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Start Movement To Establish A Burley Tobacco Market Here

County Farm Agent C. J. Rich Makes Preliminary Investigation in Raleigh.

POUNDRAGE INCREASING

According to recent estimates, farmers in Ashe and surrounding Blue Ridge mountain counties raised a great deal more burley tobacco last year than they ever did before and with the view of providing a more convenient market for their gold-brown weed, a number of local business men, farmers and County Farm Agent C. J. Rich have been discussing ways and means by which a tobacco market might be established in West Jefferson.

The 1937 crop in Ashe county will total about 250,000 pounds as compared with 191,862 pounds in 1936; farmers in Alleghany raised around 68,000 pounds in 1936 and in 1937, the estimate is about 100,000 pounds; Watauga produced 126,252 pounds in 1936 and about 150,000 pounds in 1937; Avery had 23,000 pounds in 1936 and around 40,000 last year. In other words, according to the estimate there will be an increase of nearly 150,000 pounds in these four counties, or a total of nearly 550,000 pounds for 1937.

To sell their tobacco it is now necessary for the farmers in these adjoining counties to go to Abingdon, Va., Asheville, Johnson City, Morristown, or Greenville, Tenn. All five of these markets are a long ways from this section and as a result it is an expensive proposition to haul their tobacco this distance. Due to blocked sales it is frequently necessary for them to remain over one or two days to complete their sales.

They contend that Ashe county is the logical center for this Blue Ridge area; that West Jefferson is readily accessible to farmers in all four counties and that it would be an ideal place for a new burley tobacco market.

According to a letter which Mr. Rich received Tuesday from W. P. Hedrick, senior marketing specialist of the State Department of Agriculture, however, the chances of securing a market at this time do not appear favorable. The letter stated in part:

"The first thing that is necessary is warehouse facility large enough to handle a sufficient amount of tobacco to justify the expense of building them, or if they are built, to pay the interest on the investment made. Roughly, the floor space should be about 20,000 square feet for each of two houses.

"After the houses are assured, the companies are asked to arrange to send buyers. Naturally they ask how much tobacco the market would sell. I am informed that the companies are not interested in sending buyers to markets that cannot guarantee at least 3,000,000 pounds.

Mr. Rich and others are going to continue their investigation.

The Asheville market has sold nearly 5,000,000 pounds this year, breaking an all-time poundage record, for an average of about 23 cents. The Virginia and Tennessee market are also reporting record poundage, with their average ranging around 23 cents.

During recent weeks, however, prices have dropped considerably and are now averaging about 17 cents per pound.

The many friends of Mrs. C. R. Goswick regret to learn that she is still ill.

SHEETS DAUGHTER ALSO WINS PRIZE

The first baby born in Ashe this year was Jenivna Sheets, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sheets, of Wagoner and not Vance B. Pennington, according to an entry received after the contest closed last week. Jenivna was born on January 1 at 5 o'clock in the morning, 15 minutes before the Pennington boy arrived, according to the entry. To her parents, The Post is also giving a free subscription.

Miss Goldie Eller and Frank Shepherd, of Clifton, were married at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon of January 1. Can any couple in the county beat that date? If so, notify The Post.

BRIEF NEWS FROM THE Daily Headlines

JAPANESE PLAN TO FORM GOVERNMENT

Tokio, Jan. 18.—The Japanese ambassador to China was called home today as indications increased that Japan eventually would recognize the new Peiping regime as the government of China.

The recall of Ambassador Shigeru Kowagoe from Shanghai set the seal on the repudiation of the Chinese government of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek made in the Japanese government's statement last Sunday.

The chief secretary of the Japanese cabinet, Akira Kazama, asserted that this repudiation was stronger than a declaration of war. He said Japan considered Chiang's government only a local regime and did not intend to recognize it as the government of China by a declaration of war.

A foreign office spokesman disclosed events leading up to the break with Chinese government, confirming reports that Germany had sought to mediate the conflict.

FEDERAL SPENDING EXCEEDS ESTIMATE

Washington, Jan. 18.—The treasury reported today its deficit on January 15—6½ months of the fiscal year—was \$795,726,970.

President Roosevelt estimated two weeks ago that the deficit for the fiscal year would total \$1,294,345,300. In the first 6½ months of the last fiscal year, the deficit was \$1,504,482,147.

The treasury report showed both receipts and expenditures were continuing to run ahead of the previous fiscal year. Income since last June 30 totaled \$3,352,118,844, compared with \$2,321,732,756 in the comparable period of the previous year. Expenditures in the same period amounted to \$4,147,845,814, compared with \$3,826,214,903.

CRISIS IN FRANCE ENDS, NEW CABINET

Paris, Jan. 18.—Camille Chautemps, Radical-Socialist leader, tonight ended five stormy days in which France was without a government by forming a cabinet composed solely of members of his own party.

There were strong indications the cabinet would not be supported by Socialists, and the Communists already have repudiated it.

Chautemps, called upon to salvage his government that was driven from office at dawn Friday, announced the makeup of his new cabinet at 9 p. m. after conferring with President Albert Lebrun at Elysee palace.

PROJECT ON YADKIN DRAWS BOARD'S FIRE

Raleigh, Jan. 18.—The board of conservation and development tonight charged the federal power commission with overstepping its authority in assuming jurisdiction over the proposed \$6,000,000 hydroelectric dam at Tuckertown, on the Yadkin river.

A subcommittee was instructed to draft a resolution supporting Governor Hoyer's assertion that the commission had no control over the Montgomery county dam site.

REVIVAL TO CLOSE SUNDAY

The revival meeting at the Valley Home Baptist church, which has been in progress for several days, will close Sunday with a baptizing. Rev. T. A. Farmer, pastor, announces. The revival has been a most successful one, with 22 additions to the church having already been made. Mr. Farmer has been assisted in the preaching by Rev. A. C. Ashley.

Five Generations of Barker Family



Shown in the two pictures above are five generations of the Wilbur N. Barker family. In the bottom picture are Mr. and Mrs. Barker, of Troutdale and in the top picture are Mrs. Jane May, of Bina; her daughter, Mrs. Laura Powers, of Bina; Mrs. Nola Blevins, of Crumpler and Mrs. Blevins is holding her 7-month-old baby, Harold Lee. Mr. and Mrs. Barker had nine children, 7 of whom are now living, 5 boys and 2 girls. Another unusual thing is that Harold Lee has six grandmothers living.

Last Rites Held For Mrs. Beulah Wagoner Sunday

Died In Wilkes Hospital With Pneumonia. Large Crowd At Funeral.

MANAGER OF STORE

Funeral services were conducted at the Methodist church in Jefferson Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock for Mrs. Beulah Phipps Wagoner, of Sparta, who died in the Wilkes hospital at North Wilkesboro Saturday morning at 5 o'clock.

Mrs. Wagoner had been ill at her home in Sparta for several days and when she was carried to the hospital for treatment she developed pneumonia and died within a short time.

Mrs. Wagoner was the daughter of Mrs. Eva Phipps Blackburn, of Jefferson, and of the late Green Phipps of Baldwin. She married Tom Hamilton, of Beaver Creek, a member of one of Ashe county's most prominent families, and for several years lived at Beaver Creek. Later they moved to North Wilkesboro and were employed in Smithey's store there. Upon the death of Mr. Hamilton several years ago Mrs. Hamilton went to the Lenoir store where she was manager and when the firm opened a branch of their store in Sparta she was transferred there and was manager of that store until her death. Soon after going to Sparta, Mrs. Hamilton married Kern Wagoner, who was also employed in the Smithey's store there.

Mrs. Wagoner is survived by her husband, Kern Wagoner, of Sparta; her mother, Mrs. Eva Phipps Blackburn, of Jefferson; one daughter, Mrs. Masie Hamilton Reins, of North Wilkesboro; two grandchildren and the following sisters and brothers: Mrs. Fred G. Ray, West Jefferson, Mrs. Fred Davidson, Roanoke, Va., Mrs. Joe Worth, Jefferson, Mrs. Larry Colvard, Jefferson, Mrs. Jean Shores, High Point, and Vonley Phipps, of Jefferson. She is also survived by one half-sister, Thyda, of Jefferson.

Interment was in Hamilton cemetery at Beaver Creek.

Jefferson School Property Is Taken Over By County

County Commissioners And School Board Agree To Pay \$4000 For Property.

VALUED AT \$40,000

Ashe county now owns all of the school buildings and public school properties in the county, as required by law.

At recent meetings of the county board of education and the county commissioners, it was agreed that the county would purchase the Jefferson high school building, gymnasium and 6½ acre campus, it was learned this week.

With the exception of the Jefferson school, the county bought and took over all of the other public school properties several years ago.

The two boards agreed to pay \$4000.00 for the Jefferson school property, with \$1000 being paid each year for next four years and with each board paying half of the amount. The total valuation of the property is said to be around \$40,000.00.

The two school buildings were erected in 1914 under the sponsorship of the Methodist church and by private subscriptions, with Mrs. Eula Neal giving the land. Since the New Deal administration, it is estimated that around \$30,000.00 has been spent by the government and the local sponsors in building a gym and enlarging and improving the main building. The trustees of the building are said to have allowed the county to use the property without charging any rental.

NEED FOR GLASSES IS STRESSED BY MRS. WALL

At a meeting of the Woman's Club, held at the home of Mrs. J. A. W. Davis here yesterday afternoon, Mrs. Wall, a representative of the State Blind Commission, made a talk in which she urged the club, as well as the Legion post and other organizations here, to contribute funds with which to purchase glasses for 67 needy children in the county.

Victor Walker Is Now In Jail; To Have A Hearing Soon

Most Of Farmers Eligible To Get Benefit Payments

Check Reveals That 80 Percent Of Ashe Farmers Complied With Agreements.

APPLICATIONS READY

About eighty percent of the farmers in Ashe county who signed up with the soil conservation program last year are eligible to receive benefit payments, Bruce Dent director of field supervisors in the county farm agent's office, estimated this week.

For the past two or three months the field supervisors in the county have been checking production on the co-operating farms to determine the extent of compliance with the program and individual applications for benefit payments have been filled out in the farm agent's office.

The records show that 1746 farmers signed agreements and of this number there are nearly 400 who failed to limit their productions to the provisions of the program, and therefore will not receive payments, Mr. Dent stated.

Approximately 700 farmers have already signed applications for compliance payments and there are around 600 applications in the office at the courthouse ready to be signed.

All of those who have not signed are requested to stop at the office and sign immediately, so that the applications may be forwarded to headquarters for final approval and benefit checks issued.

1937 Good Year For Bank Of Ashe

Total Assets And Deposits Showed Substantial Gains. W. H. Worth, President.

The Bank of Ashe, which is one of the oldest banks in this section, had another successful year last year, according to their annual statement published in this issue.

At the close of business on December 31, the bank's total assets were \$437,789.41, as compared with \$407,851.35, a gain of over \$29,000. This gain was likewise reflected in the deposits which showed an increase of over \$27,000, with the increase in state, county and municipal deposits gaining \$17,000 of that amount. The reserve strength of the bank was also increased.

The annual stockholders' meeting will be held some time in the near future. The officers and directors of the bank are W. H. Worth, president; T. K. Miller, vice-president; Joe Worth, cashier; directors—W. H. Worth, T. K. Miller, Joe Worth, R. R. Day and J. S. Brown.

THREE SCHOOL BOYS ROB LANSING CAFE

Three Lansing school boys broke into the restaurant at Lansing last Friday night while the basketball game was in progress and stole about \$5 in cash, it was reported this week.

The three boys are Walter Campbell, age 16; Bryon Carter, age 13 and Paul Davis, age 10. It was stated that they had confessed to the theft. A hearing before the juvenile judge, J. D. Stanberry, will probably be held soon. Two of them are said to have been guilty of robbery charges before.

ROBERT WOODIE NEW MANAGER OF STORE HERE

Robert Woodie, of Glendale Springs, is the new manager of Bare's Fair Store.

Guy Hunt, who has been operating the store here for the past two years, is opening a new Bare's Fair Store in Boone and has moved his family there.

Mr. Woodie was formerly connected with the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company, stationed in Indiana. He has also taught school in the county. He will be assisted in running the store by his wife.

Arrested By Sheriff Miller Friday Night For Shooting Earl Sheets.

SHEETS IMPROVING

Victor Walker, who shot and seriously wounded Earl Sheets near Glendale Springs on Christmas day, is now in the county jail awaiting preliminary hearing, which will be held as soon as Sheets is able to leave the hospital in North Wilkesboro.

Walker was arrested last Friday night at the home of his brother-in-law, Fred Sheets, at Glendale Springs, by Sheriff Ed Miller and two deputies, C. O. Parsons and Walter Stringer.

Sheriff Miller stated that Walker did not offer any resistance. After surrounding the house, the sheriff entered and found him hiding under the bed in which he and his wife were sleeping. W. M. Wyrick, of West Jefferson, also accompanied the officers to identify the party in question.

On Sunday, following the shooting of Sheets on Christmas day, Walker is alleged to have shot a Bare Boy near Glendale Springs, with two of the shot striking Bare's neck. Citizens of the community state that when this shooting took place, Walker thought that he was firing at Sheriff Miller, as he had declared he wouldn't submit to arrest.

A short time ago he was arrested near Abingdon, Va., by a Virginia State Highway Patrolman, but due to a misunderstanding as to the age of the party for whom he was searching, the patrolman turned Walker loose.

The hearing will probably be held within the next week or two as it is believed that Sheets will be able to leave the hospital by that time.

Some time ago he was convicted of robbing the Grassy Creek post office and has been accused of robbing McNeill's store at Laurel Springs.

School Masters To Meet Tonight

Proposed Plans For Holding Forensic And Language Tournament To Be Discussed.

The School Masters' Club of Ashe county, composed of the various school principals, will meet tonight in the board of education office at the courthouse to discuss several important matters, Supt. J. B. Hash announced this week.

Among other things they will discuss regulations of the proposed Appalachian High School Association Forensic and Language Tournament which is scheduled to be held at A. S. T. C. on February 14. President Garbee has recommended that five different contests be conducted and that all schools send representatives. (Full details of this tournament will be announced next week.)

At the meeting preliminary plans for senior and 7th grade examinations will also be made and ways and means of improving school libraries and of providing an adequate number of supplementary readers will be discussed.

Uncle Jim Says



My neighbors and I find that a sound crop rotation containing legumes will help soil losses and also boost yields of cash crops. It means money in your pocket.