

New Tobacco Cooperative Fast Getting Into Working Shape

Aims and Policies of New Organization Headed by J. R. Page of Aberdeen Are Discussed by Dean H. Butler

By Dean H. Butler
The appointment of J. R. Page to head the new cooperative tobacco movement in the state awakened the confidence of the farmers right generally, for Mr. Page is a business man, and with his business experience and the experience which the old cooperative association afforded the tobacco grower, it is the opinion now that the new association has a decided chance to be of great use to agriculture generally. Not only the tobacco grower, but the grower of everything else will see a road to better conditions if the new tobacco organization can improve tobacco conditions.

Here are some of the things the organization hopes to do:
Insure Better Handling. The co-operative system of handling provides for careful and quick handling of tobacco from the farmer to the factory or re-drying plant, without damage due to being walked on or "hashed out" on warehouse floors—often the case under the present auction system.

Insure Fair Grading. Tobacco will be bought and sold strictly on basis of quality. Each grower will get the same price for the same grade of tobacco. Impartial, certified Federal graders will carefully inspect and grade each pile of tobacco under uniform light and conditions, according to the standard system of grades set up by the Federal Government and accepted by the association.

Production to Consumption. The associations can through their connection with the Federal Farm Board and other agricultural organizations to secure the best prices for tobacco and to insure that the tobacco they want, how much, and with all the detail as to what they can use and what they can't use under any circumstances, the sooner the grower can intelligently undertake to produce that kind of tobacco, in the amount that can be used, and of the quality, and get a good price for it.

"When we were cutting lumber," said Mr. Page, "we tried to find out what our customers wanted, and we endeavored to make that kind of lumber, and the quantity they wanted, and they bought it and paid for it, and we had no great quarrel over prices. But if we had sent them a little of everything we had in the yard and twice as many cars, as they had ordered, and in that overshipment practically but little of what they wanted, we would have received mighty small checks in return." And he thinks that one of the things his association will do is to make a dictionary with the manufacturers as to how much tobacco they can use, and when that is decided the next thing will be to make the crop to fit. Then the quality of the crop will have to be harmonized with the price to be paid, and it is likely that a small crop, carefully made and graded and held up to good quality, will bring more money than a big crop of miscellaneous junk.

Another thing that Mr. Page suggests is that everybody in the state is financially interested in the tobacco crop for it is the source of a big part of the state income. The merchant, the banker, the town folks, all depend more or less on the prosperity of the farmer. Much difference of opinion has existed concerning the co-operative method of selling tobacco, but if it is a good method, if it brings more prosperity to the farmer, it certainly will bring more prosperity to those the farmer deals with. And Mr. Page figures that unless something brings a bigger share of prosperity to the farmer a lot of other folks are going to feel the pinch of adversity along with the farmer in another year or two.

In places where he has been present of North Carolina on account of its low interest rate.
Some things that must not be expected of the organizations are:
The membership must not expect the associations to sell tobacco at arbitrary prices out of keeping with supply and demand.
The associations can not sell to best advantage when there is over-production. Members must cooperate with the associations in fitting supply to demand.
The associations cannot guarantee to all growers cost of production plus a profit. There are always some inefficient producers, who cannot expect to make profits.
The associations can not sell poor quality tobacco at high prices. It cannot be done.

Much more leniency of membership in the new association than in the old one is a plan that will probably appeal to farmers, for the teeth in the old contract are pretty nearly drawn in the new one. The things required of him are not so many, and easy to comply with. New ideas of procedure are the result of the experiences of the old association.

Broad Partnership
In talking of his new job Mr. Page says it is a big one, and that to make it successful he must have the help of everybody. He does not look on it as a declaration of war against the tobacco manufacturers, but a move that shall take them into a broad partnership eventually, for they must be in the final move the selling agents of the tobacco growers, and he is of the notion that the sooner the grower and the manufacturer get together and the manufacturer delivers to the grower what he wants, and the grower gets what he needs, and can then advise the membership to increase or decrease acreage in order to fit production to consumption.

Secure Collective Bargaining Power. The associations will be able to sell tobacco to a better advantage than the individual, due to control of large volume of tobacco, a knowledge of grade values in keeping with world needs and concentrated management and sale. This principle holds good in any business enterprise.
Make Law of Supply and Demand Work. Mr. Jas. C. Stone, of the Federal Farm Board, says that "the most important thing in marketing farm products is to regulate the time, manner and place of feeding the supply to the demand so that the producer will get a fair price under existing conditions. This co-operative marketing can do."

Will Stabilize Seasonal Prices. The associations will equalize prices on all grades of tobacco over the entire marketing period. This will enable the farmers to do outdoor fall work while the weather is open, instead of rushing tobacco to market before a drop in price. Tobacco can be prepared, and sold in winter months at a big saving of time. It will help, too, to remedy the glut or block sale problem.

Reduce Cost of Selling. By doing a big volume business and by the elimination of buyers and others who are unnecessary in handling tobacco co-operatively, overhead expenses can be cut, and the membership will benefit by such savings.
Eliminate Speculation. Speculators, who buy tobacco only for resale, performing no marketing service, can be eliminated by the association's method of handling tobacco, so that most tobacco would be sold direct to the companies. The profit that now goes to these men would then go to the grower under the co-operative marketing system.
Provide Production Credit. The associations may set up subsidiary credit organizations through which credit for production purposes can be extended to members of the marketing organization. This type of

EVERYBODY IS HOWLING ABOUT MONFY, HE SAYS

Carl Goerch Finds Everybody From Governor Down Discussing Finances

BEEN TOO EXTRAVAGANT

By CARL GOERCH

The legislature has been having a rather interesting week. Most of its time is being taken up in discussing money matters. In that respect, senators and representatives are like the average married couple; there is little chance of reaching an agreement but there is a ways a mighty fine chance of starting an argument.
I interviewed about fifty representatives and about twenty senators this week. Every last one of them said he was in favor of reducing taxes on real estate. That's what you might call perfect agreement. It was when I began making inquiries about their plan for bringing about a reduction in taxes that I began to find evidences of almost perfect disagreement. The result probably will be that they'll argue so much time arguing that they won't have any time to actually reduce taxes.

The State budget for 1931-32 was issued this week. It shows appropriations of \$100,000 for this, \$200,000 for that, and \$300,000 for something else. What's worrying me is where all this money is coming from. Making out a budget is one thing; collecting the money is something entirely different. The wife makes out a budget which includes about five dresses every year, but she doesn't get 'em.
There's going to be a big hole in the State's revenue this year. There are 40,000 new automobiles on our roads than there were last year this time. That makes close to a million dollars loss in revenue through the sale of license plates and excise tax. There are more folks who will be unable to pay their taxes.

greater loss in revenue. And when we see the pitiful returns that we're going to get out of our income tax returns—well, unless we begin to take steps right now to bring about a rigid rule of economy, it looks to me like things will just about go bust in six months or so. A number of counties are already defaulting in their bond interest payments, and a lot of others are right on the ragged edge.
I visited the State Prison Monday and had George Pou take me over the institution. Few people really know what is going on out there. One of these days I want to write it up. Their biennial report has just been issued. It's a mighty interesting document. You ought to get hold of a copy and read it. I was looking over one of them a couple of days ago. Out of 1,015 prisoners, who were church members, 618 said they had been affiliated with the Baptist church before they went to prison. Think of that! I'm a Baptist myself, so I don't mind writing about my own crowd. Over 60 per cent of all our church member prisoners are Baptists. They're bound to be, because the legislature is a much bigger problem to our people than the State Prison. Talking about prison; pouring money into that old rat-trap for maintenance is like pouring water into a sieve. The old pile of bricks is just about ready to crumble and fall to pieces.
College professors claim that an injustice is being done them in the proposal to reduce salaries ten per cent. The merchant, the manufacturer, the clerk, the laboring man and the farmer have all had to take their cut in revenue and I don't see why the intellectuals should be absolved from their obligations. Just because a man knows how to translate a Latin sentence or how to pronounce d'oeuvres is no reason why he shouldn't get down on a level with us common folks when it comes to taking a cut in wages. Es-

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WOULD ABOLISH TREASURER'S OFFICE
Of widespread interest to the citizens of Hoke County is a bill introduced Tuesday by Representative

FARM OUTLOOK FOR THIS YEAR DISCUSSED, HERE

Ext. Farm and Home Agents Meet With Group of Hoke Men and Women

"LIVE AT HOME" SLOGAN

W. W. Gaither, District Agent, and Miss Pauline Smith, District Home Demonstration Agent, met with a number of the men and women of Hoke County Friday and discussed at length the problems of diversified farming and "Farming to Make a Living in 1931."

Miss Smith discussed the causes and prevention of pellagra, stating that in order to control this disease the landowners must see to it that their families grow an acre garden for each family of five. She pointed out that in some sections of the State the landowner required his tenant to work his garden each Monday morning. Miss Smith made the statement and showed figures to the effect that Hoke County was 67 per cent short in producing enough milk to furnish the pint to each person on the farm. We do not produce enough eggs to provide one egg per person by 40 per cent, farm population. We are short 71 per cent on pork and lard. The farm population does not include the land owners that live in town. It includes only those people that actually live on the farm.

Mr. Gaither discussed primarily the economic outlook for farm crops for 1931 and "Farming to Make a Living in 1931." The general outlook for cotton and tobacco for this year and next, with the average production, as pointed by Mr. Gaither, was a rather deep indigo blue. He painted a much more favorable picture for soy beans, corn, and other feed and food crops. Making the statement that when corn was selling on the market for 80 cents a bushel in the form of a bushel that the farmer averaged about \$1.25 per bushel for his corn. He spoke very favorably of the production of hogs for market purposes for the next three years. Especially where the farmers were supplied with the acreage to support a hog and to grow their own feed and food crops. Making the statement that the farmer would have to purchase his fish meal as a protein supplement to his home grown corn and soy beans.

He did not speak so favorably of (Continued on page 8.)

LEE-JACKSON PROGRAM AT HIGH SCHOOL

Sponsored by the Daughters of the Confederacy and gotten up under the leadership of Miss Ximena Smith of the school faculty, a most pleasing program honoring the birthdays of Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson, was given in the school auditorium Wednesday afternoon at 2:30.

The stage was most effectively arranged—Growing ferns, each pot holding two Confederate flags, made a border around the rostrum. In the background hung a handsome picture of Lee with Confederate flags on either side, and a large flag was draped beneath the picture. Only two Confederate veterans, Mr. McMillan and Mr. McLaughlin, were seated on the stage.

The following program was rendered by the school:
America—School.
Invocation—Rev. J. R. Miller.
Tribute to Maury—Jack Morris.
Elyouac of the Dead—Frances McFayden.
Tributes to Robert E. Lee—Sam Morris.
Selections about Lee's Mother's Family—Harold Keith.
Garry Ms Back to Old Virginia—Junior Music Club.
The Sword of Robert E. Lee—Margaret Kirkpatrick.
All Quiet Along the Potomac—Neill James Blue.
Tribute to Jackson—Christiana McFayden.
The Bonnie Blue Flag—School.
Stonewall Jackson's Way—Carl Akim.
Stonewall Jackson's Grave—Mary Shaw McDiarmid.

Long Ago—in the Gloomings—K. Currie and Mrs. J. S. McDiarmid.
The Confederate Soldier—Dan

Housebreaking and Larceny Feature Week in Court Here

Ship Car of Poultry From Raeford

Brings County's Farmers Over Thousand Welcome Dollars

Last Friday the farmers and poultry raisers of Raeford and the county benefitted again by a sensible project of the State Department of Agriculture. In accordance with notice given ahead of time, a poultry car was loaded at Raeford. The program was under the direction of County Agent Burton and met with the approval of the poultry shippers. The car was loaded with 6,204 pounds of fowl, of which turkeys formed a very small part. The total receipts for the poultry loaded were \$1,057.00.

The loading of poultry cars is another evidence of the progress of co-operative work in the agricultural field in North Carolina.

A sure sale for poultry will do much to spread and stabilize poultry raising among North Carolina farmers. This is but one branch of the diversified farming program which experts are urging upon the farmers of North Carolina. Jasper County, Georgia, the supreme example of diversified farming, proclaims itself in a most prosperous state due to the placing of emphasis on raising live stock and poultry and packing and selling through a co-operative organization.

Noted Play Reader To Be Here Tonight

Miss Maude Willis Will Appear at High School Under Auspices Woman's Club

The Woman's Club of Raeford will sponsor an entertainment to be given in the Raeford school auditorium tonight (Friday) at seven-thirty, when they present Miss Maude Willis in a program of readings of great plays. Miss Willis is a noted play reader in this difficult field. The reading of plays calls for great dramatic talent and a breadth of understanding, and Miss Willis is an acknowledged star of this field.

Being one of the great readers and instructors in the country today, Miss Willis has set a standard of achievement which is acclaimed by all who have heard her. She does more than interpret a play, living in sympathy the parts of all the players. She does more than entertain. She inspires with her rare personal charm while she emphasizes the deeply important parts in plays, stories and literary gems and their philosophies of life and their practical lessons.

Press reports wherever Miss Willis has gone, have been enthusiastic and complimentary. In large high schools all over the country she has met with popular acclaim both from the young audience and from the mature. Of her performance in Detroit the "Free Press" says: "Her wonderful sympathy with humanity, charming personality and personal magnetism held her audience from beginning to end."

The Woman's Club counts itself fortunate in securing an engagement with Miss Willis for the people of Raeford and the community. All of the people of the community who are interested in hearing and seeing a performance by a talented artist, are urged to come out.

LOCAL MEN ENJOY FINE OYSTER ROAST

An excellent oyster roast was greatly enjoyed by a group of local men at the Country Club on Wednesday night. The group began to assemble at six o'clock and by eight the following had feasted on oysters flavored with their favorite sauce:
John McGougan, Benton Thomas, Buck Currie, McNeil Smith, Dr. Cromartie, Dr. Brown, W. D. Burton, Walter Baker, John Walker, Bonnie Blue, Dave Hodgins, Archie Papp, Paul Dzerge, Buck Chisolm, E. N. Andrews.

Oysters in profusion dominated the bill of fare but were accompanied by cold slaw, coffee and three kinds of sauce. The quantity given to those who helped was

Many Sentences Handed Out by Judge Daniels During January Term

The January term of the Superior Court for Hoke County convened on Monday morning at 9:30 and found a full docket for consideration. The majority of the bills were found to be charges of larceny, with store breaking and house breaking. These charges are perhaps more numerous than usual due to the financial state of the people at large. The trial of a lower county colored man for the fatal shooting of Willie Good-year, also colored, was being carried on as the News-Journal went to press.

Lula Freeman charged with larceny was tried and found not guilty by the jury.
Joe McGill, accused of assault with a deadly weapon, plead simple assault. He was found guilty and sentenced to six months in the county jail and work on the county roads, sentence to be suspended on payment of costs and two years good behavior.
D. Ammons, charged with driving a car under the influence of liquor, had his case continued.

Belton Wright plead guilty of assault with a deadly weapon and the judgment of the court was that he should pay the costs and fifty dollars to Attorney J. W. Currie to cover doctor's bill and other expenses incurred by the prosecuting witness.
Wilkin Thomas was tried on three charges of house-breaking and larceny. He plead guilty of larceny. He was sentenced on the first charge to eight months on the county roads and judgment was suspended upon the two latter charges.

S. L. McLendon was charged with store-breaking and larceny. He was found guilty of larceny and sentenced to not less than eighteen months and not more than thirty-six months of hard labor at the State Prison.
Mack Daniels faced three charges of larceny. He had formerly pleaded from the Recorder's court, but he withdrew on each of these charges and plead guilty. He was given a sentence of four months on the county roads for each offense, the sentences to run consecutively.

In the case of Currie Clark, appealed from Recorder's court, the charge being assault with a deadly weapon, the jury was unable to reach a verdict and the case was accordingly continued.
Jesse James McNeill and Roosevelt Harding were tried for store-breaking and larceny. McNeill was sentenced to six months on the county roads, sentence to be suspended on good behavior. Harding was dismissed in view of his youth and simple mind.

Chauncey McLaughlin, Carl Cobb and Ed Norris were charged with house-breaking and larceny. They were sentenced as follows: McLaughlin seven months on the roads, Cobb eight months, and Norris not less than fourteen nor more than twenty-four months in State prison.
The report of the grand jury shows that they found eight true bills of indictment, and one that was not a true bill. They examined the court house, stocks and jail and found them in splendid condition. The reports from the magistrates were found correct. The grand jury recommended that the county rent fifteen to twenty acres of farming land, work it with convict labor and thus supply the provisions for the county prisoners. The report was signed by W. J. McLaughlin, foreman, and A. W. Wood, secretary.

Floyd McRae, tried on a charge of murder, plead self defense and the unwritten law, and was exonerated. Several minor civil cases were tried. The matter of confirmation of the sale of the Raeford Cotton mills was deferred to the April term of court as were several civil cases. The January term of court was adjourned Thursday afternoon.

ENTERTAINS SCOUTS

Mrs. F. B. Sexton was the hostess to fourteen members of the Boy Scouts at dinner Thursday night and the youngsters who were so fortunate as to be present were kept tight in the waist. The dinner was given to those scouts who helped