

**CAROLINA HAS RECORD INCOME**

Washington — The average North Carolinian has nearly three times the monetary income he enjoyed at the peak of the 1929 boom, the Department of Commerce reported today.

The spectacular rise of income payments in the State, which reveals for the first time the magnitude of the present boom.

is part of a general pattern of shifting income distribution, the department said, which is giving the South a larger share than ever before of the national wealth.

Per capita income in North Carolina hit a new record of \$890 in 1947, the department pointed out, while in 1929 per capita income was only \$309. This is an increase of 188 per cent—nearly three times—compared with an average increase of 95 per cent throughout the nation as a whole.

Total income payments in North Carolina were \$3,290,000,000 last year, compared with 966 million dollars in 1929. A spectacular gain of 241 per cent. The national average increase was 130 per cent.

While the Southeastern tier of "Cotton Belt" states still rank lowest in terms of national income, the gains they have made have been very substantial. The gross income of the 11 states of the South (including Kentucky, but excluding Texas) is over 25 billion dollars a year, against a little more than eight billion dollars at the peak of the 1929 boom. While national income in the nation as a whole has increased 130 per cent since 1929—from 83 billion dollars to 189 billion—the income of the South has increased 196 per cent.

**FARM WAGES HIT NEW PEAK**

Washington—With farm wages at a new record high, approximately 3,000,000 persons were doing hired farm work on Sept. 1. This was reported by the Department of Agriculture, which said the figure is higher than at any time since 1943.

Total farm employment was put at 11,251,000. The figure includes farm operators and their families, whose numbers were said to be about the same as a year ago, plus hired hands.

Farm operators, the department said, worked an average day of 11.4 hours, while their hired workers put in an average 9.6 hours a day.

The figures on average pay for hired farm hands were for July 1. Then, the department said, the average national pay was a record \$5.40 a day, without board, compared with \$5.10 the same date in 1947 and \$1.53 a day average from 1935 through 1939.

Farm hands on a monthly pay base, without board, averaged \$121, on July 1, against \$113 last year and \$34.92 in the pre-war period.

The large hired employment was due largely to an early start of cotton picking in the South plus a later than usual season on the Pacific coast, the department said.

**EMPLOYMENT**

The Commerce Department reports a drop in employment from the record high of mid-summer. Employment fell to 61,245,000 in August, a 370,000 drop from the July peak. Agricultural employment moved down 719,000 in August to a total of 8,444,000, a seasonal drop. Non-agricultural employment increased to 349,000 to an unprecedented 50,801,000.

**Installment Buying Curbs Effective**

Washington—Installment buying returned to Federal control Monday.

Down payment and length of time to pay will be governed. Ordinary charge accounts are not affected.

Most consumer goods costing \$50 to \$5,000 are covered. Easy payment loans are time-limited.

It is an anti-inflation step taken by Congress. President Truman said it is only "a tiny fraction" of what is needed.

The Federal Reserve Board made the rules. There are criminal penalties, and the board also has the power to put a violator out of credit business.

Here are the terms: After down payment, 18 months to pay if the balance exceeds \$1,000, 15 months if \$1,000 or less.

One-third down on automobiles.

Twenty per cent down on cook stoves, dishwashers, irons, refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners, radios, phonographs, television sets, sewing machines, vacuum cleaners, furniture and rugs.

Personal loans of lending houses must be repaid within 15 or 18 months, depending on the size; if over \$1,000, the minimum monthly payment is \$70.

Exempt from credit control are medical, dental, hospital, educational and funeral expenses; loans for real estate and home improvement; loans to pay for fire and casualty insurance; business or agricultural loans, credit to dealers who buy goods for resale; loans to Federal, state or local governments, or to religious, charitable and educational organizations, and any credit under the government's rehabilitation and readjustment programs.

Some items which once were under credit controls, but were not included in the new regulations, are pianos and other musical instruments, silverware and jewelry.

**DEMOCRATS TO MEET AT RALLY**

Salisbury—The Ninth District's Democratic rally—one of a series to be held throughout the State before the November 2 election—has been set for 10 a. m. October 1, William D. Kizziah, Democratic chairman in the Ninth, announced this week.

The district's veteran member of Congress, Representative Robert L. Doughton, will be one of the principal speakers. The program will also include addresses by W. Kerr Scott, the nominee for Governor, J. Melville Broughton, and Hoover Taft, Jr. of Greenville, president of the North Carolina Young Democratic Clubs.

The rally will be presided over by Mr. Kizziah and Capus M. Waynick, chairman of the State Democratic Executive Committee.

A burnswick stew will be served in the Salisbury Armory.

The demand for eggs is expected to continue at a very high level through the remainder of the year.

**STATES EMPLOYES**

States governments in the United States employ a total of 928,000 persons, with a total monthly payroll of \$171,000,000, making the average earnings \$185. State employment rose 66,000, or 8 per cent, and payrolls \$31,000, or 22 per cent, over the preceding twelve months. Eight State governments—New York, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, California, Illinois, Texas, Ohio and Michigan—account for 44 per cent of the number employed by all forty-eight states and exactly half of the total of the states' payroll.

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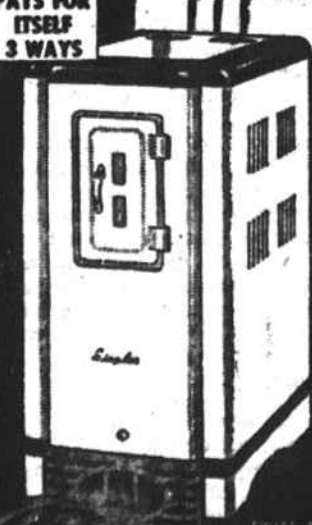
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