

SMALL FRACTION OF PEANUT CROP HAS BEEN SOLD

Buyers Estimate 75 Per Cent of County Crop Is Unsold

PRICE IS STILL LOW

Manufacturers Apparently Do Not Want Peanuts Even at Low Prices Offered

With approximately 75 per cent of the crop in this county unsold and with local buyers practically off the market, the peanut situation is apparently in line for a turn from bad to worse in Martin County. The last sales made are said to have commanded a price varying from two and one-half to three and one-half cents per pound. "And the manufacturers apparently don't want them at that price," one of the main buyers here stated yesterday afternoon.

The situation has reached that point where one buyer sums it up as follows, "You are considered a thief at this end and a fool at the other end, the grower thinking that you are stealing the crop, and the manufacturer thinking you are a fool for buying."

A government report for the Carolina-Virginia section, in part, says:

Farmers hauled peanuts quite actively on Monday, but during the rest of the week movement has been light. Cleaners are sufficiently well stocked with peanuts, however, especially of the poorer grades, are now only interested in lots that will make at least 40 per cent jumbos and fancies.

The quality and condition of this year's crop is undoubtedly the worst in many years. Peanuts that were dug early and were well stacked came through in good shape, but late September rains delayed harvesting of most of the crop, so that not only were many good large peanuts left in the ground, but some that were harvested were overmature. Further, stacking was often carelessly done and the rains that came during the time that the peanuts were in the stack caused a great deal of damage. Many peanuts which had not thoroughly cured were frozen or frostbitten during the extremely cold weather late in November, adding to the difficulty of the sheller in keeping his grades up to standard. Finally, evidently the fans on the picking machines were not generally fully utilized, as most bags contain many pods and containing very small kernels which should have been blown out and left on the farm with the hay.

JAMES ASHLEY DAVIS DIES

Was Prominent Farmer of Jamesville Section; Funeral Today

James Ashley Davis, 66-year-old farmer of near Jamesville, died at his home there last Sunday afternoon of cerebral paralysis. Mr. Davis had been in poor health for two years, and during the past year he had been confined to his bed, suffering much pain.

Funeral services are being held at the home this afternoon by Rev. W. A. Davis. Interment follows in the family plot on the home farm.

A son of Wright Davis and wife, the deceased had farmed successfully in the community of his birth. During the spring of each year he fished on the Roanoke. He was married twice, one son and two daughters surviving the first union. A widow and one daughter also survive.

FARMERS WILL MEET TONIGHT

Tobacco Bed Preparation Is Subject At Meeting in Jamesville

Professor W. T. Overby, of the Jamesville school, will discuss tobacco bed preparation with a number of farmers in that community this evening at 7:30 o'clock in the school auditorium. It was announced yesterday. Farmers are urged to attend, the agricultural teacher pointing out that the selection of seed and the preparation of the plant bed are very important and command careful study.

Mr. Overby also pointed out that about 50 per cent of the diseases common in tobacco are started in the bed, making the preparation of beds one of the most important steps in growing a crop.

Present Entertainment at School Next Friday Night

Experiencing marked need for material, the local grammar teachers and children are busily engaged at the present time preparing a Tom Thumb wedding and added attractions in an effort to raise funds with which to buy equipment. The entertainment will be given in the new high school auditorium next Friday evening at 8 o'clock. A small admission will be charged, it was stated.

Young Man of Oak City Is Killed in Auto Accident Near Spring Hope Monday

3,645 AUTO TAGS ARE SOLD HERE

Sale So Far Is 355 Less Than Last Year; Sale Ends January 31

The automobile license tag sale at the local bureau reached the 3,645-mark last Saturday. Automobile owners in this section paid \$51,782 for the plates.

According to a statement made by the managers of the local license bureau, the sales this year are 355 less than they were last year. This difference, however, will be lessened by at least 100 between now and the end of the month, when the tags go off sale here, it is thought.

Although the decrease in the sale of the plates is not very marked here, the drop is almost limited to one class of car owners. For several years, the sale of automobile licenses in many cases has been made possible by the landlord or the credit merchant, who added the cost of the tags to their tenant's account and collected in the fall. With credit conditions practically nonexistent at this time, the sale has been limited.

A similar situation is expected when the days of grace expire in the collection of taxes. Probably a few of the old cars parked under shelters without licenses will be driven in by the tax collector next June.

BALANCED DIET IS IMPORTANT

Is Chief Factor in Preventing Pellagra and Tuberculosis

The following letter from Dr. W. C. Linville, Superintendent of the State Hospital at Goldsboro, is proof that pellagra and tuberculosis are not only a problem for the Board of Health and the physician, but an economic problem. Its cure comes through a balanced ration—more green vegetables, more eggs, more milk, more red meats.

"My dear Dr. Laughinghouse:

"We have just recently completed our reports for the past six months' work connected with this hospital, and in it I find some statistics that I think may be of service to you in your work. We had on an average of 1,674 patients in the hospital, and admitted during the six months, 267 patients with 154 deaths. Of this 267 patients admitted, 59 patients' insanity was traceable directly to pellagra and 78 of these their insanity was traceable to syphilis. Our previous records show that we had, as a rule, eight to ten female patients to one male admitted with pellagra, but this report shows that there were practically as many male patients admitted with pellagra as female, and of the 59 patients who died from this disease, 29 of them were male and 30 female.

Our results from treating pellagra patients for the past six months have been very unsatisfactory. The cases brought here are in a more severe form than we have ever had before. We are trying to enrich our diet for pellagra patients all the time and hope to continue to do so. I feel that the Governor's program of live at home, if abided by by the people, especially in Eastern North Carolina, will be far reaching in its effect on this class of patients.

"Our death rate from tuberculosis for the past six months has been on the increase."

The State Board of Health knows enough of pellagra to be in position to advise that it is not confined to the cotton-mill villages and the people who work in mills. It is in every section of the State. It is increasing by leaps and bounds and it has already come to be of such serious economic import that industry is being emphatically affected by it, most particularly agriculture.

Sick labor is a liability. It must be met by communities and by the State. Adequate nutrition, perfected by a balanced ration, is an economic necessity. Like Napoleon's army, agriculture and all other types of industry, if it progresses, must go forward on its belly.

Pre-School Clinics Being Held in County This Week

The pre-school clinics started in the county yesterday are meeting with much success, according to statements made this morning by County Health Officer W. E. Warren. A goodly number of children planning to enter school next fall, attended the clinics at Jamesville and Farm Life yesterday, and many are being examined today, it was stated.

The health nurse, Mrs. Cherry, comes to the local school next Thursday, completing the work in this county at Bear Grass the following day.

CLARENCE ROSS DIES INSTANTLY FRIEND IS HURT

Car in Which They Were Riding Crashes Into Bridge Abutment

FINAL RITES TODAY

E. L. Harrell, Driver of Car, Is Taken To Hospital Seriously Injured; Cause Not Known

Clarence A. Ross, 19-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ross, of Oak City, was almost instantly killed, and E. L. Harrell, young man also of Oak City, was badly hurt in an automobile wreck yesterday morning about 1 o'clock on Highway No. 90, near Spring Hope. With Harrell at the wheel the boys are said to have been traveling toward Raleigh when the driver apparently dropped asleep, allowing the machine, a Chevrolet six coupe, to run into a concrete bridge abutment.

Parties arriving at the scene shortly after the accident found young Ross with his head and about half his body lying outside of the car on the engine hood. Death is believed to have resulted when the parties lifted him back into the car. Harrell was found unconscious in the car. He was removed to Spring Hope, where he regained consciousness, physicians there stating that he was badly hurt.

According to information received here, the parties examining the wreck found that the car left the hard surface 25 yards or more before striking the bridge. The left wheels of the car were just off the pavement while the right side barely missed the edge of the embankment when the machine crashed into the bridge.

The car, owned by Harrell, was badly damaged.

Leaving Oak City Sunday evening about 7 o'clock, the two boys are said to have gone to Hamilton, where they remained until about 10:30 o'clock. They apparently started toward Raleigh immediately after leaving Hamilton, as they had been traveling a little over two hours when they wrecked the machine.

The funeral for young Ross will be held this afternoon at 2 o'clock in Oak City.

WRECK VICTIMS ARE IMPROVING

Walter Baker and N. S. Godard Recovering From Injuries

Badly hurt in an automobile-train collision last week, Walter Baker, of some place in Maryland, is said to be recovering gradually at the home of Mrs. Alice Godard on Main Street here. Baker, it is reported, was badly hurt about the head and leg. Noah S. Godard, driver of the wrecked car, was badly shocked, so badly in fact, that his condition was considered serious at one time. He was carried to a Washington hospital for an X-ray examination, but he did not favor such action. Returning here, he is said to have visited the cemetery after telling his mother that he had not been there in a number of years and that he wanted to go out there. It was about 5 o'clock in the morning when he is said to have gone there.

Baker, who is an aviator, landed his airplane several days ago in a field near here on the Hamilton road. He and Noah were returning from a trip to Plymouth when they hit a Norfolk Southern train near Plymouth.

SPELLING BEE AT EVERETTS

Yo-Yo and Baby Contests Also To Be Features of Entertainment

Everetts, Jan. 21.—The Everetts Parent-Teacher association is sponsoring an old-fashioned spelling match, baby show, and yo-yo contest at the school auditorium next Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock. Cash prizes are being offered for the winners in each of the contests.

Words will be taken from the Old Blue Back Speller for the spelling match. A first and second prize will be offered the prettiest and most healthy babies up to two years of age and for the winner from two to four years of age. Two prizes will be offered for the best yo-yoer.

All the good spellers in the community are asked to enter the spelling contest, and all the women are urged to enter their babies. Many boys are expected to take part in the yo-yo contest.

A small admission fee of five cents for children and ten cents for adults will be charged.

YOUNG POPLAR POINT FARMER KILLS HIMSELF

Irving Gibson, 28, Shoots Himself in Abdomen This Morning

NO CAUSE ASSIGNED

Reports of Coroner and Sheriff Not Yet Available; Was Tenant on Jack Sherrod Farm

Irving Gibson, 28-year-old white farmer of Poplar Point township, this county, killed himself about 9:30 this morning by firing a load of gun shot into his abdomen, according to reports received here shortly after ten o'clock. While very few details in the case were available at noon today, the wife of the dead man is said to have stated that Gibson fired the fatal shot into his own body without warning. She made very few remarks regarding the shooting prior to the arrival of County Coroner S. R. Biggs and Sheriff C. B. Roebuck, but she did state that her husband had threatened to take his life about three months ago.

No cause had been assigned to the act at noon today. Coroner Biggs and Sheriff Roebuck left for the scene of the tragedy soon after the supposed suicide was reported, but their findings could not be learned here in time for publication today.

Gibson did not own property and was, at the time of his death, a tenant farmer on the Jack Sherrod farm, in Poplar Point township.

PRIZES OFFERED FOR BEST ESSAYS

Three Prizes for Martin; Open to Any School Child in County

The American Forestry Association has inaugurated a three-year essay contest which will be carried on in North Carolina through the forestry division of the Department of Conservation and Development. This contest is to be open to all the pupils of the public high schools of the State.

The problem selected for the essay this year is, "Develop a Suitable Woodland Taxation Policy for North Carolina." You will recognize this as dealing with one of the most important questions which will come before the people of North Carolina during the year, since the proposed constitutional amendment is designed to enable the General Assembly to adopt an improved fair method of taxing woodlands. This has no connection with the high school debate though the subject is closely related to that. Different subjects will be selected for the essays for succeeding years.

The rules and conditions of the contest are as follows:

1. The contest is open to all pupils in the public high schools of the State, whether supervised by the County Superintendent of Public Instruction or by the city school authorities.

2. Essays must be written on one side of the page only and must not exceed 1,500 words. Competing essays must be handed in to the principal of the school in which the child is a pupil not later than Monday, March 17. Information about taxation of woodlands will be furnished on application to the State Forester, Raleigh, N. C., in the form of a series of short notes on multigraphed sheets. The pupils should be encouraged to look into the tax conditions of their own county, talking over present conditions and possible changes with forestry or taxation officials, such as the tax collector, sheriff, or county warrant. The essays should be in the pupils' own words, using quotations as little as possible.

In addition to two medals, the State Department of Conservation and Development is offering cash prizes as follows: First prize, \$10; second prize, \$5; third, fourth, fifth, and sixth prizes, \$2.50 each.

Three prizes will also be given in Martin County. The Dennis-Simmons Lumber Company will give \$5 for the best essay from any Martin County pupil; John W. Hines will give \$3 for the second best; and The Enterprise will give \$2 for the third.

Robersonville Girls Will Play Woodland Tomorrow

Robersonville, Jan. 20.—Wednesday night, January 22, in the Robersonville High School Auditorium, there will be a double header basketball game between the boys' and girls' teams of Robersonville and Woodland.

Under the instruction of Coach Ansley and Miss Schwab, the teams have shown much improvement since the first game of the season, and it is expected that each will show his ability in the coming game.

On Friday night, January 24, the local girls' team will meet that of Williamston in the Robersonville High School Auditorium. Every one has been looking forward to a game with Williamston since the season began, and it is expected that the attendance will be very much larger than at any time so far this season.

Hear Church Dispute Before Judge In Tarboro Tomorrow

Mrs. Hinson Ordered Freed From Jail This Afternoon

EVIDENCE NOT SUFFICIENT TO HOLD WOMAN

Further Action Is Up To Grand Jury at March Term of Court

MEN ALREADY FREED

Case Has Been Very Expensive To County; Cause of Child's Death Still a Mystery

The Hinson murder case, growing out of the unusual death several weeks ago of Sarah Virginia Hinson, seven-week-old daughter of Warren W. and Verna Hinson, was temporarily closed today when Judge Jos. W. Bailey decided to turn the matter over to the Martin County grand jury, sitting here next March. The mother, the last of the three defendants arrested in the case, is to be discharged from the local jail this afternoon. Warren and Carol Hinson, the other two defendants, were released following a hearing held here last Thursday at a special session of the recorder's court. The mother's part in the case was continued before Judge Bailey, who after completing a review of the evidence yesterday, stated that probable cause did not warrant the holding of the woman.

The death of the child has attracted much attention in the county during the past two weeks, and the case has caused an extensive investigation.

While the evidence in the case heard at the hearing here last Thursday points to foul play, it was apparently too weak to warrant the holding of either of the three defendants.

Disposition of the case is now a problem for the grand jury, it is understood.

The happening has caused much expense for the county, illness of one of the mother's children making necessary an added cost. A coroner's inquest was held and a special session of the recorder's court was arranged. Many witnesses were called in the case, and officers traveled many miles in bringing the affair to the attention of the court.

Gordon Rae, the three and one-half year old son of the Hinsons, is practically recovered from the attack of pneumonia suffered during his stay in jail with his parents. There is some doubt as to his discharge from the temporary hospital quarters in the home agent's rooms today, as the weather is unfavorable.

THIEVES BREAK IN POOL ROOM

Carry Off Telephone and About \$1.00 in Small Change

Entering the pool room here on Main Street last Friday night by forcing an entrance at the rear, robbers destroyed much property in reaching a few nickels and dimes. After cleaning the cash drawers of about a dollar-in change, the thief or thieves slipped a telephone desk stand wire and walked out with the transmitter and receiver equipment with a pay station box attached. There was hardly more than a dollar or two in the box, but the equipment was valued at about \$15. No clue to the robbery has been established at this time.

TEACHERS WILL MEET SATURDAY

Routine Matters to be Considered at Robersonville Meeting

The Martin County Teachers' Association will hold its fourth meeting of the 1929-30 term next Saturday afternoon in the high school building in Robersonville, it was announced in the office of Superintendent R. A. Pope here yesterday morning. Routine matters will be handled in the regular assembly, the reading circle work following immediately in the several class rooms, it was stated.

While county officials are making an especial effort to maintain the regular budget schedules throughout the year, it is understood that the teachers will be warned at the meeting next Saturday to be prepared to hold their checks or vouchers a few weeks toward the latter part of the eight-months term.

BARGE 8 DAYS AT MOUTH OF RIVER

Forced To Wait for High Water or Winds to Cross Sand Bars

After spending eight days on a sandbar in the mouth of Roanoke River, the barge "Bernice Shaw" was docked here at the Standard Fertilizer plant last Sunday afternoon, the captain reporting an unusually quiet Christmas aboard the boat.

Several barges have been delayed at the mouth of the river, many remaining eight to ten days for a favorable wind or a rise in the water to enable them to get over the shoals.

The "Bernice Shaw," one of the largest barges to come up the river, brought in approximately 850 tons of fertilizer material for the Standard Fertilizer Company.

It is the first trip for the boat's captain to this place, and in all his travels, including trips in many inland waterways, rivers, waters of the Atlantic seaboard, and to Porto Rico, he says the Roanoke has more crooks and curves of any stream he has ever been in.

5 TONS POULTRY LOADED ON CAR

Shipment Brought Growers Of County Total Sum Of \$2,116.50

Five tons, a little less than a carload, of poultry were shipped from the county by rail last week, the fowls going to a Philadelphia market. While the loadings for the week were lighter than County Agent Brandon expected, they were considered good, considering the rains and bad conditions of the roads during the week.

The total shipment, 10,024 pounds, sold for \$2,116.50, the amount being distributed among raisers at Jamesville, Williamston, Robersonville, and Oak City. Robersonville led the list with 3,161 pounds, Williamston coming second with its offerings totaling 3,105 pounds. Oak City was third, with 1,948 pounds, while 1,810 pounds were sold to the car at Jamesville. A few hundred pounds of the fowls were delivered direct to trucks here, causing a small decrease in the loadings at the local station. Thirty-one guineas were sold.

A second car of the present season will be run about the middle of next month when a marked increase in loadings is expected.

\$2,000,000 Railroad Tunnel Is Now Without An Owner

Seattle.—Any one wanting a second-hand tunnel, two and two-thirds miles long, can probably buy one in the State of Washington for a song.

It cost between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 new, but no one can be found now to claim ownership of it.

The tunnel was built by the Great Northern Railroad in the '90s and abandoned last year upon completion of the new eight-mile bore under the Cascades between Seattle and Spokane.

Bible Is Still Best-Seller; Sales Total 12,000 Daily

London.—Against all competition, the Bible remains the world's best seller, says Dr. John H. Ritson, who has completed thirty years as secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, which publishes 12,000 Bibles a day. Printed in 23 languages and dialects, the society has circulated 237,000,000 Bibles.

With the exception of Russia, where the society is excluded, Dr. Ritson has seen the European Bible circulation doubled, from 763,000 to 1,420,000 volumes. In South America it has risen from 41,000 to 505,000 annually.

Silver Tea Thursday at Mrs. Woolard's Home

The Woman's Missionary society of the Christian church will give a silver tea at the home of Mrs. J. D. Woolard Thursday afternoon between the hours of three and six. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Waverly Johnson Dies Sunday From Stroke

Waverly Johnson, colored mechanic for the Williamston Motor Company a number of years, died at his home here last Sunday evening of a stroke of paralysis.

DEFENDANTS IN ACTION TO FILE ANSWER TODAY

Complainants Seeking Injunction to Bar Others From Use of Church

SINCLAIR TO PRESIDE

Large Number of County People Are Expected To Go To Edgemore Capital for Hearing

With the defense completing its answer today, the stage is all set for the first hearing in the Smithwick Creek-Primitive Baptist Church dispute before Judge N. A. Sinclair in Tarboro tomorrow. The complaint, embracing a number of clauses and reasons, was filed by the plaintiffs' attorneys here two weeks ago yesterday, the majority faction asking complete possession of the church, and church grounds, baptismal plot and other property.

The present status of the controversy, as it is understood here, points to a long, drawn-out legal battle. With an historical background of more than a hundred years, it is believed by many people that the Smithwick's Creek Church will be the center of one of the most marked lawsuits ever brought in Martin county.

Interest in the case is not limited by any means to the members of the Church or litigants in the case, the controversy has and continues to command the attention of a very large majority of the people in the county.

The hearing tomorrow will be largely attended by members of both the majority and minority factions, it is understood.

The answer prepared by Defense Attorneys A. R. Dunning, of this place, and A. D. McLean, of Washington, follows:

"It is true that on or about the 19th day of November, 1803, there was formed and established in Martin County a Church of the Primitive Baptist faith, order and creed, then and since known as Smithwick's Creek Primitive Baptist Church, for the purpose of conducting and carrying on religious worship, in accordance with the history and doctrine of the denomination long known as Primitive Baptist; it is also true that records of its establishment and organization and the minutes of its subsequent conferences and meetings have been, in general, regularly kept and meetings regularly held, with two exceptions or interruptions, one in or about 1830, or practically one hundred years ago, when certain persons, Jeremy Leggett and others, strayed from the true faith and doctrine of the Church and caused a division therein and second when the plaintiffs in this action, under the lead or ministry of one W. B. Harrington, and those acting with him, caused confusion or division by taking up and preaching false doctrine, contrary to the faith, order and creed of Primitive Baptists, the present action having been brought as a consequence of such false doctrine and disorder on his or their part. Except as herein admitted, section one of the complaint is denied, and in particular it is denied that plaintiffs are in fact Primitive Baptists or that they constitute the congregation of the Smithwick's Creek Primitive Baptist Church, or any part thereof.

"Section two thereof is denied. It is true that W. D. Daniel and B. R. Manning were formerly trustees of said Church and P. E. Getsinger was formerly the Clerk but this is true no longer. The present trustees are Alonzo Rogerson, W. J. Lilley, A. D. Griffin, S. J. Lilley and Pleny Peele, who are among the defendants in this action.

"That section three thereof is admitted, except it is incorrect to say, and the allegation is therefore denied, that admission to membership is by a majority vote; on the contrary, admission is only by unanimous vote and exclusion is by a majority vote, meaning a majority of the qualified members, in good standing and order, and not the plaintiffs in this action, who are non-members.

"That section four thereof is denied, except as hereafter qualified and explained: It is true that during and prior to November, 1927, complaints and differences of opinion developed and became more and more pronounced in respect to the said W. B. Harrington and to such an extent that he was reprimanded by the Church, or by a conference thereof, duly held in November, and also at a special conference in December, 1927, and subsequently at a council on January 11, 1928, in all of which it was decided and declared that the said Harrington was preaching and teaching false doctrine and that he and his followers, or those who undertook to support him, including the plaintiffs here-

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