

# PERSPECTIVE

## Albemarle County abolished in 1739

In 1689 the County of Albemarle lost the character of an independent state and became merely an administrative subdivision of northern Carolina.



Although it retained its own particular court for a few years, the County of Albemarle soon lost most of its special distinctions and remained an intermediate territorial division not unlike today's alphabetical regions. This second phase of Albemarle history lasted until 1739.

The County of Albemarle was abolished in 1739, and it is from this time that the customary modern usage of the word "county" dates. Each of the old precincts into which Albemarle had been divided then became a county itself.

In the third phase of its history, Albemarle had no official status, but it has continued as an inclusive name for northeastern North Carolina and a convenient means of referring to its several communities collectively.

In a variety of orders, instructions and constitutions the Lords Proprietors set forth their vision of what the County of Albemarle should be.

Of particular importance in (Part 3 next week.)

that vision was the elaborate and lengthy plan of governmental and societal organization known as the Fundamental Constitutions of Grand Model, first put forward in 1669.

The County of Albemarle was intended to be a separate territorial unit within the province of Carolina. It was to have its own governor, legislature and public officials, operating within its own system of law and administration.

It was to be inhabited by loyal and industrious persons acceptable to the Proprietors and obedient to their authority. The people were to settle along waterways, clustered together for ready defense.

The basic landholding was initially conceived as a narrow plot 66 feet by 6600 feet, laid out neatly.

Proprietary society was to be well ordered in specific ranks, with hereditary nobles called landgraves and caciques possessing vast baronies over which they exercised magisterial authority.

The Church of England was to be preferred, although dissenters could be allowed some freedom of worship within limits set at the Proprietors' discretion. Comprehensive records were to be kept, including the vital statistics of every Carolinian.

Lastly, the Proprietors were to attain great honor as heads of government and fountains of privilege, and not least as recipients of wealth from the resources and taxpayers of their land.

## Customers more concerned with power cost than with suppliers

"This is not gimmickry or imagery."

**Point of View**  
by: **BILL NIXON**

With this comment, T. Justin Moore Jr., chairman of the board of Dominion Resources (Vepco) announced that operations in North Carolina would no longer be the familiar Vepco, but rather, North Carolina Power. According to Moore, the new name will make Vepco's services in this state closer to its customers.

For the nearly 80,000 customers served by North Carolina Power, a change in name will have very little impact on a belief that power charges are often too high.

Whether it's Vepco, North Carolina Power, REA or whatever, consumers are more concerned with the cost of power than the name of the supplier at the top of the bill.

Over the past few years, after thousands of complaints from consumers, Vepco has made improvements in its operations. Honest efforts have been made to keep the cost of electricity down.

Vepco officials have taken a very active role in promoting development in the 22 counties served in North Carolina by working closely with local economic development officials. They have attempted to show they are and can be good neighbors.

Much of northeastern North Carolina has been shadowed by Tidewater Virginia for years, so many will welcome the new name. Paying North Carolina Power will help remove the image of being taken by a Virginia corporation. It's a good move on the part of Vepco.

North Carolina residents will

reserve judgement on the new name. Our main concern is to be supplied with an ample supply of power at a price that doesn't cause an undue hardship. If North Carolina Power will do that, they will be assured a warm welcome in the state.

The importance of a reliable source of power to the future of our part of the state cannot be discounted. In order to secure industry and business, this source of power must be willing to work with individual communities. Vepco, as noted earlier, has indicated a willingness and a desire to be a part of the economic development of our state. They realize they will benefit from future growth.

Vepco's policy of frequent rate increases and its history of improper management in past years has left many North Carolina consumers with a bad taste.

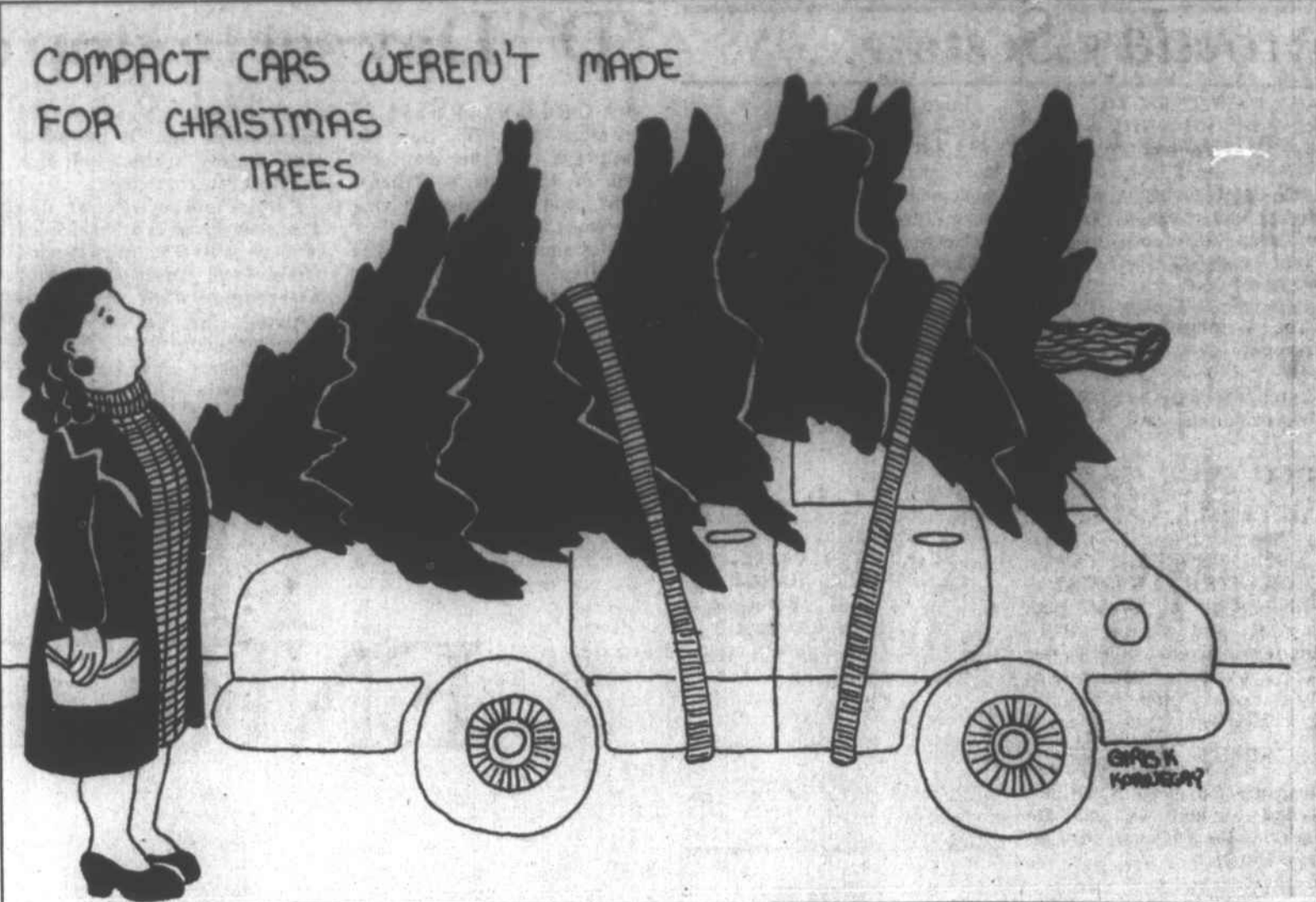
North Carolina Power, by using sound business procedures, and with continued involvement in the development of industry, will convince Tarheel citizens that they are indeed a North Carolina neighbor.

The introduction of North Carolina Power was made at a recent gathering of political and business leaders in Williamston. The caucus was sponsored by Martin County's Economic Development Office and North Carolina Power.

While addressing this gathering, Mr. Moore promised North Carolina Power's support of development. Moore was supported by favorable comments from Governor-elect Jim Martin, Lt. Governor-elect Bob Jordan, and others.

And they all agreed with the familiar themes of better transportation, quality education, funding for water and sewer systems and extended health care.

Rapid development of northeastern North Carolina will not occur overnight. We can, however, hope for a brighter future for our area with the full support of folks like those of North Carolina Power.



## Early holiday preparations cause stress

Christmas is coming! Fast! Like it or not it's only 11 days away, and that doesn't leave much time for procrastination. If you haven't already gotten started on your holiday preparations it's high time you did.



I've been reading a lot of columns in area newspapers about holiday preparations, and one thing that keeps popping up is the topic of stress.

They're saying that people who put off their household preparations like cooking and cleaning and decorating for the holidays, and their shopping, are prone to have anxiety attacks during the holidays.

That's news to me. I'm a Christmas Eve shopper, and housecleaner, and baker. I have always waited until the last minute for Christmas preparations, until this year. I never realized the amount of

undue stress that I was causing myself.

After all the materials that have been printed, I decided that I'd better get on the ball. I started by taking a few vacation days right after Thanksgiving. I had really big plans that included getting my house clean, (windows and all) decorated and doing my holiday baking. I was also planning to finish up my Christmas shopping.

I got my house decorated. (I hope that the windows don't show at night when the candles are lit.)

I honestly did try to finish my shopping, but I just couldn't get into the swing of things. Everybody else in the world was trying to do the same thing, and I just couldn't fight the crowds. At least I know that the stores won't be full on Christmas Eve because everybody else went shopping the week-end after Thanksgiving.

So far as the baking went, I did manage to bake a batch of brownies that were devoured before bedtime, so I figured it was a losing battle and gave up.

Housecleaning is always a losing battle, as well as a thankless task. I hit the high spots and gave it up.

By the end of my short

"vacation" I was exhausted. Talk about stress. I'm still reprimanding myself about the things I should have done, but didn't get around to.

Planning ahead may be okay for some people, but it's surely not for me. Next year I'll wait until Christmas Eve to get it all done. That way I won't have to worry about when I'm going to do it, or whether it even gets done. When you wait that late, either it does or it doesn't. I'll take my stress in a one-day lump, thank-you.

Merry Christmas!

Just in case you haven't heard, the bakery adjacent to The Gingerbread Inn on Church Street opened last week, and the food is fantastic!

Hans and Jenny Harnisch, the

proprietors of the inn and bakery, are relative newcomers into the community; and are, both delightful people. Their opening last week brought a crowd of well-wishers and hungry customers to the new business which is indeed an asset to this community.

The bakery is an excellent stop after a long day of shopping, just to sit back and enjoy a cup of coffee and "home-baked" treats. It's also an excellent place to pick up unique gifts for relatives and friends.

Congratulations to Richard Thach, Teton Reid, Kenny Perry, Virgil Whitehurst, and Marlow Ferebee! Each of these fine, young athletes have been selected to the Albemarle All-Conference Team in football for 1984.

## Looking back

20 Years Ago  
By VIRGINIA WHITE  
TRANSEAU  
MRS. ELLIOTT BAGS  
FOUR-POINT DEER: Mrs. Freeland Elliott, the former Edna Baker, her husband, Freeland, Haywood Smith and

Roy Lane went on a deer hunt in Dare County last week and Mrs. Elliott bagged a four-point buck.

This was Mrs. Elliott's second deer trip, she and her husband having been only once before this season.

PVT. MACK NIXON COMPLETES COURSE: Pvt. Mack E. Nixon, 18, son of Mrs. Elizabeth U. Nixon, Route 1, Hertford, completed an artillery survey course at the Army Artillery and Missile Center, Fort Sill, Okla.

Duyring the course Nixon received instruction in the use and care of surveying Equipment, map reading and communications procedures. He entered the Army last July and competed basic training at Fort Jackson, S. C.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS BEING INSTALLED: Christmas decorations are being placed along the streets of the business section of Hertford for the holiday season. The lights will be turned on as soon as installation is completed.

## Other Views

### Balancing the budget

By JOHN SLEDGE  
N. C. Farm Bureau  
Federation

One of the issues that died when the 98th Congress closed the doors and went home was the Constitutional Amendment to balance the federal budget.

It was just too controversial for our politicians to touch right before the elections. Besides, if lawmakers had voted to convene a Constitutional Convention to settle the issue, some of their power to throw money around could have been taken away.

It's hard to find anybody who thinks the government is spending our tax money wisely. And it's hard to find a citizen who

feels the government has to operate so deeply in the red.

It's a matter of public record that the folks running this country haven't been willing or able to bring responsibility to the nation's ledger sheets on their own.

It seems that the politicians don't want to balance the budget because they enjoy living beyond their means and those of the taxpayers. So we need a law forcing them to do it, and what better legal document is there than the U. S. Constitution.

There were no laws passed in 1984 that would force Congress to cut the red ink. People in several states weren't even allowed to

state their opinion in the November elections whether they thought the Constitutional Amendment route was the way to go.

And the flood of red ink will pour right on through 1985 and future years unless we tell the people we send to Washington that we want it stopped and how we want it stopped.

A Constitutional Amendment would stop the government from competing with taxpayers for money and would help restore the nation's productivity.

## Letter to the Editor

Editor,  
The Perquimans Weekly

We, the Perquimans County Future Farmers, would like to bring to the attention of the community the fact that no organization at Perquimans County High School, other than the band, may take on a fund-raising campaign that involves selling on a door to door basis.

Because of this rule, it is very difficult for us to obtain the necessary funds that we need to buy materials for our wood and welding shops.

If one organization at the school is allowed to sell door to door, why aren't the others also

allowed to do this?

Please understand that we are not only interested in our organization but are also interested in the many other organizations in the school.

We hope that you will help us obtain our goal, which is to have equal chances to raise the money that we really need.

Perquimans County  
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