

Tentative Town Budget Calls For \$1.35 Tax Rate and Increase In Pay for Farmville Employees

Costs Of Paying Streets And Expanding Power Plant Exceed Estimates And Necessitate Hike In Tax Rates

Farmville Board of Commissioners Tuesday night ushered in a new fiscal year with a long-winded meeting which finally resulted in the adoption of a tentative budget calling for a tax rate of \$1.35 for 1947-48 and providing a 10 per cent increase for all workers employed by the town on a weekly or monthly basis.

Since any or all of the figures tentatively adopted may be raised or lowered before the budget is finally whipped into shape, there is nothing final about the Commissioners' action but it is generally agreed that an increase in the tax rate will be necessary to meet the costs of paying streets and expanding the power plant. Both projects exceed original estimates. The new tax figure represents an increase of 25 cents per \$100 valuation over last year's rate, \$1.10.

It was estimated that the street paving program would cost \$280,000 and that amount was set up in the budget last year \$310,000 is a more accurate figure, a deficit of several thousand dollars which must be made up this year.

Expansions to be made to the power plant were estimated at \$186,000 but escalator clauses in contracts with makers of the engines will add at least \$16,000 to this sum and the executives shudder to think about how much more than \$43,000, the amount originally budgeted, the new building for the plant will cost.

The contract with American Locomotive stipulated that the company would furnish the diesel engines, which will increase the plant's output by 75 per cent, for \$120,000. The contract, however, contains an escalator clause which gives the company the right, in the case of strikes or increased material or wage costs, to raise this price by 10 per cent. It is certain that the company will exercise this option, in view of the fact that officials of the company have told Superintendent W. A. McAdams of the light and water department that the firm is entailing a loss of more than \$40,000 on the Farmville contract. The contract for generators, placed with Westinghouse Electric Company, provided for an outlay of \$23,000, with an escalator clause of 20 per cent. Town officials are quite sure the company will exercise its right.

Mayor J. W. Joyner's recommendation that all employees be granted a flat 10 per cent increase was the spark which set off the extended session. He expressed a belief that an increase at the start of the new fiscal year would ward off resignations from workers who can get more pay in other jobs.

The action to adopt the tentative budget, which, if allowed to stand, gives the requested increases, was made on motion of Commissioner Curtis H. Fanagan and seconded by Commissioner R. O. Lang, Jr., after it became apparent that the overall increase for salaries amounted to less than \$2,500 and, if rejected, would not enable the town to retain its present tax rate of \$1.10.

Commissioner John M. Stansill, oldest member of the board in point of service, voiced the sentiment of his fellow members when he said that he certainly hated to see any upward trend in the tax rate because it was such a hard job for the board to get it down to its present low level. He also stated that he thought a full board should be present before such major decisions were reached. All members were present except W. Alex Allen, who is in Chicago attending the convention of Kiwanis International as a delegate from the Farmville club.

Commissioner Walter B. Jones, one of the two new members on the board—Mr. Lang is the other—was interested in seeing that the town salaries were in line with those paid by private companies.

On motion of Mr. Stansill, all employees of the town were reappointed on a day-to-day basis.

The board adopted a recommendation from President B. O. Taylor of the Country Club that the Federal law imposed on membership in the club be passed on to self-paying members. This will mean an increase of \$7.50 yearly in club dues for those who play. Dues for non-playing members remain the same.

Committees Named By Mayor Joyner; Jones Is Pro-Tem

Mayor J. W. Joyner announced the following committee appointments of the Board of Commissioners for the ensuing year:

Water and light committee—W. A. Allen, chairman; J. M. Stansill and R. O. Lang, Jr.

Recreation committee—Walter B. Jones, chairman; R. O. Lang, Jr., and C. H. Fanagan.

Street committee—J. W. Joyner, mayor-chairman; R. O. Lang, Jr., and W. B. Jones.

Cemetery committee—C. H. Fanagan, chairman; R. O. Lang, Jr., and J. M. Stansill.

Finance committee—J. M. Stansill, chairman; W. A. Allen and C. H. Fanagan.

Ordinance committee—R. O. Lang, Jr., chairman; W. A. Allen and W. B. Jones.

Sanitary committee—C. H. Fanagan, chairman; J. M. Stansill, W. B. Jones and Chief of Police.

\$56,000 In Building Permits Issued

Building permits for the month of June amounted to the handsome total of \$56,850, more than half of which is attributed to the six houses George E. Creekmur is constructing in Victory Park.

Permits were issued as follows: R. G. Lewis, residence, \$2,000; W. E. Joyner, repairs to residence, \$500; George E. Creekmur, six homes at \$5,000 each; C. B. Mashburn, Jr., residence, \$2,000; Belk-Tyler Company, general repairs to store building, \$6,000; C. A. Mazingo, residence, \$2,500; Bennett R. Fields, storage building, \$350; John B. Lewis, residence, \$3,000; Lee Johnson, residence, \$1,000; John B. Hardison, residence, \$2,000; G. A. Newton, residence, \$2,500; Hulda Fields, residence, \$4,000; Joseph Batchelor, residence, \$2,000.

At The Kiwanis Club

Dr. Jack Gregg gave an excellent talk on the uses of DDT at the Kiwanis club Monday night and warned the members to handle with caution any of the preparations that are transparent. Ernest Potteway had charge of the program.

Dr. Gregg gave the club the benefit of his research work with the Army and explained uses of the various DDT preparations.

He added, however, that three other preparations more powerful than DDT are soon to be on the market.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Harris and daughter, Dail, returned Monday after a week's stay at the Ocean King hotel, Atlantic Beach.

McAdams Begins 29th Year As Head of Power Plant

When W. A. McAdams came to Farmville from Rocky Mount in 1918 and accepted a position with the town's water and light department, power plant was operating on "moonlight" schedule which gave the town electricity from late in the afternoon until 11 or 12 o'clock at night. On some Saturday nights—stores stayed open much later in those days—the switch was pulled before the stores were closed.

Income from the department the first month he was here totaled only \$528 and at one time, immediately after the first World War, income was not sufficient to pay the freight on carloads of coal, then used instead of oil as a source of power for the engines.

Conditions are quite different today, as Supt. McAdams nears three decades of service with the town. The plant not only furnishes power for Farmville but affords electricity for 1500 families who live on the more than 300 miles of rural lines. Income from the department last year was in excess of \$100,000 and should top the \$120,000 mark in 1947-48.

The rural lines stemming from Farmville have been called one of the town's best advertising assets because the lines rendered rural neighbors to be much better than the usual service given rural areas.

Not satisfied to rest on his laurels, Supt. McAdams is right now in the midst of a program which

New Agriculture Teacher Elected; Seeks Home Here

E. P. Bass Of Bearfort Takes Over As Head Of Vocational Work; Graduated From State; Taught At Fair Bluff

E. P. Bass, who has been working with the Federal Department of Agriculture and has been stationed at Bearfort, has accepted a position as instructor of vocational agriculture in the Farmville high school and has joined the ever-lengthening ranks of those seeking living quarters here. The election of Mr. Bass to the post was announced by John B. Lewis, chairman of the board.

Prior to taking the government position, Mr. Bass taught for several years at Fair Bluff. He is a graduate of State College.

Mrs. Bass and their two children will join him here as soon as he can find a residence for them.

The board also expects to have a history teacher and athletic director employed before the end of the week. The task of obtaining a well-qualified man for the position has been made somewhat easier by an appropriation of \$1200 from the Board of Commissioners. This will be used as a supplement and the person so employed will serve during the summer months as recreational director in the town.

When this vacancy is filled, the board needs only a second grade teacher to complete its list of appointments. No steps are being taken to retain the course in public school music since it appears likely that the Parent Teacher Association does not have the funds to finance this work another year.

Bryan Family Has Annual Reunion

Descendants of the late Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Bryan held their annual family reunion June 29 at the municipal park in Farmville.

The highlight of the day was the bountiful dinner which was spread on the dining table picnic style. A centerpiece of fresh fruits was used on the table which was covered with a white cloth. The menu consisted of fried chicken, country ham, barbecue, salads, sandwiches, homemade cakes and lemonade.

Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Andrews and children, Mr. and Mrs. John D. Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert M. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hobgood and son, Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt Bryan, all of Farmville; Mr. and Mrs. Hadley Bryan and children of Rocky Mount; Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Borum and daughter of Norfolk, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Rosenberger, Jr., and children of Carrollton, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Coburn and son of Portsmouth, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. Brinson Bryant and children and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ange and children of Wilmington.

Friends invited to attend were Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Andrews of Rocky Mount and Mrs. J. W. Norton, Jr., and daughter of Tampa, Fla.

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Family Barbecue

Mr. and Mrs. Harman Rouse and Mr. and Mrs. Ben M. Lewis entertained at a family barbecue Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rouse honoring Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy T. Lewis and family of Beseda, Calif., who have been visiting here.

Guests included the hosts and their families, the honor guests, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Lewis and son, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ewell, Mrs. S. E. Ewell, Mrs. Mary L. Lang and Miss Tabitha DeVisconti, all of Farmville; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brake and family of Rocky Mount, Mr. and Mrs. Ben L. Rouse of Chapel Hill, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Harrell and children of Greenville, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lee Rouse of Norfolk, Va.

Monday evening Mr. and Mrs. John B. Lewis and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ewell entertained at supper at the Lewis home in compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy T. Lewis and family.

Those attending were the hosts and their families, the guests of honor, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Rouse and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ben M. Lewis and daughter, Mrs. Mary L. Lang, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Lang and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Harrell and family of Greenville and Mrs. Ralph Brake and family of Rocky Mount, and Miss Peggy White of Leggettts.

Don Walston Enters U. S. Naval Academy

Donald Walston, son of Mr. and Mrs. Levi E. Walston of Farmville, has entered the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland. Walston was nominated as first alternate by Congressman Herbert C. Sawyer.

He graduated from Farmville High School in 1945 and has been attending State College.

Mrs. John Howard of 923 S. Main street, will be furnished with a new piano which she had ordered from the

Mrs. A. Q. Roebuck Succumbs Saturday in Hospital

Farmville Woman Ill Only 10 Days; Her Work With Rural Churches In This Area Described As 'Outstanding'

Mrs. Stella W. Roebuck, wife of A. Q. Roebuck of Farmville and a rural deaconess whose work with Methodist churches in this area has been described by ministers as the best of its type they had ever seen, succumbed Saturday morning in a Wilson hospital to a cruel malady which almost overnight snatched her from the ranks of the active and forced her to the Great Beyond.

The suddenness with which Mrs. Roebuck was stricken stunned her friends and acquaintances. Only 10 days before her death, she was in the midst of Daily Vacation Bible Schools in the churches under her supervision.

The quality of the work she was doing in her field was recognized beyond the bounds of the Farmville and Walstonburg churches, under whom she served. State leaders were cognizant of it. Mrs. Roebuck had been picked as a delegate to a national convention in Nebraska this month. In one sense of the word, the trip was a reward for the success which has attended her activities.

A graduate of Louisburg college, Mrs. Roebuck taught piano and voice for a number of years at the Methodist Orphanage in Raleigh. During World War II she was associated with the physical therapy department of the hospital at Fort Eustis, Va., and later held a similar position at Duke Hospital. Two years ago she accepted the work as rural deaconess for Bell Arthur, Wesley and Lang churches.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at Farmville Methodist Church, of which she was a member. Rev. E. R. Clegg, pastor, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Key Taylor of Walstonburg, the Rev. M. Y. Self of St. Pauls, and the Rev. Wade Goldston of Evansdale. Interment was in Hollywood cemetery.

Active pallbearers were M. V. Jones, L. E. Walston, J. I. Morgan, Jr., Lath Morris, Sam Chahdler, Bill Fulford, Henry C. Tyson and Lawrence White. Members of the Board of Stewards of the Farmville, Walstonburg, Bell Arthur, Wesley and Langs churches were honorary pallbearers.

Surviving in addition to her husband are her mother, Mrs. Della Ward; two sons, Emerson and Albert; a daughter, Carolyn, all of the home; two sisters, Mrs. Mark W. Joyner of Greenville and Mrs. H. N. McLees of Columbia; one brother, J. M. Ward of Greenville.

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Colored Civic Group Plans Independence Day Program Sun.

The Farmville Civic league will have an Independence day program Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Macedonia Baptist church on Walnut street. The program will be furnished by the following:

Miss Ruth Moore of Greenville will sing the national anthem.

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Escaped Convicts Are Recaptured, Turned Over To Patrolmen

Farmville last Friday afternoon had more law enforcement officers than a high class Western movie as members of the State Highway Patrol converged here at the end of a successful search for two convicts, who overpowered and disarmed a guard on a Pitt county road gang, hijacked a laundry truck, held up and robbed a man, and stole two automobiles during a wild hour and a half break Friday afternoon.

Immediately following the break by Paul York and John Weaver, white, both serving long terms for breaking, entering, larceny and highway robbery, an alarm was sounded by the guard, which was broadcast over the State Highway Patrol system. It was picked up by State Highway Patrolmen W. M. Whitley and G. W. Oakley, stationed in Wilson, who started for the area in which the convicts were reported to have been seen.

Oakley discovered the convicts' car and gave chase. Whitley was approaching from the opposite direction. The convicts turned off a main highway in the vicinity of Sarratoga and attempted to outrun Oakley on dirt county roads. Whitley likewise turned off on a dirt road, which intersects the one the convicts took.

The convicts, hotly pursued by Oakley, turned into the road Whitley was traveling and were trapped. Whitley, believing the approaching car was that of the convicts, stopped and alighted with his rifle aimed at the vehicle speeding towards him. The convict car slowed down and the convicts, recognizing the patrol uniform, came to a stop with both men holding their hands out of the car windows.

Whitley ordered them to get out and keep their hands up. Oakley roared up and disarmed the men, who were armed with a .38 calibre pistol and a .12 gauge shotgun taken from the guard.

At 5 o'clock, the escapees were turned over to Greenville patrolmen here and were taken back to the prison camp.

Captain Lester Jones, in charge of the patrol in this section, said that York and Weaver would be charged with the theft of the laundry truck and two automobiles used in their wild dash for freedom, and the robbery of a Rocky Mount man, whose car they took in addition to \$43.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Fisher announce the birth of a son, John Womble, Wednesday, June 25, at Carolina General hospital, Wilson. Mrs. Fisher is the former Miss Ruth McCargo of Reidsville.

VISITS PARENTS

A. C. Turnage, seaman, first class, is spending a leave here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Turnage. He returns to the Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Ill., next Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Burnette and son of Midway Park, Camp Lejeune, spent Sunday afternoon with relatives here.

Farmville Ladies Will Make Tour of Big City, Bright Lights

Five members of the Seven Pines and Farmville Home Demonstration clubs will join other Pitt county members Monday for a six day tour to Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York City. Mrs. J. E. Lewis and Mrs. Bennett Fields of the Farmville club and Mrs. Lyman Heath, Mrs. L. E. Garris and Mrs. Bert T. Little of the Seven Pines club will go on the sightseeing trip by bus.

The first day they will go to Baltimore via Richmond and Washington and will eat in one of the famous seafood places. The night will be open for shows or other trips.

Leaving Baltimore Tuesday morning, the group will travel highway 40, take the New Castle ferry over the Delaware river and enter New York over the Palaski Skyway and through the Lincoln tunnel. After arriving at the Hotel Taft in late afternoon the members will take a tour through the broadcasting and television studios of NBC, with time for a show at Radio City Music Hall, the world's largest theater.

In the evening the sightseers may ride the subway, tour Broadway and the Times Square district and see the Great White Way or, if they choose, take in shows or make other trips.

A grand sightseeing tour of the wonder city will begin at 9:30 Wednesday morning. It will take in East and West Side, Midtown, Beverly and a 30-minute stop in Chinatown. There will be time in the afternoon for a three-hour yacht trip around

Another Important Referendum For All Tobacco Growers Is Scheduled for Saturday July 12

Officers Eastern Star Pay Official Visit To Farmville Chapter

Mrs. Nell Porter of Swannanoa, worthy grand matron, and Dr. J. Howard Brown of Tarboro, worthy grand patron, paid their official visits to the Farmville, Kingston and Snow Hill chapters of Eastern Star at a tri-chapter meeting held in Snow Hill, Friday evening. Other distinguished guests attending were Mrs. J. Howard Brown, past grand matron; Mrs. Mauds Foy of Kingston, who organized the Snow Hill chapter; Mrs. Florence Lewis of Greenville, district deputy grand matron, and Dr. Frank Duke of Washington, district deputy grand patron.

Mrs. J. W. Parker of Farmville presented a white altar Bible to the host chapter and Mrs. W. W. Whittington, worthy matron, accepted. Mrs. Porter presented a 25-year certificate of membership to Mrs. Parker.

In the absence of Mrs. Herman Baker, Mrs. LeRoy Rollins, associate matron, acted as worthy matron and W. E. Joyner, as worthy patron for the Farmville chapter.

After the meeting, the host chapter served lime ice and wafers. Those from Farmville attending were Mrs. Rollins, Mrs. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Joyner, Mrs. M. W. Rollins, Mrs. O. G. Spell, and Miss Mamie Davis and her houseguest, Mrs. Charles E. Rowton of Palatka, Fla.

At The Rotary Club

Tuesday evening marked the beginning of another Rotary year. The new president, Jim Monk, who had charge of the program, announced committee appointments for the year. The club voted to continue awarding \$25 to the best all-round high school senior and to send subscriptions of "The Rotarian" to both school libraries and to the public library.

FIRST COTTON BLOSSOMS

Luby Baker, colored tenant, who lives on the Mrs. Lynn Eason and George Moore farm, brought the first cotton blossom to the Enterprise office, Saturday morning. The bud was picked Friday. Blaney Dupree, colored man, who resides on the Flanagan farm owned by J. H. Harris brought one which was wide open, several hours later. It was picked Saturday.

MOVE TO GATESVILLE

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Harrell and son, Bill, left Monday to make their home in Gatesville where Mr. Harrell will be superintendent of Gates county schools.

Mrs. Serene Moore of Lumberton is spending the summer with her daughter, Mrs. T. C. Turnage.

Ruth Moore Takes Part In Contest

Miss Ruth Moore, state president of 4-H clubs, who is a member of the Lang's club, represented Pitt county at the Northeast district 4-H dairy food preparation contest held in Tarboro. She gave a solo demonstration. Last year she and Miss Frances Jones were declared second place winners in the state-wide contest for team demonstrators held at State College in August.

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Assessment Of 10 Cents An Acre, If Approved, Will Be Used To Bolster Export Trade; All Growers Urged To Vote

Farm leaders joined today in an all-out appeal for a record-breaking vote in the tobacco referendum Saturday, July 12, when growers will vote on the question of investing 10 cents an acre on flue-cured tobacco to maintain and develop an export market that meant more than \$182,000,000 to them last year.

Dean I. O. Schaub, director of the North Carolina State College Extension Service, emphasized that every flue-cured grower should exercise his right of franchise and express himself at the polls. "I know of no election that has as much long-time significance to the tobacco growers," Dean Schaub said, adding that every grower should be sure to vote.

"As I see it, we are voting on something a lot bigger than whether or not we will tax ourselves 10 cents an acre on our flue-cured crop," said R. Flake Shaw of Greensboro, president of the North Carolina Farm Bureau. "We are voting on whether or not we will protect the \$200 per acre we received from the tobacco that went for export last year. This is too big a thing for any tobacco grower to dismiss because he is busy."

Pointing out that this is the first time farmers have voted in a tobacco program where "we are going to do something for ourselves," Mr. Shaw said that "our whole tobacco program will be weakened in the years ahead unless we show real strength at the polls on July 12."

Mrs. Harry B. Caldwell, Greensboro, Master of the North Carolina State Grange, said that "next to July 4, I consider July 12 the most important date for tobacco growers."

Pointing out that over 40 per cent of American flue-cured tobacco is exported, Mrs. Caldwell said there "is every reason to believe that foreign consumption of American grown leaf can be further increased."

The future welfare and security of our nation and the peace of the world, she added, "will depend to a large extent upon friendly commercial relationships and trade between nations."

Carl T. Hicks of Walstonburg, president of the Tobacco Stabilization Corporation, reminded farmers that "it is not so long back to 1932 when tobacco in North Carolina sold at an average price of only \$12 a hundred pounds."

"In that year, North Carolina sold 281,174,000 pounds of good, bright tobacco for a mere pittance—\$33,638,000, an amount below what the single county of Lenoir received last year."

Mr. Hicks said that one of the reasons for the low prices in 1932 was because "international trade was virtually at a standstill" and added that "we must do all in our power to protect and promote trade with other countries which last year meant 40 cents out of every dollar flue-cured growers received for their crop."

E. Y. Floyd, secretary of Tobacco Associates, and a life-long leader of tobacco, called for a vote "bigger than ever before" and added that "we must show the public that we have a united front."

J. H. Vaughn of Elm City, president of Tobacco Associates, said the election goes much further than merely authorizing a tax contribution that will not be more than 45 cents per grower. "We are voting on whether or not we are going to work for a continued fair price for tobacco, and if we have to produce tobacco at a price that won't permit a decent living for the growers, then we had better not produce it."

The tobacco referendum, which is being held in both North and South Carolina on Saturday, July 12, under legislation passed by the 1947 sessions of both legislatures, provides for every flue-cured grower—whether land-owner, share-cropper or tenant—to vote on the question of paying a tax of 10 cents per acre into a fund to be used in developing export markets.

The money will be administered by Tobacco Associates, a non-profit organization representing growers and allied interests. Head of the organization is J. B. Hutson, formerly secretary of agriculture and more recently administrative officer of the United Nations. He is recognized as one of the outstanding authorities in the world and even prior to 1933 had spent three years in foreign countries studying the tobacco situation for the Federal government.

Dr. and Mrs. J. P. Brummett of Washington, D. C., are in the city on a business trip and will be in the city on Wednesday.