

BY SPANLEY WILBORNE

State Utilities Commissioner  
RALEIGH, N. C., Jan 4—(UP)

The year 1938 in the North Carolina Utilities Commission was marked by strides forward in securing electric rate reductions, telephone cuts and sweeping freight rate lowerings.

Electric rate reductions amounted to \$1,927,000. Telephone charges amounted to \$500,000, and freight rate charges amounted to \$900,000.

The reductions for 1938 together with the reductions secured during the prior three years now aggregate an annual saving to the people of the state in utilities and freight charges amounting to \$7,400,000.

The savings to the people of the state during the past four-year period in both utilities and freight charges, at a conservative estimate aggregate \$14,000,000. The reductions for the first two years were smaller than for the past two years.

Two especially notable cases of the year were those of the rate reduction of the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph company and that of the Emergency Freight charges.

After a lengthy hearing before the commission which began the previous year and probably the longest court hearings in the history of the state, an agreement was reached whereby the commission secured reductions throughout the exchanges of the Bell system amounting to \$350,000 yearly. In this decision a limit of 18 months was put on the differential payment on hamlets and relieved all subscribers who had already paid for a term of 18 months from any further payment.

In the Emergency Freight Charges case the commission refused to continue these charges which the rail carriers had been applying since April 18, 1935, to July 1, 1936; notwithstanding the fact that the Interstate Commerce Commission had granted this privilege to the carriers on interstate traffic in North Carolina. The carriers took the refusal of this Commission to permit these charges to the Interstate Commerce Commission which, after a hearing, sustained the State Commission in its action.

Throughout the year there was a formal hearing on the average of one a week, a number of which were lengthy and involved.

In addition to these formal actions there were more than 300 complaints filed with the commission involving every phase of regulation. Adjustments and disposition in most cases have been made.

With the exceptions of the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph company, all reductions were secured by conferences with the utilities involved.

Associate Commissioners Fred L. Seely of Asheville and Frank W. Hanft of Chapel Hill, have been called into numerous important hearings and have rendered valuable service to the people of the state.

A matter of major importance now ready to be issued is a citation to the rail carriers to appear before the commissioner and show why the interstate rates should not be reduced.

## Distressed Debtors Referred To County RR Supervisors

FARM DEBT ADJUSTMENT IS AVAILABLE TO ALL WHO NEED IT, MR. MARSHBURN SAYS

Mr. Jesse Murray, County Supervisor in charge of the Rural Rehabilitation Program of the Resettlement Administration in Pender County feels that there may be farmers in this section in danger of losing their property from foreclosure, or otherwise in distress on account of debt who could be helped by the Farm Debt Adjustment Service which is now a part of the Rural Rehabilitation Program of the Resettlement Administration.

"While thousands of distressed debtors in the nation and hundreds in this state have been helped to clear up their debt entanglements—land and chattel—to the

satisfaction of both creditor and debtor, recent studies indicate that there are still those who do not take advantage of the friendly debt consultation services offered by the Resettlement Administration," Mr. Marshburn said.

"While it is not always possible to save a farm from foreclosure, in many cases we do, and there is always a good chance that we can be of some assistance. The Farm Debt Adjustment Service is available to all farmers in serious difficulty on account of debts and it costs nothing to apply," he declared.

All one has to do is to address a postal card, or apply in person, to his nearest County Rural Rehabilitation Supervisor who will talk over the applicants' problems and advise him whether it is possible to assist him.

Mr. Marshburn's office is located in the County Annex Building, Kenansville.

Mr. Marshburn calls attention to the fact that voluntary committees, composed of public spirited citizens working without pay, other than actual expenses, have been organized in every county to help with this Farm Debt Adjustment Service. These committees meet with the debtor and creditor, try to have the debt reduced in accordance with the debtor's ability to pay, or to get the debtor more time in which to pay off the debt, or to find a new creditor.

To work with the Rural Rehabilitation Supervisors and with the county committees, and especially to handle the knottier problems, on or more Farm Debt Specialists have been assigned in each

state. These Specialists are versed in the problems of debt and the intricacies of refinancing. They are prepared to make a careful study for the more difficult debt problems. Particularly are these Specialists called in where there is an emergency situation threatening immediate foreclosure. Mr. C. W. E. Pittman is the debt specialist or Farm Debt Adjustment Supervisor, as he is technically called, covering this and several adjoining counties.

## Specialists Advise Scientific Methods

Another year with its uncertain welter of fortune or misfortune has been ushered in for N. Carolina farmers.

The New Year is a good time to begin applying more scientific practices to farms, say specialists at State College. The use of the latest approved practices will result in better yields in the case of crops and in better animals and birds in the case of livestock and poultry.

Practically every subject pertaining to the farm and to the

The animal husbandry program is presented each Monday and contains news and information on livestock growers. Much material is set aside for the poultry department to give advice on those who raise birds. The Home Administration department takes charge of the program each Thursday and brings advice and help to farm women. The horticulture and botany departments alternate on Tuesdays; the ecology and rural economics departments on Wednesdays; and the forestry and agronomy departments on Saturdays.

The schedule in full for the week of January 4-9 follows: Monday, Dr. C. D. Grinnelle, "Cattle Sanitation"; Tuesday, G. M. Swinegood, "4-H Club Work in Wake County"; Wednesday, Zoology Department; Thursday, Miss Anamerle Arant, "Better Home Practices for 1937"; Friday, Roy S. Dearstyn, "Which Way are We Pointing in Poultry Production?" and Saturday, C. B. Clevenger, "Building Your Soil".

## Dr. H. A. Edwards DENTIST

WARSAW, Monday, Friday, Saturday; KENANSVILLE, Tuesday; BEULAVILLE, Wednesday; Richlands, Thursday; PINK HILL, Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.

**Radio Refrigerator**  
SERVICE DEPARTMENT  
any repair to any Model Radio or Refrigerator. Batteries recharged.  
NOMINAL PRICES  
**L. HARVEY**  
1m IN KINSTON

**FOR SALE!**  
**Nice York Steers**  
1200 LBS. EACH — WELL BROKE - 4 AND 5 YEARS OLD  
**D. S. WILLIAMSON**  
KENANSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA



WESTERN UNION

MR. FARMER

TIME FOR PLANT BED FERTILIZER. USE BAUGH'S FOR BEST CROP RESULTS.....IT'S AGED!

BAUGH & SONS COMPANY  
NORFOLK, VA.  
NEW BERN, N.C.

**Stokes And Southerland**  
KENANSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

**Gardner Edwards**  
BEULAVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

**Bridgers And Hines**  
WARSAW, NORTH CAROLINA

**G. H. West And Son**  
WARSAW, NORTH CAROLINA

**SEVEN SPRINGS SUPPLY CO.**  
SEVEN SPRINGS, NORTH CAROLINA