

Motorists Urged To Apply For Licenses

Persons whose surnames begin with U, V, W, X, Y and Z should now apply for renewals of driver's license, the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles has reported. Motorists who obtained renewal of their driver's licenses in 1947 under the re-issuance program and whose birthdays fall early this year should also apply.

Motorists who are uncertain about the expiration date of their licenses should refer to the lower right hand corner of their present license cards. These motorists will be permitted to seek second renewal 30 days in advance of the expiration date, which falls on their birth date. The majority will have surnames beginning with A or B, but a few will fall in other alphabetical groups.

Approximately 180,000 North Carolinians are included in the U, V, W, X, Y and Z group. Persons seeking second renewals are estimated at 85,000 or 90,000.

To avoid the last minute rush of the U, V, W, X, Y and Z group, which ex-

pires June 30, the Department suggests that you come early.

Drunken Driving Results In 7,820 Revocations In 1950

A total of 7,820 persons lost their licenses to drive during 1950 as a result of convictions of driving under influence of alcohol, the Department of Motor Vehicles has reported.

The figure brought to 11,435 the total revocations for the year. In addition 4,035 suspensions were listed. The year's revocations raised the grand total of revocations since the program was started in July, 1935, to 112,570 and the grand total of suspensions to 22,359.

Convictions of moving violations for the year totaled 110,543, as compared with 83,196 in 1949. A conviction of a moving violation does not constitute revocation or suspension on first offense.

A total of 775 persons had their licenses revoked in December, 494 of

which were convicted of drunken driving. Two hundred and ninety-six had their licenses suspended. A total of 6,771 persons were convicted of moving violations in December. Speeding topped the list with 2,364 convictions. Other convictions included 1,209 falling to have driver's licenses; 603, reckless driving; 378, faulty equipment; 284, improper lights; 339 failing to stop for stop sign; and 82 passing school bus. The violations did not constitute revocations or suspensions on first offense.

N. C. Forged Ahead Industrially In 1950

North Carolina further diversified its position of industrial leadership in the Southeast in 1950.

Already the leading cotton textile producer in the nation, important new entries in the fields of woollens and synthetic fibres and the finishing industry during the year added diversity to the State's huge spinning and weaving industry. Other new industries established in 1950 ranged from electronics to wood pulp. Both these new industries, which completed or planned investment of more than \$100 millions in the State during the year, and additions to already established manufacturing plants reflected the trend toward rural and suburban locations.

The number of plants located outside cities directs attention to North Carolina's "accessible isolation"—a slogan first used by Governor Scott in summing up the State's unique attraction to industry in the atomic era. With overnight access to the most concentrated markets in the nation, but with its own population of more than four millions dispersed in more than 3,500 towns, villages and rural areas, North Carolina represents accessibility to markets, materials and labor, but isolation from the disadvantages of congested cities.

Typical of industry's utilization of rural and suburban plant sites in North Carolina are the \$24 million duPont plant for the manufacture of the new "Fibre V" near Kinston, the \$20 million Olin Industries plant for the manufacture of cellophane at Pisgah Forest, and the \$3½ million plant of Woonsocket Falls Mills for making upholstery materials near the port city of Wilmington.

These are all large textile and chemical establishments, but overall industrial expansion of 1950 covered a much broader field. The wooden furniture industry, in which North Carolina leads the nation, was expanded by the addition of the \$600,000 plant of Kroehler Manufacturing Co., at Charlotte. In the field of tobacco manufacturing, in which North Carolina also leads the nation, finishing touches were put on the new Chestnutfield plant and laboratory constructed in Durham by Liggett & Meyers in 1949.

The 31 principal industries selecting North Carolina during 1950 for the establishment of new plants involving estimated investment of \$104,421,000 will provide employment for 9,715 workers with annual payrolls of \$104,739,000. These figures do not include additions to existing facilities, which amounted to millions of dollars, or the multi-million dollar public utilities expansion program.

During the year, the State's agricultural marketing facilities were improved by the erection of a \$750,000 grain elevator near Wilson and expansion of meat packing plants in areas of rapidly increasing livestock production.

Industrial activity was marked in the Coastal Plains region served by the ports of Wilmington and Morehead City, where the State is investing \$7,500,000 in ocean freight facilities. At Wilmington, reopening of shipyards which produced hundreds of Victory and Liberty cargo carriers in World War II is expected, and arrangements are being made for placing a huge drydock to be available both for reconditioning ships taken from nearby storage basins but also for regular commercial freighters.

Excellent relations between labor and management continued during the year. In fact, for the two-year period ended last June 30, there were only 37 work stoppages and less than one-third of one per cent of all the nation's man days of idleness due to work stoppages were in North Carolina.

Reversal of the trend drawing labor away from the land into congested cities is no accident in North Carolina, which is now capitalizing on its lack of large cities. With only one city over 100,000, despite the fact it ranks 10th in the nation in population, North Carolina is going about carrying the advantages of urban living and employment to its rural population at a pace approached by no other state.

Its more than 3,500 towns and villages (less than 250 of them over 1,000 population) are linked by a State Highway network of 85,000 miles, of which more than 12,000 miles are scheduled for paving and \$5,000,000 additional scheduled for all-year condition during the administration of the present Governor, W. Kerr Scott.

Nearly 90% of the farms of the State are electrified, and telephones are being extended into rural areas at a rapid rate.

A school building program calling for 10,000 new rooms for 300,000 pupils is well under way with an architectural concept so advanced that the North Carolina school building pro-

gram is being closely studied by designers all over the country. The State operates the largest motor fleet in the world—more than 5,000 school buses transporting nearly 400,000 children to consolidated schools.

A four-year hospital building program providing 3,000 additional beds is near completion.


Approximately two-thirds of the State's general revenues, which yield about \$140 millions a year, are invested in its public schools.

The State tax structure is stabilized. There is no State tax on land, that source being left completely to local units. Principal sources of revenue are from income and a general sales tax. There has been no increase in corporate taxes since 1933, yet revenues have consistently exceeded expenditures for public service which have been steadily expanded to meet the needs of a rapidly growing state.

Mr. Stassen seems to be the letter writing champion among the political possibilities.

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February 2 is Ground Hog Day—and all "trigger happy" North Carolinians should know that one of North Carolina's favorite characters in history, Daniel Boone, was born February 11, 1735.

February 26-March 2—Pinehurst Seniors Golf Championships.

Yes, there is plenty of work and play for all, in North Carolina next month—it's early planting time for a host of garden vegetables, to say nothing of cotton, corn, oats, onions, turkeys, potatoes.

These are just a few of the happenings that go on to make North Carolina a grand place to live—and, for refreshing relaxation any time, most of us can enjoy a temperate glass of beer—sold under our ABC system of legal control that is working so well.

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