

Belk

1/2 PRICE SALE

Ladies' Wear

All Ladies Wool, Velveteen and Crepe SLACKS
1/2 PRICE

LADIES SPORTSWEAR
NOW 1/2 PRICE AND UNDER

LADIES DRESSES
NOW 1/2 PRICE & UNDER

SPECIAL—ONE GROUP LADIES COATS
Reg. Values to 60.00
NOW 29.88

One Group Junior Size ALL WEATHER COATS (Division of Villager)
Zip Out Linings, Reg. Values up to 50.00
NOW 18.88

One Table of LINGERIE
1/2 PRICE & BELOW

PIECE GOODS
One Large Assortment of Kettlecloth.
Reg. 1.99 Yd.
NOW 99c YARD

One Table of JEWELRY
1/2 PRICE

One Table of Odds & Ends
HOSIERY — PANTIE HOSE & SUPPORT HOSE
25c PAIR
Reg. Values to 1.99

All Remaining Ladies FALL SHOES
1/2 PRICE

One Group Children's and Ladies BEDROOM SHOES
1/2 PRICE

Girl's Wear

GIRLS DRESS COATS
1/2 PRICE

GIRLS WEATHER COATS
1/2 PRICE

CHILDREN'S DRESSES
Assorted Sizes
1/2 PRICE

GIRLS SUB-TEEN DRESSES & COATS
1/2 PRICE

CHILDREN'S CAR COATS
1/2 PRICE

GIRLS SWEATERS
1/2 PRICE

GIRLS SLACKS, SKIRTS & BLOUSES
1/2 PRICE

1 Group of BOYS JEANS
1/2 PRICE

INFANTS RUBBER PANTS
1/2 PRICE

SUB-TEEN SLACKS, SKIRTS & BLOUSES
1/2 PRICE

Men's Dept.

SPECIAL GROUP
Men's Fall & Winter SUITS & SPORT COATS
1/2 PRICE

MEN'S ALL WEATHER COAT
Zip Out Lining
1/2 PRICE

Group Men's LONG SLEEVE DRESS SHIRTS
1/2 PRICE

WOOL SLACKS & WASH & WEAR PANTS
Broken Sizes
1/2 PRICE
Special Selection

GROUP KNIT SHIRTS
1/2 PRICE

Alpaca & Lambswool SWEATERS
1/2 PRICE

Long Sleeve SPORT SHIRTS
1/2 PRICE

SPECIAL GROUP
SHORT SLEEVE BANLONS
Values to 6.50
2.88

Boy's Dept.

1/2 PRICE SALE

SPECIAL GROUP BOYS

CLOTHING
C.P.O. SHIRTS
SWEATERS
PANTS

L. S. SHIRTS
KNITS
HUSKY SHIRTS

Transco Reports New Records

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation, supplier of natural gas to eastern markets from Mississippi to New York City, today reported new records for 1969. It was the seventeenth consecutive year the company has shown increased earnings.

The figures released indicated that net income from operations (excluding investment tax credit) increased to a new high of \$39,413,849 from \$35,639,965 reported for 1968. Earnings per share of common stock attributable to operations were \$1.51 in 1969 compared with \$1.34 in 1968, an increase of 13 percent. Total earnings per share of common stock were \$1.70 for 1969 compared with \$1.68 for the previous year, including investment tax credits of 10¢ for 1969 and 3¢ for 1968.

James B. Henderson, President, said that under new legislation enacted late in 1969 the investment tax credit had been eliminated with respect to construction expenditures except those incurred or committed for prior to April 15, 1969. He emphasized, however, that because of such exceptions in the new law, the company expected that the 1970 investment tax credit would be about the same as the credit recorded in 1969.

Mr. Henderson said that the year was one of continued growth for Transcontinental. Approximately \$152.8 million was spent during 1969 for expansion and other construction. New high marks were recorded for gas deliveries and for operating revenue.

Boyce On Duty At Hickam AFB

HONOLULU — U. S. Air Force Sergeant Obie D. Boyce, son of Mr. and Mrs. Obediah Boyce, Rt. 2, Bessemer City, N. C., is on duty at Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

Sgt. Boyce, an aircraft mechanic, is assigned to the 619th Military Support Squadron, a unit of the Military Airlift Command which provides global airlift for U. S. military forces. He has completed a tour of duty in Vietnam.

The sergeant is a 1962 graduate of Lincoln High School.

His wife, Lula, is the daughter of Mrs. Katie B. Williams, 205 Cleveland St., Wichita Falls, Tex.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to thank the many friends and neighbors and especially the staff of Kings Mountain Hospital for the many kindnesses and expressions of sympathy during the illness and death of my beloved wife, Mrs. Edith Ware.

RALPH WARE

which increased to \$361,233,433 from \$328,940,332 in the previous year.

Daily allocated capacity of the pipeline system (exclusive of storage capacity) was increased 11 percent to 2,871 million cubic feet per day. Total peak day allocated capacity at year-end, including storage allocations, was 4,096 million cubic feet per day. Further expansion is planned in 1970, part of which has been authorized by the Federal Power Commission and part of which will be covered by an application soon to be filed with the commission.

Modernization Makes Farm Debt Load Soar

About the fastest growing thing on North Carolina farms today appears to be the size of the debt.

Since 1950, the debt load of Tar Heel farmers has jumped from \$123 million to over \$700 million, an increase of over 10 percent annually.

However, Dr. D. F. Neuman, an economist at North Carolina State University, said the growing farm debt is more of an indication of growth and modernization in agriculture than it is a sign of trouble.

Credit has become more important in agriculture, he explained, as farmers have replaced labor with machinery, chemicals and other purchased inputs. Also, soaring land costs and the need for larger farm units have added to the debt load.

About half of the national farm debt of around \$52 billion is for land and about half for other production items needed in farming.

Neuman said larger farmers use credit more freely than smaller farmers, and indications are that most farmers are putting their borrowed money to good use.

One survey shows that the average U. S. farmer has over \$80,000 invested in production assets today as compared to only about \$17,000 in 1950.

Investment in the average North Carolina farm is less than the national average. However, Tar Heel farmers have been expanding their investment and

debt load at a slightly faster rate than the national average in efforts to catch up.

One economist has predicted that the U. S. farm debt will double again by 1980, which would push it up to around \$100 billion.

National figures show that merchants and dealers provided credit to more farmers than any other single source. Merchant-type lenders and individuals held over 40 percent of the outstanding non-real estate farm debt in 1969.

Neuman believes this percentage is even higher in North Carolina and the South, where time merchants have traditionally been a major source of farm credit.

Individuals, Production Credit Associations, savings and loan associations and miscellaneous lenders, as a group held over 40 percent of the farm mortgage debt in 1969.

The remainder of this type of debt was held by Federal Land Banks (about 22 percent), life insurance companies (about 22 percent), commercial banks (about 14 percent), and Farmers Home Administration (about 2 percent).

The remainder of the non-real estate or short term farm credit in 1969 was held by commercial banks (almost 40 percent), Production Credit Associations (15 percent), and Farmers Home Administration (about 3 percent).

Neuman pointed out one major difference between these national figures and the situation in North Carolina. Whereas banks are the major source of short term credit for Midwestern farmers, southern farmers depend more heavily on Production Credit Associations for this type of credit, he said.

HERE'S WHY

Most Utility Bills Will Be

HIGH

Cold Weather!

AND SOME OTHERS

HIGHER

In several areas, again due to the bad weather, meter reading was delayed — meaning that utility customers are being billed for FIVE rather than FOUR weeks of service.

This should balance up next month — assuming no repeat bad weather — when billings will cover only THREE weeks in these areas.

City Of Kings Mountain

Utilities Department