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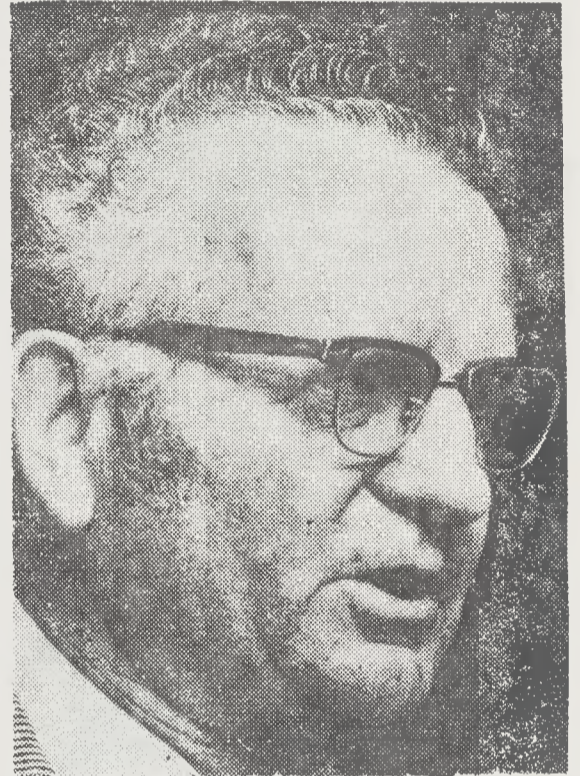
## Election Mandates Major Changes

Tuesday's Durham election may be a mandate for change in city priorities. "The overall results represent a return of city hall to the people and away from the domination of what generally is characterized as the downtown establishment," said council member-elect Wade Penny, the top vote-getter Tuesday. Penny, a Durham businessman and former state legislator, swamped incumbent Leslie Atkins by a three to one margin in the Ward 4 race. He got 74 per cent of the vote. Penny is expected to play a major role in reshaping the direction of the council. "He's known as a progressive man who likes to get all the information out on the table, argue the pros and cons, and come to a decision," said one political observer.

"We saw the election more as a referendum on city priorities than a vote on any personality," said Dub Gulley of Carolina Action. "The old council's position on several major issues—improving downtown, building a third parking garage — was seen as neglecting human services and needs, and turned out to be not what the people wanted. New public priorities will be set."

Also elected were incumbents A. Carroll Pledger in Ward 2 and Don Christian in Ward 6 and incumbents John Martin and C.E. Boulware and political newcomer Isabelle Budd, at large. Boulware and Penny will be counted on to join Margaret Keller and Ralph Hunt to form the basis for a possible 6-6 liberal/conservative split on the council. For this to happen Ms. Budd or Martin will have to join with Cavin on the liberal side. And if it does, the deciding vote may rest with Cavin's successor in the Ward 5 (West Durham) seat. Cavin buried incumbent Mayor James Hawkins, receiving 68 per cent of the vote. Two years remain in Cavin's council seat. Cavin carried 27 of 29 city precincts.

As one of its first orders of business when the new council takes over will be the selection of Cavin's successor. Normally the mayor appoints a committee to review candidates and



Wade Cavin Wins Handily

makes a recommendation to the full council. The recommendation is nearly always upheld.

"Those elected Tuesday have a clear respon-

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### In the Wings

THERE'S A new joke going around Carrboro that if you want something from the city all you have to do now is go to the front door of city hall, make your request

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# ELIZABETH COTTON- A Fine Southern Lady

WILLIAM GAITHER

"One day a lady came into the store, a fine-looking lady . . . when I saw her walk in, I said, I didn't talk to anybody I was just wishing, a deep wish, I said, I wish I could work for her."

From the brightly lit stage she told short stories of her life, her work. Hard work? where to begin? Easy work? well, not much to remember there. Sometimes slightly frowning, more often sharing a satisfied smile with those about here, Elizabeth Cotten was explaining how, at age eighty-two, she finds herself known as "Sis, Babe, Libba" and "the woman who wrote the song 'Freight Train.'"

It all has to do with work and her deep wish back when old "Give 'em hell, Harry" Truman was getting more than he gave. As a reward for finding and returning her lost child the "fine looking lady" hired Elizabeth as a day maid and cleaning woman. The lady was Ruth Seeger, mother of folksinger Pete, Peggy and Mike. Her 50's style liberalism was a happy coincidence as it brought an immensely talented musician into a home that echoed with the children's efforts on the banjo and guitar.

A good bit of luck, as it turns out, but still, "as a cleaning woman"? The Seegers of "Save the Hudson" and "We Shall Overcome"? Pete, it seems, never saw those "little boxes made out of ticky-tacky" at the family estate in Chevy Chase.

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