

PAID-UP CIRCULATION Of This Paper Is Greater Than The Population Given Shelby In The 1920 Census

The Cleveland Star

RELIABLE HOME PAPER Of Shelby And The State's Fertile Farming Section. Modern Job Department.

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THE CLEVELAND STAR

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\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

IMPETUS GIVEN FOR BANNER YEAR ON FARMS OF CLEVELAND COUNTY

Diversification, Food And Feed Crops Big Aim Of Farm Program.

With the major aim being more acreage devoted to food and feed crops the policy of the County Board of agriculture for Cleveland county was outlined by a number of speakers at an enthusiastic "Farmers' Night" program held Thursday at Cleveland Springs hotel.

Definite ideas advanced included money-making by money-saving in producing our own food and feed crops; diversification so that a bad season for one crop would not throw the county back a step; a greater production of cotton on less acreage because of a more intelligent fertilization, and a diversified program of farming that would make the county stand out as an ideal farming section.

The program was in charge of County Agent R. E. Lawrence and assisting him were some of the best known farmers of the county. The program was divided into sections and on cotton, the county's big money crop. O. Max Gardner, president of the County Board of agriculture and owner of the Morepacer Seed farm, was the speaker. Mr. Gardner made a brief resume of the years farm activities from the viewpoint of the agricultural board. This included the paint-up campaign staged by the board, which resulted in some 700 rural homes and outbuildings being painted in the county during the year. The second program put on is still underway—that of taking electricity into the homes in the rural sections of the county. The program, which will mean more in the eyes of the speaker to the farm world, has attracted the attention of farm leaders and the farming world everywhere. Reaching his main subject "Cotton" Mr. Gardner instilled, or rather increased the pride of those present in relating the great advance of the county in cotton production. Ten years ago, he declared, Cleveland county produced only 16,000 bales of cotton. In 1923 Cleveland county advanced to fourth place in state cotton production with nearly 40,000 bales. This year despite a bad season the county will produce around 40,000 bales, and moves up to second place, rating second to only one county in total production and second to none in production on the basis of acreage. The achievement was made more outstanding because the land of the county is not as rich as that of other counties with large cotton yields, making the increase an achievement of intelligent farming. In urging that the county this year devote a smaller acreage to cotton, fertilize a little better and still increase production, the speaker urged that we think of our cotton crop in terms of "bales, not acres." The standard of a greater crop on a smaller acreage was advised through selection of seed, fertilization and cultivation, a wise selection of healthy seed that are adapted to our climate and soil; fertilization based on intelligent tests and calculated to bring greater yields from our soil, and quick cultivation, which is necessary because of our climate.

State's Biggest Fair. At this point a break was made in the regular program to introduce the president and secretary of North Carolina's greatest fair, A. E. Cline and Dr. J. S. Dorton. In making the introduction Mr. Lawrence declared that more people passed through the gates at the Cleveland county fair than at the State fair or any county fair in North Carolina.

Former State Senator Sam C. Lattimore, and one of the county's leading cotton farmers, followed Mr. Gardner and spoke briefly on fertilization, the talk covering a fertilizer test made by the department of agriculture on his farm and the proper method of fertilization for Cleveland county soil. The main theme advanced by Mr. Lattimore was that 900 pounds of fertilizer to the acre is the ideal amount for Cleveland county land. Ac-

ording to the test the recommendation was for a 9-6-3 fertilizer under cotton with the source of ammonia from nitrate of soda if it is all applied before planting time. The test also revealed that where all of the nitrogen was received from nitrate of soda it made more per acre than any other source of ammonia. Mr. Lattimore's talk was practical and conveyed much worthwhile information to the farmers present on fertilization.

Diversified Crops. Mr. George Blanton, vice president of the First National bank and a large farmer, briefly urged more food and feed crops and devoted his talk to hay. Each year according to Mr. Blanton between \$200,000 and \$300,000 goes out of Cleveland county to purchase hay alone. This much money kept in Cleveland county is the equivalent of a \$300,000 increase in cotton production. The farmers of the county can produce their own hay is a known fact declared the speaker. Alfalfa was his first suggestion for a hay crop, with oats and vetch second.

Dairying and dairy industry was the subject of an informing talk by Mr. William Lineberger, president of the Cleveland Bank and Trust company and head of the Shelby creamery, makers of the well known Gilt Edge butter. There are 11,000 head of cattle in the county and these are gradually giving way to registered cattle, which will mean a brighter period not only for the dairy industry but for the entire county. Using approximate figures Mr. Lineberger pointed out that dairy products rank second to few crops in the county from a monetary standpoint. As an idea of the increase in the dairy business here he stated that 10 years ago creamery products totaled \$35,000 while last year they ran up to a quarter of a million.

Mull, of the Corn Country. Odus M. Mull, attorney and farmer, a native of No. 10 township and the "cawn country", or the "ideal farm community of Cleveland," according to him, spoke of "Corn, Its Production as a Feed Crop." In his many years of farming Mr. Mull has never bought corn for use on his farm and has on several years sold corn to neighboring farmers. "The big trouble with you farmers is that you put all your rich land in cotton and then devote the little left-over, run down patches to corn. If you keep this up you may as well get ready to buy corn from me." Where farmers now get through with their cotton planting and then turn to corn, he advised the reverse and urged that the very best land be devoted to corn as with proper fertilization the poorest land will produce cotton but not corn. In referring to a hay crop Mr. Mull differed with Mr. Blanton and advised, the cheapest of all hay crops. Farmers who intend to increase their hay crops he said should pick out some small patch for can and according to tests made on his farm could produce 10 or 11 tons to the acre. In closing he urged a continued beautifying program on the farm, nice well-kept lawns and grounds as well as painted homes and outbuildings.

1216 Visitors Play On Shelby Course

During 1924 1,216 out of town people played golf on the Cleveland Springs course, according to Mr. Charles L. Eskridge, head of the Cleveland club. It is seldom that Shelby people consider the course as an advertising asset, but it is not likely that any one thing in the town attracted as many people during the year; and of the 1,216 it is a certainty that at least 1,000 were here primarily to play golf. The course is considered one of the best small courses in Piedmont or Western Carolina and outstanding in this section and on week-ends draws numbers from surrounding towns.

With the view that the course is an asset to the town the program at the Kiwanis meeting Thursday of this week will be "Golf as an Asset to Shelby" and will be in charge of Mr. Eskridge. All members of the Cleveland Golf Club who are not members of the Kiwanis club together with local people who have played or are interested in golf are invited to attend the meeting Thursday night at the Cleveland Springs hotel.

Central Church. Prayer meeting at Central church Wednesday evening at 7:30. Rev. C. S. Kirkpatrick will be present and after prayer meeting the business session of first quarterly conference will be conducted. Every official member is urged to be present.

The per capita tax is still almost \$150, and it isn't surprising that a new-born infant yells.—Port Arthur News.

Cleveland Makes A New Cotton Record. Gin 40,563 Bales

Cleveland county has made a new "world record" in cotton production, an ambition which it has long sought but never expected to accomplish in 1924 because of the continued drought in the spring which cut the crop in North Carolina over a quarter of a million bales.

Miles H. Ware, of Kings Mountain, cotton agent for the Federal government reports that up to January 16th there were ginned in Cleveland county from the 1924 crop the enormous crop of 40,563 bales as compared with 39,336 bales up to the same date a year ago. Cleveland holds second place as a cotton producing county in North Carolina and government statistics show that the yield per acre is the largest in North Carolina. If the farmers planted for 50,000 bales last year as many thought they had, the crop was short only 9,500 bales. If they planted for a normal crop the yield was above normal despite unfavorable conditions. It's a record that will attract the attention of the whole cotton belt and rebound to the glorious achievement of Cleveland county farmers. Cleveland Big balled cotton seed which are best adapted to our soil and climate were largely used for seed last year.

One more gin report which will be final, will be issued March 1st.

MARKETING ISSUE IN FRIDAY'S STAR

On Friday of this week a special section of The Star will be devoted to the cooperative marketing of farm products. Cleveland county is above all a farming county and in recent years the cooperative movement has spread far and in many instances has been the savior of farm communities. Practically every farm product in Cleveland county may now be marketed through cooperative channels, either local, state or national. The working together of the farmers of Cleveland county has been largely responsible for the great electric program in the rural sections that is now attracting the attention of the farming world—brought about through cooperation, an entire community working together.

The special section will contain articles and information regarding the various forms of cooperative marketing and is primarily a farm issue. Cooperative associations plan a wide distribution of the paper, which will serve as a good advertisement of agricultural Cleveland. Advertising for the special issue will be heavy and merchants and business men who desire to take advantage of the added circulation and special attraction should have their advertising copy in by Tuesday, as no copy whatever will be received after that date for the special section.

Romulus N. Ellis Is Found Dead In Bed

Gaffney Ledger. Romulus N. Ellis, 70-years-old, was found dead in bed yesterday morning at the home of his daughter, Mrs. O. A. Blanton, of Grassy Pond, with whom he was living. He had been a sufferer from heart disease and had been under the care of a physician. Coroner E. R. Parker was notified of his death but the circumstances did not warrant an official investigation.

Mr. Ellis is survived by the following four daughters and a son: Mrs. Blanton, Mrs. John Beam, Cherryville, N. C.; Mrs. John Blanton and Mrs. Barney Huskey, Grassy Pond; and Forrest Ellis, Grassy Pond. One brother, E. A. Ellis, of Cherokee avenue, this city, also survives.

BATTLEGROUND MEN ARE NABBED BY OFFICERS

Gaffney Ledger. Robert Love and Marion Stewart, of the Kings Mountain battleground section, were arrested Thursday by Cherokee county prohibition enforcement officers on charges of distilling. Both men arranged bond for their appearance at the March term of court and were released. The offense with which they are charged was committed several weeks ago, according to a statement made by the officers.

NEGRO MINSTREL AT PIEDMONT FRIDAY NIGHT

There will be a negro minstrel in three acts consisting of jokes, music and play, proceeds for the benefit of the athletic association.

Arey Bros. sell Goodyear tires and have the price.—adv.

ONLY 14 MILES OF PAVED ROADS HERE

47 Counties in State Have More Paved Highway than Cleveland Which Ranks Among Lowest

With a bill introduced in legislature calling for another bond issue of \$35,000,000 for highways in the state the people of Cleveland county are prone to wonder just how many miles of road the county will get when the bill is passed. From the two bond issues already put over in the state for highways of 65 and 15 million respectively, Cleveland county received 13.95 miles of paved road—or about one-third of the amount received by some other counties, one-half of that received by some, and less than that received by 47 counties of the 100 in the state.

According to the highway commission we are in possession of a "due bill" in other words, have come so many miles, at least as much more than we have. The strength of the "due bill" is the question as there were just so many miles coming on the second issue, and perhaps will gain speed through the proposed issue. By the allotting or division of the state road money for paved roads Cleveland county was to receive \$750,000. Of the amount it is estimated that two-thirds was received.

As an idea to the paved road situation: Guilford county has 54.47 miles; Pitt 54.33; Pender 51.19; Mecklenburg 48.39 miles, and Cleveland 13.95 miles—the highway from the Gaston county line to Shelby, better known as the Kings Mountain road. The figures above represent the miles already constructed or under construction. Counties that lead in mileage already constructed are: Forsyth, 38.31; Guilford 35.70; Pitt, 35.55; Pender 30.22; Iredell, 24.78 and Sampson with 22.62. Hard surface highways constructed or under construction in North Carolina total 1,478.79 miles, of which 785.19 are already constructed, while 693.59 are under construction.

In the matter of miles already received Cleveland, Lincoln and Rutherford do well to chime in on the chorus that rambles along Carolina's glorious roads. The three counties together have 15.54 miles of paved road less than Mecklenburg county, or nearly five miles less than Gaston county alone.

Highway traffic figures in recent weeks tend to show that the part of Highway No. 20 between Gastonia and Charlotte is the heaviest travelled in the state. The same highway it might be reminded extends on to Kings Mountain, where the main South Carolina road branches off, and on through Shelby, to Forest City, Rutherfordton, Hendersonville and Asheville. A goodly percentage of the traffic on the road may ply only between Mecklenburg and Gaston, but from observation a goodly part plies on to the westward by Shelby, Forest City, Rutherfordton and on to Hendersonville and Asheville. It is a certainty that more than a good part of the traffic on Highway 20 between Charlotte and Gastonia passes on up the highway to the mountain and resort section in the summer months. Charlotte, Gastonia and Asheville bus lines have made famous the "Blue Ridge Trail"—that section of Highway 20 between Charlotte and Asheville and along the route mentioned. Yet when those who pass up the scenic trail reach Shelby they begin bumping along the type of road that Carolinians like to refer to as a part of a bygone day. Cleveland county's near 14 miles ends at Shelby and the expanse from Shelby to the Rutherford line is the ordinary dirt road and then Rutherford's less than five miles of paved roads are traversed in the extended passage up the trail to the Land of the Sky.

The view hereabouts is that in the coming issue Cleveland county should receive enough to complete the highway, called famous in sections, on to the Rutherford line.

WACO CLUB ELECTS NEW OFFICERS AT A MEETING

(Special to The Star.) The Waco club met with Mrs. J. M. Putnam January 22nd at 2 p. m., for the purpose of re-organizing. The following officers were elected: President Mrs. Ravon Craft; vice-president, Mrs. W. G. Hord; member of council, Mrs. A. F. Whitworth; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. J. M. Putnam. Definite plans for the general work were discussed and decided upon.

New features of work were introduced, that of civic and church improvement. We feel that with these three definite aims in mind we shall be able to accomplish more than we have ever done before.

MRS. J. M. PUTNAM, Sec-Treas. The Paris Probate Court has decided that it is not a proof of madness to leave one's money to the State. In England it is a sign of remarkable ability in preventing the State from getting it before.—Punch.

Eclipse Reflected Here by Soot On Faces of Lookers

The total eclipse of the sun, or the two-ring celestial circus as imaginative headlines write it, took place as scheduled Saturday morning and the eclipse to a certain extent was witnessed by the people of Shelby and this section. Nothing more unusual than the lengthening shadows like unto the evening hour although in the morning, and soot-covered faces marked the phenomenon, the celestial thrill of the century. Here the eclipse, which varied at the most between 80 and 90 per cent, was first and easier noted through the shadows, which were reversed for the hour of day near the likeness of moon beams. The rays from the partially hidden sun were unusual and a bit weird. Enough so that the more superstitious somewhat worried, not enough however to beat the tom-toms like the Chinese, and the height of the oddity being reached with the exclamations when the soot from the smoked glasses was found on portions of the face near the eye.

Dreams of astronomers of seeing a total eclipse of the sun under ideal conditions were realized in New York and New England.

In Michigan and Ontario, however, clouds and low visibility frustrated scientific tests.

Especially in New York city, witnessing its first total eclipse in 119 years, was the spectacle magnificent. When the momentary blackness of midnight at 9:11 a. m. was accompanied by the beautiful sight of the corona there was enthusiasm. Watchers on skyscrapers and hilltops applauded and cheered.

Excellent scientific observations were made by home and visiting scientists at Cornell and Yale, almost in the center of the totality area, and also aboard the navy dirigible Los Angeles. The sky ship, named for the angels, hovered over the island of Nantucket, Mass., and sent word by radio through the heavens that the results of the observations were excellent.

Teaching Fertilizer Formulas In County

(Extension Service.) This is fertilizer week for Cleveland county and the teachers in the county are teaching the pupils from the 6th grade up how to figure out fertilizer formulas in the arithmetic classes instead of the regular problems.

Anyone having fertilizer formulas or problems to work out should get in touch with your teacher this week. Many of the schools expect to ask in the patrons of the school Friday evening and have a general fertilizer school for the young and old.

Bus Line Terminal Arranged In Shelby

The Inter-Carolinas Motor Bus Line Company owned by Wright and Carpenter and operating bus line schedules between Shelby and Charlotte, Gastonia and Cherryville, Spartanburg and York, has leased from R. E. Campbell the corner room in the Courtview Hotel property where a bus line terminal will be provided. Mr. Campbell did not know yesterday whether busses owned and operated by other lines to such points as Gaffney, Morganton, Hickory, Rutherfordton and Asheville would maintain headquarters at the same place or whether it would be used exclusively by the Inter-Carolinas. The Inter-Carolinas has begun an every-other-hour schedule leaving Shelby on the odd hours for Kings Mountain, Gastonia and Charlotte and has put on large Safety Coaches which are attracting quite a bit of attention.

Bishop Denny Preaches At Methodist Church

Bishop Collins Denny preached an able sermon Sunday morning at the handsome new Central Methodist church building, taking for his subject the text from Paul "I am debtor both to the Greeks and barbarians, both to the wise and the unwise," in which he followed Paul's persecutions for the Master's cause. Rev. C. S. Kirkpatrick presiding elder of the Shelby district and Rev. W. R. Ware a beloved former pastor came down from Forest City for week-end accompanied by his wife and Dr. Ware preached an able sermon Sunday night from the eighth chapter of Romans on the subject: "Witness of the Spirit."

PARLEY OVER EXTENSION-- OPPONENTS DECLINE TO ACCEPT PROPOSITIONS

Aldermen Make Offers to Outsiders But They Refuse To Accept Without Election -- Petition Being Circulated Asking For Election On Greater Shelby.

Influential men interested in the textile plants outside of town and a few other outsiders who were invited to a meeting of the board of aldermen in the City Hall Friday night refused to accept an invitation to come into the corporate limits under the proposed extension plan of three quarters of a mile each way from the present boundary, but a motion carried by a majority of those present asking the city fathers to petition Representative Falls in the General Assembly for an election to be called within two or three months after the passage of a bill, electors residing both inside the present boundary and in the proposed boundary to vote on the same, which if carried, would not require the property owners in the newly acquired area to list their property for taxes until May 1st 1926.

Water Supply Inadequate

The meeting Friday night was a frank and full discussion of every phase of extension which has been advocated for a number of years, those favoring extension declaring that as a matter of community pride and growth, the residents living on the outskirts should no longer be separated from Shelby by an imaginary line. It was pointed out by Dr. Royster, mayor pro-tem who presided that the present water plant is inadequate to supply residents on the outside without a plant enlargement to cost approximately \$100,000. Those who favored extension pointed out that present Shelby should not be required to make this additional investment since the water supplied outside of Shelby is forcing the investment, but that outsiders who enjoy the privileges and benefits of the town should help pay.

Mr. O. M. Gardner declared in most emphatic terms that Shelby is at the cross roads. It must stand still or go forward and extension is necessary for continued progress. With no selfish motive in his heart but with an ambitious eye seeing to the future progress of prosperity he declared extension is coming and that now is the accepted time. The town faces a grave situation in the matter of water, fire protection and school facilities. They must be enlarged to meet requirements or they must be confined to the present boundary of Shelby and the board has seriously considered for bidding the fire truck from going beyond the city limits to answer calls and confining its water supply to inside patrons, not as a retaliatory measure, but as a matter of necessity which it had hoped to overcome through extension without a fight.

Would Extend Improvements. City Attorney O. M. Mull presented six proposals in which the aldermen declare it to be their policy to give the proposed new section the same water, light, sewerage, school, streets, sidewalks, police and fire protection and representative in the city government that present Shelby now enjoys as rapidly as the revenue and past policy of the city fathers has been in the matter of public improvements. Even in the face of all these public improvements offered to the outsiders, there was stiff opposition from textile managers; A. W. McMurry representing the Belmont mill; John F. Schenck senior and junior, representing the Lily Mill and Power Co., Superintendent Wickle representing the Ella Division of the consolidated Textile corporation and Earl Hamrick representing Eastside. Words of opposition were also spoken by Charlie Rheinhardt and DeWitt Quinn South Shelby merchants.

Extend But Exempt Mills. John F. Schenck, sr., admitted that corporate extension is good for residential sections where people want the advantages of all municipal improvements, but declared that textile mills employees do not want all of the municipal conveniences and that the mills themselves cannot operate at a satisfactory profit if they have to pay both town and county taxes. Lee B. Weathers and O. M. Mull both pointed out to Mr. Schenck that the Shelby mill and many textile plants at Gastonia, Kings Mountain, Durham, Greensboro and elsewhere are in the incorporate limits of their towns and operate at a profit after enjoying and paying for the municipal advantages. Mr. Schenck would have the limits of Shelby extended but the extension should not take in the textile plants and that the textile sections should never be included in the corporate limits, as an aid not only to present mills but to plants that might be built later.

Arguments were heated pro and con but with no ill feeling whatever in the matter, the opposition showing a disposition to protest although the alder-

men and the extensionists expressed a desire to pay for public improvements already privately built and owned in the proposed new territory and offered to give the same municipal advantages which the present Shelby now enjoys as the town's revenue will justify under extension.

Some of the opposition to extension expressing a willingness for the town to cut off the water supply to outsiders, suspend fire protection, school and electric advantages, but those who favor extension do not want to resort to this drastic measure, but prefer seeing the town enlarged, the taxable property added so more bonds can be issued to make the water supply adequate to the needs of all rather than the present dwellers.

Petitions Start.

The only way to definitely and equitably settle the matter seems to be a submission to a vote of the people. It's the democratic way and whatever the majority say in the matter will be the result. Consequently petitions were drafted yesterday and started in circulation asking that Representative Falls have enacted a law providing for an election to change the charter to new limits, the date for the election to be sometime early this year. It is known that the overwhelming sentiment inside is for extension and that many living in the residential sections outside are anxious to be taken in. If the question comes to a vote, a fight will be made on both sides but every indication is that there will be no bitterness in the matter. Those who have studied the question are positive in their convictions both for and against but this is no reason why any ill feeling should result.

The invitation to come in voluntarily has been declined by the outsiders, and if they are forced in by a vote, it will still be the policy of the aldermen to pay outsiders for their privately owned water, light and sewer lines and give them as rapidly as possible the same advantages and on the same terms and conditions the people living on the inside got them in the past.

MRS. R. P. ROBERTS IS BURIED AT GROVER

Noble Woman of Grover Dies Rather Suddenly at the Age of 70. Was Miss Elizabeth Deal.

Mrs. R. P. Roberts who before marriage was Miss Elizabeth Deal died rather suddenly at her home at Grover Saturday. She became suddenly ill and lasted only until Saturday morning. Mrs. Roberts was born February 9th, 1855 and was married to Mr. Roberts in 1878. He is one of the best known textile men in the two Carolinas having operated successfully the Cherokee Falls Manufacturing company while associated with Col. Calvin Plonk. Both Mr. Roberts and Colonel Plonk retired a few years ago when they sold the mill. Mr. Roberts returning to his former home at Grover. Mrs. Roberts was a woman of highest character, refined in her manner and always active and interested in the work of the church. The funeral was conducted Monday morning at 10:30 o'clock at the Grover Presbyterian church, by her pastor Rev. W. A. Murray of Shelby, the floral offerings being numerous and beautiful testimonials to the high esteem in which she was held and to the splendid life she had lived. Pall bearers were T. L. Neal, G. L. Goode, S. R. Anthony, H. A. Turner, C. F. Harry, George Oates, J. B. Ellis and Thomas Hardin.

BILLY SUNDAY WILL PREACH IN TWIN CITY

Winston-Salem, Jan. 22.—Dr. J. R. Jester, president of the Ministers association, has called a meeting of the association and laymen for Monday morning to confer with the business representative of Evangelist Billy Sunday, to consider plans for the meeting to be conducted by the evangelist here beginning April 12th. Dr. Jester has received a letter from Fred W. Rapp, of the Billy Sunday organization, stating that he will arrive here Monday morning to attend the conference. It has been decided that the meeting will be held in the Planters warehouse, which is spacious and new.

Word comes that the Progressive party will meet in Chicago in February and disband. However, that leaves time enough for it to split on the proposition.—Detroit News.