

*Marse Grant, Withrow In Favor**Verbal Battle In Raleigh: Debate On Nuclear Freeze*

Retired Navy Commander William Withrow of Gardner-Webb College found himself in the thick of another military skirmish last Thursday in Raleigh as companies of respected, and high-ranking, soldiers and sailors fought a rhetorical battle over the nuclear freeze movement.

In a joint meeting on nuclear arms by the House Rules and Senate State Government committees, Withrow, a well-known adversary of nuclear weapons built-up, was permitted an eight-minute barrage, the longest of the session. He was invited to speak by Rep. Jack Hunt of Cleveland, chairman of the House committee.

The legislature is considering a nuclear freeze resolution which would press the Reagan administration to work for a bilateral nuclear weapons freeze with the Soviet Union. A dozen

or more speakers stumped on both sides of the issue.

Taking an anti-nuclear stand with Withrow was Marse Grant, former editor of the **Biblical Recorder**.

Grant said, "We're not extremists, we're not pacifists at any cost. We are patriotic Americans."

Withrow used a chart to illustrate his frequently-made point that enough existing nuclear warheads to kill all living Russians and Americans many times over are already quite enough. On a four-by-four poster, he had positioned one dot to represent all the ordnance exploded in World War II, and 6,000 dots laboriously inked in, with the help of his wife Ginger, to represent the nuclear ordnance now positioned or stockpiled.

The result of a nuclear flare-up would be, then the damage of



Commander Withrow: "bringing to Congress the feeling of the people."

about 6,000 World War II, in a war duration of about 30 minutes.

Withrow was also joined by retired vice-admiral Ralph Weymouth, who came to the session from New Hampshire. It is not true that the United States is militarily inferior, Weymouth said.

A version of Thursday's

resolution written by Rep. Parks Helms of Mecklenburg, was approved by the committee and will get a vote in the House, perhaps late this week. It must also pass the state Senate, where there have been some defections by former supporters of the freeze.

Gov. James Hunt came out as opposed to the resolution.

Withrow believes had Hunt not been ill recently, and could have heard more discussion, he would feel differently, "I believe had he had a meeting with the pro-freeze people, he would have been in favor of the freeze."

One House member who had signed for the freeze later took a Magic Marker and deleted his name so thoroughly as to not be ever detected. A senator who removed his name said he "found he couldn't vote for it."

When asked why, by a reporter, he responded, "That's a stupid question."

Several noted veterans spoke in opposition to the resolution, saying that they felt the United States could not bargain from a position of weakness.

Withrow argued that the so-called lag in deployment of intercontinental ballistic missiles made sense because these long planted in holes about the coun-

tryside were early doomed to obsolescence. "The President has not told us that we have over 5,000 sub-launched warheads out there, still invulnerable," Withrow said.

The reason he saw for the debate, which took place before a packed chamber, and the resolution was that such a gesture "would bring to congress the feeling of the people." State legislature, though it cannot set national policy, can often successfully urge change for the national good, he said.

Sen. Ollie Harris of Cleveland is one of the co-signers of the Senate resolution. Harris favors both the nuclear freeze and maintenance of conventional weapons.

"I personally don't see anything wrong with it," Harris says of the nuclear freeze. "I'm for it, if we can get an agreement - and if we can trust Russia."

# The Foothills View

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## The Farmer's Wife

By Kathryn Hamrick

Staging a baby's birthday party is about as amusing as producing the baby in the first place. At least when Baby Miles arrived one year ago, I got to sit a spell: I even got to lie down.

The birthday is the ordeal, especially when your baby has a housefull of siblings who've anticipated his party for a year. The three older brothers were the instigators, the hosts, and the entertainment committee for Baby Miles' first February birthday. As usual, I was just the workhorse, and occasionally could be heard snorting and neighing in the background.

(Though I'm proud that February produces leaders, it will make a martyr out of me: for the next two decades, subsequent parties - attended by swarms of boys - will have to take place indoors. The older I get, the more I lean toward family planning that would consider such outcomes as winter birthdays and summer surprises.)

Shopping for Miles' presents was a spree - I took four boys, forty dollars, and a car that cuts off at random clear across town to hunt gifts for a farm baby who has ten year's worth of hand-me-downs stashed under his crib. Hard times means you think twice about spending \$12.99 for a three-dollar toy that you know good and well the baby won't play with. In the end Miles got an educational rubber ball - the package actually stated that the numbers on the ball would teach Miles to count. Browse in the infants' department sometime and read the outrageous educational claims made by baby products. This is the era of Super Baby. (If manufacturers really wanted to be helpful, they should invent Pampers that would self-destruct.)

The gifts from his grandma and from his mama reflected our two different theories on child rearing. My mama gave him a shirt that says "Home is where the heart is," but I gave him a car seat. Miles' heart may be at home, but the rest of him is going places.



KATHRYN HAMRICK

The boys wrote the guest list for the party: it was a listing of available girl babies. However, I nipped their hare-brained idea of an infant dating service in the bud. On this I do agree with Grandma: "If you don't mention it, they won't think about it."

The boys blew balloons, made party hats out of old newspapers, and selected the party favors - chocolate Valentine hearts that promised "Forever yours" for 75% less than they promised it two weeks ago.

Six-year-old Spencer directed the only party game. His idea of a game was to send the invited guests (adult family members) on a scavenger hunt through my kitchen cabinets. There were no winners nor prizes, but they turned up a rotten potato or two and I turned out some quick explanations.

No uninvited babies crashed the party.

And the guest of honor? When he finally woke up, he turned out to be a party pooper. He spit out his cold birthday dinner, he wouldn't wear his hat, and he didn't even bounce his educational ball - much less do arithmetic. I thought at least he would fake a smile for the photographs of his historic birthday cake, historic because the price was unprecedented. But after he burned his finger on his candle, neither the good wishes on top of the cake nor the good ingredients within could cheer him up. Because he refused to be a party to his party, I put him back to bed.

After the age of 35, it is risky for a woman to have a baby's birthday party. So next year will be different: I am going to celebrate his birthday alone.

## Peach Blossom Of Hope, Pear Blossoms Of Memory

The first of Cleveland's peach-blossoms will probably make their perilous debut this weekend, says Steve Gibson of the County Extension Office. "My red havens are about two days from opening," he said Wednesday.

Swollen early by an unusually mild winter and a spring that began with the first song of the peep-frogs along the branches on the second day of February, the blooms will need good fortune to survive.

Growers have bad memories of last spring, when April freezes burned blooms and tiny peaches and wiped out practically all of the crop.

At this point, "We're in about the same situation we were last year," Gibson says. Continued good weather would simply bring in an early crop. A late turn toward winter, though, could hit the vulnerable blooms hard, and make peaches a scarce commodity again next summer.



By spring Boiling Springs Baptist Cemetery should be bordered with blossoming pear trees purchased and planted by members of the Homemakers Extension Club. Above, left to right are: Brenda Hamrick, Kathryn Hamrick, Rosina Hamrick, Vernie Piercy, Margaret White.

## Yellow Means Caution For Farmers

RALEIGH - Farmers who are aiming for good small grain yields and to plant no-till soybeans behind their 1983 small grain crops this year would be wise to examine any yellow spots in their fields very closely. Chances are good those yellow spots are caused by a manganese deficiency.

Based on current plant analysis and soil test results, many small grain fields throughout the coastal plain of North Carolina are showing moderate to severe manganese deficiency. In most cases, the deficiency areas are associated with soils which have low manganese levels or pH values in excess of 6.2.

The symptoms generally appear as irregular patches throughout the field, depending on non-uniformity of soil texture, pH and drainage characteristics of each field. In some cases, the symptoms may appear over the entire field. In the final analysis,

these problems areas can have a very significant impact on yield averages.

Now is the time to examine your small grain fields for problem areas and in cases where no-till soybeans are to be planted after small grains, start dealing with these areas. A manganese deficiency, if not corrected now, could appear in the same areas where it showed up in small grains, particularly when the pH is in the vicinity of 6.5.

Under those conditions the most effective means of correcting the problem is by foliar application. Acting now could be well worth the effort when harvest time arrives. The suggested rate for foliar application is at least one half pound of elemental manganese/acre. Any foliar treatment should be based on a current plant analysis to ensure that the element being applied is indeed the nutrient element which is limiting. Foliar applications should be

made as soon as possible after the symptoms appear. Current research indicates that a delay in treatment following appearance of the deficiency symptoms will result in reduced yields.

The plants of manganese-deficient small grains appear yellow, stunted and generally have subtle stripes in the leaves. Where the deficiency is severe, the entire lower leaf area dies leaving the appearance of a reduced seeding rate. The symptoms are very similar to those where plants are growing on an extremely acid soil; that is, small yellow, stunted plants.

On soybeans, a manganese deficiency causes the leaves to appear yellow or pale-green between the veins with the veins remaining dark green. In a severe manganese deficiency, the plants are generally stunted and the entire plant may become yellow.

Row-banded applications of manganese have been

shown to be superior over broadcast treatments on soils where the pH is 6.5 or above. Manganese applied at 6-8 lbs/acre in a row-band would be sufficient to correct the problem. The effectiveness of a banded application is further enhanced if the manganese is applied in conjunction with an acid-forming fertilizer. In cases where row banding is not a common practice, foliar applications are the most effective means of correcting the manganese deficiency.

Now is the time to identify and correct the problem areas in small grain fields in order to eliminate the problems on soybeans. Soil and plant samples should be collected from the problem areas to verify the problem. Information and supplies for collection plant and soil samples can be obtained at your local agricultural advisor or at the Agronomic Division, NCDA, in Raleigh.