

# Washington Report

By CONGRESSMAN  
JAMES T. BROYHILL

## MINIMUM WAGE

Since Congress has returned to Washington this September, it has voted on two presidential vetoes, the Emergency Medical Services Act and the minimum wage legislation. Both votes were sustained. I voted to sustain the president's veto of the Emergency Medical Services Act. While emergency medical treatment is of great concern to all of us, I felt that there were elements of this bill which would be very costly and possibly unworkable. This legislation has been referred back to committee where, I hope, a more acceptable bill will be drafted.

I voted to override the president's veto on the minimum wage legislation. However, the veto was sustained by a vote of 359-165, as Congress failed to muster the necessary two-thirds vote required to override a presidential veto.

If passed, the minimum wage bill would have increased the minimum wage from \$1.60 to \$2 an hour within 60 days, with a further increase to \$2.20 an hour a year later. When the House first considered minimum wage legislation earlier this year, I supported an amendment to stretch out the increase over an additional year and thus minimize any possible inflationary impact. This amendment would have greatly improved the chances for enacting the minimum wage bill into law.

Because of inflation, the present minimum wage rate in real dollars is lower than the 1963 statutory minimum of \$1.25 an hour. This means that the worker

on the lower end of the pay scale has paid an unfair share of the cost of inflation. While there is legitimate concern about the possible inflationary result of a minimum wage increase, it is unfair to ask those families with limited income to bear the brunt of the inflation that has occurred in this country since the last minimum wage law was enacted in 1966.

Consequently, I will introduce and support compromise legislation proposing a reasonable minimum wage rate which has a realistic chance of passing. Congress this year. The minimum wage worker has been expecting an increase since 1971. In my opinion, it is time to fulfill that expectation.

## HOUSING

One of my major concerns about the economy is the area of new housing construction. In addition to inflation, we are experiencing a real "credit crunch" that is bringing to a standstill the vital home building sector of the economy. The rise in interest rates coupled with new, more stringent standards for credit and down payments has virtually ended the granting of new mortgages in North Carolina by savings and loan institutions and other financial organizations. In fact, it is estimated nationally that new home construction will drop over the next year from 2.1 million to 1.5 million units.

In response to this serious economic problem which strikes hardest at new and young families just entering the housing market, President Nixon sent to Congress last week the administration's housing policy recommendations. A major goal is to ease the present tight mortgage

credit situation. Specifically, the president is seeking authorization for the Federal Home Loan Bank board, which lends money to mortgage lending institutions, to approve a program of forward commitments which should ease somewhat the present unavailability of money. THE FHLLBB would be able to commit up to \$2.5 billion for savings and loan institutions to use in making mortgage assurances.

The president also proposes to guarantee up to \$3 billion in mortgages at rates lower than the existing market level to stimulate new construction. Finally, the president has requested Congress to make certain changes in FHA and VA insured mortgages to increase their availability to larger numbers of home buyers. While these proposals will not completely solve the present "credit crunch" in home buying, they will offer relief to new and growing families and help strengthen a critical sector of the American economy.

## Bell Finishes Basic Training

FT. JACKSON.—Army Private Joseph L. Bell, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe W. Bell Sr., Route 2, Kings Mountain, completed eight weeks of basic training at Fort Jackson.

He received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, combat tactics, military courtesy, military history and traditions.

## TO BEREBA

Vickie Lynne Huskey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl M. Huskey of Blacksburg, has just completed registration at Berea college where she will be a freshman.

# This Is The Law

By ROBERT E. LEE  
(Sponsored by The Lawyers of North Carolina)  
ANNUAL CROPS

This is the first of a fall series which will appear each week throughout the next 3 months. They have been written for the non-lawyers as a public service of The Lawyers of North Carolina.

John Jones lives on a farm which he owns and cultivates. He sells the farm to Joe Smith. Does Smith become the owner of the growing crops on the land at the time of the sale? The general rule is that a deed to land passes the growing crops thereon to the grantee of the deed in the absence of a reservation to the contrary. This is true even though the crops have already matured and are merely standing unsevered in the field at the time the deed is given. As between seller and buyer of land the law considers the land and crops attached to it as being united.

The principle applies to cotton, corn, tobacco, grain and all kinds of vegetables, fruits and berries that have not been harvested and are still attached to the soil.

May there be an oral agreement that a sale of land does not include the annual crops attached to the land?

Yes. Although a conveyance of the land or a contract to convey land must be in writing, the law of North Carolina permits an oral reservation of the annual crops to the seller.

But there cannot be an oral agreement to except from the provisions of a deed the fruit on trees and the berries or prod-

## Recruit Weaver Finishes Training

man Recruit Linda D. Weaver, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter L. Weaver of 309 N. Tracy St., Kings Mountain, graduated from recruit training for women at the naval training center here.

A graduate of Kings Mountain high school, she is scheduled to report to San Diego.

## WHEAT DOWN

The wheat crop harvested last June and July in North Carolina was under six million bushels and this is a reduction from last year of 15 per cent below 1971 production. Average yield per acre was 36 bushels, up five bushels from the year before and down seven bushels from 1971.

## Bell Promotes Weaver, Hartsell

R. W. Fleming, manager of Southern Bell, announced that Mrs. Frances Hartsell and Mrs. Marjorie Weaver have been promoted to higher management positions with direct responsibility for the internal operations of the Gastonia business office. In their new assignments, Mrs. Hartsell will be responsible for the administration of all residence accounts and Mrs. Weaver will be responsible for business accounts.

Mrs. Weaver began her telephone career as a telephone operator in Hampton, Virginia, for the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone company. She has held various positions of increasing responsibility throughout her career. Mrs. Weaver was born in Gaston county and graduated from Cramerton high school. She is married to Arthur K. Weaver, and they have two children—a son, Arthur K. Weaver Jr., and a daughter, Marjorie Jo Ann Weaver of Richmond, Virginia. Mrs. Weaver is active in community affairs and attends the Seventh Avenue Baptist church, where she is a Youth Sunday School teacher, director of women, and a member of the church council. Her hobbies are reading, dancing, swimming, sports of all types and participating in activities with her children.

Mrs. Hartsell began her career with Southern Bell as a clerk in the Gastonia plant department. She has held various positions of increasing responsibility throughout her career. She is a native of Gastonia and is a graduate of Gastonia high school. She is married to Richard B. Hartsell and they have one daughter, Suzanne. Mrs. Hartsell is active in community affairs and attends Myers United Methodist church. She is president of United Methodist Women, a member of the financing committee, and a member of the administrative board. Her hobbies are bridge, traveling and participating in activities with her child.

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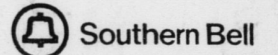
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9-20-77