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CASUALTY



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and  
**USED FURNITURE**

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**BEAUTY QUEEN** -- Debbie Minshew of Raeford, the reigning Miss Cape Fear Fair, was crowned Queen of the Carolina Holiday Festival Nov. 19 in Hamlet. Along with the crown and the roses, Miss Minshew received 50 silver dollars. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D.L. Minshew of College Drive.



"He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!"

—Luke 23:35 (RSV)

The *Titanic* sank on April 15, 1912; and the hundreds of survivors had Guglielmo Marconi to thank for saving them. Because of Marconi's invention of the wireless, the *Titanic* was urgently sending messages. It certainly was not Marconi's fault that some ships did not hear the messages or respond as quickly as possible.

When the *Titanic* survivors arrived in New York City and learned that Marconi was staying there, they marched en masse to his hotel, cheered him, and shouted, "We owe our lives to you." Marconi could have demurred that he did not have them in mind when he invented the wireless, but they still would have known that he had saved them and been grateful to him.

Just as the *Titanic* survivors were that grateful to Marconi, should not we be grateful to Jesus, who saved us by giving His life for us!

**PRAYER: Father, thank You for giving us Your Son to save us. We remember that He did not offer the blood of goats and calves, but His own blood. Increase our gratitude and response. In His name. Amen.**

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

All the family of God should gladly shout, "We owe our lives to You."

David W. Richardson  
(Centralia, Missouri)



BY JOHN SLEDGE  
N.C. Farm Bureau Federation

The average American housewife is getting one of her best bargains in our inflation-burdened economy when she goes to the supermarket meat counter, but it is difficult for her to accept that fact.

According to statistics compiled by the American Meat Institute and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the percentage of average per capita disposable income spent for meat in 1960 was 4.79 per cent, of which beef represented 2.66 per cent and pork 1.7 per cent. In 1976, the percentage of disposable income per capita spent for meat by the average consumer was 4.13 per cent of which 2.57 per cent was for beef and 1.4 per cent was for pork.

To be more specific, in 1960, the average price for cattle during the year was \$26.25 per hundredweight (26.25 cents per pound live weight). The retail price per pound for beef at the supermarket that year was 81 cents per pound. In 1975, the average price for cattle was \$36.71 per hundredweight and the average retail price for beef was \$1.46 per pound.

In other words, the price of cattle was 25.6 per cent higher in 1975 than it was in 1960, but the retail price of beef was 80 per cent higher. That reflects a big increase in the "spread" between the farm gate and the retail market. However, in comparison to the increase in the price of automobiles, farm machinery, clothing, hospital care, building supplies and services, etc., the increase is modest.

And in fairness, the consumer should be a bit cautious about the tendency to point a finger at the retailer and charge that he is taking exorbitant profits. Some do take unfair advantage and there undoubtedly is too much lag between a decline in the price of cattle and hogs and lower prices at the meat counter. But, most of that "spread" is made up in higher labor costs to keep up with inflation -- higher transportation costs, higher energy costs for fuel, lights and refrigeration, higher taxes to pay for more inspections and government regulations. The extra costs are "built-in" all along the line.

Consumers would do well to remember too that the price of meat would be much higher if cattle and pork producers were not vastly more efficient at producing more and better meat today than they were in 1960.

In no other nation in the world can consumers buy the quality of U.S. beef and pork for comparable retail prices -- either in dollars and cents or in percentage of income.

Agricultural exports not only make a big difference in the lives of American farmers, but they have a

direct effect on U.S. industry and the economic well-being of everyone in the country.

In fact, one of the leading products of American agriculture is cash -- the money that pours in from other countries in exchange for our farm products.

The fact that all too little of that cash finds its way to the farmer is another story. But the fact is, farm products are by far our country's leading money-making export. With total sales in fiscal 1976 at a record \$22.2 billion, farm exports contribute more than anything else to the difficult job of maintaining a "balance of payments" -- that is, trying to even up the dollars we spend for imports with the dollars we take in for exports.

This year, despite a six percent increase in agricultural imports to \$10.1 billion, U.S. agricultural trade produced a record surplus of over \$12 billion. That offset a nonagricultural trade deficit of \$8 billion, and once again agriculture put the nation's total trade balance in the black -- this time by \$4 billion for the 12-month period.

If this seems a bit remote from the interests of the average consumer, look at it this way:

**Agricultural exports:**  
\*Give the farmer a bigger market. That means he can produce more, and more efficiently, and everyone benefits by paying a lower percentage of disposable income for food.

\*Create thousands of farm and off-farm jobs -- in storing, packaging, processing, merchandising and shipping.

\*Result in a sharp reduction in the costs of government farm programs. That means lower costs to the taxpayer.

\*Help relieve hunger in underdeveloped countries of the free world and provide the basis for trade between the U.S. and other nations, with a resulting easing of tensions and conflict.

Veterans Administration construction projects include development of five new national cemeteries.

**LEGALS**

NOTICE is given by the Board of Commissioners of Hoke County, pursuant to G.S. 69-25.11 (1) that Rockfish Fire District has filed with the Board, an application for extension of the limits of its fire protection.

BEGINNING at a point (1) on State Road No. 1418, 0.7 miles

**Legals**

from its junction with State Road No. 1415; thence in a southeasterly direction to a point (2) on State Road No. 1415 at the Hoke - Cumberland County Line; thence in a southeasterly direction to a point (3) on State Road No. 1425 at the intersection with Stewart's Creek; thence in a southeasterly direction to point (4) on State Road No. 1003 at bridge over Stewart's Creek; thence in a southwesterly direction to point (5) located at the intersection of State Road No. 1441 and the Hoke - Robeson County line; thence in a westerly direction to point (6) located at the intersection of State Road No. 1440 and the Hoke - Robeson County line; thence to a point (7) on State Road No. 1003, 0.8 mile west of its intersection with State Road No. 1440; thence in a northwesterly direction to point (8) on State Road No. 1422, 0.4 mile west of its junction with State Road No. 1412; thence in an easterly direction to point (9) on State Road No. 1412, 0.1 mile north of its intersection with State Road No. 1422; thence southeast to a point (10) on State Road No. 1413, 0.3 mile north of its intersection with State Road No. 1422; thence in a northerly direction to a point (11) on State Road No. 1406, 0.2 mile east of its junction with State Road No. 1415; thence in a westerly direction following the center of State Road No. 1406 to a point (12) 0.1 mile west of the junction of State Road No. 1406 and State Road No. 1415; thence in a northeasterly direction to a point (13) on State Road No. 1416, 0.3 mile northwest of its junction with State Road No. 1415; thence in a northeasterly direction to the point of BEGINNING.

Persons interested in the extension of the limits of the fire protection district are invited to appear at a meeting of County Commissioners to be held on Monday, the 20th day of December, 1976, at 7:30 P.M. at the Hoke County Courthouse Annex Building, Conference Room.

Posted, this the 24th day of November, 1976, at Courthouse Door, and at three (3) public places in the area proposed to be annexed.  
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
BY: T. B. Lester Manager

31-32C

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the requirements of the Community Development Act of 1974, that the Governing Body of Hoke County North Carolina will hold a public hearing on the Community Development Application on Dec. 16 and 21, 1976, at 8:00 p.m. at the County Courthouse Courtroom.

31-32C

**ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE  
IN THE GENERAL COURT  
OF JUSTICE  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
HOKE COUNTY**

Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Richard D. Baker of Hoke County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said Richard D. Baker to present them to the undersigned within 6 months from date of the publication of this notice or same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.

This the 17th day of November, 1976.  
Elizabeth H. Baker  
Route 2, Box 267-B  
Raeford, N.C. 28376

31-34C

**NOTICE OF  
DISSOLUTION OF  
HOKE DEVELOPMENT  
COMPANY**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Articles of Dissolution of Hoke Development Company, a North Carolina corporation, were filed in the office of the Secretary of State of North Carolina on the 10th day of November, 1976, and that all creditors of and claimants against the corporation are required to present their respective claims and demands immediately in writing to the corporation so that it can proceed to collect its assets, convey and dispose of its properties, pay, satisfy and discharge its liabilities and obligations and do all other acts required to liquidate its business and affairs. All persons, firms or corporations indebted to said corporation will please make immediate payment.

This the 12th day of November, 1976.

**HOKE DEVELOPMENT  
COMPANY**  
c/o William L. Moses  
Moses, Diehl & Pate  
Attorneys at Law  
Post Office Drawer: 688  
Raeford, North Carolina 28376

29-32C

**HOKE COUNTY**

Statement of Financial Condition June 30, 1976 as Required by G. S. 153-123/G. S. 160-410-7

ASSETS	GENERAL FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	REAPPRAISAL RESERVE FUND	REVENUE SHARING FUND	FACILITY FEE FUND	GENERAL FIXED ASSETS	GENERAL LONG-TERM DEBT
Cash on Hand and In Bank	129,273.50	1,069.02	294.66	5,250.53	1,789.38		
Investments	508,211.23	822.07	13,383.92	200,000.00	29,065.66		
Taxes Receivable	151,501.32						
Land						48,572.91	
Buildings						878,812.73	
Machinery & Equipment						230,766.45	
Other Debits							55,000.00
Total Assets & Debits	\$788,986.05	\$1,891.09	\$13,678.58	\$205,250.53	\$30,855.04	\$1,158,152.09	\$55,000.00
<b>LIABILITIES</b>							
Accounts Payable	21,525.96	5.00					
Taxes Collected in Advance	3,528.99						
General Obligation Bonds Payable							55,000.00
Reserve for Taxes Receivable	151,501.32						
Investment in General Fixed Assets						1,158,152.09	
Fund Balances	612,429.78	1,886.09	13,678.58	205,250.53	30,855.04		
Total Liabilities & Other Credits	\$788,986.05	\$1,891.09	\$13,678.58	\$205,250.53	\$30,855.04	\$1,158,152.09	\$55,000.00

**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Budget Comparison for Fiscal Year 1975-76**

	Original Budget & Amendments	Actual Revenues	Actual Expenditures	Net Revenues Over Expenditures
	\$2,383,178.00	\$2,332,761.87	\$2,200,671.61	\$132,090.26
	\$7,673.00	7,898.86	7,669.93	228.93
	\$ 5,000.00	5,401.78	-0-	5,401.78
	\$703,733.00	334,230.37	600,762.25	(266,531.88)
		13,404.37	8,398.44	5,005.93

**Statement of Tax Levies and Tax Collections**

Fiscal Year	ASSESSED VALUATION	TAX RATE PER \$100	TAX LEVY	UNCOLLECTED IN YR. OF LEVY	PERCENT UNCOLLECTED AT 6-30-76	UNCOLLECTED PERCENT UNCOLLECTED
Fiscal Year 1975-76	\$154,107,946	.85	1,372,085**	73,235.94	5.34%	73,235.94 5.34%
Fiscal Year 1974-75	150,371,586	.80	1,340,344**	67,921.86	5.07%	29,041.30 2.17%
Fiscal Year 1973-74*(65,707,270)	101,088,100	(1.46).95	995,173**	62,963.30	6.33%	17,084.01 1.72%

\* - ( ) - Actual Value & Rate - 65% and 100% Figures shown for comparison.  
\*\* - Includes Penalties, Animal Tax, Fire Districts, and Discoveries.

Detailed statements supporting the above summaries are on file in the office of the County Accountant at the Courthouse Annex Building.

Prepared by: T. B. Lester, Jr.  
County Accountant