

From The Gallery By Mildred Huskins

Chaplain Edwards Sets Tone For Dignified Debate In House Of Representatives

RALEIGH — The House chaplain, Dr. Albert Edwards, set the tone of the dignified debate which consumed the better part of two full days last week in the House of Representatives where three bills dealing the capital crimes had been brought out of the Judiciary Committee for debate.

Dr. Edwards opened the House session Tuesday with prayer in which he took note of the fact that "toil of the mind is more tortuous than of the hand" and sought Divine guidance for members as they were called upon to search for the

right. "The searching question is 'Is it right?'" the minister said and asked the Lord to help them to bring comprehension out of confusion.

The only bill which did not provide for the death penalty in some cases was explained by the sponsor, Rep. Parks Helms of Mecklenburg, and, after considerable debate and a small amount of parliamentary maneuvering, it was voted down. It then came the time for Rep. James Morgan, freshman legislator from High Point, to explain his measure, which would allow

for the death penalty to be imposed in first degree murder cases which were committed after "careful premeditation." The young attorney said he had been accused by his colleagues of being dressed in his "jury suit" to argue his bill. The final explanation came when Rep. Bob Jones of Rutherford brought out his bill, which provides for the death penalty for first degree murder.

The vote and debate on the Helms measure came late in the afternoon and Speaker Carl Stewart thanked the membership for the manner in which they had conducted the very serious matter "and for giving the Speaker a good workout."

Wednesday debate was to come up on the two other bills dealing with capital punishment so the chaplain reminded the Man Upstairs that: "they now have the stripped carcass and all that is left is the hash. But, we know, Lord, that hash in the hands of a good cook is delicious. Help them to meet the challenge."

It was during the debate on the Morgan bill that Rep. Sam Bundy of Pitt asked if he could ask the Gentleman from Guilford a question and use an example. Since the bill provided for murder of a public official as "an aggravating circumstance," the Gentleman from Pitt supposed that someone in the gallery shot him while he was engaged in his business of lawmaking on the floor of the House. And he continued that then that would be a capital offense. Mr. Morgan agreed. Then he said: "Just suppose I resigned and someone shot me. That would not under your bill be a capital offense?" he wanted to know.

"No, but, sir, I hope you don't resign," replied the Guilford legislator. "And I don't want to be killed twice," continued Mr. Bundy. But the Gentleman from Pitt was still not satisfied. "You mean that if someone killed my wife that would not be a capital offense?" asked Mr. Bundy. The patient Mr. Morgan, hoping to bring the questions to an end, by spreading it on pretty thick, said: "Knowing your wife, I couldn't imagine anyone doing that." After which Bundy suggested that they have a little talk about that later.

There had been a great deal of votes on all sorts of measures and motions and the Speaker had found himself called upon to make rulings, some of which he had much rather not made. At one time the vote was 55-55 and the chair voted although he didn't have to vote for the measure would have failed anyway. Then, at one point, there was a motion to adjourn, designed to cut off debate and allow for re-grouping. Prior to the vote the speaker said: "If the vote is again 55-55, I'm leaving." He put the question and the vote was 58-58 which broke the tension for the time being but, as expected, the motion failed.

Monday evening, Rep. Clyde Auman, peach farmer from Moore County, asked House members to vote for a resolution congratulating and commending Pinecrest High School girls basketball team for its performance and sportsmanship in winning the state 4-A conference championship. "These are the finest peaches in North Carolina," Rep. Auman said. Later he thanked his colleagues for their votes and promised

"there will be real peaches for you in June."

It is customary that at the end of the Monday evening session all of the pages are called up to the front of the House and the reading clerk calls out their names and their home town as they identify themselves.

It happened there were several names which Sam Burrow had considerable difficulty with after which Speaker Stewart said: "It is beginning to sound more and more like introducing the UNC basketball team."

Finally, as first order of business Thursday, the death penalty bill was

passed on second and third reading and a great sigh of relief went up as members plunged into the lengthy calendar which had accumulated during the three days devoted to the three bills. It was time to have a little fun and it broke out when Rep. Gordon Greenwood of Buncombe arose to explain a bill which was cosponsored by Rep. Fred Dorsey of Henderson, one of the few Republicans on the back row. The Gentleman from Henderson was in fine form and took his kidding like a man.

First off the Speaker asked Mr. Greenwood if he had heard the sponsors names correctly and was,

assured that Rep. Dorsey had, indeed, co-sponsored the measure. "Well, then will the gentleman explain the bill and a few other things, too," chided the speaker.

"Are there any rules against that?" asked Rep. Dorsey and he was assured by the Chair that there were none. After Rep. Greenwood had explained the bill the Gentleman from Henderson sought to speak on the bill.

"The gentleman may defend himself," said the frisky presiding officer. Before Mr. Dorsey could get started Rep. P.C. Collins arose.

"For what purpose does

the Gentleman from Alleghany arise? We've already suspended Rule 12d," said the speaker who was referring to the fact that the Gentleman from Alleghany usually makes that motion so that members might take food and drink on the floor during protracted sessions.

"I just wanted to ask Mr. Greenwood if he will hold that bill for a week or two so I can get another cosponsor."

The fun was over ... almost. When the vote was taken Rep. Dorsey pushed the wrong button and voted against his bill. He asked the members to suspend the rules so that he could vote aye on the bill, which they did.

cars, but don't mess with the bears and the coons," he said.

When someone suggested that the bill be put off until 1978, Senator Joe Palmer of Haywood explained that "no bear, dog, rabbit, fox or anything else is gonna come up just before election."

Someone saw Frank Huskins, associate justice of the State Supreme Court, in his office after having been out several weeks due to surgery. He was told he was looking good. "You know the difference in looking good and good looking is just about 30 years and 20 pounds," he said.

We have become very good friends with one of our favorite members of the sergeant-at-arms staff. William Davis, one of the elderly blacks assigned to the gallery doors on the House side, let us in on one of his secrets. He had discovered a family of robins in one of the flowering trees on the building's roof garden. He took us out to prove that the nest, beautifully protected, was indeed inhabited. There were three baby robins awaiting the mother bird with a worm.

Rep. Tommy Baker was explaining his bill to extend the corporate limits of the town of Magnolia.

"Ladies and gentlemen of the House," he said. "This extension is a little different from others you have heard of."

"We are not trying to take in a big industry. In fact there are no industries in the area. We are not trying to get a lot of people. In fact, there are no people living in the area."

"The area we want to annex is a cemetery."

At that point he was interrupted by Rep. Ernest Messer, who had sought permission to ask a question.

"But you do plan to vote those tombstones?" he asked.

Ten Attend Choral Festival

Ten John A. Holmes High School choral students and Mrs. Shelby Strother, choral director, attended the All-State Choral Festival May 5 and 6 in Greensboro. Cheryl Redman, Lynn Overton, Tenny White, Neel White, Charles Littlejohn, Richard Williams, David Cross, Dyrrol Joyner, James Jones, and Mike Brown joined approximately 475 other North Carolina students, representing 79 schools, as participants for the festival and concert.

Dr. Donald Neuen, a University of Tennessee music professor, was the guest conductor. Dr. Neuen, who has conducted at All-State Festivals in two other states, is also assistant

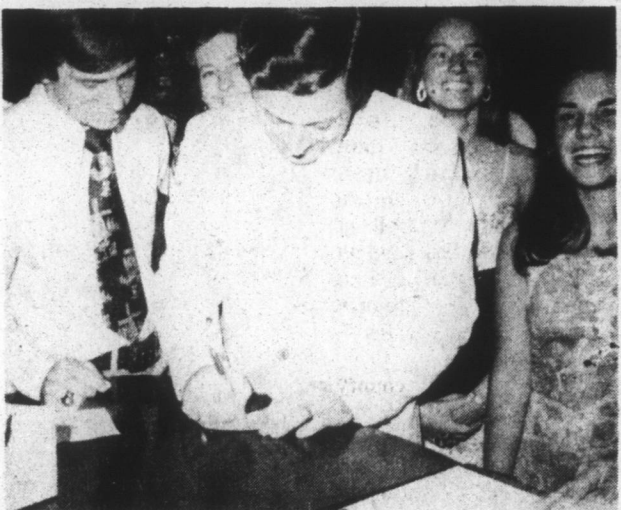
conductor for the Alabama Little Symphony.

Prior to the Friday night concert, which was held in Aycock Auditorium on the UNC-G campus, all students attended 12 hours of intensive preparatory rehearsals over the two-day period. The musical selections for the program were varied. Soloists on the program were music majors from UNC-G.

The State Choral Festival and Concert is one of many projects of the Choral Sections of the N. C. Music Educators Associations for high school students to participate, the attending school's choral director must be a member of the NCMEA. The chorus is limited to the 500 singers.



PLEASED WITH PERFORMANCE — Mrs. Shelby Strother, Lynn Overton, Charles Littlejohn, Cheryl Redman, Terry White, Richard Williams, Mike Brown, David Cross, Neel White, Dyrrol Joyner, and James Jones know that hard work during rehearsals yielded a successful concert during the All-State Choral Festival in Greensboro, May 5-6.



AFTER THE CONCERT — Dr. Donald Neuen, center, conductor of the All-State Choral Festival, graciously autographs David Cross' program, while Richard Williams, Terry White, and Lynn Overton wait their turn.

Around Chowan County Farms

By R.M. Thompson, County Ext. Chairman

Many farmers have already planted soybeans but for those who have not, May 15 should be your target date. We are suggesting that you try to plant eight seed to the foot of row as this should give you six to seven plants per foot of row.

One of the problems that we have had in the past has been weed control. The following are some of the chemicals that we have for weed control:

Preplant - incorporated — Controls annual grass and small seeded broadleaf.

- A. Treflan - 1.0 to 2.0 pt.; 2.0 to 4.0 pt. — (also rhizome Johnsongrass).
- B. Vernam - 2.3 to 3.0 pt. — (also nutsedge suppression).
- G. Cobex - 1.3 to 2.7 pt.
- D. Tolban - 1.0 to 2.0 pt.
- E. Prowl - 1.0 to 3.0 pt.
- F. Amex - 1.0 to 3. qt.
- G. Treflan plus Sencor or Lexone - 1.0 to 2.0 pt. plus 0.5

to 1.0 lb. **Preemergence** — Control annual grass and small seeded broadleaf.

- A. Lasso - 2 to 4 qts. — (Also fall panicum).
- B. Lasso plus Lorox - 1 1/2 to 3.0 qt. plus 1.0 to 3.0 lb.
- C. Lorox - 1 to 4 lb. — (Avoid use on soils less than 1 per cent O.M.).
- D. Surflan - 1.0 to 2.0 lb.
- E. Dyanap - 6 qt. — (also large seed broadleaf except morning glory and Sicklepod).
- F. Sencor or Lexone - 0.75 to 2.0 lb. — (Avoid use on soils less than 2 per cent O.M.).
- G. Lasso plus Sencor or Lexone - 1.5 to 2.5 qts plus 0.5 to 1.5 lb.

Preemergence (no-till plantings) —

- A. Paraquat - 1 pt. — (Emerged grass and weeds), plus
- (1) Lorox - 1 to 5 lb. — (annual grass and small seeded broadleaf) or
- (2) Lasso - 1.5 to 2.5 qt. plus Lorox - 1.0 to 2.0 lb. or
- (3) Sencor or Lexone - 0.75



THE GRAY SAYS
By Nellie M. Sanders, Director, Pettigrew Regional Library

HOOTS

PHASE III — Another milestone has been passed in the statewide effort to obtain detailed evaluations of the public libraries and the communities they serve. Four months ago, the State Library launched the program with an intensive 5-day briefing session at Apex - Phase I. Three expert teachers, from different parts of the nation, instructed librarians from a majority of the library systems in the state.

The second phase of the Community Analysis was conducted by the "students" - in our case, Perquimans County Librarian Wayne Henritze and myself. Calling on the assistance of the entire staff of the Pettigrew Regional Library, Wayne has accumulated a mountain of facts about Chowan, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington counties with the main emphasis on library service. Assembling the information and arranging the statistics in meaningful patterns is an important step in the effort to evaluate the quantity, quality and appropriateness of library service.

Phase III was a combination class reunion and testing situation. We met again last week, in Apex, to exchange experiences, to receive further instruction, and to exhibit the results of our efforts. Progress ranged from a completed survey in one county to minimal data-gathering in others. The

Pettigrew Region reported to the Director of the Institute, Roger Greer, in a one-hour individual conference. Our progress was judged satisfactory and we were given handsome certificates of recognition. The State Library distributed the certificates and the checks to cover travel expenses (from special LSCA - i.e. federal - funds for training) and announced the next deadline. A final report on the analysis is due by December 1st. It is a formidable task, with four counties to cover, but our best efforts will be devoted to it because of the importance for future plans.

SCREECHES

PHASE-IN — Taking advantage of the presence of several committee members in Apex, the Advisory Council for the Processing Center held a special meeting last week. One subject of discussion was the use of computer terminals for cataloging new books. The State Library has a limited number of them which are in almost constant use during regular hours. One suggested method for taking advantage of them was to phase-in extended, swing-shift, hours for the Processing Center staff. This would speed up the handling of the catalog cards and make better use of some very expensive equipment.

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I would like to thank Keaton's TV in Hertford, N. C., for selling me an RCA X-11 100 five years ago this month. Not one penny spent for repairs.
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