

Duplin Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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Rose Hill Farmers Pioneer Turkey Growing As Major Crop

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Editor, N. C. Department of Agriculture

Although Duplin County is much better known for its strawberries than for any contributions its farmers have made to the enjoyment of Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners, it is still an inescapable fact that one of the largest turkey-producing areas in North Carolina lies in the heart of the strawberry belt.

When the government resumed its control of tobacco acreage back in 1940—after that year of free production in 1939—Nash Johnson and A. B. Wells, residents of the Rose Hill Section of Duplin, decided they would conduct a little search for an industry which would supplement their tobacco income. They steered clear of the commercial production of strawberries, feeling that it required more labor than they had available. Doubtless, too, the price of which strawberries were bringing at the time had something to do with their decision.

Mrs. Johnson, like many another farm housewife in North Carolina, had been growing a few turkeys every year from a dozen or so hens, earning a little money from the poulters she managed to save. But she says that the money she earned from her turkeys was "just all of reason" when compared with the enormous amount of work and worry which went into raising them. However, there was always a market for her turkeys, so she didn't give them up. The other women in the neighborhood liked raising turkeys, too, but didn't like to set the hens, wait a month, and then run all over creation keeping them from getting lost or drowned.

And so the Johnson and the Wells families in 1940 decided they would "kindly feel their way" into the turkey business, Wells relates.

That first year they imported from Florida several of the famous broad-breasted bronze turkeys, paying as high as \$25 each for some of the gobblers. They set 60 hens the first year, looked after them carefully, and then kept the poultry from these hens.

But after looking after all those moody, broody, temperamental "setting" hens nearly ran them crazy, and that's how they came to purchasing an 800-egg incubator.

Johnson and Wells weren't planning to sell any poulters at first. They couldn't resist long, however, for neighbors, hearing of the hatchery right in their midst, came calling, each going away with a few poulters they had persuaded the new turkey hatcherymen to sell.

"Everybody seemed to want to buy turkeys—never seen anything like it—so we decided to let them have turkeys—that's the way John says it.

During the latter part of 1941, tobacco began to run a sorry second on the Johnson and Wells farms.

From the first of January, 1942 until along in May that little incubator was the center of all activity. But the orders for poulters didn't fill, and the lowly, neglected turkey hens from all around were called on to help supply the demand.

Another incubator was bought and then another. Now the total incubator capacity is 65,000. The incubator house is just back of the Johnson residence, and an ingenious wiring system has been set up so that an ear-piercing alarm sounds in the Johnson home if any incubator becomes too cool or too warm or if the electricity fails.

The biggest turkey barn east of Union County is on the Johnson farm. It is 200 ft. long and 30 ft. wide. It has a concrete floor.

BUILT NEW INDUSTRY IN DUPLIN



Nash Johnson, left, and A. B. Wells, farmers of Rose Hill, are shown here in the midst of a portion of their flock of 2,500 turkey hens and gobblers, which this year will supply poulters to turkey growers in 12 Southern States. This new rural industry for Duplin County was begun in 1940 as a means of supplementing income from the production of tobacco.

Boy Scout Officials Discuss Plans; Scouts

The Duplin County Boy Scout Committee met Thursday evening in Warsaw to discuss plans for the remainder of the year. Earl W. Failes presided.

Mr. Failes outlined the objectives of the five-year program developed throughout the Tuscarora council with the paramount aim to reach every boy in the district and the council area who desire to become Scouts, Cubs or Senior Scouts.

The Rev. J. G. Morrison of Kenansville, discussed plans for the summer camp at Tuscarora. He announced a court of honor for Duplin County at Outlaw's Bridge on Friday, June 7, at 3 p. m.

A. J. Jenkins, finance chairman for Duplin district, outlined plans of the finance campaign to be conducted to raise necessary funds to carry on the Scout program for Duplin in 1947.

Louis Outlaw pointed out the need for the organization of additional Scout units in Duplin County to reach boys in the communities without the Scouting program. The Rev. G. H. Ulrich, chairman of leadership and training, stated he would make an effort to make a survey of the training needs in the district and develop plans to fulfill these needs beginning in the early fall.

Gilbert Bush, regional deputy Scout executive from Atlanta, Ga. outlined the functions of the district committee.

The next meeting will be held at Camp Tuscarora in June.

"God Save The King"

Kinston, N. C., May 21.—Police-man Guy Langston today explained it was "the British influence," that caused him to cry "God Save the King" in his substitute role as court crier for Recorder Joe Dawson's court Monday. He recovered quickly from his misstatement, however, and appealed to God to save the honorable court.

Langston is a former Army sergeant who served for a time in England during the war.

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

By MRS RALPH J. JONES

Saturday, May 25, is election day and our people of Duplin County will exercise their voting rights in a free election and will go to our polls and cast ballots for the candidates of their choice.

Chief interest in our county is in the sheriff's race in which Ralph J. Jones, popular business man of Warsaw, appears to be leading his opponent by a decided majority.

Ralph Jones is a veteran of World War 1 and was a battle soldier having engaged in many major battles and skirmishes in Belgium and France. He received a severe shrapnel wound in his knee and fell on the battle field on September 29, 1918 while helping to break the famous Hindenburg Line and he was gassed with poison gas while lying there. He was awarded from our War Department the Purple Heart Medal and the Victory Medal with three clasps and he also received a personal citation from our late President Woodrow Wilson for distinguished service.

At the beginning of World War Two, Ralph Jones offered his services to our country in Civilian Defense and was appointed District Supervisor of the Ground Aircraft Warning Service and he did much in establishing Observation Posts throughout our county. He served in this capacity until all danger of attack was passed.

When War Rationing came to our county, Ralph Jones was called upon to serve on this Board. He gave freely and untrudgingly of his time for this great program (without pay) and he rendered to Duplin County a service unsurpassed in our whole land. He was appointed Chairman of the Duplin County Rationing Board and he worked with rationing from its beginning until its end. It was his aim and determination that each citizen of our county should get his fair share of the rationed items.

Ralph Jones at present holds the highest office of Commander of the Charles R. Gavin American Legion Post, an office he has held for two previous terms. He has also served as adjutant and service officer and he has done a great good among our veterans of both World War 1 and World War 2.

Not only has Ralph Jones given his time and himself for our country, he sent his oldest son, Sam Jones, to fight in battle with the Second Armored Division, known as "Hell On Wheels". His daughter, Martha Jones volunteered to help in our Cadet Nurse Corps and his son-in-law, Ed Cobb, served with our Navy, whose duties took him to many lands and through many dangers. Another daughter, Frances Jones, is a student at N. C. School for Deaf.

Ralph Jones is a gentleman of the highest character and honesty and it is his great desire to serve our people in this time of readjustment in the capacity as Sheriff and he will discharge the duties of this office, if elected, in a most capable and understanding manner with equal rights to all and special privileges to none. He has a creed and it is, "The American Creed," by Page, as follows:

"I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign nation of many sovereign states; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

"I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag; and to defend it against all enemies."

Saturday at our polls will see Democracy in Action by a great people in a great land. May everyone do our part to keep America great.

Sheriff's Race Tops Spotlight, Jones And Wallace Both Claiming Victory

Earl Thomas Completes Radio Course

Earl G. Thomas, 312 Elliott Ave., Alexander Park, Portsmouth, Va., has completed a Course in Practical and Theoretical Radio and Television and has been awarded a Diploma by the National Radio Institute of Washington, D. C. He finished the prescribed Course of technical studies with creditable grades and is to be congratulated upon his achievement.

Candidate Jones Catches O'possum

Candidate Ralph Jones has turned 'possum catcher. Tuesday night while he and Graham Phillips were out campaigning they saw a 'possum in the road. Ralph stopped his car right quick and jumped out to catch the 'possum, remarking to Phillips, "If I catch this 'possum I'll win the election." He ran after the animal and with his bare hands, HE CAUGHT IT!

Drugist Named Warsaw Town Board

B. C. Sheffield, Jr., druggist and manager of the Warsaw Drug Co., has been named to the Warsaw Town Board succeeding Bland Pickett, who recently resigned.

Warsaw Locker-Freezer Plant Under Construction

The Warsaw Locker-Freezer plant is moving along under construction. Walls have been completed up one story.

Contract Be Let Today For Beulaville School

Supt. Johnson this week announced that contracts will be let Friday at 2 p. m. for construction of two buildings at the Beulaville School. Architect Leslie Boney has completed the blueprints.

Wayne County Seaman Found In Dying Condition Highway Calypso

Paul Leslie Potts Dies of Injuries; Coroner's Inquest to be held Wed.

Paul Leslie Potts, 26, gunner's mate 1/c, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jasper M. Potts of Dudley, died in the Goldsboro Hospital at 4 a. m. Monday. He was found in a dying condition lying in the middle of the highway near Calypso at 4:30 Sunday morning by J. R. Price of Goldsboro, who runs a filling station in Calypso.

Price notified Policeman Charles Barwick of Mt. Olive who called Deputy Sheriff R. M. Byrd of this county. They found Potts with a gash three or four inches long across his left temple and a bruise on his right cheek. Hospital attaches said Potts also had a compound fracture of the skull and brush burns on the shoulder.

Deputy Byrd said there was no sign on the road indicating that the sailor had been struck by an automobile. The young man's parents told officers that their son left home about midnight Saturday saying he was going to walk out awhile. He was found 12 miles from home.

Coroner Ralph J. Jones of Duplin County carried a jury to view the body. An inquest will be held in Warsaw this coming Wednesday.

Petty profiteers who take advantage of the lessening bread supply by jacking up their prices should be reported instantly to Area Price Control Board, the OPA said today.

TORNADO STRIKES IN KINSTON; SOME DAMAGE REPORTED IN DUPLIN COUNTY

A tornado struck in the Kinston section Monday night, killing one person instantly and fatally injuring another. Nearly 50 people were hospitalized. A number of homes and filling stations on the outskirts of town were totally demolished.

Near Liddell, about three miles from Seven Springs, some buildings were destroyed but no one injured.

Duplin suffered heavy winds and a heavy rain fell. Some crops were damaged slightly. Power and telephone lines were blown down.

Duplin Falls Down In Cancer Drive

Mrs. G. V. Gooding, chairman of the Cancer Drive in Duplin, announced that the drive failed to go over the top. Rose Hill and Beulaville, however, have not yet been heard from. Mrs. Gooding asks anyone who has not contributed and wishes to do so to please mail their check to her in Kenansville.

Local Negro Injured In Shotgun Blast

Al Smith, local Negro was seriously injured in the neck by a shotgun blast last Saturday night near town. A report says he and Robert White were playing. White reportedly pointed the gun out of a house when Smith ran up and grabbed it. The gun went off with the load tearing away one side of Smith's neck. He was rushed to a Goldsboro hospital where his condition is reported satisfactory. No arrests have been made.

Retail sales of bituminous coal in lots of five tons or less must be made to householders at present ceiling prices, OPA announced this week.

Seaman W. S. Martin Receives His Discharge

W. S. Martin, S 1/c, of Kenansville received his discharge April 10th after serving 29 months over seas in the Southwest Pacific. He was in the invasion of Luzon. He has three battle stars and served on the S. S. STAFFORD, Destroyer Escort.

Grady Baseballers Defeat Rones Chapel

The B. F. Grady Nine defeated the Rones Chapel Nine Saturday afternoon, 18-0. The shut-out went all the way for nine innings and was played at Williams Mill, near Mt. Olive. Two of Rones Chapel players reached third base but failed to score.

Lt. Brown Now Back In States

Lt. (jg.) Lee Brown, USNR, who has been serving in the Pacific for two years, arrived Saturday on the LST 362 and immediately wired and called his mother, Mrs. C. J. Brown, at her home in Warsaw. Lt. Brown was a student at Chapel Hill when he enlisted in the Naval Reserve and after his commission was sent to the Pacific.

Predict Record Vote For County; House Race Is Drawing Attention; Polls Open 6:30, Close 6:30.

The steam is on and the escape valve about to blow, Duplin will go to the polls Saturday to settle one of the hottest contests for sheriff ever witnessed in this county. Ralph J. Jones of Warsaw, the present Coroner, is contesting former Deputy Sheriff Joe Wallace for the office being relinquished by Sheriff D. S. Williamson. Both candidates are claiming victory. Ralph hails from Warsaw, the largest voting precinct in the County and Joe hails from Kenansville, where it is said, "as goes Kenansville, so goes the county."

Both candidates have waged a hard contest. They have many friends in every section of the county. Their friends, many of them, have wagered bets, some small some large, as to the outcome.

The next race of most interest is that between Representative C. E. Quinn who is seeking to succeed himself in the Legislature and Lewis W. Outlaw, a prominent farmer of Albertson Township. Quinn, a native of Albertson, now hails from Kenansville. Friends of both are predicting victory.

In the next county race, for Coroner, C. B. "Pap" Sitterson of Kenansville is opposed by Hix Bradshaw of Rose Hill.

A lively contest is being waged for Constable in Limestone Township where six candidates are in the race. Also in Limestone and the Third Commissioner District, county commissioner incumbent Tyson Lanier is being opposed by Archie Lanier of Beulaville. A contest is on in Albertson for township constable also.

Polls open Saturday morning at 6:30 and close in the afternoon at 6:30. According to predictions the county should cast between seven and eight thousand votes.

Spring Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs Meets Here

Spring Federation of Duplin County Home Demonstration Clubs met in the High School Auditorium, May 18, with Mrs. Albert Lanier, presiding and Mrs. David Williams as secretary. Reports from clubs showed various activities achieved by every community. There has been a noted increase in members this year. More family cooperation and home improvement is being shown. Club work began in Duplin 31 years ago and now have 22 clubs.

Miss Ruth Current, State Home Demonstration Agent from Raleigh addressed the Federation. Home Demonstration work is the largest educational organization in the World. In North Carolina there are 40,000 members — 3-2 million farm women interested in a better life, have as their objective a higher level of living on the farm, in the home and community. We can have what we are willing to work for. What we do for our home community and State will live long after we are gone.

Fire Warden Entertains Bar-B-Q Dinner Here

County Fire Warden Ralph Miller was host to the community fire wardens and a few friends at a barbecue dinner here last Thursday. Prior to the dinner a business meeting of the wardens was held in the Agricultural building at which time the members of the State organization of wardens met.