

Plans For Marketing New Crop of Peanuts

Meeting Outlines Several Ways To Get Price Support

Two Hundred Farmers At Meeting In Wil- liamston School

Several methods for marketing the 1952 peanut crop with guaranteed price support were outlined by Production and Marketing Administration representatives at a meeting held in the Williamston High School Monday evening. Approximately 200 farmers and other interested citizens, including several millers, were present and discussed the marketing program.

The meeting, briefly reviewed the ways in which the grower may get price support, but it is fairly apparent that the marketing program will not be as liberal as it has been and that the growers will turn to the open market as long as the price there is somewhere in line with the support level.

According to P.-M. A. representatives there are four methods for marketing the new crop:

The farmer may obtain a farm loan, or

He may market his peanuts through the peanut growers Cooperative, or

He may sign a purchase agreement, or

If the cooperative is not operating in the area, he may obtain a warehouse storage loan.

There's the alternative of selling on the open market.

Peanut prices are pegged this year at \$231.00 per ton or about 11.50 cents per pound, plus premiums for quality or minus penalties for inferior grades. The farmers are expected to figure the cost of inspection, storage, insurance and other fees and then sample the open market with intention of turning to whatever outlet offers the best marketing advantage.

Based on 65 percent sound mature kernels, peanuts may be marketed through a farm storage loan at \$205.34 a ton. Peanuts marketed through the cooperative, will net the grower immediately \$208.76 a ton. If the open market offers 10.50 cents per pound, the price will be \$210 per ton, but there'll be no equity in those sales by the farmer.

If the farmer desires he may enter into an agreement with the Commodity Credit Corporation, pay a small service fee, hold his peanuts until next May 31 and then sell them at \$231.00 per ton.

Briefly stated, the government apparently wants no peanuts, but it is standing by to keep the market from going to pieces. If the millers go into the markets and pay a "reasonable" price, well and good. If the bottom starts to fall out, then the marketing program will come into its own. That's the way farmers sized up the situation at the Monday night meeting.

P.-M. A. representatives outlined the following reasons for changing the peanut program this year:

"The 1952 national peanut allotment and marketing quota have been reduced in line with anticipated edible demand. Therefore,

Resume Deadly Weapon Attacks

Quietness prevailing for almost three weeks following a series of axe and hatchet attacks, was broken last week-end when the ragged carving was resumed locally.

Using a pocket knife, Horace Lyons, young colored man, left a wide open streak in LeRoy Hines' face last Saturday night about 10:00 o'clock. Hines says he doesn't know why Lyons attacked him. Lyons, holding a trouble-free record, says Hines jumped on him at the Little Savoy Cafe on Washington Street and that he worked him over.

ROUND-UP

Nine persons were arrested and detained in the Martin County jail during the week-end. Four were booked for public drunkenness, two for assaults, and one each for drunken driving, careless and reckless driving and drinking in public.

Two of the nine were white and the ages of the group ranged from 17 to 50 years.

Twenty-One Cases Called Saturday In County's Court

Several Defendants Sen- tenced To Roads; Fines Add Up To \$310.00

Twenty-one cases were called in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Saturday morning by Judge R. T. Johnson. Several defendants were sentenced to the roads and the fines imposed during the short session amounted to \$310.00.

There'll be no session of the recorder's court on Saturday of this week. The next session will be held on Saturday, September 27, it was announced.

Proceedings:

Pleading not guilty, John Nathan Davis was adjudged guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon and drew ninety days on the roads. In a second case in which Davis was charged with operating a motor vehicle while his license was revoked, the court sentenced him to the roads for six months. The six-month sentence is to begin at the expiration of the first sentence.

The case in which Robert Ormond was charged with selling beer in the town of Williamston on Sunday was not pressed. Williamston's commissioners, since the origin of the case, have passed an ordinance banning Sunday beer sales.

Charged with violating the liquor laws, Melvin Glisson pleaded not guilty. He was adjudged guilty and was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of a \$50 fine and costs. He is to violate no liquor laws during the next two years.

Pleading guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon, Thelma Best was fined \$10, plus costs.

Dallas Whitley and Fred S. Brown, charged with issuing worthless checks, were each taxed with the costs and required to pay the checks.

Virgia Salmon Daniel of Windsor was fined \$100, plus costs, for drunken driving. Pleading guilty of the charge, she lost her license for a year.

Robert E. Bond was fined \$25, plus costs, for operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

Pleading not guilty, James Earl Purvis was adjudged guilty of non-support, and was sentenced to serve six months on the roads. The road term was suspended upon the payment of the court costs and \$5 a week for the support of his child over a period of two years.

Steve E. Stevenson was found not guilty of speeding.

Gerald O. James, pleading guilty of speeding, was fined \$10 and taxed with the court costs.

Henry Johnson, colored man, pleaded not guilty of careless and reckless driving and operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license. Adjudged guilty, Johnson was sentenced to the roads for six months. Following an accident between Williamston and Everetts last week, Johnson ran away and was not arrested until later in the week. It was then discovered that he had suffered a

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Subscribes To Lawyer's Oath At Bar Yesterday

Joseph Francis Bowen, Jr., Greenville young man, subscribed to the lawyer's oath before Judge Clawson Williams in superior court here yesterday morning.

Switch To 110,000 - Volt Power Line



A flip of a small control switch by John H. Edwards, chairman of the Martin County Board of Commissioners, tied in Williamston and this area with the Virginia Electric and Power Company's 110,000-volt transmission system the 16th of last month. Marking one of the most progressive industrial events in this section in a number of years, the switching operation at the VEPCO's \$100,000 substation near Williamston was handled in the presence of (left to right) Mayor Robt. H. Cowen, R. Edwin Peele, representing the Williamston Boosters; R. H. Goodman, vice president of the company; A. L. Jameson, district manager. Mr. Edwards has his hand on the switch.—Photo by Royal Photographic Center.

Judge Williams Stresses Duty In Jury Charge

W. H. Carstarphen Suc- ceeds Jessup Harrison As Group Foreman

Presiding over the first of a two-week term of the Martin County Superior Court, Judge Clawson Williams of Sanford, stressed duty in his charge to the grand jury. Nine new members were drawn for duty on the jury during the next twelve months, including J. C. Keel, E. L. White, Roy Ward, Henry A. Harrison, Joe Lawrence Coltrane, Leo Roberson, Norman Turner, C. U. Rogers and Roland B. Lilley. John L. Hassell, member of the Oak City faculty, was excused. Wm. H. Carstarphen was named foreman, succeeding Jessup Harrison who recently completed a year of service as a grand juror.

Declaring the grand jury was one of the most important agencies connected with the enforcement of the law, Judge Williams said that its members should be proud when called upon to serve because they were selected because of their moral character, integrity and courage. He pointed out that few countries exist today where the common man has any authority in administering the law. The jurist explained that such a privilege has been maintained at great cost and sacrifice. "It may be a sacrifice for some of you to leave your business and serve this week, but that sacrifice is small compared to the sacrifice made by others to maintain the system," the jurist said, reminding the jury members of the sacrifices made by youth on the battlefields.

"This is a wonderful age with all its inventions, and the progress has been made possible by the 'American way of life' which gives to the individual the right to pursue his own ideas and thoughts and to develop all the latent power God has given him," Judge Williams said. "Our way of life is traceable to the Magna

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Work Progressing On Power Project

After effecting a connection here, contractors, employing nearly one hundred men, are rapidly extending the Virginia Electric and Power Company's 110,000-volt transmission line toward Washington and Greenville, A. L. Jameson, district manager for the company, said last week-end.

The right-of-way has been cut to Whorton's where a sub-station is almost completed on the road leading off Highway 17 and running a few miles west. Structures have been raised far beyond the road leading from Corey's Cross Roads to Bear Grass, and the large wires have been stretched to that road, Mr. Jameson said. "We hope to have the line built into Washington and far along toward Greenville within the next two months," the power man said.

Draw Additional Citizens for Jury

Judge Clawson Williams, presiding over the current term of the Martin County Superior Court, took action yesterday to relieve the jury shortage when he ordered eight additional citizens drawn for duty.

In addition to the August drawing, eight more persons were drawn for jury duty last week, and now eight additional ones were drawn Monday for duty on the petit jury during the remainder of this week. Quite a few of those originally drawn had moved out of the county and several were excused Monday.

The last drawing included: K. Hugh Coltrane and George R. Griffin of Griffins, Grover Bowen of Bear Grass, Dillon Cobb, John S. Whitley and Sidney Beacham of Williamston, Ernest Purvis of Robersonville, and Henry L. Hopkins of Hamilton.

CONTINUES QUITE ILL

Although his condition was improved over the week-end, Mr. Bill Harrison, Martin County commissioner, continues quite ill in a Rocky Mount hospital.

Clear Few Cases From the Docket In Superior Court

Evidence Completed In Case Against Tony Cur- rie Late Monday

Getting off to a slow start yesterday morning, the Martin County Court before recessing at 5:15 o'clock cleared only three of the twenty cases scheduled for trial the first day of the two-week term.

There was a shortage of jurors, and witnesses were missing when they were needed. The grand jury was slow in getting its bills of indictment cleared, and just about all the court machinery dragged throughout the day. A call for more jurors was issued, and Judge Clawson Williams, presiding, is speeding up the machinery today.

No cases were decided by the jury, but two are pending. In the case in which Nollie Johnson, Jr., is charged with rape, the court heard the state's evidence, but witnesses for the defendant could not be found immediately and the trial is to be concluded today.

All the evidence was heard in the assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill case against William Thornton (Tony) Currie before the court recessed for the day, and it is to reach the jury following Judge Williams' charge this morning.

Currie, charged with shooting and almost fatally wounding Elmer Gray Modlin, young war veteran in Jamesville last June 3, was in court without counsel, and Judge Williams had to warn him against arguing several times when cross examining the state's witnesses. Modlin told his story of the attack, declaring there was nothing done to provoke it, adding that he knew no reason why Currie shot him. He said he was in the hospital two and one-half months, that his arm was broken by one bullet and that his intestines were punctured in six places by the second shot fired into him by Currie in John Cabarrus' cafe in Jamesville, following a fish supper on Roanoke River.

Cpl. M. C. Byrum quoted Currie as saying he shot Modlin because Modlin and "Red" Hassell tried to throw him into the river.

Cabarrus said that he saw no knife, that the attack, as far as he could see, was not provoked.

Currie, lingering in jail for more than three months, had a story all his own, apparently pre-fabricated day by day during his long stay behind bars. He said that Modlin had threatened to mutilate him, and throw the "trimmings" in the river, that Modlin played carelessly with a knife. Currie also told a drinking bout, how more liquor was purchased and consumed. He said he followed Modlin into the cafe after "Red" Hassell had warned him Modlin was out to get him (Currie). The defendant, telling a long story without interruption on the stand, maintained that he shot Modlin when Modlin started advancing on him with a knife in the cafe. He denied having said he should have finished Modlin "off" before he was taken into custody by Cpl. Byrum.

Currie called two witnesses in his behalf, but they could help him little, and the outlook at the

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Dies Day After Father's Funeral

Denton Bell, 43, coming from Washington, D. C., to attend the funeral of his father, Frank Bell, on Sunday, died of a heart attack early yesterday morning at the home of his mother-in-law, Mittie Slade, on Elm Street. Apparently he was in his usual health just before the attack which resulted in death before medical attention could reach him.

Bell, an employe of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, had been in Washington about 25 years.

His father's funeral Sunday afternoon at the Corner Stone Baptist Church on West Warren Street was about the largest ever held here.

Funeral arrangements for the son were not completed immediately.

Record Sale On The Market Here Monday

NOT SO GOOD

Following favorable reports received from several parts of the county, Farmer J. N. Hopkins, of near Williamston, came along yesterday with a little different story about the peanut crop.

He made no definite count, but after a thorough examination of his fields, the farmer said he was convinced his crop was hardly up to normal, that it was too early to think about digging.

Series Of Minor Auto Accidents In This Section

No One Badly Injured, Of- ficers and Patrolmen Reported

No one was badly injured in a series of highway and street accidents in this section during the past few days. Property losses were held to a fairly low figure, according to reports released by members of the highway patrol and police officers.

The first in the series was reported on a river fill bridge last Thursday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Jasper Allen of Currie was driving an oil tanker south on U. S. 17 and stopped just before entering a bridge to allow a Chevrolet truck, driven by James Robert Penwell of Aulander, to pass. Alfred Lewis Righton of Washington, driving south, applied the brakes on his 1951 GMC truck to avoid striking the tanker and skidded across the line into the path of the Chevrolet truck. Damage to both vehicles combined was estimated at \$550 by Patrolman Travis Register who made the investigation.

At 5:00 o'clock that afternoon, two young men, believed to have been Marines, lost control of their 1950 Ford which literally hid itself 25 feet in the woods after skidding and swerving over a distance of about 30 feet. The boys, traveling toward Williamston from Windsor, caught a ride to Williamston, presumably to get medical attention for minor injuries. They disappeared and have not been heard from since, according to members of the highway patrol who made the investigation. Damage to the car which is still being held in a Williamston garage, was estimated at about \$200.

Last Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock Solomon Hardy of Hassell was driving his 1937 Chevrolet on Highway No. 11 toward Bethel. When the engine went dead, Simon Henry Hanell of Hobgood started pushing it with his 1937 Plymouth. James Thurman Madry, following them in a 1947 Pontiac, crashed into the Chevrolet, causing about \$500 damage to all three cars. Madry, a Scotland Neck man, was said to have been slightly hurt. Patrolman Travis Register made the investigation.

Saturday about noon, James William Brown of Poplar Point started to make a left turn off Houghton into Church Street here just as Bernice Silverthorne started to pass. No one was injured, according to Chief John Roebuck who made the investigation and who estimated the damage at \$100.

There was only minor damage in a main street accident Sunday

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Patrol Meeting Here Wednesday

Members of the North Carolina Highway Patrol in Districts 1, 2 and 3 will hold an inspection meeting here tomorrow morning at 10:00 o'clock. Colonel W. B. Lentz of Raleigh will address the group.

Between fifty and seventy-five members of the patrol are expected from Ahoskie, Elizabeth City and Rocky Mount.

Price Average Is Fourth Highest Of Year To Date

Sales Today Certain To Carry Pounds To Four And Half Million

One of the largest sales reported on the local tobacco market in more than two years was chalked up for the records yesterday when 372,662 pounds of leaf were sold for \$183,879, an average price of \$49.34. The price average, despite varying reports from individuals, was the fourth highest of the season to date.

The largest sales ever recorded in recent years on the local market was reported three years ago on opening day, August 21, 1949, when 386,156 pounds were sold for an average price of \$48.36. Incidentally, the 8,910,898 pounds of tobacco sold here that year averaged only \$49.05, according to the record. The next largest sale was recorded on opening day, August 21, 1950, when 373,098 pounds were sold for an average of \$55.88.

After getting off to a slow start, sales this year are getting larger almost day by day and are closing the gap between those of the current season and those of a year ago with the price averages holding to about the same figure for the two years.

Through yesterday the local market had sold 4,214,166 pounds for an average right at \$49.00 per hundred pounds. Sales today are expected to carry the total beyond the four and one-half million-pound mark.

Battling possibly the poorest quality crop in years, the local market is more than holding its own with any in the whole country. More farmers are coming here from greater distances than ever before. While some farmers are a bit disappointed, they declare that they have done the best if not better than they could anywhere, and they keep coming back.

A report on the activities on the markets throughout the belt follows:

Demand for Eastern North Carolina flue-cured tobacco picked up slightly last week, according to the Federal-State Market News Service. Volume of sales was fairly heavy. Quality of offerings was below that of the preceding week.

Increases in grade averages were mainly \$1.00 to \$2.00 a hundred pounds, with a few offerings as much as \$3.00 higher. Around one-fourth of the grades remained steady, while a like number showed small losses. Declines occurred chiefly for lower quality marketings.

Gross sales during the week totaled 47,847,408 pounds, averaging \$49.97 per hundred. This average was 57c above the previous week. For the first sixteen days this year, season sales stand at 129,349,158 gross pounds and average \$49.86. Last year during the same number of sales days 149,813,276 pounds had averaged \$50.27.

A continued increase was shown in the percentage of leaf marketings—mainly common and low qualities. A corresponding decrease occurred in the proportion of low and fair primings. The ra-

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Minor Damage In Ross Motel Fire

Damage, estimated at several hundred dollars, resulted when fire started in a utility room at the Ross Motel a short distance from here on the Washington highway. Its origin unknown, the fire burned two mattresses, several chairs and other equipment, and sent smoke through the attic from one end of the building almost to the other. Wiring in the room was burned to a crisp and that in the attic was damaged, according to one report.

Williamston's volunteer firemen were called there and they were able to confine the fire to the one room.