



"THE WAY WE WERE" - Staff photographer, Ray Jenkins, caught this scene from his back window.

### Farm Loss Rate High In State

North Carolina has lost farms at a faster rate than any other state in the nation for the past two years but, with 125,000 farms remaining, ranks behind only Texas, Missouri and Iowa.

The number of Tar Heel farms declined by about 10,000 during the last two years. In fact, 22 per cent of the national decline in farms occurred in North Carolina.

The U. S. now has 2,785,780 farms compared to 2,830,490 in 1974.

Numbers alone don't tell the U. S. farming story. While the number of farms is declining, the size of farms is expanding. The average U. S. farm has added 47 acres in the past decade and is now at 389 acres.

North Carolina, traditionally a state of small farms, continues to rank

well below the national average in farm size, although this figure is expanding. Average size is growing by about an acre a year and is now 106 acres.

The Veterans Administration employs 5 per cent of all physicians in the United States.

### OMBE Staffers Hire Law Firm to Fight Job Downgrading

WASHINGTON - Several of the 34 employees of the Office of Minority Business Enterprise, who are scheduled for downgrading, have employed a law firm to fight the action, according to a letter to the agency's director by a member of the firm, Glenn R. Graves.

Those who are initially taking the action, with others expected to join in, are Lewis Giles, Jr., chief of the agency's information service; Herman Flora, program officer; Ms. Sheila B. Adams, chief of

administrative service branch; and Hyman L. Jarrett, project officer stationed in Chicago.

Twenty of those facing a loss of grade are GS-14s at around \$32,000 a year. Their new annual salary would be around \$25,000. Two are GS-15s at approximately \$34,000; the rest range from GS-13 to GS-6, or from \$25,000 to \$10,000.

A racial breakdown of OMBE's 213 employees is as follows: Blacks, 127; whites, 48; Spanish-speaking, 16; Indians, two; and

Asian-Americans, one.

Of those slated to be downgraded, 15 are located here, three are in San Francisco, three in Chicago, six in New York City, four in Dallas, and three in Atlanta. More than half are black.

In his letter to Alex Armendaris, OMBE director, Graves expresses concern that the downgrading move is part of a reorganization plan, although the proposed reorganization of the agency is opposed by a Congressional subcommittee. (NNPA)

## Feel the Black Velvet.



Smooth Canadian.

BLACK VELVET BLENDING CANADIAN WHISKY 80 PROOF IMPORTED BY © 1974 HEUBLEIN, INC. HARTFORD, CONN.

## SPECIAL VOTER REGISTRATION

### Burton School Precinct

For All Unregistered Voters (18 Years and Older) and Voters Transferring To This Precinct

### Saturday, February 21, 1976

From 2:00 P.M. Until 5:00 P.M.

### ASBURY TEMPLE METHODIST CHURCH

CALL THESE NUMBERS FOR RIDES

688-8581 -- 596-3750 -- 596-8469

NATHANIEL B. WHITE, *Chairman*

MRS. MINERVA EVANS, *Vice-Chairman*

## Rigsbee Tire Sales Continuing Our . . .

# Grand Opening

of Our New Chapel Hill Store at 600 W. Franklin Street  
Come In and Meet Ronnie Lloyd

Ronnie was born in Chapel Hill and has lived here all of his life. He attended Chapel Hill City schools and was in the graduating class of 1967. He is married to the former Dane Griffin of Durham and has one son, Brian. He is a member of Bethel Baptist Church where he is currently serving as chairman of the Board of Deacons. He was a charter member of the Friendly City Sertoma Club of Durham and has served on the board of

directors, and has chaired numerous committees. He is also a former member of the Durham Jaycees. Ronnie came to work with Rigsbee Tire Sales in 1970 as a warehouse assistant. He has held positions of responsibility. Due to his outstanding capabilities and willingness to satisfy his customers, he has been awarded the "Distinguish Sales Award" by his company for the year 1975.

Dear Customers and Friends:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your continued support in the growth of Rigsbee Tire Sales.

In 1964, we opened the second location in a small building on Hillsborough Road to better serve the West Durham area. In 1968 we added an additional 5000 square feet in order to give faster and more complete service. In December of 1973 we opened our third store located in North Durham on Roxboro Road.

In the very near future we will be moving from our Lakewood location into our new Downtown location at 713 W. Pettigrew St.

In all three of these Durham stores we have installed the most modern equipment for retreading, wheel balancing, front end alignment, brake service, and many other items that make you, our customer, travel safer and more comfortable than ever before.

On Monday, Feb. 16, we formally opened our first Chapel Hill store located on W. Franklin Street. We intend to provide the same guaranteed quality products and tire service to our many friends in the Chapel Hill area, as has been the custom of our businesses in Durham since 1948. We continue to pledge to you, the motoring public, the best products and service available, at the most reasonable prices.

We ask only for the opportunity to prove to you that we are truly "The Tire Professionals."

Stewart Rigsbee



Stewart Rigsbee

## RIGSBEE TIRE SALES

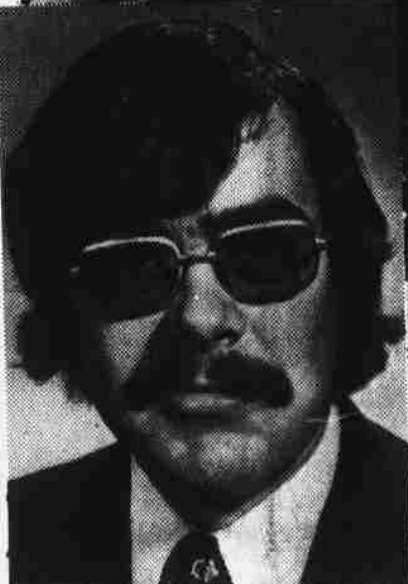
"The Tire Professionals"

Bob Salmon  
Store Manager  
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Ph. 688-1383

Herbert Finch  
Store Manager  
2839 Roxboro Road  
Ph. 477-0453

Jim Pipkin  
Store Manager  
2720 Hillsborough Road  
Ph. 286-4444

Ronnie Lloyd  
Store Manager  
600 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill  
Ph. 942-1386



### Free Door Prizes

FREE! Come in and register for these valuable door prizes. No purchases necessary - you do not have to be present to win. Drawing Friday Feb. 20, 1976 at 5:00 P.M. Register all week.

1. Set of Four Hercules or Semperit steel Banded Radials. Tires Guaranteed 40,000 Miles - Winner's choice of Tire and size.
2. Set of Four Cal Chrome supreme Mag Wheels - Winner's choice of size and width.
3. Set of Four passenger retreads - Winner's choice of size in conventional tread design.
4. Choice of Four Heavy Duty Shocks or a Heavy Duty Battery Guaranteed 60 months.



### We Supply you with a Complete Line of Hercules Tires

See our Complete Line of HERCULES Tires... "The Best Rubber on the Road"! They're all there - from the popular economy tire to the best steel belted radial tire ever made! Come in Today - let the "professional" install the right tire for your particular need.

Something better in a tire... and a man who stands behind it!

