

Gets Promoted

Marine Cpl. Edward R. Williams, son of Tommie Jones, Route 3, and Mildred L. Williams of Edenton Manor, both of Edenton, has been promoted to his present rank while serving with Headquarters Battalion Camp Lejeune, N.C. A 1978 graduate of John A. Holmes High School, he joined the Marine Corps in July, 1978.



HALLOWEEN IS FOR ALL AGES — No, these are not your average trick-or-treaters. These are the employees of Edenton's Pizza Hut, dressed in accordance with Halloween. Maybe next year they'll combine efforts and disguise themselves as a large, super-style pizza.

Holiday Foods

Now is the time to start thinking about all the delicious foods we serve during the Christmas Holiday Season.

To help share and exchange ideas a "Festive Holiday Foods" special interest program will be held at the Perquimans County Office Building on December 1, from 7 P. M. to 9 P. M.

This program is designed to share with the general public preparation techniques and ideas for Holiday Foods. The recipes prepared will include a main dish, vegetable, bread, dessert, and candies. These and other recipes and holiday food ideas will be provided for those attending.

Workshop cost will be \$1.50 to help cover cost of foods prepared for tasting. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. Please call 426-7697 to register for this program on or before November 25.

The Carolina Review: More Bid Rigging

More Bid Rigging ... Apparently, North Carolinians can look forward to another extended bout of bid rigging fever. This time, instead of highway contractors, it's the electrical contractors who seem to have found that collusion does wonders for free enterprise.

Last week, a Wilson County grand jury indicted nine electrical contracting firms and 10 executives on bid rigging charges. The charges stem from "competitive" bids made in 1978 on the East Carolina University Medical School.

The initial indictments included 42 counts against several of the largest electrical contractors in the state and two Georgia-based firms.

Two executives, of Watson Electrical Construction Co. in Wilson, have agreed to plead guilty as part of a plea bargaining agreement, according to Attorney General Rufus Edmisten. It seems the testimony by those two men will play a large role in the other indictments and in future indictments that might come later.

The Attorney General's office has hinted that more indictments could be in the works. Certainly, if this go-around turns out anything like the highway bid rigging, then revelations will be floating for at least a year.

The plea bargain agreement for the Watson Electrical Construction Co. will include 90-day active prison sentences for the two top executives of the firm, T. L. Watson, Jr., the chairman, and President William E. Boyette. The company has also agreed to pay the state \$1.1-million as part of the settlement and will not be allowed to bid on state projects for 30 days.

New Life ... The House-killed peanut support program was reincarnated last week through the mystic forces of a House-Senate conference committee. The se'ance leader was none other than North Carolina's Jesse Helms, who as chairman of the Senate Agricultural Committee, chaired the joint conference committee.

The conference committee was necessary because the House had voted overwhelmingly to

dismantle the program after the Senate had voted, the week before, to retain it.

Conference committees are supposed to come up with compromises when the two bodies cannot agree on a particular issue. But careful reading of the compromise bill suggests the support program came out very well — almost intact according to some.

Since there was so little compromise, however, there may be a contracted fight on the floor of the House later in the year. Some House members, foes of the program, have threatened to hold action on the entire farm bill if the peanut program is included.

The marvel of the whole thing is that the peanut program and the tobacco supports were in dire straights only a short while back. Now, tobacco seems to have survived its worst scare ever and peanut supports will probably make it through as well. Those two comebacks are not terribly dissimilar from the political rebound of Republican Helms.

As the tobacco and peanut programs caught heck initially in the Republican-controlled Senate, N. C. Democrats were more than ready to lay the blame at Helms' door. That wasn't surprising. What was surprising was the Helms' supporters in the tobacco industry who were beginning to believe the Democrats. Of course the Democrats cooled down when the programs caught the worst of things in the Democrat-controlled House. And the eastern farmers are back with Helms.

One thing is sure, the Democrats will now have to ditch the tobacco and peanut support programs as founding issues against Helms in 1984.



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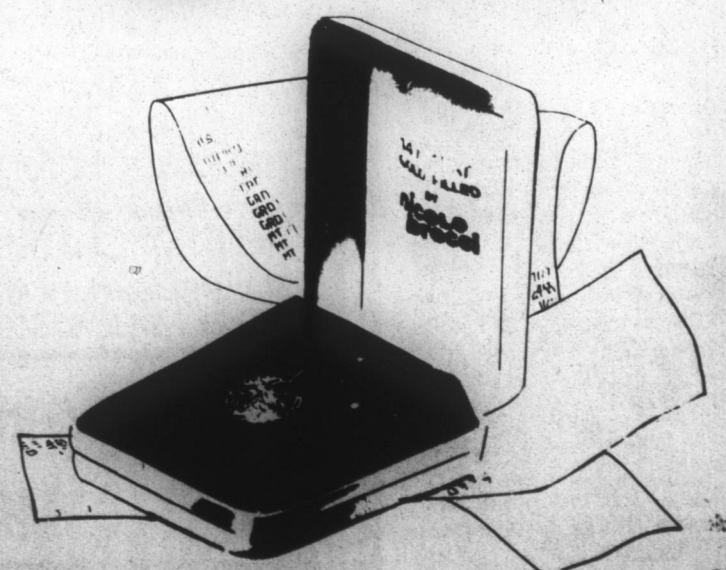
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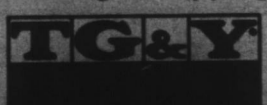
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