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Not Yet Ready To Accept Applications For Tenant Loans

Applicants Asked to Wait Until Machinery Is Set Up

County Farm Security Administration offices are receiving numerous applications from tenant farmers for loans to purchase family sized farms under title I of the Bankhead-Jones farm tenant act, but county offices are not yet ready to accept formal applications for this type of loan, says D. G. Modlin, county supervisor, in charge of the Rural Rehabilitation program of the FSA in this county.

As allotments for tenant land purchase loans in North Carolina, based on farm population and percentage of tenancy, are set up at \$527,000, not more than 150 or 200 families in the state can be brought under the land purchase program this year, said Modlin. The act authorizes doubling of the allotment next year and further increasing it the third year if Congress appropriates funds, but for the present fiscal year land purchase funds are sufficient only to establish patterns.

Applications for tenant purchase loans should not be made to the county office until machinery has been set up for administering the program and the counties selected where the program will be initiated this year. Not less than five or more than 10 loans will be made in any county selected.

The county supervisors have been advised that no county committees will be set up until the State FSA Advisory Committee has recommended counties where the tenant purchase loans will be made this year.

Meanwhile there are sufficient funds to meet all immediate needs in the county in the way of rehabilitation loans to qualified farm families without adequate commercial credit for necessary livestock, feed, seed and farm equipment. Simple service loans to small groups are also available where group purchase of such items as pure bred sires or heavy equipment will economically serve as an aid to improved farm practices. The services of voluntary farm debt adjustment committees are available to all farmers in the county, Mr. Modlin said.

Sweet Potato Crop Short, Reports Say

A short sweet potato crop was predicted as farmers completed their digging operations in the county this week. That part of the crop started early in the season is of normal production, some farmers reporting more than 300 bushels to the acre. The late crop is returning extremely low yields, the average production exceeding hardly 100 bushels to the acre. Some farmers have reported as few as 25 bushels to the acre.

Reliable reports from other counties in this section maintain that the production there is running below normal. In other potato-producing states, however, heavy yields are being reported.

Report 15 Contagious Disease Cases In October

Cooler weather brought an increased number of contagious disease cases in this county last month, the health officer's report showing six diphtheria, one whooping cough, three chicken pox and five scarlet fever cases.

The diphtheria cases were found three among the white and three among the colored population, two in Williamston, and one each in Robersonville, Bear Grass, Goose Nest and Hamilton Townships. The three chicken pox cases were in Williamston, two of them being among the colored population. Of the five white scarlet fever cases, four were among the white population in Robersonville, Everetts, Jamesville and Williamston Townships. The lone whooping cough case was in Williamston.

Peanut Picker Operators Apply For Few Licenses

Comparatively few peanut picker operators have applied for licenses in this county to date, according to J. Sam Getsinger, register of deeds. Less than 40 operators have procured the licenses as required by law. It is estimated that there are more than 100 pickers operating in this county.

The licenses are issued without cost to the operators, and failure to procure them subjects the operators to a fine, it was pointed out.

530 Pieces of Property Sold At Sheriff's Sale Yesterday

Around 530 pieces of property—about the same number sold for past due taxes last year—were placed on the auction block by the county tax collector here yesterday noon. Sheriff C. B. Roebuck, handling the sale, played the role of the auctioneer for thirty minutes. There were only three private bidders and they bought only eleven accounts, the auctioneer declaring the county the purchaser in the other 119 sales.

The sale attracted little attention, and at times the sheriff had no more than one or two in his audience, but he did not slacken the pace until a weak bid was received and then he would stop only long enough to make a notation on a piece of paper.

Bids in the county, the approximately 519 accounts will be recorded in special books in the office of the register of deeds within the next few days. They will be turned over to the county attorney for collection. In accordance with the law, suits to foreclose on the delinquent property

are to be brought within two years, the foreclosure proceedings requiring from six to eight months. In those cases where the taxes are not paid within 32 months from the date of the sheriff's sale, the county or individuals bidding in the accounts will receive a deed to the property.

Unpaid taxes, in addition to carrying a 4 per cent penalty and the cost of handling the sale by the sheriff and \$6 foreclosure allowance, bear interest at the rate of 8 per cent annually for two years, and during the remainder of the time, or while the foreclosure suits are in progress, interest is charged at six per cent.

Very few foreclosure proceedings have been resorted to in this county in recent years, the county attorney's office stating that nearly all the delinquent accounts are settled just before the last day of grace expires. Then, too, the county has been as lenient as possible in all cases.

Commissioners Hear Additional Tax Pleas

NEARING GOAL

Selling more than 200,000 pounds yesterday and today, the Williamston tobacco market is nearing its goal of nine million pounds, a warehouse observer said this morning. For this season of the year, sales continue unusually heavy here, and prices are holding up well. Much inferior tobacco is being offered these days, some farmers going to the trouble to tie up and market the crop scrap.

Sales were completed this morning shortly before the noon hour, but interest in the market activities continues at a high point. Official figures are not available just at this time, but the sales went well over the eight and one-half million-pound mark today.

Former Local Man Dies In Washington

M. S. Cox, highly respected Beaufort County man and former Williamston resident, died at his home in Washington early last Saturday morning. Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at the home of Rev. L. B. Jones, Methodist minister. Burial was in the Oakdale cemetery, Washington.

A partner in the Saunders and Cox Lumber company here, Mr. Cox made his home in Williamston for several months or until his health failed him and he was forced to retire. He made many friends during his stay here and was held in high esteem by all who knew him.

Mr. Cox was born and reared in Blount's Creek and was the son of the late Joshua and Ida Cox. He was 52 years old. He had been a resident of Washington for the past 30 years. He had large farming interests in addition to his extensive lumber operations.

He is survived by his second wife, who before her marriage was the widow of Lawrence Tate. His only child died several years ago. A brother, Nathaniel Cox of Blount's Creek, and a grandson, Ed Hodges, Jr., survive.

Mrs. Joe Cowen Very Ill In Washington Hospital

Mrs. Joe Cowen is critically ill in a Washington hospital, reports from her bedside this morning that she was brighter than she was last night, but that her condition was grave. Mrs. Cowen underwent a serious operation in the hospital yesterday.

Williamston Christian Church Holds Services

The Williamston Christian church announces a two weeks series of evangelistic services in their church beginning on Sunday morning, November 7th and continuing through the 21st. Rev. John L. Goff, the pastor, will lead in these services. Preparations have been going steadily forward for some weeks. The pastor and membership of the church solicit the interest of the community in this undertaking for Almighty God and this immediate community. Pithy messages and good congregational singing will feature the services.

Solicitors Named To Make Red Cross Drive in County

Membership Campaign to Get Underway Thursday of Next Week

Plans for starting the annual Red Cross membership roll call in the Martin County chapter have been completed. Chairman Harry A. Biggs stating that the membership campaign is to get underway on Thursday of next week. In announcing the names of the canvassers, Chairman Biggs addresses an urgent appeal to Martin County people for their support in making the drive a success. The chapter's quota has been increased from \$200 to \$350 this year, and more work on the part of the canvassers will be necessary as well as a greater response on the part of the people if the 1938 call is to be met with success.

Chairman Biggs asks that memberships be taken with the respective canvassers, that they can be publicly acknowledged and the community be given credit.

The names of the canvassers and territory assigned them: In Williamston, members of the Junior Woman's Club will head the work. Business section, Mrs. H. O. Peel and Miss Edna Barnhill; East Main Street, Mrs. Frederick W. Hoyt, Jr., and Mrs. Geo. Hutton Gurganus; Haughton Street, Mrs. Joe Muse and Mrs. Henry S. Manning; Academy Street, Mrs. D. R. Davis; Simmons Avenue, Mrs. Louis Williams; Tobacco warehouse section, Miss Christine Ross; Watts Street, Miss Trulsh Ward Page; Smithwick Street, Mrs. C. C. Parker and Mrs. Chas. Peel; West Main Street, Mrs. Edwin Trahey; Williams Street, Mrs. Julian Harrell; Tar Heel Apartments, Mrs. Robt. Manning; Biggs and Ray Streets, Mrs. J. W. Watts; Warren Street, Mrs. D. V. Clayton; Marshall Avenue, Mrs. K. D. Worrell; West Main Street, Extended, Everetts and Cross Roads Township, Mrs. Paul Bailey and Professor Mrs. Irving Margolis; grammar and high schools, Miss Ruth Manning and D. N. Hix.

C. R. Simpson. Hamilton and section, Miss Effie Waldo and Professor B. B. Castloe. Oak City and community, Professor H. M. Ainsley and Mr. J. H. Ayers.

Jamesville and district, Professor J. T. Uzzle and Mr. Chas. Davenport. Farm Life and Griffins Township, J. T. Gurkin and Professor C. B. Martin. Bear Grass, Mr. Herman Rogers and Professor T. O. Hickman. Chairman Biggs is seeking other canvassers to assist in the drive, he stated this morning.

County Prisoner Dies In Hospital

Death stepped in unexpectedly and kept Martin County from collecting a debt allegedly due it by H. L. Staton, 50-year-old Halifax county white man. White was to have faced the courts of this county Monday for violating the bad check law, but he died a victim of pneumonia in a Washington hospital the morning before.

Staton, removed here a week ago from a Greenville jail, stated that he was sick, and a doctor, examining him 15 minutes later, advised his immediate removal to a hospital. Staton, entering the hospital a short time later that afternoon, explained to Sheriff Roebuck that Martin county had treated him courteously. His son, Robt. Staton, after claiming the body and removing it to Halifax County, expressed his appreciation to the sheriff for the care and thoughtful attention his father had received at the direction of Martin County.

Staton's case has not been followed from the time he was arrested in Pitt until he was released to Martin officers two or three days later.

Insurance Exchange In Its Monthly Meeting

An interesting meeting of the Martin County Insurance Exchange, J. E. Pope, president, was held in the offices of the H. C. Norman agency in Robersonville last evening. Current problems having to do with the insurance building were placed before the meeting, the president explaining that the interest of the insurance-buying public had been advanced as a result of the meetings and the discussions held therein. The meeting last evening was well attended, Mr. Pope said.

Frank Newman Dies At Home of His Sister Here

Frank Newman, 48 years old, died at the home of his sister, Mrs. Jos. S. Hardison, on Simmons Avenue, here last evening at 6 o'clock. He had long been in feeble health and was confined to the bed during the past two weeks.

Funeral services are being conducted from the Cedar Branch Baptist church this afternoon at three o'clock by Rev. W. B. Harrington. Interment will follow in the church cemetery there. The deceased, a native of Jamesville Township, is survived by two sisters, Mrs. J. S. Hardison and Mrs. J. G. Simpson, of Jamesville.

Woman Defendant in Liquor Case Second Time in a Week

The warning issued by Judge H. O. Peel in the county court on Monday of last week when he handled 25 liquor cases failed to carry much weight with Patsy Taylor, a defendant in the round up by private detectives. Enjoying her freedom under a suspended judgment, the Taylor woman was caught with seventeen pints of liquor in her Hamilton home last Saturday night by Special Enforcement Officer J. H. Roebuck.

Said to be a notorious bootlegger in Hamilton, the woman had little to offer in her defense when she faced Judge Peel for the second time within a week. The course of the law followed in obtaining evidence could not be questioned, and she pleaded guilty. The mother of a small baby and about to become a mother of another, the woman received the sympathy of the court. She broke down and wept, but the judge ordered a \$50 fine and payment of the costs. A three-months jail sentence is to begin at the direction of the judge.

Viola Forrest, colored woman, was rounded up by special enforcement officers the same night. She was sentenced to serve 60 days in jail. The Forrest woman, escaping the first round up, had a small quantity of liquor in a coffee pot and when the officer entered her home she dashed it into a water bucket. Officers made certain it was liquor the woman was handling so carelessly, and the evidence was ruled against her.

Judge Peel, stating from the bench that he did not approve of the method followed by the detectives in obtaining evidence altogether, warned bootleggers in open court Monday that they could expect road sentences when brought before him for violations upon the evidence of county officers.

Peanut Marketing Gets Underway on Big Scale

Large Deliveries Are Being Made to Buyers This Week

Prices are ranging up to three and half cents for Jumbos

The peanut market opened this week with increased sales reported by all buyers at this point. Last week the market was quiet, but a sudden spurt was reported yesterday when deliveries got underway on a large scale. Prices are ranging from three and one-quarter for certain types to three and one-half cents a pound for Jumbos.

No arrangements have been completed for receiving peanuts in this county for the North Carolina Peanut Stabilization Corporation, but applications are pending and a warehouse will in all probability be opened in Williamston within a short while. Apparently farmers, making early deliveries, consider the open market slightly stronger than the price offered by the stabilization corporation. The peanut stabilization cooperative is not interested in purchases as much as it is in holding the price up and as long as a farmer can get more for his crop on the open market he is not expected to patronize the organization.

Realizing that the price is stabilized at 3 1/4 cents, many farmers are planning to store their crop and wait until later to market their crop. They figure they have nothing to lose and possibly much to gain by waiting.

Peanut pickers are operating on long schedules in the county this week, reports direct from the fields maintaining that the yield is considerably below normal, but that the quality is above the average.

A year ago today, prices on the local market ranged from 3 1/2 cents a pound for good bunch and 3 3/4 cents for fancy Jumbos. The market at that time was dull.

JAIL RECORD

An all-time county jail turn key record was reported by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck this week for the month of October. During the period eighty men, women and children were placed in the county bastille or three more than the previous record number. Sheriff Roebuck explained that this number represented only the actual number of persons arrested and jailed, that possibly twenty-five or thirty other people were arrested and tried in the justice of the peace courts without their going to jail.

INTERVIEW

Members of the Martin County Board of Health will consider possibly next week, applications for the position of health officer for this county, Mr. J. E. Pope, chairman of the board, said today. It is understood that several applications are on file at the present time.

A young doctor, one of the applicants, is expected here for an interview with the board, it was learned. The young man, a native North Carolinian, is now receiving the course of training in public health at Chapel Hill.

Will Explain New State Seed Law In This County Soon

Will Meet in Agricultural Building, November 10 at 10 o'clock

Farmers of Martin county have been invited to meet at Williamston in the Agricultural Building at 10 o'clock on November 10 to hear representatives of the N. C. Department of Agriculture explain the benefits of the new State Seed Law and how growers can help prevent poor quality seed dumping in the State. County Agent L. B. Brandon announced today.

The value of using seed of known origin will be the theme of the meeting and plans are to show a motion picture illustrating the necessity of using pure seed. Similar meetings will be held in 26 other counties between now and November 13, and growers interested in better farming practices will find these meetings of vital importance, the county agent said.

Speakers on the program to be held in this county, will be D. S. Coltrane, assistant to Commissioner of Agriculture Kerr Scott.

In addition to explaining the new law and brief talks on the prevention of seed dumping in North Carolina, the services offered the farmers by the department of agriculture's seed laboratory free of charge will be outlined.

Under the present law, any farmer may send seed to the department at Raleigh and obtain correct information as to purity and germination without cost.

The program for the Department of Agriculture calls for the elimination of impure seed in North Carolina, insofar as possible and the individual complaints of the seed purchasers and seed growers will be aired at the meeting and the co-operation of all farmers will be asked looking toward the betterment of agriculture in North Carolina. D. S. Coltrane, assistant to Commissioner of Agriculture W. Kerr Scott, said.

Mrs. Pat Crawford Hurt In Fall Last Evening

Mrs. Pat Crawford suffered a painful injury when she stumbled and fell on the side walk in front of the home of Miss Anna Crawford on Smithwick Street early last evening. Her left eye struck some object and was badly bruised, it was said.

Aerial Survey Of County Farms Just Recently Finished

Are Ninety Individual Maps Giving Minute Details of This Section

Aerial maps of county lands, made at the direction of agricultural authorities, were delivered to the office of Agent T. B. Brandon this week. It is likely the agent's office will use the maps in checking compliance on about 100 farms not yet surveyed by supervisors.

Starting at a point near Smithwick Creek, the aerial photographers flew a northerly course to just take in the plant of the Standard Fertilizer Company's plant on the Roanoke River at Williamston. The flights, nine of them, were moved so many degrees on each trip to include the entire county west of the starting point. All the land in Williamston, Bear Grass, Cross Roads, Robersonville, Hamilton, Poplar Point and Goose Nest Townships is included in the survey, and much in Williams and Griffins Township. Jamesville Township was missed in its entirety.

There are ninety individual maps, showing every field, path, ditch bank, tract of timber and the streets in several towns. Surveys, made on location, were checked in just a few minutes from the maps.

The office of the agent will now make maps of individual farms, and in checking compliance in the future all the supervisor will have to do is designate what crops are grown in certain fields. An accurate system has been advanced to make the land measurements directly from the map. These measurements are said to be more accurate than those made by an engineer.

Starting in this county the 15th of last August, the aerial photographers made a few pictures. They continued their work the following day, but unfavorable weather conditions delayed their activities until September 20, and the work was completed the following day. The pictures were made from a distance of 14,000 feet.

Explosion Damages County Pulp Plant

Several people were hurt, one badly, when a steam condenser exploded in the plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company in the lower part of this county early last Saturday evening. Escaping steam and water are said to have burned very badly a young man named Carey. Flying bricks are said to have struck another man.

Few details of the explosion could be obtained here, but it was stated that a leak developed in a steam line and that the explosion followed as men attempted to repair the break. No official account of the explosion has been released by the company. No great property damage resulted, it is understood, and operations are being continued at the plant.

Operations were started at the plant only last Wednesday, and it is thought that possibly some of the machinery had not been properly adjusted.

Occupants Are Unhurt In Two Auto Accidents

No one was hurt and little damage resulted to property in two automobile accidents reported in the county during last week-end.

A young couple from Oak City escaped without a scratch when their car plunged into Concho Creek at Butler's Bridge, near Hamilton, some time during last Friday night. The Oak City car was entering the highway when the lights on another car parked near the bridge were turned on, causing the driver of the first machine to drive into the creek. The girl got her feet wet, it was reported. Much difficulty was experienced by wrecking crews in salvaging the car.

The cars of Carl Phillips, Maryland man, and Raymond Taylor crashed at the Haughton-Main intersection here Sunday evening, but so great damage was done to the machines. Phillips was said to have been driving rapidly when he entered the Main Street.

Runs Into Police Car, Man Jailed Last Night

Said to have been driving while under the influence of liquor, A. D. Johnson, Norfolk man, ran into Officer J. H. Allbrooks' car in front of the police station here early last night. Patrolman H. W. Rothrock, railing the man, arrested and jailed him.