

Through Capitol Keyholes

By BESS HINTON SILVER

CANDIDACY.—Some members of the General Assembly don't think that Senator Harris Newman, of New Hanover, and Representative Gregg Cherry, of Gastonia, Chairmen of Senate and House committees on Finance, have helped their reported candidacies for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, also respectively, by the speed they have attempted to apply to committee consideration of the proposed revenue bill. These dissenters express private opinions that rushing consideration of the big money bill has angered more people than it has pleased.

FUTILE.—Dr. John T. Burrus, Senator from Guilford, thinks the chairman of the State Highway and Public Works Commission and the Commissioner of Revenue should be elected by the people instead of appointed by the Governor and has bills intended to make such a change. But the High Point doctor isn't betting any big stakes that his proposals will become law. On the other hand he is inclined to be resigned to their defeat. Senator Burrus defeated Capus M. Waynick, present chairman of the highway body, in the Democratic primaries last June.

PURPOSE.—The bill by Senator Paul D. Grady, of Johnston, to amend the law establishing a State Board Cosmetologists, proposes to do many things but opponents avow its main purpose is to abolish the three members of the board of beauty shop inspectors appointed by Governor Ehringhaus. Failure of the Governor to reappoint Miss Emelie Purcell, who served on the board one year, has created no little stir and proposals for a new set-up occasioned little surprise in Raleigh political circles.

GAS TAXES.—From this point it looks like everybody and his brother is trying to get his hand into the pocket of the automobile driver by diverting highway fund revenues. Motorists and truck owners have expressed in no uncertain terms the opinion that any surplus gasoline taxes should be applied to repairing roads or reducing the cost of license taxes. You will not be able to tell who wins until the General Assembly adjourns sine die.

TOLLS.—This General Assembly came to Raleigh determined to make all bridges as free as the roads and it didn't take the members long to remove the tolls from bridges across the Chowan near Edenton and the Cape Fear at Wilmington. You won't lose much money, in the opinion of those supposed to know, if you wager that tolls will also be lifted from the Wright Memorial Bridge, gateway to Roanoke Island, as the result of legislation backed by the administration.

NOT TOO SOON.—Guesses on the date for final adjournment of the Legislature are beginning to vary widely as the joint finance committees continue deliberations on the biennial revenue bill. Legislative prognosticators profess to foresee unanticipated delay on the revenue bill in House and Senate. These unquoted wise-men sense unexpected storms as the result of rapid passage over many sections of the money bill in committee.

GOVERNOR.—Lieutenant Governor A. H. Graham isn't saying much for publication but you can make a note on your suff that he hasn't withdrawn from the 1936 Gubernatorial race. Treading the even tenor of his way Mr. Graham is nevertheless laying the foundation for his campaign next year. Many persons supposedly versed in the gentle art of politics think he is doing pretty well with the second General Assembly to hear the sound of his gavel. It is generally admitted that he knows his way around in politics.

SNEEZES.—Head and chest colds, just like those down on the farm have been disturbing members of the General Assembly. Among those absent from the Senate on such an account are: Senator A. Hall Johnston, of Buncombe; Senator Carroll Weathers, of Wake; Senator White, of Robeson; and Senator Harris Newman, of New Hanover. To date, none of these members of the upper branch of the Assembly have been in serious condition except Senator Johnston although hoarseness on the part of Senator Spence, of Moore, delayed consideration of the Automobile drivers' license bill for several days.

REORGANIZATION.—Members of the present Legislature are in no mood for such a waste of time as was imposed on the 1933 session by Senator Larry Moore's committee on reorganization of the State government. Representative Laurie McEachern, of Hoke, introduced a bill to reestablish such a committee after it had been abolished by rules committees of House and Senate but there is little chance that a radio microphone will be installed in the Senate chamber to hear the reading of a reorganization report as was the case two years ago.

BLACK EYE.—Members of the General Assembly often get in bad with the homefolks by published accounts of short session of the House and Senate. Newspapers fail to record the hours that these same members spend in committee meetings ironing out the knots in legislation in order to avoid lengthy debate in general sessions. Many legislators are members of half-dozen or more committees and spend long hours going over bills in order that time may be saved when general session convenes.

SALES TAX.—The three per cent general retail sales tax isn't reenacted yet. Opposition apparently is greater than in the early days of the session and opponents have substitutes that appeal to many legislators. The administration is still confident of reenactment of the Sales Tax but the revenue bill hasn't been ratified. It's a pretty safe guess that you'll have the privilege of paying the sales tax to keep the schools open another two years but not if Representative McDonald, of Forsyth, and Representative Lumpkin, of Franklin, can stop it. They have proposals they say will produce money but a lot of people doubt their estimates.

AUTO TAGS.—If all goes well you will not have to pay as much for your auto license plates next year as you did this January. It's pretty well agreed that the Legislature will cut the cost of auto tags and it looks like the minimum will be about \$9.00. It now appears you will buy your next year's tag on a basis of 40 cents per hundredweight instead of 55 cents as formerly.

LOBBYISTS.—Published reports of increased corporation and business taxes as substitutes for the sales tax brought representatives of various commercial groups to town in a hurry. The boys are finding their way around hotel and legislative lobbies, but general conditions are supposed to have subtracted from their power. You can't blame them for not wanting taxes upped on their business and that of their clients and after all every citizen who is to be taxed has a constitutional right to be heard.

Inspect Machinery For Spring Work

Get your farm machinery ready for work before the spring rush starts, urges Prof. David Weaver, agricultural engineer at N. C. State College.

The first step is to inspect all machinery carefully, he says, and make an inventory of repairs needed and the parts to be replaced. The parts should be ordered as early as possible so they will arrive before the machines must be used, he explains, and the repair work scheduled so that the machinery to be used first will be repaired first.

Look into the disk harrow bearings, examine the plow points, handles and braces, ascertain the number of new parts needed, note the parts that need resharping, tightening or cleaning. All harness gear should be gone over thoroughly, cleaned and oiled when necessary. See that there are enough seed plates to handle all types of seed to be sown with the planter.

Cultivators, mowing machines and binders should be gone over carefully. New blades, bearings, sickles, rollers, gears or chains may be needed. These machines should be so repaired and lubricated that they will operate smoothly and efficiently.

Binders should receive special attention, Weaver says, for they are complicated and a slight defect may give plenty of trouble in the midst of the harvest season. Rollers slightly out of line may tear the canvass. Rusted bill hooks or improper tension on the twine may throw the tying apparatus out of order.

This is only a brief outline of the things to be checked, Weaver points out, but the farmer who operates the machines should not have trouble in locating the defects if he gives them a careful inspection.

Must Limit Potatoes Or Accept Low Prices

Present indications are that North Carolina Irish potato growers will lose heavily on their 1935 crop unless they reduce it by 30 per cent or more, says E. B. Morrow, extension horticulturist at State College.

Based on his statement on figures supplied by A. E. Mercet, secretary of the Interstate Early Potato Committee, Morrow said that the anticipated crop of 8,500 carloads would probably sell for \$1,500,000 less than the cost of production.

But if the crop is limited to 5,000 cars, he added, the growers stand in position to clear over \$1,100,000 above production costs. In other words, a reduction of 8,500 cars will put \$2,800,000 into the growers' pockets.

Some growers have expressed intentions of producing a big crop this

Big Crop Contest Announced By Fertilizer Distributor

ANNOUNCEMENT has been made locally of a \$5,000 crop contest, open to all farmers. This contest, which is sponsored by the Agricultural Development Bureau of a large distributor of American nitrate of soda, provides for 338 cash prizes. These awards range from the substantial first prize of \$1,000 to \$5.00.

An interesting feature of the contest is the calibre of the men who are to act as honorary judges. They are: Senator Ellison D. Smith, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture; the Hon. Allen J. Ellender, Speaker of the Louisiana House; and Dr. B. W. Kilgore of Raleigh, N. C., former director of the North Carolina Experiment Station and Extension Service.

Since the prizes are to be based on the answers to five simple questions, with spelling and grammar not counting, the sponsors of the contest feel that every farmer who follows the rules will have an equal chance, regardless of the size of his farm or the fertility of his land. Special prizes are provided for 4-H Club and Future Farmer chapters and fertilizer suppliers who help



SENATOR ELLISON D. SMITH One of the honorary judges in the \$5,000 Crop Contest.

their customers win will also be rewarded.

Practically all fertilizer manufacturers and suppliers are active in the contest and can furnish an entry blank to farmers. The only requirement for entering is that the farmer buy at least 100 lbs. of the American product sold by the firm sponsoring the contest.

year in order to establish as large a base as possible, said Morrow, who is executive secretary of the North Carolina Potato Growers Association.

But Morrow pointed out that the potato advisory committee has requested that the base period be 1930-34 inclusive, and it is not likely that the 1935 crop will have any effect up on the base average.

Furthermore, he said, there is not enough chance of the 1935 crop affecting the base, through a special ruling or otherwise, to justify the growers producing a big crop this year at a heavy loss.

Among the advisory committee

recommendations are: Determination by the secretary of agriculture of the advisable size of the annual crop to be marketed so as to maintain a parity price; a flexible basis of allotments to states; a tax of half a cent a pound on all potatoes marketed which are not covered by tax-exemption certificates; transference of certificates between growers when desired, and a referendum on the plan after it has been in force one year.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Y. Kirby, of Norfolk, Va., spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Campbell, at the Hotel Hertford.

LAUNCH DRIVE TO MODERNIZE HOMES ON FARM

Campaign Gets Under Way With Cooperation of State Groups

A campaign to acquaint 6,250,000 farmers of the United States with the provisions of the National Housing Act, which make possible the modernizations of their homes and equipment, is being launched by the Federal Housing Administration, in cooperation with state and county farm organizations. The present plan is to bring the campaign to a climax before the farmers become too busy with their spring plowing.

A small group of field men of the farm section of the Housing Administration will work under the regional directors, and in cooperation with the state associate directors in charge of modernization, in their efforts to bring to the direct attention of all the farmers in the country the benefits which are available to them under the modernization program.

Contact Various States

Letters have been sent to heads of farm organizations in each state asking for their aid in this intensive campaign. One of the first steps will be to form state advisory committees on rural housing. Among the officials and organizations which are being invited to cooperate in forming these committees are the state extension director, state home demonstration director, home management specialist, head of the agricultural engineering department, extension agricultural engineer, director of vocational education, emergency relief administrator, president of the state farm bureau, master of the State Grange, and president of the State Farmers' Union.

Present plans include the organization of campaigns in most of the 3,072 counties of the United States, with

special meetings in which the local civic bodies will be asked to take part.

Wherever the Better Housing committees are organized on a county-wide basis, these committees will be asked to enlarge their activities in order to include farm modernization.

Where there are no county-wide committees, the Housing Administration's representatives will seek the active cooperation of all agencies in the county interested directly in farm improvement.

SUNDAY DINNER SUGGESTIONS

By ANN PAGE

MEAT prices, with the exception of beef, have eased slightly in the past week. Eggs too, are a little cheaper; but there is no prospect of lower butter prices. Imported New Zealand butter may prevent native butter from going higher.

Potatoes are the outstanding food value this week. Cheap potatoes are a boon to the low food budget for they are nourishing and satisfying. Other root vegetables, cabbage and lettuce are the next best fresh vegetable values.

Good grapefruit continues to be cheap. The first Florida Valencia oranges are coming to market, but they will be less plentiful than anticipated because of the December freeze. Several varieties of apples are inexpensive. Strawberries are fairly plentiful and moderate in price.

Here are three menu suggestions which are timely and suited to three budget levels:

Low Cost Dinner

Lamb Pie with Biscuit Crust
Potatoes Carrots Onions
Bread and Butter
Rice Custard with Raisins
Tea or Coffee Milk

Medium Cost Dinner

Roast Beef Pan-browned Potatoes
Buttered Broccoli
Bread and Butter
Strawberry Whip
Tea or Coffee Milk

Look at the new low prices . . .
Prove the greater operating economy
and as for the performance

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can see the low prices . . . the lowest ever placed on cars of such high quality. You can prove the greater operating economy. For tests show that the new Chevrolets give even higher gasoline and oil mileage than did last year's models. And as for performance . . . well, there's only one thing we ask you to do . . . decide with a ride! You will experience getaway—power—and smoothness so extraordinary that you will be happy to confirm the wisdom of the statement: Choose Chevrolet for quality at low cost. May we suggest that you drive one of these new Chevrolets—today?

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The New Standard Chevrolet Coach



The New Master De Luxe Chevrolet Coach

THE NEW STANDARD CHEVROLET

\$465

AND UP. List price of New Standard Roadster at Flint, Mich., \$465. With bumpers, spare tire and tire lock, the list price is \$50.00 additional. Prices subject to change without notice.

THE NEW MASTER DE LUXE CHEVROLET

\$560

AND UP. List price of Master De Luxe Coupe at Flint, Mich., \$560. With bumpers, spare tire and tire lock, the list price is \$25.00 additional. Prices subject to change without notice. Knee Action optional at \$20.00 extra.

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