

## Peanut Prices At Parity For First Time in Six Years

### Growers Cooperative Handling Millions of Pounds

With prices offered for farmers' stock peanuts by millers and commercial buyers sagging this season to the government support level of 90 percent of parity for the first time in six years, peanut growers throughout the Virginia-Carolina producing area are being reminded again of the vital importance to them of the program of government buying and storage, with strict grading for size and quality under the government grade schedules, it was pointed out at a meeting of the directors of the Growers Peanut Cooperative, Inc., held in Franklin, Va., last week.

"For six years previous to this season peanuts have moved from the farmers' fields to the mills at prices above government support prices. With spirited bidding for farmers' stock by the buyers at prices above the government minimums, farmers have paid little attention to the schedules of government grades and prices in the past," it was noted at the meeting.

"But now," the spokesman declared, "the situation is reversed. Instead of prices higher than support prices, millers and commercial buyers are sticking closely to the government minimum price schedules. This makes it important that the farmer be familiar with the government schedules of prices and grades, since the price received is dependent on the grade that is determined by the buyer."

The government price support program is operated through warehouses maintained in all local producing areas by the Growers Peanut Cooperative, Inc., under contract with the Commodity Credit Corporation.

"The warehouses of the Growers Peanut Cooperative, Inc., commonly known as government warehouses, are not soliciting the peanut farmers' business in competition with millers and commercial buyers. On the other hand, they are open for the farmers' protection and convenience," states E. M. Johnson, manager of the cooperative.

"If a peanut farmer is not offered a price by a commercial buyer at or above the government price schedule, according to the size and quality of his peanuts, he can bring them to any one of our warehouses and he is assured of a market at the government price for the grade of the peanuts he has to sell," Johnson explained.

"This year the grade and quality of peanuts is of prime importance as a factor in determining the price that the farmer will receive, either from a commercial buyer or from the warehouses operated by the Growers Peanut Cooperative, since no buyers are offering prices above the government schedules and all prices are based on the grades set up by the government," Johnson pointed out. "If a farmer is in doubt about the grade and price that he should receive, the advice of our warehousemen is available to him or he may bring his crop directly to the warehouse with the assurance that the government will purchase it at the scheduled price, with grading done accurately and fairly at the warehouse at time of delivery," he said.

Evidence of the important part that the warehouses operated by the Growers Peanut Cooperative are playing to maintain a market for peanuts at the government price support schedules is shown in the fact that already this season more than 6,500,000 pounds of farmers peanuts, have been delivered directly to the "government" warehouses, according to figures released last week by the headquarters in Franklin.

"The cooperative and its 'government' warehouses are not seeking business. Our purpose and function is to guarantee the farmer a market for his crop at the government price schedules. We are organized to protect and serve the peanut grower, and we are most pleased when he does not

## IMPORTANT

An important meeting will be held in the county courthouse next Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock when plans will be discussed for supporting the 100-car Friendship Train to be run in North Carolina next month.

All interested persons are urged to attend and hear the plan discussed by a representative of the State organization sponsoring the movement. The meeting will be very interesting and will not last very long.

## Parents-Teachers Hear Address By College President

### Urges The County P.-T. A. Council To Support Federal Education Aid Plan

Addressing a meeting of the Martin County Parent-Teacher Council in the high school auditorium here Tuesday evening, Dr. John D. Messick, president of East Carolina Teachers College, stressed the need for federal aid for education and went on to outline the responsibility of parents in rearing their children. The educator's talk was a timely one and was well received by his audience which was held to a faithful few possibly by inclement weather.

V. J. Spivey, local P.-T. A. president, presided over the meeting and he recognized distinguished guests. Mrs. W. C. Wynne, president of the Martin County Council, recognized leaders in the council and representatives from the various P.-T. A. units in the county. J. C. Manning, superintendent of county schools, introduced the speaker.

Deploping greed and avarice, Dr. Messick frankly told the group that scientists were afraid of the future, and warned that unless the social world learns to use what science has developed, there'll be nothing but chaos.

"In the educational world, great institutions are putting money in scientific and industrial undertakings to make money, forgetting social values," the speaker declared. "Industry is working to promote faster cars, ships and planes for faster living. Philanthropists have not been 'sold' on the value of building a 'better world' or better human relations," Dr. Messick said, explaining that federal aid to education had been defeated under the late President Roosevelt by the parochial school and later under Truman by industrialists with the aid of the parochial school. The speaker pointed out in urging parents and teachers to bring pressure, if necessary, to get federal aid and equalize opportunities for children.

The educator pointed a rather dark future for education without federal aid. Buildings are dilapidated and inadequate. In our own state it is a big job to get adequate

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## Make Plans For Fat Stock Show

By J. W. Sumner  
Assistant County Agent  
The 6th Annual Martin County Fat Stock Show is to be held May 13th. For the first time it will open to Negro 4-H and FFA members. All the steers have been delivered to make up a show of 35 baby beefs. Two of these went to two Negro 4-H members. Several Negro 4-H and FFA members are expected to enter fat hogs in the show to make it the largest county Junior Swine Show in the state.

The desire for better swine in Martin County is shown by the request of several farmers for a purebred swine sale in the county. Tentative plans have been made for an all breed sale early in March. Some of the animals will be furnished by purebred breeders already in production in this county. The sale list will be completed from breeders outside the county.

## Army Secretary Speaks To Peanut Festival Crowd



Pictured above are a few of the thousands who crowded around an improvised stand at the corner of Main and Smithwick Streets to hear Army Secretary Kenneth Royall of Washington, D. C., and Goldsboro, deliver a political address as a program feature of the town's recent Peanut Festival. The throngs crowded for some distance in each of the streets. Many, finding it tiresome to stand so long, repaired to stores and offices where they seated themselves and heard his address as it came in over the radio.

## Postal Income Shows Large Increase At Local Office

The gradual decline reported by the local post office in its income since the war apparently has been checked, and if the upward trend is maintained throughout this quarter the office will approach a new income figure for 1948.

After dropping from \$8,021.19 reported for the first quarter of last year to \$8,250.06 in the first three months in 1948, stamp sales at the local office pointed upward during the second quarter. The income jumped from \$7,742.37 in the second quarter of 1947 to \$8,267.48 in the three-month period ending last June 30. And then the big gain was reported last quarter when stamp sales jumped from \$7,608.05 in the third quarter of 1947 to \$9,040.35, giving the first nine months of 1948 a net gain of \$1,286.28 over the income reported for the corresponding period in 1947. All those dollars represent a mighty heap of one-, two- and three-cent stamp sales.

## Plan To Improve School Grounds

Plans are virtually complete for advancing a beautification program at the local grammar school, V. J. Spivey, P.-T. A. president, announced this week.

Volunteers are being asked to report to the school on Thursday and Friday of next week to transplant shrubs and arrangements are being made to lay drain tile in the big ditch back of the building. More shrubs are needed, and anyone having a surplus plant is asked to contact Miss Ruth Manning at the grammar school or Mr. Spivey. The services of additional volunteers can be used to an advantage on December 2 and 3, it was explained.

The next meeting of the parents and teachers will be held on Monday, December 13.

## Band Parents Meet Monday Night, 8:30

A meeting of the Band Parents Club of the Williamston High School Green Wave Band will be held Monday night immediately after the regular band rehearsal, it was announced this week. Rehearsals usually start shortly after 7:00 o'clock and the meeting will probably be started about 8:30. Reports on activities and a discussion of winter plans for the band will be on the agenda.

## Seriously Cut In Liquor Business Dealt Hard Blow In Martin County

Following up several successful raids in the county last week, ABC Officer Joe H. Roebuck and his assistant, Deputy Roy Peel dealt the illicit liquor business another telling blow on Tuesday of this week when they raided in Bear Grass Township.

They either established a new record or approached the old record when they found and destroyed seventy-two gallons of white liquor.

Going into the district where the illicit activities have been held to a low minimum for some time, the officers picked up the trail about 8:30 o'clock that morning. A short time later they found the plant which was equipped with a 100-gallon capacity copper still, two worms, three 500-gallon beer vats, one 100-gallon vat, one 50-

## Court In Recess Until Next Week

The Martin County Superior Court after granting five divorces and clearing two other cases from the calendar recessed shortly before noon Wednesday until next Monday morning.

In the case of Standard Fertilizer Company against W. S. Cowan, Jr., J. C. Vaughan and C. M. Barber, the plaintiff was given a judgment in the case, claimed the residue of the amount and was given a judgment in the sum of \$422.00. When the jury found in favor of Barber against Vaughan, Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn, presiding over the term, intimated he would set the verdict aside as being contrary to the weight of the evidence. He took no such action and the judgment was entered in the record Wednesday.

In the case of Edward L. Early against Wm. R. Moran, two witnesses offered testimony and the plaintiff took a voluntary nonsuit. Early was suing for possession of certain beer parlor equip-

## Large Quantity Beer Drunk In the County

### Drink Almost Two Million Bottles In Twelve Months

The treasuries of the county and the eight towns therein are receiving this week \$22,746.15 in beer taxes, according to unofficial figures announced a few days ago. A major portion of the \$22,746.15 or \$15,948.12, goes to the county treasury, leaving only \$6,798.03 for the eight towns, as follows:

Williamston, \$3,491.60; Robertsonville, \$1,238.70; Oak City, \$450.76; Hamilton, \$445.18; Jamesville, \$439.31; Parmele, \$367.12; Everetts, \$233.30, and Hassell, \$132.06.

## Simms Cites Need For Thankfulness At Union Service

Contrasting the great blessings of the present day with the lesser ones for which the pilgrims were so deeply and sincerely thankful at the first Thanksgiving, Rev. Stewart B. Simms, pastor of the Memorial Baptist Church, pointed to the need for a genuine spirit of Thanksgiving to God among the people of America today, in addressing an overflow audience at the Community Thanksgiving service in the Presbyterian church Thursday morning.

"If the little band of less than 100 pilgrims who had spent three long months crossing the Atlantic Ocean in a ship no larger than the life-boats on the Queen Mary, who had seen half their number die within six months, and who had experienced the hardships and trials attendant upon this pioneer life in an undeveloped wilderness could, at the end of their first harvest, pause in reverent Thanksgiving to Almighty God for his goodness, mercy, and love, how much more should we, the fortunate and blessed people of this generation, living in this God-blessed land, turn our hearts

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## George Brooks Stabbing Victim

George Brooks, 25, colored farmer of the Piney Woods or Free Union area near Danvers, was fatally stabbed about 8:30 o'clock Wednesday night in the home he occupied with his 65-year-old father, county officers reported today. Sheriff C. B. Roebuck and deputies are investigating but no arrests have yet been made.

The stabbing was reported by the father, Dave Brooks, who walked two miles to report that someone had stabbed his son. His accounts of the crime have not been too coherent and he is said to have been drinking, but the lack of a motive for the crime is one of the baffling angles as the dead man is said to have had no trouble with anyone, to have lived in a house with no one but his father.

Officers were notified about midnight Wednesday and found that friends had gone to the home to investigate the old man's report but that the old man had not returned with them. Instead he had asked permission to spend the night with friends. The body was found on the floor with no signs of blood anywhere except in the room and there were no signs of a struggle. The victim had removed his boots and overalls but still wore an extra pair of pants. He had been stabbed once through the heart with a pocket knife.

The father told friends at first that the boy had been stabbed inside the home by some unidentified person. Later he said the boy had been killed and thrown from an automobile at the home. The victim will be buried this afternoon or Saturday and officers expect to make an arrest in the case shortly thereafter.

## Nine Cases Heard By Justices Here

Strictly on the disorderly and drunk side, nine cases were handled by Justices Hassell and Johnson the early part of this week. One road term of thirty days was meted out while another for 12 months was suspended and one defendant drew a day in jail plus costs.

Justice John L. Hassell handled the following cases: Charged with disorderly conduct, James E. Midgett was fined \$5 and taxed with the costs. Elbert Whitehurst was sentenced to the roads for thirty days for being publicly drunk. The road term was suspended for twelve months upon pledged good behavior and the payment of \$9.50 costs. John Henry White was sentenced to the roads for thirty days for public drunkenness. Charged with public drunkenness, James Willis Lloyd was fined \$5 and taxed with \$8.50 costs. Publicly drunk, Gene Andrews was fined \$5 and required to pay \$10.50 costs. Chas. B. Taylor, public drunk, was fined \$5 and taxed with \$8.50 costs. Justice R. T. Johnson handled three cases, as follows: Roosevelt Bonds, assault and larceny of a pint of wine off the person, was taxed with \$5.85 costs. Charged with simple assault, Roosevelt Barnes was taxed with \$5.85 costs. Drunk and disorderly, Olivia Johnson was held in jail a day and taxed with \$6.85 costs.

## THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

47th Week			
Accidents Inj'd	Killed	Damage	
1948	3	4	0
1947	4	1	0
Comparisons To Date			
-948	130	74	2
1947	130	74	2
1946	130	74	2

## Hamilton Office Robbed Sunday

Forcing the latch on the back door, robbers entered the office of Dr. J. D. Hemmingway in Hamilton some time during last weekend, possibly Sunday morning. A quantity of narcotics was stolen, but a complete inventory report could not be learned here. The robbery was not discovered until about noon Tuesday when the doctor went to fill a prescription and found the narcotics gone. Officers were called immediately but they have been unable to establish a lead in the case so far.

## REPORTED IMPROVING

Reports this morning from a Washington hospital said that Mr. Van Taylor, who entered the hospital for treatment last Sunday, was showing slight improvement.