

Tenant Status Is Cleared As Agent Issues Statement

1935 Contracts Are Similar to 1034

Farmers And Tenants Pointed To Contract; Acreage Is Still In Doubt.

In reply to the numerous queries as to the status of tenant farmers in the county for next year the office of the county agent has issued a statement explanatory to the situation.

R. W. Shoffner said today that section 7 of the 1934-35 cotton reduction contract is very clear on the tenant problem and adds that the new contract will be virtually the same.

The county agent gives this illustration which is purposed to make the contract agreements clear:

"If a landlord had a managing share tenant or a cash tenant or a cash tenant or share-cropper or any form of tenant in the year 1934, he can not change the status of this tenant whereas it will enable him to collect more of the rental fees. He will retain on this farm the same number of tenants so far as possible, for the year 1935 as he had in 1934. However, there is no objection in changing tenants. I would advise reading your contract thoroughly to be familiar with this particular question.

"As to the number of acres that can be planted in 1935, we are unable to give this from official announcements. We hope to have this information in a week or so. However, the contract states that you will be allowed to plant 75 percent of your base acreage, if you base acreage remains the same. You will be notified just as soon as this information is available."

Two Witnesses



In recognition of their successes, John Boggis, top, and his brother, Dan Boggs, below, life prisoners at Ohio penitentiary, Columbus, have been freed at the order of Governor George White. While inmates at the prison, where they had been sent for murder, John had three college degrees in a correspondence course, and Dan built up a mail order business that netted him a small fortune.

Legislators Are Organized Now To Begin Long Grind

Organization Week Is Over

Hear Message, Name Committees, And Put Several Bills In Law Hopper.

RALEIGH, Jan. 14.—The North Carolina general assembly met last Wednesday, organized, notified the governor it was ready for business, heard his biennial message Thursday night, received a few bills, named the necessary committees and called it a week, having brief sessions each of the four days, and with only a handful of members in either house Saturday, when local matters only were considered, with few of those to claim attention.

One election contest loomed, that of John Woodfin, Alexander, Democrat, who ran as an independent, against Dr. C. R. Zickler, Democrat, declared elected.

Several bills were dropped into senate and house hoppers, but waited for the naming of committees Monday night. Many of them had to do with highways and automobiles. Two would abolish tolls on the Chowan and Cape Fear river bridges, the highway fund paying the bonds. Another would provide for right-of-way for the Parkway going to the Great Smoky Mountains National park.

Motor bills include one to increase penalties for drunken driving; another would change the date of sale from January 1 to October 1, another reducing the license plates from the present 55 cents a 100 pounds to \$5; another calls for a drivers' license law, examinations costing \$1.20 for drivers and \$3 for chauffeurs, with revoking for manslaughter, drunken driving, hit-and-run, and other violations, with radio for patrol, sheriffs and police control; and a resolution asked congress to curb reckless interstate driving, using federal highway patrolmen.

One bill, in line with Governor Ehringhaus' recommendation, would provide for unemployment, old age and other forms of social insurance, with a minimum of \$3 a week and \$1 for each dependent, and going to women eight weeks before and eight weeks after childbirth. The state would furnish the fund.

Other bills introduced during the first week, in brief, follow: Tax persons, firms and corporations engaged in buying or selling stocks, bonds, cotton, grain, provisions and other commodities on a graduated scale from \$100 to \$600, depending on the size of town or city where operated.

Abolish the absentee ballot law, bills in bo'v houses. Limit divorce, by allowing the injured party only to get a divorce in two years. Establish the Southport port commission, to establish a port terminal. Outlaw slot machines, making it unlawful to make or operate them in the state. Place a special tax on cigarettes, cigars, snuff and tobacco, to be earmarked especially for the school fund, 15c per 1,000 on cigarettes, 25c per 1,000 on cigars. Provide constitutional amendment raising income tax limit from 6 to 12 cents.

In addition to the election of Dr. Thompson the board made preliminary plans for a number of pre-school clinics to be held in the county this spring. At that time children who will go to school next year will be asked to come to school for an examination of eyes, ears, nose and throat, that the physicians may make recommendations to the parents before the child enters school.

As quarantine officers, other county physicians will notify him of all reportable diseases in the county, such as whooping cough, measles, and others on a list prepared by the state board of health.

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Hit And Run Hit and run drivers were conspicuous in the seven deaths counted in North Carolina this week-end. Deaths were reported in many sections of the state.

Judge Holds Man Null and Void; Shelby Jury Almost Has The Case

A voluntary jury, composed mostly of lawyers and impaneled at the request of O. M. Mull in a divorce case Saturday morning found themselves charged by Judge Felix Alley to remain for the day in the custody of the sheriff to consider the Hall Johnson case, and some of them were getting worried until they learned what the gag was.

Mr. Mull, who seldom appears in court, came to ask a divorce for Lena Bright, whose husband was W. H. Bright. Requesting a jury, the following volunteers walked into the box: C. C. Horn, Peyton McSwain, C. B. McBrayer, Bynum Weathers, Cleveland Gardner, Ernest Gardner, B. T. Falls (all attorneys).

In Newest Hop Across Pacific



Amelia Earhart Putnam, who has twice sped across the Atlantic through the air, on Saturday made the great hop across the Pacific ocean in her red Lockheed Vega monoplane. She landed in California at 4.20 p. m., completing a 2,400 solo flight from Hawaii.

To Hold Last Rites Today For Late Dennis Brummitt

Thomas Costner Buried Sunday

Seventy-Six Year Old Farmer Is Buried At Pleasant Grove Church.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at Pleasant Grove church for Thomas Costner who died in the Beams Mill community Friday, following a long decline in health.

Mr. Costner was a prominent farmer in that section but suffered a breakdown in health several years ago. He was born June 5th, 1858 and was 76 and a half years old at the time of his death. He was a son of the late Jacob and Martha Gladden Costner and was married to Ida Hamrick on April 24th, 1879 to which union eleven children were born, seven boys and four girls. Surviving are his wife and the following children: Pressley, of this county, Mrs. L. G. Smith of Cherryville, Hoyle Costner, Mrs. C. F. Hendrick, Mrs. Ester Cooke of this county, Mrs. Fred Grigg of Burlington, Evans of Kings Mountain and Yates Costner who lives at home.

Also surviving are three brothers, Alex, Julius and Perry Costner. An only sister preceded him to the grave.

The Rev. D. G. Washburn, pastor, had charge of the funeral services and a large crowd was in attendance.

Nolan Infant Is Buried At Dover

The Rev. W. A. Elam, pastor of the Dover Baptist church will conduct this afternoon at 4:30 funeral services for the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. D. K. Nolan which was born at the Shelby hospital yesterday and died there this morning. The child lived about 17 hours.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. M. E. White a fine son Saturday night, Mr. and Mrs. White live on the Fallston road. Mother and baby, Robert James, are doing nicely.

City Buys Three Tons Asphalt For Streets

Three tons of asphalt has been purchased for the repair of the city streets, it is learned from Mayor McMurry. Many holes are in the paved streets and in order to repair these holes and patch up the curbs, a quantity of material is being ordered for work which will begin perhaps this week.

Clyde Hoey To Talk At Banquet Tonight

At least 150 persons are expected to attend the Chamber of Commerce and Merchant's Association banquet at the Hotel Charles tonight.

Courtroom Awed By First Sentence In Three Decades

Tears In Judge's Eyes As He Reads It

Hushed Crowd Stands As Judge Alley Reads Impressive Decree To Prisoner Sentell.

Throgs in an over-crowded court room Saturday afternoon stood in solemn fascination and sympathy as Judge Felix Alley pronounced sentence of death upon Louis Sentell.

It was the first time in thirty years, since a negro was found guilty of the murder of Chief of Police Ed Hamrick, that a man had been sentenced to die in this county.

Judge Alley's Remarks

A tremor passed through the court room as Judge Alley revealed Sentell's fate in his first slow, careful words:

"The law has imposed upon me the unspeakably painful duty—"

But Sentell himself did not flinch.

"... that of pronouncing the sentence of death upon a young man whom I never saw before until..."

The crowd caught its breath. Voices of children playing in the court yard echoed through the tall windows, streaming with sunlight.

"... he was brought before me charged with the crime of murder in the first degree."

Slowly, Judge Alley half-recited, half-read his address.

He said:

"At all times and under all circumstances, a feeling of indescribable solemnity attends utterance of the stern voice which with relentless justice consigns a fellow being to an untimely and ignominious..."

(Continued on Page Eight)

Joe Wright Returns To Practice Of Law

Joseph M. Wright, formerly judge of the recorder's court, has reopened his offices in the Webb building for the practice of law. After serving his term as county judge, for which he received high praise from Cleveland attorneys, Mr. Wright was succeeded by Bynum E. Weathers.

Red Cross Nurse Resigns Post Here

Miss Irene Covington, Red Cross nurse, who has been serving this county for several weeks, has resigned because of ill health, but a successor will be elected at an early date and enter upon her duties here.

Guy Roberts Goes To Clevecloth Today

Guy Roberts who has been one of the head tilters at the First National bank for more than a dozen years, has accepted a position in the office of the Cleveland Cloth mill. He enters upon his duties today, doing clerical work for this organization.

Teachers Will Be Paid \$7,000 Today

Checks will be distributed on Wednesday of this week to all teachers in the Shelby public school system for their past month's salaries. It is understood that the checks will total approximately \$7,000.

Charmingly Vague, Clyde Hoey Again Avoids an Announcement

Clyde R. Hoey's attitude toward reporters who plague him with that ubiquitous question, "Will you or will you not run?" is still as suave, as characteristic, and as unsatisfactory for reasonable speculation as the flame-red carnation in the lapel of his sharply-pressed frock coat.

Mr. Hoey has been to Washington, where he talked with Farmer Bob Doughton, chairman of the ways and means committee, and much-talked of as a possible candidate for governor. This conference, newspaper folk reckoned, which would decide which giant of the current political scene would run for the office.

Sentell's Doom Set For 1st Anniversary Of Florence's Death

Hushed Courtroom Hears First Extreme Penalty Sentence Here In Thirty Years; Appeal To Supreme Court

In a hushed and crowded courtroom, oppressed by the foreboding of impending death and awed by the solemn timbre of a gentle judge's voice, Louis Sentell, murderer of Mrs. William Drake, was sentenced to die in the electric chair Feb. 15, the first Cleveland county man to meet such a fate in three decades.

Has \$25,000,000



John D. Rockefeller, Jr., above, has reported to the Securities and Exchange Commission that his Standard Oil stock holdings total more than 10 million shares, worth approximately \$250,000,000 at present prices. The report was filed in accordance with a regulation of the Securities Act.

Perhaps it was coincidence. Perhaps it was the cycle of fate spinning the pattern for the former hosier weaver. And maybe it was by design. Be that as it may, Feb. 15, noon, will be the anniversary, one year to the day of the killings of Mrs. Drake—the girl known as Florence Jones.

Sentell Resigned. Judge Felix E. Alley, with tear-glistering on his cheeks, read his decree Saturday afternoon in a voice sometimes wavering with emotion. Louis Sentell sat before him, silent and unmindful, as if long ago he had read the will of the law and was resigned to it.

His aged mother and father wept on either side. His two bright-faced children and his dark, grieving wife sat behind, dry-eyed and pale.

Courtroom Crowded. A courtroom crowded to the limit blinked a few tears and shaded its eyes from panels of pale mid-afternoon sunlight streaming through the huge windows. Outside, the happy cries of playing children were wafted up to mingle with the pronouncement of death.

The crowd was moved not so much by the fate of Sentell, and the emotional revelations of his thwarted, tragic romance with 23-year-old Florence Jones (M. Drake) as by the eloquent peroration of Judge Alley's address to the prisoner before passing sentence.

Earlier in the day, the jury brought in the verdict of guilty murder in the first degree.

Jury Asks Information. Nixon Whitman, of No. 8 Township, had been designated by his fellow jurors to ask the judge what the sentence for second degree murder would be.

"It is the function of the jury to decide the facts in the case. The punishment is the duty of the law."

(Continued on page five.)

Dorton Heads N. C. Fair Association

Shelby Man Elected As Plans Are Discussed For Coming Season At Meet.

RALEIGH, Jan. 12.—Dr. J. S. Dorton of Shelby today was elected president of the North Carolina Association of Agricultural Fairs as plans were discussed for the fair season in the fall of 1935.

Dr. Dorton succeeds C. S. Parnell of Mebane, who was elected secretary of the ensuing year. C. W. Hollowbush of Wilmington was named vice president.

Elected to the board of directors were: C. M. Height of Henderson, John Robertson of Hickory, N. G. Bartlett of Kinston, N. Y. Chambliss of Rocky Mount, and Jack W. McMahon of High Point.

About 150 fair operators and concessionaires were present and heard talks about fairs and their relations to farm, home and school life.

Senator Thompson In Car Wreck; Is Unhurt

Both Members Of The General Assembly Spent Week-End At Home.

Senator Carl Thompson has a slight cut on his forehead as a result of a car wreck. He was returning home Friday afternoon and just on the edge of Raleigh, a cable on the steering apparatus broke, the car left the road and struck an embankment. Mr. Thompson driving alone was unhurt except for a slight head bruise. The car was repaired and he drove it on home.

Representative Ernest Gardner came on Friday to be with his family. His brother-in-law, Herman A. Beam, cashier at the Union Trust Co. at Fallston, is a patient in the Shelby hospital and was reported to be much improved this morning.

Thompson and Gardner left Shelby this morning together, returning to Raleigh where tonight the governor's budget will be presented to the general assembly.

Late News

THE MARKETS Cotton, spot — 22 1/2 to 23 1/2 Cotton seed, ton, wagon — \$44.00

Fair and Colder

Weather forecast for North Carolina: Fair and colder Monday, much colder Monday night; Tuesday fair and colder.

Hitlerism Wins

Half a million Saarlanders voted yesterday and the majority of them wanted to reunite with Germany—under Der Fuehrer Adolf Hitler—after 15 years under the control of the League of Nations. Even pro-French voters admitted the Hitler victory. The election was to settle an issue between France and Germany, and the prize was the rich coal fields in the Saar. The territory lies close to Belgium, between France and Germany.

Upholds Profits

Secretary Roper announced yesterday that business was beginning to realize that the administration was saving the country from Socialism. "The government is with business," he said, and "wishes to encourage it. The bugaboo that the government is opposed to the profit motive in business is gone."

To Free Assets

The securities and exchange commission yesterday announced new measures to smash the ice-jam of frozen assets and permit some \$3,000,000,000 of new securities to flow down the recovery channel. In the most far-reaching financial step of the commission, it has made new regulations simplifying requirements for new issues.

Seek Air Marks

Miami will witness several tries for new world records in the air meet opening there today. Approximately 200 army craft will try for a mark of their own. In the meantime, about 30 planes will take off on the annual good-will tour of Florida.

Builders Conferring On School Colonnade

Architects, contractors and Tom Kennedy, PWA inspector, were conferring at the high school this morning on possible alterations to be made in the colonnade, or arcade, to be erected between the two high school buildings. Contract for the colonnade has been awarded to the Morrison-Falls company of Shelby, and construction is expected to start this week. Work is already under way on the Dover and negro school buildings.