

# Concern Over Inflation Seen On Capital Hill

By LAMAR GUDGER

Growing concern over inflation is evident from Capitol Hill to the White House and is responsible at least in part for this week's defeat of the 1978 Farm Bill.

Because of this increasing concern over not only inflation but over the budget deficit as well, key members of the House Ways and Means Committee believe President Carter's promised cut of \$25 billion from federal income taxes should be pared sharply.

Contrary to traditional election-year habits, most members of the committee feel Congress will probably enact a smaller tax reduction, rather than enlarging the Carter proposal.

When President Carter spoke to the American Society of Newspaper Editors here this week, he called on both

business and labor to fight inflation, saying he planned to freeze executive salaries in the government and limit this year's general pay raise to 5.5 percent.

Other anti-inflation measures cited by the president: appointment of special trade representatives Robert Strauss as special counsel on inflation.

Federal departments are to report in 30 days on steps to increase timber production on federal, state and private lands as a way of holding down lumber prices and housing costs. (This has obvious import to Western North Carolina).

He called on Congress to enact airline fare deregulation and hospital cost containment.

In a letter from the White House, governors and mayors were asked to hold down pay raises for employees and to

consider lowering sales taxes.

Federal agencies will tailor procurement policies to the anti-inflation campaign, reducing or eliminating purchases for goods and services on which prices are rising rapidly.

He again called for enactment of his energy program.

The just-defeated Farm Bill would have hurt WNC farmers and consumers alike, while cutting back on grain exports when they needed to be expanded.

I did not vote for this bill for three reasons: first, our mountain farmers producing livestock, poultry and dairy products would have suffered from runaway grain prices created by the bill; second, economists predict it would have caused an average family of four to pay \$100 a year more for basics like

bread, beef and poultry; and third, the massive land retirement mandated by the measure would have reduced grain acreage when we need expansion of exports to offset foreign oil purchases and help with our balance of payments deficit.

I supported the 1977 Farm Act passed last year by the Congress but only now taking effect. It already is providing some relief for America's grain-producing farmers.

This 1978 bill would have had an immense inflationary effect on the country and would have been felt most by the poor, those on fixed incomes, and others least able to bear increased food prices.

Prospects are brighter for extending Asheville Airport runways to accommodate large jet aircraft, with reasonable assurance of substantial federal funding in the next fiscal year to help complete the \$6-million financing package.

In late March, when city officials learned they would receive no "discretionary" funding from the FAA in the current fiscal year, I assigned two members of my Washington staff to in-

vestigate. They have worked closely with city officials, regional planning authorities and the FAA to resolve the problem.

Last Thursday, I met in my Washington office with senior FAA officials and my staff members assigned to this case. It was a frank and open sharing of views and information. I am delighted to report the FAA officials have a complete understanding of our airport problem and are committed to supporting necessary improvements.

While there is scant prospect for additional discretionary funding this year, the FAA's Bob Aaronson, assistant administrator for the office of airports development chief, Lamar Guthrie, both assured me the Asheville Airport improvement has "high priority," ranking among the top five projects in the Southeast.

They anticipate necessary

allocations from discretionary funds in the coming fiscal

year, starting Oct. 1.

Both men recommended strongly that local officials begin the project now, underwriting initial costs from entitlement funds already available.

Peck, Peck Mark Twain's "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" was the first book manuscript to be typewritten. The publication was produced in 1875.

**SAMUEL E (SAM) PARKER**

PD. POL. ADV. BY CANDIDATE

## Emergency Bill Opposed

The Emergency Farm Bill of 1978 would have hurt both farmers and consumers in Western North Carolina, U.S. Rep. Lamar Gudger said Wednesday following the bill's defeat, 150-268.

In opposing a measure which drew thousands of grain-producing farmers to the nation's capital on its behalf, Gudger predicted the legislation could have increased the cost of producing livestock, poultry and milk, thus hurting rather than helping many farmers.

"Indeed most Western North Carolina farmers would suffer as would consumers," he said.

President Carter had promised to veto the proposal, sometimes known as the Dole Bill because of its sponsorship by Sen. Robert Dole (R-Kan.).

The bill was designed to increase the income of grain producers by creating shortages through supporting prices at targets keyed to these "set asides" up to a rate of \$5.04 a bushel.

"Thousands of potential grain-producing acres would be lost to a soil bank at \$75 an acre for non production," Gudger said. "The massive land retirement mandated by this measure could shrink grain supplies to dangerously low levels just when we need to expand grain production for export, offsetting our foreign oil purchases."

Increasing grain prices to a level of \$5 plus per bushel could force beef producers to sell without sending cattle through feeding stations, he said, adding that poultry producers and dairy farmers

also would feel adverse effects from the price hike.

"We have just experienced a 15 cent increase in the Dairy Commission — approved cost of milk," he said. "Obviously, higher grain prices would force a second round of milk increases."

Gudger said his principal concern in the prediction of economists that the bill would cause a food cost increase for a family of four in excess of \$100 a year. Raising the price of grain would have this much impact on the cost of bread, beef, poultry and other foods.

He also feels the impact of the 1977 Agriculture Act is only now taking effect, already easing the plight of harried farmers.

"I strongly supported the 1977 Act after joining with my North Carolina colleagues against efforts to reduce or end our tobacco stabilization program," Gudger said. "I firmly believe this 1977 legislation will cause substantial increases in the prices of grain adequate to meet the needs of America's grain-producing farmers."

The 11th District democrat noted that the last few weeks alone have seen a 60-cent rise in wheat prices and this price will go even higher without passage of the 1978 proposals.



I am a candidate for reelection to the Board of Education in Madison County, subject to the will of the Democrat voters in District II in the May 2 Primary. Your support and vote will be greatly appreciated. Bobby Ponder

PD. POL. ADV.

## ATTENTION TAXPAYERS!

### 1977 DELINQUENT TAXES WILL BE ADVERTISED DURING MAY

**Pay NOW And Avoid Penalty**

**HAROLD WALLIN**  
Madison County Tax Collector

**VOTE FOR JAMES A. (JIMMIE) RAMSEY**  
FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION (DISTRICT II)  
DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY  
MAY 2, 1978  
FOR BETTER EDUCATION AND ATHLETICS

PD. POL. ADV.

I am a candidate for Sheriff of Madison County in the May 2, 1978 Democratic Primary.

I have had 28 years of experience in law enforcement with the Wildlife Commission. I have attended a number of training schools at the Institute of Government at Chapel Hill which included Laws of Arrest, Search and Seizure, Pursuit Driving and Defense Tactics.

I retired five years ago and have been farming, fishing and hunting. After discussing the matter with a number of citizens, I came out of retirement to run for this office.

I feel that I owe the people something. I am not doing this for political power or the money. I would like to do something for you and your children.

I would work hard on the drug traffic and the breaking and entering. I would also work closely with other agencies and the CB radios.

If I am nominated and elected and get the tools, I will do the job.

## Raymond Ramsey

YOUR VOTE WILL BE APPRECIATED

POL. ADV. PAID FOR BY RAYMOND RAMSEY

**RONALD W. HOWELL** RESIDENT SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE, 24th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

*General Court of Justice*  
Avery, Madison, Mitchell, Yancey and Watauga

704 649-3417  
P.O. Box 189, Marshall, N.C. 28753

April 17, 1978

Dear Fellow Democrat:

As the campaign nears its end and the primary approaches, I want to convey the following simple message to you.

I believe you want Madison County to be the home of the Resident Superior Court Judge for the next 8 years. I pledge to you as your Judge that I have not been "working for or against" any other candidate for office in this period preceding the primary. I have been "working in the courtroom" which is what you helped elect me to do less than two years ago. Common sense is a characteristic of our mountain people, and I think you know I have enough to avoid involving myself in matters that would only hurt me even if I were here to campaign. I believe you know this, just as I believe you want a Resident Judge who thinks of your right to happiness, just as he protects those accused of crime. I believe you want a hard working judge. I have done my best to fulfill my pledges and your wishes. My record speaks for itself.

I humbly and sincerely ask for your support and your votes; I ask you to reject the last ditch attempts to place me for or against someone else because you know I simply have not had the time. Your consideration and your votes will be most sincerely appreciated, because even though I have four other counties, it means a great deal to me personally to believe that my fellow Democrats of Madison County like and appreciate the job their Judge has been doing. I'm sorry I can't be here to rebut all rumors, but I simply cannot. I can tell you, however, I will be back in July to hold the following six months of court in Madison County. I am looking forward to this.

Warm regards,  
s/Ronald W. Howell

Paid for by the Committee for the Reelection of Judge Howell, Frank Watson & Doug Greene, Co-Chairmen, John Hensley, Treasurer.