

Stimson Explains Why Atomic Bomb Was Used In War

Former Secretary of War Was Man To Make the Recommendation

(Having discussed the surrender of Japan which he believes was brought about by the use of the two atomic bombs, Mr. Stimson now reveals that the supply of bombs had been exhausted and attacks on Japan would have had to revert to fire raids for a time. Other factors are also discussed in the next article.—Ed.)

The atomic bombs which we had dropped were the only ones we had ready, and our rate of production at the time was very small. Had the war continued until the projected invasion on November 1, additional fire raids of B-29s would have been more destructive of life and property than the very limited number of atomic raids which we could have executed in the same period. But the atomic bomb was more than a weapon of terrible destruction; it was a psychological weapon. In March 1945, our Air Force had launched its first great incendiary raid on the Tokyo area. In this raid more damage was done and more casualties were inflicted than was the case at Hiroshima. Hundreds of bombers took part and hundreds of tons of incendiaries were dropped. Similar successive raids burned out a great part of the urban area of Japan, but the Japanese fought on. On August 6, one B-29 dropped a single atomic bomb on Hiroshima. Three days later a second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki and the war was over. So far as the Japanese could know, our ability to execute atomic attacks, if necessary by many planes at a time, was unlimited. As Dr. Karl Compton has said, "It was not one atomic bomb, or two, which brought surrender; it was the experience of what an atomic bomb will actually do to a community, plus the dread of many more, that was effective."

The bomb thus served exactly the purpose we intended. The peace party was able to take the path of surrender, and the whole weight of the Emperor's prestige was exerted in favor of peace. When the Emperor ordered surrender, and the small but dangerous group of fanatics who opposed him were brought under control, the Japanese became so subdued that the great undertaking of occupation and disarmament was completed with unprecedented ease.

In the foregoing pages, I have

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Mrs. J. Gray Peel Passes In County

Mrs. John Gray Peel died at her home in Griffins Township near the Beaufort County boundary last Sunday afternoon at 5:15 o'clock. She had been in declining health for several years and her condition had been critical for some time.

The daughter of Mrs. Ida Jordan Waters of Pinetown and the late Robert A. Waters, she was born in the Pinetown section of Beaufort County 59 years ago, but had spent most of her life in Martin. She was a faithful member of the church at Macedonia for a number of years and was held in high esteem by all who knew her.

Surviving are her husband; five sons, John M. and Ed. Peele of Washington, Robert and W. B. Peele of Washington, Route 3, Herbert Peele of Newport News, Va.; 11 grandchildren; her mother, Ida Jordan Waters of Pinetown; three brothers, Harvey Waters of Pinetown, Route 1, R. P. Waters of Norfolk and Heber Waters of Newport News; two sisters, Mrs. Deane N. Woolard of Washington, Route 1, and Mrs. Herman Cutler of Washington, Route 2. Funeral services will be held Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock from the Macedonia Christian Church, conducted by the Rev. Edgar H. Harding, a former pastor of Norfolk, and the Rev. Darnis Warren Davis. Burial will be in the Tice family cemetery. Sons and a nephew will serve as pallbearers.

Hog Thieves On Rampage In The County Last Week

Idle for about two weeks, hog thieves went on a rampage in this county again last week, the sheriff's office reporting two crude visits to the Claude Keel and Woolard farms in the Robersonville area.

After working on the latest theft from early morning until late last Thursday, officers stated they had been unable to establish the first lead in the flash thefts plaguing farmers' swine herds in the county for about three months. A complete record is not immediately available, but eight or ten thefts costing farmers at least eighteen or twenty fine pigs have been reported. And there is a possibility that other pastures were visited without the knowledge of the owners. Most of the thefts were centered between Everetts and Williamston at first, but more recently the thieves have operated in the Roberson-

ville area, always holding to the hardsurface routes. Employing sneaking and crude tactics, the thieves corner hogs with corn, possibly stolen corn, at that, and then knock them on the head with an axe, stick them on the spot and load them on a cruising automobile, leaving blood spots but no automobile tracks. The thieves apparently used bush axes at first, leaving several animals badly cut on their heads and backs.

On Monday night of last week, the thieves stole three hogs from Farmer Claude Keel between Everetts and Robersonville, the take including a 100-pound registered Poland-China bought just a short time before by Mr. Keel's son. Last Wednesday night they raided the Woolard farm near Gold Point and carried away two pigs weighing about 100 pounds each.

Tobacco Sales Over Three And One-Half Million-Pound Mark

POSTPONED

The opening of Martin County Superior Court for a two-week term was postponed this week until next Monday on account of the illness of Judge Clawson Williams, the jurist scheduled to preside. It is not certain that Judge Williams will be able to hold the court next week, but in the event he isn't able to report, the governor is expected to assign a special judge to the court.

The county bar association plans to start at the first of the docket and continue right on through with the possibility that work first scheduled for two weeks can be handled in one.

Two Badly Injured In Auto Accident Sunday Afternoon

Dr. W. F. Coppage Escaped Unhurt In Accident Last Thursday

Three persons were injured, two seriously in an automobile accident between Oak City and Hobgood last Sunday afternoon and Dr. W. F. Coppage escaped unhurt when his car was in a wreck with a highway dump truck near Everetts last Thursday afternoon.

Russell Williams, young colored man home on leave from the Navy, was reported to have suffered a skull fracture and other injuries, when the 1939 Pontiac he was driving went out of control on a curve between Oak City and Hobgood at 2:45 o'clock last Sunday afternoon and turned over several times. Calvin C. Davis, a passenger in the car, was reported to have suffered a broken arm and a leg fracture. Herbert Cotten, another passenger, suffered a head injury, cut on his arm and a sprained ankle. The victims were removed to a Tarboro hospital for treatment. Cotten was able to leave the hospital that afternoon but no late reports on the condition of the other two victims could be had here immediately.

Driving in the direction of Hobgood, Williams apparently was running too fast and "hugging" the inside of a curve when he met another car. Turning out, he lost control of his machine which plowed down the shoulder, coming to a stop 150 feet away in the middle of Warren Jones' hog pen after turning over several times. Damage to the car was estimated at \$300 by Officer Edmond Early and Patrolman W. E. Saunders who made the investigation.

Dr. W. F. Coppage escaped un-

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Inferior Tobacco Being Offered In Large Quantities

Market Working Out Of A Small Block Here This Afternoon

Handing its largest sale 323,728 pounds—of the season last Friday, the local tobacco market set the stage to go over the three and one-half-million mark yesterday and push on in the definite direction of four million pounds today.

While prices, grade for grade, continue to hold to about the same level reached earlier in the season, the delivery of inferior tobacco in large quantities is affecting the daily price average. Averages have been ranging downward to the low forties, but the price figure on the local market for the season through last Friday held to a strong \$43 per hundred pounds.

The market this afternoon is working out of a small block.

A report on the activities in the belt, as a whole, follows:

The third week of sales on the Eastern North Carolina flue-cured tobacco markets was highlighted by heavy volume but lower quality and fairly steady prices. The United States and North Carolina Departments of Agriculture report gross sales amounted to 50,708,610 pounds and averaged \$40.47 per hundred. This average was \$2.23 below that of the previous week because of the lower quality of the offerings. Gross sales for the season totaled 106,782,601 pounds at an average of \$41.78. The general average is running around \$9.75 under the comparable period last year.

Prices for the majority of better grades were steady to stronger than the previous week. However, most lower grades of leaf and nondescript showed declines. Except for the higher trend in green leaf and primings, all changes could be considered as normal market fluctuations. Variations stood in most cases around \$1.00 and \$2.00 per hundred. The volume on the grades in which gains occurred outweighed by a large majority those which suffered losses. Thus, as a whole the market was higher based on average prices by grades. A few baskets of better leaf and cutters were observed selling at \$60.00 but the practical top remained at \$58.00 per hundred.

The general quality was below that of week before last. A much larger percentage of leaf was marketed with the increases chiefly in common and low qualities. Also, more nondescript was sold. Less better grades appeared with the letup principally in lugs. Most sales consisted of common to good leaf, fair to fine lugs, low and fair

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Town Authorities Find Themselves Up A Blind Alley

And No Convenient Way to Get Out Is To Be Had Easily

While heavy traffic has congested the main streets, egress and ingress to the town's backlots on the north side of Main Street offer an even greater problem, the commissioners all but confessing at a special meeting of the board last evening that they were just about lost up a ten-foot blind alley. And there is no immediate or convenient way to solve the problem, the commissioners adjourning until a later date when they'll struggle with means of egress and ingress.

Fearful of losing title to twelve feet of land on the main street between his store and the Guaranty Bank, Samuel Zemon poled it off a few days ago. His right was not questioned and Zemon's attorney agreed that the owner would allow the property to be used by the public moving into and out of the backlots if the town board would place in its minutes recognition of his ownership and point out that it was being used at his pleasure to relieve temporarily a congested situation. The town accepted the offer and ordered the police department to clear the alley and keep it opened in its entirety.

It was admitted, however, that the removal of the posts would offer only temporary relief, the board pointing out that some plan needs to be worked out whereby all property owners can be served either by mutual agreement, or, if need be, by condemnation.

Sam Woolford, district manager of the VEP Co., explained that his company's heavy mobile equipment could be easily blocked, that they were imposing on the property of others. "The property owners have been very considerate in permitting us to travel over their holdings, but we don't know how long that will be convenient, and we would like to know if some other arrangements could be made," Mr. Woolford explained, adding that unless they had a proper outlet they would have to look for another location here or elsewhere.

Several property owners attended the meeting, but no definite solution was advanced. Engineers and lawyers are to be consulted between now and the next meeting and it is hoped that an amicable solution to the problem can be found.

Most of the evening was spent on the alley problem, but the board did find time to grant a license to M. K. Bennett to sell beer in a small building across the street from the Carver theater on Washington Street.

Engineer Henry Rivers is being called in to discuss a "Five-Year Plan," looking toward the expansion of water and sewer lines principally. A special meeting will likely be held the early part of next week to discuss the plan.

Azor Lee Moye Dies In County

Azor Lee Moye, 55, died at his home in Oak City, Friday night at 7 o'clock, after having suffered a stroke the day before. Funeral services were conducted at the home in Oak City at 3:30 o'clock Sunday by the Rev. E. D. Thomas, pastor of the Oak City Christian Church, and burial followed in the Oak City cemetery.

Mr. Moye went to Oak City in 1921 and he had a garage business there until 1934. He moved to Lewiston where he was in the garage business until 1944, at which time he returned and opened his business in Oak City.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Hattie Everett Moye, two daughters, Mrs. L. L. Harrell and Mrs. W. W. Tyson both of Oak City, three sisters, Mrs. R. M. Goolsby of Madison, N. C., Mrs. Paul Rawls of Newport News, Va., and Mrs. Therman Moore of Palmyra, and two grandchildren.

Trouble Flares Up Again On Local Labor Front This Week; Skinner Plant Will Negotiate

Work Is Stopped At Williamston Lumber Company

Emploves Defy Picket Line And Got To Work at the Fertilizer Plant

Marking time since the closing of the Williamston Package Manufacturing Company by a work stoppage five weeks ago today, trouble on the local labor front flared up again yesterday when a majority of workers refused to cross picket lines at the W. I. Skinner Tobacco Company plant and the Williamston Lumber Company mill. Workers, forming a seasonal force of about forty men, walked peacefully through picket lines to report for duty at the plant of the Standard Fertilizer Company where there is some doubt as to which union holds a preponderance of membership. Indirect reports declare that the CIO has a majority of workers while representatives of John L. Lewis's District 50 maintain they have a majority of the employees signed.

Although only about one-third of its workers reported yesterday, the Williamston Lumber Company maintained operations yesterday in its planing mill and in the grading room. Today, the company's truck were sent out for logs, indicating that resumption of normal activities is planned.

Union strategy, mapped for the next few days, could not be learned, but the action paralyzing most of the town's industry yesterday morning followed a "church" meeting held last Friday evening. Several labor recruits were brought in for the "big deal" yesterday, but picketing was limited to a lone person at one plant and to just a few at the others. Everything was quiet and peaceful, police declaring that there were no overt acts, and that, as far as they could learn, no threats were made.

It was reported that one of the pickets explained to a man reporting for work that the plant was not running that day and that if he (the picket) were the worker he would not report for work.

After discussing the possibility of recognizing District 50 at a conference some time ago, officials of the W. I. Skinner Company yesterday morning agreed to recognize the union, United Mine Workers of America, A. F. of L., as the collective bargaining agency for the company employees at the plant here and to negotiate for a contract covering wages, hours and working conditions. Negotiations for a contract, necessarily will be delayed several days or until the return of one of the firm partners from a business trip to New York.

Mr. J. E. King, president of the company who has been recognized as a square shooter in dealing fairly with workers and others, stated yesterday, "We were absolutely convinced that the majority of our employees were members of the union (District 50, United Mine Workers of America), and for this reason we have agreed to begin to bargain with the union. We feel that we will be able to negotiate a contract which is fair to all, and for that

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ROUND-UP

Twelve persons, two white and ten colored, were rounded up and placed in the county jail here last week and for various infractions of the law. Five were charged with public drunkenness, three with assaults of varying degrees, one each with issuing a worthless check and carrying a concealed weapon. The twelfth persons detained was wanted on a previous charge. Ages of the group ranged from 19 to 54 years.

Permit Issued For \$75,000 Theater to Dr. V. E. Brown

A permit was issued by Building Inspector G. P. Hall here yesterday to Dr. V. E. Brown for the construction of a modern theater. Estimated to cost \$75,000, according to figures listed in the permit, the new theater is to be located on the site where the old Farmers and Merchants Bank building is now being turned away.

A contract for the construction work was let to V. P. Loftis, Charlotte contractor, a few days ago, and Mr. Fletcher Sanders was assigned to the project.

Work on demolishing the old Farmers and Merchants Bank building was started yesterday morning by a small wrecking

crew. The building will be cleared away to the ground and replaced by a modern structure 120 feet long and 28.5 feet wide.

Few details about the project could be learned immediately, but according to a hurried study of the blue prints the front will be of block glass and there'll be a large balcony.

Tentative plans call for the completion of the structure in about five months.

Construction Engineer Sanders stated that the structure will be modern in every detail and that it will be an unusually fine one.

Three theater, two for white and colored patrons, and one for colored only, are now operating here.

Prominent Business Man Dies In County

Funeral Held In Everetts Sunday For J. S. Ayers

Numbered Among County's Leading Citizens And Agriculturists

James S. Ayers, Sr., a leading county citizen and a prominent merchant and farmer, died suddenly at his home in Everetts last Friday evening at 8:40 o'clock. Although he had not experienced the best of health for several years, Mr. Ayers appeared as well as usual most of last Friday, visiting his several farms and greeting his friends after his cheerful and friendly manner. Following the evening meal he visited a neighbor and returned home, explaining to his wife that he could hardly get his breath. Medical aid was summoned but it reached him too late, death coming as a result of a heart attack.

The son of the late John and Courtney Rogers Ayers, he was born 64 years ago on May 28, 1883, in Cross Roads Township. After spending his early life on the farm he located in Williamston where he was in the employ of C. D. Castanhan and Company, gaining the fundamentals of the mercantile business during a period of several years. Returning to his old home community, he was employed by the late J. S. Peel and the firm of Bailey and Barnhill in Everetts until about 1917 when he formed a partnership with the late Chas. Peel, a mercantile business he operated until his death. In addition to his mercantile firm, he operated a number of farms, and was recognized as a progressive agriculturist, introducing new farming methods and keeping abreast of the times.

Mr. Ayers served his adopted town as mayor for several terms and was a member of its board for years. He was a member of the Everetts Baptist Church for a long time, serving it faithfully as a deacon for twenty years.

Mr. Ayers was highly regarded as a citizen and business man, living an ideal life in friendliness and at peace with his fellowman. He was liberal in his views and acted willingly in behalf of the less fortunate, giving of his time in the support of schools and all other worthy undertakings in his home town and county. While he never aspired to public office, he was a leader and supporter of the democratic party, and he was a pillar in his church.

In his home he was a devoted husband and a thoughtful and understanding father. His walk

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CLUB MEETING

The local Woman's Club will hold its first meeting of the fall season this evening at 8:00 o'clock in the club hall. It has been announced by Mrs. Wheeler Martin, Jr., the organization's new president. Plans will be discussed for entertaining the fifteenth district meeting of Women's Clubs here on October 1. Following the business session a social hour will be enjoyed with members of the local school faculty as special guests.

Base Prices For Peanuts \$26 Ton Higher This Year

New Schedule Fixes Price At 9.8 Cents for 65 Percent Sound Kernels

Support prices for the 1947 peanut crop have been increased \$26 a ton, according to unofficial but reliable reports received here a few days ago.

The base grade price for the 1947 Virginia type peanuts is \$196.00 per ton for peanuts grading 65 percent sound mature kernels. Additions of \$3.00 per ton will be made for each one percent of sound mature kernels in excess of 65 percent, and deductions of \$3.00 per ton will be made for each one percent or fractional part thereof below 65 percent sound mature kernels.

The base grade price for the 1946 crop of peanuts was \$170 per ton for peanuts grading 65 percent sound mature kernels. Additions of \$2.60 per ton were made for each one percent of sound mature kernels in excess of 65 percent, and deductions of \$2.60 per ton were made for each one percent or fractional part thereof below 65 percent sound mature kernels.

The premiums for extra large Virginia shelled kernels of the 1947 crop are the same as those paid for the 1946 crop that is: 30c per ton for each full one percent of Extra Large kernels. The

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Local Principal Made Conference Secretary

B. G. Stewart, principal of the local schools, was elected executive secretary and treasurer of the Albemarle High School Athletic Conference in a meeting in Windsor last Thursday night.

Eight schools made up the conference and Williamston and Robersonville schools in this county are affiliated with the association.

Drive For Funds To Buy Uniforms Well Over Quota

Campaign One of Most Successful of Kind Ever Attempted Here

One of the most successful campaigns of its kind ever attempted here, the Band Uniform Fund Drive had topped the \$2100.00 mark Monday night and was still climbing. The goal had been set at \$1500.00 although the actual need was somewhat greater.

The date for closing the drive had been set as September 12 at a meeting held August 22, giving the campaign three weeks to get organized and carried through. The enthusiastic support it received from the beginning made its success a certainty but when the optimistic person who prepared the thermometer upon which the progress of the drive was to be recorded put the \$2,000 mark on the board, he did not go far enough. The thermometer exploded at the top.

One of the biggest factors in the drive was the voluntary contributions of persons not even listed as prospective donors and the fine way in which practically all the business places in town came through with the suggested figures given them. A few, a very few, were unwilling to give anything at all, but the difference was made up by others who increased the suggested amount of their donations and by persons who said they wanted to help.

The sale of tags, one of the features of the campaign which caused considerable discussion when plans were being made, turned out very well. The Beta Club of the high school sold \$176.17 worth of the squares, the drum major-ettes \$68.96 and two band parents added \$21.40 to this for a total of \$266.53 from the tags.

Chairman John L. Goff admitted to hoping that \$2,000 would be raised in the drive but added his pleasant surprise at finding the total position toward \$2,500.

He expressed great appreciation of the fine work done by the various canvassers in making the calls on their list and in turning in such a high percentage of successful contacts. Credit for their work will be given them as soon as a complete audit of the return cards and slips can be made.

Mr. Goff called attention to two

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Get Papers For Return Of Man

Requisition papers are being prepared today by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck and Solicitor George Fountain for the return of Roland C. Cherry, young white man, from Jacksonville, Fla. Cherry is charged with non-support and reports state that he is fighting extradition. Arrested in the Florida city last week, Cherry was reported to have arranged bond in the sum of \$500.

It could not be learned how long it will take to clear the extradition papers, but officers plan to return him to his county for trial just as soon as the extradition details are handled.

W. J. Spencer Died Yesterday

W. J. Spencer, father of Mrs. J. D. Mason of Williamston, passed away Monday morning at 10 o'clock in a Washington hospital. He had been in declining health since January, and his condition became critical Friday. Mr. Spencer was born in 1870. He was the son of the late C. C. and Mary B. Spencer. For many years he was engaged in the seafood business and was a member of the Methodist Church. He is survived by the following children: Mrs. Mason of this place, Mrs. H. V. Gibbs of Bath, Mrs. Hubert and Mrs. Sam C. Spencer of Englehard, N. C., and one son, B. C. Spencer of Englehard.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock from the home in Englehard, and interment was in the Fulford Cemetery.