

CAPITOL LETTERS

BY THOMPSON GREENWOOD
GUANO—Due to the fact that this State grows 67 per cent of all flue-cured tobacco produced in the nation and 48 per cent of all tobacco grown in the United States, North Carolina uses one-sixth of all fertilizer sold in this country.

In fact, farmers of this province bought 1,511,822 tons of fertilizer in the calendar year 1945. Figuring that this fertilizer cost the farmer an average of \$33 per ton (tobacco fertilizer would average around \$35), North Carolina agriculturalists spent \$49,890,126, or right at \$50,000,000 for fertilizer in 1945.

That's a lot of money. WEST—In many states in the Pacific Northwest, less than 1,000 tons of fertilizer is used during the year.

And in many of the agriculture classes out there the instructors keep three or four sample bags of fertilizer just to show the students its composition and its varied uses.

You see, by the time those Northwestern sections had been settled we knew a great deal more about the soil than when we were going wild on cotton here in the

South 100 years ago. Those farmers profited on our mistakes. It is only in very recent years that Southern farmers as a whole have found it is necessary to put just a little something back into the ground now and then.

2,000—If you think you use a lot of fertilizer, you should get in touch with some Eastern North Carolina tobacco farmers, some of whom used 1,800-2,000 pounds to the acre last year.

Agronomists will tell you without fear of refutation that the use of fertilizer will give you a better return on your investment—under proper circumstances—than anything else.

CARRIER BOYS—Dr. C. C. Crittenden, director of the State Department of Archives and History, is a paper boy these days. His son, who delivers a Raleigh daily, has been ill with the flu (like most everybody else, apparently), so Dr. Crittenden has been singing the news.

Also a newspaper boy now is Howard Satterfield, professor at State College, whose son is sick. The neighbors out on Park drives have been getting good laughs from watching the two "boys" nod solemnly as they meet

each other on their respective route.

221 DIVORCES—Wake County had 221 divorces during 1945—a record and a gain of 19 over 1944. But Wake still has quite a few more marriages than divorces. Isn't that fine?

It is an ironical and shameful fact that in this country where we talk of love all the time, sing about it all the time, hear songs on the radio about it every hour of every day and night in the year, read about it in the newspapers and magazines and books all the time, and see it on the screen every day, we have more divorces from lack of love than any other land on earth.

The folks who heard and saw Agriculture Secretary Clinton P. Anderson in Raleigh last week were very much impressed by him. He's a good speaker—much better than his boss, H. Truman, who garbled his talk over the radio last Thursday night. Anderson has poise and self-assurance, and you are going to hear more from him.

He threw several nice bouquets in the direction of Agriculture Commissioner Kerr Scott, who is now planning to run (or may be already running) for re-election. Scott and Anderson became fast friends at the annual meeting of the National Association of Commissioners of Agriculture held in Memphis—and at which Scott was elected vice-president of the association.

Lt. Gov. L. Y. Ballentine was in a class by himself at the luncheon honoring Secretary Anderson last Friday. Dr. Clarence Poe, who introduced the special guests, said the hall was full of farmers and politicians, adding that Ballentine, however, was both farmer and politician. Stag does mix the two rather well, and it is hard to say at which he is better—although the latter label seems to be going in the lead at this particular time.

Time Magazine carried a Lincolnian picture of Governor Gregg Cherry in last week's issue. The magazine, in alluding to Cherry's commutation of 14-year-old Negro Ernest Brooks' sentence from death to life imprisonment, quoted Cherry as saying: "The crimes are revolting, but a part of the blame . . . arises from the neglect of the State and society to provide a better environment . . . Our public schools equipped with capable teachers and an effective compulsory-attendance law, would do much to correct delinquency among all races."

Brooks was convicted of breaking into a Wilmington home and raping a woman who was seven months pregnant . . . rape and burglary, both punishable by death.

Even Time makes mistakes. In sending in the story to the mag. C. A. Upchurch, Jr., of Raleigh, told them plainly seven months. They raised it to eight. And in reporting Time's report, the Raleigh News and Observer said that Brooks had been convicted of murder and rape of the woman, who now is still living in apparently good health at her home in Wilmington. Well, well.

Starting Him Off Right



Raymond Massey stops work on his new picture to make friends with little Stuart S. Scheer of New York. Result: young Stuart dropped the first dime into the Wishing Well bucket built for the March of Dimes, January 14-31. Mr. Massey has been active in his support of the March of Dimes since 1938 when the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis was founded by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

As you probably don't know, the rationing of paper is over for magazines, and they are going hog wild with their illustrations and features. The sex angle is given the big play, in the women's magazines particularly, and in the current issue of Cosmopolitan a n-k-d woman (hold on there!) illustrates one of the stories, and she's looking in one of these mirror contraptions so as to give you a better view.

Senator Bailey, looking pale and wan, was introduced at the luncheon honoring Anderson as the elder N. C. Senator and Senator Hoey as the Youthful Senator. Hoey is a little younger than Bailey.

In reporting it, one of the dailies which has never been very favorable toward Senator Bailey inadvertently had it this way: "Dr. Poe introduced Senator Bailey as 'Senator Bailey.' Imme-

Asks No Ceiling On Raw Cotton

Declares Cotton Farmer And Cotton Mills Not Responsible For Higher Prices

RALEIGH, Jan. 7.—Declaring that the cotton farmer and the cotton mills were not responsible for the higher prices of cotton-made goods, M. G. Mann, General Manager of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association, appealed to OPA Chief Chester Bowles today "not to put a ceiling price on raw

diately after, he introduced North Carolina's "useful junior senator," "Clyde R. Hoey."

You can imagine how this mistake made Senator Bailey feel. Scallions!

Smith-Douglas Fertilizer Co. plans to come out with some big newspaper advertising telling of its differences with the State Department of Agriculture . . . just a hint to those interested . . . They say now that Dick Reynolds wants to leave his very good-looking wife, but that she won't

listen to it . . . and don't say it's the money angle either, for she's a tobacco heir herself, a fine woman, and has more money than you and your folks and I and mine, all put together . . . The State Farm Bureau Convention, the biggest ever held, will come off in Winston-Salem on Feb. 5, 6, 7 . . . Harry B. Caldwell is scheduled to be re-elected Master of the State Grange in High Point this afternoon . . . or possibly tomorrow.

cotton." "Your announcement of ceiling prices on cotton is the hardest blow that has hit the South since the Civil War, and in the name of humanity we are appealing to you not to place a ceiling on the 1946 cotton crop." Mann wired the Price Chief.

Mann's 800 word protest followed an announcement from Washington Sunday that the Office of Price Administration plans to place the 1946 cotton crop under price control to avoid the need for raising prices of textiles and clothing.

The announcement quoted Bowles as saying "he believed that cotton prices will be steadier at a level which should permit textile ceilings to be held without change."

"Textiles and clothing are basic elements in the cost of living," Bowles continued, "and the OPA intends to do everything in its power to avoid the necessity of raising the prices on these important commodities."

"Mr. Bowles has left the impression that cotton farmers are responsible for the higher cost of clothing, however, this is NOT borne out by facts," Mr. Mann pointed out.

In an effort to show that the farmers were not responsible for the rise in clothing prices, a purchase of four lower-priced garments from a Southern store was analysed by the Cotton Growers' representative. It showed:

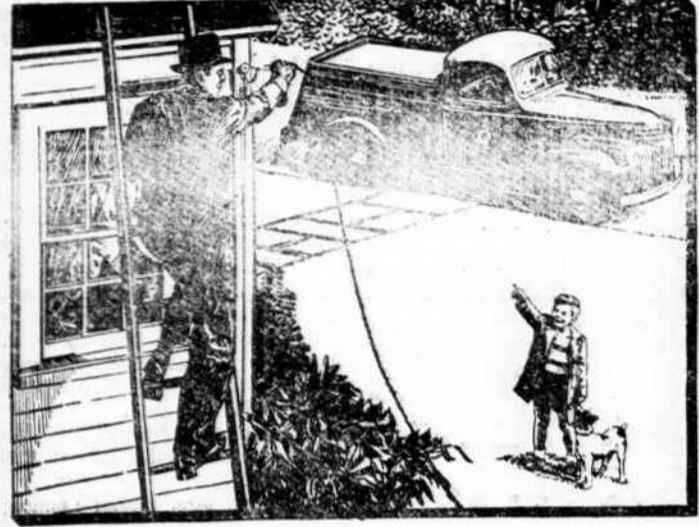
Material for a seersucker tailored dress purchased for \$7.90 from the retailer cost \$1.40 at the mill . . . Material for a plain white dress retailing for \$9.95 cost 98 cents. The makings of a dotted swiss

dress priced at \$9.95 cost \$1.40 at the mill. A woven plaid sucker dress priced at \$14.95 made from three and one-half yards of cloth cost \$1.61.

"Those who have advised cotton should certainly study facts, and if they do they certainly see that it is not cotton farmer or the cotton that is causing higher prices clothing," Mann said. "Can it be that there are those in places of authority who are trying to destroy the Southern cotton farmer in order that synthetic might have a clear ahead?"

"Cotton affects the lives of more individuals than any other crop grown in the South and fords the lowest standard of living. Not until recently cotton farmers received like a fair price for cotton. Producers of other commodities have been receiving higher prices yet the cost of living for cotton farmer were the same. "We are in favor of lower the cost of production of cotton at every turn in the road, until mechanical devices other means are provided to able the farmer to lower cost, he needs every penny can get for every pound he produces."

Buy War Bonds TODAY For Future Needs



We're catching up with those telephone orders

The news is a lot better for every one who is waiting for a telephone.

With the receipt of increasing amounts of telephone equipment, we are putting in more telephones every day.

But there are places where we have complicated switchboards to install—even places where we must build new buildings for the new switchboards. In those places it will necessarily take more time.

We're working hard to serve those and striving to give everybody quicker and better service than ever before.

SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY INCORPORATED



Again we unloaded two car loads of fine young mules this morning, all broke and ready for work. They're 4 to 5 years old weighing from 1,050 to 1,200 pounds. All hand-picked and personally selected by S. L. Fuller—the best selection yet.

ALSO SEVERAL NICE MARES.

Also a Large Stock of Bridles, Collars, Hames and Harness.

"The Customer Makes the Terms at Fuller's"

—CASH or TERMS—

S. L. Fuller & Brother
 WHITEVILLE

A "Look at the Books"

OR

"A Finger in the Pie"?

Which is the UAW-CIO really after? Is it seeking facts—or new economic power? Does it want to know things—or run things?

These questions concern you as well as General Motors.

For years the facts about General Motors have been made public.

In spite of this, the UAW-CIO demands a chance to look at our books, with the hint that we could meet Union demands "if the truth were really known."

We have firmly declined to recognize this as a basis for bargaining:

1. The Full Facts are Published

How much General Motors takes in each year—how much it pays employees—how much it pays to stockholders—how much it pays in taxes—how much net profit we make—and many other facts are plainly stated in annual reports and quarterly reports.

These are broadcast to 425,000 stockholders from coast to coast—sent to newspapers and libraries. Additional copies are free for the asking.

2. All Figures are Thoroughly Checked

Every General Motors annual statement is audited by outside auditors. Similar figures are filed with the Securities & Exchange Commission.

Does the UAW-CIO honestly believe that General Motors would or could deceive these experts?

3. Basis of Collective Bargaining is Defined

The Wagner Act lays down the rules for collective bargaining. These cover such areas as rates of pay, hours of work, working conditions.

No mention is made of earnings, prices, sales volume, taxes and the like. These are recognized as the problems of management.

4. Something New has been Added

The obvious fact is that the UAW-CIO has gone beyond its rights under the law—and is reaching not for information but for new power—not for a look at past figures, but for the power to sit in on forecasting and planning the future.

A "look at the books" is a clever catch phrase intended as an opening wedge whereby Unions hope to pry their way into the whole field of management.

It leads surely to the day when Union bosses, under threat of strike, will demand the right to tell what we can make, when we can make it, where we can make it, and how much we must charge you—all with an eye on what labor can take out of the business, rather than on the value that goes into the product.

5. This Threatens All Business

If the Union can do this in the case of General Motors, it can do it to every business in this land of ours.

Is this just imagination? Union spokesmen have said, "The Union has stated time after time that this issue is bigger than just an ordinary wage argument, that it is bigger than the Corporation and bigger than the Union."

For Labor Unions to use the monopolistic power of their vast membership to extend the scope of wage negotiations to include more than wages, hours and working conditions is the first step toward handing the management of business over to the Union bosses.

We therefore reject the idea of a "look at the books" not because we have anything to hide but because the idea itself hides a threat to GM, to all business, and to you, the public.

GENERAL MOTORS

"MORE AND BETTER THINGS FOR MORE PEOPLE"