

Frosty Morn has 260 Hog-Killing Days



This is the Frosty Morn time of the year when those of us with farm backgrounds tend to look out the window and say, "This is hog killing weather." But at Frosty Morn Packing plant just west of Kinston, there are 260 hog-killing days to the year, and something around 500 hogs are killed on each of these hog-killing days at Frosty Morn. The dressing (or undressing) line above sees a steady stream of freshly killed top hogs heading past Federal inspectors and toward the huge refrigeration rooms where the carcasses are chilled before processing or sale as a whole carcass. Frosty Morn recently installed new machinery in this department that makes possible the slaughter of three hogs per minute.

**SENATOR
SAM ERVIN**
★ SAYS ★



North Carolina agriculture has a great stake in the trade talks underway with members of the European Common Market. Vast strides have taken place in industrialization in our State, but as late as 1960 sales of North Carolina farm products aggregated nearly \$800 million!

North Carolina has a rural farm population of more than 800,000 people. Tobacco, cotton, poultry, dairy, and livestock production are major economic concerns in our State.

In the field of tobacco alone, North Carolina ranks as the largest tobacco growing and manufacturing state. Tobacco harvesting and manufacturing statistics for the State are imposing.

In 1959, the Census Bureau reports that North Carolina had 119,856 farms harvesting tobacco, on 467,945 acres, with a crop value of \$538 million. In the manufacture of tobacco pro-

ducts, 62 North Carolina factories, with more than 25,000 employees, produced products worth \$1.2 billion.

The so-called Kennedy round of current trade negotiation, pursuant to the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, relates to the U. S. ability to produce surplus farm products and the key fact that a large part of our farm production must be marketed overseas.

According to the Department of Agriculture, "one out of every four acres harvested in the United States, were used in 1964 to produce crops for export, up 27 percent from 1962."

But in the area of tobacco export, the Department reports that these 1964 exports are likely to suffer a three to four percent drop below 1963. This poses problems of concern to tobacco farmers.

Trade negotiations underway come under new authority grant-

ed by Congress in October 1962, in Public Law 87-794, which gives the President a five year authority to cut tariffs by 50 percent; to eliminate tariffs on goods of which the U. S. and the Common Market account for 80 per cent of free world trade, and special authority to "eliminate duties on agricultural commodities or products if the President determines such action will tend to assure the maintenance or expansion of U. S. exports of the products involved."

Current talks, if successful, could strengthen the U. S. agricultural situation. U. S. agricultural exports to the European Common Market in 1960 were more than \$1.1 billion. Of importance to North Carolina is the fact that these exports included \$313 million in cotton and \$88 million in tobacco.

More recent statistics concerning poultry exports to West Germany, a Common Market nation, show that in the period of January-August 1964 the U. S. exported 60 million pounds of poultry products. Yet this was far below the 1962 period when 119 million pounds were exported. The U. S. poultry market got some strengthening on August 1st when the Common Market reduced tariffs on poultry items. The reduction was selective and further efforts are needed to gain access to the largest foreign market.

Overseas markets are becoming more and more essential to profitable farm operations, because of the advanced technical

efficient of our farmers. Today about one-fourth of the value of all U. S. exports lies in farm products. Farm exports total about \$5 billion a year and have immense economic implications.

For these reasons, North Carolina and other farm states have much to gain or lose in the trade talks. Our negotiators should be hard-headed tradesmen in their endeavors to open markets

IN VIET NAM

Capt. Robert T. Brafford, whose wife, Shelby, and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Brafford, live on Route 6, Kinston, was assigned to the Support Command in Vietnam on Nov. 30, as a pilot.

for our products. This is particularly necessary for the best interests of the farmer.

JAMES R. HOOD

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