

Important Meeting of Farm Bureau Here Friday Night; To Elect Officers

excess acreage. This should be done before the farmer applies for his marketing card.

Farmers who overplanted their allotments will be required to pay a penalty of 10 cents per pound on all tobacco raised on the excess acreage. In most cases it will be better for the farmer to pay the penalty in advance and secure a regular marketing card. If this is not done, an "excess card" will be issued, and the penalty will be deducted when the farmer offers the tobacco for sale on the warehouse floor.

Over 225 tobacco marketing cards have been mailed out this week to Washington County farmers. They should be in the hands of all tobacco growers, with few exceptions by the latter part of the week.

Cards were not mailed to farmers who overplanted their allotted acreage, and they will have to apply at the county office for them. They are advised that it will be necessary to have the community AAA committee visit the farm and estimate the number of pounds raised on the

Farm Workers Must Get Permit to Work At Any Other Jobs

Will Lose "C" Classification Unless Definite Procedure Is Followed

Washington County farm registrants who hold 2-C and 3-C classifications in the draft may accept temporary employment in industry during periods when farm work slacks off, but only by complying with certain very definite conditions, it was decided Monday night at a meeting here of county members of the selective service board and the United States Department of Agriculture War Board.

It is emphasized that the specific conditions must be complied with to the letter before a farm worker can accept employment in industry. Those who do not comply, jeopardize their classification as essential farm workers and are subject to reclassification and immediate induction into the Army, regardless of number of dependents or other conditions.

Due to the labor shortage, a number of industrial concerns have been employing farm workers during periods when they could be spared from the farms. This has presented a problem to both the county war board and selective service board, and it was to work out a solution that the joint meeting was held Monday.

Most All Crops Are in Good Condition and Yields Should Be High

Estimated Peanuts And Tobacco Will Be Worth Million

Despite a number of handicaps and adverse features, farm prospects for the current year are considered the best in the history of Washington County. Gross farm income, based on the value of the principal crops, should be 25 to 30 per cent higher than last year, it was indicated by a survey of the principal individual crops. Of course, this gain is partially offset by greatly increased costs of production, but even so, farmers should finish up the year with more cash on hand than they have been accustomed in the past.

The county has three crops that should be worth around a half million dollars each this year. They are, in order named, peanuts, corn and tobacco. Next comes hogs, which will return an estimated \$225,000; cattle will bring in an estimated \$150,000, and a like sum should be realized from the sale of poultry and poultry products. Cotton, the former king of all crops, now ranks well down in this county with an estimated value of \$125,000 this year, but even that is considerably more than it has been worth annually for upwards of a dozen years. Soybeans are expected to be worth \$120,000 or more; sweet potatoes, \$65,000; and Irish potatoes, \$35,000.

In addition to all these major crops, there are numerous "patches," including many truck crops, and

(See CROP OUTLOOK, Page 6)

Outlook for Crops in General Is Said Best In History of County

Marines Get All August Draft Call

Finally it has happened—100 per cent of a draft call from Washington County has been accepted for service in the armed forces, and in the Marine Corps, at that.

Forrest Ray Bland, of Plymouth, was the lone selectee available to answer the August draft call on this county. He left here for Fort Bragg Tuesday of last week, was accepted for service in the United States Marine Corps, and is now at home for a few days before returning to begin training.

Br. Bland set several new records in selective service annals here. He comprised the smallest number available to answer a call; marked the first time 100 per cent of a call was accepted; and it was also the first time that the Army did not get a man out of a call from this county.

Schedule of Teacher Meetings August 30 Outlined by McLean

Not To Hold County-Wide Session, Due to Transportation Difficulties

Departing from the usual custom, there will be no county-wide teacher meetings preceding the opening of schools August 31, it was announced this week by County Superintendent H. H. McLean. Instead, he plans to hold six meetings in various localities on Monday, August 30, the day before the schools are scheduled to open.

Mr. McLean made arrangements to carry the meetings to the teachers on account of gasoline rationing and transportation difficulties. He points out that it will be necessary for each of the scheduled meetings to begin on time, as the schedule is necessarily crowded in order to get all six of them into one day.

Following is the schedule of meetings, all of which are to be held on Monday, August 30:

- 8:30 a.m., at Creswell colored school; for teachers of Creswell, Cherry and Pritchard colored schools;
- 9:30 a.m., at Creswell white school; for teachers of Creswell and Cherry white schools;
- 10:45 a.m., at Roper colored school; for teachers of Roper, Sound Side, Backwoods, Mount Delane, and Macedonia colored schools;
- 11:45 a.m., at Roper white school; for teachers of Roper white school;
- 1:30 p.m., at Plymouth colored school; for teachers of Plymouth, Morrattock, Brooks and Deep Bottom colored schools;
- 2:45 p.m., at Plymouth High School, for teachers of Plymouth high and Hampton white schools.

Last Wednesday Half-Holiday Will Be Observed by Local Stores Next Week

The last of the Wednesday half-holidays for the current year will be observed by Plymouth stores and business houses next week. Beginning September 1, stores will observe regular week-day hours on Wednesdays, opening at 9 a.m. and closing at 6 p.m. The mid-week half-day closing has been in effect since the first of April.

Local merchants held a special meeting Monday to consider extending the Wednesday half-holiday throughout the fall and winter months. Most of them were in favor of it provided other towns in this section would do

Begin Consideration Draft Status of Dads In Next Few Days

Local Board Preparing To Begin Induction Fathers After October 1

The first step toward drafting of Pre-Pearl Harbor fathers in this county will be taken within the next few days when requests for additional information will be mailed to those first on the list, it was stated at the office of the local selective service board this week. These requests will be for information concerning the nature of work, number of children, family status, and other particulars about the registrant.

It is stated that this information must be secured as a necessary preliminary before considering the possible reclassification of registrants between the ages of 18 and 38 whose children were born prior to September 15, 1942.

There is still much talk in the daily press and on the radio about Congress taking action to block induction of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers. However, there has been no official notice sent to local boards other than that of a few weeks ago, which ordered them to take steps to begin inducting such men after October 1, if necessary to fill calls.

In this county, it will be necessary to draft such fathers in order to fill calls after October 1. As a matter of fact, this county long since exhausted its list of available single men, married men without children and men whose children were conceived since December 7, 1941.

Most of the registrants making up recent calls from this county were young men who had just become 18 years of age, men whose temporary deferments or postponements have expired, and men who had been previously rejected but placed in classes subject to recall.

It is evident that if so-called pre-Pearl Harbor fathers are called into service anywhere, Washington County will be among the first to be affected.

County schools are beginning their first nine-month term this year. By opening August 31st, it is expected that the term will end somewhere about the middle of next May.

Approximately 3,550 children are expected to be enrolled during the coming term, or about the same number as last year. Of the total enrollment for the 1942-43 term, 2,800 were in the elementary and grammar grades and 750 in the high schools.

It is considered possible that attendance may be below normal for sometime after the term begins, since the shortage of farm labor may result in many children being kept at home to help with farm work, especially during the harvest seasons.

Pulpwood Shortage Is Reaching Critical Stage, Earle States

Drive To Increase Output Begun In Three Major Producing Areas

"The shortage of pulpwood in the United States is rapidly reaching a critical state which will hamper the national war effort," T. W. Earle, head of the wood department of the North Carolina Pulp Company, declared this week.

In an effort to overcome this shortage the War Production Board, with the assistance of four other Federal departments and agencies, has undertaken an intensive campaign to increase pulpwood cutting in the three major producing areas of the South, Northeast and Lake States. The pulpwood industry is cooperating through a committee representing the mills, while independent committees have been set up by the American Newspapers Publishers Association, to publicize and advertise the program in daily, weekly and farm papers in the pulpwood regions.

"The pulpwood problem is solely one of production," said Mr. Earle. "Its solution depends entirely upon more manpower and more cutting in the woods. WPB Chairman Donald M. Nelson has asked the 3,800,000 farmers in the pulpwood states to help overcome a threatened shortage of 2,500,000 cords and to provide sufficient quantities of this raw material to meet both the military and domestic war requirements."

"There is no way of determining what the demand of our fighting forces for pulp wood products will be as invasion operations are intensified in Europe and the South Pacific. But it would be a sad commentary on the American home front if our war program should be impeded because pulpwood for military uses should be 'too little' and 'too late.'"

"Alarming shortages in supplies of pulpwood were recently reported by

(See PULPWOOD, Page 6)

Tobacco Farmers of County Prepare for Opening Sales

Getting Everything Ready for Opening Of Schools August 31

Practically All Teaching Positions Filled, According to Superintendent

Everything will be in readiness for opening of all county schools on Tuesday, August 31, according to a statement made this week by H. H. McLean, county superintendent of public instruction. Practically all teaching positions have been filled and other arrangements made for the opening.

Authorized recently by the board of education and the county commissioners, extensive repairs are being made to a number of school buildings. While not all of this program will be completed before the opening date, inside work is being done first, and the remainder can be carried on after the schools opening without interfering with classroom activities. The repair work is progressing satisfactorily at this time, Mr. McLean said.

The superintendent said that so far as he knew, practically all teaching positions have been filled. He said there was not a single vacancy in the staffs of the white schools in Plymouth, nor in any of the colored schools. There were a few vacancies in the white schools at Roper and Creswell some time ago, but he said he thought they had been filled in the past week or so, although he was not sure about this. The complete roster of teachers will be available for publication next week, he indicated.

The county has been allotted 105 teachers to start the school term this year. This is one less than the 106 employed in the county during the 1942-43 term. The loss was in the colored teaching staff, 54 being allotted this year against 55 a year ago. The number of white teachers remains the same, 51.

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Ralph W. McDonald Will Be Speaker at Labor Day Program

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KILLED IN ACTION



Erel T. Patrick, of the U. S. Marine Corps, son of George W. Patrick and the late Pearl Patrick, of Skippersville, is the fourth Washington County man to lose his life in World War II. His father received a telegram July 29 announcing that the young man had been killed in action in the Pacific area.

County Bond Sales Far Behind Quota So Far This Month

About \$8,500 Worth Sold Against Goal of \$22,304 For August

It now looks as if Washington County will fall down on its bond quota again this month. Only \$8,456.25 worth of bonds have been sold so far in August, against a quota of \$22,304. Sales will have to pick up rapidly during the last 10 days of the month in order to reach the goal.

Of the total so far, the post office here is leading the bank in sales. Sales at the post office amount to \$4,818.75, while only \$3,637.50 worth of bonds have been sold at the bank up to today. It is understood that sales have picked up some in Roper this month, but no report has been received from Creswell as to the progress being made there.

Stamp sales at the post office here are holding fairly steady around \$1,200 each week, and Mr. Darden said that very few of the stamps were being "cashed in" at this time, which is considered an encouraging factor. At one time, stamp sales ran much higher per week than now, but a considerable quantity of them were turned in for cash redemption.

It is noted that comparatively few farmers have bought bonds so far this year. Now that the tobacco markets are opening and other farm products will soon be harvested, it is expected that purchases of bonds by farmers will show a considerable increase.

14 Colored Men Off To Ft. Bragg Today

There have been four additions in the past few days to the list of colored men leaving today for Fort Bragg for possible induction into the armed forces. One man in the list last week was transferred from the board here to New York, leaving 14 to board the bus here this morning.

Two of those added to the list were volunteers, Calup Alphonzo Littlejohn, of Creswell, and Lloyd Dewitt Moore, a transfer from another section. Samuel Isaac Rhodes and Henry Everett Norman, both of Creswell, were the other two men added to the list. James R. Spruill, formerly of Plymouth, was removed from the list and transferred to a New York board.

The remainder of the list is the same as that published last week.

Expect Good Prices For Crop; Markets Open Next Tuesday

More County Tobacco Than Usual To Be on Sale Opening Day

Tobacco will hold the center of the stage next week, when sales get underway on the Eastern Carolina auction markets. A casual review this week indicated that more Washington County tobacco than usual will be placed on the opening sales Tuesday, when the markets have their first sales, and local farmers generally are very optimistic over prospects, both for the yield and the prices expected.

The season opened in Georgia nearly a month ago and in the border belt about two weeks ago. Price averages in both sections have hovered around the 41-cent ceiling set by the OPA before the markets opened. While most farmers in this section think they should get more for their tobacco than is paid in the Georgia belt, most of them believe they will make a nice profit even at a 41-cent average.

Georgia tobacco is sold loose and ungraded, while tobacco in this section is both tied and graded, operations that this year add from 4 to 6 cents per pound to the cost. The OPA ceiling of 41 cents was set for all flue-cured tobacco; and, although it was contemplated that the buying companies would take grading and tying into consideration, they evidently did not, but pitched in and paid just about 41 cents for the loose ungraded Georgia tobacco, which means that farmers in this section can expect but little, if any more, for tobacco in much better shape.

Last week, OPA set a 38-cent figure for loose ungraded tobacco and 44 cents for the type marketed in this belt. The catch is that most of the Georgia crop has already been sold; and, since the season's buyings cannot average more than 41 cents, the average will be about the same in this belt.

The Washington County crop is said to be one of the best yet raised here. The yield will be high and

(See TOBACCO MARTS, Page 6)

Four Cases Tried In County Court

Three of the four cases tried in recorder's court this week dealt with violations of traffic laws, while the other was a simple assault case. Judge Edward L. Owens had an easy time of it, as all four defendants entered pleas of guilty, and fines totaling \$90 were imposed.

The following cases were tried and disposed of:

James Davenport, colored, of Creswell, entered a plea of guilty to operating a motor vehicle without proper equipment and without a driver's license. He was fined \$35 and costs.

Vance Satterthwaite, white, of Plymouth, paid a fine of \$25, and costs after pleading guilty to simple assault.

Thomas Erie Haste, white was fined \$20 and costs after pleading guilty to speeding.

Alton Milton Spear, white, of Portsmouth, Va., entered a plea of guilty to a charge of speeding and was fined \$10 and costs.

Eastern Union To Be Held With White Plains Church

The Eastern Union will be held with the Primitive Baptist Church at White Plains, near Acre Station, on the fifth Saturday and Sunday, August 28 and 29, it was announced this week by officials of the church. Elder W. M. Stubbs will be in charge of the services, assisted by Elder S. Gray, of Kinston, and several other well-known ministers of the Primitive Baptist faith are also expected to be present and take part.

Dinner will be served on the grounds Sunday at noon. The public is invited to attend.

Marketing Cards Sent to All Growers Except Those With Excess Acreage

There will be an important meeting of the Washington County Farm Bureau at the agriculture building here Friday, August 20, at 8 p.m., it was announced Monday by J. R. Manning, president. Officers for the coming year will be elected, and a well-known speaker is to be present to discuss farm problems and needs.

In urging all members to be present for the first meeting of the new year, Mr. Manning said that the Farm Bureau has been very active in recent months in

looking after the interests of farmers. He points out that the organization has been on the job in Washington all during the recent session of Congress, helping to secure passage of favorable legislation, and for that reason alone he feels the organization merits the support of county farmers.

The name of the speaker was not available yesterday, as Mr. Manning was out of town, but he said before he left that a good one would be secured and that it would be well worth while for all farmers to attend.