



RECOGNITION FROM DEPARTMENT — Retiring Chief of the Hertford Police Department, Ben L. Gibbs (center) was the special guest at a retirement dinner in his honor held recently at the Hertford Cafe. Attending were members of the Hertford Police

Department, the Hertford Town Council, and spouses. Shown above, Mrs. Gibbs looks on as newly appointed Police Chief Marshall Merritt presents a plaque to Gibbs from the department in recognition of his service. (Staff photo by Kathy Newbern)

Rotary Governor Visits Hertford

John C. Rice, governor of Rotary District 771 visited the Rotary Club of Hertford on Tuesday, July 26.

Governor Rice discussed the plans for the Rotary year 1977-78 for our club and for the district. John C. Rice

is a member of the Rotary Club of Raleigh and served as president of that club in 1968-69. He has served on most of the district committees. He assumed the post of governor of District 771 on July 1, 1977.

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Agriculture Growing Business In N. Carolina

By JOHN SLEDGE
N.C. Farm Bureau Federation

Agriculture is a growing business in North Carolina. The first totals released by the Census Bureau, which conducted a nationwide farm census in 1974, show commercial agriculture making significant gains in the state.

(For purposes of the census a farm was considered any place from which \$250 or more of agricultural products were sold, or any place of 10 acres or more from which \$50 or more of products were sold.)

North Carolina farms sold more than \$2 billion worth of agricultural products in 1974 compared with \$1.2 billion in 1969, according to the report. Total production expenses were \$1.4 billion in 1974 versus \$893 million in 1969. (In the meantime, the

state's farms sold nearly \$3 billion worth of agricultural products in 1976, with production expenses totaling approximately \$2 billion.)

Also according to the 1974 Census there were nearly 100,000 farms in North Carolina occupying about 37 per cent of the state's total land area. This compares with 119,386 farms recorded in the 1969 census.

The average size of a North Carolina farm in-

creased from 107 acres in 1969 to 115 acres, while the number of farms with 500 acres or more rose from 3,113 to 3,295. The average value per acre almost doubled during this five-year period.

Among other interesting statistics, the value of sales from crops, including nursery products and hay, doubled between 1969 and 1974, from \$669 million to \$1.3 billion.

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GRADE A SMALL EGGS 3 DOZEN \$1

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RED AND WHITE FRANKS 69¢ PKG.

RED AND WHITE SUGAR 89¢ 5 LB. BAG

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RED AND WHITE BREAD 3 1 1/2 LB. LOAVES \$1

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