

# Land-Tenant Relation Stymies Soil Bank Officials

## THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

NUMBER 21 TRENTON, N. C., THURSDAY OCTOBER 16, 1956 VOLUME VIII



This is a pair of pictures taken at the recent roof-raising of the Maysville Community building, showing the work in progress on

this work which is one of the major finer Carolina projects of Maysville this year. While members of the Maysville Rotary Club were busy with the "men's" work

the women were preparing a supper which was served on the grounds. The building is expected to be ready for community use in the late fall or early winter.

### Two Jones Indictments

Jones County Sheriff Brown Yates reports only two arrests in the past week. These were of Simon Quinn of Trenton who was booked for failure to dim lights and "Possum" Strayhorn of Pollockville who was accused of being publicly drunk, and allegation which he disputes with some force.

### Revival Series Ending

A series of revival services being held at 7:30 each evening this week at Haskins' Chapel in Western Jones County will come to an end Sunday with the annual Homecoming Worship Hour at 11 a. m. to be followed by picnic dinner served on the church grounds.

Everyone in the Haskins' Chapel area is invited to attend the remaining services and to join in the Homecoming Day services on Sunday, October 21.

### Pleasant Hill Church Having Barbecue 20th

A barbecue supper is to be served from 3 until 7 p. m. Saturday, October 20th, at Pleasant Hill Christian Church to which the public is invited.

Proceeds from the supper are to be donated to the church building fund.

### Chinquapin Chapel to Hold Homecoming

Chinquapin Chapel Christian Church will hold its annual Homecoming Day services and picnic this coming Sunday, October 21st. Jack Seudder, professor of religion at Atlantic Christian College, will deliver the Homecoming Day sermon at 11 a. m.

Sunday School will be convened at 10 a. m. to be followed by the annual picnic dinner will be served on the church grounds.

Chinquapin Chapel Pastor Everett Harris urges all past and present members of this well known Jones County congregation to turn out for this event, bringing their friends, and the usual well-stocked picnic baskets.

### Weaver Urges Farmers To Attend Expanded N. C. State Fair

RALEIGH — The North Carolina State Fair, underway from October 16 through 20, this year has the most extensive collection of agricultural exhibits in its 103-year history.

In calling attention to this fact today, David S. Weaver, director of the Agricultural Extension Service at North Carolina State College, urged farmers and others connected with the State's agri-

### Kinston Contractor Indicted For False Pricing VA Housing

Roy Poole, Kinston contractor, was indicted this week by a federal grand jury for allegedly making fraudulent claims to the veterans administration.

Poole is free under \$1000 bond pending hearing during the next term of Federal Court in Washington.

Simply put, Poole is charged with selling the V. A. the price of the house he was selling a veteran was less than it actually was.

Among the counts in which this violation of federal law is charged were sales of homes to the following: C. W. Fuller, Lawrence Cleary, W. D. Parish, C. H. Avent, W. S. Griffin Jr., James L. Lambardo, C. E. Munford, L. B. Reynolds Jr., W. O. McLamb Jr., W. G. Huffman Jr.

culture to attend the big exposition and observe the latest development in rural progress.

The 1956 State Fair, Director Weaver said, will open a new era of impetus on sheep growing in North Carolina with its new sheep barn. Improved facilities also have been added for the exhibition of swine, poultry, and other livestock.

The former State Highway Shops, now a part of the State Fair property, have been converted into what animal husbandry leaders declare are the finest livestock exhibition facilities in the South, with room for 700 head of beef and dairy cattle in a U-shaped shed and 50 by 300 foot center building.

Department having their widest range of educational exhibits also include Field Crops, Horticulture, the State Flower Show, Arts and Crafts, Bees and Honey, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, the Egg Show, the Dressed Turkey Show, Culinary, House Furnishings, the State Fair Folk Festival, and the State Fair Singing Convention.

Over \$65,000 has been offered the exhibitors of everything from photographs to pigeons, from beef cattle to stuffed toys.

A visit to the State Fair by those interested in modern farming and allied activities, Director Weaver commented, will pay high dividends through an improved knowledge of the latest in agricultural know-how.

The most interesting and heated farm debate in many a long year is going on in Tobacco Land, U. S. A.

The argument is about the soil bank in general and specifically about putting flue-cured tobacco in the acreage reserve program part of the overall so-called soil bank program.

All agriculture department officials stress one point either before or after answering questions on this vital subject, to wit: We are still talking with 1956 rules and do not expect the 1957 rules until about the middle of December.

Those 1956 rules are, of course the root of the debate, and on part in particular which says:

b. No agreement shall be approved by the county committee if it appears:

(1) That the landlord or operator has not afforded his tenants and sharecroppers an opportunity to participate in the program in proportion to the number of acres in the respective units farmed by such tenants or sharecroppers; or

(2) That the landlord or tenant has reduced the number of tenants and sharecroppers on his farm as a result of participation in the acreage reserve program, or if he has reduced the percentage of the total acreage of crops planted on the farm which is planted by tenants and sharecroppers as a result of such participation; or

(3) That there exists between

### Tar Heel Bankers Lead in Aid Given Farmers 12th Time

North Carolina's bankers this week were advised that they have led the nation for the 12th straight year in service to farmers.

The North Carolina Bankers Association has again received the annual Agricultural Award of the American Banker's Association's Agricultural Commission. News of the award was received locally by H. C. Wooten Jr. Vice-President, of Commercial National Bank who recently was appointed "County Key Banker" in this area to maintain good banker-farmer relations.

The Agricultural Award is presented each year in recognition of notable service to agriculture during the preceding year. The continuous nature of this State's bank program in agriculture is evidenced by the fact that North Carolina has received the award for 12 consecutive years.

### Du Pont Ownership Continues to Grow

E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, Inc., was owned by 167,331 stockholders as of September 30, 1956, an increase of 1,309 over the number of holders recorded at the close of the first half-year, June 30, 1956, and an increase of 12,034 over the number as of September 30, 1955.

There were 152,417 holders of common stock and 21,109 holders of preferred stock as the third quarter of 1956 ended. These figures include 6,195 holders of more than one kind of stock.

Every state in the union continued to be represented among the owners of the company.

### Marriage License

Jones County Register of Deeds George Noble reports the issue of two marriage licenses in the past week to:

Jack Elwood Meadows, 22, and Nellie Martin Mercer, 22, both of Trenton.

Annie Louise Fonville, 22, and Theron Orlando Murrell, 43, both of Pollockville.

the operator or landlord and any farm involved any lease, contract, or agreement, or understanding, unfairly exacted or required by the operator or landlord and entered into in contemplation of the signing of the agreement, the effect of purpose of which is:

(a) To cause the tenant or sharecropper to pay over the landlord or operator his share of the compensation to be made to him or in which he is entitled to share under the agreement.

There are other administrative rules — hundreds of them — attached to this acreage reserve program but this is the one that has the filing station set busy batting it around at the moment.

The debate hinges perhaps most strongly on one phrase in the above quoted regulations, to wit: "has reduced the number of tenants and sharecroppers on his farm AS A RESULT OF PARTICIPATION IN THE ACREAGE RESERVE PROGRAM."

The regulations are very specific in giving the county ASC committee complete authority to determine the answer to that question, and it would appear that county committees will have their hands full the rest of this year, trying to answer this question hundreds of times over.

Jones County ASC Secretary Nelson Baker says that if this part of the acreage reserve program was eliminated and the landlords were turned loose to get rid of tenants and sharecroppers and receive themselves the full soil bank benefits he would be willing to bet that he could sign up 90 per cent of the Jones County tobacco acreage.

Lenoir County ASC Secretary Horace Mewborn agrees with Baker that Lenoir County landlords would also sign up a major part of their tobacco. Mewborn wouldn't go quite to the 90 per cent level, however, in his guess.

Mewborn says the burden of proof will naturally be upon the landlord. If he has reduced his tenants from 1956 he'll have to have good reason.

Mewborn says he has been advising all landlords to get written and signed statements from tenants who move away this winter, stating that they are moving away of their own free will and accord.

If a farmer loses a tenant from such natural causes as death, infirmity, imprisonment or departure to other employment, and is able to prove to the county committee that he has not altered his farm pattern simply because of the soil bank program.

Mewborn reminds of one factor that weighs heavily on the minds of many: That is a three-year program at this time, and if the farmer lets the tenants leave the land now for any reason he may want them back in 1960.

Baker admits that the soil bank bill was primarily an economic effort to ease the surplus of corn, wheat, peanuts, cotton, rice and tobacco, but when it came time to write the rules for administering the program the government ran into a massive social problem. Peculiarly enough flue-cured tobacco production presented the vast part of this social problem, in that immediate acceptance of the plan by landlords would have pushed thousands of tenants and sharecrop families onto relief.

With the tobacco surplus mounting even higher with the 1958 crop, with talk of as much as a 25 per cent acreage cut for next year, and with the attractive bait from \$250 to \$300 per acre available for tobacco that is taken out of production it is easy to see the difficulties officials will have in administering this program.