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ALL THE LOCAL NEWS

GREAT FIELD DAY FOR THE CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION HELD IN EDGECOMBE COUNTY

BIG CROWDS ATTEND THE MEETINGS

Without a doubt, Thursday was one of the biggest days that Edgecombe county has ever experienced in the great drive that is now on for the cooperative marketing plan of selling farm products.

This new system has many adherents in the county and is very strong among our producers generally. It is growing all the time, and it is the opinion of the Southerner that it is only a question of time when everybody who grows cotton, peanuts and tobacco will be signers of contracts.

The proponents of the new marketing system went yesterday down on the borderland of the enemy's country at Macesfield and shelled the woods with big guns.

By 1 o'clock yesterday morning a large crowd had gathered at Macesfield to hear the discussions.

The large grandstand near the railroad track was filled with people. All around this stand were automobiles, and people standing. At Macesfield it is perfectly safe to say that there were at least four or five hundred people present to hear Dr. Joyner, Mr. Norwood and Mr. Ragsdale. Notwithstanding the ugly looking weather in the morning the people came to hear the news of the new marketing system. The three men that are now stamping the state form a first class working team.

Mr. Norwood discusses the financial side of the proposition. He explains how this great movement can be financed.

Mr. Ragsdale is the practical tobacco man who knows the tobacco business in all its details, having had, as he says, more than 20 years' experience.

Dr. Joyner takes up the question from the standpoint of the practical farmer and gives his reasons why the system should be put in use from a farmer's standpoint.

And when these three gentlemen get through all sides of the cooperative marketing have been pretty well covered.

Mr. Norwood is the president of the First National Bank of Goldsboro. He is a cool, deliberate, careful speaker, weighing well every word he utters. He marshals his facts and figures well and makes a convincing argument. He is a banker of state reputation. He is now president of the N. C. Tobacco Association.

Mr. Ragsdale is a real tobacco man of the best type, who has seen big things ahead for the cooperative system. He has been a buyer on the markets of North Carolina for 23 years and has seen the inner workings of the old auction system and makes no hesitancy in pronouncing it in keeping with the advanced ideas and theories of the business world of today. Mr. Ragsdale hits right from the shoulder whenever it becomes necessary, and calls a spade a spade.

Dr. Joyner is well known to our people. For years he was the state superintendent of public instruction and while serving his last term resigned and went to his farm in Lenoir county, and since that time has been directly engaged in farming, or as he calls it in dirt farming.

Dr. Joyner speaks from the standpoint of a farmer and gives reasons why every farmer should join this movement now. He is a strong speaker and very forceful and deliberate. His appeals were strong and convincing.

The county rejoices to know that these three men have been in our midst and the Southerner is thoroughly convinced that their work in Edgecombe county yesterday and at Tarboro has done great good.

Mr. G. A. Norwood.

Mr. Norwood referred in his talk exclusively to the business side of the cooperative marketing. He stated that the present system of selling tobacco on the warehouse floor was not the best, nor was it satisfactory to the producer. He stated that unless he had a better system he would not be in favor of doing away with the old one. He does not claim perfection for the new system. In defense of the new system he stated that the big excess in tobacco if any could be better cared for than under the old auction system. He argued that this excess could be carried by the farmers themselves better than by the buyers. And this could be done at a much less expense. The holding of this excess by the farmers would have great effect on the future crops. He said the world every year needed 400,000,000 pounds of tobacco and in cases of a large excess the auction system could not take care of it except at a great loss to the farmer who was obliged to dump it on the market and glut the markets of the world. He said that he did not take the farmer for a fool, but they were understanding the entire situation as well as other businesses were. He says the farmers holding 75 percent in the association knows full well he can dictate profitable prices.

Mr. Norwood said that it has been often said by the opponents of the new system that it could not be financed, but such was a mistake—it could be financed and much more easily than the present auction system. He said the security offered by the farmer with his tobacco in the pool was much better than the security offered by the buyer. And in regard to this financing the crop he also stated the government has taken step to assist the farmer, but up until now the banks of Kentucky were financing the system.

He referred to the position taken by many time merchants and said this new system would work out their salvation in the long run. In referring to the financing of the new system, he incidentally spoke of grading tobacco which would be a great factor in securing loans from banks.

Mr. Norwood's speech was well received and will do much good.

Mr. T. S. Ragsdale.

Mr. Ragsdale speaks right out in the meeting and tells just what he has seen and knows about the tobacco business here and in Kentucky. He says he has been in this business for 23 years and ought to know what he is talking about.

In defense of the cooperative system in Kentucky he said he took it upon himself to go there and visit not only the rural sections and see and talk with the farmers, but also went into the tobacco towns. He found the people there satisfied with the new system. He talked with 53 farmers at random without selecting any man from any particular section, and they all told him they were satisfied and recommended the system highly. Not only were they satisfied with the system, but also with advances made them at that time. At Pinetops and Macesfield, Mr. Ragsdale said, the only folks he could find who were fighting the new system were the pinhookers and the Eastern Carolina warehousemen.

He also said that all these letters that you see written against the new system were written by the little fellows, but the big guns were kept silent and in the background. He also said that some of the warehousemen of the east had said that the cooperative association had signed up only 16 percent. If this little 16 percent as they claim has scared them might nigh to death, when 75 percent is signed which he says will be done, it will take all the hessars in the east to carry them to the funeral.

Mr. Ragsdale in referring to the

low grades that some one said would be left in the hands of the association after all the best tobacco had been disposed of, said if some of the buyers would tell the truth they would say that it is out of the low grades that the most money is made by the buyer and speculator. He gave his own experience last year in the purchase of the low green grades and stated that he with others made a "mop up."

During the speeches at Macesfield several questions were put to the speakers and this helped to liven up the occasion.

Dr. J. Y. Joyner.

After a few pleasant remarks Dr. Joyner said his speech would comprise a farmer's reasons for a cooperative marketing system and in saying this he stated that he was a real dirt farmer. He defined a dirt farmer to be the man who worked all the year in the dirt and toil, in the sun and heat, and at the end of the year, after paying his debts, if he were so fortunate as to do this, the only thing he had was dirt.

Dr. Joyner discussed the fundamental principles of the cooperative marketing system. He spoke of it from an economic standpoint. He spoke of agriculture as the biggest business in the country and those who worked on the farms in this business as the poorest, and he asked there must be reason for all this and he proceeded to show what this great cause was. He said that when he brings his tobacco to the warehouse he has no say-so as to what it will bring and the only thing he can do is to ask the well informed buyer, Mr. what will you give me for my stuff?

He said that the prices he paid for what he bought were fixed by organized forces, and he was tired of such a policy where he had nothing to do in fixing prices for his own produce. He said that in this section three out of four farmers grew their tobacco on the credit or time system. Such a condition was a tragedy. He cast no blame on the time merchant or the warehousemen, but said he was opposed to these old systems that were keeping down the people.

The cooperative marketing system proposes to control the commodities and this will control the price. He made an illustration of the recent rise in the price of gasoline. He said he favored the new system of selling tobacco because it was a more economical system and would save the producers several cents in the pound. To sell now coats about 5 per cent while under the system it would cost around forty cents on the hundred. Again he favored the new system because the grades could be standardized and the prices stabilized.

He made bold the statement that the present system of selling tobacco was a gambling system from the start to finish with all the cards stacked in the hands of the well informed and strongly financed buyer. He stated that an hour while ago a big tobacco concern went to see Mr. Stone of the Burley Association of Kentucky and in less than an hour's time this concern had purchased 20 million pounds of tobacco and paid for it, and all this done at a minimum cost to the buyer and the seller. He said the saving to the big buyers was a saving to sellers also.

Dr. Joyner spoke of the fact that 80 percent of the tobacco in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia is sold within 60 days there by dumping this immense amount on the market and causing a glut and a depression of prices. He stated this would be remedied by the new system as the tobacco would be fed to the market as it was needed thereby to a great extent doing away with slumps in the markets of the world. He said that cooperative marketing is no longer an untried experiment, but that it had been made a perfect

success in Denmark, once only a thin strip of sandy land on the ocean, but now one of the richest countries in all the world. Here it has been made a great success and a blessing to the people.

He also spoke of the system that was now in vogue in California. He referred to the great success that had been made by the fruit growers of that state.

He argued from the standpoint of the success of the cooperative system now in use in the state of Kentucky. He spoke of the men at the head of this great system in Kentucky and gave their evidence. He appealed to the people at Pinetops, Macesfield and at Tarboro last night to put this system over at once. He said it took only grit, good judgment and horse sense.

Dr. Joyner has lost none of his eloquence that he used to display when on the hustings in the interest of the educational interests of the state. His speech did great good.

Kiwanis Hall Last Night.

Knowing that these speakers, Dr. Joyner, Mr. Norwood and Mr. Ragsdale, would be in the county Thursday, the Kiwanians arranged to have their dinner on that same day and these gentlemen were invited to speak in Tarboro last night.

There were present at the dinner more than 100 men, and these men were practically from every section of the county. The menu was Brunswick stew, crackers and ginger ale. The speeches were greatly enjoyed, and our distinguished visitors received many handshakes of congratulations and thanks for their work in the county. The meeting last night was turned over to Directors Eagles and Cobb. The speakers were briefly introduced by Mr. Vines Cobb.

After the speakers for the evening had concluded the following gentlemen were called upon for brief addresses: B. B. Howell, Dr. W. J. Thigpen and G. A. Holderness.

Mr. Howell and Dr. Thigpen said they favored the new system and would do all they could to insure its success.

Mr. Holderness said while he at one time did not favor the system, but that after consulting with some of the leading bankers of the country he had reached the conclusion that the system was a good one and should be put over by the farmers and business men of the county.

Thus closed a most eventful day in the good old county of Edgecombe. A good day's work had been done for the farmers of the county, the results of which will be seen in the not distant future.

The Southerner wishes Dr. Joyner, Mr. Norwood and Mr. Ragsdale to know that their good services were greatly appreciated and Edgecombe will always give them a hearty welcome whenever they see fit to return to our midst.

Letter to Mr. J. A. Forbes.

The following letter addressed to Mr. J. A. Forbes of Macesfield was read by Mr. Ragsdale as evidence for the Statement that the farmers of Kentucky were satisfied with the Co-operative Marketing system for the sale of their tobacco.

Lancaster, Ky. April 9, 1922.

Mr. J. A. Forbes, Macesfield, N. C. Dear Forbes:

I am glad to get your letter and to know that you are interested in the co-operative plan of selling tobacco. I am frank to confess that I was against the proposition when it was first brought to us, but did join in after the majority of my neighbor had and can truthfully say that it is the biggest thing the farmers ever put over in this state and the very best. We have already received in our advance prices more than we received for the entire crop last year and on the 20th, we are to receive

GENOA MEET ENDS, RESULTS JUSTIFIED HOLDING OF PARLEY

GENOA, May 19.—The Economic Conference ended today with a plenary meeting in San Giorgio Palace, after 39 days of efforts to solve Europe's manifold problems.

Premier Lloyd George said The Hague meeting non-aggressive pact and reports of finance, transport and economic commissions alone justified holding the conference.

IRISH TERRORISTS SET FIRE TO NUMEROUS BUILDINGS

BELFAST, May 19.—Incendiary fires throughout the city were set by terrorists who attacked the barracks. Three motor cars were used to remove the wounded after a fierce conflict.

Four Catholic men were dragged from their beds at Desert Martin, County Derry, and murdered. Half the village was burned.

P. O. CLERKS ARRESTED.

NEW YORK, May 19.—Seven post office clerks were arrested today in connection with the million and half dollar bond theft from the mails last July, following the confession by Mark Von Eschen.

Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Parker and Miss Catherine Langton of Speed motored to Kinston Thursday night & attended the Shriners Ball.

CHAUTAUQUA NOW ASSURED SUCCESS

A meeting of the Chautauqua Guarantors was held Wednesday night in the Commissioners Room of the Court House. There were present about half of the guarantors and after much discussion it was decided to adjourn this meeting until Thursday afternoon at five o'clock when and where these guarantors again met & perfected all their plans for the sale of the tickets.

A committee composed of Messrs. Brown, Forbes and McCleure were authorized to see the guarantors today and get as many as possible to pool their tickets outside of those who only contracted to take so many tickets a year ago.

This committee announces that the Town will be districted and the sale of the season tickets will be put on sale the latter part of next week.

The guarantors have fully determined that all the tickets will be disposed of this time and no one will be asked to come across for a deficit as was the case last year.

Many most attractive features and reading of the program will convince any fair minded man that when he pays \$2.50 for a season ticket he will beyond doubt get his money's worth.

The men behind the ticket selling will make the Chautauqua a success. They have gone about the disposition of the tickets in plenty of time and too systematically.

RETURNED FROM BALTIMORE.

Mrs. T. T. Cherry has returned from a short visit to friends in Baltimore.

another payment of an equal amount, and that is not all, we will receive still another payment about the first of September. Every grower in the association will get from 5 to 10 cents more per pound than the fellow who stayed out. My advice to all my friends is to JOIN as this is the only salvation for the tobacco grower.

Get busy and get all your friends to join and believe me your friend. (Signed) W. B. Burton.

MR. SAPIRO IS NOT COMING TARBORO

The following telegram has been received from Mr. Fooshe of the Peanut Growers Exchange:

"Mr. Sapiro has found it necessary to cancel his speaking engagements for Ahsokie and Tarboro. His appearance in Suffolk tomorrow is the only engagement he will be able to fill for the peanut growers in the near future. Please also say to the peanut growers in your section to be here tomorrow and to bring their wives with them. Mr. Spragins is in Suffolk to cook our barbecue for us."

SWEDISH UNEMPLOYED MAY BECOME FARMERS

STOCKHOLM, MAY 19.—Before long the Swedish unemployed may have a chance to become independent farmers. When they recently expressed the desire to obtain small farms of their own where they might work till old age without being subjected to enforced idleness, their request sounded at first like wishing for the moon.

But not so to the Minister of Agriculture, who immediately ordered an investigation into the possibilities of forming a farm colony in the province of Soedermanland. If the plan is found feasible the government may purchase land to be parceled among its unemployed. The project would, of course, involve more than acquiring the land. The government will have to build cottages on the farms, and supply its indigent citizens with live stock, farm implements and living expenses for the first year.

The farm project is one of the most important and interesting of many attempts for relieving the unemployment troubles of the country. Last winter several thousand jobless were given instruction in almost any branch of learning in which they were interested.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Hart.

Mr. H. M. Leslie of New York, Mr. W. C. Hill and Mr. J. C. Rich of Norfolk are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Hart.

Visiting in Salisbury.

Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Speight are in Salisbury this week visiting their children.

Invitation to Commencement.

The faculty and senior class of the North Carolina College for Women invite you to be present at the 29th annual commencement, June 3 to 6, 1922, Greensboro. Miss Vera Martinelle Keech is of the graduating class this year.

A PANTOMIME.

The circle of the Missionary Society of the Methodist church will present a pantomime at the Colonial Theatre tonight for the benefit of the circle. This performance will be put on entirely by local children and should be well patronized. A splendid picture, "Is Matrimony a Failure?" will also be shown.

Speak in Washington Tonight.

Dr. J. Y. Joyner, Mr. T. S. Ragsdale and Mr. G. A. Norwood left today on the noon train for Washington, where they will speak tonight to the tobacco farmers of Beaufort.

LADY RHONDDA'S CLAIM TO SEAT NOT BEEN MADE OUT
LONDON, May 19.—The privilege committee decided today that Lady Rhondda's claim to the House of Lords seat had not been made out.

PLEASANT HILL EXERCISES TODAY.

Today witnessed the closing exercises of the Pleasant Hill High School. The address was made by Mr. Lyn Bond. There was a large crowd present and the exercises were all most interesting.

OVERRULES MOTION TO RETURN VERDICT OF NOT GUILTY

CHARLESTON, W. Va., May 19.—Judge Woods today overruled a motion to direct a verdict of not guilty in the case of William Blizzard, who is charged with treason, as a result of the armed march last summer against Logan county.

The judge limited the state as to the overt act on which it reliev to convict to defendant's presence with the armed march in Logan county.

CANCELS DIVORCE.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 19.—Fred Gletzbach, chauffeur, today cancelled his divorce petition against Mme. Mathenauer, grand opera singer, saying he would not oppose her suit in New York.

WINS WOMEN'S GOLF.

SANDWICH, England, May 19.—Miss Joyce Wethered won the women's open golf championship today, defeating Miss Cecil Leitch, titleholder 9 up and 7 to play.

PERSECUTION BY TURKS JEOPARDIZES RELIEF WORK

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 19.—Publication of reports by the American relief workers in the interior of Asia Minor concerning the systematic persecution of Christians by Turkish Nationalists has jeopardized the position of the workers.

RELEASE GEN. SEMENOFF

NEW YORK, May 19.—General Semenov, former Ataman of Cossacks, was ordered released from arrest by the appellate division of the supreme court.

Taw Society presents Play.

Yesterday morning at 11 o'clock the Taw Society of the Tarboro High School gave a dramatization of the well-known fairy story, "Beauty and the Beast." The play was given in the school auditorium before the entire high school and a number of other grades. The girls taking part: The Merchant, Velna Boykin; Eldest Daughter, Louise Lane; Second Daughter, Lelia Clark; Beauty (the youngest daughter), Marian Jenkins; The Beast (later a prince), Snow Thigpen; The Fairy Aunt, Nina Vincent.

Each girl in the play acted her part remarkably well, and the entire performance was keenly enjoyed. The eighth grade girls in the play and Miss Belle Doub, who directed them, deserve much credit for the entertainment.

Returned From Winston.

Mr. A. T. Walston returned yesterday from Winston-Salem where he has been attending the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows. Mr. Walston reports a great meeting.

Mrs. John Fraley left yesterday to spend a few days with her sister Mrs. John Rodgers in Williamston.

LEAVES HOSPITAL.

Ivy Moore, who recently underwent an operation at the Edgecombe General hospital, has been removed to his home and is convalescing.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Moore and Henry, Jr., of Richmond, are guests of their parents on Trade street. Mr. Moore is a Tarboro boy and is being cordially greeted by his many old friends here.

COTTON MARKET.

	Yesterday's	Open	Close
Jan.	19.95	20.96	19.82
May	21.13	21.40	21.20
July	30.37	30.41	20.21
Oct.	20.18	20.20	19.96
Dec.	20.09	20.07	19.91