



ON FEB. 10. . . On February 10, says W. Kerr Scott of Haw River, he will announce publicly his long awaited decision about running for the U. S. Senate seat now held by Alton A. Lennon.

Scott has received a lot of publicity via the guessing game. That is, thousands upon thousands of words have been written within the past year as to whether he would actually become a candidate.

Now all that kind of writing must cease come February 10. A smart politician, Scott has carried uncertainty to the limit. Since he is a blitzkrieg campaigner, he can keep you on the fence until you know not whence — or something.

That he has already made up his mind to run, however, was indicated here last week. It didn't get in the papers, but Bill Whitley visited at least two Raleigh printing concerns — names on request — candidly stating he was obtaining price lists for various types of printing and advertising to be used in W. Kerr Scott's campaign for the U. S. Senate.

Whitley may have been out exploring on his own, but it is doubtful. And, you ask, just who is Bill Whitley? Well, he was last in the limelight as publicity man for one William B. Umstead in the spring of 1952.

RUMORS. . . Bob Thompson, former editor of the High Point Enterprise, is now operating one of Raleigh's most popular public relations firms. Associated with Bob in the firm is Good Wife Bess who is said by some to be a more adroit word handler than her husband.

But Bob suits us to a T, and we miss his writings. He is still on radio, though, and nearly everybody in political Raleigh delays lunch a little on Sunday to hear him on WRAL. He always has something interesting. A couple of Sundays back, for instance, he said that Gov. William B. Umstead had at last found a slot for Alton A. Lennon.

Brother Bob went on to explain that the Governor felt he had made a mistake in naming Lennon to the U. S. Senate — fine talk here just a few weeks prior to February 10 — and that he would name him to the State Supreme Court vacancy to be created when Chief Justice Devin steps down this spring.

On the other hand, the rigid word around Raleigh last weekend was that Kerr Scott had definitely decided not to run for the Senate, but would on February 10 announce Dr. Frank Graham's candidacy. Those who reported this latter rumor always began it by saying "... now this is graveyard, but ..." and ended with "... I got it straight ...".

And to all such chatter and graveyard items a sleepy ho hum.

LOOKING INTO IT. . . For three or four weeks now we have been hammering away on the strange relationship between Carolina Motor Club and the State of North Carolina.

We have reported how numerous State employees have been provided with memberships which include insurance programs. All at no cost. We concluded by pointing out that this setup is unfair to other insurance companies and saying that the whole thing would bear looking into.

Well, at least one large daily paper — of course without mentioning this column — last week started doing that very thing. The more it looked, the worse it got. The thing will take more hammering to get to the bottom of the pile.

Of the many letters we have received, I want to quote one which is rather typical from Forest City:

"The Forest City Courier runs your weekly column and I enjoy reading it very much, and especially did I appreciate the discussion in the December 30th issue of the Courier in regard to the Carolina Motor Club as you are correct in every statement you made about that firm. . . I am going to discuss this matter with our board, and hope that something can be done through our association and agents over the country, as it is not fair to the agents of North Carolina."

See ROUNDUP, Page 2

## Many Farm Advances, But . . .

# Tobacco Loss Is Over Million

Many Advances Made Despite Income Loss From Tobacco Crop

(Following is the annual report of the County Farm Agent which is published without revision or comment.)

1. The 1953 tobacco crop will bring about \$1,400,000. This is over a million dollars less than the 1952 crop brought, and less than half of the 1951 crop. The severe drought was the principal cause of the loss. Cost of producing this crop left little profit, if any, to the farmer.

2. In spite of dry weather, 350 white families seeded ladino clover grass pastures according to Experiment recommendations.

3. 117 grade A dairymen in the county received approximately \$1,000,000 from milk sold. 8 new grade A dairies have been built.

4. 60 dairymen increased their income by more than \$1,000 during the year.

5. 1,055 dairy cows were bred artificially to proven sires. A Dairy Herd Testing Association was also set up this year.

6. The increase in beef cattle production is best illustrated by census figures of brood cows on the farms: 1951 — 885; 1952 — 1,350; 1953 — 1,887.

7. Prices received by beef cattle producers at the District Feeder Calf sale held at the Farmer's Exchange Livestock Market were as follows: 1952 — 215 head sold \$28.15; 1953 — 240 head sold \$16.80.

8. Half interest in a \$6,000 polled Hereford bull was purchased by a local breeder.

9. 50 beef and dairy farmers filled trench silos with legumes, grass, and drought stricken corn.

10. 45 beef producers increased their income by more than \$1,000 during the year.

11. 30 4-H Club members fed out 31 steers for the Durham Fat Stock Show.

12. All showmanship prizes awarded at the Durham Fat Stock Show were won for the eighty straight year by Orange 4-H members.

13. 25 4-H members now have beef steers on feed for next year's show.

14. Interest in commercial swine production has increased considerably this year, due largely to the continued high prices for pork.

15. 159 families sold 3 or more top hogs during the year.

16. 57 families increased their gross income from hogs by more than \$1,000 over 1952.

17. One outbreak of the dangerous "VE" disease occurred, but was quickly liquidated by state and federal authorities.

18. Orange County 4-H Club (See CROP LOSS, page 8)

## Troubles Pile Up For Family Man In Court

Hillsboro — Domestic troubles exploded all over Orange County Recorder's Court this week.

Charlie Crabtree, local man, faced the heaviest accumulation of trouble with four charges against him. He was given two months on the roads for assaulting his wife and blacking her eye and another two months for forcible trespass into the home where the estranged wife was staying. He was bound over to Superior Court under \$500 bond for shooting at her while she was working at Eno mill — the charge assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. In another case for non support prayer for judgment was continued pending his serving the two sentences to see if he resumes support of his family.

Dock Andrews for assaulting a female was fined \$25 and costs and Otto T. Brown received the same for a similar charge. For another female assault, Gene Bradsher was fined \$15 and costs.

Robert D. Warren was fined \$100 and costs for drunken driving and Felix F. Parker and John Gray Smith were fined \$25 and costs for reckless driving. Four public drunks who were assessed the costs of court included Herman Lloyd Gravitt, Earl Smith, (See COURT, page 8)

## Area Gets First Snow In Spell

Orange County received its first real blanket of white in several years Monday night when approximately 1½ inches of snow covered the county.

The snow was preceded by rain which turned into sleet, forming a frozen base on the ground to which the snow quickly stuck once it started falling.

Schools throughout the county with the exception of Chapel Hill, Carrboro and White Cross were closed all day Tuesday but were resumed yesterday. Almost record low temperatures for this area have been recorded the past several nights.

Although the weather warmed up considerably during the day Tuesday and yesterday, some snow still clings to the ground in shady places. The highways for the most part have remained clear, and there have been no reports of serious accidents as result of the weather.



HERE, WEARING the beard he had grown for the part of Sir Walter in The Lost Colony is Mr. Airy-born Andy Griffith. "On Sunday night he was featured on the coast-to-coast Ed Sullivan 'Toast of the Town' show. This photo was made during one of the floor shows he did on a part time basis at Dare County Shrine Club during the Lost Colony season of 1953.



EAGLE MASONIC LODGE NO. 19 INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS—At the regular meeting of Eagle Masonic Lodge No. 19, on Friday, January 8, the annual installation ceremony was held with Past Master Charles M. Walker, Sr. acting as Installing Officer. Officers installed and those taking part in the installation are shown above as follows: Front Row: C. Wayland Sharpe, Senior Deacon; Hilton W. Pope, Senior Warden; Charles A. Williams, Jr., Master; Oscar L. Lashmit, Jr., Junior Warden; J. Everette Forrest, Junior Deacon. Second Row: Winfield M. Baldwin, Jr., Senior Steward; Hubert O. Bivins, Treasurer; W. Ernest Bell, Secretary; J. Mozelle Harris, Junior Steward. Back row: Charles M. Walker, Jr., Retiring Master; W. L. Smith, Tyler; Charles M. Walker, Sr., Installing Officer and Rev. J. R. Haley. H. O. Bivins also acted as Marshal.

## Exchange Club Plans Talent Show To Aid March Of Dimes

### Tobacco Information Meeting On Monday

Hillsboro—Tobacco farmers all over the county will meet at Aycock School house, Cedar Grove, Monday night, at 7:30 o'clock to hear tobacco specialists from State College bring the latest Experiment Station information pertaining to the production and marketing of tobacco.

County Agent Don Matheson says that these specialists will discuss the best varieties to use, how to control nematodes, what to do about black shank, and they will give the outlook for the tobacco market in 1954. Matheson urges all tobacco farmers to attend this meeting.

## Ray Is New President Of Exchange Club

Hillsboro — Jack Ray will be installed tonight as the new president of the local Exchange Club at the regular meeting of the club at Colonial Inn.

Other officers to be installed are H. G. Coleman Jr., vice president; W. B. Coleman, secretary; and Bobby Knight, treasurer. New Board of Control members to be installed include: Marion Allison, retiring president; G. A. Cannady and W. C. Mangum. G. C. McBane has been appointed to the board to fill the unexpired term of Bobby Knight.

Several officers of the State Exchange Club will be present to conduct the installation ceremony. Ray, the incoming president, has been active in projects of the club for several years.

### B & L Stockholders Meeting Next Tuesday

The Hillsboro Building and Loan association yesterday announced its annual Stockholders' meeting will be held next Tuesday, January 19, at the association offices.

Officers will be elected at this time and a review of the year's work will be presented.

In a financial statement prepared as of the close of business December 31, for publication and submission to the State Banking Commissioner, the association listed \$1,397,432.59 in assets, \$1,319,674.22 in liabilities, and \$77,668.37 in reserves and undivided profits.

### CEDAR GROVE RURITAN

The Cedar Grove Ruritan Club held its regular monthly meeting Thursday, January 7.

A delicious supper was served by the Home Demonstration Club to the 46 members present.

Don Matheson, county agent of Orange County, was guest speaker. He spoke on his recent business trip to the Virgin Islands.

## Friends Group Plans Peace Workshop

CHAPEL HILL — The American Friends Service Committee, in cooperation with an interfaith, interracial, interdenominational group of women's church organizations and the Chapel Hill branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, will hold Peace Education Workshops at the Congregational-Christian Church, Cameron Avenue, on January 21, from 2 to 9:30 p.m.

The workshops are set up for Sunday School teachers and church workers but are of interest to parents, recreation workers, and to the general membership of religious organizations. There will be a registration fee of \$2.00, which includes a ticket to the supper in the Hut of the Congregational-Christian Church.

Professor Arthur C. Banks, Jr., of the Political Science Department of North Carolina College, Durham, will make the main address. His subject will be: "The Church's Responsibility for World Order." In the evening, the film, "A Time for Greatness," will be shown. The film was produced by the American Friends Society.

The workshops will be led by Miss Mary Esther McWhirter for the teachers of children; by Miss Anne Queen, for workers with teenagers; and by Dr. Burt Bouman for adults. Miss McWhirter is director of Peace Education for children's work on the staff of the American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia. Miss Queen is college secretary for the Southeastern Region of the American Friends Service Committee in Greensboro. Dr. Bouman is director of Church Peace Education in Philadelphia. He was formerly minister at the First Baptist Church in South Bend, Indiana. Also, he has served as executive secretary for the Michigan Council of Churches.

## Disaster Loans To Aid Those Hit By Crop Loss

Ample funds for disaster loans to farmers in this area are available, according to the best information The News has been able to get regarding help for those who had a crop failure as result of the drought.

Regular sources of credit for many growers are limited and there will be need for money to make another crop. Disaster loans can be made to put farmers on a cash basis for the 1954 crop, but such funds cannot be used to pay old debts.

Walter McPherson, Farmers Home Administration representative in this county, said a meeting to which agricultural officials, merchants and business men who do most of the trading with farmers

have been invited will be held this morning at 10 o'clock at the courthouse to explain the various provisions of the Disaster Loan Program. A State official of the FHA will be here to make the presentation.

FHA loans are made on a crop lien and bear three percent interest. Loans must be repaid out of proceeds from the crop. The loans are very much like the old seed loans but the interest rate is more favorable.

The loans will be handled through a supervised bank account and will be budgeted according to needs. Borrowers are not given the lump sum to use indiscriminately.

In the case of a sharecropper

## Driving Is Slower In Area Now

Speed Watch Recording Device Is Credited With Improvement

Patrolman Mann Norris of the Highway Patrol confirmed for the local area this week the trend toward slower driving on State highways noted by the State Highway Commission for the State as a whole.

Norris said only three accidents had been recorded thus far this year in the Hillsboro-Northern Orange area which he serves along with Patrolmen T. P. Smith and M. C. Parnell. He termed this considerably better than the record of a year ago.

He attributed most of the credit for the noticeable reduction in speed to the consistent use of the speed watch recording device here during the past several months. He said the device would be used regularly in the future and might be found at any place in the area. He said the patrol is particularly anxious that all drivers be warned of its expected use in order that they can govern themselves accordingly.

Judge L. J. Phipps, who has watched the mechanical device operate served notice in Orange County court this week that he intends to treat with great respect the evidence of prosecuting witnesses who base their testimony on the stop watch records. In one case, a young fellow with a previous conviction for fast driving came into court and testified he had been driving 70 miles per hour, but the speed watch had said he was making over 85. Judge Phipps pointed to the virtual infallibility of the machine, fined the youth \$35 and costs, and opined that his two companions, both of whom confirmed his 70-mph claim, should also have been indicted.

The commission said the slower driving observed "represents the first significant reversal in an upward speed trend which started over three years ago."

The report said its observations gave it no data "as to the cause of this reversal in trend." However, it came after the State Highway Patrol under Motor Vehicles Commissioner Ed Scheidt started a determined drive to catch speeders.

The Highway Commission checks were made from Oct. 5-30. Checking devices similar to those being used by patrolmen were used and the report said many drivers slowed down when they observed the checkers. These vehicles were eliminated from the study.

The report said the over-all speed reduction for all vehicles checked was about two miles an hour and all classes of vehicles were affected.

The largest decline in the higher speed brackets was noted in commercial vehicles. Their average speed dropped from 44.7 miles per hour to 42.2 and only 11.9 per cent were traveling faster than 50 as compared with 17 to 22 per cent in previous checks.

Local passenger cars' average speed dropped to 46.2 miles per hour as compared with 47.8 last year.

Foreign cars and buses continued to be the fastest vehicles checked.