



Successor — John Rodman, Washington, D. C., attorney and political leader, will be named by Sen. Willis Smith to succeed Gen. John Hall Manning of Raleigh as U. S. district attorney for Eastern North Carolina. Rodman assisted with Smith's campaign last summer.

The position pays approximately \$9,000 per year and leaves time for limited private practice.

Gov't VS Business — The federal government about three years ago said it wanted to build a gigantic dam at Roanoke Rapids. Virginia Electric and Power company said it wanted to build the dam and would spend about \$25,000,000 of its own capital over a three-year period to develop power for distribution to 450,000 customers in Virginia, North Carolina and West Virginia.

The matter was turned over to the Federal Power commission for study to determine if VEPCO or the federal government should build the dam and provide the facilities.

Frank A. Hampton, Yadkin county native and many years assistant to the late Sen. F. M. Simmons, as senior attorney for the federal power commission spent many months on the report.

Last April as a year ago he came out with his voluminous and shocking recommendation: that VEPCO, and not the government, should build the dam. Since he is employed by the government and has made a career of working for it, he no doubt gave his employer every benefit of any doubt. But he just couldn't see it and sided with private enterprise. You would have thought that was the end of it. Then you do not know the power-hungry interior department, whose secretary, Oscar Chapman, said his department would protest the ruling made by the government's attorney!

Hampton has admitted privately within the past year that some of his Fair Deal friends have looked daggers' points at him since the ruling. The Hampton clan is not given to fear and he stuck to his guns.

Secretary Chapman, with the support of billions upon billions of tax money gathered from private power companies and others, has moved steadily ahead in efforts to block private power VEPCO. Last week, this paragraph moved over the Associated Press wires from Richmond, Va.: "The federal government went to court today in a new effort to prevent the Virginia Electric and Power company from building a gigantic dam at Roanoke Rapids, N. C."

On Sept. 4, the federal appeals court will review the case.

While the people plead for economy in government, the government is going to court in an effort to prevent private enterprise from expanding (and thus paying more taxes) and to fix it so that the government can spend another \$25,000,000.

Prison Trouble — Sudden departure of John Gold from his position as director of state prisons and the difficulty of finding a successor have focused attention here in Raleigh once again on this subsidiary of the state highway commission.

Informal plans began shaping up last week for another look at the awkward setup in early 1953. These plans call for a divorcement of prisons from highways.

North Carolina three years ago had one of the outstanding prison experts in the nation to make a thorough study of what we carelessly refer to as our "Prison System." Finding plenty of prisons, but little system, he flatly recommended that the job of operating our prisons is a tremendous project unto itself and therefore should not be merely another function of the state highway commission. For obvious reasons his advice was not followed—and in some quarters he was criticized because he did not come up with the report which was desired.

Events of the past two years, and of the past three weeks, have set to work again machinery designed to separate highways and prisons.

Neither—Nor — One of Wins-

ton-Salem's most prominent dry leaders was in Raleigh last Thursday, two days before the vote on Saturday to determine if the Twin City was to get legalized whiskey.

He stated that those opposing whiskey stores seemed to have "neither organization nor money", while the wets apparently had both.

The wets won by 8,411 to 7,336. Now all the large cities of the state have whiskey stores.

The Show — Kerr Scott on Friday morning last week followed the philosophy of the trouper that "the show must go on."

Late Thursday afternoon the governor heard that one of his closest friends, H. L. Meacham, had committed suicide at the Caledonia prison farm in Halifax county.

While Scott was commissioner of agriculture, he and Meacham used to take trips together: to Washington, to Asheville, and to several other points not so distant from home base. Meacham was much younger than his companion and at that time of a much jollier disposition, and Commissioner Scott liked to have him along. He provided a lot of fun for his taciturn companion.

Meacham later became manager of the Allied Farmers cooperative in Asheville. When Scott became governor, he appointed his friend director of state prison farms. It would not have been a great surprise if Meacham had been named to succeed Prison Director John Gold.

Although no doubt greatly saddened by the sudden death of his friend and prison farm director, the governor kept a date with a local radio station last Friday morning and acted as master of ceremonies, record-player, cut-throater, philosopher, and what-have-you.

Headliner — The New York Times had as one of its "Headliners" on July 15 Gordon Gray, president of the Greater University of North Carolina.

—Turn to Page 6, this Sec.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

July 10, 1951

Editor
The Black Mountain News
Black Mountain, N. C.

Dear Sir:

The citizens of this country can do much to relieve the anticipated unprecedented burden upon transportation this coming fall and winter and insure themselves against physical discomfort and inconvenience if they will lay in the winter's supply of fuel now during the summer months.

The suggestion is made in the attached copy of Information Release No. 101 issued May 29.

It will be exceedingly helpful if you will pass the suggestion on to the public through the media of your paper.

I am
With kind personal regards

Sincerely yours,
Monroe M. Redden
12th District, North Carolina

IN WASHINGTON

Mrs. Beatrice Guthrie returned last week from a trip with her sister, Miss Ruby Everts, in Washington, D. C. Her son, Terry K., returned home with her after a three weeks' stay with his aunt.

RECENT GUESTS

Dr. and Mrs. B. J. Romeo of Flushing, N. Y., recently visited Mrs. Romeo's father, J. E. Corbett and brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Cordell and Brenda.

NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

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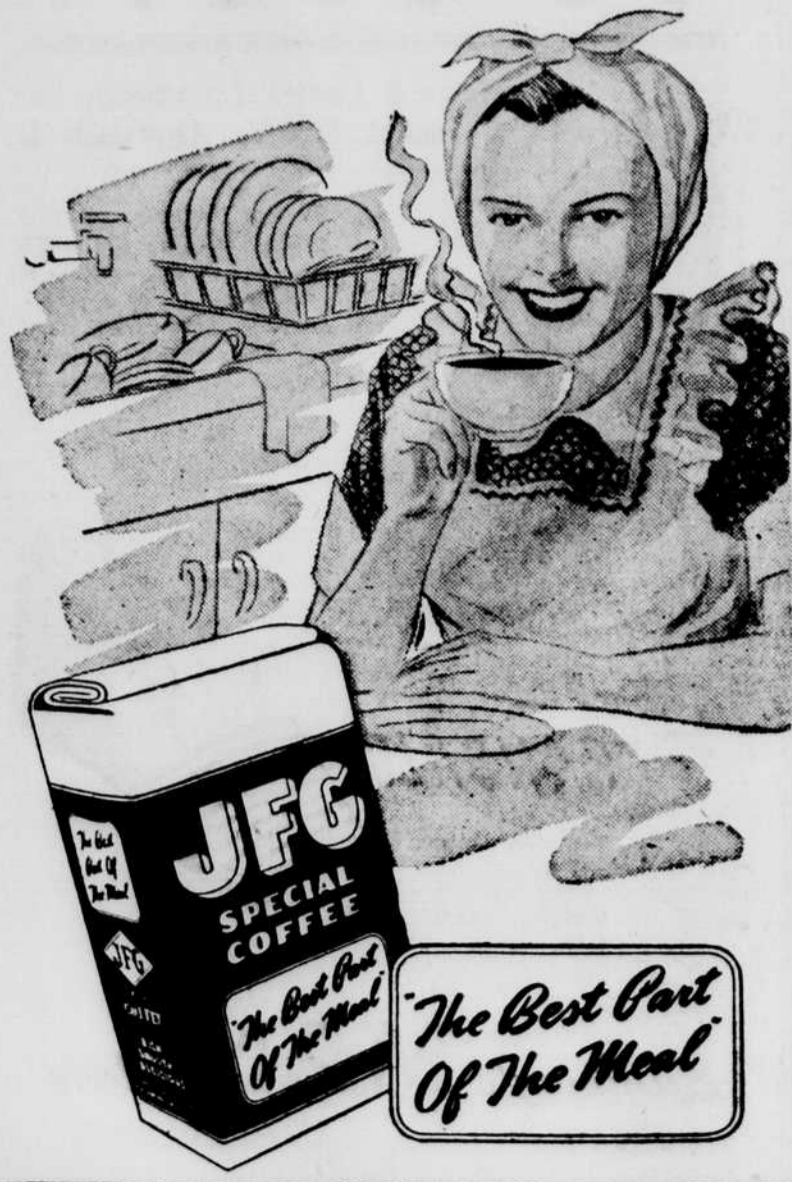
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