

# Capital Letters

By THOMPSON GREENWOOD

I. O. SCHAUB, DIRECTOR OF THE N. C. EXTENSION SERVICE, MADE THE SHORTEST SPEECH heard in recent years at the State Grange meeting held in High Point last week. Schaub was given a glowing introduction by retiring Master Harry B. Caldwell, and everybody was sitting back, and possibly looking forward to the speech.

"An old friend of the farmer and of the Grange; one of the truly good men of agriculture," lauded Caldwell. "And now, Dean Schaub, we'd like to have a word from you."

Schaub took Caldwell at his word, too, and said the word, just one, and that was "Howdy."

The Grangers seemed to like it, and gave the speaker a big hand as he threw back at them that familiar whimsical smile and his peculiar little twist of the head.

NOT EVERYBODY WAS PLEASED WITH THE SELECTION OF MRS. CALDWELL TO SUCCEED her husband as master of the State Grange. They felt that Harry's position with the National Plant Food Council would certainly keep him too busy to attend to the Grange duties and their opinion was that Mrs. Caldwell as master would be the same thing as continuing her husband in this position. However, the thoughts expressed above were definitely from the minority, and the real old back-in-the-country, old-time Grangers just wanted a Caldwell to be head of the N. C. Grange, and if they couldn't get Harry, they would take Mrs. Harry.

She will do a splendid job—in a way better than her husband has done during the past eight years he has held the office. Under him, the Grange leaned too heavily on their master, thus making it too much of a one man show. Since they haven't had a lady before as master, many of the lazy duffers will now get in there and fight for the Grange.

And the folks who think that Harry B. Caldwell will still be running the Grange just don't know his wife. PREDICTION: The Grange will gain more members during the next 12 months than it has in the past two years.

HERE IS THE PRINCIPAL REASON—OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT TOBACCO STOCKS ARE LOW—THAT AGRICULTURE SECRETARY CLINTON P. ANDERSON RAISED THE ALLOTMENT 10 PERCENT LAST WEEK: Secretary Anderson must issue a proclamation this summer (around July usually) calling for a vote on the control program—since this is the last year under the present program. With a bad crop having

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been produced in 1945 and tobacco manufacturers paying the ceiling, there would be little reason for keeping down the production of tobacco next year. But now that the 10 per cent increase has been granted, Secretary Anderson can look at the production estimates this summer and declare that control will be necessary, for with the big 1946 crop, there may be less demand in 1947, and a consequent reduction in price. So control will be necessary. There will be vigorous objections to control from various groups you can guess without half trying if you grow tobacco, but the objections will be much less now that the crop is going to be around 10 per cent larger.

YOU MIGHT ASK WHY SECRETARY ANDERSON DIDN'T MAKE THIS ANNOUNCEMENT WHEN HE SPOKE IN NORTH CAROLINA TWO WEEKS AGO. Well, chances are he didn't know it was coming. J. B. Hutson, Undersecretary of Agriculture and former head of the Commodity Credit Corporation, handles the tobacco program for his boss, and the matter likely had not been cleared between the two at the time of the Raleigh talk.

ANDERSON CAME INTO RALEIGH WEARING A DIRTY SHIRT. He was awfully worried and didn't know what to do about it. Don't ask why he didn't have a suitcase or a clean shirt. And you can't buy a shirt in Raleigh—especially a white one. Anderson appealed to his host, Agriculture Commissioner Kerr Scott, but Scott didn't have a clean one with him either—except the one on his back—for he had just come down from his home on Back Creek in Alamance county.

To make a long story short, Scott jumped around and borrowed a nice shirt that fitted Anderson to a tee-y-ty. If the lender's name were mentioned you would know him, for he's rather prominent. But since this story came neither from Scott nor from the leader, the name will not be given. Anyway, big shot's shirts get dirty, just like yours and mine.

THE COUNTIES ARE RAISING THE DICKENS ABOUT THE COUNTRY ROADS, AND HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER SANDY GRAHAM IS SWEATING MORE THAN AT ANY TIME since 1936 when he was in that three-cornered race with Hoy and McDonald. Some of the delegations, although good Democrats, are getting rough. Now the weather folks say that January is going to be an unusually wet month, so we may have a minor revolution any time.

Since Graham went into office the middle of last summer, he's been moving along rather swiftly on the rural roads program—especially since those blasts from Governor Cherry and Kerr Scott. But Cherry and Graham have only been in office a few months. Cherry 12 and Graham about six, so you can't expect too much in that short time.

Broughton had a good opportunity to bring the rural roads up to par—or to start them in that direction—during the first two years of his administration. However, he did very little. Your popular U. S. Senator Clyde R. Hoey is the man on whom to place the blame, for in the years from 1936 to 1940 there was plenty of money and plenty of labor. But he did nothing. So he smiles and is pleasant and you love him.

ANY TIME YOU WANT TO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THE NATIONAL (OR STATE)

TOBACCO PROGRAM, GET IN TOUCH WITH E. Y. FLOYD, executive secretary of the Virginia-Carolina Plant Food Institute. They say that J. B. Hutson slips into Raleigh now and then, confers with Floyd, and moves back to Washington again, with nothing said in the press about the visit—in fact nothing known about it.

HEADED BY N. C. STATE COLLEGE AGRICULTURE DEAN, THE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE OF THE GRANGE PASSED A RESOLUTION LAST WEEK urging the State Highway and Public Works Commission to "devote as much attention to the soupy highways as to the super-duper highways." Attaboy, Bayer, they

will understand what you mean.

RUMORS WERE FLYING THICK AND FAST LAST WEEK THAT SMITH - DOUGLAS, THE FERTILIZER COMPANY, WAS PLANNING TO GO INTO COURT WITH THE ASSOCIATED PRESS OVER RECENT STATEMENTS ALLEGEDLY MADE BY THIS

NEWS ORGANIZATION. The company also toyed with the idea of bringing the Agriculture Department into court. But the story is that Ralph Douglas went to an attorney (J. M. Broughton) for advice, and he told them to pull their punches, that advertisements in newspapers over the recent fertilizer argument, lawsuits, and court

actions would do them much more harm than good—even if they won. At this writing, all is quiet on the Eastern Front.

IT NOW LOOKS AS IF THREE OR FOUR N. C. CONGRESSMEN WILL HAVE OPPOSITION THIS FALL. MORE ON THIS AS IT DEVELOPS.

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**\$1.38 Size ..... 98c**

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