

THE MARKET

Cotton, per lb. 8 1/2 to 9 1/4
Cotton Seed, per bu. 30c

Fair And Warmer.

Today's North Carolina Weather Report: Fair and warmer tonight and Saturday.

Sikes Speaks Here.

Dr. E. W. Sikes, of Clemson college, one of the South's best known educators and orators, was the chief speaker at the weekly luncheon of the Shelby Rotary club today.

8 Marines Killed.

Washington, Jan. 1.—A new outbreak of the intermittent warfare between United States Marines in Nicaragua and so-called "bandits" or irregulars among the natives has taken the lives of eight more Marines. The navy department late today received word from the commanding officer of the Second Marine brigade of the latest battle, which occurred yesterday at or near Achapaga. In addition to the eight slain, two others were reported seriously wounded. All were enlisted men.

Miss 1931 Born Near Lawndale

Margaret Villa Toney First New Year Baby Reported To The Star.

Unless an earlier birth is reported, Lawndale appears to be the home of the first New Year's baby in Cleveland county for the second consecutive year.

This county's Miss 1931, as reported to date, is Margaret Villa Toney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Blain Toney, of the Lawndale section. Little Miss Toney came into this world just 39 minutes after the new year or at 12:30 Thursday morning. Her mother before marriage was Miss Villa Ivester.

Not only does the Lawndale section claim the first baby of the year for the second time, but Dr. H. R. Sherrill was the physician for Miss 1930 as well as for Miss 1931. Another early 1931 birth was that of little Miss Geneva Frances Peeler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grady Peeler, who live near the Shelby hospital. She was born at 4:20 Thursday morn. Mrs. Peeler prior to marriage was Miss Novella Grant.

This year The Star and 11 Shelby business firms are offering gifts to the first baby of the year. Unless earlier births are reported Miss Toney will be the recipient of the gifts offered.

Welcome Of New Year Quiet Here

Cold Cuts Crowd of Merrymakers In Festivities About Court Square.

The year 1931 did not make its debut in Shelby as noisily as have several years in the past, yet as the old year bowed out and the new year ushered in there was quite a bit of activity in the court square section. Enough, at least, to maintain an old Shelby custom of welcoming in a new year. At midnight bells rang, horns tooted, and firecrackers boomed while a caravan of automobiles dashed madly around the square, but the vivacity and recklessness of former years was missing. A block down South LaFayette street from the court square a big bonfire burned for a time, but police officials had no difficulty in restraining the merrymakers, most of them of the younger set. The cold weather that swooped down early New Year's Eve perhaps had much to do with keeping the customary crowd away, while, presumably, precautions issued from the city hall urging that merrymakers be careful about fire and damage to property restrained the enthusiasm to a certain extent.

Charity Calls On An Increase Again

For several days following Christmas, when a large quantity of clothes, fuel and food was distributed among the needy of this section, charity appeals at the welfare office here were not so numerous. In the last day or so, however, the line of applicants has been growing, and members of the charity committee are hearing and investigating as many appeals for aid as they were the week prior to the holidays.

Crimson Tide Wins.

The University of Alabama's Crimson Tide won its inter-sectional football conflict with Washington State yesterday in the Rose Bowl, Pasadena, Calif., by the score of 24 to 0. It was Coach Wallace Wade's last game before he goes to Duke university. Alabama has played three times in the Rose Bowl, winning twice and tying once.

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Growth Revealed By Census, Upheaval In Politics 1930 Events

Busin's Depression, Many Suicides, Athletic Triumphs, Other Features Of Last Year. Many Leading Citizens Claimed By Death In City, County.

The year 1930 was a "newsy" year in Shelby and Cleveland county but was marked by no major events of importance. Features of the year's news as revealed by The Star were the census report showing a record growth in Shelby and the county, the business depression and subsequent suicides, a general political upheaval, deaths of numerous prominent citizens, and several athletic triumphs.

The outstanding news event of the year was the government census report showing Shelby to be the fastest growing city in the state since 1920 and the county to be the fifth fastest growing county of the 100 in North Carolina.

Unprecedented Democratic victories here, throughout the state and nation composed another major news feature.

Suicide A Month.

Ranking a close third was the summer drought, the general business depression, and a suicide toll in the county of one per month, or an even dozen for the year.

Leaders Pass.

More outstanding city and county leaders died during the year than in any single year in a long time. Heading the list was Judge James L. Webb, the county's most beloved citizen and dean of North Carolina jurists.

Sport activities occupied an outstanding role during 1930 with the Shelby high winning their fourth North Carolina baseball title, and Jolling Springs college winning the junior college football championship of the state. Fred (Snook) Webb brought fame to the town by his remarkable golfing feats in which he won three championships and went to the semi-finals of the Southern championship play at Greensboro to be referred to as another Bobby Jones.

In the closing month of the year the cotton ginned in the county had passed the 60,000-bale mark and was nearing the 1929 record.

The county fair, the largest in North Carolina, drew over 100,000 people.

Sixty thousand people greeted President Herbert Hoover at the Kings Mountain battleground celebration, it being the first visit of a president to the county.

News of 1930.

Outstanding events of the year as condensed from The Star files follow:

January.

Jan. 1.—Shelby postoffice with receipts of \$40,200 for 1929 holds its first-class ranking.

Jan. 3—J. W. Bailey announces for United States senate. Shelby banks pay out \$21,750 in dividends. Wilson Warlick announces for superior court judge. Martha Richards is first 1930 baby in county.

Jan. 7.—Cleve Cline, son of Frank Cline and outstanding high school athlete, killed in hunting accident. Al Bennett heads Lions club.

Jan. 13.—R. L. Ryburn elected president of county bar association at annual banquet. Tom Wright, 74, Mooresboro, dies of injuries received when struck by auto.

Jan. 20.—Cleveland Springs property sold to endorser for \$55,000.

Jan. 24.—Quality Services Stores, co-operative organization of home merchants, opens in section. County's champion cotton farmers banqueted at Hotel Charles.

Jan. 26.—Capt. Ed Dickson, 96, Confederate veteran of Fallston and county's oldest citizen, dies.

Jan. 29.—Suburban mail station opened at Eastside and Cleveland cloth mill. Heaviest snowfall, seven inches, in three years.

February.

Feb. 4.—Five Rutherford county banks close. Mal Spangler and Joe

County Judges Changed



It's His Honor Judge Maurice Weathers now. The new judge of the county's recorder's court came in with the New Year, succeeding Judge Horace Kennedy, who when he took office was the youngest jurist in the state. Judge Weathers above, Judge Kennedy below. (Star Photos)

Recorder Sworn In; Newton Will Take Oath 5th.

Solicitor Still At Home Ill

Judge Maurice Weathers Holds First Court On Jan. 1. Beam Introduces Him.

Recorder Maurice Weathers held his first court as judge of the Cleveland county court on New Year's day after being sworn in by Clerk of Court A. M. Hamrick.

Judge Weathers until the last election had served as recorder pro tem under Judge Horace Kennedy.

Youngest Judge.

Judge Kennedy who held his final session of court was when elected the youngest jurist in North Carolina, and while presiding over the county court here he established a favorable record as a jurist.

The new recorder tried eight cases on his first day.

Solicitor Monday.

According to law the recorder takes office on the first day of the year but the solicitor of county court does not go into office until the first Monday of the new year. Monday Clerk of Court Hamrick plans to go to the home of Solicitor-elect J. C. Newton to swear him in. Mr. Newton has been seriously ill for several weeks and is not as yet able to be out.

It is presumed that a solicitor pro tem will be named to serve for him until he is able to take up his duties as county prosecutor.

Rival Boats Him.

An interesting angle of the swearing in of the new judge yesterday was that Judge Weathers was introduced to the court by Attorney W. Speight Beam whom Weathers defeated for the nomination in the democratic primary.

McSwain Tells Of Legislative Plans

Would Combine Two Tax Jobs With Office of Auditor. Has Other Plans.

In the following communication to The Star, Senator Peyton McSwain discusses legislative plans he has in view when he goes to Raleigh next week:

"For the past few weeks we have been hearing a lot about reorganization, consolidation, and elimination of unnecessary public offices. In an effort to reduce governmental expense. All of which is a very fine idea, and something we should have begun to study years ago.

"I expect to propose in the general assembly some changes in our county government; which changes will not effect the present efficient service of our public officials, but will mean a substantial saving to the taxpayers of the county.

"In 1927 the legislature passed an act requiring each county in the state to have an accountant. Mr. Cline holds that position here at a salary of \$3000 per year. By statute we also have a tax auditor in this county whose duty it is to make out the tax books and deliver them to the sheriff for collection. Mr. W. R. Newton holds this position at a salary of \$1700.00 per year. In 1929 the legislature passed an act requiring each county in the state to appoint a county supervisor of taxation, whose duties are to supervise the listing of taxes each year, and is provided a salary of \$8 per day and expenses. Mr. R. L. Weathers now holds that position. This county supervisor of taxation is not just a temporary office for the quadrennial assessment or revaluation of property, but we are required to have him to supervise the listing of property each year.

"I suggest and recommend that each of the above named offices be consolidated into one elective office to be known as "county auditor." I see no reason why one person could not perform all the duties now performed by all of the above named three officers. And I feel that we can get a good man to do this work at a salary of \$3000 or the same amount now being paid the accountant.

"If the above suggestion meets with the approval of the citizenship of the county, I will introduce a bill in the legislature to that effect. And will appoint Mr. A. E. Cline as county auditor to hold said office until the next general election, provided he is willing to resign from the board of commissioners to accept the appointment.

"It is not my intention to try to force something on the people of the county that they do not want. Therefore I hope that every citizen of the county will feel perfectly free to express his or her opinion of this

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TEN.)

Aims at Endurance Records



Edna May Cooper (right), former motion picture actress and holder of a private pilot's license, will join Miss Bobbie Trout (left), transport pilot, in



an attempt to break both the women's and men's endurance flight records starting New Year's Day at the Municipal Airport, Los Angeles.

Rafe King's Second Trial Not Likely To Be Reached Before Early Spring, Probably March

Unusual Thief Found In House

Due to the visit of an unusual thief in their home New Year's night and an old superstition, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Williams, 917 S. LaFayette street, may have rabbit for dinner every day during 1931. Last night about 9:30 Mrs. Williams walked from her living room into the kitchen. There she was astounded to find a thief—a big gray rabbit seeking something to munch. How the rabbit, which was not a pet, got there is not known. Perhaps the hard times drove the hare there, and perchance he knew that sooner or later he would go into a pot in some kitchen and decided to have it over with.

Will Ask For Change Of Venue Monday or Tuesday. One Week's Court There.

Rafe King, Shelby man held in the South Carolina prison on the charge of slaying his wife at Sharon, S. C., may not get the new trial granted him by supreme court until early spring. The South Carolina supreme court in granting a new trial after the Shelby man had been convicted at Chester, the case being moved there from York, set the trial for January 5, Monday of next week, at Chester.

King's attorney has already filed a motion with Judge Bonham, who will preside at the Chester court, for a change of venue. This motion may be reached at the court session there Monday but it is possible that it may not come up until Tuesday.

Should the change of venue to another county be granted the case naturally will not be tried until a court term comes along in that county. Should the motion for a change of venue be denied it is hardly likely that the trial will be held at this term of court in Chester.

This likelihood is based upon the fact that next week's term there is for the duration of only one week. The King case would take a major portion if not a full week and it is likely that the other cases on the docket would be given preference.

Mr. Page Of Belmont Mill Dies Of Cancer

Mr. Stewart Page of the Belmont Mill village, died at 7 o'clock this morning following a long illness with cancer. He was 70 years of age and is survived by six children and fifteen grandchildren, one brother and one sister. Funeral services will be conducted by Rev. Henry Sisk at 10 o'clock Saturday morning at the Missionary Methodist church and interment will be in the Moriah church cemetery in upper Cleveland.

Finance Company Pays \$1600 Dividends

The Manufacturers and Jobbers Finance corporation which operates through offices in Shelby and at Tryon, Polk county, has recently paid its quarterly dividends on its common and preferred stocks, totalling \$1,800 to the shareholders. The preferred pays eight percent while the common pays ten percent, payments being made quarterly, according to Mr. Blanton who was in Shelby yesterday from Polk county.

State Legislators Prepare For Opening Session Next Week; Gardner Prepares His Message

Economy Urged By Governor, Is Big Issue Of Approaching Assembly.

Raleigh, Jan. 2.—The holidays are over and like the students returning to school, North Carolina lawmakers will begin to assemble here next week for the 1931 session of the general assembly. It convenes Wednesday, January 7.

Legislative rumblings in the state's 100 counties are distinctly heard. Here at Raleigh state officials with their reports out, are patiently awaiting the opening.

Governor Max Gardner, openly recommending governmental reform on a grand scale, is carefully at work on the message he will be summoned to deliver.

The tax department, with its comprehensive report fresh from the printers, is perhaps holding a large part of the pre-legislature discussion.

The Brookings institute report must not be slighted. The sweeping changes in the state's government

it recommends have state officials breathless, and incidentally speechless, and copies of the 343 page volume are in the hands of the lawmakers for their perusal and consideration.

Economy Big Issue.

Economy and governmental reform through consolidation of overlapping departments and institutions stand out as the big issues before the assembly. Under economy is classified all efforts at tax changes which are certain to be sought. It is the idea of declining taxes being stretched to meet increasing expenditures by finding "better ways of taxation" and "less ways to spend money."

Governor Gardner has said he approves of the short ballot as applied to statutory offices and by way of consolidation he believes a greater University of North Carolina, formed with the present Chapel Hill institution, North Carolina College for Women, at Greensboro, and North Carolina State college as units, a practical idea.

Superior Court Opens Monday For Week Grind

Many Jail Cases To Be Tried First

Several Major Cases Carried Over From Last Term May Not Be Reached During Week.

Superior court will convene here Monday to begin work on the largest criminal docket in the history of the county and the court session is scheduled for only one week.

Judge J. H. Clement will preside and Solicitor Spurgeon Spurling will prosecute. Judge Clement and the newly elected jurist Judge Wilson Warlick made an effort to exchange courts so that Judge Warlick might preside over his first term here, but for some reason the exchange was not carried through, members of the local bar said here today.

Jail Is Filled.

A number of important cases, including three or four killing cases, continued from the last term were to have been taken up at this session, but it now seems doubtful if all of them will be reached. It is the usual policy, in order to save the county expense to try jail cases first, and the jail is now filled with prisoners awaiting trial. Sheriff Irvin Allen says that of the 35 prisoners in jail 28 are awaiting a hearing in the big court. Eighteen of the 28 face breaking and entering charges which include store, house and smokehouse robberies. It is likely that Solicitor Spurling will decide to clear up the jail cases first, and if such is done there will be little time left to take up other cases during the one week.

Deputy Death Case.

One of the big cases carried over which attracted considerable public interest was that of Hugh Brittain, young Caesar man, charged with killing Deputy Sheriff Sanford Pruett. The officer was fatally injured, it is alleged, after he stopped the Brittain car and the driver backed the car over him.

Four or five other murder cases are among the more than 200 cases on the criminal docket. Several of these, if taken up at this term, are expected to draw large crowds to the court room.

There is considerable speculation as to whether the embezzlement charges against J. J. Lattimore, of Shelby, and Y. L. McCardwell, of Mooresboro, will be reached during the week. Attorneys have expressed the opinion that after disposing of the other urgent cases one of these two trials may be held.

Bandit's Mother Claims His Body

Remains Of Desperado, Slain By Police, To Be Taken To West Virginia.

Salsbury, Jan. 2.—Otto Wood's mother will bury his body.

At Coaldale, W. Va., Mrs. Ellen Wood, living with her daughter yesterday made plans to have her prodigal son, shot dead here yesterday in gun duel with two policemen, returned to Coaldale for burial.

Meanwhile the body of state's prison's will-o'-the-wisp desperado, who escaped his walls four times in seven years, lay in a Salsbury mortuary. One side of his head was torn by gun fire. Chief of Police R. L. Rankin's gun did that. Another bullet had broken his leg. Either Chief Rankin or Policeman J. W. Kestler fired that shot.

The officers came on Wood Wednesday, heard him admit his identity, braved his drawn pistol, and Chief Rankin, rising from the protection of the automobile in which Wood was riding, drilled the outlaw through the head.

An account of the gun battle in which the state's noted criminal was killed will be found on an inside page of today's Star.

Mrs. T. W. Pearson Of West Shelby Dies

Mrs. T. W. Pearson died just at the New Year was coming in yesterday morning at the home of her son Summe Pearson in West Shelby where she was visiting. Mrs. Pearson was 60 years and eight months old and had been practically bedfast for seven or eight years with rheumatism. Her noble husband and a number of children survive. Funeral was conducted at the Missionary Methodist church Thursday by Rev. Henry Sisk, pastor and interment was at Palm Tree church near Lawndale.

No Accidents Here In 1931 Celebration

Holiday Festivities Not Marred By Single Mishap, Mrs. Moore Home.

The holiday festivities, centering about the welcoming of the new year, were not marred by a single serious accident, it was reported at the Shelby hospital today. The hospital report stated that no accident patient had been admitted in several days.

Mrs. Herschel Moore, injured in an auto accident the Monday before Christmas, was able to leave the hospital for her home Wednesday. Mrs. Moore's skull was fractured when the car in which she and her husband were riding skidded on highway 20, near the river bridge west of Shelby, and plunged over a 50-foot embankment.

Mr. Yates To Open Office In Texas

Mr. and Mrs. Jack T. Yates leave Saturday for Dallas, Texas where Mr. Yates will open a branch office for the Chickasaw Thread Co. of Shelby. The Dallas office will serve the trade in that territory with garment makers thread made in Cleveland county. Mr. Yates is an official of the Chickasaw Thread Co. and has been traveling the southeastern territory for a number of years. He and Mrs. Yates have been making their home with Mr. and Mrs. Lee B. Weathers and have many friends here who regret to see them leave.

The Dallas branch will maintain a stock of thread and Mr. Yates will travel the southwestern territory, while his southeastern territory has will be covered by Mr. LaGrone of Shelby.

Meeting Of Legion On Tuesday Night

A meeting of the Warren Hoyle American Legion post will be held at the court house here Tuesday night at 7:30 o'clock. Vice Commander Dale R. Yates will preside, and all members are urged to attend as it will be an important gathering.

Shelby Office Holds Rating

Several Hundred Dollars Over Required \$40,000 Postal Receipts.

The Shelby post office will be a first class post office in 1931 as it was in 1929 and 1930, Postmaster J. H. Quinn announced today.

A definite check of the 1930 postal receipts, on which the rating of a post office is based, has been made, but Postmaster Quinn stated that he was sure that the required quota of \$40,000 had been reached and passed.

"In fact, the receipts for the year total several hundred dollars more than the \$40,000," he said. Last year a special effort was made in December to boost the receipts to retain the standing, but this year the quota was reached without any special effort.

An increase was shown for 10 of the twelve months of 1930 over corresponding months of 1929.

No Trace Found Of Death Driver

Officers Holding Car Here And Hope To Get Driver Eventually.

The driver of the hit-and-run automobile which fatally injured Carme Dixon, Fallston farmer, a week ago this evening, is still in parts unknown.

Local officers know his identity but prefer to keep it quiet until they can locate him. The license tags of the automobile, abandoned after it struck Dixon, were used to check up on the owner. The morning after the hit-and-run tragedy the owner of the car reported to police in a neighboring county that his car had been stolen. Shortly later local officers informed the same police that they would like to have the man. Since then he has not been seen.

Two men at first alleged to have been occupants of the death car were freed after being given a preliminary hearing.

Water Off His House Runs Into Two Different Rivers—On Line

Here's one of those freak stories the skeptical persons are inclined not to believe:

Edison Mully lives up in the Three County Corners section. He can stand in one room of his house and be in Cleveland county, then he can walk to another room and be in Burke county.

He is a resident of both counties because the county line runs through the middle of his home. But that isn't all of the freak. The house is built on a hill, the

water that runs off one side of the roof wends its way into a nearby creek and then into the Catawba river, which does not flow through Cleveland county. The water which runs off the other side of the roof finds its way to a branch and then into Broad river which does flow through Cleveland county and on to South Carolina.

Presumably—it is not known for a fact—Mr. Mully pays taxes in both counties.