only on the average, as a freight engineer. There are over a million of them, not counting school teachers. If they averaged his pay their total earnings would be five billions of dollars a year; and that is about one-eighth of the income of the nation, whether from work or from property. Add the school teachers, and the total professional income would absorb one-fifth of the nation's earnings!

Plainly the freight engineer is a monopolist who uses his dominant position to force from the country a living quite out of proportion to his modest services, quite out of line with the pay accorded for the exacting services that the most expert class of workers in the country perform.

TO LET CONTRACT.

Sealed Bids For the Construction of The Oxford-Henderson Highway

W. S. Fallis, State Highway Engineer, announces that sealed bids for the construction of approximately 4 1-2 miles of State Highway in Granville county will be received by the North Carolina State Highway Commission at the Division office in Raleigh until twelve o'clock on the 15th day of September, 1919, when they will be opened and read.

Plans, specifications, forms of contract proposed blank, etc., can be obtained from the office of the State Highway Commission, Raleigh, on the payment of \$5 to defray cost.

GREENVILLE TO HONOR THE THIRTIETH DIVISION

Plans Being Made To Entertain Between 10,000 and 15,000; Reunion Committee Busy

Greenville, S. C., Aug. 24.—Plans for the entertainment of between 10,000 and 15,000 veterans of the 30th division, when they gather here for their first annual reunion on September 29 and 30 are fast taking definite shape.

In view of the fact that 26,000 men of Old Hickory have joined the 30th association and have paid their dues, officials of that organization have notified the local entertainment committee that they firmly believe at least 10,000 visitors from North and South Carolina, Tennessee and many other states, will be in Greenville on the first anniversary of the smashing of the Hindenburg line.

18 MILLION EGGS HOARDED AT NASHVILLE TENN.

District Attorney Issues Labels and Seizes \$500,000 Worth of Product Being Hoarded.

Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 24.—In the United States District Court yesterday District Attorney Douglass filed 36 labels against 51,701 cases of eggs, in round number about 18 1-2 million eggs, valued at \$500,000, of which were later seized and will be sold by the government to the public, the proceeds less the cost being paid the owners.

MR. PIE CHEATHAM IN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT

Monday afternoon while running at slow speed the high-powered car of Mr. Pie Cheatham, who lives east of Oxford a few miles, left the road and ran into a ditch near the corporate limits of Oxford. The car was only slightly damaged, and fortunately Mr. Cheatham was not hurt, as was reported.