

## American Bible Society To Hold Good News Seminar

New York, August—The Volunteer Activities Department of the American Bible Society will hold a Good News Seminar for residents of the Kings Mountain, North Carolina, area on Tuesday, September 20th, at 7:30 p.m., at the Long Creek Presbyterian Church, Route 3, in Kings Mountain.

All interested individuals are invited to hear about ABS work from Society representatives and see the Scripture materials available for outreach in the community.

Mrs. Al McGinnis, outstanding speaker for ABS, will describe the programs of the Society and show the newest films of the Bible Society at home and abroad.

Pastors and lay people from every denomination are particularly urged to attend. "We believe we have something for everyone involved in church and community work in Kings Mountain, whether it's a church board chairman, Sunday school teacher, Bible class leader or involvement in a community group," says Mrs. McGinnis. "The Bible Society is constantly seeking to meet the needs of every individual."

The American Bible Society has a wide variety of Scripture materials with Bibles available in a number of translations and specially printed Portions and

Selections for hospitals and nursing homes, the bereaved, and shut-ins.

Visitors to the seminar will have the opportunity to meet with Mr. C. W. Davenport, who is serving as a resource person for the ABS and will be glad to answer any questions concerning this upcoming event: (704) 629-5226 or 629-4406.

Since it was founded in 1816, the American Bible Society has distributed more than three billion Scriptures around the world.

The American Bible Society is a non-profit, interconfessional organization whose sole purpose is the translation, publication, and distribution of the Holy Scriptures without doctrinal note or comment and at a price that people everywhere can afford.

## Mrs. Lutz Selected

RALEIGH—Representative Edith L. Lutz of Cleveland County has been reappointed to the North Carolina Mental Health Study Commission by House Speaker Liston B. Ramsey.

Mrs. Lutz has served on the commission since its establishment in 1981. The 1983 General Assembly extended the life of the commission to allow it to complete its studies and file recommendations for improving mental health services for North Carolinians.

Mrs. Lutz, from Route 3, Lawndale, chairs the House Local Government Committee No. 2. She represents the 48th House District made up of Cleveland, Polk and Rutherford counties.

## Merger Approved

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA—John A. Tate, Jr., chairman and president of Piedmont Corporation and Piedmont Bank and Trust Company, announced today that the stockholders of Piedmont Corporation have approved merging with First Union Corporation.

"I am particularly pleased," said John A. Tate, Jr., "that a large percentage of our stockholders, both in number of stockholders and in shares represented, voted in favor of the merger. The vote reinforces the decision of our Board and management that the merger is a sound decision and will be advantageous not only to our stockholders, but also our personnel, our customers and the communities we serve. Our experience to date with First Union management has confirmed a remarkable similarity in style and philosophy, and we believe that the transition will be surprisingly easy for our customers."

"We welcome Piedmont stockholders and employees into the First Union family," said Edward E. Crutchfield, Jr., president of First Union Corporation and First Union National Bank. "We are extremely pleased Piedmont's stockholders voted favorably on the merger question. Piedmont Bank has an excellent reputation in the marketplace with employees who have demonstrated their total commitment to serving customers in the communities in which they do business."

The merger, which is subject to approval by applicable regulatory authorities, is expected to be consummated before the end of 1983. The merger generally provides for the issuance of 1.45 shares of First Union stock for each share of Piedmont stock of the payment of \$51.50 in cash for each share of Piedmont stock, at the option of each Piedmont stockholder, subject to certain limitations.

## Fungus Found In Fescue

Observations linking poor animal performance to pure fescue pasture, especially during hot summer weather, have been made over a number of years.

While researchers are very reluctant to say for sure, circumstantial evidence builds a very strong case against a certain fungus that lives **inside** the fescue tissue. Apparently the fungus, *Acremonium coenophialum*, causes development of toxic alkaloids in the grass which lead to a variety of animal performance problems to varying degrees of severity.

Observation cannot reveal if a pasture is infected with the fungus. The fungus does not appear to cause any growth or vigor problems to the fescue itself. Recent tests from different areas across North Carolina revealed that 13 of 15 sampled pastures were infected.

The fungus is transmitted through the seed. In fact, in one area an infected pasture is situated next to one that is fungus-free. Even though there is only a fence between the two fields, the fungus did not move to the other pasture during a period of over four years.

Most severe problems normally are evident during summer months. Animal performance slumps, even with adequate quantities of intake. Other than poor gains, symptoms include rough, scruffy hair coats; gauntness, with little interest in grazing; nervousness; excessive salivation; perference for staying in shade and standing in water; lameness (fescue foot), and loss of tips of tails. Lack of these visual symptoms, however, does not necessarily mean a fungus-free pasture. Daily gains and milk production may be reduced without the more severe symptoms being apparent.

Reproduction problems in cattle and horses have also been reported. Aborted or stillborn foals have been associated with mares grazing fescue pastures, as well as weight loss in sheep and lactation deficiencies in ewes, mares, and cattle.

Since most fescue pastures in North Carolina are probably infected with this fungus, certain management practices should be followed to minimize toxicity problems:

1. Don't use fescue exclusively in hot summer months (when temperatures consistently are above 85—)
2. Don't stockpile summer growth of fescue for fall grazing.
3. Do interseed pure fescue pastures in early fall with ladino clover or red clover. Research has shown that legumes tend to counteract the toxic effects produced by this fungus. An excellent leaflet, "Guidelines for Successful Sod Seeding Pastures" has been developed by the Agricultural Extension Service and should be available from local offices.
4. Do plan for establishment of hybrid bermudas or other warm-season perennials for summer grazing.
5. Do use fungus-free seed for new plantings. Use seed from a known fungus free stand.

There is a testing service at Auburn University to determine if plants or seed are infested. Contact the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Agriculture Center, Dallas, N.C., (922-3956), for further details.



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