

Tobacco Farmers Face Two-Question Ballot Dec. 15th

A two-question ballot will be issued to flue-cured tobacco growers when they go to the polls December 15 to vote in the Tobacco Associates Assessment Referendum.

In each question two-thirds approval of those voting is required for the issue to carry. Therefore, growers are urged to vote on both questions:

Question One: "Are you For or Against an annual assessment of 10c per acre on the tobacco acreage planted for a three-year period (1959, 1960, and 1961)? This assessment is to support an organization for promoting, developing, and expanding domestic and foreign purchase and consumption of flue-cured tobacco. Vote by placing 'X' in one box."

Question Two: "Are you For or Against an assessment (if permitted by 1959 legislation) on tobacco acreage planted for a three-year period (1959, 1960, and 1961) in an amount in each of such years as may be determined by the Board of Directors of Tobacco Associates, Incorporated, but not more than \$1.00 per acre (such an assessment to be in place of and not in addition to the 10c per acre otherwise authorized)?"

This assessment is to support an organization for promoting, developing, and expanding domestic and foreign purchase and consumption of flue-cured tobacco. Vote by placing 'X' in one box."

These questions are quoted directly from the printed ballot which will be issued to the grower December 15.

Other information that will be of interest to growers as they prepare to vote in the assessment referendum:

In regard to Question Two, proposed legislation to provide an increase in the assessment requires two-thirds approval of the board, and also two-thirds approval by farmer representatives on the board, to establish the assessment rate not to exceed \$1.00 per acre.

Under a recent change in the Tobacco Associates' by-laws, farmer representation on the board of directors has been doubled.

Any grower who is dissatisfied with the Tobacco Associates program may obtain a full refund on his assessment by applying for it in writing within 30 days after it has been collected.

The Enabling Act of 1947, under which Tobacco Associates operates requires that a referendum be held every three years to give growers

Kinston Man Caught At Jones County Still

Sheriff Brown Yates and Lenoir ABC Officers Clarence Bland, Paul Young and Leo Harper Monday afternoon raided a whisky still in Tuckahoe Township of Western Jones County and caught Johnnie B. Jones of 332 East South Street in Kinston.

The still was in "full bloom" and Jones had 18 gallons of freshly run booze to show for his day's work. He was jailed in Trenton, pending trial in the March term of Jones County Superior Court.

DON EUBANKS ON DES MOINES

Donald L. Eubanks, fireman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Eubank of Route 2, Box 222, Trenton, is serving aboard the heavy cruiser USS Des Moines, which visited Genoa, Italy, Nov. 6-14, after ten days of fleet exercises off the coast.

The Des Moines, flagship for the Sixth Fleet, operates out of Villefranche, France.

SEAMAN SMITH IN PACIFIC

James L. Smith, seaman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Smith of Route 1, Pollocksville, is serving aboard the destroyer USS Cushing, operating with the Seventh Fleet in the Far East.

an opportunity to determine whether or not they favor continuing the acreage assessment to promote the sales of their tobacco.

All growers who shared in the proceeds of the 1958 crop, including growers who placed their acreage in the soil bank, are eligible to vote in the December 15 referendum.

The referendum will be held at regular community polling centers and the usual voting hours will be observed.



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Marine to Prison

Before sentencing Richard J. Lama, a New York native, serving with the Marine Corps at Camp Lejeune, Judge Malcolm Paul Monday told the slender redheaded young Leatherneck, "You have not only robbed this young man of his money and his watch but you have also trumped up a story and tried to rob him of his good name." Lama had explained his taking the watch and money by claiming that the prosecuting witness had made improper advances to him, James F. Fordham, the prosecuting witness, told police on the day of the crime that Lama had threatened to tell such a story if the robbery were reported. Judge Paul gave the New Yorker a term of four to five years in state prison to ponder upon his mistakes.

Jones Whisky Sales \$21,260; Lenoir Sales Hit \$166,058

November whisky sales in Jones and Lenoir County ABC stores were \$21,260.30 and \$166,058.75 respectively.

The three stores in the Jones County system have now been open for just a full year, having first opened on December 6th of last year, so naturally there are no comparative figures available in that system.

In Lenoir County, however, the legal grog business was off from a year ago. In November of 1957 the five Lenoir County stores sold \$178,568.25 worth of spirits. This indicates a drop in total business of \$12,509.50 and Lenoir officials attribute the major part of this drop to the opening of the Jones County stores.

The November sales in the Jones

County stores brought the total sales since opening of the system to \$197,072.65. For the first five months of the current fiscal period this brings total sales in the Jones ABC system to \$116,838.70.

Jones sales in November were \$2,292.50 less than October sales, which were \$23,552.80.

Store No. 1 in Trenton still topped Jones County sales with \$7,739.80. Store No. 2 at Hargett Crossroad remained in second place with \$7,110.55 and Store No. 3 at Wyse Fork, the newest store in the system, had gross sales of \$6,409.90.

P.T.A. Sponsored Dinner A Success

The scarlet and white uniforms for members of the Jones Central High School Band are becoming a reality.

In an all-out effort by members from throughout Jones County, the P.T.A. of Jones Central High School was successful in realizing a profit of over \$600 on a dinner sponsored at the school last Friday night.

A planning committee was composed of Mrs. Frank Bender of Pollocksville, Mrs. Sam Pruitt of Maysville, Mrs. Austin Koonce of Trenton, Mrs. Thomas Vasey of Trenton, Mrs. Nancy Mallard of Mallardtown, Mrs. W. W. Lowery of near Phillips Crossroad, and Mrs. Thelma Phillyaw of Comfort. Each committee member was responsible for soliciting food from her district. Many other helped the committee members. People from all over the county responded with gifts.

To date, the "Band Boosters" Club, in cooperation with the P.T.A., has been successful in raising \$1800 of the needed \$2400.

Tobacco Specialist Urges Farmers to Go Slow When Studying New Practices

State College Tobacco Specialist Dr. R. R. Bennett Monday night urged Lenoir County tobacco growers to go slow in putting into use new cultural practices and new varieties of tobacco.

Speaking at the annual tobacco meeting in the court house, Bennett said the hardest job the people in the experiment stations have is trying to decide how much or how little information to give farmers.

Too frequently, Bennett stressed, farmers have jumped on a new variety or a new cultural practice and run it into the ground before it had a chance to prove itself, or before all "the bugs" had been worked out of it.

A current example, Bennett gave, was the use of MH 30 for sucker control. Excessive use of

this product has caused all tobacco buying companies to veto its use. Bennett says he still has faith in sensible use of MH 30 but the tobacco companies, who are the bosses, are down on it. This resulted, Bennett pointed, when farmers who thought that if four pints of MH30 per acre was good, then eight pints would be twice as good.

Bennett reviewed experiment station results with all principal types of tobacco now in use in North Carolina and with several new varieties.

He begged farmers NOT to all plant the same kind of tobacco, not to stress quantity and forget quality and lastly to accept all reports and recommendations slowly and after sufficient time has passed for an intelligent evaluation of their worth.

Just Two of Many Problems Facing 1959 Session of General Assembly

Parental Responsibility

Solomon's famous decision as recorded in the Bible was about a child two women wanted.

The problem of countless judges, welfare workers and taxpayers of all sizes and descriptions now concerns children, in many instances, that nobody wants.

Certainly not many of the 824 children who this month were listed as "dependent" by the Lenoir County Welfare Department fall in that category, but whether they are wanted or not by their parents the costly fact remains that in December the taxpayers had to dig down and find \$19,437 to help support the 261 families in which these 824 children are found.

Across the street from the Welfare Department Recorder's Court Clerk Mrs. Nelle Warren reports 292 domestic relations cases which are generally "support cases". These are criminal actions brought generally by a mother against a delinquent father who for some reason or another is not furnishing enough "support" for her and the minor children. Mrs. Warren says 151 of these domestic problems are active, meaning that regular

weekly or monthly checks are received by the court and then paid to the needy family. She says an average of three such cases are added each week.

Many of these cases in Recorder's Court are also found in the files of the Welfare Department since in many instances the payments made by a father are not sufficient to keep body and soul together.

The Welfare Department has one rule that is strictly enforced in this realm: That no mother and children are eligible for aid unless a warrant has been issued against the defaulting father. In many instances this is more a formality than a reality, since such defaulting papas frequently disappear.

Judge Emmett Wooten, whose duty it is to hear the vast majority of these "non-support" charges, is faced with an impossible task. If he orders a defaulting father to make a realistic contribution to the care of his family, then papa either has to go to prison or flee the country. Most of those involved are in the lowest income

brackets and many leave one brood and wife to soon acquire another. A small, irregular paycheck divided between two hungry households will not go very far. A recent defendant before Judge Wooten had eight children by his first wife, all minors, and five by a second wife. He made \$35 per week, "when I'm working."

One fourth of the dependent negro children are illegitimate. One twentieth of the white children fall in this unhappy category. Hardheaded, and some might add hard-hearted taxpayers scream about "subsidized bastardy"; but none insists that such an unfortunate does not get just as hungry, just as cold in winter as the most legitimate child in town.

Welfare officials insist that their's is a job of helping the needy. Moralizing is not their primary function. They generally are confronted with a problem after moralizing would have done any good. They admit that it appears bad to increase a welfare check after a woman adds another, and another illegitimate child. But they ask what is the alternative?

That is the question a lot of people ask. Continued on page 12

Beleaguered Municipalities

Now, nearly two months before the 1959 General Assembly is to be convened there is enough work laid out to keep this body in session for several months. Work created by 12 commissions set up by previous General Assemblies to make specific recommendations in a number of fields of legislation.

Backed by a high-priced but very effective organization the Committee on Judicial Reforms has caused most headlines and received a disproportionate part of the public's attention in this pre-legislative jockeying.

Each of the 12 committee reports is vitally important to some segment of the population; some of them to all of the population. None is more important than the report and recommendations of the Municipal Government Study Commission.

Far sweeping changes in city, county and state operations are recommended by this group. Many of its recommendations do not call for immediate legislative action. These include recommendations for 1. Renewed stress on city planning. But to implement this

suggestion the committee asks legislation to permit much more broad planning both by city and county governments.

Among these are authority to zone any town of more than 2,500 population and the land within one mile of its boundaries, that towns of 15,000 and more population be authorized to contract with boards of county commissioners for extension of subdivision and zoning controls for distances greater than one mile. Lastly it is recommended that extensions of city limits be made a matter of state-wide policy through a new annexation procedure.

The Municipal Study Group urges adoption of suggestions from the Tax Study Commission designed to make more stable the tax base of all cities and towns. Also to adopt legislation assuring regular revaluations, and in this same category adopt laws forbidding counties to set tax valuations at less than 55 per cent of market value, and of signal importance to every property owner is a recommendation that cities and

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