

Big Decrease in Tobacco Crop in North Carolina

Fewer Acres Under Tobacco and Cotton This Year and Large Decrease Expected

Raleigh, July 19.—A drop of more than 137,000,000 pounds of North Carolina's tobacco production this year, as compared with last is indicated in the July bulletin issued yesterday by the State-Federal Crop Reporting Service.

The 1934 crop, it is estimated, will total 400,912,000 pounds, against a total of 537,979,000 pounds in 1933. The number of acres devoted to tobacco last year was 695,000, and this year only 541,000 acres have been planted.

Cotton acreage, the report said, stands at 977,000 acres as against an acreage of 1,320,000 last year, a reduction of 343,000 acres in the State's current cotton crop. Last year 684,000 bales of cotton were harvested. No estimate is given for this year's crop.

An increase of slightly more than 5,000,000 bushels is indicated in the 1934 Irish potato crop, and there will be about a million fewer bushels of sweet potatoes, the report stated. Present indications are that the Irish potato crop in North Carolina will reach a total of 10,418,000 bushels. Last year there were 7,315,000 bushels harvested.

This year's corn crop is estimated at 43,130,000 bushels, as compared with 44,253,000 bushels in 1933. There is an indicated rise in wheat production this year, however, with an estimated crop of 4,253,000 bushels as compared with the 1933 total of 3,174,000 bushels. A slight increase is shown in oats, barley, rye and tame hay.

Apple production appears to have taken a nose dive while peaches appear to be holding their own, in comparison with the previous year's crops. The apple crop is estimated at only 2,350,000 bushels against a total of 5,254,000 bushels last year. The State and Federal departments of agriculture, which issue the report jointly, commented as follows on crop conditions in the nation and State:

"The crop situation is less promising than this season in any recent year and little if any brighter than it was a month ago. The nearly normal rainfall during June in the Dakotas, Minnesota and Wisconsin, where conditions were worst, and the lighter rains elsewhere in the Corn Belt, revived pastures and meadows somewhat, brought up grain that had been seeded in the dust, helped some late-sown spring grain and permitted what is probably a record acreage of emergency crops to be planted.

"Rains also saved crops in Central and Western Montana and relieved the shortage of stock water in much of the Northern range area. The June rains, however, were quite inadequate over most of the Corn Belt and in the Southwest a new drought area was developed. As soil moisture in nearly the whole Mississippi Valley was depleted by drought in previous months and abnormally hot weather prevailed there through most of June, crops have suffered over a wide area.

"July finds North Carolina crops in a very uncertain situation. It has been too wet for cotton. Corn prospects were good. Small grains were about threshed out. Pastures and grasses are good. Most crops are looking good in most counties, but spotted areas are needing rain.

"An analysis of the State data below finds the wheat acreage increased about 10 per cent, but the yield is below the ten-year average. Corn is increased about 3 per cent in acreage, but the yield prospect is short about 6 per cent. Hay production promises about the usual crop. Prices continue in fairly low levels, especially for truck crops."

N. R. A. APPROVES 15 PER CENT CUT IN LUMBER PRICE

Washington, July 17.—A lumber price cut which may mean 15 per cent savings to consumers renovating or building under President Roosevelt's housing program was announced yesterday by N.R.A.

Hugh S. Johnson, N.R.A. approved recommendations of the lumber and timber products industry for a 15 per cent reduction in prices to be effective August 1.

Wheat Program To Continue Next Year

The wheat adjustment program for the coming year will be continued on the same basis as last year, announces John W. Goodman, of State College, head of the AAA wheat program in North Carolina.

The reduction under the average for the 1928-1932 base period will not be more than the 15 per cent reduced last year, he said. The parity payments will be made as before at the rate of 29 cents a bushel on the individual grower's domestic allotment.

Due to unpredictable changes that may arise in the world wheat situation, the exact amount of the reduction next year will not be fixed until later. It is possible, Goodman said, that the reduction will not be as much as 15 per cent of the base acreage.

The 1,102 North Carolina wheat growers who signed contracts last year received \$38,000 on their first payment and \$12,600 on the second payment, bringing the total to over \$50,000 for reducing their 22,387 acres by 15 per cent.

Meanwhile, David Weaver, agricultural engineer at the college, said that the work of measuring cotton, tobacco, and corn lands under contract is progressing rapidly.

Measures are being set to work on the 750,000 fields which are to be measured in North Carolina to determine whether the growers are complying with their adjustment contracts.

To make sure the measurers are doing the work accurately, skilled surveyors will be sent to check up on some of the fields thus measured. The fields will be selected at random, with a view of catching any possible errors in the first measurements.

Every farmer will be asked to help in the measurements of his own field so that he can see that the work is being done satisfactorily.

Birds of a feather may flock together, but sometimes they have to flock to the police station.

The bank looked a long time before they found a man like their cashier. He had absconded with all the bank's liquid assets.

Then there was the man who went crazy from a constant buzzing in his ears. His wife wouldn't stop talking.

Improvements Made at The Swimming Pool Here

Mrs. Sallie Horton Now In Charge of Ladies' Bathhouse; A Large Number Have Passed Swimming Tests.

To the municipal swimming pool have recently been added the conveniences and pleasures of a screened picnic pavilion, a widened street and more parking space. Mrs. Sallie K. Horton has also been put in charge of the ladies' bathhouse from 2:00 P. M. to 11:00 P. M.

Four picnicking groups took advantage of the tables this week; the Rotary Club on Tuesday evening; the Presbyterians Sunday School on Wednesday; the Christian Sunday School Thursday and the Episcopal Sunday School on Friday.

Seventy-two guests of the management on Friday. Twelve attended but only six participated in the swimming. "Uncle" Wait Parker's version of this annual event will be found elsewhere in these columns.

In order that picnics may not conflict, the manager, Sammy Bundy, should be notified of plans before a definite date is fixed by any organization, upon which notification everything will be done by those in charge to make outing events as enjoyable as possible.

B. O. Turnage, West Point cadet, has succeeded Yynn Eason as one of the assistant managers. Mr. Eason resigning to accept a position with the local agency of the Brown-White Chevrolet Company.

According to Manager Bundy total receipts of the municipal pool from the opening date, June 3, through Wednesday, July 18th, amounts to \$1,190.73, but the healthful benefits and enjoyment to young and old cannot be estimated.

Among the members of the swimming club are: Mrs. Sallie Horton, Sam Bundy, Vernice Lou Jones, David Oglesby, Charles Rountree, Graham...

Spotlight To Appear In August

Friends, in and out of town, have been inquiring about the next issue of the Spotlight, and to them we wish to state that the second issue of this publication will make its appearance in August.

Facts concerning historical or current events, legends connected with the community or any helpful suggestions, relative to any angle of its make up, will be welcomed by the editors.

North Carolina Is Ready and Waiting Rural Electrification

The rural electrification of North Carolina will be an important step forward in the agricultural advancement of the State according to David S. Weaver, agricultural engineer at State College.

Thousands of farms over the State are well situated to take advantage of the possibilities now awaiting development, he said, and the time is coming when farms will be equipped with efficient and economical electrical appliances.

Already there is a large potential source of power which may be obtained by extending rural transmission lines from the 49 municipally-owned plants now in operation. Still more power can be obtained by the development of hydro-electric plants along the many streams in the Piedmont area.

Before a transmission line can be erected with assurance of profitable operation, the farmers along the proposed right-of-way must guarantee the consumption of a reasonable amount of current for each mile of transmission line.

Weaver said that in a number of communities the farmers are getting together and ascertaining how many of their number will use the current if a line is erected. When a sufficient number agree to install electricity, negotiations can be made with the local power systems for extending transmission lines.

He is making a special study of rural electrification possibilities in North Carolina, and is willing to offer suggestions to any group of farmers who communicate with him. He hopes to soon have an investigator available for every two or three counties to go into the field and help the farmers plan for the obtaining of a transmission line and the installation of electrical appliances.

This said that members of nudist's camps don't mind playing strip poker, they've got nothing to lose.

Adolph Hitler Absolute Prisoner Of Reichswehr

Death Toll Has Been Put By Absolutely Reliable Sources At No Less Than 2,000 Men and Women

New York, July 19.—Johannes Steel, former German official who fled from the Reich because of his opposition to the Nazi program, said in a copyright story in the New York Post today that a "quite wave of murder is sweeping the concentration camps" of Germany.

The writer said the inmates of the camp "have according to secret order of Gen. Goering (premier of Prussia) been cut off completely from the outside world."

"Their relatives," writes Steel, "Have been without news from these prisoners for three weeks. It seems that massacres have taken place which are beyond human imagination."

"The toll of deaths has been put by absolutely reliable sources at no less than two thousand men and women."

Steel said: The army during the last week has been able to consolidate its positions and the military dictatorship is complete. (Vice Chancellor Franz von Papen at this moment is the man who runs everything. He has come out on top.)

Steel said Hitler "is the absolute prisoner of the reichswehr (army), which watches every move he makes and is waiting for the moment when Hitler's prestige has dissipated to such an extent he can be put away safely."

Hookerton Girl Wins Co-op Essay Contest

Smithfield, July 18.—Miss Mildred Speight, of Hookerton, won first place over three other contestants here today in the central district preliminary of the seventh annual essay contest of the North Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association.

Second prize in the contest went to Milton Lord, of Cary high school. Runners-up were Helen Parker, of Middlesex, and Hector Harris, Franklinton.

All the contestants were winners in a series of school and county elimination contests in the central district which is composed of Wake, Warren, Lenoir, Johnston, Durham, Granville, Vance, Franklin and Duplin counties.

Miss Speight will represent the central district in the State final contest which will be held in Raleigh as part of the 32nd annual Farm Home Week program at State College early in August. First prize to the State contest is a one-year college scholarship.

SHIFT GEARS BO AND CO.

(By Alex C. D. Noe)

When you can't be quite contented, With the office you have rented; And the days begin to lag and drag along; Then it's time to get the notion, For a visit to the ocean, Or to find a mountain trail or sing a song.

When you get up in the morning, With an inner sneaking warning; That the world has gone to fluey or to pot; Then it's time for you to wander, To the play-ground over yonder, In the land where cares and worries are forgot.

When your folks become disgusted, And your neighbors think you're busted; And you lose the merry twinkle in your eye; Then it's time to be dissecting, Highway maps, or be inspecting, Places where they climb or swim or fish or fly.

When you can't resist the feeling, That the universe is reeling; And that you would sell the future for a dime; Get your tent and other plunder, Climb a tree or burrow under, And you'll come back feeling better every time.

A man never begins to rise in the world until he begins to "perspire," instead of "sweat."

They took some fiction with them to the summer resort—some of the literature describing the place.

It is alright for a girl to let her boy friend think he is Napoleon, as long as he doesn't think she is Josephine.

Farmers Now Busy Housing Tobacco In This Section

Quality Reported To Be Better Than In Years; Growers Hopeful Of Securing Much Better Prices

The big job of curing the bright leaf tobacco crop is now underway in all sections of this belt, and the farmers are laboring hard, "putting in" the weed all day and "setting up" with it all night.

With the curtailment of acreage by the government contract, the grower is in better spirits this year than in several, and he goes about this tremendous task of curing in a hopeful spirit, believing that he will realize more financial benefit than he has had from his tobacco crop in recent times.

Only a few farmers in this section took advantage of the opportunity offered by the government to increase the acreage as planting had about been finished, most of them being contented to keep their original contract.

The quality of this crop is reported to be the best in years, and with the reduced production and the reported shortage among the tobacco companies, the farmers are very anxiously awaiting the opening of the market in August.

Most of the crop will be in the pack houses by that time and the acreage measuring operations will also be completed. County Agent E. F. Arnold, who is in charge of the production movement in the county, has said the orders from Washington state that no farmer will be issued a marketing card until his compliance record has been approved and forwarded to Washington.

Farmers are being urged to assist measuring supervisors when they arrive to measure their acreage, to the best advantage, in order to speed the work.

Cleveland county farmers have received \$158,000 as a first rental payment on cotton land withdrawn from production this season.

J. J. Honeycutt of Cabarrus county harvested 200 bushels of Italian rye grass seed from ten acres planted.

Wheat yields in Stanly county are from one-fourth to one-third under the yields secured last season. The grain is chaffy.

Farmville-Woodward Lumber Co. Suffers Heavy Loss By Fire

Five-Day Program For 4-H Short Course

A well-rounded program of instruction, athletics, games, singings, lectures, and sight-seeing trips has been prepared for the 500 or 600 boys and girls expected to attend the 4-H club short course at State College, July 25-30.

Leaders are working hard to make sure that none of the members will find a single dull moment while here, from the time they come to the time they leave, said L. R. Harrill, State club leader.

Horseshoe pitching, kitten ball, volleyball, field events, swimming, and an athletic tourney will feature the physical side of recreation. A pageant, lectures, tours, style show, group singing, and general getting-togethers are also scheduled.

The 4-H honor club composed of outstanding members who have completed four or more years' work at former State representatives at the national 4-H camps, will meet during the week in connection with the short course.

The health contest, in which the State King and Queen of Health will be chosen, will be held Saturday evening in connection with the "Pageant of Progress." The winners of district health contests will compete for the State honors.

Sunday afternoon the members will be treated to a picnic, band concert, and a community sing. The evening vesper service and the final camp fire exercises Sunday night will come as an appropriate climax to the five eventful days of the short course.

In stressing the entertainment side of the program, the leaders do not wish to imply, however, that the educational value of the classes, demonstrations, and lectures will be neglected. The program is being especially designed to train leaders in things worthwhile.

Sowing wild oats would be alright only some day the sower will be called on to do some mowing.

The manager of a cafe hired an actor for cashier. The actor was a lightning change artist.

It is a fact that no man struggling to support one wife is a keen believer in polygamy.

First she went with a six-footer, then with a five-footer, which was going to any length to get married.

Firemen Have A Hard Struggle In Controlling Destructive Blaze At Big Lumber Plant.

With high wind blowing from a favorable direction and assistance from the Greenview Fire Department, local firemen succeeded late Wednesday afternoon in controlling flames which at one time threatened to destroy the entire plant of the Farmville-Woodward Lumber Co., situated just beyond the town limits.

The mill was in operation when fire was discovered in the dry kiln about 3 o'clock. The flames gained headway rapidly and the fire forces were handicapped by lack of adjacent hydrants. A bucket brigade was formed to supplement the hose in use, and firemen, together with mill employes, battled desperately for more than two hours in intense heat before the flames showed signs of being checked.

Smouldering heaps of ashes 20 feet high mark the racks where an estimated 500,000 feet of the finest pine and gum were piled, representing a loss which will run between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

There was between 2,500,000 and 3,000,000 feet of dressed lumber on the grounds, the safety of which depended altogether on the prevailing winds of the succeeding 12 hours.

Regarded as one of the most progressive industries of its kind in this section, catering to wholesale and retail trade, the Farmville-Woodward Lumber Company plant here is one of four owned by this firm, the others being located at Mt. Olive, Hogwood, and Williamson. R. L. Woodward, of Suffolk, Va., is president, and G. S. Vought, of Farmville, vice-president and manager of the local plant, which employs 180 men when in full operation.

We understand the dry kiln will be rebuilt as soon as possible and the work at the mill resumed as soon as completed.

Warren Will Direct Celebration Program

Manteo, July 19.—Congressman Lindsay C. Warren today accepted the invitation of the Roanoke Island Historical Committee, to act as master of ceremonies on August 18th. This date is to be the climax of a week of celebration in commemoration of the landing of the first English settlers in America here on Roanoke Island three hundred and fifty years ago and the birth of Virginia Dare first white child born on American soil, the date being her birthday. Senators Robert R. Reynolds and Josiah W. Bailey will be present, as will many other state notables including Governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus, Treasurer Chas. M. Johnson and President Frank P. Graham of the university. Governor Peery and Senators Glass and Byrd of Virginia have been urged to attend.

The dumb Romeo, when asked if his girl was of the tender type, said that he didn't know—he hadn't bitten her yet.

It of perhaps a dozen more or less prominent Tarheels and in every instance I was disappointed. It didn't embarrass a single man. On the contrary, they were all amused at the idea that the rest of the United States is so thick-headed that it doesn't appreciate what North Carolina's attitude toward corn liquor really is.

"In conclusion then, what can one say, either in criticism or praise, of North Carolina's attitude toward its corn industry? Nothing. The matter is one that comes strictly under the head of the personal business of the Tarheels. They are handling it according to their own notion of the way it should be handled.

"To say that on the whole they are better drinkers than the New Yorkers, the Pennsylvanians, the Californians or the denizens of any of the wet states, might be erroneous. To say that they drink less certainly would be. Probably the per capita consumption is about even; but even if it is, North Carolina has this advantage: it pays no tax on the liquor it imbibes and therefore is not asking the federal government to protect it against any influx of booze from the wet and wicked yet law-abiding states which lie to the north of it. Perhaps, though, the time may soon come when those wet and wicked states will be asking Uncle Sam to build a Chinese Wall around North Carolina to protect them."

Though there are some cases of American foul brood in the apices of Burke county, the sourwood bloom gives promise of a good crop of honey.

Votes for Wet, Then Goes Prohibition Big Majority

Collier's Weekly Mystified by North Carolina Corn Liquor.

NEW YORK, July 19th.—Collier's Weekly is frankly mystified by the North Carolina attitude toward liquor. It recently sent one of its reporters, the fiery Owen P. White, down to North Carolina to travel around and find out what it was all about. Mr. White's report appears in the current issue. He states the "mystifying" situation as follows:

"When a state elects a repeal senator by a big majority, and then votes down repeal by 173,000, the natural suspicion is that there must be an angle in it somewhere. In North Carolina, the angle is corn liquor. Some of the citizens of the state approve corn as a beverage, but don't like to see it decorated with expensive federal revenue stamp. As a result they have worked out a new device for protecting what they regard as a state right."

"Now for Mr. White's report, which starts with an apology and a tribute: 'I have no intention of offending the people of North Carolina by making fun of their drinking habits. I couldn't and be honest about it, because instead of being disposed to make light of the drinking habits of the Tarheels, what I feel inclined to do in this article is to express my admiration of their prowess.'

"Never anywhere have I seen anything to surpass it. When I visited the state, motoring lengthwise across it from the Dismal Swamp section on the coast, where stills capable of producing thousands of gallons daily were in operation, clear over to beautiful Asheville, the one thing that I could never get away from was the odor of corn. It was everywhere. The bottles were gone but the memory of them lingered on in every hotel room I occupied.

"Something reminiscent of a recent drink was frequently to be noticed on the breaths of passing citizens, as even as I drove along the open highways, sniffing the fragrance of the

dogwood, the redbud and the wild honeysuckle, it was seldom that I inhaled a lungful of atmosphere that was not laden with the scent of something delightfully illegal.

"That's the point. Its delightful illegality gives to Carolina corn the distinctive flavor that the Tarheels love. Moreover, it makes it very cheap. Why, then, so long as their well-established system of liquor control appealed both to their appetites and their pocketbooks, should they yield to the hue and cry for-law and license that recently swept the country and put the Eighteenth Amendment permanently out of business? Had they done so they would have been out of step with the spirit of their forefathers who, when they signed the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, designated as a public enemy any power which interfered with any of their private liberties.

"And isn't a man's right to make corn liquor out of his own corn a private liberty? Of course it is, and in more than one instance during the late period of national prohibition insanity the Supreme Court of the United States so declared. Still, under the impulse of reform a majority of the states have voted to forgo that liberty. But the North Carolinians couldn't see it that way.

"On the contrary they stuck to their principle of protecting their rights, and at the mere thought that perhaps Uncle Sam might step in and begin to put a tax on their booze and stick stamps on their whiskey bottles they moved in droves to the polls and voted overwhelmingly against him. That happened last November, the majority against repeal being 173,000; but what about the vote of the preceding November when Buncomb Bob Reynolds, who was running on a dripping wet platform calling for more corn for Tarheels, and who whooped it up for repeal at every crossroads, gave Mr. Cameron Morrison, the noblest dry of them all, the worst licking that any candidate for the national Senate ever got in North Carolina.

"Thinking that probably that question would embarrass them, I asked