

Jones Journal

"A BETTER COUNTY THROUGH IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES"

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Personalities

Since the end of World War II, and to a degree before the boys went off in that second attempt to make the world safe for democracy, the expansion of Eastern Carolina's farm program to include a reasonable balance between "row crop" farming and livestock production has been pushed by those who look with some fear on the one-crop system that has lately made this area so prosperous.

Believing in, preaching for and dreaming of an expanded livestock program in this area are all necessary but no amount of words, written or spoken, and no amount of "top-side" planning would ever amount to a row of pins if the man who is out on the farm taking the risks and doing the work does not have a reliable market for the pigs and yearlings that his grass and corn make ready for market.

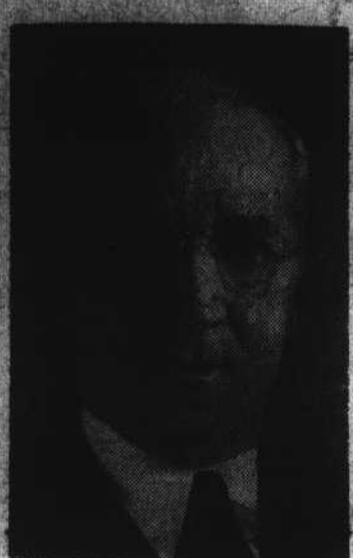
Since 1917 Peyton A. Hooker has provided to the farmers of the Kinston area that kind of market and although he is capable of doing some peeking into the future and planning for tomorrow he has always known, as he said last Saturday, "If people make a profit on a product they will produce it."

Hooker, whose company in Northeast Kinston has purchased well over twenty million dollars worth of livestock since he started in the butchering business some 53 years ago, has provided farmers with the kind of market that has put Kinston well ahead of most other communities in East Carolina in the livestock market. No farmer has ever left his sales pens or his pay window with a feeling that he was not getting every cent he was due and to make matters even happier to the farmer, Hooker gives a full day's coverage to every seller at his market in case of a raise in the markets.

Carroll Casey of Southwest Township in Lenoir County said last weekend that he had on many occasions sold hogs to Hooker on one day and later get an additional check when the pork price had jumped a cent or two. This is not the exceptional case; this is the treatment that every person gets who sells his livestock with Hooker.

Hooker was born 82 years ago in Greene County, not too far from the town that his family gave a name to, Hookerton. He came to Kinston in 1898 and with Walter Arthur, opened a butcher shop and in 1917 the butcher shop in downtown Kinston was expanded to a larger abattoir outside of Kinston and at the present location of Hooker's pens and holding sheds.

From 1917 until just before World War II Hooker continued to slaughter, cure and wholesale meats and meat products but the many stringent complications forced on a meat processor by the rules and regulations which cover such businesses caused Hooker to quit the



Peyton A. Hooker

slaughtering business and entirely devoting his time and resources to buying and selling livestock.

In 1946 for the first time the gross sales at Hooker's market passed the one million dollar mark and in 1951 his gross sales moved upward to just past \$1,400,000, which was the biggest year so far for his market.

Speaking of the present marketing situation Saturday Hooker said, "Right now they (the farmers) are not getting enough for hogs." Hooker pointed to the current price of corn which is around \$1.60 per bushel and the current price of hogs (Saturday) \$16.75. At these prices a farmer will get more out of his corn by selling it than by producing hogs, Hooker stated.

Beef prices are still high but beef herds in this area have not reached the selling level yet, Hooker stated. Less than 25 percent of the \$1,400,000 paid out by Hooker last year went for beef but this gap continues to grow less and less wide, Hooker admits.

Hooker also says that the quality of hogs sold on his market had increased greatly in the past 35 years. He says there were some good hogs all the time but now the percentage of good hogs is far higher than ever before in this area.

The average farmer today knows a lot more about what he is doing, or what he hopes to do, with his livestock program than he did when Hooker went in business, he said Saturday.

Hooker would be the first to refuse to accept credit for the tremendous expansion of local livestock production but 99 percent of those who are directly connected to the local livestock situation insist that he had more to do with this expansion than any other one person.

At 82 years of age he is still busy five and a half days each week adding to the reputation that he has built so well for the past half century.

Jones Superior's Court Jury List

One of the functions of the Jones County Board of Commissioners when it met Monday was to select 36 jurors for the March 31st term of Jones County Superior Court. Following here is the list that was drawn:

William Henry Riggs, Milton Lawrence, Durwood Andrews, Clifton Pollock, J. K. Dixon, Jr., W. L. Dail, Beeton Turner, Lawton Miller, Alken Jones, Ed Craft, Ben Mitchell and Newton McDaniel.

F. B. Philyaw, Johnnie Jarman, D. L. Waters, John C. B. Koonce, Albert Hardy, Wade W.

Mallard, William Earl Mattocks, Jasper Hill, J. A. Koonce, Tobe Heath, Nelson Banks, and Mark Shackelford.

Joe Turner, L. L. Ogden, Raymond Banks, P. W. Collins, Elzie Smith, D. A. Killingsworth, Raymond Wilson, Alton Humphrey, Ferd Collins, E. G. Green, E. B. Riggs, Dewey Jenkins.

World production of barley and oats in 1951 is now estimated. Production in 1950 totaled 130 million short tons, slightly under 125 million tons.

Over Hundred Million Dollars is Unclaimed by Vets and Families

There is \$105,000,000 lying idle in the national treasury that can be had for the asking by some 600,000 World War II veterans, or their survivors, it has been reported by D. W. Koonce, Jones County Service Officer of the N. C. Veterans Commission at Trenton. It is made up of the portion of the \$2,800,000,000 made available through the Veterans Administration for the payment of the first dividend, for the period to January 1, 1948, on the National Service Life Insurance policies held by veterans.

Simple application on a post-card had to be made by the veterans for the first dividend, but 600,000 out of the 16 million eligible failed to take that step, despite the intensive publicity campaign of notification at the time.

Some of the reasons for this are that in those cases the dividends are payable to their survivors on application, Koonce said. Application for the first dividend, if never received by the veteran or his survivors, should be made, no matter how small a

dividend, because of the short duration of the NSLI policy, might be expected, although the dividend amount can be as high as \$538.

The first dividend, for which application was to be made, should not be confused with the second NSLI dividend of \$685,000,000, which has been, or is in the process of being paid, to veterans whose policies were in force from January 1, 1948 to the anniversary dates of the policies in 1951. The second dividend was payable automatically without application. The third NSLI dividend, for the individual policy year 1951-1952 in the total amount of \$200,000,000, will be automatically applied to the payment of premiums on policies still in force, unless the policy holder signs and returns to the Administration the request to have the dividend in 1952. The third dividend is expected to begin in May.

Veterans can obtain assistance with their insurance problems at the County office of the Veterans Commission in the Court House at Trenton.

Red Cross Begins, Polio Ending

Nelson Conway of Trenton, who has been named chairman of the annual fund drive of the American Red Cross in Jones County, has already, along with his assistants, A. B. Parker and Eldridge Sumrell, set up township leaders over the county and has expressed the hope that everyone in the county will pitch in and help keep the vital work of the Red Cross at full tilt.

Conway Tuesday released the following township chairmen who will return set up community committees in their township to see that everyone had been given an opportunity to donate to the Red Cross.

Following is a list of those who have been named Township Chairmen: Tommy Foscoe, John W. Creagh, Eleanor Brock, Mrs. Cecil Hargett, Mrs. James Dillahunt, Mrs. Zach Koonce and Mrs. Linwood Pollock.

The goal for Jones County in this drive has been set at \$950 and persons who would like to volunteer contributions to the effort may mail their checks or money orders to Conway in Trenton or to either of the township chairmen.

Eggs and Oranges On Plentiful List

Eggs and oranges are expected, by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, to be among the most plentiful foods in the Southeast in March, Jones County Home Agent, Mrs. Madge Jarvis, said this week.

Florida's record orange production for this year, and a seasonal increase in egg production, are main reasons for the excellent supplies expected in southern markets.

Grapefruit and canned and frozen citrus products also are listed as plentiful foods for March, to put nearly all fresh and processed citrus products in the plentiful class.

Other fruits on USDA's March list are prunes, raisins, and dates. In addition, the home agent reported, the plentiful list for this area includes honey, almonds, pecans, vegetable shortening and salad oils, lard, buttermilk, cottage cheese, broilers, fryers, non-fat milk dry milk, peanut butter, and three types of dry beans—navy, baby lima, and split peas.

Jones County March of Dimes Chairman George Hughes says that the 1952 drive has been the most successful in the history of the fund in Jones County with already more than \$2,500 deposited for the fund and several more solicitors yet to be heard from. This is the first time, Hughes said, that Jones County has ever passed the \$2,000 mark in this polio effort.

Hughes has asked that every person who helped by working or by giving in the most successful drive be extended his heartfelt thanks. He says that he has been overwhelmed with gratitude at the response that has greeted this effort this year.

The usual solicitations were supplemented this year with a big all-county talent show and a superlative all-star basketball game presented on different evenings in the Pollocksville school. Hughes singled out the 4-H Clubs of the county for specific thanks, saying that the goal of the campaign would never be reached if it had not been for the fine work done by the 4-H'ers and their leaders.

Jones Gets New Home Club Agent

Mary Olive Owens of Dudley in Wayne County was named home demonstration agent of Jones County Monday by the board of commissioners in its regular monthly session, replacing Mrs. Madge Jarvis who has resigned effective May 23rd.

Other activities of the board included a resolution stating that a list of the names of those who donated to the fund for cleaning out Trent River be permanently filed in the records of the Register of Deeds.

The commissioners voted to restore the tax valuation of J. W. Willie's property to the 1941 levels since a clerical error had been made in recent years and had boosted Willie's valuations disproportionately.

The School Board appeared to ask that the commissioners insist on having a stretch of road from H. A. Parker's to Howard's fork on the old Trenton-Maysville road put into better condition. C. R. Turner of Tuckahoe Township also appeared to ask for improvement of a dirt road in his neighborhood.

South Crown's Camellia Queen



Bess Myerson, TV star and former Miss America, wears crown of Camellias presented to her as America's Camellia Queen for 1952 by the Southern Gardens Association. The award was made in New York on her coast-to-coast NBC-TV "Big Pay-Off" fashion show before an estimated 15,000,000 viewers. The crown is made of blossoms from the most prized first camellia planted in America, the Reine des Fleurs in Middleton Gardens, Charleston, S. C. She holds a fabulous new Camellia developed at Magnolia Gardens, Charleston, and named for her in honor of the occasion "Queen Bess." The presentation was made before a banked mass of camellias by Benjamin Kistredge, Jr., owner of Cypress Gardens, Charleston, and president of the association.

Cpl. Davenport Is With 3rd Division

Cpl. William A. Davenport Jr., whose wife, Barbara, lives on Route 1, Deep Run, is fighting in Korea with the Heavy Mortar Company of the 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division.

Corporal Davenport arrived in Korea in June 1951 and has been awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Davenport also live at the Deep Run address.



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