

OXFORD PUBLIC LEDGER

PUBLISHED SEMI-WEEKLY AND COUNTY OFFER BRILLIANT OPPORTUNITIES—ALL HOME PRINT.

VOL. XXXV

OXFORD, N. C. TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1920

NO. 69

THE FARMERS FACE A VERY SERIOUS PROBLEM

Don't Sell Higher This Year Than Last They Are Ruined.

There can be no mistaking the fact that it cost more to grow and harvest the crops this year than ever before. Experts estimate that it cost \$42.50 to raise, cure and market one hundred pounds of tobacco.

The Gloomy Side.

The general feeling here among the farmers and business men is to the effect that if the tobacco crop does not sell 15 per cent higher this year than it did last year the farmers will be ruined. If it does not bring more than it did last year, farmers declare they will not produce a single pound next year.

All of this talk about the farmers holding their tobacco thirty days or longer if it does not bring a price above the cost of production is purely problematic. Just how far they have organized to hold and control prices we are not advised. They state that they and their families, including the small children, have worked day and night to save the crop, and they feel that it is only just that the big companies should come to their rescue, even if they must increase the price of the manufactured product.

The Bright Side.

After all, it may be that the alarm fanned by the farmers in this section is without foundation. Mr. Sam Watkins, Capt. Will Fleming and others who are in close touch with the markets on the south side of the state and in South Carolina, state that tobacco is selling higher this year than it did last season. It must be remembered that the tobacco in the border counties is thrown upon the market in a haphazard fashion, without being graded, said Capt. Fleming, which has a tendency to depreciate the weed. Quite a number of tobaccoist estimate that if the South Carolina crop averages \$40, which it no doubt will, the Granville county crop will average \$70.

There is a very encouraging feature regarding the Granville crop this year that does not obtain elsewhere in the bright belt, namely, viz: Last year there was about 100,000,000 pounds of tobacco sold on the Oxford market at \$1.00 the pound, as against more than two million pounds this year at the same price. By virtue of the large quantity of high grade tobacco this year it is reasonable to estimate that the Granville crop this year will put \$7,000,000 into the pockets of the farmers as against \$5,500,000 last year.

WELFARE WORK BECOMING POPULAR IN GRANVILLE

Twelve Important Cases Settled Out of Court During August.

Little by little the people of Oxford and Granville county are being enlightened to the vast amount of good accomplished through the Juvenile Court. At first it was impossible for the people to comprehend the latitude of welfare work. They were rather inclined to fight clear of the visitations of Mr. Jackson, superintendent of county welfare work, but things have changed in the last few months, and now they are looking up Mr. Jackson.

All that is being accomplished by Mr. Jackson cannot be published to the world. The people are not aware that the son of a well-to-do citizen must retire to his bed at six o'clock in the evening and remain there during the night until school begins under penalty of being sent to the reformatory. A boy who frequently came to town and got mixed up with bad people is not permitted to return to Oxford until school begins. It is a daily occurrence for the Juvenile Court to handle some child that has started down the road to disgrace and ruin. Only a few weeks ago the welfare officer caught two white boys gambling with negroes on Sunday. The thing was properly adjusted by the welfare officer and those two boys were very thankful. There are hundreds of instances where families were going to smash that have been healed in private by the welfare officers.

TWO FINE YOUNG MEN TO LEAVE OXFORD

Messrs. Thomas and William Pace Will Engage in Business At Columbus, O.

Thomas L. and William G. Pace, Jr., the fine young sons of W. G. Pace, are leaving Oxford this week to engage in business in Columbus, Ohio. During the entire ten years of their residence in Oxford, having moved here from Danville, Va., they have proven most exemplary young men, adding greatly to the life of the young people of the town, and it is with sincere regret that their friends learn of their decision to locate elsewhere. Much success and happiness is wished for them in their new home, and we sincerely hope they will often visit Oxford where they will always receive a warm welcome by their many friends whom they have won by their manly, courteous and excellent conduct in our midst.

OXFORD COLLEGE WILL OPEN WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 8TH

President Hobgood is at home this week putting things in shape for the opening of Oxford College on Wednesday, September 8th, which will be the largest enrollment in the history of the college.

Dr. Hobgood stated that more day pupils than ever are expected this year.

THE EXTRA SESSION DID NUMEROUS BIG JOBS

Revision of Taxes and Completion of Revaluation Law the Chief Features.

At thirteen minutes past two o'clock Thursday afternoon the special session of the North Carolina General Assembly completed its seventeen days of rather arduous labor.

Constitutional Amendment.

Constitutional amendments, which are to be voted upon in the November elections are: 1. Provides for the constitutional limitation of taxation of fifteen cents on the \$100 worth of property instead of sixty-six and two-thirds cents as heretofore. 2. Provides for an income tax amendment allowing the State to tax unearned incomes up to six per cent. 3. To separate the grandfather clause from the literacy test so that the failure of courts to uphold the grandfather clause will not invalidate the literacy test for suffrage. The income tax amendment and the constitutional limitation will be voted upon as one, the defeat of one making the defeat of the other certain.

Revaluation Measures.

1. Revenue bill providing for thirteen cents school taxes for State purposes; no State tax for the general fund and for the pension fund. To supplant this deficit the State will raise its revenue for 1920 by increases in license, franchise and corporation taxes. 2. Municipal finance act. The act limits the tax levy for municipalities to 10 per cent over that raised last year and provides that the cities and towns may take care of bond issues, notes and other evidences of debt incurred since the passage of the Revaluation act by special tax levies which will run the taxes over the ten per cent increase. In cases of deficits it is possible to borrow money and refund it out of the general levy over a period of ten years. Special tax levies may be made for any purpose provided the voters sanction it in a special election.

School Bill.

Under the Revaluation act the counties are permitted to levy taxes to provide sufficient revenue to operate the schools for three months not provided for by the State. If a deficit exists the schools may borrow money which is to be refunded out of the general levy over a period of five years. This bill also makes the same provisions for school districts as well as counties.

Heavier Tax On Criminals.

Among other bills enacted of State-wide importance was the measure increasing the fees of the solicitors in the various judicial districts. While the fees of the solicitors were increased from thirty to forty per cent the counties will continue to receive their proportionate share of the fines, this being possible under the new bill which places the burden upon the criminals who will, in the future be taxed with heavier fines, penalties and costs.

Suffrage Amendment.

Ratification of the Susan B. Anthony Federal suffrage amendment was the question which furnished the most excitement during the session. The Senate considered the measure first and by a narrow margin voted to defer action until the regular session next January. In the House the resolution was defeated.

RETAIL PRICES TO DROP THIS WINTER

Reserve Board Expects Even Greater Decline In Coming Spring Months.

Washington, August 30.—Retail prices, in the opinion of the Federal Reserve Board will decline slightly during the coming fall and winter months and will slump next spring to still lower levels. Summarizing recent changes in prices of various commodities, the board in a report said that "saving afforded by manufacturers through lessened cost of labor must eventually be reflected in a downward movement of retail prices." Although a general slight slump in retail prices during the next few months was forecast, the board was of the opinion that in some lines higher prices were probable, "due to the fact that purchases for the autumn and winter trade had already been contracted for at the old level of prices." Changes in the prices of raw materials, which were reported to have been sharp during the past few weeks, will not show their effect, according to the board, in retail prices until early next spring.

The board stated that an "important downward tendency" in prices of all commodities food had been evidenced throughout the country, the reduction in prices of raw products having been especially marked. This general lowering of the price level, it was believed, indicated a probable drop in food prices during coming months.

EASTERN MARKETS POSTPONE OPENING

On account of lateness of the South Carolina crops and scarcity of freight cars, which necessitated the closing of some of the markets in that belt several days ago, the leading tobacco companies have requested that the Eastern North Carolina tobacco markets postpone their opening until Tuesday, September 7, at which date they can arrange to remove all their buyers to that section.

COX PRESENTS INFORMATION TO SUPPORT CHARGE REPUBLICAN CONSPIRACY TO BUY PRESIDENT

Data Consists Almost Entirely of Matter Taken From "Official Bulletin" of Republican National Treasurer Upham, Chief Exhibit Being Typewritten List Showing Campaign Quotas Imposed on 51 Principal Cities in 27 States Aggregating \$8,145,000.

In his speeches at Pittsburgh and New York City last week Governor Cox, Democratic nominee, gave abundant information to support his charges that a Republican campaign fund exceeding \$15,000,000 was being raised in a conspiracy to buy the presidency.

Governor Cox's data consisted almost entirely of matter taken from the official bulletin of Fred W. Upham, of Chicago, treasurer of the republican national committee, but his chief exhibit was a typewritten list purporting to show republican campaign quotas imposed on 51 principal cities in 27 states and aggregating \$8,145,000.

Names of local subscribers, Governor Cox said, were ordered kept secret. These quotas, given as \$2,000,000 for New York City; \$750,000,000 for Chicago; \$500,000 for Philadelphia and ranging down to \$25,000 for smaller cities like Atlanta, Ga., were said by Governor Cox to have been announced about the middle of July.

That Senator Harding, his republican opponent, "was acquainted with the details" of the quota plan and that it was also approved by Will H. Hays, chairman of the republican national committee, was charged by the democratic candidate.

Many Reports Quoted.

From subsequent issues of the official bulletin, Governor Cox quoted many reports from republican workers throughout the country, reporting going "over the top" and in excess of the alleged quotas.

Announcement of the \$8,145,000 metropolitan quotas, Governor Cox said, was made by Harry M. Blair, assistant to Treasurer Upham. A meeting was held in Chicago, Governor Cox said, at which Will H. Hays, chairman of the republican national committee, "spoke his blessings".

The governor charged that typewritten sheets bearing the 51 cities' quotas were "distributed to those assembled" and he produced one of the alleged lists, but did not state how it was acquired.

That the reputed attempt to raise \$8,145,000 from 51 cities in 27 of the 47 states is fair evidence that the total national fund will be much larger was declared by Governor Cox, who said big business men were prominent on the republican ways and means committee and that the raising of funds was on a business "salesmanship" basis.

Governor Cox also quoted from statements in the republican bulletin that state and county organizations were not to be disturbed or retarded in their activities.

Warns Business Men.

"If the league does not become a thing in fact," the candidate said, "and a vital organization in the affairs of the world, it is my judgment that not a single European nation will ever be able to pay its national debt, and if that is not paid, then what becomes of the fiscal conditions overseas? The financial stability of the world depends upon the adoption of the league of nations, and yet thousands of the very men who above all others, are interested in that are attempting to install an administration which intends to scrap the league. But it will not succeed."

Chicago, Aug. 30.—An extended examination today of Will H. Hays, Republican national chairman, and Homer S. Cummings, former Democratic national chairman, by the Senate committee investigation campaign expenditures failed to throw any light on the \$15,000,000 fund which Governor Cox charged the Republican party with seeking to raise "in an attempt to corrupt the American electorate and buy the Presidency."

CAPT. WILL FLEMING IS MOVING TO ROCKY MT.

The people of Oxford and Granville county regret to lose Capt. and Mrs. Will Fleming. Capt. Fleming has purchased a large warehouse and handsome home in Rocky Mount. Mrs. Fleming left yesterday for Rocky Mount to get the home in readiness. The family will be greatly missed here.

MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Baptizing in Shelton Creek Next Sunday Morning.

Regular monthly church conference will be held at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Berea, next Saturday, Sept. 4, at 3 P. M.

Baptizing in Shelton's Creek Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. Regular Sunday services at the church at 11 A. M.

Your battery should have water about every two weeks. Stop at Willard Service Station.

OPENING OF THE OXFORD TOBACCO MARKET POSTPONED ONE WEEK

Inability of Buyers to Come Earlier Than September 20 Causes Delay—All Markets in This Section Affected.

A joint meeting of the Oxford Tobacco Board of Trade and the Durham, Henderson, Louisburg and Warrenton warehousemen, held in Henderson last Saturday, decided to delay the opening of the market for one week, and fixed Monday, September 20, as the date for the starting of sales, instead of Tuesday, September 14, as had previously been determined. The cause for the delay is understood to be the inability of buyers to finish in the South Carolina belt in time to get here for the start.

The postponement affects all the markets in this section which were to have opened on September 14, including Oxford, Durham, Warrenton, Louisburg and probably other smaller towns.

ASSAULTS BY COX PUTS REPUBLICANS ON THE DEFENSIVE

Democratic Candidate's Dynamic Methods Revelation to American People.

Washington, Aug. 29.—Governor Cox is proving himself a veritable revelation to the American people and a terror to the Republican party is the verdict of some of the persons who witnessed the candidate's reception in New York yesterday. He has put the enemy on the run with his fierce assaults. Chairman Will Hays slipped out of town two days before he was scheduled to go and is now closeted with the lords of the Republican party on the Mariani back porch.

At New Haven, Cox won the Republican faculty of Yale almost in a body. Prof. Irving Fisher, who had just returned from an interview with Senator Harding on the League of Nations, said that he was an independent Republican, that he had never voted for a man for President who was not elected, and that he intended to vote for Cox. He said Cox would be elected because the great independent element that always elects was for Cox. Cox is winning the educators and the teachers and churchmen everywhere on the League of Nations issue. Practically every Episcopal clergyman in the State of New York is working for the Democratic candidate.

REMAINS OF MRS. COOPER LAID TO REST IN ELMWOOD

The funeral services of Mrs. Henry G. Cooper, Jr., were conducted from her home Saturday morning by Rev. F. H. T. Horsfield, rector of St. Stephen's Church and Rev. Stuart R. Oglesby, pastor of the Presbyterian Church. The following hymns were sweetly rendered: "Abide With Me," "O Mother Dear Jerusalem," "There Is a Blessed Home," "Peace, Perfect Peace." Miss Berte Hutchings sweetly sang "Crossing the Bar," the favorite poem of the deceased. The floral tributes were numerous and lovely. The interment was in the Horner plot in Elmwood Cemetery, and the active plot bearers were: B. K. Lassiter, B. W. Parham, W. T. Yancey, Ashbourn Capehart, J. B. Powell, A. H. A. Williams, J. C. Cooper, J. W. Horner, honorary—R. W. Lassiter, W. Landis, W. A. Devin, E. T. White, W. B. Ballou, John Webb, C. H. Landis, B. S. Royster, R. P. Taylor, R. L. Brown, J. G. Hall, R. H. Lewis, T. Lanier, A. H. Powell, T. G. Stem. Out of town relatives attending the service were: S. W. Cooper, Fayetteville; Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Horner and Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Horner, Henderson; Mrs. Brubaker, Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Webb, Durham; Mr. and Mrs. Watts Carr, Durham; Mrs. R. C. Strong, Raleigh; Mr. and Mrs. Kirksey, St. Louis.

WORK STARTED ON FERTILIZER PLANT IN HENDERSON

The Henderson Daily Dispatch states that work has been begun on the new fertilizer plant of the American Agricultural Chemical Company, which is to be rebuilt on a sixty-acre tract recently purchased about one mile north of Henderson. James E. Brodie, manager of the Henderson works, announced that satisfactory arrangements had been made about the land acquired, and that the big enterprise would remain in Henderson, following the destruction by fire last spring of the factory located just south of the city.

Along with the construction work now under way a large house will be built much on the style of army barracks for the accommodation of the large force which will be employed in the undertaking. The outfit will mean a financial outlay by the company of approximately \$750,000. Mr. Brodie announced.

RALEIGH WOMEN FIRST IN STATE TO VOTE

Raleigh, Aug. 30.—Raleigh women will be the first in the state to enjoy the privilege of voting, it now appears, the county commissioners having ordered a special school election for October 2. Advocates of woman suffrage declare this is a fitting start for exercising the ballot, as women are primarily interested in schools and other matters that affect children.

COMPARISON OF TOBACCO PRICES FOR THREE HUNDRED YEARS

The Highest Price in the History of the Weed Was Reached in 1919.

A comparison of tobacco prices for the last 300 years shows that the height was reached in 1919. Scant information is at hand concerning the prices of tobacco to growers before 1863. In the money of the time, the Jamestown tobacco sent to England in 1618-02 had a price of 54 3/4 cents a pound, but by 1639 the price had fallen to 6.08 cents, and by 1664 to 3.09 cents. A price of 1.52 cents is recorded for the Virginia and Maryland crop of 1730, of 4.2 cents for that of 1735 and from 2.3 to 4.55 cents thereafter for the Colonial crops of various years to 1790. The producers' average selling price of the tobacco of 1847 has been estimated to have been 5 cents a pound; of 1849, 7 cents, and of 1853, 10 cents per pound. These facts are assembled in an article contained in the Yearbook of the United States Department of Agriculture, recently issued. The annual estimate of the producers' average price of tobacco by the Bureau of Crop Estimates began in 1863 with 14.8 cents per pound in gold. In the decade 1865-74 the average was 9.5 cents, and low water mark since the Civil War was reached in 1895-1904, when the average was 7 cents. In one year—1896—the price was as low as 6 cents. Thereafter the upward movement of prices brought tobacco to 10.1 cents per pound in 1905-14, 4.7 cents in 1916, 24 cents in 1917, 14.7 cents in 1918, and 39 cents in 1919. The gain in prices since 1896 may not have been entirely due to the diminishing purchasing power of the dollar. There was increased cost of production, and producers have been stronger financially and more able to hold for a higher price. Moreover, the post-war demand has been unprecedented.

THE BIG EVENT OF NORTH GRANVILLE

The Community Fair Will Be Held At Stovall Thursday, September 30th.

Taken as a whole, there is not a more progressive people in the county than the North Granville community. The annual fairs which they have been holding at Stovall for the past few years have been of untold benefit to the community, and the fair to be held there Thursday, September 30, is larger and better in every way than all the previous efforts.

Mr. N. W. Weldon, secretary of the fair, states that he is highly pleased with the interest manifested in the forthcoming event, and that no efforts on the part of the management will be spared to make it the success that it should be.

From the present outlook, said Secretary Weldon, there will be more and better exhibits this year than ever before. "There are people in every community," said Mr. Weldon, "that are slow to take hold and work for the success of the community in which they live, but practically everybody in North Granville this year are united in an effort to make the fair the best that has been held at Stovall."

The handsome premium list of the North Granville Community Fair will be found in a special section of this issue of the Public Ledger. The awards are such as will awaken interest and friendly rivalry among the good old families in the northern half of Granville county.

DR. W. C. TYREE WILL PREACH AT THE OXFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

There will be no prayer meeting at the Oxford Baptist Church Wednesday night, but everyone is invited to hear Dr. W. C. Tyree, of Greenwood, Miss. Thursday night promptly at 8 o'clock. The opening exercise will begin by the Sunbeam Band.

On Thursday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock the Woman's Missionary Union of Flat River Association will hold its first session, and on Friday there will be an all-day meeting. The women and girls are invited to the day session, and everybody to the night session.

GEORGIA TOBACCO ON THE OXFORD MARKET

Equal To the Best Grown in Granville County.

Mr. W. T. Currin, who has been down in Lincoln county, Georgia, this season teaching the natives how to raise, cure and market tobacco, arrived in Oxford last Saturday with Mr. T. H. Ward, of Lincoln, Ga., who came to Oxford with a view of selling his large crop of high grade tobacco on this market. After consulting local tobacco men Mr. Ward stated that he intended to sell his entire crop here.

This season is the first experience Mr. Ward has had with tobacco. He is highly pleased with the methods Mr. Currin employed on his Georgia farm to produce a high grade tobacco.

Mr. Ward, who is not at all familiar with tobacco, brought samples with him, which he exhibited with much glee. When informed by local tobaccoists that his samples were equal to anything grown here he was ready to treat everybody he met.

THE FARMERS MUST RECEIVE AN ADEQUATE PRICE

(E. T. Medrith, Sec. Agriculture)

In spite of generally unsettled conditions, unprecedented difficulty in securing labor and transportation facilities, high cost of materials, and uncertainty as to future prices for farm products, the farmers of the United States have proceeded in good faith this year to raise a crop better than the average. They are repeating, under the difficulties of readjustment, the assurance, given by their magnificent achievement during the war, that they are not to be daunted nor deterred by adverse conditions from contributing their full share to the welfare of the whole country. Looking upon the record of American farmers during these two periods of extreme stress and strain, the one following the other so closely that there was no chance for relaxation, I have absolute confidence that the future efforts of American farmers will fall nothing short of their full duty to society.

Specifically, there is a prospect of a wheat crop exceeding prewar average about one hundred million bushels, a corn crop of two and three-quarters billion bushels, or one hundred and fifty million more than prewar average; oats, one and one-third million bushels, or one hundred and fifty million more than prewar average; barley in excess and rye more than double prewar average; potatoes exceeding five-year average; record-breaking rice and tobacco crops; hay and flaxseed exceeding five-year average; cotton, grain sorghums, and apples better than last year, and record sugar beet and sorghum syrup crops.

The cost per unit of producing these crops unquestionably was considerably greater than for any previous crop in the last half century, and business men, as well as all other elements of population, must realize that if the record made by the farmers during the war and the period of readjustment is to be maintained and the food requirements of the Nation met, producers must receive adequate prices for their products—prices which will enable them to continue to produce, to secure a reasonable return for their efforts, and to maintain a satisfactory standard of living for themselves and for their families.

N. CAROLINA TOBACCO CROP

The Indications Are That Farmers Are Holding Tobacco For Better Prices. (Farm Forecaster)

The three North Carolina counties having open tobacco markets during July are located on the edge of the Carolina tobacco belt, and the development of the bright leaf is making rapid growth in these Southern counties. While the three counties show an average decrease in the tobacco area of about 6 per cent, the entire section extending from Moore down through Columbus, shows a remarkable increase in the crop.

The State's tobacco acreage showed an increase of 13.6 per cent over last year's 523,359 acres. 73,221 acres of this area are located in the section around these markets. The condition of the State's crop, 88 per cent, is 12 per cent better than at this time last year, and forecasts a total production of over 400,000,000 pounds. Last year the sales amounted to 223,371,242 pounds, at a total value of \$161,038,878. The total producers sales for July last year were 6,645,451 pounds.

Reports of injury to crop from disease, excessive rains, drought, etc., come from sections all over the tobacco belt.

The Whiteville market averaged highest for the month, \$28.76, and St. Paul lowest with \$14.71 per hundred pounds. The total sales, 3,625,960 pounds would indicate that farmers are holding their tobacco from the market for better prices, as the increased acreage with improved conditions show a larger production than last year. This will likely hold these markets open longer than usual. Prices are recovering from a sudden slump during the month, which was probably due to weather, poor grades, and the evidences of the leaf being gathered and cured too early.

Three new markets which were not reporting last year, with seven warehouses, had sales during the month, making a total of 27 warehouses operating. Seventeen were operating in July, 1919.

JOHN WILKERSON IN JAIL

Beat Up a Woman Last Year and Did the Same Thing Last Week.

About one year ago John Wilkerson, colored, frilled a colored woman near Huntsboro. He was arrested and lodged in jail, but the Judge released him to raise a crop, and when the crop was raised John failed to return.

Last week he met the same woman that he frilled a year ago. The sight of the woman was too much for John, and the devil within grew. He beat her up so bad it will be some time before she will be able to testify against him. John is in jail and the woman's condition is serious.

—When the story of housing problem comes to be written the quiet work of the local building and loan association may be given the appreciation it deserves.