

Capital Letters

By THOMPSON GREENWOOD

Last Week-End, the newspaperman who has made more money than anybody else writing articles about "Lost Colony," was not considered for the position—and will not be.

DISTURBED—Agriculture Commissioner Kerr Scott and other farm leaders of the state are concerned about veterans' apathetic attitude regarding farming. Hundreds of fine old farmers of North Carolina have been looking forward to having their sons back home to help with the spring plowing this year. But they just aren't returning to the farm, and the farm labor situation this summer may be equally as bad as a year ago when the war was in full swing.

In a recent group of 14,000 returning servicemen making application for "training on the job" education provided by the government under the G. I. Bill of Rights, only 28 sought training in agriculture. The answer is that most of these boys, away from home, haven't seen the wartime farm prosperity during the past three years. They remember 1930-37, when they were 10-17 years old, and they can't see any financial incentive for staying down on the farm.

IN THE FIFTH — Not that it amounts to a thing, but the feeling in Raleigh is that Thurmond Chatham, of Elkin and Winston-Salem, will certainly give Congressman John Folger a sound thrashing in the Fifth Congressional District. This isn't to say that Chatham isn't vulnerable on certain points, for he is—definitely, if Folger were young enough and vigorous enough to carry the fight. But since Folger is rather old at 65 and since Chatham has virtually all of the Forsyth vote, and a large portion of Surry's for a backlog, he will go to congress. Labor may enter the fight, but chances are it won't, and as a matter of fact it looks right now as if there won't be much of a battle.

FAILURE?—Raleigh is to vote on April 18 on whether it wants to issue \$100,000 in bonds as its contribution to the Raleigh-Durham Airport, which was under army control through the war and which

has now been released for civilian use. Plans call for extensive improvements, which will cost about \$800,000, about half of which come from the Federal government, \$200,000 from Wake and Durham counties, and \$100,000 each from Raleigh and Durham.

Your capital city may vote favorably on the bonds. However, like Whiteville (which dealt a shocking defeat to a school improvement program recently) and some other N. C. cities, Raleigh is not a bond town.

In 1936-37—less than 10 years ago—your reporter taught school at swanky Needham Broughton High here in Raleigh for \$87.50 per month. Room rent, on the other hand, was \$18 per month, and meals around \$30 per month.

Raleigh tried to improve its schools with a special bond election in 1934, but the vote failed; tried again in 1936, failed again; attempted the same thing in 1937, but in vain. Finally, after three failures, the bond issue passed in 1938. On the other hand, nearby Durham, with its great population of factory workers, through the years built up one of the best—if not the best—city school systems in the state. Durham won't have any trouble raising \$100,000, but Raleigh may.

OUT—A few weeks ago many political observers in Raleigh thought that Comptroller Lindsay Warren was going to run for Governor—but now they aren't so sure. For one thing, Warren has recently turned down two or three important speaking invitations in North Carolina.

JOHNSON — Since both State Treasurer Charles Johnson and Lindsay Warren's reputations are now associated with finances, the strength of one will likely cancel out that of the other. That seems to be happening right now, with Johnson moving ahead and Warren standing still. Treasurer Johnson is picking up strength right and left with his deft utterances and money, and how he would like to see the teachers and others getting more of it. That's pretty nearly always popular—especially in inflationary days.

It would seem, then, that if both Warren and Johnson become candidates for Governor, neither would get very far, thus leaving the way open for men like W. B. Umstead, L. Y. Ballentine, or W. P. Horton. But unless things change very rapidly, you won't see Horton and Umstead running against each

other for any office.

JACKSON — W. P. Horton is handling plans for the Jackson Day Dinner here on March 23 virtually single-handedly, and it promises to be one of the biggest and best in years. As National Committeeman and dinner planner, he is renewing his contacts with all of the Democratic leaders throughout the state. This is the same Horton everybody was kissing goodbye politically six short years ago. Remember how Lt. Gov. O. Max Gardner was downed by Cam Morrison in 1920, and only to come back eight years later to become Governor? A similar thing could happen again.

NOTES — Ronald Hocutt and Baxter Durham, who were on the state team B. C., are both in the insurance business, and are doing well. It is understood that Durham is one of the top-flighters with Atlantic Life and Hocutt is carrying on his safety work with some company. Incidentally, reports are that Nathan Yelton who did a neat handspring from school financing to retirement experting, is doing a bang-up job in Durham's old position, as Retirement System secretary. Ben Hoeck of New Bern didn't have as good luck as Yelton. He returned from the service

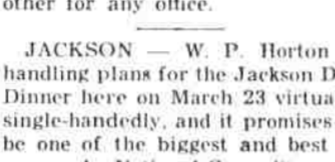
last week and found his old job as recreational director for the State Prison System had ceased to exist. A good man, Hoeck can get on with the state again if he wants to. There's always a position for the right man—Superintendent of Schools Clyde Erwin and Parole Head Hathaway Cross are the leading gentlemen farmers among state officials. The main difference is that Cross, a Gates county native, looks like a farmer. Superintendent Erwin resembles a school principal out working his garden after school.

FILINGS—A very important figure in Raleigh last week was Raymond Maxwell, retiring mild-mannered son of A. J. Maxwell and secretary of the State Board of Elections. His office on the second floor of the Agriculture Building was humming with last minute filers. But about the only Republican filer who will get anywhere this year is A. E. Hall of Yadkinville, solicitor in the 17th Solicitorial District and one of the few Republican Superior Court Solicitors in the South. Isn't that right? Unless local situations interfere, C. E. Dean of Rockingham, will likely defeat W. E. (Bill) Horner, Sanford candidate for congress in the Eighth district. The consensus in Raleigh is that Major John Lang of Carthage will support Dean, who hopes to carry the same counties that went for him in 1938. All this will make it hard for Horner, but Dean may make the mistake of taking too much for granted (not granite, Mr. Linotype.)

DEACON—There is a fine old dignified man by the name of Greene in Asheville, who is known all over the state as "Deacon," and within the past three or four years he has gained quite a reputation in the East as being in control of all things political in the Asheville environs. Well, in Raleigh they think this is a lot of Buncombe, and they also believe that Brandon Hodges, who would like to be assistant to Lt. Gov. L. Y. Ballentine in the next state senate and Lt. Gov. come 1948, is making a big mistake by hanging around to Greene's coattails.

Hodges is big enough, physically and mentally, to move along under his own steam and the tieup with the great "Deacon" Greene may do him much more harm than good in the mountain counties. In fact, this is already becoming apparent in some quarters.

Joins Sorority



MISS BEBE MEDFORD, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. N. M. Medford, student at Brenau College, who was initiated last week in the Phi Mu Sorority. Miss Medford is a member of the freshman class, having graduated last year from the Waynesville Township high school.

Nine Men Are Reclassified During This Week

Nine reclassifications were made by the local draft board during the week as follows:

Placed in class 1-A were, Leonard Messer, Richard M. Barker, Ishmael Worth Parton.

Placed in class 4-A were, Ralph David Jenkins and William Cagle.

Placed in class 2-C was Charles Andy Ferguson.

Placed in class 1-C was George D. Long.

Continued in class 2-A was Thomas Carlton Holt.

Continued in class 4-F was Gordon Phillip Rabb.

Sabbath Slumber

"How late do you usually sleep on Sunday morning?"
 "It all depends."
 "Depends on what?"
 "The length of the sermon."

Box-car shortages present the most serious of all obstacles to the relief of farm feed shortages.

Take Pride...

In Your Car—Keep it Clean Inside and Out!

You're judged by your car as much as by your clothes or house! Newness doesn't count but cleanliness does! Don't drive a car with mud caked on the body, with dusty, dirty upholstery soiling light Spring clothes. On your next shopping trip leave your car here for expert washing, polishing and upholstery cleaning. It costs no more for a thorough, carefully done job—and you'll be proud of a shining, completely clean car.



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