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THE Northampton County TIMES-NEWS

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Covers All of Northampton's
Towns and Communities

16 PAGES



Old Lasker School

Lasker School Building Bought By Private School Organization

LASKER — The Lasker school building has served the people of the Lasker area long and true—first as a house of education

and then as a community center. Now it is scheduled to return to its old duties of sheltering youngsters of Northampton County as they engage in the efforts involved in obtaining an education.

Final sale of the building was concluded last week and the Northeast Development Corporation took over ownership from three Lasker churches—Lasker Methodist, New Hope Methodist and Lasker Baptist.

The development group represents the Northeast Academy, a Christian School, Inc., which is planning to open a 12-grade school next fall.

To the \$3,500 received from Northeast Development, the churches plan to add additional funds to be used for construction of a new and more practical community house, according to Millard Lassiter, Lassiter is chairman of the citizens committee appointed by the churches to handle the sale of the school building (See SCHOOL, Page 5)

Dedicated At M'ville Post Office

MARGARETTSVILLE — A crowd estimated at over 200 was in attendance Sunday for dedication ceremonies at the Margarettsville Post Office.

Area postal and public officials were among the large crowd that gathered to hear the dedication address by U. S. Congressman L. H. Fountain of the second district and Walter B. Jones of the first congressional district.

Mrs. Mildred T. Pritchard who is postmaster of the new postal facilities which have been in operation 11 months, J. W. Winburn, postal service officer and Mrs. Geraldine W. Vaughan, post office clerk, also addressed the large gathering.

In other phases of the dedication ceremonies, Fountain presented Mrs. Pritchard who has served as Margarettsville postmaster for 13 years, with a United States flag which previously flew over the White House.

Five National Guardsmen from Fort Bragg conducted the flag raising ceremonies.

Master of ceremonies for the affair was Millard N. Carpenter Jr., a local rural carrier. (See POST OFFICE, Page 5)

Election Returns

RICH SQUARE—The Times-News will have a reporter in the office of Northampton County Democratic Chairman Russell Johnson Saturday night. For returns as they are tabulated visit the Times-News office or call LE 9-2859.

-For Clerk Of Superior Court- Voter Turnout For Runoff Primary Is Anyone's Guess

CONWAY — The voter turnout for Saturday's runoff Democratic Primary to elect a clerk for Northampton County Superior Court will either be much higher than in the first primary or much lower, depending on to whom you are talking.

Many county Democrats see a large number of voters casting their ballots while others feel that the fact that only two men and one office are involved that many will neglect to visit the polls.

R. Jennings White, who was the top vote getter in the May 28 primary, was challenged to the runoff election by James E. Boone, a Jackson Negro filling station operator.

White, a Conway fertilizer firm employee, received 2,430 votes to outdistance Boone by 84 votes. Polls for Saturday's vote will open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 6:30 p.m.

Counters and judges for each precinct will be the same as in the first primary.

Although only one office is at stake, those who feel a large number will turn out for the primary base their theory on the fact that one candidate is white and the other Negro.

In the first primary many felt that Boone and C. Melvin Creecy, a Negro candidate for the House of Representatives, would receive a "black vote" from county Negroes.

While Creecy did poll 2,605 votes, the exact number of Ne-

groes who voted, Boone fell short, receiving only 2,344. Had he received all the Negro

vote, he would have beaten White and made it necessary for White to call for the runoff.

Many speculators feel that White pulled in a majority of (See TURNOUT, Page 5)



James E. Boone

Jennings White

Fighters Make Up; Fined Court Costs

JACKSON — Fighters who made friends of their foes outside the courtroom were given 30-day suspended sentences and made to pay court costs in Northampton

County Recorder's Court Wednesday.

Ryland Harrison, 30, and Leroy Vaughan, 67, both of Woodland, were both charged with assault with a deadly weapon after a fight Saturday night in which each man received minor cuts.

The two men told the court that "everything is all right now" and were heard to say that it was "just a friendly fight."

In another "right and make-up" case, Josie May Jordan of Margarettsville had a charge of assault upon a female not pressed when the alleged victim told the court she didn't know why she swore out the warrant.

The remaining court docket consisted of traffic violations with several out-of-county speeders facing the judge.

Other cases heard include: Dossie Runson of Garysburg, speeding 60 in 45 mph zone, \$10 and court costs.

Michael Andrew Aston, 18, of Milwaukee, speeding 70 in 60 mph zone, court costs.

Edward Lee McKay, 20, of Lillington, speeding 60 in 45 mph zone, capias issued when defendant did not appear in court.

Peter L. Bell, 28, speeding 70 in 60 mph zone, \$10 and court costs.

Charles Walter Massey, 47, of Portsmouth, speeding 50 in 35 mph zone, court costs.

Louis V. Garbo, 55, of Sullivan, S. C., speeding 70 in 60 mph zone, court costs.

Edwin Eugene Frazier, 38, of Raleigh, speeding 50 in 35 mph zone, cost of court.

Charles Johnson, 33, of Pendleton, driving without due caution, \$10 and court costs. (See FIGHTERS, Page 5)

Research Promotion Act Backed

ROANOKE RAPIDS — Leading cotton growers from Halifax, Hertford and Northampton Counties have voted unanimously to endorse the Cotton Research and Promotion Act (HR-12422).

The Act would provide a mechanism through which farmers could establish a uniform, but voluntary, assessment of \$1 a bale for research and promotion. The Bill has passed the U. S. House of Representatives and the Senate.

The program would be activated, however, only if approved by cotton farmers voting in a nationwide referendum. Producer leaders at the meeting pledged their efforts in securing approval by farmers in the referendum.

The purpose of the Act is to enable hundreds of thousands of cotton farmers to combine their resources so that they can compete with a few large producers of synthetic fibers who have been capturing textile markets at the expense of cotton. Unless cotton can make a comeback, it faces further acreage cuts in addition to the 30 per cent cut in effect this year.

The growers' action came at a meeting in Gaston called by Wiley Long Jr. of Garysburg, a delegate to the National Cotton Council, and E. Hervey Evans Jr. of Laurinburg, chairman, North Carolina Steering Committee of Cotton Producers Institute. They described cotton's present situation as "critical" and said the Research and Promotion Act is "the only positive, practical proposal" for overcoming it.

Details of cotton's problem and the operation of the Act were presented by producer leaders and by National Cotton Council representative B. J. Linder of Laurinburg.

The heart of cotton's problem, (See RESEARCHERS, Page 5)

Chuckle

LAST WORD

She was sixteen; he was seventeen, and the parents were opposed to the wedding. When the minister asked the youthful bridegroom to repeat after him, "with all my worldly goods, I thee endow," the boy's mother nudged her husband and snapped, "There goes his motor scooter!"

FWC Selects F. Newsome As President

CONCORD — Mrs. Fannie T. Newsome of Rich Square has been elected president of the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs.

She was elected to the post at the group's 57th annual convention held at Barber-Scotia College at Concord.

A graduate of Hampton Institute, Mrs. Newsome is librarian of the P. A. Bishop Memorial Public Library at Rich Square.

She is editor of the Federation Journal (a monthly publication of the organization), president of the Flower and Art Club, secretary of the Book Club, and BTU leader in her church.

Among Mrs. Newsome's contributions to the county is the organization of the Girl Scout troop and "Y Teen" Girl's Club. Recently she was honored by being invited and accompanying the wife of Governor Dan Moore on her "Sight and Scenes Tour" of North Carolina.

Projects spearheaded by the new president include the donation of \$500 to support a braille magazine for the blind and publication of the state journal.

Independents Meet Friday

JACKSON — The Northampton County Independents Club will meet Friday night at 8 p.m. in the firehouse at Jackson.

According to a spokesman for the organization, the purpose of the meeting is to encourage county citizens to vote in Saturday's election.

The group also announced that meetings will be held on a monthly basis after Friday night. A meeting night will be set Friday.



COMMANDER'S CONCEPT—Capt. C. T. Draper (right) of Jackson, commander of B Company, 4th Battalion, 119th Infantry, explains his operations plan for a 24-hour tactical exercise conducted during annual National Guard training at Fort Bragg. The training period which ended Sunday found B Company, made up of

the Woodland and Roanoke Rapids guard units, in superior condition according to regular army judges. Looking on here are (left) Maj. Frank Tallant, Army advisor of Ahoakie; and Capt. Aubrey Harrell, Windsor, an umpire for the training test. Captain Draper is Jackson postmaster.

-Reflects Industrial Development Need-

Welfare-Northampton's Biggest Business

By BOB FRINK

JACKSON — The \$971,957 1966-67 fiscal year budget request now being considered by the Northampton County Board of Commissioners for the welfare department greatly magnifies the need for an active and effective industrial development program.

Compared with the 1965-66 welfare department budget, the proposal represents a \$320,206, -03 increase.

Combine the budget figure and other welfare connected commodities such as food stamps and medical and dental aid and welfare is possibly and probably the county's biggest "business."

It is the American way to take care of poverty stricken families and hungry children but the thing that shocks most development-conscious Northamptonians is that the welfare problem is an ever increasing one which has no end in sight.

In many cases it is not that a man or woman won't work to take care of his family but instead his inefficiency is centered around his inability to acquire employment to sufficiently support his family.

Only a little over one-third or about \$392,448.43 of the total welfare budget is paid by the county. This is no less a reflection on many Northamptonians' ability to take care of themselves.

There are currently 12 persons employed in the welfare department. Director Mrs. Janet Brown is asking for one more. In 1965-66 it cost \$81,978 to operate the welfare office and pay the salaries of the employees. Ninety-four thousand, two hundred twenty-five dollars is set aside in the proposed budget for 1966-67.

The case load of the department varies slightly but usually runs a little over 700. Currently the case load is 725, which includes 20 elderly persons displaced by the closing of the county home.

In May the welfare department paid out in direct financial assistance \$32,579.60. This is considered an average month which means that the yearly "pay roll" runs about \$395,000.

Mrs. Brown indicates that the case load of the department has not increased over the past few years, and that it has not de-

creased. In 1963, 668 families were receiving welfare aid.

While the number of cases handled has not increased, the number of benefits available has grown to enable families to live better.

Food stamps are expected to provide Northamptonians with an estimated \$186,564 a year in free or bonus food.

The food stamp program was started with a two fold purpose. To relieve the national stockpile of surplus food and to enable low-income and welfare income families to eat better.

In May 31 families or 2,037 persons benefited from food stamps.

To buy food stamps at the bank, a person must have an income of less than \$85 per month.

When buying food stamps a person pays for an established number and then receives a bonus.

For example a family of five with an \$80 per month income receives \$38 in free stamps when it buys and pays for \$36 worth. In other words it receives \$74 worth of food for \$36.

Medical aid to regular welfare

"customers" and others in the county who might be caught in a pinch includes hospital care, payment for medical prescriptions and dental work.

The defined services phase of welfare work deals with cases which need intensified help in working toward rehabilitation.

The county welfare department has a full-time child welfare worker who works in all phases of welfare aid and counsel dealing with minors.

Aid to families with dependent children represents a large portion of work conducted by the welfare department.

In some cases illegitimacy is the reason for financial aid being needed. Most often, however, according to Mrs. Brown, desperation is the cause of a mother needing help.

Urging mothers of illegitimate children and mothers with too many children for practical support, to attend planned family training clinics is one way the welfare department is helping to curb the burden placed on the pocketbook by families with too much family for too little income.

Family planning clinics, sterilization and other birth control methods will no doubt have an effect on the number of welfare cases stemming from illegitimacy in the future.

However, the county problem reflected by the large number of welfare aid provided in the county, will not be solved by limiting birth.

And it seems doubtful that the welfare payroll book will get any relief in the next few years. In fact most experts feel that it will get thicker as the need for farm labor decreases, exhausting the county's prime source of employment.

In hopes of enhancing our insight of the welfare program and the families benefiting from its services, "Your Home Newspaper" sought out and discussed the problem with several welfare aid families.

On a visit to a Negro home outside Jackson a 20-year-old mother of three was found.

The mother, who has never been married admitted freely to having given birth to the three children.

She is on welfare. Her mother has also never been married and lived on welfare exclusively up until two years ago when she, after raising two children, acquired employment in a restaurant.

When asked about her feelings toward being a welfare case and having her children raised as illegitimates, the girl revealed embarrassment and admitted that she had "no choice."

"Nobody'll marry up with a girl with three children," so the young woman says she has to depend on welfare. Industrial development probably would not help her.

In Conway a man who just might benefit from development was approached on the matter of his receiving welfare payments.

He acknowledged the fact that "I ain't got no education," and then spoke of his many days of sickness.

The man who looked to be in his mid-forties commented that he was not able to work in the fields and that the few minor jobs he could do he was afraid to take because "I might lose my check."

Many welfare cases are the results of broken homes, sickness, old age or other acceptable reasons.

However, the welfare case load is expected to go up by leaps and bounds in the next decade.

There will be fewer and fewer jobs on the farm and men will find it difficult to get even seasonal work.

The welfare budget will go up, self respect and contribution to the betterment of the county will go down.

All Northampton County will suffer.

As we said a creative industrial program is needed.

Technical training schools and all the trimmings which go to make an industrious and prosperous county are needed.

As many county leaders have indicated, Northampton County is 20 years behind in industrial development.

It would not be smart to wait another 20 years to get things rolling. The time to act is now.