

# This Is The Law

By ROBERT E. LEE

Sponsored By the Lawyers of North Carolina CHILD CUSTODY

This is the first of a spring series of articles which will appear each week throughout the next three months. They have been written for the non-lawyer as a public service of the Lawyers of North Carolina.

Who may bring an action for the custody of a minor child?

A North Carolina statute, re-written by the General Assembly in 1967, broadly states that "any parent, relative, or other person, agency, organization or institution claiming the right to custody of a minor child may institute an action proceeding for the custody of such child."

To whom will the court award the custody of a minor child?

The welfare and best interest of the child, in the light of all the circumstances, is the paramount consideration which guides the court in the awarding of the custody of a minor.

There may be occasions where even a parent's love must yield to another if, after judicial investigation, it is found that the best interest of the child is subserved there.

If the parents of a minor child are contemplating a divorce, is it necessary that the custody of the child be determined in the action for divorce?

No. The matter of custody or support of both, may be determined in an independent action either before or after the granting of the divorce.

Either of the spouses may, however, have the question of custody and support of the minor children determined in the divorce action.

The parent of a minor child who is divorced in Wilmington. The divorce decree was silent in reference to the custody of the child. The child is living with a grandparent in Raleigh, the father is now living in Charlotte, and the mother is living in Asheville. If the mother wishes to obtain custody and support of the child, in what county should she institute the action?

Under the 1967 statute the mother may institute the action in the county where the child resides or where either of the parents reside.

Or, if the mother elects to do so, she may return to Wilmington and have the matter of the custody and the support of the child determined by a motion in the cause in the divorce action.

### FEED FACTORS

Factors that have contributed to the high cost of livestock feed in the U. S. are not all of domestic origin. Some of the major factors are weather problems and short crops in foreign nations. Drouths have or will cut harvests in South Africa and India, for example. Australia's December wheat harvest was down. Unfavorable weather caused the Soviet union to plan 17 million fewer acres to winter wheat than its planting goal.

## ACCENT ON AGRICULTURE

### MEAT PRICE CEILING

As a nation, we have become used to spending a very small portion of our average income for food. Americans for the most part, have been spoiled by our agricultural productivity and efficiency. Farmers have actually been passing these efficiency gains along to consumers getting along with far less in income than the rest of the economy.

Most people refuse to recognize that the general pressure of inflation which continues to increase the dollar cost of everything we buy has, of course, influenced food prices. In the case of some key food products, specifically beef and pork, available supply is slightly short, while demand is strong. This situation nudges the already inflated price even higher.

There is no way price ceilings, whether at the farm level or not can cure this situation. Neither can consumer boycotts. The costs of supplies needed by a farmer to produce meat is not under a ceiling, so will continue to rise. Ceilings and boycotts serve only to put a damper on production leading to shortages and even higher prices in the long run.

Consider the matter of beef prices. The demand for beef has almost doubled in 20 years. The price is forced, which accounts for around 80 per cent of the meat producer's costs, has gone up like an express elevator.

What it all boils down to is that the forces of inflation, all along the line, combined with

increasing demand for some food items, have finally hit America's grocery bill, just as they have everything else.

But controls on one segment of the economy will only depress production initiative. If controls are to be the answer, they will have to be imposed all along the line to be effective.

The Kings Mountain Herald's  
Want Ads Pay



The American Gentleman selects  
**The Ventura Viracle Suit**  
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Viracle is Hart Schaffner & Marx's exclusive blend of Dacron\* polyester and fine wool worsted. Always cool. Always comfortable. Newly styled in the Ventura model for city-wise springs and summers. Wider lapels, slimmer waist and a deeper center vent. In soft-spoken plaids and quiet colors.

When a man's a gentleman, he wants to look like one. A Viracle suit seeks to that.



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\*DuPont registered trademark

## The Veterans Corner

Editor's Note: Veterans and their families are asking thousands of questions concerning the benefits their Government provides for them through the Veterans Administration. Below are some representative queries. Additional information may be obtained at any VA office.

Q.—Is the Veterans Administration cutting back on hospital care?

A.—On the contrary. An all time high record of more than one million patients will be treated in fiscal year 1974. Because of advances in medical science and improvements in treatment techniques, hospital stays will be shorter and fewer patients will be in the bed on an average day.

Q.—How can I apply for my special dividend which I hear the VA is paying to holders of World War II life insurance policies?

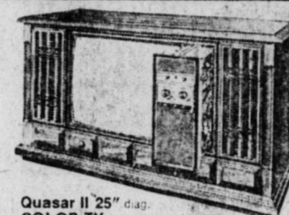
A.—Sorry to disappoint you, but there is no special dividend. VA pays regular dividends to veterans who have kept their World War II "V" prefixed National Service Life Insurance and World War I "K" prefixed United States Government Life Insurance policies. Dividends are paid on the anniversary date of each policy and no application is necessary.

Q.—Why is the Veterans Administration's budget for fiscal year 1974 being reduced?

A.—VA's budget is not being reduced. Overall expenditures will be some \$300 million higher than in the current fiscal year.

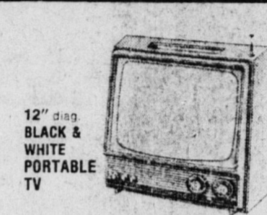
# MOTOROLA Value Time USA

Motorola's Big, Bold, Value Event of '73!  
Now... Motorola TV & Audio at Value Time Prices!



Quasar II 25" dia. COLOR TV in sleek, Madge-Ureah style cabinet. Motion Picture Works in a Drawer, Insta-Matic Color Tuning, solid state components that replace all but 4 chassis tubes. Model WJ2507.

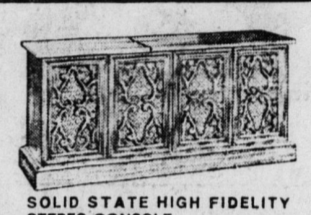
EASY TERMS



12" dia. BLACK & WHITE PORTABLE TV

Personal Portable with built-in carry handle, fast-tune mechanism with slide-out drawer for faster, easier service. Custom-Matic Pre-set VHF Tuner. Model SP2007H.

EASY TERMS



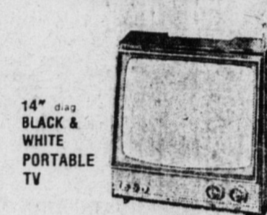
SOLID STATE HIGH FIDELITY STEREO CONSOLE in Mediterranean Credenza Cabinet. Built-in 8 Track Tape Cartridge Player, 4-Speed Automatic Record Changer, AM/FM Stereo Radio, 4 Speaker sound system. Model SA10125A.

EASY TERMS



Quasar II 23" dia. CONSOLE Insta-Matic Color Tuning. Works in a Drawer, Instant Picture and Sound. Solid state components replace all but 4 chassis tubes. Contemporary style cabinet. Model WJ2300W.

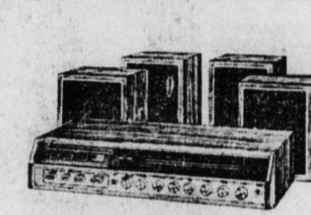
EASY TERMS



14" dia. BLACK & WHITE PORTABLE TV

Deluxe personal portable with solid state VHF tuner, Custom-Matic Pre-set VHF tuner, fast-back, flip-chassis with slide-out drawer for faster, easier service. Model SP1407W.

EASY TERMS



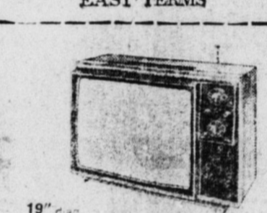
4-CHANNEL SOUND SYSTEM. Distorted 4-Channel Component Receiver with AM/FM Stereo Radio, four channel speaker enclosures, each with a 5 1/4" speaker.

EASY TERMS



Quasar II 19" dia. PORTABLE COLOR TV with Insta-Matic Color Tuning, solid state components that replace all but four chassis tubes. Slide-out cabinet conceals handle. Flip-chassis, fast-back. Model SP1907W.

EASY TERMS



19" dia. BLACK & WHITE PORTABLE TV. Bright, sharp picture. Large, easy-to-read channel numbers, wide, 3 1/2" cabinet with pop-up carry handle. Model SP1907W.

EASY TERMS



STEREO COMPONENT SYSTEM with built-in 8 Track Stereo Tape Player, AM/FM Stereo Radio with Speaker, 4-Speed Automatic Record Changer, Stereo Headphones, Hard Superior about Card included. Model 7500W.

EASY TERMS

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Person To Person (Operator handled).....	\$2.05
Maximum Savings.....	\$1.35

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