



The effects of the drought are shown on the farm of Jesse Gardner in Sixpound Township, one of the worst hit townships in the county, on Wednesday morning. In top picture, Gardner stands in tobacco fields and raises his arm to show how tall tobacco was on same field last year. In center and bottom pictures, Gardner stands in field of cotton and field of corn. (Staff Photos)

Drought Loss Estimated At Two And Half Million

Severe drought in six townships and poor rains in other townships will cost Warren County farmers an estimated two and a half million dollars, Frank Reams, agricultural agent, said yesterday. He said the rains of Tuesday will do little to change the picture.

The loss is in addition to \$700,000 loss suffered in a severe hail storm two weeks ago that caused heavy damage in Sandy Creek Township, and in other sections of the county.

The drought has been the most severe in Nuthush, Smith Creek, Sixpound, Hawtree, River and Roanoke townships. Reams said the damage to all cash crops and hay crops has been severe in these townships.

Reams said that an area from the center of the western part of the county has had considerable rain, and from the center to the southeastern part of the county rains have been excellent. The southern part of the county has had fair rains. Unfortunately, he said, the worst drought has hit in a large tobacco producing section of the county.

If the drought gets no worse, Reams said, farmers may expect a 20 per cent drop in income from tobacco, or a loss of about a million dollars. He said he estimates a 50 per cent drop in corn and a 50 per cent drop in small grain. In spite of the drought, he added, cotton income is expected to increase about a third of a million dollars. Also hurt by the drought have been cantaloupes and cucumbers.

In addition to cash crop losses, livestock production has been hard hit by the drought, Reams said, due to dry pastures and reduction of silage and hay crops. Farmers, who have been feeding hay and silage usually reserved for winter, will be particularly hard hit, he said. Reams said that hay has been hard to find and has to be brought in largely from Canada.

Except for irrigation the tobacco loss would have been much greater, Reams said.

Town Board Agrees To Buy Site

The board of town commissioners Monday night agreed to purchase 5 acres of land from John Dinan of Rocky Mount for a site for a sewage disposal plant on Horse Branch near Fishing Creek in the event that Warrenton citizens give a favorable vote to a bond issue for its construction.

The price of \$3250 agreed upon by Dinan and the commissioners came after two hours of dickering between Dinan, his attorney, Milton Fields, and members of the board, during which proposals and counter proposals were made. As a part of the deal, Dinan agreed to permit the widening of the road leading to the water plant and to the site of the proposed treatment plant to the extent that a roadbed of 16 feet would be permitted.

Originally Dinan had asked \$12,000 for some 36 acres running from Fishing Creek to Route 401. The town had rejected this offer and made an offer of \$3,000 for 4 1/2 acres needed for a site for the plant. At the Monday night meeting, Fields said that his client did not consider this enough as the price of the four acres should include severance pay lying below the site which, he said, would become practically useless. This led to a later offer by the board to buy this land and the proposed site for a total of \$3500. This offer was rejected.

Dinan proposed that instead of the town buying 4 1/2 acres from him at a price of \$3,000, that it buy 5 acres at a price of \$3500. This offer was rejected by the board. After consultation, Dinan, through his attorney, agreed to sell 5 acres for \$3250. The board agreed to this proposal provided that the town would be permitted to widen its right-of-way across Dinan's property. Dinan accepted this offer.

Dinan is the son of the former Miss Josephine Hudgins and the grandson of the late John Hudgins. The site to be purchased in the event the bond issue is passed is a part of the John Hudgins estate.

Mobile Classroom Units Purchased

Three mobile classrooms will be purchased for the John R. Hawkins High School at Warrenton to take care of increased enrollment.

The decision to buy the units—at a cost of some \$6,000 each—was made at a meeting of the board of education here on Monday night.

Plans to remodel an old school building across the road from the Hawkins school, previously discussed by the board, were found to be impractical, Supt. Roger Peeler reported to the board. J. Comer Griffin, assistant superintendent of schools, said Tuesday morning that it is hoped that the classroom units will arrive here in time for the opening of school.

Draft Board Seeks To Find Registrants

The Warren County Draft Board is seeking aid in locating registrants who have not complied with recent requirements of the board, Selby Benton, chairman, said yesterday.

Members of their families, he said, are asked to render help in locating registrants listed below, and if any are deceased to notify the draft board. The list follows: Thomas Edward Campbell, Charles Franklin Harris, Jr., Freddie Lee Palmer, William Edward Reid, Henry Hunter Rowlett, Jesse Norman Williams, John Earl Williams.

Norlina Voters To Decide Bond Issue Fate Tuesday

Norlina voters will go to the polls on next Tuesday, August 20, to decide the fate of a \$40,000 supplementary bond issue for the construction of a sewer system and a sewage treatment plant. Polls will open at 6:30 a. m. and close at 6:30 p. m.

Aug. 21 Deadline For Nominations

Petitions signed by six or more eligible voters nominating persons for membership on ASC Community Committees will be received at the ASC county office until August 21. T. E. Watson, ASC office manager, said yesterday. The names of incumbent committeemen may be included in the notice. Community committeemen elections will be held on Sept. 17.

Farmers Being Paid Some \$152,000 For Diverting Acres

Warren County farmers are being paid approximately \$152,000 this year for diverting acreage from corn, wheat and barley under the 1963 Feed Grain and Wheat Stabilization programs, Thomas E. Watson, ASCS office manager, said yesterday. Final payments are now being made at the county ASCS office.

Under the 1963 Feed Grain Program, Watson said, 452 producers agreed to divert 4,406 acres from the production of barley, corn and grain sorghums, and under the Wheat Stabilization Program, 536 farms diverted 2,335 acres from wheat to conservation uses.

Watson said that advanced payments made at the time agreements were signed under the two programs amount to \$68,699 and that final payments would be considerably larger due to price support on acreages planted.

Farmers are being notified by postal card when their payment is ready. Watson said all producers must sign for their final payments and where several growers on one farm receive payments, all must sign before delivery of any payment for the farm.

Lions Club Gives Dinner For Blind

The Warrenton Lions Club entertained some twenty guests at its regular meeting at Hotel Warren on last Friday night when it gave its annual dinner for the blind. A delicious turkey dinner was served.

Edward Rooker gave the invocation and also the address of welcome to the guests. Monroe Gardner led group singing with Lioness Nellie Gardner at the piano.

J. Howard Daniel, who was in charge of the program, presented his sister, Mrs. Rebecca Newman, and his sister-in-law, Mrs. Leonard Daniel, who gave a musical program. Mrs. Newman, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Daniel, sang a number of songs which called forth encores. Lion Jim Bracken of the Henderson Lions Club was a guest of Duke Miles. Bracken was on the trip to Florida with the Warrenton group.

Officers Searching For Store Robbers; Pattern Followed

Members of the Warren County Sheriff's Department and an SBI agent are still searching for the persons who broke into the J. C. Watkins Store at Drewry on Sunday night.

Robbers broke into the store and attempted to break open the safe, but apparently were unsuccessful, officers said. The combination of the safe was knocked off by the intruders. Holes were bored around the lock at the front door as a means of gaining entrance. Deputy Bonnie Stevenson said this was the same procedure used in two weekend robberies in Vance County, leading officers to believe that there may be a connection between the three robberies.

A quantity of shoes, cigarettes, an electric drill and other items were carried away. The store is located on the Warren County side of the county line in Drewry.

Claude Haithcock Loses Life In Auto Wreck Near Hebron Church



The automobile of Claude Haithcock of Churchill is shown on wrecker and the car of Ollie Boyd lies in the road near Hebron Church in Sixpound Township following a wreck on last Saturday morning that cost Mr. Haithcock his life. (Staff Photo)

These bonds are to be retired annually for a period of 38 years by a tax increase of 40c, making a total tax rate of \$1.75. In addition, Mayor Grissom said there would be a sewer service charge of 75¢, making a minimum monthly service charge for water and sewer of \$5.25, plus 61c for each additional 1000 gallons of water.

A. B. Laughter is registrar for the election and A. J. Peronne and Mrs. J. B. Lewis are judges of election. Mayor Graham Grissom said yesterday that he hopes that voters will give their full support to the bond issue. Any town that hopes to grow, to attract industries, and additional citizens can not hope to do so without a good sewage system, he said. "Due to many relatively small residential lots in Norlina, a system of septic tanks is impractical, and actually creates a health menace," he said. "I hope every voter will not only go to the polls himself but will get his neighbor to go and cast a vote in favor of an issue which I sincerely believe to be in the best interest of Norlina."

Roddy Drake Named Conference Chairman

Roddy Drake, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Drake of Macon, was named Citizenship Chairman of the North Carolina Conference Council of Methodist Youth last week during the annual conference session on Duke Campus.

Roddy, a rising senior at John Graham High School, will work on the Council and strive to promote better youth citizens. He will attend the annual conference session next year as an officer.

Others attending the conference from Warren County were Charles Drake of Macon, Misses Ann Hicks of Norlina, Gail Fleming of Vicksboro, Helen Andrews of Afton and Faye Clark of Warrenton.

Mr. Haithcock was a member of Johnston-Caswell Lodge No. 10 AF&AM; a director of Warren General Hospital, a former education board chairman, a member of the Cullom Baptist Association executive committee, and a member of the board of deacons of Gardner's Church.

Surviving are his widow, the former Mollie Adcock; two daughters, Mrs. Sam Neils of Raleigh and Mrs. John P. Young of Sanford; two brothers, Herbert C. Haithcock of Leaksville and Harvey J. Haithcock of Warrenton; a sister, Mrs. John C. Overton of Rocky Mount; and four grandchildren.