

THE ZEBULON RECORD

Volume XXVII. Number 92.

Zebulon, N. C., Tuesday, August 19, 1952

Theo. Davis Sons, Publishers.

Bright Tobacco Markets to Open on August 21

Uncle Ferd Tries It Again, This Time with Odd Facts on Tobacco

Uncle Ferd returns to the journalistic wars with this issue of the *Record*, after an absence of some five weeks, during which he missed his readers more, apparently, than they missed him. At any rate, we didn't have anybody threatening to cancel their subscriptions because Uncle Ferd's column didn't appear—nobody but me, that is, and I don't pay for my paper anyhow.

I am a fairly busy man. During the past 32 years I have acquired one habit, eating, which I should like to continue. That means that I have to work like a little Trojan in the modern printing plant of Theo Davis Sons. (I have found that my feet hurt just as bad in a modern plant as in an antiquated plant; it's just a higher class pain in our shop!

Forgotten Chore

In addition, I have a position (really just a job) on the special staff of the 30th Infantry Division, and have some few duties with the Board of Conservation & Development. Finally, I am working toward a law degree at Wake Forest College, a goal I somehow overlooked in the excitement of 1) World War II and 2) raising a family.

Finally, when the boys marched off to Fort McClellan this summer, I stayed here and tried to get the work out. Consequently I got behind on everything, including my

fishing. But now school is over, my piscatorial affairs are in order, and there is no political campaign in the immediate future; so Uncle Ferd is back with his veritable storehouse of useless facts, this week about that elegant weed variously described as God's boon to man and a depraver of humanity, known to botanists as nicotina and to us plain folks as tobacco:

Deadly Poison

Tobacco contains nicotine, a stimulant and a deadly poison, if taken in sufficient quantities (so is salt, for that matter!). In an organic chemistry experiment I once distilled some nicotine sulfate from cigarettes, sprinkled it on beef liver, and fed it to a cat. The cat immediately became deader than the Republican party in Little River Township. Thereafter I smoked twice as many cigarettes so I could get all the enjoyment possible from them before they killed me.

The white man adopted the use of tobacco in whatever form he found the Indians using it. Thus the Spanish who settled in the West Indies and Cuba picked up the use of cigars, the English learned pipe smoking from the Indians of Virginia and North Carolina, and the Mexican settlers learned the use of cigarettes from the Aztecs, who wrapped corn husks around tobacco and made a passable cigarette therefrom. (Continued on Page 2)

THURSDAY IS THE BIG DAY



LEAF MARKET OPENS AUGUST 21

Farmers Prepare To Sell Hardwon '52 Money Crop

Despite one of the longest droughts in years, which reduced portions of the tobacco growing section of America to disaster areas, Zebulon farmers will begin moving their 1952 tobacco to market in earnest on Thursday, August 21, with current expectations of a fair to good return for their labors.

With the opening of the bright belt markets Thursday, local farmers start the serious business of realizing the most for their chief money crop. Some farmers have already sold a small amount of leaf on border markets, mostly for money to finish harvesting, and at least one local farmer carried a load of tobacco to the Georgia markets; but many Zebulon growers still have more leaf in the field than they have harvested.

Many Perils

Dogged by severe attacks of black snank and wilt and plagued by voracious insect attacks, the farmers have nonetheless apparently won their battle to produce America's number one luxury—raised by most Americans to the status of a necessity. Now they depend upon warehousemen to get them a fair return for their investment.

In addition to insects and diseases, the local leaf crop has been hard hit by hail.

Warehousemen in neighboring market towns have spared no effort to provide ample floor space in well-lighted buildings for best marketing of the 1952 crop. Wendell, Rocky Mount and Wilson warehousemen have all expended large sums of money in new construction, and now are actively soliciting patronage from Zebulon growers, most of whom sell on more than one market.

Nine Warehouses

Nine warehouses will open in Wendell Thursday for the sale of leaf tobacco, with two Wendell firms buying on the market, Monk-Henderson and Renfro, for resale and foreign shipment.

Wilson and Rocky Mount offer their usual facilities, with Smith and Wainright Warehouses in Wilson engaging Zebulon representatives this year. Oxford warehouses, which open later in the fall, will also have local representatives to assist in moving the crop to market.

Prices Doubtful

Few Zebulon growers have ventured to predict what the current crop will bring. Most of them, thankful for the recent break in inclement weather, have contented themselves with estimating acreage yields, merely expressing hope as to the market price of their crops.

But after Thursday and Friday of this week, most of the farmers will have a good idea of whether they will pay out or not this year, as, indeed, many already know. Generally their prospects are not so good as in banner years, but compared to local prospects of three weeks ago conditions have reached a stage where they can be described as "fair for any year, good for 1952."

Tobacco Demonstration Held for Wake Farmers

G. L. Winchester
S. W. Holleman

Each year the Extension Service conducts variety demonstrations of tobacco in the state. Two such demonstrations are being conducted this year in Wake County on the farms of Willie Lee Edwards in the Morrisville section and Willard Faison of the Knightdale community. Last spring Grady Miller, County Agent, and the Soil Conservation Service personnel assisted the above farmers in laying off tobacco rows on the contour following the string method of laying them off.

Tour Is Made

A tour of these farms was conducted on Thursday observing particularly how the varieties were standing up against "black shank." The rows worked practically perfect on both farms. Mr. Edwards stated that it was the only way to run the rows. Mr. Faison, who planned to cultivate

his tobacco, stated that he was doubtful that it would work. In actual practice he said the cultivation was easy and entirely satisfactory. In the five acres he stated he possibly had two dozen rows and that he damaged very few plants in turning. He further stated that this disadvantage was more than offset by easier manipulation of the tractor on the level land rather than hard pulls up steep grades and greater penetration of water into the soil since it moved more slowly in the row middles with the result that he was producing a more uniform tobacco.

Mr. Edwards follows a two year rotation of (1) tobacco, and (2) small grain followed by weeds. Considerable organic matter was seen on the land. No doubt this helped in holding moisture to be used by the plant. Next year Mr. Edwards may sow tall fescue on some other areas with his small grain.

Nine Warehouse Firms to Serve Wendell Patrons for 1952 Season

By J. Bourke Bilisoly

When the Wendell Market opens August 21, nine warehouses will be ready to handle the millions of pounds of tobacco which will move into the Town of Wendell to be offered to the highest bidder during the selling season.

Farmers Warehouses

The Farmers Warehouses No. 1 and No. 2, one located on the corner of Third and Cypress Streets, and the other located on the corner of Third Street and Hollybrook Road, will be operated again by L. R. Clark, Sr., L. R. Clark, Jr., and Mrs. L. R. Clark. The Clarks are experienced warehouse people who have contributed a great deal to the growth of the local market. These houses

are popular with farmers and the familiar sight of truck after truck of golden tobacco driving up to the doors of these houses will be seen again on August 21

Liberty Warehouses

The Liberty Warehouse, patronized heavily last year by farmers from far and near, will once more be operated by two of the most competent warehousemen on the entire belt in the personages of Fred Harris and Isaac Medlin. This warehouse operated for the first time on the local market last year under its present management will be in full readiness to sell more tobacco in 1952 than it did in 1951 which was a very good year for a new warehouse.

(Continued on Page 3)

Wilson Market Ready for Leaf Season with Five Sets of Buyers

By A. B. Boswell

The Wilson tobacco market will begin its 63rd season as an auction tobacco market Thursday, August 21, at 9 o'clock.

The 1951 season closed November 30, ending the best season the market has ever witnessed, both in pounds sold and money paid out. During the 1951 season there was sold 93,341,002 pounds for \$52,011,565.92, averager \$55.74.

On Thursday morning, August 21, at 9 o'clock, the auctioneer's chant will begin Wilson's 63rd season. Everything is in readiness for a great opening. There will be 10 firms operating the 19 warehouses this season, and all have made arrangements to give their customers the best service ever. Each

of the 10 firms will have a sale every day, as shown on the master sales card; the first five up with a first sale starting at 9 o'clock, all sales alternating with a first one day and a second the following day.

There will be 10 companies located in Wilson this season, as follows: American Suppliers, Inc., Imperial Tobacco Co., Ltd., R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., Liggett and Meyers Tobacco Co., Export Leaf Tobacco Co., Jas I. Miller Tobacco Co., R. P. Watson Co., Wilson Tobacco Co., Standard Redryers, Inc., and Whitehead and Anderson, Inc. All these companies except Whitehead and Anderson will have buyers following the five sets of buyers on the market.

PARK WORK CONTINUES

The shelter at the community park site will be completed Wednesday night if sufficient workers volunteer to help with the project, according to Ed Hales, president of the Zebulon Chamber of Commerce. All that remains to be done is putting on the asphalt shingles and finishing the gables.

On Friday night the sheeting and roll roofing was put on under lights strung by the Town of Zebulon.

The work on the shelter will begin Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock and continue until supper. It will be resumed at 7:30 Wed-

nesday evening and will continue until the shelter is completed.

Plans for the shelter call for a large fireplace at the west end, to be built by the Zebulon Rotary Club. The stones for the fireplace are at the park site and construction is being held up until the shelter is finished.

Another fireplace will be built by the Zebulon Lions Club near the east end of the shelter.

Final clearing of the park site will be continued on Wednesday afternoon, according to Wilbur Debnam, chairman of the Finer Zebulon Steering Committee.