

Senator Sam Ervin Says

MORGANTON — Fourteen months ago, the President signed into law a bill to establish a 12-member National Commission on the Reform of Federal Criminal Laws to modernize and improve the federal system of criminal justice, and to develop a code to meet the challenge of our nation's most pressing domestic problem—the alarming increase in our crime rate.

In the months since then the commission has been organized under the chairmanship of former Gov. Pat Brown. I was appointed as one of the three Senate members of the commission on April 20, 1967. More recently, the commission has completed its task of selecting a 15-member advisory committee which is composed of outstanding citizens from all across our nation who are experienced in the field of criminal

law. I am pleased to say that the commission has selected Fred B. Helms, Charlotte attorney, to be a member of the commission's advisory committee. By securing his services, the commission will have the counsel of one of North Carolina's most able and respected attorneys.

Next week the commission and the advisory committee will meet in joint session to set the basic course of the two to three year criminal law reform project.

The proposed revision is probably the most comprehensive project of this nature undertaken in this century. The criminal code was codified in a limited fashion in 1948, but in the two decades since then a need has arisen to completely review our criminal laws.

Many of the federal criminal statutes are obsolete. Some of the crim-

inal statutes have penalties that no longer fit the crime. For example, in some instances, a lesser offense commands a greater penalty than the more serious crime arising out of the same circumstances.

Another problem facing the commission is to bring uniformity and less complexity to the statutes dealing with the same criminal penalties and immunities. When Attorney General Ramsey Clark testified before Congress on this subject, he stated that "the immunity statutes are found in approximately 41 places in the United States Code and contain many variances in the procedure for granting immunity to witnesses."

The mission of the commission is practical in nature. It is to advise the President and the Congress on the legislative requirements to clarify, simplify, and modernize our criminal laws to cope with crime in a changing society.

The project is expected to embrace the whole range of federal criminal law and bring it into the perspective of this generation. The statute creating the commission imposed time limitations on the commission's work. Under the statutory mandate the commission is to file an interim report not later than November 8, 1968, and thereafter it is to file its final report not later than November 8, 1969.

The task is a worthy project to bring new vitality into the battle to prevent and control crime. I am pleased to have the opportunity to join with other members of the commission and the members of the advisory committee in the undertaking to improve our criminal justice system.

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Bean Growers To Meet Friday

One of the largest farm meetings in the state during the coming year will be held at Raleigh's Memorial Auditorium January 12.

The occasion will be the first annual meeting of the North Carolina Soybean Producers Association.

"We truly want to make this a mass meeting of our members," said Jim Gardner, executive secretary. "We are hoping for an attendance of some 2,500 to 3,000."

Gardner and other leaders of the association want growers to be present in large numbers to discuss the outlook and express their views on the needs of the soybean industry and the activities of the association.

The meeting will get under way at 10 A. M., breaks for lunch at 11:30, and reconvenes for a business session at 1:15 P. M. Following the transaction of business and the election of 10 new members of the board of directors, there will be a general discussion period.

Agriculture Commissioner James A. Graham will be the first speaker on the morning program. He will discuss the outlook for agriculture in general and soybeans in particular.

Harris Barnes of Clarksdale, Miss., president of the American Soybean Association, and Glenn Pogler of Washington, director of the Soybean Council of America, will report on world trade in soybeans and other oil crops.

Leroy Powers of Moyock, president of the association, will preside.

The association is financed through an assessment of one-half cent per bushel of soybeans marketed. The levy has been in effect on the past two crops.

"We're very happy with the support we have received," Gardner said.

State Campaign Leader Picked

James W. Mason of Laurinburg has been named state campaign manager of J. Melville Broughton, Jr., a Democratic candidate for governor.

In an announcement on Tuesday, Broughton said: "It is with much pleasure and pride that I announce this morning the appointment of my long time friend and colleague, James W. Mason, of Laurinburg, as our state campaign manager."

"Mr. Mason, a distinguished lawyer, is a native of Scotland County, having been educated in the Scotland County Public Schools and at Wake Forest University. He has had an outstanding record of public service, having been a member of the North Carolina State Senate from 1957-59 and a member of the North Carolina State Highway Commission from 1958-1961. From 1942 to 1946 he was a special agent of the FBI."

"Jim Mason is a leader in the religious and civic life of his area. He has held many positions of responsibility in his church and is presently serving as a trustee of Wake Forest University."

"Mr. Mason comes to the position of leadership of our campaign as one who

knows and understands North Carolina and he is a man dedicated to sound and progressive government in North Carolina. I am confident that he will lead us in a campaign of the highest calibre, and one that will lead to victory on May 4, 1968.

"I know that our thousands of supporters all over North Carolina share my appreciation to Mr. Mason for his willingness to undertake this important task."


'Heart' Figures In Resolutions

CHAPEL HILL—The origin of the custom of New Year's resolutions may be cloudy, says the North Carolina Heart Association; but the need to resolve that in 1968 each adult will take every precaution to reduce his risk of heart attack is crystal clear.

With each passing year, increased evidence indicates that a person's life patterns are vital factors in contributing to the incidence of heart disease. Many of these patterns are ingrained in customs and traditions

However, the North Carolina Heart Association suggests that each adult resolve that he will: (1) under a doctor's guidance, reduce if overweight; (2) eat less fat; (3) see his doctor for regular medical check-ups; (4) cut down or quit smoking cigarettes; (5) exercise regularly; and (6) shun needless tensions.

Observing these six new year's resolutions may well mean the difference between a happy new year and a disastrous one.



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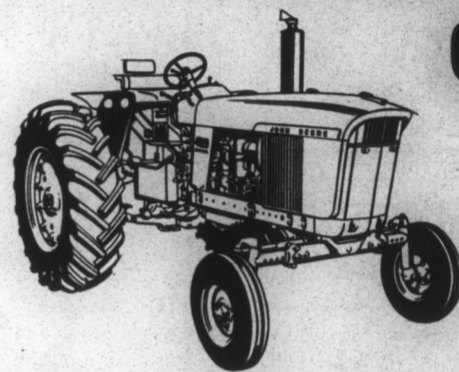


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