

From the Gallery By Mildred Huskins

"There were 10 Republicans All on the back row line, One dropped out And then there were nine."

RALEIGH — The defection of Sen. Carolyn Mathis of Mecklenburg from the Republican party last week caused somewhat of a flap in political circles around the Legislative Building as well as further widening the split in the GOP throughout the state. To make matters worse, three of the remaining nine members of the General Assembly who were elected on the Republican ticket to represent their respective districts have indicated they might also bolt the party, saying they hold more moderate views than those which have been indicated in recent party elections throughout the state. However, the attractive Lady from Mecklenburg has had a slap on the wrist by some of her colleagues for changing party affiliation "in the middle of the stream."

Rep. Fred Dorsey of Henderson has called for her resignation so that the Mecklenburg organization may appoint a Republican to the senatorial post. To this public suggestion the lady senator replied: "Since the gentleman is not from my district I consider it none of his business."

Of course, Democrats in both houses were having a bit of a field day over the lady's announcement and simply welcoming her "back home"; Sen. Mathis is said to have been a registered Democrat until about 1970 when she registered Republican to run for the House of Representatives. She was seated across the table from one of the old-time, dyed-in-the-wool mountain Democrats at a dinner meeting the evening after her announcement and the gentleman welcomed her back into the "party of the people" and remarked on her appearance thus: "Senator, you look like you have had a blood bath." One of the reporters at a committee meeting attended by the senator said she looked just about as she always does, except that she was chewing gum and he didn't recall ever having seen her do that before. So, he too, agreed she had indeed joined the party of the people.

Dr. Albert Edwards, House chaplain, opening the Monday evening session, took note of the fact that night and day are somewhat alike "for these who serve. Joy comes to them anew when they realize that they serve in high position. Help them to set an example for the pages and to instill in

them a desire to serve in this position in order to continue good government."

As usual the Monday evening calendar was not lengthy but there was a long list of bills to be ratified. These are the bills in final form and they are spread out before the Speaker who

must sign them into law. A representative from the principal clerk's office offers Speaker Carl Stewart, Jr., the pen and systematically hands him the papers to be signed.

Prior to this time the Speaker announces: "I am

about to sign the following bills and resolutions. The clerk will read." Then the reading clerk, Sam Burrow, reads the title of each measure as the presiding officer of the House signs. There were 33 of these bills

evening and after he had finished he quipped: "I guess if there had been an execution among those, I'd have signed that, too."

One of the bills before the house was one having to do with simplifying the election laws. Rep. Ernest Messer of Haywood arose to support the bill. "I'm for any bill which changes the word triplicate to duplicate."

Then Rep. Liston Ramsey of Madison sought the floor to ask the Gentleman from Haywood a question. "If we do that, Mr. Messer, what will we do for a copy to throw in the waste basket?" To which the Gentleman from Haywood replied: "Just throw in the duplicate."

Tuesday was a windy and rain day in Raleigh but that didn't stop Secretary of State Thad Eure from bursting into the Capitol under a big, black umbrella wearing a plaid jacket, red bow tie and a new straw hat. The Secretary says he has never missed one yet. That is, on April 5 every year since 1918, no matter what the weather, Thad Eure has worn a new straw sailor in honor of his late father's birthday. He says he bought the first one in 1918 when he went to the University at Chapel Hill. When asked what has happened to all those straw hats, the "oldest rat in the Democratic barn" declared he accumulates them in the attic and lends them out to minstrel shows.

It is customary for the Speaker, when a bill is read the first time, to assign it to a committee merely by repeating the name of the committee.

Tuesday Rep. Joe Johnson of Wake had introduced a series of 14 bills dealing with workman's compensation laws and the Speaker

assigned them one at a time. But, by the time the reading clerk reached the 14th bill, the Speaker was so accustomed to hearing the name that he assigned that bill to "the committee on Joe Johnson."

Then there was a measure having to do with cemeteries and the Speaker, with a straight face, assigned it to the Committee on Transportation. Rep. David Bumgarner of Gaston is chairman of Transportation and in private life is a funeral director.

The Senate the other day passed a bill sponsored by Sen. I.C. Crawford of Buncombe to prohibit the collection of compensation for assisting someone in finding a job in state government. There were only two votes in opposition but one of the dissenters was the Senator from Asheville.

When the vote was flashed on the electronic voting screen other senators couldn't believe what they saw but thought it was pretty funny. The Gentleman had made a strong pitch for his bill and his colleagues had overwhelmingly agreed with him according to the voting results.

"This is the first mistake I have ever made," Crawford said. "I would like to correct it and vote aye."

We were having a committee meeting at the Governor's Mansion Thursday morning and were happy to see Diane Harmon Lamont who is a docent at the mansion. We might explain here that a docent is a volunteer who gives a certain number of hours a week or month, as the case might be, to act as guide for the large number of visitors who daily come into the mansion and go through the public rooms.



NEW MEMBERS — New members of the Albemarle Hairdressers Association, Affiliate No. 53, recently had the opportunity to see Julia Lilly, a member of the H.C. Hair Fashion Committee, demonstrate the latest spring-summer style. Pictured above are the new members: First row: Millie Roughton, Sonnie Hurdle, Patti Jethro, Emily Landers and Anita Ashley. Back row: Carolyn Scott, Debbie Stallings, Mary Wright, Nancy Lane, Cindy Wynn, Pat Sanders and Ethel Mae King.

Junior Livestock Show And Sale Slated Tuesday

The 1977 Chowan County Junior Livestock Show and Sale will be held Tuesday at the American Legion Fair grounds. The show will be held at 3:30 P. M. and the sale that night at 7:30 o'clock.

Last year the steers were sold individually as in past years. Hogs were sold two pens of three hogs separately. Then each hog exhibitor was allowed to sell one hog separately.

Again this year the sale will be essentially the same as last year. Last year there were 34 entries on the sale order. But due to fine support of local people and some generous help from businesses outside of Chowan County, it was an exciting sale "probably the best ever," reports Murray L. Goodwin, 4-H coordinator.

Nine trophies will be awarded to the top winners in hog and steer division. The businesses sponsoring the trophies are as follows: Peoples Bank and Trust Company, Mitchener's Pharmacy, Hollowell and Blount Rexall Drug Store, Albemarle Motor Company, P & Q Super Market, Edenton Savings and Loan Assn., George Chevrolet Company, J. H. Conger and Son, and Albemarle Production Credit.

Nineteen boys and girls will exhibit 39 hogs. Boys and girls with hogs are as follows: Debbie Ward, Lisa Saunders, Jay White, Rodney Saunders, Darlene Saunders, Joseph Goodwin, Debbie Jordan, Jeff Toppin, Wayne Forehand, Dwayne Forehand, Godfrey Forehand, Stephen Forehand, Andy Hare, Ivey Ward, Donalton White, Renee Sanford, Arnold Sanford, Karen Ward and Anna Goodwin.

There will be 10 steers in the show. They are mainly crossbreeds and will be shown by Gary Copland, Harriet Winslow, Jill Copeland, Randy Copeland, Jane Parrish, Alvin Ray Winslow, Jean Parrish, Bill Jordan, Bob Jordan and Bryant Byrum.

The auctioneer will be Wallace Evans of Parker-Evans Hardware Company. Judges will be Jim Butler and J. R. Jones, specialists from N. C. State University.

Ribbons and prize money will be made possible by contributions of Chowan County, Town of Edenton and businessmen who have bought ads in the program.

"We are very grateful to those who have contributed financially to the 1977 livestock show," Goodwin stated.

"You are invited to attend the show and sale. Your presence will lead to the success of the show."

Two Chowanians Student Teaching

GREENVILLE — Two students from Chowan County are among 396 from East Carolina University here who are doing practice teaching in North Carolina and Virginia public schools this quarter.

Deborah Burroughs, 60 Queen Anne Drive, is teaching at D.F. Walker Junior High School in Edenton, Patrick Flynn, Route 1, Edenton, is teaching English at Roanoke High School in Roanokeville, N.C.



By Nellie M. Sanders, Director, Pettigrew Regional Library

HOOTS TRUSTEES AND LIBRARIANS — One of the "rites of Spring" that I have anticipated eagerly for the past seven years is the annual trek to Chapel Hill for the joint meeting of public librarians and library trustees. The Institute of Government at the University of North Carolina is the catalyst that brings us together and, if the program is not always the best in the world, the idea is good and the opportunity to mingle is beneficial.

This year's meeting, held last week, was an exceptionally good one. The weather was good, once we arrived (it rained on us all the way there), the flowering trees and shrubs were splendid, the proportion of trustees seemed higher than usual, and the program was full of practical, useful information. With one notable exception - a man from the League of Municipalities who spoke on the subject of personnel management - all the speakers were drawn from our own ranks. In addition to the State Librarian David McKay, his assistant Marian Leith and the chief consultant Marion Johnson, we heard from the directors of three county library systems. Bill Roberts from Winston-Salem (Forsyth County) and Ariel Stephens from Charlotte (Mecklenburg County) were informative but Nancy Fulbright of Lexington (Davidson County) was certainly the best-looking of the three.

For part of the time, we practiced a bit of segregation with the trustees meeting separately. Thelma Barden, a Pettigrew Regional Library Trustee from Plymouth who accompanied me to the meeting, participated in that session. She reported that it was a good basic course in library trusteeship. Since her term of office expires this July (she has served faithfully and well for many years), it was not new information for her but she still found it interesting.

SCREECHES BOOK HANDLERS — The

hardest-working group of librarians I have ever observed are the staff of the Processing Center at the North Carolina State Library. The task of ordering, receiving, unpacking, pricing, cataloging, marking, jacketing, and shipping 150,000 books a year is a formidable one. If there was an even flow of book orders, it would be easier but it is more like the poetic ketchup bottle - first none will come, then a lot'll. (Ogden Nash said that, I think).

Before we left Chapel Hill, Thelma Barden and I attended a meeting of the Advisory Committee for the Processing Center. We heard an encouraging report on the operation of the Center. Comparative figures from other state processing centers and from libraries which do their own showed what a great bargain we are getting. And by pooling our buying power, the discount from publishers and jobbers is the highest possible.

The possibility of speeding up the cataloging process with the addition of a computer terminal for the Processing Center was a major topic of discussion. The State Library is already a member of the computer network which includes most of the major universities in the southeast (SOLINET) but it takes money to purchase additional units and to provide the staff to use them.

Chowan Native Staging Exhibit This Weekend

A Chowan County native will have his original wildlife prints on display in Edenton this weekend.

The works of Jerry Ellis of Gloucester, Va., can be viewed in the window of Parker-Evans Hardware Friday through Sunday. Ellis is affiliated with Eden Galleries, Ltd., in Hampton, Va.

He is the son of Mrs. George Ellis of the Rocky Hock Community and the late Mr. Ellis.

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