

# Tar Heel Congressman Explains Reasons For New Agricultural Bill

A subject of much interest to all sections of the state, including Western North Carolina, inasmuch as it affects the farming element to a large extent.

Rep. Harold D. Cooley of the fourth N. C. district, in a statement from Washington, takes issue with the Aiken bill, claiming that the bill was forced through the 80th Congress by "politically ambitious men, inspired by an unscrupulous zeal to elect themselves to public office," and Mr. Cooley went on to say that the measure was a "sake of thorns for the backs of farmers."



HAROLD D. COOLEY

His statement in full read:

During the fifteen years I have served on the House Committee on Agriculture, that Committee has been remarkably free of partisan politics. During that fifteen-year period, more legislation beneficial to farmers has been enacted by the Congress of this Country than had been enacted in all of the previous decades of our past history. Having participated in the preparation and passage of the numerous bills which have made possible the well-rounded farm program we now have, I naturally take great pride in my membership on that great Committee. Actually, I am the only North Carolinian who has served on the House Committee on Agriculture in over one hundred and four years, and may be said to be the longest serving Chairman of the Committee.

Our present farm program is a program of many parts. It has been tried and tested and has served the cause of agriculture exceedingly well, both in time of peace and in time of war. Under this program the farmers of the Nation have enjoyed a higher degree of prosperity than they have ever before enjoyed. The program on non-perishable farm commodities has been most successful. The part of the program that deals with perishable farm commodities, however, has shown weaknesses and imperfections.

First, perishable, valuable farm products are being sold and marketed in a haphazard and unprofitable manner during hours of the 24-hour day. Politically ambitious men, inspired by an unscrupulous zeal to elect themselves to public office, brought terrific pressure to bear on the Republican members of the House of Representatives. As a result of this pressure, at one time in 1946, the Republican-sponsored Aiken Bill was forced through the House of Representatives. Not a single Republican understood it, and this we now well know. When the spotlight of publicity shined upon it, the farmers of America knew it for what it really was. It was a "sake of thorns for the backs of farmers" and if it were taken from the law of the land, it would benefit our farmers while and drive them into bankruptcy.

When the 81st Congress convened in January, I became Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture. My very first official act was to appoint a Subcommittee to study and to interpret the Aiken Bill line by line and paragraph by paragraph to the end that the truth might be known concerning its provisions. When this study had been completed, we set out to do two things: First, to repeal the Aiken Bill and to save the farm program which had served the farmers of the Nation so well. Second, to strengthen and to perfect that program, to implement, to sup-

practical and more effective method of supporting the prices of perishable commodities. We sought a method which would eliminate the future possibility that tremendous quantities of foodstuffs might again be accumulated at a terrific cost only to be permitted to rot and decay while millions of people were suffering from hunger.

Our great Secretary of Agriculture came forward with a proposal that the law be amended or clarified so as to permit the use of production payments. Under this proposal producers would be required to make every reasonable effort to keep supply in line with demand. If, because of forces beyond their control, a surplus were still produced and farmers were faced with a break in prices, the surplus would be permitted to move on into the market place to be sold for the best price obtainable.

The government would then step in and make up the difference between the average price which the farmer received and the price indicated by the price support standard as fair and reasonable and just, and the production payments would protect the farmer, and the consumer could obtain commodities at the lower price. Thus, we would avoid the expense of buying, storing, shipping, and selling, and most important of all we would avoid the waste of valuable foodstuffs in the future.

With these two propositions, first the repeal of the Aiken Bill, and second, the production payment program, we came before the House of Representatives. Last week the House took action. On our first proposition, we won a great victory. By an overwhelming vote the House of Representatives repudiated and repealed the Aiken Bill, the monstrosity which was threatening to destroy the farmers of this Nation.

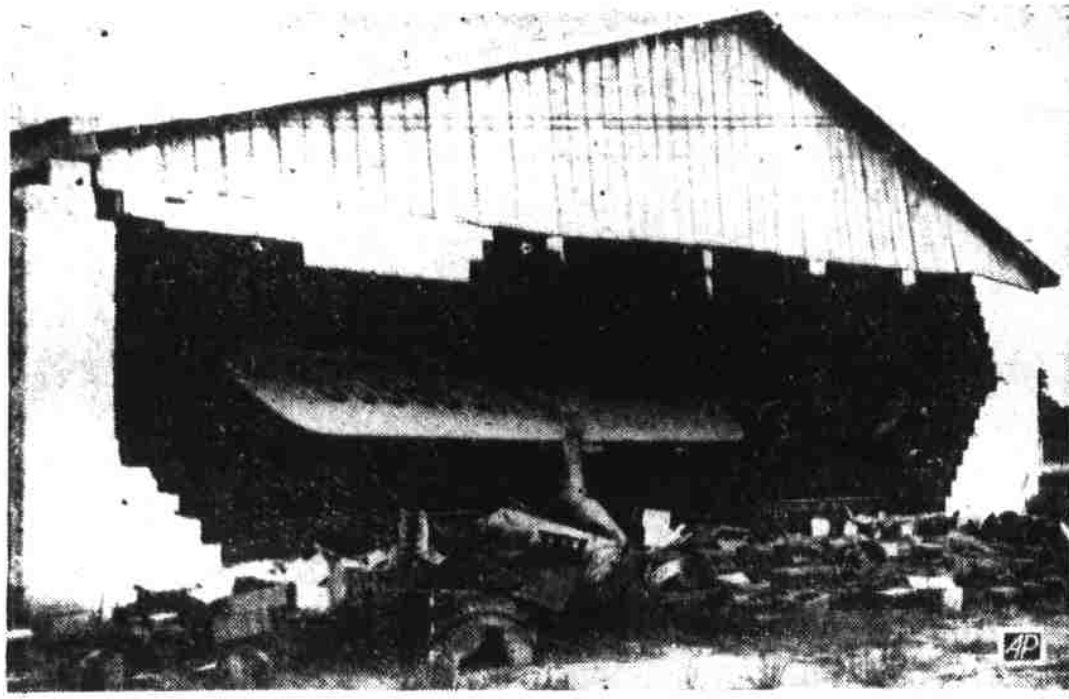
This action, which led to the repeal of the Aiken Bill, started in the House Committee on Agriculture. It was not the result of a coalition, nor was it born of conspiracy. It was a forthright and open effort on the part of the 17 Democrats on the House Committee. Before the voting actually started we forced the coalition to break down and to accept our proposition to repeal outright the Aiken Bill. As convincing evidence of the fact that the Aiken Bill is a bad bill, when the roll was called, only 25 members voted against our proposition to repeal it. So, the Aiken Bill is on the way out. Unless, however, the Senate joins with us and also votes to repeal it, it will go into effect on January 1, 1950.

On our second proposition, that of providing a fair price support standard and that of making compensatory or production payments to farmers who had cooperated in an effort to cope with the law of supply and demand, we lost. But, even in this defeat, there is some glory. We know now that the Country will soon understand the issues involved. This proposal was maliciously maligned and deliberately misrepresented and the issues were beclouded and confused.

Yes, I am happy in the glad thought that those who were seeking to force this Aiken Bill on the farmers of this Country have done an "about-face" and most of them in the House in fine fashion helped us to repudiate and to repeal this iniquitous act. The farm program is safe if the Senate of the United States follows the leadership of the House of Representatives.

This added to 60,000,000 pounds of rotten eggs, and tons upon tons of rotten potatoes, and other vital and valuable foodstuffs, might ultimately destroy the entire farm program. Faced with this situation, we started out to do something about it in the hope that we might provide a different method, a more

## Heat Explodes, Damages Hangar In Carolina



The rear wall of this hangar at the airport in Shelby, was blown out by an explosion of heat condensed inside the building. No damage was caused to planes parked inside. Shelby had experienced 101-degree heat during the afternoon. Suddenly a thunder storm cooled the atmosphere and lowered the air pressure outside the hangar. Thereupon the higher pressure inside the building let go with a blast. AP Photo.

### TRANSACTIONS IN Real Estate

#### Waynesville Township

Mary C. DeBardelen to Lula H. Crim and Dorothy Crim.  
Dorothy L. Crim to Lula H. Crim.  
Joel W. Wright and wife to D. J. Howell.  
Ralph A. Scott and wife to Catherine H. Shands.  
William F. Day and wife to C. J. Reece and wife.  
May Leatherwood to John M. McClure and wife.  
Raymond Mcbaffey and wife and others to Mrs. Marvree C. Underwood.  
J. B. Ivey and wife to Mason Crum.

#### Reaverdam Township

J. V. Redseaves and wife to W. T. Redseaves.  
Robert Wright and wife to M. L. Scroggs and wife.

#### Clyde Township

W. B. Snyder and others to H. J. King and Essie King.  
Bon-A-Venture, Inc. to A. W. Swanger and others.  
Orville Haynes and wife and others to J. C. Haynes.  
J. C. Haynes and wife and others to Orville Haynes.  
J. C. Haynes and wife and others to Lowell Q. Haynes.  
J. C. Haynes and wife and others to Curry T. Haynes.  
J. C. Haynes and wife and others to Wayne T. Haynes.  
J. C. Haynes and wife and others to Frank V. Haynes.  
J. C. Haynes and wife and others to French Haynes.  
J. C. Haynes and wife and others to Frank V. Haynes and others.

#### East Fork Township

Canton Building and Loan Association and S. M. Robinson, trustee, to David Shipman and wife.  
Springdale Schools, Inc. to W. C. Reece and wife.  
A. T. Ward, trustee, and J. Wiley James to Springdale Schools, Inc.

#### Ivy Hill Township

Dewey Carver and wife to J. W. Fisher and wife.

#### Pigeon Township

Eliel Thompson and others to Mary Rhinehart.

#### MARRIAGE LICENSES

Hoover Lambert of Cherokee and Maxine Roma Robinson of Canton.  
Fred Lewis Rogers of Clyde and Margaret Ruth Murray of Canton.

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## State Plans To Establish Milk Classification In This Part Of The

Agriculture Commissioner E. Y. Ballentine is planning to establish an official milk classification plan for the State's 16 western-most counties, which he has designated as "natural milk marketing areas."

A hearing in the matter, the Commissioner announced, will be held at 10:30 o'clock Friday morning, August 12, in the superior court chamber of the Haywood County Court House at Waynesville.

The classification plan, he said, will deal only with Grade A milk sales by dairy farmers to processors and distributors in the area, and its purpose will be to establish a framework of classes, based on ultimate utilization, upon which farmers will be paid for their deliveries. Classification schedules, Ballentine explained, concern accounting practices and should not be confused with grades of milk purity and quality.

North Carolina's first official milk classification plan was established for the Asheville milkshed on September 17, 1941, under authority of the Milk Audit Law enacted by the General Assembly earlier the same year. This plan, still in effect, will be applied when Commissioner Ballentine proclaims one for the larger Haywood area, which embraces all of the North Carolina counties west of Cleveland, Burke and Avery.

The Milk Audit Law designed to safeguard producers against "grading," declares it illegal for a dealer to sell milk in a higher classification than that in which he bought it. It designates the commissioner of agriculture the administrative authority with power to proclaim "natural milk marketing areas," establish milk classifications and to check the records of dealers to see that they comply.

Milk handlers, however, are free to say what they will pay for the various classes of milk, as the law gives the commissioner no authority

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