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XLII

# THE ENTERPRISE

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## Peanut Farmers To Meet In Windsor On July Twentieth

### Congressmen Expected to Discuss Price Schedule for Coming Season

Called by the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, a meeting of peanut growers will be held in Windsor on Thursday, July 20 for a discussion of a price schedule for the current crop, it was announced this week by E. F. Arnold, secretary of the organization. The meeting call was issued jointly by the Farm Bureau organization and the North Carolina Peanut Stabilization Cooperative, and farmers and other interested persons are invited and urged to attend.

Representatives Lindsay C. Warren, Harold Cooley and John Kerr, all of whom are vitally interested in a square deal for the lowly peanut, have been invited to attend the meeting. It is expected that State farm leaders will also be present and urge for a favorable peanut price schedule. According to Secretary Arnold, the meeting will ask that peanut farmers get at least the same price schedule as was in effect for the 1938 crop.

Last season, the North Carolina Peanut Stabilization Cooperative maintained a fairly stable market throughout the belt although deliveries were unusually light in this county as compared with the purchases made during the 1937 marketing season.

The stabilization organization pegged the prices last year at three and one-half cents for the U. S. No. 1 grades; 3.35 for the No. 2 grades and 3.25 for No. 3s. Prices for Class B peanuts ranged from 3.3 to 3.05 and in Class C they ranged from 3.05 down to 2.8 cents per pound.

General market prices averaged slightly higher than the government schedule, and it wasn't necessary for the cooperative to make large purchases in this county to stabilize the price level.

Most of the purchases made by the cooperative last season have been or are now being converted into oil. It is expected that the meeting in Windsor next month will be largely attended and that a strong plea will be advanced for a raise in the AAA price schedule.

## VEP Forces Take Drivers' Exams

Continuing concerted efforts to advance the rules of safety, Virginia Electric and Power Company safety engineers subjected the forty-two employees in the Williamston district to rigid automobile driving tests here this week. Commenting unofficially on the outcome of the tests, one of the examiners stated that the local group had scored the highest average of any examined to date including the Richmond, Petersburg and Williamsburg districts. Out of a possible 4,200 points, the combined group scored 3,719 to rate an average grade of 88 1-2.

The drivers underwent reaction tests to determine time required for them to respond to various road signals, and were required to take written, road and I. Q. tests. Each of the drivers had his eyes examined.

Completing their work yesterday, Examiners E. C. Bookman and Kenneth Jones, of the company's safety department, reported not a single failure and highly complimented the entire group for their expert driving ability.

## Charged With Violation Of Liquor Control Laws

Operating in Cross Roads Township yesterday on another case, Officers J. H. Roebuck and Bill Haislip accidentally created a second case alleging the violation of the liquor laws by J. R. Harrison and W. T. Taylor, of Stokes.

While inquiring after William Jones, wanted for an alleged assault upon LeRoy Roberson, the officer saw Taylor leave the Harrison home and pull a pint of liquor from his shirt and place it into his car. Harrison, just recently a defendant in the county court, stands charged with illegal possession for the purpose of sale, and Taylor is charged with possession and transportation.

## Relative Of Local People Dies At Baltimore Home

William Asa Biggs, grandson of the late Judge Asa Biggs, of this county, died in Baltimore last Sunday night, and was buried in Norfolk on Wednesday. Soon after the Civil War his grandfather moved from this county to Norfolk.

A cousin of Mrs. Chloe Lanier, Miss Anna Crawford and Mr. K. B. Crawford, Mr. Biggs was cable editor for the Baltimore Sun.

Mr. L. T. Weeks, state tobacco specialist, of Raleigh, was here today.

Mr. W. T. Leggett, of Rocky Mount, visited his brother, Mr. Curtis Leggett, and Mrs. Leggett, here Thursday night.

## Killer Sentenced To Prison For 15 Years

### Booker T. Williams Tried For Killing Alfred Pettiford

### Jury Returns Verdict After Deliberating Only a Few Minutes

It's very unusual, but plans are being advanced this afternoon in Raleigh by the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation and the North Carolina State Tobacco Advisory committee to have tobacco farmers, real dirt farmers, represented at a meeting of the United States Tobacco Association which convenes in White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., next week.

While there is some doubt as to how much weight the farmers will have in their representatives, it is apparent that the fellow on the production end is at last being recognized. In years gone by, the farmers have pleaded indirectly for early openings, but seldom have early openings followed their pleas. They will enter a direct plea this year.

## Predicting Pulp Plant May Reopen Early Next Month

The re-opening of the plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company in the lower part of this county possibly next week or early in July was unofficially predicted following a series of conferences between representatives of the company and unions this week.

Now in its seventh week, the strike at the company's plant in Delair, N. J., effected the close of the plant in this county. In a special dispatch from New Jersey, the status of the strike was reviewed as follows:

"Conferences this week are said to have settled all differences between employer and strikers, excepting the demand for a closed shop. The Kieckhefer company opposes this because it would force the discharge of valued employees, who might be dropped for non-payment of dues, as well as for other risks. The company points to a recent memorandum by the New Jersey court declaring that employers should have the right to decide the question of open and closed shops.

"Another conference is scheduled for this afternoon. If an agreement is reached, the mills should resume operations next week. "The strikers in Delair are being fed with supplies purchased by union funds."

The general opinion prevailed among employees of the company in this county today that the pulp plant here would resume operations early in July, although there was no official confirmation—or denial, for that matter—of this generally accepted idea.

## United States Gets 80c On The \$10,000

When the government closed its war debt books recently at the end of the semi-annual installment day, it found it had received 80 cents for each \$10,000 due.

Only one nation, Finland, paid in full—a payment of \$180,693.

One other of the 13 debtors, Hungary, paid something on account—\$9,828.

One nation, Rumania, said it was ready to offer a settlement, but did not state its terms.

Eight nations sent their regrets, together with promises to discuss settlement at some time in the future. They were Estonia, Great Britain, Latvia, Lithuania, Yugoslavia, Belgium, Poland and Italy.

One nation, France, had not replied to the usual bill sent out every May, but her reply (of regrets) was expected momentarily.

## Prowlers Reported On East Main Street Here

East Main Street residents were not greatly alarmed last Wednesday night when prowlers visited the back porches of their homes and wandered on the house tops and in the yards.

Reliable reports from neighbors state that the prowlers actually climbed to the roof of Sheriff C. B. Roebuck's home and were not caught. Painters had left a ladder against the house there. Next door, the prowlers went into the back porch of the Harris home, but nothing was missed.

## Routine Report Is Filed This Week By The Grand Jury

### Urge More Efficient and Alert Personnel For Highway Prison Camp

Completing their work Tuesday afternoon, the Martin County grand jury pointed out in its report "that a closer observation should be made of the superintendent of this (North Carolina State Highway and Public Works Commission) camp by the authorities in charge in regards maintaining a more efficient and alert personnel in the future..." The report, carrying the signature of D. R. Chandler, foreman, directed that the observation should be closely followed.

Other than the one recommendation, the report fell into the routine class with the possible exception that the county school garage forces were directed to clean up the place in an effort to lessen fire hazards. "The report: First: All bills coming into our hands have been passed upon and delivered to the Court, as directed by the Court. Second: We have received written reports from the following Justices of Peace: R. R. Rawls, J. A. Davenport, C. L. Nelson, C. M. Hurst, C. B. Riddick, J. L. Hassell, H. M. Burras, L. J. Hardison and J. S. Ayers, but have not received any kind of report from A. Corey and J. T. Wildman.

Third: We have inspected the County Home and found it to be in very good condition. Fourth: We have inspected the Clerk of Court's office, the County Superintendent's Office, the Sheriff's Office and the Treasurer's Office and found all of these to be in good condition, and we also found that all guardians had filed their reports. Fifth: Upon inspection of the Register of Deeds office, we found that all records, etc., were in excellent shape, one of the walls in said office was found to be in bad condition, the paint and plastering being partly off. It was recommended that this wall be repaired and also that a door be cut in the wall connecting the Register's Office and the Grand Jury Room, to give the personnel of the register's office some more needed space.

Sixth: The prison camp was inspected and the buildings were found to be in good condition, with the exception of the wash-pit, which was in need of repair and a recommendation was made that it be repaired at once, as it was termed dangerous. The two mules on the county farm were found to be in good condition. Due to the unfavorable impression made upon the members of the Grand Jury by the Superintendent of the Prison Camp, it was agreed by this body that a closer observation be made of the Superintendent in charge, in regards to maintaining a more efficient and alert personnel in the future and that this observation be closely followed.

Seventh: We inspected the County School trucks, Garage and although the work being done there seemed to be efficient, it was recommended that more care be exercised in arranging the tools, fixtures, etc., to help prevent a possible fire hazard. Eighth: We inspected the County Jail and found same to be in good condition. Ninth: We inspected the County Man Is Arrested For Knife Attack

William Jones, Cross Roads colored man, was arrested here yesterday noon by Officers J. H. Roebuck, and Bill Haislip for an alleged knife assault upon LeRoy Roberson.

Jones is alleged to have broken into the Roberson home last Monday night and stabbed the man with a knife. The wound was not serious and Roberson was able to appear before Justice J. L. Hassell here yesterday and swear out a warrant for Jones' arrest.

Boasting that no officer could arrest him, Jones fell into the hands of the law following a run across a corn field which was spirited despite the weather. Reaching the Jones' home, Deputy J. H. Roebuck saw the man start running. The officer gave chase and seeing that the chase was making little progress, he whipped out his pistol and fired, calling to the man to halt. The report of the gun paralyzed Jones with fear, and he fell flat to the ground.

A hearing is pending in Justice J. L. Hassell's court.

## Local Boy Scores Hit In California

Tom Crockett, Williamston boy on a tour of the west coast with several of his University of North Carolina track teammates reported an extremely amusing incident to this paper through his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Crockett, of this city.

The youth, who is of a musical turn of mind, was sitting with his friends in one of the larger Los Angeles restaurants, enjoying the singing of the waitresses, when to his amazement he was called upon to give his rendition of one of the more popular tunes. It seems that his companions had made arrangements with the organist to this end, but Tom, not to be daunted, immediately burst forth into song and was greeted with applause and appeals for encores by the entire audience. Several other arrangements were given to the approval of the diners.

When the festivities were over and more serious things came into being, the acceptance of the check for example, Tom was overjoyed to find that his meal had been enjoyed as a guest of the house. In a letter to his parents Tom wrote, "That's what I call singing for your supper." In several days after a quick perusal of the San Francisco Exposition, the boys will return to their respective homes, stopping off at Lincoln, Neb., for a few days to participate in a track meet there. July 10 is set as the date of Tom's arrival in Williamston.

## Nine Cases Scheduled For Trial In The County Court

Nine cases had been docketed up until this morning for trial in the county recorder's court here next Tuesday. Several others are pending trial. Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne said. Three of the nine cases were continued at previous terms.

## County Leaf Markets Have Splendid Record

### Robersonville And Williamston Sales Exceed Production

That Martin County has two live tobacco markets is proved beyond doubt in official figures recently gained here, the cold facts showing that the two markets—Robersonville and Williamston—actually sold more tobacco than was produced in the county last season. If the sales had been limited to county production the two markets combined could have sold only 9,057,618 as compared with sales in excess of six million pounds for each of the two markets.

Last season the county produced 9,057,618 pounds and the two markets combined sold 12,335,610 pounds of the golden leaf. While the two markets were selling 5,664,316 pounds for farmers in other counties, farmers in this county hauled 22,460,696 pounds to foreign markets. But even after losing nearly one-third of the crop grown in this county, the two markets, apparently rating high in the estimation of farmers in other counties, offset that loss and went ahead to show a net gain of 3,277,992 pounds. The percentage of sales handled for farmers from other counties is hardly to be equaled by any other market in the State.

Martin County farmers really did some riding in the marketing of tobacco, according to the records of sales. Some traveled even into foreign states, other stopping just this side of the state boundary. Few markets escaped without a trial, and it is reasonably believed that those farmers riding all over the country to market their tobacco lost money in the end. To deliver the most severe blow to the markets in this county, quite a few farmers patronized the Greenville market, selling 1,375,589 pounds with the houses there. Rocky Mount picked out quite a few pets in the county and sold 857,502 pounds of tobacco raised in Martin. Wilson, coming third in the list, did not make such a hit with Martin County farmers and sold only 74,988 pounds from the 1938 crop. Washington was next in line, Martin farmers selling 68,006 pounds on the market—there last year Farmville sold 31,400 pounds of Martin County tobacco. Tarboro handled 26,328 pounds. Outside of the markets mentioned, Martin County farmers entered into a long-distance race, one or two farmers traveling all the way to Danville to sell 312 pounds of the golden leaf. Closing in on South Carolina, Martin farmers sold 348 pounds at Whiteville and 3,052 pounds in Lumberton. Henderson handled 1,224 pounds and Reidsville sold 1,476 pounds of Martin County leaf. Oxford, in the same territory and more than 125 miles from here, sold 4,176 pounds.

The best boost the two markets in this county can possibly get is found in those figures. While Martin farmers were hauling away a little over two million pounds, farmers in other counties were hauling into Martin nearly twice that amount. Studying the figures from another angle, one will notice that the Martin County farmers selling on foreign markets lost \$3,690.90 when considered in the light of the average paid on the two markets in this county as compared with the average price paid for the State as a whole. These figures do not take into consideration the cost of transportation, time lost by the farmer and the added danger in gallivanting over two states to sell tobacco. The farmers in other counties who sold on the two markets make a cash profit, according to the averages paid in this county and those for the state of more than \$20,000.

The business of taking tobacco for long jaunts over the county is common and is not limited to any one section. Over in Wayne County, reports show that the farmers there hauled away five-sixths of their last year's crop. Wilson County farmers, right around "one of the largest markets in the world," hauled to markets in other counties several million pounds.

There was a great deal of hauling last season, but if prices are low this fall there'll be more hauling done this year.

## Scattered Rains Reported Over The County Today

The dry season that has gripped most of this county during the past several weeks was not broken but it was badly bent today when scattered rains were reported in various sections. Jamesville Township, known as the wet belt last season and recognized as the dry belt of the county so far this season, reported a rain approximating one inch this morning.

One-third of an inch of rain fell here this morning bringing the total for the first 23 days in June up to 1.81 inches at this point.

## Compliance Work Well Underway In County This Week

### Ten Surveyors Are Placed in Fields to Check Compliance

The annual and extensive task of checking compliance under the soil conservation program is now well underway in this county, Assistant Agent T. B. Slade stating that ten men are now in the field and that plans call for the addition of ten more early next week to the list of surveyors.

Reporting this week, District Supervisor A. R. Munn is checking test measurements made by applicants for the surveyors' positions, and his findings will determine final appointments.

Slated to be completed the latter part of August, the compliance surveys are proving successful at the start, Mr. Slade pointing out that most of the farmers are showing a strong spirit of cooperation and assisting the surveyors in making the surveys and determining the extent of compliance.

Under a new ruling advanced by the department requests for re-measurements must be accompanied by a deposit according to the following schedule: \$3 for ten acres or less; \$5 for 10.1 to 30 acres; \$8 for 30.1 to 60 acres; 15 cents an acre for 60 or more acres. If the first measurement is correct, the farmer forfeits the deposit. If the first measurement is found wrong, allowing for slight variations, the farmer gets his deposit back.

While it is generally believed that plantings in this county exceed the base allotments generally, no comparisons are yet available. Preliminary comparisons on a limited scale will possibly be available in early July.

That the compliance check might be advanced as advantageously as possible, the surveyors have been instructed to make every effort to work for the convenience of the farmer, and in return the farmer is cordially urged to cooperate with the surveyors in every way possible.

## Injured In Wrecks, Victims Improving

The several persons injured in a series of automobile wrecks in this county during recent days continue to show improvement, late reports received here state.

Mrs. Lela Copeland, suffering slight internal injuries and shock in an accident near the Farmville-Woodward Lumber Company plant here last Tuesday, is understood to be getting along very well at her home in Gates County. After remaining in the care of physicians the greater part of last Tuesday afternoon she was removed to her home. Dr. T. G. Charles, of Beardstown, Illinois, who was in the same accident, is improving in a Washington hospital where he was removed for treatment for a crushed knee and a back injury. He will be in the hospital several weeks. The doctor's young son, Tom, who suffered a cut on his elbow, is able to be out. Mrs. Charles escaped unhurt. Other parties in the Copeland car were not badly hurt.

George Harrison, Jr., and W. K. Parker, who were injured in an accident near Everetts a week ago today, continue to show improvement but they will be confined to the hospital for two or three weeks more. Mr. Parker suffered a broken right arm and a severe injury to his left knee.

## Bear Grass Group In Progress At LaGrange

Representatives of the Bear Grass Presbyterian church appeared in a young people's program in LaGrange last Tuesday evening at the invitation of Rev. John Whitley, former minister of this county. The names of those making the trip are:

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Beacham, Mr. and Mrs. Kneizer Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Terry, Rev. Jack Vinson, James D. Taylor, Marie Harrison, Annie Mae Bailey, Carrie Dell Terry, Elbert Harrison, Elizabeth Bailey, Ruth Evelyn Terry, Velma Bailey, Amanda Wynne, Leamon Keel, Marjorie Terry, W. A. Bailey, Charlie Harrison, Willis Mandy Cowin, Grace Rogers, Leroy Harrison, Doris Rogers, G. T. Bailey, Ruth Evelyn Terry, Walter Wallace Bailey and Mary E. Keel.

## Two Tried In Mayor J. L. Hassell's Court Here

Charged with assaulting Sophia Stokes, Herman Slade was released by Justice J. L. Hassell at a hearing here last night, the court suspending judgment upon payment of the case costs.

Ernest Jones, charged with operating a truck with improper license, was fined \$10 and taxed with the cost.

With added competition offered by Justice Hugh M. Burras, Justice Hassell is doing a bit of advertising by hanging a "shingle" in front of his office, Justice Burras has established an office in the Atlantic Hotel Building.