

STRANGE VISITOR TAGGED AS COOT



A stranger landed in the farmyard of Johnnie Hill out at Wheat Swamp on Thursday, was taken into custody by young Roy Frank Hill and finally wound up in the office of the Lenoir County News, above. It was brought in by Robert Gardner, left, and research on the stranger, ending at Kinston's Public Library, identified it as a Coot, called Fulica Americana. It was off its course. The Coot's range is usually in coastal marshes in this section. The bird, sometimes known as crazier-than-a was taken into custody by the next-door neighbors of The News, Bob Faulkner, right, and his fellow Firemen.—(Whitaker-Lefew Photo)

Kinston Moves Another Rung Up Ladder Toward Lead In Tobacco Sales

In 1948 the Kinston tobacco market polished off its oldest and most bitter rivals in the rough and tumble business of selling tobacco and this year it passed another milestone on the road to world supremacy in this field by moving past Rocky Mount and stretching still further the lead it set last year over Greenville.

Official figures for the four leading markets in the New Bright Belt show that Wilson retained its place as "The World's Largest Tobacco Market" with a total of 74,432,450 pounds of the golden weed sold there during the past sales season.

Kinston which ranked third in the belt last year behind Wilson and Rocky Mount jumped into second place in 1949 with a total of 61,563,026 pounds, topping Rocky Mount's 61,172,440 by 390,586 pounds.

Last year was the first time in the history of the belt that Kinston had outgled its arch-rival Greenville and to prove that last year was no accident the fast growing Lenoir County market exceeded the Pitt County best by 6,495,184 pounds. Greenville, in spite of having five full sets of buyers was only able to sell a gross total of 55,067,842 pounds.

These final figures offer conclusive evidence in the argument offered by Rocky Mount and Kinston's markets, which contend that they were discriminated against by the Bright Belt Warehouse Association. Basis for this argument was the fact that both Rocky Mount and

Kinston were allowed only four sets of buyers while Greenville and Wilson had five sets of buyers.

Rocky Mount and Kinston, along with several smaller mar-

kets, have brought suit to force the disbanding of these buyers' pool and Superior Court Judge Paul Frazzelle of Snow Hill ruled with the association.

Last week the North Carolina Supreme Court reversed the Frazzelle ruling and this court decision added to the season's final figures look like five sets of buyers next year for Kinston.

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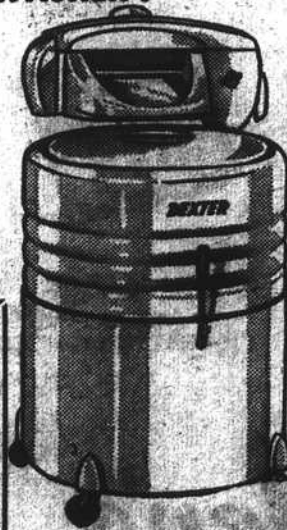
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