

Oscar Salter, R. M. Williams Attend Farm Bureau Convention at Asheville

Oscar Salter, membership chairman of Carteret county Farm Bureau, and R. M. Williams, farm agent, attended the State Farm Bureau convention at Asheville Feb. 11 to 15. A report on this meeting was made Monday night to members of the Farm Bureau at a meeting in the court house.

The farm agent's report, highlighting the session, follows:

An impressive vesper service Sunday night officially opened the meeting. This was sponsored by the Associated Farm Bureau women. On Monday morning, a general commodity conference was held with R. Flake Shaw, executive vice-president presiding.

Robert W. Hurding with the Production and Marketing administration, Washington, D. C., emphasized the importance of every one fully understanding all the issues that are facing us. We must know and deal with farm problems on a sound basis and in an intelligent way.

Agriculture is making many rapid changes. During the past few months, due largely to the Korean situation, many of our farm commodities have changed from surplus to a scarcity, Hurding pointed out.

Heavy demands have been created for a good number of food and finer products. Since America is the leading nation of the world and due to the fact that so many nations are dependent on us for many supplies, it is extremely important that we maintain a reserve supply of lots of the things that is produced in this country, the speaker said.

Farmers are on the defense front and must have government aid. They must have an adequate amount of farm machinery, fertilizers, containers, insecticides, and all other necessary production services in order to do the job. It will require the close cooperation of the farmers, the diligent efforts on the part of all the farm organizations and the different departments of our state and national government working together to coordinate our forces into developing a sound farm program.

Agriculture has a lot to sell, he continued. We haven't done a very good job, however, in selling our farm program to the people. In face of high production cost and great risks involved, many people in other professions feel that the farmer is getting rich and that he is sliding along on a smooth gravy train.

Fred Rossiter, associate director of Foreign Agriculture Relations of Washington, outlined the tremendous progress agriculture has made from 1900 compared to 1950. See TWO COUNTIANS, Page 7

Farm Bureau Adopts Resolutions

Following is the summary of resolutions adopted at the recent State Farm Bureau meeting, Asheville:

Manpower: Farm Bureau recommended deferment by local draft boards of skilled agriculture farm workers who were doing essential farm jobs that could not be replaced by other laborers.

Economy and Government: Stricter economy in the federal government.

Ceiling Prices: Recommendation that they be left off farm products; if not rationing and black markets will result.

Education: Teachers salaries no less than \$2200.00 to \$3100; compulsory school attendance law; state should relieve counties purchase of original school buses; and careful consideration should be given to further requests by state school board.

Library: More library books, more trained librarians, increased appropriations to meet needs of every North Carolinian.

Youth: Education plays important part in raising living standards of rural people in North Carolina; educational program should equip youth to meet problems of later life; emphasis on vocational agriculture, home economics; an efficient vocational guidance program; program to urge farm youth to stay on farm; special emphasis on recreational programs.

School Lunch Program: Continued operation and expansion urged.

Social Welfare: Endorse program rendering aid to disabled and needy; local boards should examine present recipients, if they don't qualify, discontinue assistance, future applications should be screened carefully.

Rural Churches: Christian religion is foundation stone upon which America was built. Need to reaffirm faith, give active support.

Tax on Farm Machinery: Should be taxed equally other machinery producing products. Present tax unjust, inequitable; its repeal urged.

Roads: Desire to see equity between all the people of N. C. in the matter of highways, whether they be rural or urban. Income derived from gasoline taxes is not adequate to properly maintain the primary highway system and at the same time to assume the additional responsibility of maintenance of the streets in the cities and towns of our state. Recommended that this matter be submitted to a vote of the people of North Carolina to decide whether or not they favor the State assuming the responsibility for the

streets in the cities and towns providing for an increase in the gas tax of 1 cent per gallon.

Rural Electrification Service: Further use of electricity must be promoted if agricultural efficiency is to be increased. Many farm people are still not served and want electricity. All research and educational agencies should increase their efforts to develop new and improved uses for increasing efficient agricultural production.

Rural Telephone Service: State and federal governments have provided machinery for carrying this program forward. Farm Bureau takes the definite stand that this program be continued and that the State Utilities commission work with all telephone companies in setting up a rate satisfactory to both users and suppliers of the service.

Farmer Cooperatives: Co-operative

earnings currently returned to members as patronage dividends should not be subject to tax in hands of co-operatives since such funds are taxed as income of individual members. All taxation should be on equal basis whether it be individual, partnership, corporation, or co-operative and reserves of corporations and co-operatives should be taxed alike.

Research: In times of national emergency, agricultural research should be accelerated because efficiency in production and distribution are among our greatest assets. Recommend adequate appropriations for this service, that research on cotton be emphasized and expanded immediately. Any reduction in research concerned with production, marketing and utilization of agricultural products is opposed.

Health: Commends and endorses

the work of Medical Care commission that is administering the hospital and clinic program in the State. Appropriations should be made by present session of general assembly as recommended by the Medical Care commission for carrying on of program during the 1951-53 biennium. State Legislature should pass legislation which will enable local organizations working with State-wide non-profit health insurance agencies to provide themselves with group health insurance.

Coordination of Agencies: More farm people should have fuller understanding as to what has been developed by agricultural research and federal action agencies. If put into effect by farm people, this would greatly improve the income of the people on the farm. Full support pledged to help carry out See RESOLUTIONS, Page 7

Mr. Farmer

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