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Editor

Donna Y. Laurino Executive Editor

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VOLUME LXXXIV

OCTOBER 1962

NUMBER TEN

#### The Palace Guard

(CONCLUSION)

R ECENTLY A NUMBER OF THE LESS BEMUSED newspaper supporters of liberal government in general, and of the Kennedy family's reign in particular, have made some relatively objective analyses of the self-styled "New Frontier." The consensus of their judgments appears to be, in effect, that the President erred in trying to rush through a number of bills which Congress, reflecting its constituents, did not want. His mistake here was of a dual nature, and fundamental rather than tactical.

In the first part, he presumed to preempt the legislative functions of Congress and reduce this body to an endorsing board of his own directives. In the second part, he decided what he thought the people should want and did not wait for an expression of their needs. In such of his vanguards of statism as Medicare and Federal aid in education, it looked, for the first time in thirty years, as though the American people were showing signs of disenchantment with the world's greatest charity bazaar. An increasing number called to mind the maxim of the old frontiers: "you have to pay either going in or coming out."

In a way, it may be said that many of the nation's people were recognizing the soundness of governmental theories as practiced in Virginia, where the attempt is to meet *essential* needs and not, like Madison Avenue advertisers, attempt to create new desires. In any event, the constituents put no pressure on their representatives to pass legislation designed to discover new ways of spending the public funds—or, as some of the voters were coming to understand, spending what remained of their taxes after the monies collected passed through the maze of new bureaucracies erected for the purpose of giving away the citizens' carnings.

Now, as every one observed, the Head Frontiersman took most unkindly to the refusal of the duly elected representatives to agree with him and do his bidding. It has also been observed that he does not respect an honest difference of opinion: those who do not support him are wrong. He makes speeches to denounce his non-agreers as worshippers of myths, blinded by old illusions. He and the non-elected Palace Guard are the sole possessors of the true faith, the true knowledge: it has been given them, as by divine right, to recognize reality. Indeed, it would require divination for the young Head Frontiersman to be the one American now alive who alone sees the inwardness of life in our times and shares with his supporters the knowledge of the future.

It is possible—no more than possible—that Americans are beginning to doubt the divine right of the Kennedys as the ultimate extension of the personality leadership to which the nation has drifted since Roosevelt. For the Head Frontiersman is essentially a public personality, a performer. He is a very clever performer, with an amazing gift for verbalizing. As the Head Frontiersman he has substituted the Harvard accent and a turn of phrase for the coonskin cap of the old frontiersmen. But what has been revealed is that this rich man's Davy Crockett has nothing new whatsoever on his frontier. He has gone along with the familiar on both the domestic and foreign fronts, and in both he has shown that he has no understanding of the frontier at all. For inherent in the concept of frontiers-

(Continued on page 31)

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THE COVER features Richard D. Chumney, Virginia's new Commissioner of Agriculture. VIRGINIA RECORD is again indebted to the Virginia Department of Agriculture for information on the manifold activities of this far-reaching department.

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Sharks	28	100	2,800
Spanish Mackerel	555	2	1,110
Tuna	77	18	1,386
Octopus	5	2	10
Turtle	1	350	350
Flounder	3	2	6
Grouper	116	38	4,408
Rabbit Fish	1	5	5
Sailfish	4	40	160
Barracuda	107	22	2,354
Porgies	516	4	2,064
Wahoo	14	50	700
Grunts	49	2	98
Toads	12	0.5	6
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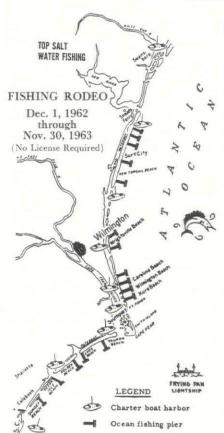
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### VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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By Charles Stelling Information Officer Virginia Department of Agriculture

Richard D. Chumney had two years' experience as Administrative Assistant to the Commissioner and four years experience as Assistant Commissioner before being appointed Virginia's Commissioner of Agriculture on August 1, 1962.

Prior to that he was associated with a Richmond seed, feed and fertilizer firm for seven years. In addition to this he was born, reared and worked on a farm in Amelia County.

His B.S. degree at VPI and Masters degree at Cornell were in agriculture.

And so it was with full knowledge of the task before him that, on his first day in office, he made the statement, "This job is too big for any one of us, but it is not too big for all of us working together."

The duties and responsibilities of the Virginia Department of Agriculture are of such number that a comparatively few people realize the scope of the Department's activities.

There are 263 defined duties and responsibilities of the Commissioner outlined in the Code of Virginia. These include everything from regulatory powers to

PAGE EIGHT

informing all persons of Virginia of the problems and progress of Virginia agriculture.

Generally speaking, the new Commissioner has said the objectives and responsibilities of the Department fall into three broad fields.

#### They are:

- Prevention of fraud and misrepresentation of goods and services offered to the citizens of the Commonwealth.
- Helping to create a climate in which industries and agriculture can grow and make a profit.
- 3. Standardization, grading, and marketing of Virginia's production of food and fiber.

These categories give a general picture of what the Department does. But it does not include the whole picture.

For instance, when Pulaski city officials were duly alarmed about a gas leakage from an unknown source, it was the chemical experts of the Department who located an abandoned and buried service station gas drum.

Or when the Virginia Board of Pharmacy placed a stop-sale order on some suspected drugs, it was the chemists of the Department who gave the analyses of the products.

These are not isolated cases, but are indicative of the varied duties of the Department.

Main segments of the Department of Agriculture are the Divisions of Administration, Chemistry and Foods, Markets, Plant Industry, Animal and Dairy Industry, and Statistics.

Administration is responsible for Department accounting and personnel details of 539 permanent employees. An additional 225 persons are hired on a seasonal basis.

Sections of the Administration Division include the office of an Assistant Attorney General, Information Services, a program analyst and a data-processing section.

Chemistry and Foods analyzes and registers many of the things the farmer needs . . . paints . . . fertilizers . . . gasoline . . . animal feeds, animal remedies and pesticides. They constantly sample and test to keep products in line with label claims.

Chemistry and Foods also over-

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sees the sanitary handling of food supplies — from production — to the processing plant, to the shopping basket — to insure against spoilage, contamination, and adulteration.

Plant Industry sets up quarantines when necessary to keep other people's diseases and insects out of the State of Virginia. Its seed laboratory tests germination and purity for all commercial seeds, and requires that seed packages be tagged with the results. It checks all nurseries to be sure that trees, shrubs and plants sold are free of disease.

Animal and Dairy Industry has charge of animal disease control in Virginia, providing organized programs for eradication of livestock infections.

It also enforces Virginia's laws on the production and sale of dairy products from the dairy barn through to the processing plant.

The Division of Markets' law enforcement activities include the Weights and Measures Law and the Egg Law Enforcement Section.

The Weights and Measures Section is Virginia's Bureau of Standards. It checks scales used to weigh the farmer's product at the market and the consumer's package at the grocery store. Even the pump that measures out the gasoline at your favorite service station is checked for accuracy by Weights and Measures.

The Egg Law Enforcement Section grades and inspects eggs to make sure that eggs sold are properly marked as to grade and size

Other services of the Division of Markets are the Poultry and Turkey Improvement Plan, in which inspectors blood test, grade, and cull farm flocks to eradicate disease and to improve the overall quality of poultry.

The Division of Markets grades the farmer's raw products, both crops and livestock. In the Processed Foods Section canned goods are graded, including foods bought by the State for its hospitals, colleges, and welfare agencies.

Market Expansion Service helps build markets and works with specific groups to sell and merchandise Virginia farm products.

The Commissioner is charged with proper function of all of these activities.

In the wording of the Code:

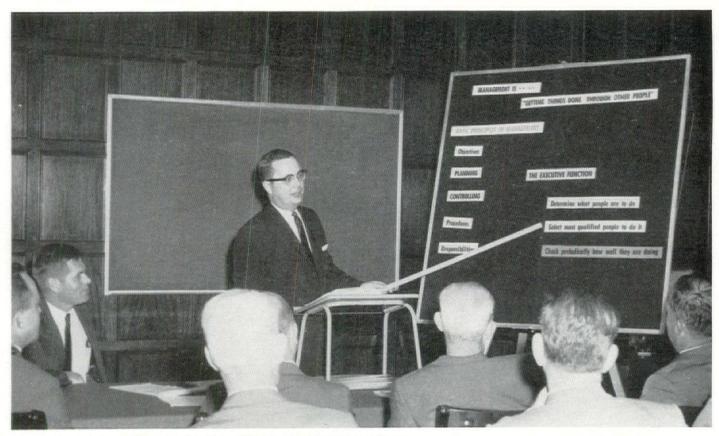
"The Commissioner shall see to the proper execution of the laws relating to the subject of his Department, and he shall investigate and promote such subjects to the improvement of agriculture . . . with authority to make regulations governing same."

Also, "He shall be charged especially with the supervision of the trade in commercial fertilizers as will best protect the interests of the farmers with the enforcement of the laws which are or may be enacted concerning the sale of commercial fertilizer, seed and food products."

The Commissioner is charged with the enforcement of all of the



Outlining day's work with Directors. Left to right: Earle V. Coville, Fiscal Director; C. R. Willey, Director of Division of Plant Industry; C. Arthur Middleton, Jr., Director of Information; S. Hollis Shomo, Director of Division of Markets; Commissioner Chumney; Rodney C. Berry, Director of Division of Chemistry and Foods; Dr. W. L. Bendix, Director of Division of Animal and Dairy Industries; and M. Harris Parker, Assistant Attorney General.



Above: Commissioner Chumney directing a Department Management Course.



Below: Commissioner Chumney with two of his Directors. Left to right: Dr. W. L. Bendix, Director of the Division of Animal and Dairy Industries, and Rodney C. Berry, Director of the Division of Chemistry and Foods.



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laws governing consumer protection in the matter of food and farm products inspected by the

Department.

Among the many other items which the Department is responsible for are the operation of lime grinding plants, pest control, regulation of the bee industry, establishment and operation of a meat inspection service, and regulation of all seeds ranging from crops to lawns.

The Commissioner also is authorized to appoint members of State commissions, such as the State Apple Commission and the State Peanut Commission.

One of the services which brings the Department into the closest contact with the consumer is that performed by the Weights and Measures Section of the Department.

It is the protector of the housewife, the farmer and the businessman. Department inspectors periodically test scales and measuring devices used in commerce to protect both buyer and seller.

They also check packaged feedstuff to assure the general

public of true value.

A single ounce error on a scale making 100 weights a day for 300 days a year at \$1.00 a pound, will multiply out an error of \$1,875.

Not only does the Department provide market protection for the consumer, but it develops and keeps growers informed of mar-

kets for their products.

It is not uncommon for growers to contact the Department before planting to determine an outlet for their crops. Through market studies the Department can locate a purchaser.

It is the duty of the Commissioner to foster and encourage the dairy industry of the State, and he is charged with inspection of all milk from cow to processing plant that is offered for sale in the state.

By virtue of his office, the Commissioner is the executive officer of the Virginia Board of Agriculture and Immigration, and executes the Departmental rules and

regulations.

By law, he is also a member of the Commission of the Industry of Agriculture and of the Agricultural Research and Education Commission. He is also the designated official to receive from the federal government the trust assets held by the United States in behalf of the Virginia Rural Rehabilitation Corporation.

Commissioner Chumney is one of the first to point out that the Department is not concerned

solely with the farmer.

"There probably isn't any other Department in the State that does more for the average person, yet the average person doesn't realize it," Chumney said.

"When you buy a dozen eggs marked Grade A, or a steak, it was graded by the Department.

"The gasoline you buy for your car or your lawn mower was tested by the Agriculture Department as to purity and to see that you are getting the kind as represented, and it checks the pumps to see that you get the amount you paid for. The grain that is shipped from Hampton Roads is graded and inspected by your Department," he added.

"The Agriculture Department is engaged in many facets of government, which range from helping the farmer and protecting the consumer to working for industrial development," Chumney

said.

The Commissioner agrees that the Department has "a tremendous responsibility," and added quickly that the well qualified staff in the Department is up to the task.

"I believe we have one of the finest Departments in State government," he said. "But we are a service regulatory organization, so we always can be a little better."

Improvement of Department services is both a short range and a long range project for the Department. It may seem strange to people who do not have an up-to-date concept of agriculture, but the Department is putting emphasis on data processing to pinpoint regulatory trouble sports in various parts of the State.

With the use of data processing, Department inspectors are not confined to random sampling of commodities for which the Department has a responsibility.

Using this modern technique, the Department is able to feed data into a machine and assign inspectors where trouble spots are most likely to appear.

The Department has about 20 different applications of this kind

in operation.

"We are placing a great deal of emphasis on efficiency in the Department," said Commissioner Chumney. "We are trying to improve it with a management development program established during the first of September.

"The program is designed to teach our people how to better manage their operations and how to make their own efforts more

effective," he said.

Early this year when Governor Albertis S. Harrison, Jr., took office, he appointed Chumney as his executive assistant in charge of urban affairs.

"One thing I learned in this position," said the Commissioner, "was that all of the problems are not in the country. As Virginia moves from basically a rural economy, we find more and more problems in the shift of our population toward our urban areas.

"As Commissioner I am delighted to have had the experience in urban affairs," he continued. "It has proved to me the need for the creation of a better understanding between people of rural Virginia and urban Virginia. I found out that problems have no regard for city limits. They are closely inter-related.

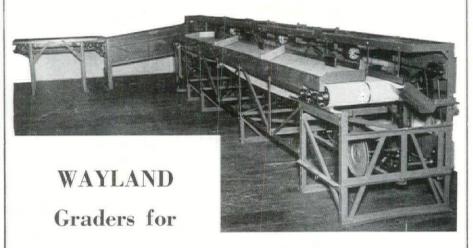
"We hope that through our Farm-City Week during Novem-

(Continued on page 20)

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A young man on the go is an apt description of Virginia's new Commissioner of Agriculture.

Richard D. Chumney is a Virginia farm product who has risen to the head of the Virginia Department of Agriculture at the age of 37.

The new Commissioner is no stranger to agriculture or public service. Half of his life

has been spent on an Amelia County farm.

His professional career has either been in public service or in an agricultural oriented industry.

As a youngster the new Commissioner started off at a fast pace, and this has continued.

While a teen-ager he was part of the family labor force on a 128 acre farm. However, he found time to be active in 4-H activities, the Future Farmers of America, and still become valedictorian of his graduating class.

During his senior year he served as secretary of the state Future Farmers of America, placed second in the state public speaking contest, and received the State Farmer Degree.

This pace continued during his college days, which were interrupted for World War II. (He served in the Army three years, part of which was in the South Pacific.)

While at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, he was a member of four fraternities, served as president of two organiza-

tions, and was secretary of the State YMCA. These were just some of his activities while he was working for his B.S. in agronomy.

During his junior year, he was winner of the Borden Agricultural Award as the outstanding student in the VPI College of Agriculture. He received his degree, with honors, in 1948.

The following year he earned his M.S. in Agriculture at Cornell University.

With this type of background, it is not a wonder that he has developed a capacity for work in a wide range of activities.

Since he has become Commissioner, the number of organizations he belongs to has doubled.

During a recent interview, he was questioned about this growing list.

"I am not basically a joiner," he said, "because I feel that one must use his time as effectively as he knows how.

"Many of the organizations I belong to are by virtue of my office or by previous responsibilities. I like to be a part of an organization to which I feel I can make a contribution," he continued.

"In many instances, I find I must decline a certain organization simply because there are not enough hours in the day, or it would be making a real sacrifice by taking additional time away from my family."

Dick (as he is known to his friends) feels it is just as important to schedule time for his family as it is to schedule time for his business responsibilities.

The father of three children, he feels strongly about the younger generation.

"I feel that the young people of today make up the finest generation to come down the road," he commented. "I basically think that one of the problems today is that in a busy world parents take themselves away from their children entirely too much."

With all of his outside activities and fringe responsibilities which go with the position

of Commissioner of Agriculture, Chumney likes to devote as much time as possible to his family.

He is married to the former Laura Jean Comerford of Meadowview. They have three children: Richard Kevin, 10, Karlee Jean, 8, and Kendall Jason, 4.

It was through his YMCA work that Chumney met his wife.

"I met my wife, believe it or not, on a train," he recalled. "It just so happened that we both learned by reading the newspapers that each of us had been selected to represent our respective colleges at a joint YMCA-YWCA conference at the University of Illinois back in 1946.

"I decided I would write her a note to see if she might be taking the same train to the conference. She was, and we met in the aisle of the coach.

"I wrote the note December 7, 1946, and we were married in April of 1950," he said.

The charming wife of the Commissioner has a background which runs a parallel path. She was raised on a Southwest Virginia farm, was a leader in high school activities and was graduated as valedictorian. She was active in several organizations which included vice president of the State 4-H Club, winner of a trip to the National 4-H Congress, editor of the school paper, and four-year member of the school choir.

At Longwood College she was engaged in YWCA work and president of the organization during her senior year. She belonged to eight different organizations, and was listed in "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities."

She received her B.S. in home economics and was graduated with high honors.

Following graduation, she taught school for two years at Thomas Dale High School in Chester, Virginia. Because of her teaching experience and the fact that she has two children in school, she is active in PTA work and is a grade mother.

However, her main interest besides her family is church work. She has taught both kindergarten and junior classes.

Being the wife of a busy executive, who may be out of town for an overnight speaking engagement or away from home for several days at a time for a national meeting, is somewhat confining.

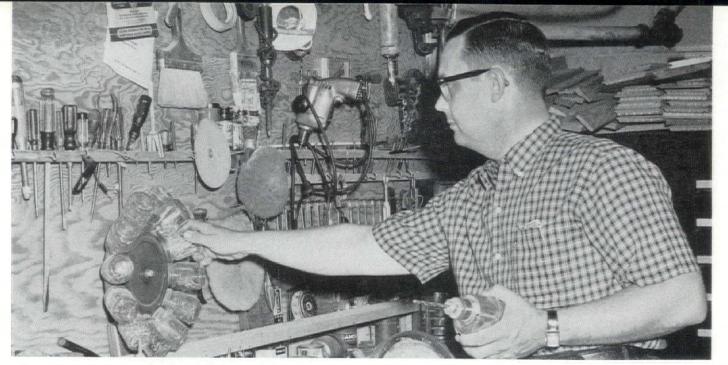
However, Jean would have it no other way.

"This is Dick's job and he enjoys it," Jean commented. He would not be happy in an eight-to-five job. With his traveling so much, I have been unable to be as active as I would like in some organizations. However, I always wanted a family, and during their





Formal family picture—front to back: Kendall, Mrs. Chumney, Karlee, Kevin and Commissioner Chumney.



Above: Commissioner in his home workshop. He works at it. He paneled his den, and builds things for home use. Below: Congratulations, Dad—The family was on hand when Commissioner Chumney was sworn in by Judge Moscoe Huntley. Young Kendall shakes hands while Karlee and Kevin look on.



to tell the Virginia Story

OCTOBER 1962

formative years I know it is important to spend as much time as possible with the children.

"There is never a dull moment around the house. Dick is always on the go. And between my taking Kevin to a Cub Scout meeting or Karlee to a music lesson or one of them to a school activity, little Kendall has done more travelling in his four years than I did during my first ten," Mrs. Chumney said laughingly.

Jean is looking forward to the time when the children add a few more years. Then she can become more active in choir work (she has had both vocal and piano training) and other community activities.

At the present her special interests include music, reading, handicrafts, sewing and cooking.

Mrs. Chumney "enjoys people in general and friends especially." Some of the things she likes to collect are earrings, poetry, clippings for scrapbooks and baby books.

When questioned about his hobbies and recreations, there was no hesitation when the Commissioner listed his family at the top of the list.

"It is a real recreation for me to spend as much time as possible with my family. Whenever we have time, we pack the family in the car and take off to some nice quiet spot to relax or go see something we can all enjoy," he said.

"We enjoy a variety of sports. We are basically spectators, but we like put-put golf, ping pong, badminton, or my wife and I enjoy dancing or just going out to dinner, and to the movies or plays."

Other diversions he enjoys are making items in his workshop, photography, or just keeping up the chores around the house.

One other hobby dates back to his college days. As a member of many organizations in school, he attended many meetings and conventions. He started throwing convention badges into a dresser drawer. When they began to accumulate he decided to start a collection. Now he has a prize collection framed on one wall of his den.

One would think that a man who runs one of the state's largest departments, devotes time to his family and to many civic organizations would have a packed schedule.

This is true. However, the Chumney family feels that church work is just as much a part of life as three meals a day. In fact, at one time Dick considered joining the ministry.

"I have always felt that church life plays a vital part in an individual's development. It provides an excellent opportunity for him to serve his fellow man and provide guidance and leadership for our youth who will really be tomorrow's leaders," he said.

"My basic philosophy of life is that an individual should always try to give a little more than is expected of him. If he works hard in this direction, and does it in a manner which is right and fair for his fellow man, the road he should travel will be shown to him."

Following this philosophy Dick is very active in church activities.

His chief interest has been in young adult and men's work. He has been an elder in the Presbyterian Church since 1953.

He sets the example for the creed that the family follows. When asked if there was a family set of rules, he said:

"Well, I suppose the philosophy of my family is about the same as my own. We all endeavor to make a maximum contribution to the community. Right on down to the youngest child, we try to have them actively participating in some type of community project."

As a youngster, Dick had plans to continue the operation of the family farm with his brother. However, both brothers felt that for a one-family farm to support three growing families, it had to be expanded. The family could not locate additional land close-by for expansion, and Dick decided on a business career in the Industry of Agriculture. His brother, after completing college, entered the insurance business.

Dick joined Carter-Venable Company in Richmond and rose to sales manager during seven years.

It was while in the seed business that he became acquainted with the Department of Agriculture and Commissioner Parke C. Brinkley.

During his seven years with the seed firm, Chumney worked closely with the Virginia Department of Agriculture on regulatory matters.

"It was quite logical that we would have differences of opinions, but in spite of this, I gained a high respect for the Commissioner and enjoyed working with him in several endeavors," he said.

"I also learned to have a great respect for the Department, and for Virginia's government, but had no intentions of going into government work.

"In fact, when I decided to leave Carter-Venable it was in a different direction. I had all but signed the final contract with a different segment of the industry in the farm supply field when Commissioner Brinkley approached me about coming with the Department," Chumney stated.

"I was pleasantly surprised with his confidence in me, but I suppose the big reason was that I felt the Department was a well organized, efficient agency that I had learned to appreciate, and it was an opportunity to be of greater service to my fellow man.

"Realizing there would be some sacrifices, I joined Commissioner Brinkley as his administrative assistant. I have never regretted this decision."

Having worked both sides of the fence in the industry of agriculture, Chumney expressed a great deal of respect for the Virginia governmental employee.

"I understand that in some quarters the term 'dedicated state employee' is a tired cliché that is expected from a department head. However, I believe it to be a real fact here in Virginia. I've had the opportunity, in business and public service, to observe state governments across this country. I always come back to Virginia feeling just a little bit prouder of what we have here when I compare it with other states."

There is a vast difference in the farm work he did as a young man and the running of a state agency which employs more than 500 permanent workers, but there is very little difference in the mode of operation.

As a working member of a farm family which grew hay, grain, tobacco and cattle, he learned that it takes good farm management to extract a profit from agriculture.

To the Commissioner, the matter of management applies to any form of operation. In fact, in the Virginia Department of Agriculture, good management has become a byword with all employees.

"I am a firm believer in trying to place emphasis on effective organization and management of a business or agency of government. I feel this is important for several reasons. It means that the taxpayers of Virginia are getting better returns on their investment. We are able to serve people better. I feel sure our employees like to be a part of this kind of organization.

"So often the public does not have the best impression of government, and one of the things I always want to be able to prove is that the Virginia Department of Agriculture is being operated in the very best way possible," he concluded.





Above: Commissioner Chumney at home in his den. Background includes collection of convention badges, and citations of many honors.

Below: The Chumney family makes ready for an outing. Left to right: Karlee, Kevin, Mrs. Chumney, Kendall, and the Commissioner.



to tell the Virginia Story

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RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

(Continued from page 11)

ber we will be able to point up some of these inter-relationships between our urban and rural people."

Commissioner Chumney replaced Parke C. Brinkley, who resigned after 12 years to accept the position of President of the National Agricultural Chemicals Association in Washington.

It was Commissioner Brinkley who lured Chumney away from the feed, seed and fertilizer business to become administrative assistant to him in 1956.

Two years later Chumney became assistant commissioner.

"It is difficult to step into the shoes of Commissioner Brinkley," said the present Commissioner, "and to expand and make more efficient the programs started under the Brinkley administration. However, this is our goal as we strive to render to all Virginians greater service for the minimum number of dollars."

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### VIRGINIA BUSINESS REVIEW

MISS VIRGINIA, petite Pat Gaulding of Richmond, will be hostess for the opening Producers Day program at the Virginia Poultry Federation convention and trade show at the Hotel Roanoke October 23-24.

Miss Gaulding will make her first appearance when she joins Federation President W. D. Moore, Jr. of Richmond in conducting a guided tour of the exhibits of poultry equipment on display.

On one of the afternoon producer programs, egg producers will get a capsule view of the state's egg industry and its future potential from Dr. Claud L. Scroggs, agricultural economist with the Southern States Cooperative in Richmond.

Others on the egg program will include Dr. C. E. Howes, head of the poultry department at V.P.I., on "Application of Knowledge to Opportunity;" Cecil Rogers of Luray, supervisor of the federal-state grading service, on "New Egg Quality Control Programs," and Taylor L. Grizzard of Richmond. field service director for the Virginia Poultry Federation on "Our Industry Program Dollars.'

A panel discussion on "Our Experience with Controlled Environment" will have as participants James Hall of Densmore Chick & Egg Farm, Roanoke; Jack Chinn, Hague egg producer, and D. D. Bragg of the V.P.I. poultry extension service.

Gloucester recently opened its second bank, when The Peoples National Bank of Gloucester held open house in its new \$100,000 Colonial style brick build-

John M. Bareford Sr. of Saluda, a Middlesex county attorney, is president of the new bank. Other officers include Fred F. Ames, operator of a Gloucester accounting firm, vice president, and Hudgins P. Miles of Mathews, executive vice president and cashier.

The first bank here, the Bank of Gloucester, was established here soon after the turn of the century. The Bank of Gloucester also has a branch at

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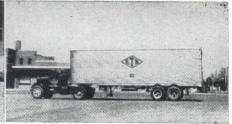
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Harry W. Easterly, Jr., has assumed the duties of president and board member of Southern Industries, Inc., a diversified steel and aluminum products manufacturer in Richmond.

He was formerly executive vice president of Concrete Pipe and Products Company, Richmond, and remains a member of the board.

w w w

Three officers—the director of Advertising and Public Relations and two assistant vice presidents—have been promoted to vice presidents at The Bank of Virginia. The announcement was made by Herbert C. Moseley, bank president, at the annual officers dinner meeting held Saturday, September 15. They are Miss Daphne L. Dailey, who becomes the first woman to be promoted to the office of vice president at The Bank of Virginia; C. E. Bensten, officer in charge of the bank's Newport News office, and O. Watts Gills, of the bank's Roanoke office.

\* \* \*

Edwin P. Brown, industrialist and business leader from Murfreesboro, N. C., has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Virginia Electric and Power Company.

The election was announced by Erwin H. Hill, chairman of the board. Brown succeeds Charles G. Wilson of Richmond, who was named an honor-

ary director of the board.

Brown is president of the American Package Corporation in Murfreesboro and numerous subsidiaries located throughout North Carolina and New Jersey and at Portsmouth, Va. He also heads several oil companies and cold storage plants in North Carolina and New Jersey.

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### LETTERS

Editor, Virginia Record Dear Mr. Dowdey:

My wife would say that the only reason I like your editorials in the *Record* is that I think the same way you do. But it is more than that. When to an adequate grasp of reality is added a gift for lucid and concise expression something unusual is present. Of course, you have this on much higher authority than my own.

I enjoyed The Palace Guard and am looking forward to the second instal-

It seems to me that retribution for our economic and political sins is piling up and must before too long break through the barriers which our political powers that be have been trying to build up. It is of the utmost importance that wise leadership should be ready, not only to repair the damage, but to correct the baisc weaknesses in our government which have made this damage possible.

Do you have any ideas about this?
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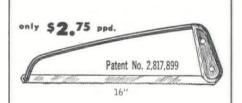
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Members of the Virginia State Committee of Farm-City Week met in Richmond recently in a preliminary planning session. Left to right, Harold Baumes, Executive Secretary, Virginia Municipal League; Mrs. Frank Carr, past president, Virginia Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs; Richard D. Chumney, Commissioner of Agriculture and Chairman of the committee; and George Long, representing the League of Virginia Counties.

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#### CHUMNEY TO HEAD FARM-CITY WEEK

Richard D. Chumney, Virginia's Commissioner of Agriculture, has been appointed state chairman of the Virginia Farm-City Week.

Commissioner Chumney's appointment was announced by Earl J. Shiflet, regional director of Farm-City Week in the three-state area of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

"The unique combination of experience and interest makes Commissioner Chumney highly qualified to direct the Farm-City effort in Virginia which has as its theme 'partners in progress'," said Shiflet in making the announcement.

Shiflet pointed out the Commissioner's "wealth of experience as a farm youth and professional agriculture leader in addition to having served as Governor Harrison's first Director of Urban Affairs."

The eighth annual Farm-City Week will be observed November 16-22.

The National Farm-City Committee, Inc., is a voluntary organization representing farmers, business, industry, governmental agencies, associations, youth groups and civic clubs.

The week is officially proclaimed by the President, Governors and city officials each year.

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#### THE PALACE GUARD

(Continued from page 5)

man is self-reliance.

Of course, it is no fault of Kennedy that he has spent his life as a dependent on his family's wealth, but it has scarcely tended to give him an appreciation of the self-reliance implicit in any frontier. In this detachment from the drives of the true frontiersmen he could hardly be expected to understand the self-reliance that is passing from the American scene and the recapture of which represents the single overwhelming need in the American nation.

But the Head Frontiersman, who did his pioneering in Harvard Yard, has not seen fit to surround himself with individuals who have deeply experienced the practice of self-reliance and who hold this quality as the highest value. He has packed his Palace Guard with fellows of his own stripe, who buttress him in the conviction that he, and they, possess a sense of reality which presumably is denied the men and women whom life has forced to gain practical experience. This is the triumph of the theorist, the doctrinaire, over the individuals who have accomplished things. Where in the days of self-reliance it was asked of a person, "What has he done?", now, in the rule of the Kennedys, it is asked, "What does he say?"

It happens that Kennedy's personal experience convinced him that everything could be bought and also that his clan took over Washington when three decades of national policy had been

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built on the proposition that world peace, along with national prestige, could be bought. But the Palace Guard is not just going along with the drift toward bankruptcy, as is the clever young man in the White House. Members of the Palace Guard, as mentioned, have given evidence of a clearly defined purpose to socialize the country. Yet, though these doctrinaire frontiersmen do maintain a purpose, as individuals they are no less dilettantes than the Kennedys. The result is a cabal whose members are remote from the experiences of the American people whose destinies they presume to mould.

Kennedy talked much about leadership when he was electioneering for president, and some time had to elapse before it became apparent that what he meant by leadership was to impose his hot-house ideas on the people. And it further turns out that he has no ideas at all that go to the fundamentals. He has only come up with unnecessary legislation in order to demonstrate that he and brain-guard are in there thinking every minute. In the vulgarism of the day, the people have responded with, "Who needs these ideas?" More something-for-nothing programs have not fooled the people into accepting them as a substitute for leadership. (Continued on next page)

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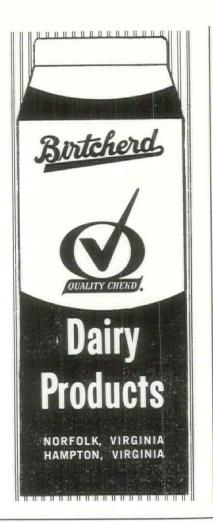
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Yet, the people do desperately need leadership.

At this stage, the leadership needed by the nation is in the operation of the mechanics of government. We've had enough theories practiced to have aroused widespread alarm at the growing wastefulness which results from the present drift. The Head Frontiersman, with all his precise enunciation in the realm of talk, has only burdened the public payroll with more employees as the one area in which he has been permitted to squander other people's money. We need men and women in government who possess the experience at least to question the policy that advocates borrowing our way into prosperity. If mature judgment indicates that the lessons of the past might contribute more than outworn clichés and myths, then we need leaders who will build an operational staff of proven producers in their fields, and not selfapproving theorists with dubious claims to infallibility.

There is no area in the country—military, science, industry, commerce—in which operational staffs would be filled with dilettantes. As General Lee said a century ago, "Relatives and friends make agreeable companions on a staff, but they do not promote efficiency." The nation has drifted into an attitude where efficiency is the one quality not demanded in national leadership.

It seems the most frightening apathy in a people to elect a national leader on a personality basis and to accept as leadership the verbalizing that emanates from his private collection of amateur pontificators. The government seems to have become the plaything, the intricate toy, of what used to be called the idle rich. It begins to look like we were better off when they remained idle, and played with nothing more dangerous to other people than polo ponies and vachts. Judging from Kennedy's bad-tempered willfulness when the toy shows some will of its own, and resists dancing when he pulls the string, he fooled us all in calling his administration the New Frontier.

What he should have called it, in the Democratic liberal tradition of deals, was "My Deal."

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