

FINAL BUDGET SET FOR WELFARE DEPT.

At a special meeting Thursday night the County Board of Commissioners meeting jointly with the County Welfare Board signed and sent on to Raleigh a budget for the 1949-50 year of the Welfare Department that totaled

\$74,588. This represents an increase of \$3,588 over the budget for the previous year, which was \$66,000.

This increased appropriation was in line with recommendations made by the State Board of Welfare and the Federal Security Agency and it will enable the local unit to keep pace with the broadened social security program that is authorized by

Congress and the 1949 General Assembly.

The \$3,588 increase for Lenoir County will make possible the addition of approximately 100 more persons to the list now drawing old age assistance and will permit the addition of at least another 100 to the list of children now drawing aid from the county, state and federal governments. It will also permit the addition of a number more aid to the blind recipients and it will also make possible a small increase in the average allotment now drawn by persons in each of these categories.

Provision is also made for the addition of another child welfare case worker, another case worker and one additional stenographer.

At present payments to Lenoir County citizens total close to \$300,000 per year. All but \$74,588 of this is paid by the state and federal governments.

Attend Swine Conference

Among the more than 100 persons, including farm agents, Extension Service officials and interested farmers, attending the Poland-China Swine type-conference at Dunn last week there were three from Lenoir County. They were Livestock Agent Raymond Upchurch, A. Forrest Waller and Preston Harper. Most interesting part of the conference, Upchurch said, was the slaughtering and dressing of some of the hogs for an exact check on the judging on foot.

-Agricultural Notes-

The sight of livestock standing in an apparently open and unfenced field causes many city dwellers to wonder how a farmer manages to keep any livestock at all. But a closer examination will reveal that the animals are securely held in by an invisible barrier except for a single strand of wire. The barrier against their straying is electricity, controlled to a degree of safety by any number of manufactured devices.

The electric fence saves time and money in fence installation on the farm, and its periodic stinging shock will keep farm animals exactly where they are supposed to be, but its mis-use is dangerous. An electric charge direct from a power line will keep livestock—and humans—in a field but sometimes in the stillness of death.

Reports of deaths, livestock and human, are a cause of concern to farm agents, and the week was expressed by Lenoir County's Assistant Agent Bob Thompson. He said the negligent and wrongful use of the electric fence principle is criminal. He said there was no excuse for a farmer resorting to dangerous home-made devices, when there were so many controllers on the market, tested, tried and approved by the National Underwriters' Laboratory for safety and efficient operation.

The controller is the instrument that makes fencing with electricity possible. It converts the 110 volt, 60-cycle current, dangerous to life, to a harmless, stinging jolt to keep livestock within an enclosure with one or two strands of plain or barbed wire. The fencing can also be

Nearly two-thirds of all fatal automobile accidents in the United States each year occur in rural areas.

done with the power from a six-volt dry-cell battery if power lines are not available for a plug-in.

But proper installation is necessary for effective fencing and

elimination of danger from home-made gadgets. Advice is available, Thompson said, from any county agent, or from the hardware dealer from whom the controller device is purchased.

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