

Meeting Slated On Food Stamps

ROCKY MOUNT—The procedure for grocer participation in the new food stamp program in Bertie and Chowan counties will be explained to food retailers and wholesalers at a series of meetings next week, the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Consumer and Marketing Service announced today.

The new food program, which will aid low-income families in Bertie and Chowan counties, is scheduled to get underway November 1. Six other North Carolina counties—Forsyth, Halifax, Martin, Nash, Northampton and Surry—are already participating in the program.

At Rocky Mount, food stamp program supervisor Sam W. Pope, said the grocer meetings will be held in Bertie County on Monday, October 18, at 2 P. M., and 7:30 P. M., in the Agricultural Building auditorium at Windsor, and in Chowan County on Tuesday, October 19 at 2:00 P. M., and 7:30 P. M., in the council room of the Municipal Building at Edenton.

Pope pointed out that the meetings are designed to acquaint the retail and wholesale grocers with the new food stamp program. Representatives of the Consumer and Marketing Service will explain how food merchants can apply for participation in the food stamp program, the retailers' responsibilities under the program, and how the program benefits the grocer and the com-

Letters To Editor

October 9, 1965.
The Chowan Herald,
Edenton, North Carolina

To the Editor:
I have always sought to avoid joining an issue with one whom might be categorically termed an "extremist".

community.

Pope said every retail food merchant in Bertie and Chowan counties is being urged to attend one of the meetings and apply for authorization to accept food coupons. He pointed out that too often many grocers wait until after the program gets underway to ask for authorization, and as a result they lose several food sales and sometimes permanent customers.

Authorization of food merchants—both retail and wholesale—is handled by the Consumer and Marketing Service. Retail grocers must be authorized before they can accept coupons from participating families. Without an authorization, a grocer cannot redeem the coupons for cash.

The food stamp program in North Carolina is administered jointly by the Consumer and Marketing Service and the North Carolina State Board of Public Welfare. The State Welfare Board is responsible for interviewing and certifying eligible families for participation in the food stamp program, and for issuing food coupons.

The Bertie and Chowan county departments of public welfare are now taking applications from families wishing to take part in the program.

An extremist, whether of the right or the left, or whether he is political, religious, or religio-political, is identifiable by certain characteristics. The extremist views almost everyone, who has a differing voice or opinion, as a threat to his way of life, and his reaction is usually fantastic, fanatical, unrealistic, compulsive and obsessional. Among many reactions, an extremist always poses a final authority with a pretense of "research". He has uncovered the "facts" and is giver of these to the uninformed.

In the October 7th issue of The Chowan Herald in Letters To Editor, my name was drawn into an issue relative to Baptist work on the Island of Antigua, B. W. I., with particular reference to an article which appeared in the August 5th issue, which article was written by my wife. In the article in question, no specific reference was made to "Independent Baptists"; in fact, the words "independent" and "Baptist" were never joined. However, I suspect that it is possible for anyone to read anything into printed material, depending upon the state of mind and desire of heart.

As for Southern Baptist work on the Island of Antigua, Paul and Mary Sides, with their daughter Donna, left North Carolina for a tour of duty with the U. S. Navy. They immediately began to witness in the little church on the island, until the church began to disintegrate because of the experience with the missionary as related in Mrs. Allred's article. Paul and Mary then began a teaching mission in the backyard of their home and were ministering to 70 to 75. One of our Southern Baptist missionaries, writing to the Sides, said "In a real sense Southern Baptists already have work in St. John's, Antigua. You are missionaries in that area. You are trained and qualified for the work that the Lord has given you to do. Actually all we need to serve the Lord is to know that He is our Saviour and to love and witness to those about us who know Him not." It is this kind of Southern Baptist work to which Mrs. Allred referred in her article.

After the C. D. Morse family came to the area, they contacted Paul and Mary Sides, and the group meeting in the rear of Paul's home is the group which furnished the basis for the work which Rev. Morse is carrying on. Shortly after the Morses arrived, I received the following in a letter which he wrote to me, letter dated February 25, 1965: "I was pastoring a Southern Baptist Church in Houston, Texas when God touched my heart concerning these islands. Having had a back operation and did not go to the seminary, I was unable to go through the board (Southern Baptist Foreign Mission), but God dealt with me so, that by faith I stepped out and other Southern Baptist Churches helped me and my family."

One of our Southern Baptist missionaries, serving in the French West Indies, visited Mr. and Mrs. Sides, and while there also talked with Rev. Morse. Of Rev. Morse, the missionary writes, "According to my information, he did a good work in the British Islands but since the population was so small and the opportunities limited, he felt compelled to move. It was interesting for me to note that all of the material he used was Southern Baptist. It is my opinion that though he has raised his own support he is still basically Southern Baptist."

Quoting from still another missionary serving in that particular area of our world, "We should at all times reveal a Christian attitude toward our brothers in Christ. Sometimes that is difficult, but that fact does not relieve us from the responsibility of being a Christian in word and deed at all times."

I have nothing other than the deepest admiration and respect for all men who are called of God, who pursue the calling, not as a self-styled "defender of the faith," but who, in all honesty and humility, seek to promote the work of the kingdom of God in love and understanding.

Sincerely,
Thurman W. Allred.

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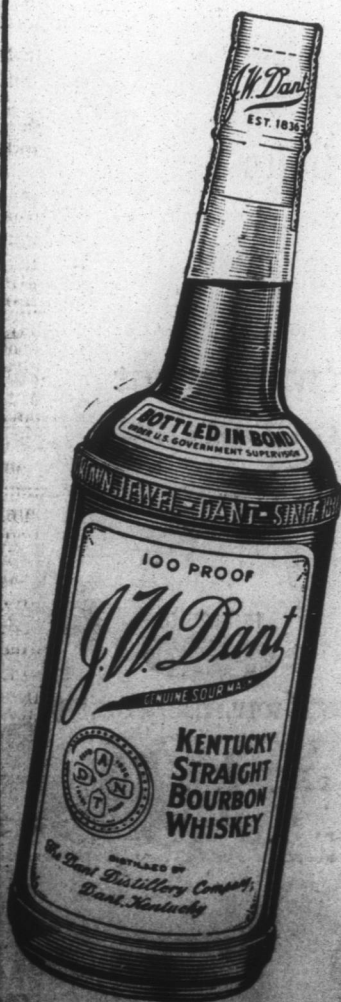
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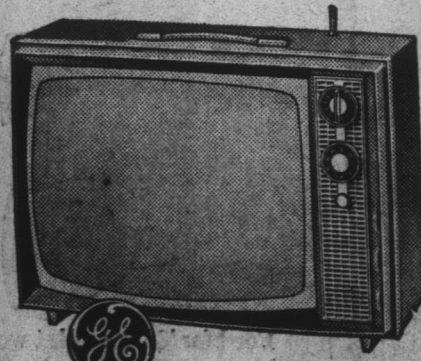
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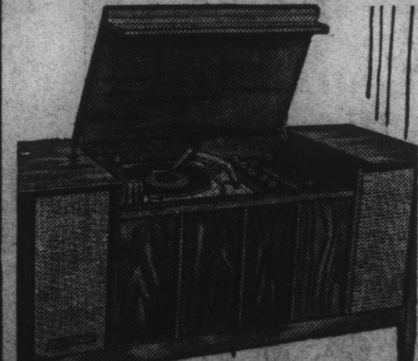
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