

Editorial and Opinion

Forward In Rural Electrification

Despite Governor Kerr Scott's wild attacks on the power companies, which some of the observers are saying are dictated by Jonathan Daniels and Interior Secretary J. A. Krug, there is considerable evidence that much progress in rural electrification has been made in North Carolina during the past year. On June 30, 1948, North Carolina's percentage of farms with electricity stood at 68.3, almost 10 percent below the average for the entire United States. By June 30, 1949, North Carolina's percentage of electrified farms had increased to 83.6 percent, over five per cent higher than the national figure. Nineteen of the states are below the U. S. average while 23 states are above North Carolina's standing.

Certainly, these figures indicate a substantial expansion in the rural electrification program in North Carolina. They may be further clarified by pointing out that in addition to the farms already using electricity, 14 percent of all North Carolina farms have electricity available to them but are not taking it and 8.3 percent of all farms in North Carolina are unoccupied, the figures coming from reports of the United States Department of Agriculture.

These new figures on North Carolina's position in rural electrification are heartening, indeed. However, they point up more than ever the verity of the accompanying USDA announcement which said: "Experience indicates as the electrification of rural American progresses, the job of reaching the remaining unserved farms becomes more difficult."

Instead of brickbats, it would appear that the power companies, along with the REA, deserve at least some small amount of commendation for the progress of the past year.

The State's Need.....and ours

Orange Countians are indebted to the Henderson Dispatch for one of the clearest, most succinct comments yet made on the need for the proposed new highway between Durham and Chapel Hill, which the highway department insists is still in the works and possibly will reach the contract letting stage before the end of the year. It says: "Recurring accidents on the Durham-Chapel Hill Highway afford sound argument in favor of the building as soon as practicable of what Governor Scott once called the 'football highway' between those two centers. It is doubtful if anywhere in the State 10 miles of improved road could be constructed that would serve more people of more different sections more often than this."

"Perhaps it might be proper not to charge the cost to any one highway district, but instead to recognize the general need and to make it a State road. Durham and Chapel Hill would benefit more than any other specific areas, but tens of thousands from all over would likewise profit in the greater safety that would result."

"Those who have occasion to travel this route even only now and then know something of the value of such a boulevard. The two roads which at this time and for years have been the only arteries of communication there can testify to their crookedness and the continuous hazards that exist all the way. There are curves or hills, or both, every few hundred yards, and when it is desirable or necessary to make time those who do are compelled to assume the risks involved. The wonder is that there have been no more fatal accidents than have occurred."

"We make no charge of the good people of either Durham or Chapel Hill for this plumping in their behalf. After all, it is not primarily in their behalf, but a plug for the people of the State generally."

To which we say, not completely irreverently, amen. The importance of the great educational center at Chapel Hill to the general scheme of North Carolina life and progress projects its needs to the doorsteps of every corner of the State, even as its triumphs and accomplishments are accepted with rightful pride from one end of Tar Heelia to the other.

THE NEWS of Orange County

Published Every Thursday by
THE NEWS, INCORPORATED
Hillsboro and Chapel Hill, N. C.

EDWIN J. HAMLIN Editor and Publisher

Community Representatives—Miss Elizabeth Kirkland, New Hope; Mrs. Ira Mann, Carrboro; Mrs. C. H. Pender, Cedar Grove; Mrs. Mary Wilkinson, Mebane; Mrs. Marinda McPherson, Hillsboro Negro Community; Mrs. Golden Sellars, Chapel Hill Negro Community. Manager, Chapel Hill Bureau, John Van Hecke.

Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office at Hillsboro, N. C. under the Act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

1 Year (in North Carolina)	\$2.00
6 Months (in North Carolina)	\$1.50
1 Year (outside North Carolina)	\$2.50
6 Months (outside North Carolina)	\$2.00

Exclusive National Advertising Representative
GREATER WEEKLIES
New York • Chicago • Detroit • Philadelphia

Member North Carolina Press Association

Thursday, October 27, 1949

PRESS COMMENT

Governor's Dry Efforts In Vain

(An Editorial From The Charlotte News)

Governor Scott's session with local law enforcement officers yesterday went off about as expected. He showed them figures on the enormous volume of bootlegging in dry counties, cited the power and arrogance of those who ply the trade, and called on the officers to do their utmost to stamp out the illegal traffic.

The meeting may do some good. We hope so. Every county in North Carolina that decides via the ballot to retain the discredited standard of America's Era of Wishful Thinking has the right to expect some semblance of conformity to the law.

When all's said and done, however, no amount of needling from Governor Scott or any State official is going to stir local officers to action against the bootleggers unless the people of their home communities demand, and co-operate with, full enforcement.

They will not demand it, of course, because the people who buy whiskey from bootleggers would also be snared in any all-out drive against the peddlers. Few local officers could afford to expose so many red faces to public scrutiny.

Too many people are content to have a dry law on the books so long as they have alcohol in their buffet. If — and this taxes the imagination — you could ever enforce a bone-dry Prohibition statute in any place in North Carolina, you would soon see the people rebel against it and remove it from the books. Governor Scott's effort is laudable. But it won't work.

Letters To The Editor

October 24, 1949

Editor
The News of Orange County

Dear Sir:
"Why should Eno township be asked to give Chapel Hill the seven hundred thousand dollar school house?" Mr. N. W. Brown asks this question in his letter on the proposed school issue was published in the News of Orange County last week.

The answers to Mr. Brown's question are: (1) the proposed bond issue does not provide a seven hundred thousand school house for Chapel Hill; and (2) the proposed additions and improvements to its schools of Chapel Hill and Carrboro contemplated under the bond issue will be fully paid for by the taxpayers of Chapel Hill township. Neither Eno nor any other township in the county will have to help pay for them, if the proposed bond issue is passed.

Last year Chapel Hill Township had 52 per cent of all property listed for taxation in Orange County. Next year this percentage will be higher. As everyone knows, the postwar expansion of student enrollment at the University has greatly stimulated private building in Chapel Hill Township. The Muirhead housing project is a case in point. This project is not being financed by the town of Chapel Hill, as Mr. Brown has been erroneously informed. It is a private project and when completed may add over a million dollars to the taxrolls of Orange County. Aside from the Muirhead development, the construction of both commercial and residential buildings is proceeding apace. The completion of the new hospital will bring more people to Chapel Hill and will further increase the number of homes listed for taxation in Orange County.

It is conservative to estimate that over the next twenty years, Chapel Hill township will contribute at least 60 per cent of the county taxes required to finance the proposed school bonds. Chapel Hill township is to receive approximately 58 per cent of the proceeds of the bonds. This indicates that Chapel Hill township will pay for what it receives. It should not be forgotten in this connection that Chapel Hill's two high schools do not serve only the children of Chapel Hill township but all of the children in the southern part of Orange County.

Mr. Brown believes that if a vote were taken a majority of the people would say that Chapel Hill township should build its own schools. As taxpayers, the residents of Chapel Hill township would not object to this. On a township basis, they could obtain the same school improvements as they are to receive under the proposed county bond issue with

a slight saving in taxes to boot. I do not agree with Mr. Brown, however, that a majority of the people want to shift from the county to the township, as a basis of school support.

The State General Assembly made the counties responsible for the construction and maintenance of school buildings because it wanted to give every child whether he lived in the country or the city a chance to attend a good school. Many townships are too small and sparsely populated to support good schools, especially high schools. Under the county system, schools are located where they can serve the children of the county most effectively. They are in no sense owned by the townships in which they happen to be placed, nor are their services limited to the children of any one township. The county system of school building and maintenance has given Orange County better schools.

But many of these schools are still not up to the standards of other counties. Passage of the proposed bond issue will go a long way toward giving every child in Orange County a chance to attend a decent school.

Yours Truly,
Clarence Heer
Route 3, Chapel Hill

Time To Treat Tobacco Beds

Hillsboro—Within the next two or three weeks, tobacco farmers should treat their plant bed sites with a mixture of 1 lb. of Uramon and ½ lb. of Cyanamid for each square yard of bed space for louse and weed control.

Growers are advised by the Experiment Station, according to Don S. Matheson, County Agent, to use this mixture rather than Cyanamid alone, because the mixture of both chemicals has a tendency to kill disease germs as well as weeds. The seed bed should be thoroughly disced and have a clod free surface. Broadcast 2-3 of the mixture evenly over the bed by hand and mix thoroughly with the upper three or four inches of top soil, then broadcast the remaining 1-3 of the chemicals and rake lightly into the upper 1 inch of top soil. If the soil is dry and rain does not occur within a few days after application, the bed should be wet down.

Golden Gleams

Poetry is vocal painting, as painting is silent poetry.

—Simonides of Ceos.

As civilization advances, poetry necessarily declines.

—T. B. McCauley.

Now at Coleman-Laws Co., Inc.



Newest Model
PHILCO FREEZER
for your Home

-on this Sensational Money Saving Offer!

PHILCO DH-81. Now 8.1 cu. ft. capacity in 5 ft. cabinet size. 3 compartments—one for sharp freezing at 15° below—two for sub-zero. Holds up to 280 lbs.

20 BIRDS EYE
FROSTED FOODS

Labels worth \$20.00

toward your Philco Freezer Purchase

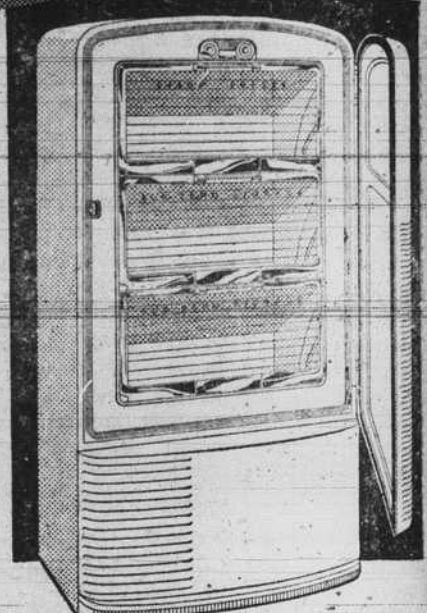
Yes, for a limited time* 20 labels are worth \$20 on a Philco Freezer... choose either model shown on this liberal offer. Act at once—this money-saving event is for a limited time only.*



Labels from ALL BIRDS EYE Frosted Foods Good on This Offer

*Offer ends Dec. 3, 1949

BUY ON EASY TERMS



PHILCO AV-75. Amazing upright convenience! So easy to arrange and find what you want. 3 reach-in compartments hold up to 265 lbs. 7½ cu. ft. capacity.

Coleman-Laws Co., Inc.

Hillsboro, N. C.

GOOD NEWS

Come Any Morning—Sell The Same Day

At The

"World's Best Tobacco Market"

No Other Market Has So Much To Offer

The Highest Average In The Old Belt

14 Large Well-Lighted Warehouses

4 Complete Sets Of Buyers

31,009,303 Lbs. - \$14,453,817.13 - Av. \$47.10

The Shopping Center Of The Piedmont

6 Banks For Your Convenience

9 Theatres For Your Amusement

A Big Welcome From Everyone

You Can't Go Wrong If You

SELL, BUY AND BANK

In

Danville, Virginia

C. D. Bryant, President

Geo. A. Myers, Jr., Sec. & Treas.