

Duplin Times

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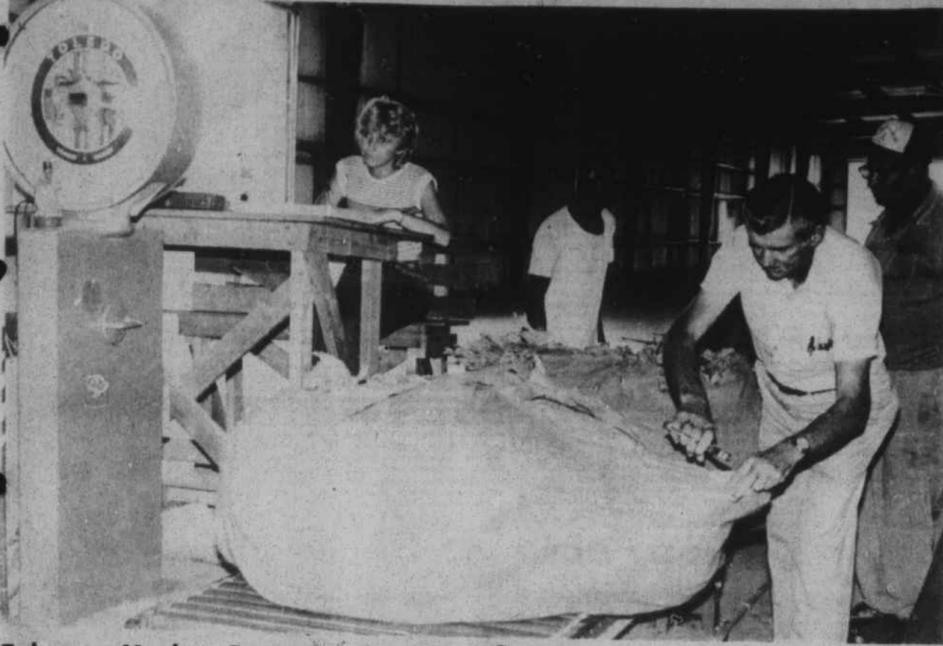
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Tobacco Market Prepares For Opening Day

Wallace warehouses began last week unloading piles of local tobacco to fill the opening day sale August 1. Wallace markets are the only tobacco warehouse in Duplin County and they have over 10 million pounds designated for sale this season. Pictured above tobacco

is unloaded and weighed at the New Duplin Warehouse and placed on the floor for the opening day sale in Wallace. Last year the Wallace markets average \$1.81 per pound of tobacco sold.

Eastern Tobacco Belt Opened In Wallace Wednesday

Sales on the Eastern tobacco market belt opened Wednesday in Wallace at Hussey's Warehouse. Sales continued through the day at all of the Wallace tobacco warehouses.

According to Duplin Agricultural Extension Service tobacco agent J. Michael Moore, price supports on the leaf have remained the same as last season, with only changes to add some new grades.

Even though, the market opened operating at capacity in Wallace, warehouse owners are expecting to run sales with less than a full floor during the first couple of weeks of the season. Wallace holds sales an average of three days throughout the

market season.

"There should be enough tobacco to keep the markets operating," J. Michael Moore said. "But, farmers will not have a lot left in their packhouses."

"At this point farmers are two weeks behind in harvesting compared to normal years. Normally, most farmers have started harvesting by July 4th, this year only a few had banded tobacco by that date," Moore said. "I expect that 90 percent of the growers will have begun harvesting by this week." The late season is a result of drought like conditions following planting and the excessive rains of the past few weeks.

Like many Duplin farmers, Paul

Phillips just began harvesting tobacco last week. And, Phillips, owner of New Duplin tobacco warehouse in Wallace, pointed out many growers are usually approaching the half-way point of the season when the Eastern Belt sales begin.

"The tobacco on the floor for the opening sale is as good as we had in the warehouse has been open," Paul Phillips said. "The crop is clean and bright." Wallace tobacco warehouse has more than 10 million pounds designated for sale this season. The designation is up more than 1 million pounds over 1983, Phillips said. Last season the Wallace markets averaged \$1.81 per pound.

Quinn Company Of Warsaw To Supply More Stores

The Quinn Co. of Warsaw has reached an agreement with Malone & Hyde of Memphis, Tenn., for Quinn to supply Piggly Wiggly stores in eastern North Carolina.

The agreement means more jobs and business for the Warsaw area, company President Gerald Quinn said.

Quinn said the agreement means addition of 75 jobs and an increase of 30 to 40 percent in the company's business volume. It now employs 245 people.

The Quinn Co. now does about \$200 million worth of business a year, he added.

Quinn said the Memphis firm holds the franchise for 56 Piggly Wiggly stores from Greensboro to the coast and from Virginia to South Carolina. The agreement calls for Quinn's company to supply the groceries, meats, dairy, baker and

frozen food products to the Piggly Wiggly stores starting in October.

It will add 10 to 12 tractor-trailer rigs to its fleet of 41 tractors and 57 trailers, Quinn said.

The Quinn Co. now supplies 56 IGA stores, Wilson's, Hill's and Byrd's stores and several smaller independents.

The Piggly Wiggly stores have been serviced from a Piggly Wiggly warehouse in Kinston. That warehouse will be closed as planned expansion of the Quinn warehouse south of Warsaw is completed.

Quinn said employees of the Kinston warehouse will be offered jobs in the Warsaw operation.

The cooler and freezer capacity of the Quinn warehouse will be doubled from 36,000 to 72,000 square feet with construction to begin as soon as plans can be completed.

The Quinn Co., now listed as the seventh largest privately owned company in the state by "Business North Carolina," began in Beulaville where T.R. Quinn operated a general store. His son, Milford Quinn, moved to Warsaw in 1942 to develop the family's fledgling wholesale business. The move was made to obtain access to a railroad.

Group Tries To Maintain Rail Service Between New Hanover & Wayne Counties

About 60 people met in Kenansville last Thursday to try to sidetrack the possible abandonment of the railroad line between Castle Hayne in New Hanover County and Mt. Olive in Wayne County.

Describing traffic as marginal Seaboard System Railroad has said it is studying the line for possible abandonment. The line parallels U.S. 117 through Pender and Duplin counties. A spur between Warsaw in Duplin County and Clinton in Sampson County would also be affected.

Businessmen and government officials from New Hanover, Pender, Duplin and Sampson counties attended a luncheon meeting here to try to get an early start in preventing the loss of rail service. Clinton and Sampson County officials formed an association several weeks ago to look into the railroad's plans, said H.L. "Fes" Turlington, director of the Sampson Development Commission in Clinton.

That group was expanded Thursday to include other counties and was named the Southeastern North Carolina Rail Users Association. A Washington law firm, which has assisted other communities in preserving rail service, has been contacted for possible assistance.

Mark Boggs, rail transportation coordinator with the N.C. Department of Transportation, met with the group to offer technical advice from the state.

Several participants suggested that Seaboard may be rerouting

traffic along the line to dry up rail service.

Melvin Pope, a Magnolia town commissioner and owner of L.E. Pope Furniture Co., located beside the track, said four freight trains a day used to run through town. Now, Pope said, only one train pulling coal cars passes through. Pope said some trains pass through the town at night.

A representative of Quinn Co., a major wholesale grocery distributor in the region, concurred with Pope that Seaboard appears to be trying to "kill off traffic." He said he is frightened because the railroad does not seem to want to bolster traffic along the line.

Quinn Co. and Georgia Pacific Corp. are two of the railroad's largest users in the county, said W.W. Brinson, economic development director in Duplin County.

W.C. Newby, transportation manager with Georgia Pacific who worked for Seaboard for more than 10 years, said, "These are the games the railroad plays with you. They'll begin to reroute traffic so it won't move over the line."

Owen Pride, a spokesman in Seaboard's main offices in Jacksonville, Fla., denied that the railroad was trying to dry up traffic. "A reduction in trains is a reduction in traffic," Pride said Thursday. "The frequency of service has not been reduced in anticipation of an abandonment," he said.

Pride said two freight trains travel that route six days a week. Two

trains out of Goldsboro that travel short distances, called switchers, also run six days a week, he said.

Walt Pennington, a representative of The Barcalounger Co., which is located on the Warsaw-Clinton spur in Turkey, said the "railroad's first obligation" is to contact users with a market and sales plan to try to increase traffic. Pennington said Seaboard abandoned offices in Clinton and train traffic has dropped from one train a day to three trains a week along the spur.

Pride said, "We are constantly trying to increase the traffic level on all our lines. At the same time, we need assistance from local economic development people to see that happen."

Shippers along the Warsaw-Clinton spur are being notified that the railroad will list that line in "Category II" in the near future. Pride said. Category II means that the railroad plans to study the line for possible abandonment.

Pride said Seaboard does not have immediate plans to abandon the line.

To stop a possible abandonment, Newby suggested that rail users identify freight that can only be moved by rail. Several businessmen in agricultural-related businesses said recently that large farm equipment can only be moved by rail.

Another participant said the users need to get the public's support. If the line is abandoned, consumers will be affected because prices will go up, he said.

Mother And Son In Jail After Hearing

A mother and her son were in the Duplin County Jail Thursday afternoon, following a court hearing on a second-degree murder charge involving the death of the son's 4 year-old child.

Thomas Thurman Brown, 24, of Route 1, Rose Hill, is charged in the death of his son, Thomas David Brown. The child died after a one-car crash May 30 on Bay Road between Wallace and Greenevers.

Brown was in District Court Thursday for a first appearance, in which a judge outlines the charges and sets bond.

During the proceedings, a woman shouted an epithet at District Attorney Dewey Hudson. State Highway Patrol Trooper Steve McCorquodale pointed out the woman, who was identified as Genevieve

Balock Strickland, 44, Brown's mother.

Judge Kenneth Turner sentenced her to 30 days in jail for contempt of court.

Following the crash that took his son's life, Brown was charged with felony death by vehicle, driving while impaired, careless and reckless driving and operating a vehicle with no insurance.

The car, which crashed into a bridge railing, broke into two pieces, investigating Trooper B.E. Floyd said.

Hudson later changed the felony death by vehicle charge to second-degree murder charge based on recent state Supreme Court decision permitting the more severe charge if malice can be proven.

The court upheld the second-degree murder conviction of Lance Snyder of Winston-Salem, who was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment. Three people were killed in a crash involving a car Snyder was driving.

Hudson said the Supreme Court's statement indicates that evidence of cruelty, recklessness or deliberate mischievousness is sufficient to show malice even though there is no intent to injure any particular person.

Therefore, Hudson said, he charged Brown with second-degree murder. The maximum penalty for that offense is life imprisonment.

Bond for Brown was set at \$50,000. The hearing was continued until August 20. Both Brown and Mrs. Strickland were in the Duplin County Jail Thursday afternoon.

Children's Show Opens At Cart

The Liberty Cart's 1984 childrens production opened Sunday, July 29, at the William R. Kenan Memorial Amphitheatre in Kenansville. The show is The Wind In The Willows.

The show features the escapades of five animal friends. Wind In The Willows is written by Moses Goldberg and is an adaptation of the stories of Kenneth Grahame. The Wind In The Willows features Mr. Toad, Mr. Mole, Mr. Rat, Mr.

Badger and Mr. Otter who live along the banks of a river in the English countryside.

The Wind In The Willows is an action packed, fun filled play for the young and the young at heart. The show is directed by Lisa Saari, the 1984 Stage Manager for The Liberty Cart.

The Wind In The Willows plays for four consecutive Sunday evenings at 8:15.



Cast Performs The Wind In The Willows

The family fantasy featuring animal characters at the William R. Kenan Memorial Amphitheatre began Sunday. The 1984 Liberty Cart children's production is WIND IN THE WILLOWS, by Moses Goldberg and it plays Sunday evenings at 8:15 through August 19, in Kenansville. The play is an

adaptation of the stories of Kenneth Grahame and is directed by Lisa Saari, the 1984 Production Stage Manager for The Liberty Cart, historical outdoor drama in its ninth season at the William R. Kenan Amphitheatre.

Pillsbury Co. To Buy Turkey Plant

Pillsbury Co. officials say they are planning to buy Joan of Arc Co., including its Sampson County plant. Pillsbury spokeswoman Ann Cor-

well said Wednesday in a telephone interview from Minneapolis, Minn., that the sale is not final but that details should be worked out soon. No change