

# Conservation Workshop Next Week In Asheville



REPORT FROM  
U.S. Senator  
**JESSE ★★  
HELMS**

WASHINGTON—The big jetliner had almost reached the runway, preparatory to taking off, when the pilot's voice came on the speaker system: "Ladies and gentlemen," he said, "if you have the feeling that we are returning to the terminal, you are right. One of our engines is frozen, and we'll have to thaw it out before we can leave for Washington."

It was ten days before Christmas, and dawn was just breaking on that chilled Massachusetts morning. The temperature had hovered at the zero-mark throughout the night, and a heavy snow was falling.

We returned to the terminal. The engine was thawed—and, 40 minutes behind schedule, the enormous jet lifted off the runway, headed south.

CONGESTED—I looked down at the congested city below, with its snarled traffic and the great mass of brownstone buildings which countless thousands of people call home. No open spaces, just clogged streets, and noisy traffic. I mean no offense to Bostonians who no doubt love their way of life, but the sight made me all the happier that I am a resident of North Carolina.

I had appeared the night before on a program with Ronald Reagan—at a dinner about 40 miles from Boston. Afterwards, the drive back into Boston, amidst heavy traffic and on an icy superhighway, was not the most delightful of experiences.

INCOME—On the flight to Washington, I pondered the tendency of some North Carolinians to cite Massachusetts as a model for good living. Yet, I doubt that many North Carolinians would trade their lifestyles with the people of Massachusetts or New York—or any of several other states.

Often, politicians downgrade North Carolina as being a "poor" state. Always, they cite per capita income statistics. And it is, indeed, a fact that the per capita income in Massachusetts is nearly \$1,200 per year higher than North Carolina's.

But that is a deceptive and misleading statistic. Actually, in terms of income that the working people can spend on themselves and their families, North Carolina is far ahead of Massachusetts, New York, and other states.

STEDMAN—My friend, David Stedman of Asheboro, recently sent Governor Hunt and me copies of a most revealing economic study conducted a few months ago by the First National Bank of Chicago.

This study emphasized that per capita income statistics are meaningless, unless you consider the cost of living—and the taxes—in each state. When that is done, North Carolina's adjusted per capita income is \$572 higher than that of Massachusetts, and \$245 higher than New York's.

NUMBER 17—North Carolina, in fact, ranks 17th in the nation in adjusted per capita income—ahead of New York (No. 25) and Massachusetts (No. 28), and within a couple hundred dollars of Pennsylvania, Michigan and Ohio.

Congressman Lamar Gudger has extended an invitation to all local officials of Western North Carolina to attend an Intergovernmental Energy Conservation Workshop to be co-sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development and himself. The workshop is scheduled for Jan. 4 and 5 at the Inn on the Plaza in Asheville.

"The workshop will be designed to inform local officials of energy conservation practices and opportunities that are important to local units of government," Gudger said. "I feel that this upcoming conference will be very important because of the great emphasis being placed on energy conservation at the national level. While we must all be thinking about energy conservation, local governments in particular are in an excellent position to set an example for their communities. Energy conservation not only saves energy but saves dollars! Furthermore in the near future, additional federal funds may be available to local governments that choose to participate in energy conservation efforts."

Gudger said that energy conservation experts from Federal, State and local governments as well as the private sector will be speaking at the conference on how local governments can utilize existing energy conservation programs. All local units of government should attend the workshop and should encourage their council or commission members, professional managers and administrators, building inspectors, and public works directors to attend this conference.

The workshop will begin at 1 p.m. on Jan. 4. In addition to the regularly schedule program, an informal gathering with Congressman Gudger and guests is planned for the evening of Jan. 4.

The Congressman went on to explain that the Intergovernmental Energy Conservation Workshop is the first part of a two phase energy conservation program for Western North Carolina to be administered by the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development. Phase one of the program is aimed at informing local governments about energy conservation practices and encouraging the involvement of local governments in energy conservation. The second phase of the program intends to provide assistance to local communities in conducting energy conservation workshops for the people in their communities.

## MH-30 Ban Disastrous For Growers?

"It would be disastrous for tobacco growers if maleic hydrazide (MH-30) was no longer available for use," John Sledge, president of the 154,000-member North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, has declared.

The state farm organization responded to an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) review in the "Federal Register" concerning the benefits-risks of the use of the chemical. Although this does not constitute a ban of the chemical, it does raise future possibilities of such action.

Maleic hydrazide is used primarily for sucker control for both flue-cured and burley tobacco as well as on some fruit and vegetable crops.

Sledge charged that the EPA action is "just part of a continuing effort on the part of government bureaucracy to assert its will by means of unwarranted and unwise regulations".

In his response to EPA,

Sledge pointed out that the farm organization at its recent annual convention in Greensboro went on record favoring the continued use of MH-30 for the production of tobacco.

He emphasized that the sucker control chemical is applied to almost the total harvested acreage of flue-cured and burley tobacco produced in North Carolina. "We simply cannot allow tobacco farmers to be robbed of one of their most important economic tools of production. It has been used for 20 years and we are not aware of any comparable replacement now or in the immediate future."

Sledge further stated that the economic aspects of the chemical can easily be documented when the costs per acre for sucker control is estimated in 1977 by USDA's Economic Research Service to be \$28.50. This compares to at least \$75 per acre if hand labor were used and was even

available. Sledge also said that about 35 per cent of the flue-cured tobacco in the state is machine harvested and 52 per cent cured in bulk barns which practically "mandates that tobacco leaves be free of suckers for efficient harvesting and the production of a quality leaf".

The leader of the farm organization emphasized that "there can be no question of the extremely important economic benefits of maleic hydrazide to all tobacco farmers of this state, and therefore to the economic welfare of the State of North Carolina".

As for any risks, he said, "It is my understanding that over a period of 20 years there has been no known case involving safety or health problems in North Carolina in connection with the use of the chemical."

"As a matter of fact, the findings of EPA are inconclusive and incomplete, and in one instance is contradictory to other studies made on the risks of using MH-30. EPA points out that the Federal Drug Administration has not even analyzed foods to monitor any possible pesticide residues of MH-30."

The Farm Bureau president said it is urgent that tobacco farmers rally behind the cause to keep one of their most

important tools in the production of flue-cured and burley tobacco.

### PREDICTION FOR INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY

NEW YORK (AP) — Industrial society is facing a transformation that will rival the fall of the Roman Empire, says Willis W. Harman in "Management Review," a publication of the American Management Associations.

Harman, a former White House consultant and member of the Stanford Research Institute, says the stability of modern society is being undercut by protest movements, alienation from work and Third World insistence on a new economic order.

According to Harman, the system also suffers from a lack of moral guidelines. He cites pollution, nuclear arsenals and uneven distribution of the earth's resources as evidence of weak social ethics.

Harman predicts these factors will create a period of intense chaos, one that may produce a "transindustrial society" which values moral principles as well as technology.

## Health Watch

Released by Madison County Medical Society and N.C. Medical Society

Carbon monoxide poisoning is usually associated with automobiles but can occur just as easily in your own house if you are not careful. Carbon monoxide — CO — is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas produced every time carbon-containing material burns.

The reason this gas is so dangerous is that CO combines with blood 200 times more easily than oxygen. If you breathe air containing a normal amount of oxygen and even a moderate amount of CO, your blood will be starved for oxygen. When your blood cannot supply the oxygen to the brain, permanent brain damage and even death can result.

Dangerous amounts of CO can accumulate when a coal, and slow fire burns in a limited air space. Since you cannot see, smell, or taste it the gas is hard to detect except by its symptoms. They include: drowsiness, headache,

tightness across the forehead, confusion, nausea, and muscular weakness. Carbon monoxide poisoning can confuse you to the point where you cannot reach fresh air and prevent serious injury.

To prevent CO poisoning in your home:

Have all heating systems checked annually for operating efficiency. Make sure all vents, pipes, flues, and chimneys are tight.

Make sure your heating plant is not starved for air.

Provide additional fresh air for charcoal grills used indoors. Better still, always use charcoal grills outdoors.

Don't close your fireplace damper until you are certain the fire is completely out.

Be sure your garage is sealed from the house. And NEVER let your car's engine run in a closed garage.

Be sure that all heating devices designed for venting are properly vented to the outside.



Best wishes to all our friends and neighbors. Have a good year.

McLeans Barber Shop  
Marshall



Silver bells chime, filling the air with heartfelt wishes, for a year of unlimited happiness, for all our devoted friends.

**Dodson's Grocery**  
Main Street  
Marshall, N.C.



Ring out, sing out happy wishes for a bright New Year. May the comfort and joy of the holidays live in our hearts through every season. May peace and brotherly love prevail—in families and among all mankind.

COAL FEED & LUMBER CO.  
Marshall, N.C.

## Elections Board Meets Here Monday

Announcement has been made that the Madison County Board of Elections will meet Dec. 30 at 10 o'clock in the Board of Elections Office on Main Street.

All meetings of the board are open to the public.

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