

Carolina Review

GREEN... With news of a "family get-together" a couple of weeks ago, rumors have been rampant that Lt. Gov. Jimmy Green will bow out of the 1984 governor's race.

The occasion that apparently prompted the spate of rumors occurred at Raleigh's Capitol City Club, a favorite watering hole for state politicians engaged in measuring the moments of political stars. Conferees with Green on his possible candidacy withdrawal (Green has been "in" the race since his 1980 reelection) included Senate heavies Ken Royal, Craig Lawing and Harold Harrison. The chief fundraisers in the 1980 campaign, Snow Holding of First Citizens Bank and Bill Henderson, a prominent land developer, were among those also present.

While some thought calling so many heavyweights in for a discussion was unusual, the meeting was actually in keeping with Green's practice of periodically calling in trusted advisors to talk over politics and possibilities. Such meetings are normal in the Green decision-making process. So was the news blackout of the affair since Green and his lieutenants feel strongly that most media personnel have something less than the lieutenant governor's best interests at heart when requesting information.

"Why give them (the media) the bullets - when they want the bullets to shoot Green with?" responded one strong supporter of the lieutenant governor.

Anyway, word did leak out about the meeting and at least one source has said that overall, the consensus at the gathering was "encouraging" concerning the 1984 gubernatorial campaign.

That squares with personal observations that the campaign is still "on."

Weldon Denny, a longtime political organizer for Democrats - especially in the farming sector - continues his work on the Jimmy Green Cabinet payroll. The Cabinet is Green's version of the political action committee and funds have been

solicited in recent months for its continued operation. Apparently the rumors of a withdrawal spread in state government circles with just the revelation of such a meeting of heavyweights being held. Informal conversations in Raleigh indicate a consensus opinion that Green's viability has been severely crippled with last year's news that he had accepted \$4,700 in a cash gift from a convicted bidigger.

So the withdrawal rumors might be a case of people putting two and two together and counting Green out. Those people assume any group of politically astute advisors would have suggested the lieutenant governor retire gracefully in 1984.

Privately, some of his former supporters have conceded that hope. But three elements keep Green in the race.

Most of all, Jimmy Green wants to be governor of North Carolina. Secondly, no one else has stepped in to fill the void caused by his (Green's) troubles. Supposed frontrunners Rufus Edmisten continues to have "image" problems, though he recently reported his campaign was "going great." Other Democratic possibilities have their own varied problems.

Finally, Green knows full well he doesn't have to make a conclusive decision on withdrawal now, two years before the race.

In other words, believe the withdrawal rumors only if Weldon Denny goes off the private payroll as Green's 1984 organizer and if Green buys a camping trailer for "roughing it" in retirement. At this writing, Green's office reports Denny is hard at work. And Green's idea of roughing it, by the way, is the Holiday Inn.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor: We have noticed many "Letters to the Editor" recently on the subject of potholes. Your own newspaper has probably printed some of these as well.

I'd like to take this opportunity to share with your readers some information about the condition of our highway system, how it got that way and what we're doing about it.

As your readers can tell, we are experiencing pavement failures (i.e., "potholes") across a large segment of our highway system.

The potholes of today were really "born" several winters ago as tiny cracks in the surface of the highway pavement. Over the years they have now reached "maturity" as full-blown potholes due to moisture seeping into those ever-growing cracks.

When this moisture freezes between layers of pavement, the ice expands and exerts heavy pressure on the pavement, causing it to break up. Traffic on top of this weakened pavement accelerates the damage to the roads.

The way to prevent the initial pavement cracks which result in potholes is to protect the road surface with a timely resurfacing or sealing program such that moisture can't get down through the pavement in the first place.

In the past, we have not had the funds to really do an adequate job of resurfacing. Last fiscal year (July 1, 1981 - June 30, 1982) we could only resurface about 380 miles of our 56,000-mile paved road system. We ought to be resurfacing about 2,600 miles a year to keep up with it.

Thanks to legislative approval of the "Governor's Good Roads Program", we'll have \$80-million to resurface about 2,900 miles this current fiscal year. By the end of this month, our Department will have let to contract approximately 2,875 miles of resurfacing at an estimated cost of \$78.3-million.

That resurfacing, over and above the 2,900 miles, will help us cut into the existing backlog of resurfacing needs and subsequently reduce future winter damage.

Right now our patch crews are making repairs to the roads as fast as possible. Because of the cold weather, some of these repairs are temporary and permanent repairs will be made as soon as the weather warms up.

Hot asphalt, required for making permanent repairs, is not available during the cold winter months. The permanent repair process also requires that damaged road surfaces be prepared by some excavation prior to the use of the hot asphalt. The temporary "cold patch" technique is being used now so we can quickly insure the safety of motorists.

Resurfacing work to protect our roads in the future will begin again in the spring as the temperatures permit this work to be done.

We in the Department of Transportation appreciate the concern, interest and patience by the motoring public regarding their highway system as we work to take care of existing damage as well as protect the system from future damage with our resurfacing program.

Regards, W. R. "Bill" Roberson, Jr. Sec. of Transportation

FBI Agents Concentrate On White Collar Crime

Despite considerable resources devoted to the reactive crimes (robberies, thefts, fugitives, etc.) within the FBI's jurisdiction, North Carolina FBI Agents in 1981 managed to concentrate much time and effort on their Number One target - white collar crime.

According to Bob Pence, special agent in charge of the FBI in North Carolina, this emphasis has begun to pay off. This past year FBI Agents working white collar cases recovered monies and goods amounting to nearly one-half million dollars and averted economic losses in other cases estimated at \$1.1-million. Pence stated that during 1981 FBI investigations in white collar crime resulted in 81 convictions, up from 56 in 1980.

While many of the convictions involved individuals (either employees or outsiders) who attempted to defraud or embezzle from North Carolina banks, hundreds of thousands of dollars in a myriad of schemes, Pence indicated this is not too unusual since Federal law requires banks to report all losses to the FBI "and we have virtually 100 per cent cooperation from banking institutions in this state."

What is more encouraging, states Pence, is the solution of cases involving public, union, or corporate funds in which some citizen, who was not necessarily required to, stepped forward and reported a white collar crime. As a result of FBI investigations in 1981, the former Director of the Burlington Housing Authority was convicted of accepting illegal kickbacks; an Iron Workers Union official in Durham was convicted of embezzling union funds; and the former President of the State AFL-CIO was convicted for misuse of Federal program (CETA) funds.

In other investigations two Charlotte attorneys were convicted in connection with abuse of Federal funds intended to renovate a Wilmington housing development and a third Charlotte attorney for

fraud while posing as a doctor and giving unauthorized physical examinations.

Pence stated that as a direct result of citizens becoming involved a Wisconsin man was convicted for defrauding a number of individuals in Greensboro and Winston-Salem of several hundred thousand dollars in an investment scheme and a Georgia carpet manufacturer for defrauding a High Point business of over \$700,000.

businessmen for fraudulent bankruptcies and the subsequent recovery of several thousands of dollars in merchandise.

"I think the ball has really started to roll," said Pence, "and when we reach the point that businesses and private citizens report the crimes as faithfully as the banks, we can indeed take a bite out of white collar crime."

In addition, with the troubled economic times has come a rash of bankruptcies throughout North Carolina. FBI investigations this past year have resulted in convictions of three Charlotte

New Computerized Telephone Service

RALEIGH - The North Carolina Department of Human Resources has initiated a new computerized telephone service for people who require certificates of vital personal documents within a limited period of time.

The Vital Records Branch of the Division of Health Services is utilizing modern technology to implement a faster, more convenient, and relatively inexpensive system to enable citizens to call a toll-free number and order a certificate of birth, death, marriage, or divorce, and charge all costs to their MASTER or VISA cards.

According to Ed Warren, Head of the Vital Records Branch, "Western Union operates a national toll-free telephone number, verifies the callers identity, and then transmits the certificate request to our computer terminal. We will process and mail the certificate or an appropriate response the same day the message is received. Under

the new system, the certificate can be in the mail within two hours from the time the call is made."

The total cost for the new express service is \$9. Until now only mail service was available, through the Postal Service and Western Union, at an average cost of \$21. A routine certificate request processes through the mail can take between

four to ten days depending on volume. In 1981, the Vital Records Branch issued 95,000 certificates to the general public. People who prefer to pay cash rather than using the telephone credit card system may request their certificate in person at any local Western Union office, at a slightly higher rate of \$13.95.

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Congressional Club To Hold Barbecue

The National Congressional Club will sponsor a Dinner in Raleigh, NC on March 20. The Dinner will be held in the Graham Building at the NC State Fairgrounds. Featured speakers for the evening will include Club Honorary Cochairman U. S. Senators Jesse Helms and John East. Tickets for the barbecue

dinner are \$5 per person, \$1 per student. Tickets are available by writing The National Congressional Club, P.O. Box 18848, Raleigh, N.C. 27619 or by calling the Club at (919) 782-5700.

R. E. Carter Wrenn, Club Exec. Director said the "dinner will be the first of the year and is expected to be a very exciting occasion."

Helms, Chairman of the important Senate Agriculture Committee; and East, regarded by his colleagues as the "brightest man in the Senate", will be joined on the program by Former Polish Ambassador Zdzislaw Rurarz. Rurarz was Polish Ambassador to Japan and came to the U.S. after the Polish

government declared martial law in December. The National Congressional Club is one of America's most active and influential conservative political organizations. With over 300,000 members from all around America, it was a more successful fundraiser in 1981 than the Democratic National Committee.

The National Congressional Club conducted major TV and direct mail campaigns in 1981 to support President Reagan's budget and tax cuts, on behalf of Senator Jesse Helms' cuts in the Food Stamp program, on behalf of restoring voluntary school prayer and opposing the 33 per cent gas tax increase in North Carolina.

In 1982 the Congressional Club's major objective is to elect conservatives to Congress and the U. S. Senate.

Crisis Intervention

GREENVILLE - Social workers, clergy, criminal justice professionals and lay persons who work in the field of human services are invited to enroll in two courses to be offered by the East Carolina University Department of Social Work and Correctional Services this summer.

They are "Crisis Intervention (SOCW 4002) and "Processes of Group Intervention" (SOCW 5003). Each meets daily from June 22 to July 29.

"Crisis Intervention" is a generic approach to recognizing, understanding and intervening appropriately in crisis situations. The group intervention class will involve methods of effective working with groups. Four theoretical approaches will be examined with emphasis on group constellation, group dynamics and group process.

Further information about these and other social work and correctional services classes is available from the Department of Social Work and Correctional Services, School of Allied Health and Social Professions, telephone 757-9861.

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