

Government Plans To Buy Surplus N. C. Potato Crop

WASHINGTON, June 26.—The federal relief administration, headed by Harry L. Hopkins, director, yesterday decided to purchase at once a million bushels of Irish potatoes from growers of North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland for distribution among the needy. Allocations and prices will be determined by the relief administration.

It was suggested by the administration that the price would be on the basis of surplus prices, that is, the cost of production, this cost to be determined by the department of agriculture. It is assumed that the price will be not less than \$1.50 a barrel, and it may be more.

This decision followed the arrival in Washington of Senator Bailey from his home in Raleigh, accompanied by Mr. Miller, director of the North Carolina test farms. Accompanied by Senator Bailey, Dr. Miller represented Governor Ehringhaus at a conference with Director Hopkins attended by Gov. George C. Peery of Virginia, Senator Goldsborough of Maryland and a representative of Gov. Albert Ritchie of Maryland.

It was agreed that after the initial purchase of one million bushels the relief administration is to purchase additional potatoes as needs demand. The first million bushels will be bought within six weeks. Of this volume, 500 carloads will be sent to New York City, the total number of carloads to be 2,000 with the belief that 800 carloads will come from North Carolina as it is first with its crop.

It was stated at the conference that North Carolina had increased its Irish potato crop this year by 33 per cent, that Virginia had increased average by 19 per cent, and Maryland by at least 10 per cent.

Agricultural Relief Administration authorities stated frankly to Senator Bailey and Dr. Miller that the government will find it necessary to take steps with a view to curtailing production in order to prevent further increases in acreage in the potato area, but that this curtailment will be deferred for the present, and is not involved in the purchase of potatoes in the existing emergency.

Federation Votes A Dividend 3 Per Cent

FOREST CITY, June 26.—The board of directors of the Farmers Federation has voted a dividend of 3 per cent to preferred and common stockholders for the first six months of 1934 for payment June 30, according to an announcement made by James G. K. McClure of Asheville, president and general manager of the federation.

Rutherford county stockholders scheduled to receive dividends will total nearly 200. The large majority of these stockholders are said to be farmers who own the common or voting stock. The organization is chartered under the cooperative principal whereby each common stockholder has one vote in the election of the board of directors, so that the owner of one share of stock has as large a vote as the owners of several shares.

Advise Closing Of Hosiery Mills For Week In July

Code Authority Recommends Two Weeks' Holiday Throughout Industry.

NEW YORK, June 26.—The Hosiery Code authority unanimously recommended Friday that every hosiery plant in the country be required to close for two weeks between July 1 and September 1.

The announcement was made by Earl Constantine, executive director of the authority, at the conclusion of a two-day session of the board. "Each plant," he said, "will be free to select the two weeks it prefers, and such two weeks need not be consecutive."

"The authority also decided to recommend that the length of shifts of productive operations be reduced from 40 hours to 35, including full fashioned footing equipment operated on a two-shift basis, effective July 16."

"The authority decided to recommend that those minimum wage provisions of the code which have proved to be materially below prevailing actual earnings and therefore ineffective, be increased to an extent which will substantially protect the overwhelming majority of the mills from the unfair competition resulting from the few mills whose wage rates approximate the minimum wages, making such minimum wages in effect maximums."

The authority voted unanimously to petition for an amendment to the code whereby installation of additional productive equipment would require a certificate from the authority.

The authority, Constantine said, is preparing a special communication to all hosiery manufacturers on the subject of production control, pointing out the necessity for further restriction in output.

"The manufacturers," he added, "will be given opportunity to express their views clearly on the various possible forms of curtailment or to indicate that they do not favor curtailment."

Investors Show Their Faith In Land Values

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 26.—Indicating the faith of investors in the Federal Land Banks of the country, the issue of Federal Land Bank bonds amounting to \$131,400,000 offered to the investing public on June 18 was oversubscribed by 11:15 that morning. These bonds were issued for the purpose of refunding a similar amount of Federal Land bank bonds bearing 4 3/4 per cent interest which have been called for July 1, 1934.

The new refunding issue was the largest ever offered to the public by the twelve Federal Land Banks of the country at one time. The hearty reception accorded them indicates faith on the part of the American people in the land banks of the country and the value of farm lands.

Scenes from Drought-Stricken States



As drought becomes more acute in West and Mid-West, dairy cattle, facing starvation are either being slaughtered or driven in search of new pastures hundreds of miles away. Above a herd is shown on trek near Neilsville, Wis. Below, scene near Gregory, S. D., shows how parched land, blown into dust, heaps up in drifts like snow in a blizzard. Here the dust has piled up until it reached eaves of barn.

40,000 In Carolina Liable For Licenses

Schedule "B" License Taxes Are Due July 1 With Penalty For Non-Payment.

RALEIGH, June 26.—About 40,000 North Carolina persons, firms and corporations liable for schedule B license taxes have so far failed to make payment, although such taxes have been due since June 1, and a penalty of five percent will be added in licenses are not secured this month, Commissioner Maxwell warns.

Any such person, firm or corporation doing business under the law must have the license by July 1 or be subject to the penalty, as well as indictment for a misdemeanor. Commissioner Maxwell states. Taxpayers are warned not to wait for a deputy commissioner to call on him for payment, as failure of the deputy to call for it is no excuse for non-payment on the part of the taxpayer.

If the taxpayer is one day late, that is, if he does not have the license when he opens for business or profession on July 1, then the department will be compelled to add the five per cent penalty. Mr.

Over Two Thousand Lawyers Pay Dues

Bar Association Collects \$3 From Each Attorney, Probably 100 Not Paid.

RALEIGH, June 26.—About 2,235 North Carolina lawyers have paid their annual dues of \$3 to the North Carolina State Bar, created by the 1933 general assembly, for the year 1933, while there are probably 100 more lawyers in the state supposedly active in practice, who have not paid the 1933 dues, according to Henry M. London, secretary of the State Bar.

The dues for 1934 are due and payable at any time from January 1 to July 1, and must be paid by the latter date, or lawyers refusing to pay by that time are subject to being disqualified by any judge before whom he attempts to practice, as provided in the law. Notices of these dues went out early in June and up to Saturday only 300 or 400 lawyers had paid the 1934 dues, Mr. London

said. Numbers of lawyers paid the 1933 and 1934 dues at the same time.

The few 1933 delinquents are expected to pay up next week, during the latter part of which both the N. C. State Bar and the N. C. Bar association hold annual meetings in Durham, at Duke university. The State Bar meets June 28 during the day and that night a three-day session of the voluntary association starts.

Boy Drowns Trying To Rescue Swimmer

YEMASSEE, S. C., June 26.—James Curtis Prentice 18, was drowned in Pocatigoo river near here yesterday afternoon when he went to rescue another swimmer. James Edward Gatch, 11, who was caught in a whirlpool.

His absence was not noted until a party of swimmers, who had rescued Gatch, had returned to the shore. His body was recovered several hours later. He was the son of the Rev. A. D. Prentice, pastor of the Baptist church at Sheldon, near here.

Hosiery Men Meet At Blowing Rock To Consider Code

Manufacturers to Meet Next Month. To Consider Changes In Code.

CHARLOTTE, June 26.—Plans for curtailment, increasing minimum wage requirements and other problems of the hosiery industry will be discussed at a meeting of the Southern Hosiery Manufacturers association to be held in Blowing Rock on July 5 and 6, it was announced yesterday by Taylor R. Durham, executive secretary of the association.

John E. Edgerton of Lebanon, Tenn., for several years president of the National association of Hosiery Manufacturers and now president of the Southern States Industrial council, will make the principal address. Mr. Durham said that an interesting program is being planned and that between 200 and 250 persons are expected to attend.

Charlotte hosiery manufacturers had not received their questionnaires on plans of the code authority yesterday. These questionnaires will be sent to all hosiery manufacturers of the country to give them a chance to vote on the recommendations made by the authority at its meeting in New York on June 22.

These recommendations call for closing of every hosiery plant in the country for two weeks between July 1 and September 1; for reducing the length of shifts of productive operations from 40 hours to 35, including full-fashioned footing equipment operated on a two-shift basis, effective July 16; and recommending that those minimum wage provisions of the code which have proved to be materially below prevailing actual earnings and therefore ineffective, be increased to an extent which will substantially protect the overwhelming majority of the mills from unfair competition resulting from the few mills whose wage rates approximate the minimum wages, making such minimum wages in effect maximums.

Before these plans will be presented to Administrator Johnson of the NRA, all manufacturers will be given an opportunity to vote on them said Mr. Durham.

Charlotte hosiery plants are so busy that it is understood that manufacturers feel that to close down for two weeks would work a great hardship on them. It will be several days before there is definite information as to whether recommendations of the code authority will be placed in effect.

Sales Tax Will Reach 6 Millions By July

RALEIGH, June 26.—Governor Ehringhaus said today that the sales tax through Saturday had netted the state of North Carolina \$5,934,384.35 in revenue during the past year. The figures were gleaned from a report from the revenue department through June 23.

"I am confident now that the sales tax will net the state six million dollars in revenue by July 1, the end of the fiscal year," the governor stated.

Rats Cause Quake And Puzzle Prof.

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 26.—Rats caused the first by "earthquakes" recorded by seismographic instruments at the University of South Carolina.

Prof. A. C. Carson, head of the physics department, said he noticed extreme recordings by the delicate instruments for several days after they were installed.

No devastating earthquakes occurred, however, and Carson set a rat trap upon a hunch. He caught seven rats in all.

Examination showed they had smelled the castor oil used as a lubricant and base for the instrument and had lapped it up.

With the oil gone, the needles immediately recorded cataclysmic damage in the Orient.

Jury Will Probe Into Parole Fraud

Wake County Grand Jury Begins To Delve Into Charges Prisoners Have Been Cheated.

RALEIGH, June 26.—Charges of fraud in connection with obtaining of money from prisoners seeking paroles were under investigation today by the Wake county grand jury here.

Hugh S. Lee, foreman of the jury already has obtained statements from prison officials.

Governor Ehringhaus withheld comment on this news last night, saying, "I have turned the investigation over to Commissioner of Paroles Edwin M. Gill and until I have a report from him, I will have nothing to say."

Gill said he wanted "all aid possible in the investigation of this matter, and am glad the jury has begun a probe. I shall be glad to cooperate."

Gill has informed Lee he will be glad to appear before the grand jury as a witness.

The jury will convene when the next term of criminal court opens here July 9.

Investigation of a purported parole racket, in which unsuspecting prisoners are relieved of money by parties promising to obtain their parole, was started here by the arrest of George Romanus, private detective, and A. W. Pate, hotel manager.

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