

Carteret County News-Times

A Merger Of

The Beaufort News (est. 1912) & The Twin City Times (est. 1936)

EDITORIAL PAGE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1943

A Problem With Only One Answer

Ever since county government has begun to figure largely in the lives of residents — schools, welfare, health, law — there has never been the problem here of what to do with "all the money." There has always been too much to do with too little.

And as continuous as this problem may be, there is always an occasional crossroads more momentous in its ramifications than the roadway over which we have just passed.

Such a crossroads was encountered by county commissioners at their November meeting. The welfare department made a request that would increase the amount originally set aside for it this year, there was a request by a salesman that the county purchase a tax calculating machine which would modernize the present system, and there was the request for an assistant county farm agent.

Recalling that at previous board meetings it was mentioned that fireproof vaults should be obtained for tax records and that the vault in the register of deeds' office should be greatly enlarged, commissioners are wiping their brows and hoping that some wildcat will strike oil on county land.

When the Carteret County Bar association presents a request in December for a soundproof court room and other improvements in that part of the court house, the commissioners better call to the fore their sense of humor and the bar association better do likewise.

All these improvements to the court house would be desirable, and aid to welfare department "dependents" in some cases should be increased. But from a long-range view, no request has been placed before the county commissioners which would better the county as a whole more than the request for an assistant farm agent.

This request, which has the support of county farmers, Chambers of Commerce, and State College agriculture extension specialists, holds within it potentialities of financial enrichment for the farmer and the businessman.

The major work of the assistant farm agent would be to teach 4-H boys and girls how to profitably raise chickens and dairy herds. Within a recent 12 months meat markets in Beaufort alone paid to growers outside of this county \$38,000 for poultry. It is estimated that within the next 12 months 772,000 pounds of milk, more than \$100,000 worth, will be imported into the county.

This is the same as going to Onslow county to buy collards when we can grow them in our own backyards. It's a constant unnecessary drain on financial resources.

And this business about Carteret county not being able to support grasses for grazing is, according to Dr. R. S. Lovorn, professor of agronomy, State College, just so much baloney, to put it bluntly. It can be done and done profitably, but we have to be taught how and the best place to begin is with youngsters who don't have notions handed down from generation to generation about what will grow here and what will not.

Each year science makes advances in agriculture—improved fertilizers come on the market, improved seeds, improved feeds for poultry — and if the majority of us ignore this and continue to weep over our plight, we deserve no sympathy.

It has been proved time and time again, in this state, and others throughout the nation that projects undertaken by 4-H boys and girls have blazed new trails in farming. These small-scale projects have grown into businesses by which the youngsters, grown into adults, earn their living and better the communities in which they live.

But the youngsters must have intelligent guidance and constant supervision. The present county agent, whose duty it is to assist the thousand farmers in Carteret county and also conduct boys' 4-H meetings, cannot devote the time needed to promote poultry and dairy industries.

And what would be the cost to the county for an assistant agent? \$1,200. One hundred dollars a month. The remainder of his salary would be paid by the state and federal governments.

Looking at the proposition from a cold business viewpoint, what request for funds placed before the county commissioners has the promise of return on investment equal to this?

If the commissioners are to make a favorable decision, it can't be put off until Christmas, or after. It should be made at their next meeting, Dec. 6, or before, because requests for assistant agents from other counties are numerous and if the proper man is to be found, our request to schools graduating poultry and dairy specialists must be made as soon as possible.

An assistant farm agent means a more prosperous future for Carteret county.

DIDN'T KNOW IT WOULD BE THAT KIND OF PARTY



bor isn't satisfied with what his outfit has been granted, he has recourse in the Legislature. This is true of all departments. What Kerr Scott has been witnessing, then, was only the first round of a three or four-round bout. So far, he has been only an intensely interested onlooker. In January, he steps into the ring.

WALDO CHEEK? — The word is out that Waldo Cheek, Asheboro attorney, insurance man and civic leader may succeed Hathaway Cross as head of the Paroles Commission. Cheek, like Cross, is a Wake Forest Law School graduate (1936) and a Baptist lay leader. Cheek was a Kerr Scott disciple B. E. (before Easter) and played no small part in swinging his section of the State for the man with the steel blue eyes and the beetle brow. He might have to take a cut in salary since the parole job will pay only around \$6,000, but the experience it will give him should be worth it. As this corner sees it, Cheek is ably fitted for the position — or for almost any other position Kerr Scott will have running loose next spring.

CHEWERS — There used to be some little rhyme in vogue as follows: "Old man, old man, gimme chew uh backer. If you ain't got homemade, gimme manufactured." Well, Kerr Scott likes his chew either way—though he prefers just a twig of twist with a slice of plug. It's fine and thoroughly appropriate that the Governors of this great tobacco State can take their "backer" raw or doctored.

Christmas is just around the corner, and here is a prediction that Kerr Scott will receive as presents enough plug tobacco to spit his way through his entire administration, with sufficient cigars coming in for the first birthday. Although he cares not at all for cigarettes, he was not averse, while Agriculture Commissioner, to dragging from his desk an old corncob pipe when conferences became too long. In this generation, we have had two chewing Governors. Cam Mor-

ison, you know, liked nothing better than to pack his right jaw with a huge chew, then the "amber" would start flying at random, Ransom, or at anybody or anything else which happened to get in the way. It is said that one chew of tobacco and his reckless abandon with his spitting broke up Cam Morrison's courtship with one of the wealthiest ladies who ever lived in North Carolina.

Then there is our present Governor, R. Gregg Cherry, who can chew and spit with the best of them.

TEACHER PAY — Although teachers have not been noted for their love of Gov. Gregg Cherry, here is the progress of teacher pay checks during the past four years, together with the proposals for the next two years as set up by the State Board of Education and presented to the Advisory Budget Commission:

Four years ago the beginning teacher, equipped with a certificate and four years' college training drew \$98 per month. The figure is now \$180 per month. Have you made that much increase in salary in four years? The proposal for the next two years is \$268 per month for first-year teachers.

In 1944, the top salary for teachers was \$135 per month. It is now \$241. If the proposal is followed, topgrade (most, experienced, etc.) teachers will next year receive \$400 per month.

SCOTT SAYS — It is the belief of Kerr Scott that beginning teachers should draw a minimum of \$2,400 per year, but he isn't too sure about the necessity for pushing teachers' salaries up to \$400

per month. One reason for his thinking: There are about ten times as many teachers, as of this date, in the experienced (and therefore high-salaried) bracket as in the beginning group. In his campaign pledges, he promised a minimum of \$2,400 for teachers. He seems intent on seeing this through.

SPORTS NOTES — Although State College has not had a very successful season on the gridiron, alumni have no hard feelings toward Coach Beattie Feathers, feeling that he has done well with the material on hand.

There was talk around the State last week that Wake Forest players were not consulted about the Dixie Bowl bid and acceptance and that they were a little miffed about it. However, alumni consulted seemed to think athletic officials at the Baptist School did the right thing in snapping up the offer.

Delaware has the lowest average elevation of any state in the Union; its surface, if leveled, would be only 60 feet above the sea.



Raleigh Round up



By Eula Nixon Greenwood
EYE-OPENERS — Kerr Scott, who will be your next Governor, sat with the Advisory Budget Commission last week and watched the parade go by. Each appropriation request was an eye-opener for him and for the members of the body which will have to do the whittling. There has never been anything like it in this State. No matter what North Carolina's income may be during the next two years, it cannot begin to fulfill the financial demands which are being made upon it. This isn't always the situation, of course, but it's the rule. The departments won't know

how much each has been appropriated until about the time the Legislature convenes. The Advisory Budget Commission must hear all requests, mull over them, and then make the decisions. If Forest Shuford of the Department of La-



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- 1947 CHEVROLET 2-Door Sedan—Radio & Heater
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October Liquor Sales
Total \$56,846.20

Liquor sales for the month of October totaled \$56,846.20, according to a report issued from the county auditor's office.

Sales in Morehead City totaled \$24,713.30, Beaufort, \$19,786.15, and Newport, \$12,336.75. Gross profit amounted to \$14,956.04 and net profit (estimated), \$4,665.35. Cost of operation was \$2,913.69 and North Carolina sales tax, \$4,831.93. Beaufort's share of the income was \$905.22. Morehead City's \$563.93, hospital's, \$563.93, and Newport's, \$511.99.

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