

# THE ZEBULON RECORD

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Theo. Davis Sons, Telephone 2561



Pictured at a USO Club are a soldier and a Santa Fe Indian, completing a trade of clothing and souvenirs, after a barter session between the two. Such activities are sponsored by the USO clubs, supported by the Red Cross, funds for which were raised in part in the Zebulon campaign completed Tuesday.

## Commissioner of Agriculture Advises Economy This Year

By W. KERR SCOTT

Prices which farmers throughout the United States receive this year will run about 10 per cent below those experienced in the autumn of 1946. It is anticipated that the decline will be rather sharp next winter, and that the average for the 1947-48 farm marketing year may be as much as 18 per cent under the levels of last year.

### Farmers Urged to Keep By State Forester Fire Loss Low in '47

Co-operation of Zebulon farmers in preventing forest fires during the danger months of February to June is asked by W. K. Beichler, State Forester.

Most local forest fires the state forester declared, are the results of plantbed and new ground fires getting out of control. "If farmers will exercise a little extra care in picking calm days for burning off new ground," Beichler continued, "thousands of dollars will be saved this spring in the four counties surrounding Zebulon."

He declared that if no calm day  
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### Crowder Back on Job, Willie B. Still Ailing

Night Policeman Crowder, injured in an automobile crash Saturday night, March 1, has been released from Rex Hospital and is back on his job again.

Chief of Police Willie B. Hopkins, injured in the same accident, is still hospitalized, but was reported by Rex Hospital attendants Wednesday to be resting comfortably.

## Revolution In Agriculture Seen For Community In Next Decade

Cotton may again be king in North Carolina, if tobacco prices drop as much as expected and mechanical devices developed for working the cotton crop prove as successful as the makers claim.

In addition to the mechanical improvements, cotton research workers have developed many new uses for cotton, both the lint and the seed. Demand for cotton, both domestic and foreign, is expected to increase rapidly in the next decade, say such experts as Dr. W. J. Jacobs of Char-

lotte and Dr. David Killough of Texas.

### North Carolina Tobacco Crop Brings Over Six Hundred Million Dollars

Although North Carolina has yet to produce a billion-dollar tobacco crop, the total value of the weed crop is increasing every year. In 1946 the tobacco crop in North Carolina brought farmers a gross of \$640,000,000, over a hundred million dollars higher than 1945's return of \$507,000,000.

The cost of producing last year's crop—for which no figures have been obtained from the government—was probably also more than a hundred million dollars higher than in 1945, which is borne out by the average Zebulon farmer having no more to spend this year than last; many a farmer cashed in some of his war bonds in December. Certainly the labor shortage was more severe last summer than ever, with many farmers losing much of their crop in the field in Nash and Wilson Counties and Wake and Johnston farmers suffering to a lesser degree.

The average price per pound in 1946 was 48 cents, which was ten per cent higher than the 1945 average and exactly twice the average price of 24 cents a pound paid for the years 1934-38.

### Massey Speaks to Local Rotary Club on War Caused Booms, Slumps

Dr. L. M. Massey discussed war-caused periods of prosperity and recession at the Rotary Club meeting here last Friday night, citing all major economic swings since the American Revolution.

Dr. Massey, who is the Rotary "3-minute speaker," took the program on short notice, and brought an interesting message to the members. He utilized a chart in comparing the rising taxation of our country and the constantly increasing public wealth—and debt.

Ferd Davis had the program the week previous, and spoke on world trends in government as end products of philosophical thought.

Local attention has been focussed on the mechanical developments by the efforts of Coy and Thurman Pate, brothers of Zebulon, Route 4, to obtain a cotton picker for this community from the International Harvester Company in Charlotte. Machines of this type are already in use in Wayne County and at Red Springs.

Cotton production has been brought another step closer to an entirely mechanical process with the development of a flame thrower that kills grass and weeds, but leaves the sturdy cotton stalk unharmed. It is being manufactured and offered for sale by the New Holland Manufacturing Company.

Mechanical cotton choppers have already been developed, and are being sold this year by Raleigh Alford and other local farm implement dealers. Their use is not yet widespread, but the dealers declare they are about as good as the average men at chopping cotton—thinning, they hasten to add.

Many local farmers have simply quit growing cotton because of the labor problem involved. This problem resolves itself into one of getting the cotton chopped and picked, since local cotton ginners have plenty of labor and equipment to handle almost any size crop.

This year many farmers reported paying \$3.00 and \$3.50 per hundred pounds for cotton picking, and some few reported having to pay \$4.00 to \$4.50 to get poor stands of cotton picked. At this price, it simply is not profitable to grow cotton in this section.

The Pate brothers hope to alleviate this situation. The picker they have in mind will pick 800 pounds of cotton per hour, and can pick night and day, the dew making the cotton actually pick better.

The flame thrower mentioned is a modification of the army unit. (The writer has seen this flame thrower in action on Guadalcanal and Munda, where the army used it to kill grass and weeds in camp areas.) Captain Price C. McElmore, a Tank Corps reserve officer from Montgomery, Alabama,  
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### Massey's Hatchery Still Worked to Capacity With Other N. C. Units

North Carolina's poultry business, which has become big business in the last decade with a total value of over \$16,800,000 this month, is nonetheless smaller than it was a year ago, smaller by two per cent, according to Department of Agriculture reports.

Massey's Hatchery reports heavier hatchings than ever for the local market, and other hatcheries throughout the State report the same thing: for the month of January there were 44 per cent more chicks delivered in North Carolina than for the same month in 1946. A total of 2,300,000 chicks were hatched in January of this year in this state.

One important reason for the decline in the total value of poultry is the scarcity of beef and pork during most of last year, brought about in part by the uncertainty of whether or not OPA was to survive. The growth of the freezer locker system in North  
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### Mrs. Sudie Richardson Dies at Corinth Home After Lingered Illness

Funeral services for Mrs. Sudie Richardson, 63, of Wendell, Route 1, were held yesterday afternoon at 2:30 at the Corinth Baptist Church, with the Rev. J. N. Stancil of Rocky Mount conducting the services. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Richardson, who died Wednesday night following an extended illness, is survived by her husband, A. E. Richardson; two sons, H. O. and Graham Richardson; four daughters, Mrs. Dillard Tippet, Mrs. Dox Willoughby, Mrs. Ayden Rhodes and Mrs. Fernie Hocutt, all of Wendell, Route 1.

Two brothers, A. A. Alford and Donald Alford, both of Wendell, Route 1; seven sisters, Mrs. J. A. Phelps of Raleigh, Route 5; Mrs. Abbie Batchelor of Middlesex, R. 2; Mrs. J. S. Woodruff of Raleigh; Mrs. Mack Batchelor of Zebulon; Mrs. G. E. Hocutt and Mrs. Bud Carroll of Wendell, Route 1; and 12 grandchildren.

## OPA Handles 15,000 Letters Daily

While Congressional committees discuss its future, the Office of Price Administration still carries on a heavy workload in the Southeast, according to figures released by the Atlanta Regional Office.

The rent offices in the eight Southeastern States received complaints from 6,647 tenants during the past month, and handled 5,782 compliance actions, James P. Davis, Regional Administrator, reported. During the same period, landlords sought permission

from OPA to evict 1,792 families, and rent offices were asked for rent increases in 5,013 cases, he said.

OPA's sugar offices are also quite active with their regular duties, Davis pointed out. The eight branch sugar offices in the Southeast are receiving an estimated total of 83,500 telephone calls, visitors, letters and postcards each month, he said.

During the first two months of this year, OPA granted sugar allotments ranging from 10 pounds

to several thousand pounds, to 46,396 institutional users, the executive stated. Sugar rations, ranging from 100 pounds to fifty thousand pounds, have also been granted to 10,318 industrial users by the Atlanta regional office for the first quarter of 1947, Davis added.

Indicative of the volume of work still conducted by the agency, the administrator said, is the mail received by the regional office in Atlanta, averaging 15,000 pieces daily.

### Ellington, Davis to Be On Program for P-TA

Ed Ellington, instructor in agriculture at Wakelon School, will present a quartet at the meeting of the school's parent-teacher group next Monday night at 7:30 p. m.

Ferd Davis, editor of The Zebulon Record, will speak on the basic topic of "Firm Foundations," relating "nationwide reforms to progress in our home community.