

N. C. Farmers Face Credit Problem; Emergency Loans Offered by FHA

Thousands of North Carolina farmers are expected to face financial problems in the coming months as a result of the great drought of 1968.

Reports from several offices of the Agricultural Extension Service indicate that farmers are particularly concerned about getting operating credit for 1969.

The reason for this concern, extension agents say, is because many farmers are unable to repay their 1968 loans.

It has been estimated that the drought has cost Tar Heel farmers about \$100 million. Farmers in many areas of the Piedmont and Coastal Plain have been particularly hard hit.

Fifty-eight of the state's drought-stricken counties have been declared eligible for emergency loans from the Farmers Home Administration.

"I would suspect that these loans are the best bet for those farmers unable to get credit from regular sources," said D. G. Harwood, extension farm management specialist at North Carolina State University.

The loans are for 3 per cent, Harwood explained. They are available in the designated counties for those farmers who cannot get money from other lenders and who have reasonable prospects for repayment.

The money can be used, Harwood continued, for essential farm and home operating expenses, such as the purchase of feed, seed and other supplies.

"When financial difficulties such as this arise, many farmers turn to merchant credit," Harwood commented. "Merchant may sometime be necessary, but it is usually more expensive than other types of credit."

While the drought has increased the need for farm credit, Harwood points out that the farm debt load is fairly low as compared to that of non-farm businesses.

One study in 1967 showed that U. S. farmers had assets of \$281 billion and debts of about \$50 billion. In other words, farm debts amounted to about 17 per cent of farm assets. Non-farm businesses had debts which amounted to 41 per cent of their

assets.

North Carolina counties eligible for the emergency loans from the Farmers Home Administration are Alamance, Anson, Beaufort, Bladen, Carteret, Caswell, Chatham, Chowan, Cleveland, Columbus, Craven, Cumberland, Davidson, Davie, Duplin, Durham, Edgecombe, Foryth, Franklin, Granville, Greene, Guilford, Harnett, Hoke, Iredell, Johnston, Jones, Lee, Lenoir,

Federal Interest Supplement Available to Rural Home Purchasers

Lenoir County's low-income rural families have a greater chance now than ever before to become homeowners as a result of the new federal interest supplement plan on home loans, according to Walter L. Pippin, local representative of the Farmers Home Administration.

Pippin said the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 makes it possible for the federal government to apply an interest supplement payment to rural housing loans made to low-income rural families that will lower the cost of buying a house.

The interest supplement plan on rural housing loans is administered through the Farmers Home Administration, the U. S. Department of Agriculture's credit agency.

The new plan allows for interest supplements to reduce the payment of interest on housing loans to as low as one per cent.

"This new plan," Pippin said, "will be extremely helpful in removing the substandard housing in Lenoir County."

The actual supplement a family receives will depend on the owner's income and number of people in the household.

A minimum requirement is that a borrower who does not have enough to pay his loan installment in full will pay at least the amount that would be due if the interest rate were 1 per cent.

For example, a family with five children and an annual gross income of \$3,000 would receive an interest supplement of \$222 a year on an \$8,000 rural housing loan.

Madison, Martin, Mecklenburg. Also, Montgomery, Moore, Nash, New Hanover, Orange, Pamlico, Pender, Perquimans, Person, Randolph, Richmond, Robeson, Rockingham, Rowan, Sampson, Scotland, Stokes, Union, Vance, Wake, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Wilson and Yadkin.

A request has been made to add Bertie County to the list.

Farmers interested in obtaining an FHA loan should contact their local FHA supervisor who usually has an office at the county seat.

In this example, the family's monthly payments of principal and interest on an \$8,000 loan amortized over 33 years would be approximately \$24.

Pippin said Farmers Home Administration would review interest supplement agreements every two years with borrowers. If necessary supplements will be adjusted at renewal time, based on the borrower's income and family size.

Farmers Home Administration rural housing loans are made to applicants who are unable to obtain the required credit from other sources.

Further information on the interest supplement plan can be obtained at the Lenoir County office of the Farmers Home Administration in the Federal Building, East King Street, Kinston.

Airman Hamilton Completes Basic



Airman Franz J. Hamilton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl M. Hamilton of route 6, Kinston, has completed basic training at Lackland AFB, Tex. He has been assigned to Ft. Lee, Va., for training as a food services specialist. Airman Hamilton is a 1967 graduate of North Lenoir High School.

IMPROPER PAPA POPPED

In Kinston Recorder's Court last week Jesse James Green was tried on two charges of non-support. One for his legitimate child and another that he had sired out of wedlock. He was given three months in each instance, suspended on payment of \$5 per week for each child. He thought that a trifle severe and filed notice of appeal to superior court.

SCHOOL ROOM VIOLENCE

Last week in a class room at Adkin High School Lloyd Dove, 16, of 23-C Carver Courts Kinston, hit Harry Bellinger of 8-C Mitchell Wooten Courts over the head with a section of iron pipe. Bellinger remained unconscious for more than an hour, but is reportedly now recuperating satisfactorily. Dove was charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill.

months. High quality breeding stock should be bought next summer when prices are expected to be considerably lower.

Doctor in the Kitchen®

by Laurence M. Hursh, M.D.
Consultant, National Dairy Council

SO BE IT RESOLVED

So be it resolved that during the coming year you will not: 1) drink too much, 2) eat too much, or 3) sit around too much.

How many years have you said that? Too many perhaps, you admit with a groan.

Well, lots of men are finding that they can eat and drink almost as much provided they are more active. Jogging is getting more and more popular around the country. Certainly the more you exercise the less you might have to cut down on overeating and drinking. Women find that taking ballet, or going to the "Y" for regular exercise and indulging more in sports helps control weight.

It may be amusing, in a way, that a major nutrition problem in the United States is that people eat too much. It results from the tremendous system we have in this nation for food production and distribution. Plus our affluence.

It is ironic, however, when you think of people in our midst who do not get enough to eat or, for that matter, the millions of starving people overseas.

For our own good, we could use more personal discipline. Maybe like the Spartans of old.

So, in detail, what are some of the things we can resolve for this coming year that will make nutrition sense?

First, if you're overweight, see your doctor and get on whatever regimen he prescribes and stay

with it. He'll know what's best for you.

If you are not overweight, your diet is undoubtedly at the right calorie level for you. But is it in as good balance as it might be? I don't want to be fussy. But you should be getting two or more servings each day of meat, poultry, fish, eggs or cheese. You should also be getting four or more servings of fruits and vegetables — and four or more servings of enriched or whole grain breads and cereals. Adults should be consuming two or more glasses of milk per day; teenagers and pregnant or lactating women four or more glasses; three or more glasses for children.

If your family is typical, some members may be neglecting breakfast. Try to get them to have breakfast. They'll feel better.

Read labels when you buy food. You'll be more knowledgeable in your purchasing, more aware of where your money is going.

Prepare foods to conserve their food value and their greatest appetite appeal. Here are some tips: Cook vegetables close to the time of serving, not earlier; and tightly covered in as little water as possible. Cook only until tender. In general, cook high protein foods such as meat, poultry, eggs and cheese at moderate or low temperatures. Use meat drippings and juices as flavorings for vegetables and other dishes.

HOME ECHOES

? — Is there a difference in whipping and beating egg whites? Yes. To whip whites — use a wire whip and use long, easy strokes to enclose the cold air. To beat whites — use a "Dover" egg beater and beat until stiff and dry. This beats out the air and is best for icings and meringues.

? — How can I keep sheer fabrics from puckering when stitching on the machine? Sheer and stiff fabrics such as taffeta can be sewn by placing a one-inch-wide strip of paper under the seam line while stitching.

? — Can household sponges be treated to help them stay fresh longer? Keep household sponges fresh by soaking them in cold salt water from time to time.

? — What causes small cracks to appear around surface units on kitchen ranges? This might occur from cleaning while the porcelain is hot. Wait until it's cool, because porcelain enamel is glass fused on steel and is breakable if misused. Use mild soap and warm water. Avoid cleaning powders and harsh abrasives that may scratch en-

amel finish.

? — Why do you suggest that I let metal cake pans cool before washing? This helps prevent warping of the metal.

SIX QUICK DIVORCES

Monday as a mixed term of Lenoir County Superior Court got underway six quick divorces were granted on separation grounds. Those legally separated were Magdalene Moore from Walter Moore, Thomas Outlaw from Lillian Outlaw, Beverly Edwards from Joseph Edwards, Martin Roberts from James Roberts, Bracie Meadows from Donald Meadows and William Fields Jr. from Lois Fields.

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HELP WANTED

\$17,000 PLUS REGULAR CASH BONUS for man over 40 in Trenton area. Take short trips to contact customers. Air mail R. A. Dickerson, President, Southwestern Petroleum Corporation, Fort Worth, Texas 76101. J-11-28; 12-5

Prices Will Tumble If Hog Numbers Build Up Too Fast

Now is the time to improve rather than expand hog production. This is indicated by the current hog-corn situation across the country, according to extension specialists at North Carolina State University.

"There seems to be a real danger that hog numbers may expand too rapidly due to the current situation with corn and hog prices," commented Ray Woodard, animal husbandry specialist.

"The conditions seems to indicate that the temptation would exist to expand since corn prices are relatively low and hog prices are at favorable levels," he added.

Any over-expansion could lead to "disastrously low hog prices next spring and summer."

Woodard pointed out that the June U. S. Department of Agriculture pig crop report predicted a 2 per cent increase in the fall pig crop. "There is reason to believe that this estimate is conservative," he said.

These pigs will be coming to market from December 1968 through June 1969.

The September pig crop report indicated that 6 per cent more sows were being bred in the 10 Corn Belt states this fall. This would indicate that more

pigs would be going to market July through December of next year.

The National Pork Council uses a formula which figures a 1 per cent increase in hog numbers reduces hog prices 3 per cent. Assuming an \$18 market now for market hogs, a 2 per cent increase could reduce the market price 6 per cent to about \$17. A 5 per cent increase would reduce the market price 15 per cent to \$15.25 hogs next summer.

"Most farmers cannot break even at this price," Woodard noted. In order to make the most of the current and anticipated market conditions, Woodard makes these suggestions for producers:

— Cull sows with poor production records while prices are good.

— Replace culled sows with top quality gilts.

— Buy better boars while prices are lower.

— Watch market trends. Growers may want to consider selling feeder pigs next spring rather than feeding to market weight.

— Potential new producers should plan and build their facilities within the next eight