

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 34, No. 41

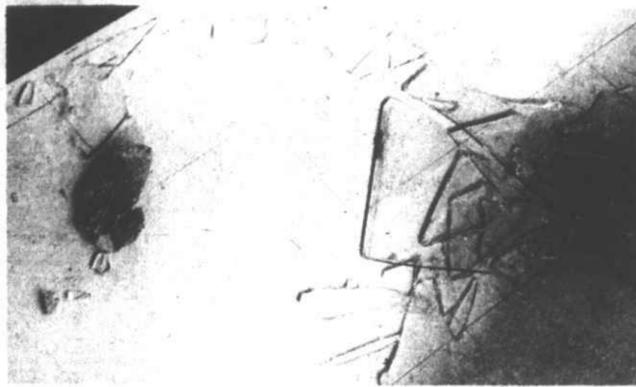
Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, October 12, 1978

15 CENTS



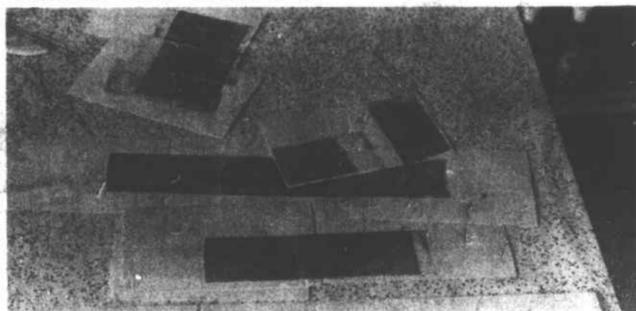
**INVESTIGATING BREAK-IN** — Three officers with the Hertford Police Department are shown taking fingerprints Thursday morning after a break-in at Scotties Store was

reported. Shown in the foreground is the broken window in the front of the store. An arrest in the case was made Friday.



**FOUND AT THE SCENE** — Pictured above amidst shattered glass is a piece of concrete which was apparently used, according to

police, to break into Scotties Store at Harris Shopping Center during the early morning hours Thursday.



**LEFT BEHIND** — Aiding the local police in finding the person they believe was responsible for the

break-in were some "good" fingerprints, samples of which are shown above.

## One arrested after break-in

Text & Photos  
By KATHY M. NEWBERN

HERTFORD — One man has been arrested in connection with a break-in Wednesday morning at Scotties Store, located at the Harris Shopping Center here. The arrest came Thursday around 10 p.m.

Charged in the break-in is Tommy Allen Whitehurst, 21, 310 Covert Garden, Hertford. The arrested man was taken before Magistrate Dilbon Young and remains in Tri-County Jail under \$3,000 bond. He made a first appearance Saturday before a district court judge in Elizabeth City, and the tentative date for a probable cause hearing is Oct. 11.

The break-in reportedly occurred in the early morning hours and was later discovered by the owner of a next-door business who was opening for the day. She then reported it to the Hertford Police Department.

Wednesday, at the scene, one large plate-glass window at the front of the store had been shattered and marks were found on the business's front door, evidence, according to

the police, of an unsuccessful attempt to enter there.

A large piece of concrete lay on the floor in the midst of broken glass, apparently used to shatter the window for entry, police said.

Hertford Police Chief Marshall Merritt reported approximately \$700 of merchandise was taken, mainly cigarettes and watches. No money was taken during the break-in since the cash register had been emptied at closing the afternoon before.

Part of the stolen merchandise was recovered at the time of the arrest, but police officials are continuing their investigation to uncover the remaining items. Participating in the investigation and arrest, in addition to Chief Merritt, were officers Robert K. Morris, James C. Boyce Sr., and James R. Logan.

A police spokesman said other suspects in the case were eliminated as the result of Thursday's arrest.

The break-in at Scotties was the second to occur in about a one-year period. During the first, entry was obtained through a bathroom window.



**INCUMBENTS REELECTED** — The highlight of Albemarle Electric's annual meeting was election of members to the Board of Directors.

Three seats were involved and following tabulation of the voting, the three incumbents were determined winners. Shown above, l. to r.,

the reelected directors are L.A. Harris Jr., Joseph A. Wiggins and Archie T. Lane Sr.

## Funding includes ESC program

RALEIGH — More than \$30 million has been awarded for employment and training programs under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA), according to a recent announcement by Secretary Howard N. Lee of the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.

Among the programs funded was several offerings by the Employment Security Commission serving Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell, Washington, Chowan, Gates, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Camden and Currituck counties. That agency was awarded \$146,300 for its class-size training program; \$60,000 for its on-the-job training program; and

\$450,781 for adult work experience and youth work experience.

The funds, administered by the Division of Continuing Employment, are designed to provide young people and adults work experience and job training. Classroom or on-the-job training is available, depending on local operator resources.

Under Title I of the law, youth programs are aimed at potential dropouts or unemployed dropouts who are economically disadvantaged. Young people are given jobs, counseling and career education as encouragement to finish high school. Unemployed and economically disadvantaged adults

are provided jobs and a chance to complete or improve their education and occupational skills.

Title I programs are meant to increase the employability of CETA participants and prepare them for the labor market.

The Division of Community Employment, an agency of the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, administers CETA funds in 87 counties. It is also responsible for statewide planning and policy development of employment and training programs. Last year, the division administered \$74.75 million in CETA funds for programs in which 52,309 participants were enrolled.

## Elections highlight EMC annual meeting

Text & Photos  
By KATHY M. NEWBERN

HERTFORD — Members of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation, headquartered here, showed up Saturday to take care of "their business" as the co-op held its annual meeting at Perquimans High School.

The highlight of the meeting was voting by the membership which resulted in the return of three incumbents to their seats on AEMC's Board of Directors. Reelected were Joseph A. Wiggins of Tyner for District 2 (Chowan County); L.A. Harris Jr. of Rt. 4, Elizabeth City for District 3 (Pasquotank County); and A.T. Lane Sr. of Rt. 1, Hertford for District 4 (Perquimans County).

During the meeting, Ed Brown Jr., general manager of the cooperative, made comments regarding the VEPCO's retail rate increase which went into effect Sept. 1 and related that to wholesale power increases which affect members since Albemarle EMC purchases wholesale power from VEPCO.

The general manager explained that state officials have no direct control over wholesale rates since these are approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Washington, D.C. which is composed of five commissioners appointed by the President. He said, "Any action that any group takes on holding down VEPCO's retail rates has absolutely nothing to do with the rates

you members pay. But the wholesale rates, approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Washington, D.C., determines wholesale rates."

Brown also quoted a letter he had sent to State Senator Melvin Daniels who has taken a stance against VEPCO rate hikes.

In that letter and at the meeting, Brown pointed out that six cooperatives, including Albemarle EMC, serve some 50,000 consumers in the state. Sixteen municipalities also purchase power either directly or indirectly from VEPCO and serve 62,000 consumers. That puts the total at 112,000 consumers affected by VEPCO's wholesale rate policies compared to some 68,000 affected by the company's retail rates, Brown stated.

Albemarle EMC and other wholesale customers received an 11.3 percent wholesale increase last Nov. 28, ten months ago. Comparatively, Brown said, "Now, VEPCO has filed another rate increase of 20 percent, or \$18 million for electric cooperatives and a similar increase for municipalities, both of which went into effect Sept. 30."

He continued, "Presently, VEPCO's average wholesale charge to co-op customers is about 3.2 cents per kilowatt hour, soon to become 3.6 cents per kwh. Carolina Power and Light Company, by comparison, is charging its customers some 2.7 cents per kwh, and Duke Power

Company is charging wholesale customers roughly 2.0 cents per kwh — differences of 33 percent and 80 percent respectively."

Brown assured members that while problems in the area of holding electric costs down are still real, members of the local and state electric cooperatives are "active and trying to do things" to prevent further increases at present.

In other matters, Brown reported that the co-op's Board has approved a general return of capital credits to members from 1963-64 of \$49,405 and almost \$14,000 to be returned to estates of deceased members. He predicted those return checks would be in the mail by mid-November.

Also making brief comments before the assembled membership were Representative Vernon James and James M. Hubbard, an official with the state organization of electric cooperatives.

**In honor of Fire Prevention Week, local fire departments encourage you to have a practice fire drill with your family; know and post the fire emergency number near your telephone.**

## Stevenson named Key Banker

To coordinate the agricultural activities of the N.C. Bankers Association in this area, R.L. Stevenson has been named County Key Banker for Perquimans County.

NCBA President H.L. Ruth Jr. has announced that Stevenson will serve as County Key Banker during the

next 12 months. He is Executive Vice President of Peoples Bank & Trust Co. in Hertford.

Ruth, who is senior vice president of Southern National Bank of North Carolina, Lumberton, called attention to the projects that are sponsored by the association such as the

Agricultural Credit Conference, the Short Course in Modern Farming at N.C. State University for young farmers who are provided scholarships given by their home community banks, and the co-sponsorship of the FFA Land Judging Meet in the interest of soil conservation.



**GRAND OPENING** — A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Friday at the Kloth Kupboard, Hertford's newest business, located on Church Street Extended. Pictured above at

the grand opening are (l. to r.) Delsie Ward and Gloria Copeland, employees; Trudy Bass, owner-operator; Douglas Layden, president of the Perquimans County

Chamber of Commerce; and Bill Cox, Hertford Mayor. More details appear on page 2. (Staff photo by Kathy M. Newbern)