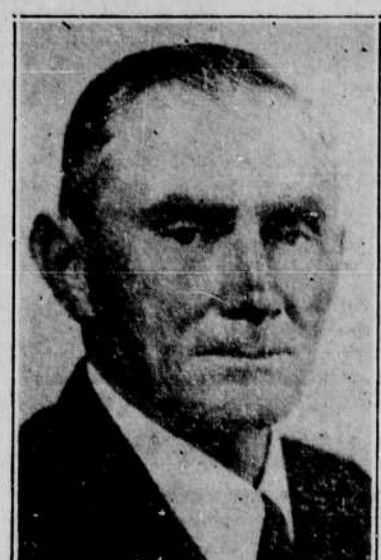


Operators Ready For Williamston Market Opening August 19



Operating the Roanoke-Dixie and Planters Warehouses, left to right, are Carlyle Langley, Urbin and Russell Rogers and Johnny Gurkin, and operating the Farmers and Caro-

lina Warehouses, S. Claude Griffin, Elmo Lilley, Leman Barnhill and Jimmy Taylor, are all set and ready for the opening of the Williamston Tobacco Market next Thurs-

day, August 19. These two big four groups broke all poundage records for the market last season, and they'll be in there pitching and working to make the season at hand a

successful one for the market and its patrons. They extend cordial welcome to all to visit them often this season with the assurance that it will be profitable.

Declares Tobacco Outlook Not Very Bright In Europe

Tobacconist Says General Conditions Improved In Some Sections

Returning a short time ago from his second trip to Europe in the interest of his company, a prominent independent tobacconist declares that the foreign tobacco market outlook is not very encouraging, as a whole. However, the tobacconist pointed out that he was convinced general conditions in England were better on his second trip than a year ago when he made a similar trip.

The dollar situation still remains "tight," the tobacconist said, adding that the tobacco situation had been described to him as "being very uncomfortable," that there was some doubt if Sir E. S. B. would be able to secure the Marshall plan for the purchase of tobacco. One source, it was pointed out, explained that it had been proposed to allow the purchase of 240 million pounds of American tobacco, that 80 million had been bought from the Stabilization Cooperative Corporation. About the only way England can get tobacco is by grant, the tobacconist said it was explained to him.

"In addition to the limited dollar exchange available to the British, inflationary prices present another problem," it was pointed out.

While he explained that he had only a few weeks to observe general conditions, the tobacconist said he was convinced that there had been some improvement in the living standard for all the people. Britain's health plan, providing care from the cradle to the grave, is favored overwhelmingly by the public, but a majority of the doctors opposed the plan when it went into effect July 5. The Labour government apparently continues strong, the people pointing out that Churchill has attacked about everything but offered no plan of his own. The Labour government has offered a plan, it was pointed out to him.

The tobacconist advanced the firm opinion that Britain is about the only western power that could or would have accepted the hardships of the past several years rather than turn to the isms.

The Dutch pointed out to the tobacconist that conditions with them were quite uncertain. The East Indies trouble is literally squeezing the Dutch almost to death. While there may be a market for tobacco there, it is certain to be limited.

Tobacco trade prospects with Belgium and Switzerland are considered far better than those in any other European nation, but the tobacconist pointed out that Switzerland buys comparatively little tobacco.

France presents a pathetic picture. The average wage there is \$42.50 per month and consumer buying power is indeed limited. Those with plenty of money can get what they want and all they

(Continued on page six)

Able Corps of Buyers Will Be On Market This Season

With most of the old buyers returning and with several recognized tobacconists stepping in to take over the duties of others who have been transferred, the Williamston Tobacco Market is opening the 1948 marketing season on Thursday of next week with the strongest buying corps in its history. "We are indeed fortunate in having the buyers who have been assigned to us this year," warehousemen said yesterday.

Five of the old buyers of last year are returning, including Gene Avery for Reynolds, Mack Lamb for the American, Archie Ellis for the Export, Howard Cone for the Fields Company, and Norwood Thomas for J. P. Taylor. Arthur Beale, popular buyer for the Washington Tobacco Com-

pany, is returning after a year's absence and will be welcomed along with the others by all. A. B. Ayers, Jr., well-known young county man, is succeeding Mr. Fuller for Liggett-Myers. Iverson Skinner and Fred Taylor have been tentatively assigned to the market for the Skinner Company. Timbo Jeffries is not returning for the Imperial and while a buyer has already been assigned to the market for that company his name could not be learned immediately.

"There isn't a better set of buyers to be found in all creation," a warehouseman said in announcing the list. "And we are looking forward to a successful season with them, for we are certain the farmers will be pleased with their work," he added.

Judge J. C. Smith Has Twenty Cases In County's Court

Fines Imposed In Three-Hour Session Monday Total Over \$400

Holding the Martin County Recorder's Court in session three hours last Monday, Judge J. C. Smith called twenty cases and imposed fines amounting to \$415. The session attracted comparatively few spectators.

So far the court has not experienced any prolonged summer slump, the record showing that quite a few persons continue to dare to operate motor vehicles without drivers' licenses and to exceed the state speed limits.

Proceedings: Pleading guilty of having no chauffeur's license, LeRoy Long was sentenced to the roads for

suspended upon the payment of a \$25 fine and costs. The court recommended that no license be issued the defendant for ninety days.

Charged with non-support, William D. Leggett pleaded not guilty and he was found not guilty of abandoning his wife or providing support for her. He was adjudged guilty of failing to provide for his six-month-old child. The case was continued under prayer for judgment until November 29 when a final hearing is to be held. During the meantime he is to pay \$30 a month for the support of his child.

LeRoy Coffield, alias Albert Joseph Carr, Jr., was sentenced to the roads for ninety days for operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license. The term was suspended upon the payment of a \$35 fine and costs.

The case charging Raymond D. Davis with drunken driving was continued until next Monday. The defendant had called for a jury trial, but the juryman was dismissed when a defense witness could not be present, the defendant agreeing to go to trial without a jury.

William "Boy" Jordan, charged with larceny and an assault, pleaded not guilty. He was adjudged guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon and he was fined \$20 and required to pay the costs.

Charged with operating a worthless check, Ernest Rogers was adjudged not guilty.

Lorenzo Bryant was sentenced to the roads for sixty days for operating a piccolo without a license. The road term was suspended upon the payment of a \$20 fine and costs, and the defendant was instructed to have the machine moved within two days.

John Ashley Lanier, charged with careless and reckless driving and failing to stop at a road intersection, was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs.

Aubrey Butler was fined \$25 and required to pay the court cost for operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Mrs. Geo. Esa Roberson was

(Continued on page six)

Local Justices Of Peace Handle Number of Cases

Several Defendants Are Sent To Higher Courts For Trial

Justices John L. Hassell and R. T. Johnson worked almost two hours this week handling a goodly number of cases scheduled for consideration in their courts here. A few road sentences were meted out and several defendants were bound over to the higher courts for trial, but most of the alleged violators were fined and taxed with the costs.

Charged with assaulting his wife, Maggie Thompson, the husband, Russell Thompson, told Justice Hassell, "I hit her all right," offering no explanation. The prosecuting witness said he hit her twice and went on to explain it were married seven years ago. She declared that the blows were light. "That's not such a bad record," the trial justice said, changing the warrant to charge disorderly conduct and slapping a \$5 fine and \$6.50 costs on the husband.

Walter Lee Wilkins, charged with being drunk and assaulting Dallas Whitley with a stick, was bound over to the county court by Justice Hassell. Bond in the sum of \$100 was required.

Although his wife, Hattie Williams, had appealed to the law, she said she wanted to withdraw the warrant charging her husband, James Williams, with an assault with a deadly weapon. She said the knife wound in her arm was not very bad. Defendant Williams said he cut his wife accidentally, but according to the girl's stepfather, John Whitley, the cutting climaxed a quarrel on the streets which he was unable to stop. Williams was bound over by Justice Hassell to the higher courts under bond in the sum of \$50.

Occupying the bench, Justice Johnson sentenced Dora McNeil to jail for thirty days for being drunk. It was the defendant's second offense in just a short time. The jail term was suspended upon the payment of a \$5 fine and \$6.50 costs.

Charged with operating a trailer without proper licenses, Zeb V. Price was fined \$10 and taxed with the costs.

Charged with disorderly conduct and attempted assault, Dave Melton was fined \$5 and required to pay the costs. Roy Boston, prosecuting witness, said that he went to get his wheel in front of the cotton club, that Dave had his hand in his bosom, "and he said he was going to shoot me." Dave said he was walking out of the club, that he thought the radio Boston had was a picture machine, that he asked Boston if he was taking pictures. "Boston opened his knife and said he would take my picture." Dave was advised to go home and he said, "I went without further trouble."

Charged with beating a \$25 board bill at the Cowen home, Howard Chetry failed to answer

(Continued on page six)

Two Firms Will Operate Four Large Warehouses This Season

Post Office Here Serving Half Of People In County

Williamston Not a City But Is Reaching "Big Town" Proportions

In connection with the program calling for an extended city delivery service, Postmaster W. E. Dunn recently completed a detailed study of the local post office operations. While the figures are not official, they can be used in estimating the population of the town, as he points out in his report.

In his study review, Postmaster Dunn offers some timely suggestions, pointing out that it is impossible for any small group of postal workers to know all of the nearly 13,000 patrons, that properly addressed mail will expedite delivery.

Mr. Dunn's story reads: "While Williamston probably cannot be classed as a city it has definitely reached Big Town proportions. This fact can be proven by a study of the following figures recently compiled by the Post Office incident to the establishment of a third carrier route and the extension of city delivery service to some 268 families with an average of slightly more than four persons or family or exactly 1133 persons added to the city delivery service. Add to this figure 675 families previously in the city delivery, allowing four to the family, and we have a total of 3772 persons to whom we make door deliveries of mail twice daily. Now add to this figure the 800 persons receiving mail through post office boxes and we have a total of 4572 persons receiving mail in the town of Williamston.

"To give an idea of the area of Williamston, it is 7 miles to the eastern end of city delivery service and 11 miles to the western limits of this service. To the north delivery service extends 1.3 miles and to the south we go 1.1 miles. These distances are from the Post Office. The three carriers travel a total distance of 18.5 miles twice daily.

Report Reduction In Intangible Taxes

After showing fairly constant gains over a period of several years, intangible taxes dropped considerably this year, as compared with income from that source last year.

County Auditor J. Sam Getsinger said that the intangible tax submitted through the State treasury amounted to \$7,658.72 this year as compared with \$8,715.96 last year.

No report on the intangible tax returns for the town has been received.

Suits For Divorces Filed In Court Here

Suits for absolute divorces were filed in the Martin County Superior Court recently, as follows: Lourandia Howard against Charlie Howard, and Pattie Whitaker against Hubert Whitaker.

INCREASE

Anticipating a continued consumption record and improvement in foreign markets another year, the United States Department of Agriculture this week announced a five percent increase in tobacco acreage allotments for next year. The new allotment calls for approximately 960,000 acres, as compared with 908,000 planted to the flue-cured crop this year.

Badly Hurt In Road Accident

Sammy Taylor, young son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Taylor, was badly hurt when he was thrown from his motorcycle on a Washington Road curve near the R. L. Perry farm late Tuesday evening.

He was unconscious for several hours, suffering a brain concussion and extensive bruises on his face, shoulder and right leg. The motorcycle was wrecked when it left the highway and plowed across an embankment into the woods.

The young man, traveling toward Williamston, said the machine hit a ridge in the road and that he blacked out then, not knowing if he had struck another vehicle. He said he was running between 50 and 55 miles an hour at the time. Apparently he landed on the hardsurface and skidded into the dirt of the shoulder of the road.

Removed to the local hospital he was reported to be getting along very well this morning.

Report Reduction In Intangible Taxes

After showing fairly constant gains over a period of several years, intangible taxes dropped considerably this year, as compared with income from that source last year.

County Auditor J. Sam Getsinger said that the intangible tax submitted through the State treasury amounted to \$7,658.72 this year as compared with \$8,715.96 last year.

No report on the intangible tax returns for the town has been received.

Suits For Divorces Filed In Court Here

Suits for absolute divorces were filed in the Martin County Superior Court recently, as follows: Lourandia Howard against Charlie Howard, and Pattie Whitaker against Hubert Whitaker.

Houses Are Being Put In Shape For Big Opening Here

Warehousemen Optimistic Over Outlook On Eve Of Marketing Season

The two Big Four firms, operating Williamston's four warehouses, are applying the finishing touches in preparation for the opening of the tobacco market here next Thursday, August 19. While no space is being added to the market this year, the operators are adding to the facilities for the season.

Already the market district is taking on new life, and buyers, clerks, factory men and others are expected to start arriving over the week-end for the opening next Thursday. Incidentally, the market has been assured one of the strongest corps of buyers in its history.

Very few changes have been made in the market operating personnel this year. Edward Corey will not be with the Roanoke-Dixie and Planters, but Carlyle Langley, Johnny Gurkin and the Rogers boys, Urbin and Russell, will continue at the helm for the two houses.

S. Claude Griffin, Leman Barnhill, Elmo Lilley and Jimmy Taylor will again be at the Farmers and Carolina houses as proprietors.

These men are well known to the farmers of this section and need no introduction. And it is enough said to announce they'll again be at their old stands, ready, able and willing to serve the farmers of this section in the marketing of the current crop.

Although the crop has been cut almost a third in this county and the growing season was not very favorable in parts of the county, warehousemen are expecting a very successful season for the Williamston market. "We feel certain that the market will hold its own," a spokesman said yesterday.

The price outlook, as a whole, is most encouraging and the market is in line to break all records for price averages. However, some individuals have poor crops and in those instances the outlook, while possibly better than in some years past, is not overly encouraging.

The Williamston market is better prepared than ever before to handle the crop this year. The W. I. Skinner Company has just about doubled its handling capacity with the installation of a large and modern redrying machine.

Sales, slated to get under way promptly at 9:00 o'clock next Thursday morning, are to last five hours with an hour for lunch.

Warehousemen are not predicting a record poundage that day, but the first sale will very likely fill the Farmers Warehouse from wall to wall. Tobacco will be

(Continued on page six)