

# Report From Washington

By Congressman Walter B. Jones

Some observations regarding the August 27 North Carolina Primary are that there seemed to be universal discontent of the Primary being held in August rather than the customary month of May. No one seems to understand why the change was made, but certainly it was reflected in the rather light vote on that date. Of course, in eastern North Carolina many are still busy with farms, and others were taking vacations and were out of place. In addition, the date between the Second Primary in September and the November election is a relatively short period of time and certainly will not allow sufficient time to heal whatever political wounds might be incurred. As a candidate, I certainly hope that the General Assembly will correct this error and will return to the May date for our State Primaries.

There was a general consensus, at least on the State level, that there were a large number of extremely qualified candidates for the various offices. Many stated to me that they felt that of the four major candidates for Governor, each would make an able administrator. With that feeling, it was a rather mild surprise that Lieutenant Governor Jim Hunt could secure a majority the first time around.

In addition to other conflicts with the North Carolina Primary was the distraction of the Republican National Convention, which, incidentally, resembled some former Democratic Conventions rather than the normal Republican Conventions.

It certainly came as a complete surprise to most everyone I am sure, that Senator Bob Dole of Kansas was named as the Vice Presidential candidate. When I first came to the Congress, he was a Member of the House and served with me on the Agriculture Committee. The Republican ticket is indeed strange in that both candidates come from the Midwest section of the country. However, now

the emphasis on the part of both Parties as well as the candidates will be on the General Election on November 2nd.

Congress reconvened on Monday, August 23 with much major legislation yet to be considered. Four major appropriation bills remain to be approved by both Houses before Congress can adjourn - they are: the Department of Defense appropriations, District of Columbia, Legislative Branch appropriations and Foreign Aid. Also the Conference Report on the HEW appropriations remain.

Also to be considered is a revision in the Food Stamp Program which has been reported to the full House by the Agriculture Committee. I have discussed the contents of this bill in previous columns.

Other major legislation still to be considered by the Congress before adjournment are: Clean Air Act amendments, Tax Reform bill, Toxic Substance Control and the Estate and Gift Tax bill.

In conclusion, I want to express my appreciation for the fine vote received in the Democratic Primary, and as always will make every effort to justify the confidence placed in me by you in the future.

Intolerance is certainly one subject that many people talk about and then fail to practice.

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## Farm Tips

By Dr. J. W. Pou  
Agricultural Specialist  
Wachovia Bank & Trust Co., N.A.



### EXPORTS ACCOUNT FOR BIG SHARE OF N. C. AGRICULTURAL INCOME

Of every \$100 received by Tar Heel farmers from crop and livestock marketings, nearly \$30 comes from commodities that are exported, according to Bill Humphries, agricultural information specialist at N. C. State University. During fiscal 1975 the value of North Carolina's agricultural exports was an estimated \$765 million.

Dr. Charles Pugh, extension economist at N. C. State, said this figure represented nearly 30 percent of the value of the state's farm marketings in calendar year 1974.

"Thus, the economy of North Carolina is highly dependent on the export market," the economist said.

The state ranks 10th in the nation in value of agricultural exports.

At the national level the leading commodities in export value are wheat, feed grains and soybeans, but the role of tobacco is the key to North Carolina's position among the "Big Ten" states in farm exports.

Tobacco exports accounted for almost \$460 million or 60 percent of Tar Heel agricultural exports in fiscal 1975.

"This important stake in international trade results from the prominent position of leaf production in the state's agriculture and the high percentage of the crop going into export trade," Pugh said.

North Carolina produces two-thirds of the U. S. output of flue-cured or bright leaf tobacco, and also grows some burley leaf. In addition, about 55 percent of the nation's cigarettes are manufactured in Durham, Greensboro, Reidsville and Winston-Salem.

Unmanufactured leaf and manufactured tobacco products from North Carolina are shipped each year to more than 100 countries around the globe.

Nationally, Pugh said, wheat, feed grains and soybeans accounted for over 68 percent of all U. S. agricultural exports in fiscal 1975, with the value of exports about equally divided among the three categories. Cotton, rice and tobacco were the next leading national farm exports.

The dominance of grains in international trade is reflected in the states that rank higher than North Carolina in value of exports. Illinois, Iowa, Kansas and Texas are ranked at the top, followed by California, Minnesota, Nebraska, Indiana, Arkansas and then, North Carolina.

The estimated value of agricultural exports attributed to North Carolina in fiscal 1975 were:

Tobacco, \$459.6 million; soybeans, \$107.6 million; feed grains, \$105.8 million; wheat, \$29.3 million; peanuts, \$18 million; cotton and cottonseed, \$13.4 million; livestock products, \$12.4 million; poultry, \$9.9 million; fruits and vegetables, \$4 million; other agricultural exports, \$4.7 million.

These estimates from the U. S. Department of Agriculture were based on allocation of the production in the respective states and the proportion of each commodity exported. No attempt was made, Pugh said, to trace actual commodity shipments or to determine whether a state's output was destined primarily for the domestic or the export market.

## Lime Testing

### Free Service

Tell me something about lime. What does it do? How does it work?

Agents of the Agricultural Extension Service get dozens of questions like this each day.

Liming is a relatively simple farm and garden practice, yet it is often misunderstood, according to R. M. Thompson, County Extension Chairman.

"If people will remember six points about liming, I believe that a lot of the misunderstanding can be cleared up," Thompson added.

1. Lime neutralizes excessive soil acidity or raises the pH level of soil. Over-acid soils are toxic or poisonous to plants, especially young seedlings.

2. An estimated 60 to 80 per cent of North Carolina soils are too acid for best farm and garden results. This acidity problem builds up gradually as a result of climatic conditions and cropping practices.

3. The only sure way to tell if soil needs lime and how much is through a soil test. The N. C. Department of Agriculture offers such a testing service free.

4. Lime does not move in the soil. Therefore, it must be spread evenly and mixed thoroughly in the soil if it is to be of maximum benefit.

5. Lime reacts more slowly than fertilizer. Therefore, it should be applied several weeks or months before planting time. Also, the benefits of lime will last longer than those of fertilizer. Most Coastal Plain soils need lime about once every two or three years. Most Piedmont and Mountain soils need lime about once every four or five years.

6. Crops such as soybeans, peanuts, cotton, and many forage legumes and certain vegetables are quite sensitive to low soil pH. Except in the high organic soils, these crops do best in pH range of 5.8 - 6.2. A few crops such as blueberries and azaleas like more acid soils, or soils with a pH range of 4.0 - 4.5.

County extension offices have additional information on liming for people who want to know more about this important, yet misunderstood, practice Thompson said.



Freezing decreases onion flavor, increases the flavor of garlic and spices.

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FOR THE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE  
IN THE AUGUST 17 PRIMARY.

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## The POCKETBOOK IMPACT of POLITICS

### Colleges Called System's Best Hope

Ignorance of economics has led to an "ever-increasing flood" of regulations, restrictions and taxes that are hobbling the nation's ability to generate the \$4 trillion in private investment and nearly 20 million new jobs that will be needed by 1985, the chairman of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. said recently.

In a speech to the first National Conference of University and Business Leaders at Kent State University in Akron, Ohio, Charles G. Pilliod said the nation's colleges and universities represent the best hope to counteract forces "that threaten to render free enterprise impotent and also are undermining the freedoms of the education system."

He urged the education leaders to take the initiative in building public understanding of the free enterprise system and mending America's social and economic fabric.

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