

Look At Your Label — If Your Subscription Has Expired Send In YOUR Renewal at Once!

# The Farmville Enterprise

Patronize Our Advertisers, For They Are Constantly Inviting You To Trade With Them.

VOL. TWENTY-SIX

FARMVILLE, PITT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1937

NUMBER THIRTY-FIVE

## Roosevelt Again Calls For Action to Remodel Nation's Highest Court

### Would Save the Constitution From the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court From Itself; Flatly Denies Plan to Pack High Bench With Mere 'Puppets'

Washington, March 9.—President Roosevelt called for swift enactment of his court reorganization bill tonight to "save the Constitution from the (Supreme) Court and the court from itself."

In outspoken fashion, the Chief Executive asserted the high tribunal had "improperly set itself up" as a "super legislature," and had read into the Constitution "words and implications which are not there and which were never intended to be there."

At the same time, he disavowed any intent to "pack" the court with "spineless puppets who would disregard the law" and decide cases as he might wish them decided; and asserted the processes of constitutional amendments were too slow for the pressing problems of the day.

His address, a "fireside chat" delivered from the small oval room on the ground floor of the White House, was the second devoted to a fighting appeal for passage of his bill to permit the enlargement of the court unless justices over 70 years of age retire.

"We must find a way to take an appeal from the Supreme Court to the Constitution itself," he said. "We want a Supreme Court which will do justice under the Constitution—not over it. In our courts we want a government of laws, not of men."

"I want—as all Americans want—an independent judiciary as proposed by the framers of the Constitution. That means a Supreme Court that will enforce the Constitution as written—that will refuse to amend the Constitution by the arbitrary exercise of judicial power—amendment by judicial say-so. It does not mean a judiciary so independent that it can deny the existence of facts universally recognized."

A major section of the address was devoted to answering the three most frequently heard criticisms of his proposal—that it is an effort to "pack" the court, that it would create a precedent which a future President with dictatorial ambitions could turn to his advantage and that the solution of the problem lies rather in a constitutional amendment.

Of the "packing" charge, the President said:

"If by that phrase the charge is made that I would appoint and the Senate would confirm justices worthy to sit beside present members of the court who understand modern conditions—that I will appoint justices who will not undertake to override the judgment of the Congress on legislative policy—that I will appoint justices who will act as justices and not as legislators—if the appointment of such justices can be called 'packing the courts,' then I say that I, and with me the vast majority of the American people, favor doing just that thing—now."

Of "precedent": "Fundamentally, in the future, if the American people cannot trust the Congress to elect to refrain from abuse of our constitutional usages, democracy will have failed far beyond the importance to it of any kind of precedent concerning the judiciary."

And of the amendment process: "It would take months or years to get substantial agreement upon the type and language of an amendment. It would take months and years, thereafter, to get a two-thirds majority in favor of that amendment in both Houses of Congress. Then would come the long course of ratification by three-fourths of the states. No amendment which any powerful economic interests or the leaders of any powerful political party have had reason to oppose has ever been ratified within anything like a reasonable time."

"And 13 states which contain only five per cent of the voting population can block ratification even though the 35 states with 95 per cent of the population are for it."

Analyzing the opposition that has developed against his proposal, Mr. Roosevelt said it came from two groups, one which "fundamentally objects to social and economic legislation along modern lines"—and a second composed of individuals who "honestly believe the amendment process is the best and who would be willing to support a reasonable amendment if they could agree on one."

Then, obviously addressing a (Continued on page six)

## J. T. Thorne Urges Use of Improved Cotton Seed

### It Seems Only Good Sense For Every Farmer to Plant at Least Some Improved Seed This Year

The few cents extra required to plant an acre in improved cotton over gin-run varieties should return a profit to the grower of tenfold, Mr. John T. Thorne, director of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association, said here today.

Mr. Thorne, who attended a regular meeting of the board of directors of the farm cooperative in Raleigh last week, pointed out that farmers can secure Coker cotton seed one year from the breeder for planting at a cost of approximately 80c an acre above gin-run seed.

"Records at State College show that such good seed should produce a staple of around inch and 1/16," Mr. Thorne said, adding that on the basis of the grade and staple premiums now being paid by the Cotton Association strict middling inch and 1/16 cotton will bring \$11.25 more per bale than strict low middling 7/8 inch.

"Since it takes no more land, no more fertilizer, no more cultivation and no more expense in any way—except the small outlay for good seed—to produce this longer staple cotton that brings a premium," Mr. Thorne said, "it seems only good sense for every farmer to plant at least some improved seed this year."

The cooperative leader pointed out that last year only about 13 per cent of the State cotton crop ran inch and 1/16 or better and added that the supply of North Carolina grown cotton of this quality was not near enough to fill the demand.

The Cotton Association, which for 15 years has been interested in improving the quality of the State crop, is again sponsoring the distribution of improved seed, through the State-wide Farmers Cooperative Exchange, and farmers should contact the Raleigh office for their needs.

Pointing out that much of the seed from last year's cotton crop has a low germinating power due to the late maturity of the crop in many sections of the State, Mr. Thorne urged farmers to plant only seed that have been tested for germination. All seeds handled by the Farmers Cooperative Exchange are first tested for germination.

Mr. Thorne also reported that the response to the "Re-Purchase Pool" has been most satisfactory and said it is apparent that as more farmers become familiar with it they will use its facilities for learning their grades and staples and the true value of their cotton before offering it for sale.

## Liquor Profits Sought For Cops

### Bill Provides Money To Be Used For Pitt Law Enforcement.

Greenville, March 11.—A bill introduced Monday by Senator E. G. Flanagan, and understood to have the support of Pitt County's delegation, would authorize the Pitt County Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to expend up to 20 per cent of the profits from the legal sale of liquor in the county for law enforcement purposes.

The proposed measure provides that the Board shall employ one or more persons, to be appointed by and directly responsible to the Board.

It further provides that if the Board, in its discretion, finds it desirable, may financially aid municipalities in paying the salary, or salaries of an officer, or officers, employed in enforcing liquor laws.

Organized efforts have been underway recently on the part of officials of several municipalities in the county to have part of the profits turned over to the various cities to be used for law enforcement purposes.

If the proposed bill passes the house, it probably will kill all chances of a measure being enacted to give the various counties a split of the profits.

While the bill does not specifically state that the officers employed by the A. B. C. board shall have power of police, it is understood that the state-wide measure makes such provisions. Under the old Pasquotank act, under which the local board op-

## Would Junk Gas Chamber; PWA Funds in Danger

### The Power Company Amendments Would Emaculate Revenue Bond Measures

Raleigh, March 10.—The State will junk its elaborate lethal gas chamber and go back to electrifying its capital felons if a bill approved unanimously by the Senate Calendar Committee yesterday is enacted into law. The action followed closely upon unfavorable action upon a proposal to abolish the death penalty.

With bills being handled so rapidly that no one connected with the Assembly could know what was going on in all seven rings, the important revenue bond bills were facing amendments in a finance subcommittee which proponents charged were prepared by power company representatives and would destroy the bills.

The bills, sponsored by the Public Works Administration, would permit the issuance of bonds to be retired by revenues rather than taxes without a vote of the people. Since no tax would be involved, it is not believed they would be affected by the debt-limitation amendment adopted last fall, but they would be limited strictly by marketability. Projects for which they could be issued extend from power plants to swimming pools.

Huge Sum At Stake. Informing the sub-committee that PWA projects amounting to \$10,246,000 would be jeopardized by failure to enact the bills as drawn, R. M. Gant of Durham, chairman of the North Carolina Emergency Council, and C. N. Malone, regional attorney for the PWA, appeared before the committee yesterday to recommend passage of the bills in their original form.

Governor Hoey, who has held conference on the bills and indicated to be in accord with their purposes, has received message from PWA officials asking for passage of the measure in original form so that the State may continue to utilize federal funds in public movements.

Power Opposition. The bill particularly in question HB 468, has been subjected to a group of amendments turned over to the sub-committee by Chairman Victor Bryant of the House Finance Committee as "anonymously submitted." It was charged at the meeting yesterday, however, that they came from R. Grady Rankin, Duke Power Company lobbyist, and were directed at throttling municipal power development such as the City of High Point is now attempting, but is being held up by Duke Power Company's legal action against it.

The bills are expected to be brought into the full committee today. All are six-day bills, and delay could kill them as effectively as an adverse vote or adoption of the emasculating amendments.

Unanimous Against Gas. The vote of the Senate Calendar against the gas chamber was unanimous.

The poll was taken shortly after the committee heard Dr. G. S. Coleman, prison physician and execution official, say: "In my opinion death by gas is painful, tedious and horrible."

Death by electrocution, he said, "is a quick process and I feel sure is without pain."

Adoption of the gas chamber, which has been in use little more than a year, was proposed by Dr. Coleman and Warden H. H. Honecutt of Central Prison.

Declaration that the doomed men on Death Row preferred electrocution and "have a horror against gassing," was made by the physician, who said that the information came to him "from prisoners now awaiting for their time."

## WHO KNOWS?

1. When will Venus become a morning star?
2. Who referred to laws as spiders' webs?
3. What are hors d'oeuvres?
4. How many miles of railroad are there in the United States?
5. How many individuals draw pensions as a result of the Civil War?
6. When was the Panama Canal opened to traffic?
7. Where is the Boonville dam?
8. When did President Roosevelt make his first radio fireside talk?
9. What was the division of the Supreme court in the gold clause cases decided in 1935?
10. Is crop insurance near?

(See Answers on Page 6)

erated, officers hired by the board did not have power of arrest.

If the proposed measure is enacted it is understood that the Board would set up its own law enforcement agency to work in cooperation with, but independently of all other peace officers in the county.



FOUR YEARS AGO THE CONTRAST TODAY WOULD RESTRICT COURTS BORAH'S AMENDMENT COURT ISSUE DEBATED A 5 TO 4 DECISION ROOSEVELT'S PHILOSOPHY SO-CALLED NEUTRALITY LAWS

By Hugo Sims, Washington Correspondent.

Four years ago this week, on March 9th, 1933, Congress met in extraordinary session and rushed the Emergency Banking Act through both houses in a single day to liquidate the banking crisis, caused by the closing of banks in many States and confirmed by the bank holiday proclaimed a few days earlier by the newly installed President, Franklin D. Roosevelt. Three days later the Chief Executive, in his first radio address to the people, outlined intricate financial matters in clear-cut phrases and related what had been done to meet the financial peril.

The picture today is entirely changed. Business and industry have forged ahead although much unemployment remains to challenge alleged national prosperity. Labor and capital are resuming their strife as conditions improve, with the more aggressive labor leaders reaching out into new fields of organization. The nation's monetary system seems established as outside nations pour unwanted gold into our borders. Democracy continues its course in the face of serious questions before the people.

Last week the nation continued to debate the President's proposal to enlarge the Supreme Court by adding new justices to offset those above seventy who decline to retire. The discussion ranged the scale of political issues, with conservatives asserting that what the President sought would kill the court and make him a dictator and the President's supporters insisting that something is necessary if the republic is to solve modern problems and that the court proposal utilized a legal power given to Congress by those who feared an oligarchy of the judiciary.

Basically, the division of opinion is along lines clearly indicated in previous battles between the New Dealers and those opposed to its general philosophy of government. The Republicans and conservative Democrats openly oppose the maneuver while ardent supporters of the President rally to his standard. Every effort is apparently being made to intensify propaganda on both sides, with the President's radio talk the culmination of the drives. Actually, the situation last week in the Senate gave a slight edge to the proponents of the change as it appeared that a majority of the Senators would vote favorably. A poll of public sentiment taken by the Institute of Public Opinion, along the lines of its successful presidential tests of opinion, however, revealed 53 per cent of the people voting were against the plan.

An interesting development of the battle has been the proposal of Senator Borah to amend the Constitution to prevent the judiciary from using the "due process" clause to kill laws held to be unduly harsh or arbitrary. His amendment would limit the application of the phrase, other than in reference to certain portions of the Bill of Rights, to the "procedure of executive, administrative, or judicial bodies charged with the execution and enforcement of the law."

Significance lies in the fact that when the Fourteenth amendment was written it was adopted to safeguard the lives, liberty and property of ex-slaves but the Courts have defined it to widen the authority of the courts to set aside laws when, in the judges' opinion, the laws were arbitrary or unreasonable in effect upon property. The result has been that many laws have been affected by the substance rather than of their due process in procedure. Moreover the judges themselves have often been unable to agree as to whether a law was arbitrary or unreasonable.

The Borah amendment would limit the Court in its consideration of the laws of the States and thus provide latitude for social and regulatory legislation. It would probably end the much discussed twilight zone which has heretofore resulted when the courts have thrown out Federal legislation because the Federal government had no such power under the constitution and then, in other decisions, denied State government the power to legislate under the "due process" clause. It does not meet the President's purposes, however, for two reasons: First, it involves

(Continued on Page Five)

## Would Regulate Sale Of Tobacco

### Fenner Introduces Bill In House to Establish Fair Trade Regulations

Raleigh, March 10.—A bill to re-establish the fair trade regulations of NRA code days for the tobacco warehouse industry, under supervision of a State commission, was introduced in the House of Representatives yesterday by Representative W. E. Fenner of Nash, leading warehouseman of Rocky Mount and major operator on the Georgia markets.

Several members of the House from tobacco counties joined the Nash representatives in sponsoring the bill.

The measure would provide for appointment by the Governor of a Tobacco Commission of Fair Competition, consisting of five warehousemen, one from each of the five belts in the State to license and regulate warehouses.

Paid \$10 a day and travel expenses for each meeting, the commissioners would employ a secretary and establish an office in Raleigh to be sponsored from a warehouse registration fee of \$50 and from a tax of 5 cents per 1,000 pounds on tobacco sold by warehouses in excess of 1,000,000.

Authority would be given the commission to revoke the license of a warehouse violating fair competition provision of the bill, which include section prohibiting:

1. Soliciting tobacco for sale while in transit from farm to market designation.
2. Soliciting tobacco in one town for sale in another, after the season opens.
3. Employing any person to solicit tobacco for sale on any warehouse floor.
4. Employing an unreasonable working force to solicit tobacco.
5. Reserving any particular floor space for a tobacco producer or consignor.
6. Making any resale for less than full charges.
7. Permitting private sale until after the tobacco has been offered at auction.
8. Moving tobacco before ten minutes has expired after sale.
9. Discrimination against any producer.
10. Giving rebates on warehouse charges as inducements.
11. Paying anything for delivery of tobacco to any warehouse.
12. Extending special privileges to any customer.
13. Furnishing transportation for tobacco.
14. Financing purchase of trucks for tobacco producers.
15. Giving rebates or prizes to reduce warehouse charges.
16. Guaranteeing minimum prices for tobacco.

Fines up to \$250 and imprisonment up to six months would be provided for violations.

The State act would not preclude local regulations.

## Warehousemen Endorse Bill Sale Tobacco

### Would Establish Fair Trade Regulations Of NRA Code Days For Leaf Sale of Tobacco Industry

A special called meeting of the Eastern Carolina Warehouse Association was held in Farmville, Wednesday evening, for the purpose of obtaining an expression from warehousemen of each market, regarding their views of a bill recently introduced in the State Legislature by Representative W. E. Fenner, of Nash county, a leading tobacco warehouseman of the Rocky Mount market.

Bruce Sugg, of Greenville, president of the Association, presided over the meeting, which was largely attended, practically every warehouse firm in the Eastern Belt being represented, with a few being recognized from the Central Belt.

President Sugg read and explained the bill in detail, and the Association went on record as favoring its passage at this session.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Mr. Sugg called the members attention to the Victory Dinner, to be held in Raleigh Friday evening, and urged each one present to attend the affair and assist in showing the country that North Carolina is truly a Democratic State and wholeheartedly behind President Roosevelt.

This is a good week in which to trade at home.

## Assembly Gets 266 New Bills, Works Overtime

### Dr. Deal Addresses Local Democrats

Introducing himself as a singer of song of victory and not a Jeremiah with lamentations, Dr. R. C. Deal, faculty member of the East Carolina Teachers College, Greenville, prefaced his victory address to Farmville Democrats, gathered on Thursday evening to pay honor to the party and its present leader, Franklin D. Roosevelt, by declaring he had often been curious to know how chicken a la Maryland tasted, but he knew now that it was chicken pie minus the chicken.

"Why," he said, "it is unthinkable to talk of Democratic victory without honoring the man who gave us the victory, and I want to pay my respect to the President of the United States tonight." Dr. Deal traced the political careers of late presidents and paid a tribute of highest praise to Mr. Roosevelt, "who," he stated, "has cast his political lot with the working man notwithstanding that he had a background of wealth, and has made a corner for people in a helpless and hysterical condition, put good times just around it and has led us around that corner himself."

"Mr. Roosevelt speaks the language of every man, woman and child in America, and smiles at opposition. He is a man marked for Destiny; fighting off physical handicaps and those created by his critics and enemies he is fast becoming the outstanding leader of the world; a man who can warm the cockles of your heart by the mere sound of his voice with the words, 'My friends.'"

In connection with the reforming of the judiciary, Dr. Deal traced the organization of the Supreme Court, declaring that it was not divinely created, and not considered the holiest of the holy at the time, and while giving the Supreme Court the honor composed at present by an august, dignified body of learned men, the speaker pointed out the advantages to be derived by Mr. Roosevelt's proposed changes.

Giving the unfulfilled promises of the Republicans for eight years due credit for winning the first victory for the Democrats in 1932, Dr. Deal gave the combination of the personality of Mr. Roosevelt, his rekindling of men's hopes and the filling of the dinner pail its meritorious place in the second election victory, and pointed to this victory as a challenge from the nation to the Democratic party to begin now the development of a leader with qualifications for succeeding Mr. Roosevelt and maintaining the confidence, hope and courage he has inspired.

Dr. Deal paused to do honor to Mrs. Roosevelt and eulogized the couple as "friends and champions of the average man and woman, who can touch the mind, heart and soul of the masses as no two people have ever been able to do before."

Dr. Paul E. Jones, Democratic chairman of the township, presided at the dinner attended by seventy-five citizens and held in the American Legion hall, and Mayor J. B. Lewis introduced the speaker as a "Great Deal who can tell us about the New Deal."

A musical program was presented by Mr. and Mrs. John D. Holmes, Mrs. J. W. Joyner, Mrs. Daisy H. Smith and Mrs. J. L. Shackelford.

## Wilson Farmer Shoots His Son

### Kept Awake by Unruly Family, Pridgon Blows Son's Arm Off With Shotgun

Wilson, March 9.—Albert Pridgon, 22-year-old Wilson County farmer was in a local hospital today minus a right arm while his 50-year-old father, Dallas Pridgon, Wilson County farmer, was in jail here without bond charged with shooting the arm off with a shot gun last night when "the family got unruly and I couldn't sleep."

Doctors at the hospital said the arm was hanging by a piece of skin when he was brought there and that it had to be taken completely off.

Officers from the office of Sheriff W. A. Weathersby here said today that the boy's father told them that "My family was so unruly that I couldn't sleep, so I shot at the boy."

They also said that after the shooting the boy's mother took a rifle and hit the father over the head with it, wounding him in the forehead though not seriously.

Albert, doctors said, was getting along fairly well today at the hospital.

### Two Million-Dollar Security Appropriation Bill Reaches House—Records Set For New Legislation As Deadline For Bills Passes

Raleigh, March 10.—The General Assembly, in its busiest day of the 1937 session, received 266 new bills yesterday and passed or killed almost as many more.

Both houses held two sessions, devoted for the most part to the sing-song reading of local legislation and the sound of the speakers' gavels, as laws were enacted sometimes at the rate of three a minute.

Today the law-makers and Governor Hoey will journey by special train to Edenton, where a meeting will be held in one of the state's first capitols. The Governor and Edenton's Mayor E. W. Spires are scheduled to speak.

Receiving a total of 83 new bills and passing 11 more than that, the Senate killed with no debate a measure which would have restored the electric chair for executions and approved House bills which will reorganize two State departments.

Change State Division.

The House bills that were passed will, after their ratification, transfer the administration of Blue Sky securities laws, now in the hands of Stanley Wohl, capital issues clerk, under the Utilities Commission, to the Secretary of State's office; and increase the board of Agriculture from five to ten members. The capital issues bill passed the House under suspension of rules.

Senator John Sprunt Hill of Durham amended the Department of Agriculture bill to provide that when the Governor appoints the members, he shall let one of them represent each of the following interests: tobacco, cotton, truck farming, dairying, poultry peanut growing, and "one who shall be a man experienced in marketing."

Security Funds. At its night session, the House received as one of 183 new bills—a new high record—a measure from Representative Victor S. Bryant of Durham to appropriate \$2,185,000 annually for the old age pension-children's aid bill recently enacted by the House, to be matched by Federal and County funds to make a total of over \$8,000,000 a year.

In addition, the bill would provide \$80,000 a year for State administration, \$150,000 for aid to counties for administrative purposes and \$149,000 for other services of the State Department of Public Welfare.

No further new bills will be received by House and Senate, except by consent of two-thirds of the membership, and the Assembly will go home a week from today, if its schedule is followed.

A bill to create a five-man State Banking Commission, with the State Treasurer acting as its chairman and the Attorney General as a member, was introduced by Representative R. A. Patton of Macon, who previously tried to abolish the office of Commissioner of Banks. Two bankers and a businessman would be appointed to the body by the Governor.

Representative R. H. Underwood of Hertford sponsored a bill which would create a retirement and relief fund for State highway patrolmen. Members wishing to receive benefits from the fund would be charged an "initiation fee" of from \$2 to \$6, and court fees received by participating officers would be deposited to the credit of the fund.

A measure by Representative E. T. Bost, Jr., of Cabarrus would allow any law enforcement officer to receive court fees if required to attend a session of a criminal term of Superior Court while not on duty.

New Senate Bills. In the Senate, other department reorganization bills were received in the 83 bills which were dropped into the basket. New Senate bills included ones which would:

Authorize the Governor to increase the Department of Labor's appropriation in view of new labor legislation requiring enforcement by his department (by Senator Tom Gold of Guilford and J. H. Separk of Gaston).

Appropriate \$3200 for the domestication of foreign corporations in the Secretary of State (by Senator Gold).

Transfer the oil and gasoline inspection division now in the Department of Agriculture (by Senator R. L. Coburn of Martin, and others).

Provide a two-year residence qualification for State employes except those hired for technical positions (by Senator H. L. Ingram of Randolph).

To "Trim" Pension Rolls. Appoint a commission to "trim down" the pension rolls so that social security may take care of many pensioners now supported by the State.

(Continued on page six)