

Agriculture in Action

GLOOMY FORECAST

Help stamp out money. We're all for it. It's the root of all evil, we don't know how to make any more of it, and it causes us to write gloomy columns. Such as this one.

As a starter USDA says that

farmers are going to be spending more money this year and getting less at the same time. It all adds up to a tightening of that perennial buraboo—the cost-price squeeze.

A recent report reveals record costs, sagging prices, and a parity ratio which is the lowest in 21 years!

Farm prices, for the month ending April 15, had dropped to the lowest level since 1937. Lower prices for milk, cattle and lettuce more than offset higher prices for wheat, potatoes and oranges.

While prices skidded, produc-

tion expenses last month crept up to a record high. And there's no rest for the weary. USDA says costs this year will continue to rise until they top 1963 figures by some \$500 million. Last year farmers spent \$28.8 billion to keep their operations going.

Farmers will be paying more for purchased feed and livestock. Fertilizer prices should stay about the same, but more fertilizer will be bought. And, while farm laborers will decrease in number, higher wages will be paid to those who remain. Taxes and interest will continue the up-

ward trend. Taxes right now are running five per cent ahead of a year ago, and interest charges are twelve per cent more.

In the face of all this economic frothing on the farm front, industry reports record levels of activity, and the drive is on to raise salaries of many industrial workers and government employees.

Well, thanks for the offer to help, Uncle Sam, but you'll give farmers one-sixth of their income this year at it is. We know you meant well, anyway.

Safety Depends On Safety Rules

RALEIGH — "You can't take a vacation from the law!"

That's the way Motor Vehicles Commissioner Edward Scheidt warned vacationing Tar Heels that their safety depends on observing traffic rules and regulations wherever they drive.

The vehicles chief said it does n't matter whether you are driving right here in North Carolina or a thousand miles away.

"In either case," he said, "you will get into trouble unless you drive within the law."

Many people, he continued, have the idea that they are not responsible if they don't know the law. They think a plea of ignorance will excuse a traffic violation they commit when traveling outside their home state.

"They're dead wrong," the commissioner declared. "Ignorance of the law excuses no one, of course. A tourist is expected to know the traffic laws of the states where he intends to travel."

"Ordinarily, that's not difficult to do. For example, it's a simple matter to observe all road signs and watch for and heed speed limit postings."

As for less obvious regulations, Scheidt said the vacationer should acquaint himself with them before starting out.

He can do this by writing to the state police or auto club of the area he plans to visit.

Scheidt's advice for a safe vacation trip also included a warning to stay alert on all roads, get the "feel" of traffic and stay in step with it.

"Driving in today's traffic is far from a one man show," he said. "Every driver should realize that, for his own protection, he must share the road with all other drivers."

He said that if drivers were constantly aware of this fact they wouldn't pull such stunts as changing lanes without warning, bumper chasing, making sudden stops and making turns from the wrong lane.

"And probably the best tip of all is to Slow Down and Live," he concluded.



NEW 4-H CENTER — National and 4-H flags are flying over a new facility in North Carolina — The Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Center near Reidsville. The modernistic, all-weather facility is owned by the Consolidated University of North Carolina. It will be used for 4-H camping during the summer, and for educational meetings involving University personnel during the remainder of the year. Dedicatory services for the center will be Sunday, May 24, at 2:30 p.m. Participants will include members of the Penn family, 4-H'ers and their leaders, Secretary of Commerce Luther Hodges, Governor Terry Sanford, Consolidated University President William Friday and N. C. State Chancellor John T. Caldwell.

Witnesses Set Bible Conference

The Gastonia congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses today announced that plans are now under way for attending another Bible training conference scheduled for June 5-7.

The conference is to be held in the Hendersonville High School Auditorium, Hendersonville, N. C. The purpose of the gathering is to encourage greater activity in Bible study and in teaching other people the value of the Bible as a source of instruction and counsel in this modern age. Mr. Elam, local presiding minister, pointed to the fact that less than one-third of the world's popula-

tion express belief in or accept the Bible as truth. This fact alone should move the true Christian to greater activity in helping all people of the world to appreciate the Bible as a book of wisdom provided for all mankind by our benefactor, God.

Whole families from Gastonia will attend the conference which is designed to help not only the adults but also the children to become more skilled in using the Bible to teach others. Children will also be featured on the program.

Announcement of the full program and the appointment of convention officials will be made soon. It was learned that several local ministers are being considered in filling these convention positions.

Mrs. Bell's Rites Conducted

Funeral rites for Mrs. Minnie Louise Bell, 50, wife of Robert Bell, were held Sunday at 3 p.m. from Macedonia Baptist church, interment following in Mountain Rest cemetery.

Mrs. Bell succumbed Thursday night after suffering a heart attack. A native of Cherokee County, she was a member of the Macedonia church.

Besides her husband she is survived by three sons, Robert Lee Bell, Jr., Thomas Bell and Bobby Gene Bell, all of Wallingford, Conn., and six daughters, Mrs. Rosalee Wilber and Mrs. Juanita Barnes of Wallingford, Mrs. Elizabeth Sipes, Mrs. Betty Lou Heavner, Miss Frances Bell and Miss Barbara Sue Bell. Also surviving are two sisters, Mrs. Ruth Smith of Wallingford and Mrs. Eunice Cash of Kings Mountain and 20 grandchildren. Rev. Wayne Ashe officiated at the final rites.



In North Carolina... after a swim, beer is a natural

On a hot summer day, a dip in a cool stream can be wonderfully refreshing. Equally refreshing when you're relaxing afterwards with friends is a hearty glass of beer. There's hardly another beverage around that suits you do for fun as much as beer. Camping, hiking, or just lounging on a lawn chair—beer brings to each just the right touch of extra good living.

Your familiar glass of beer is also a pleasurable reminder that we live in a land of personal freedom—and that our right to enjoy beer and ale, if we so desire, is just one, but an important one, of those personal freedoms.

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Education—

Graduate of Davidson College AB Degree, D - Club, football team (end) The McCallie School, Service - Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Business—

President; Industrial Discount Corp. Shelby Mortgage Development Corp. Fields Young Insurance Agency, Fields Young Construction Co.; Piedmont Motor Co.

Religious

Member of First Baptist Church, Former Assistant Supt. of Sunday School, Chairman of Building Fund — Fields Young has raised for religious and charitable causes over a \$1,000,000.00.

Military Record—

5 1/2 years in service (entered service 1st Lt., discharged Colonel). Decorations - Bronze Star.

Organizations—

Masonic Lodge No. 202, Member of the Oasis Temple, Charlotte, Former President of N. C. Cancer Society; appointed by Governor Luther Hodges as member of commission to study the cause and control of cancer, awarded certificate of merit for outstanding service by American Cancer Society, New York, Instrumental in organizing Cleveland County Cancer Society, member of the Board of Trustees Wingate College.

HELP ELECT BY VOTING

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