

Noted And Passed

"Northeast Eyed for Prison" was the headline Tuesday in our favorite morning daily of general circulation in Northeastern North Carolina.

That ain't news! This area of Tar Heelia has been imprisoned for decades by politicians who have been successful in moving the citizens like pawns.

So, for 97,000 people who have been imprisoned by state government for such a period of time a 250-bed unit is just another level of confinement.

Fortunately, the natives are getting restless and many are now showing a willingness to scale the wall.

Better Business

Business activity was brisk along the Public Parade and throughout Northeastern North Carolina during December, according to the State Department of Revenue. Chowan County had one of its better months with net collections from the 1 per cent sales tax amounting to \$16,028.73.

Revenue from the local option tax and revenue sharing has provided local governmental units funds with which to provide much needed services and purchase equipment which would otherwise have to be delayed until sufficient tax money could be raised.

And the effect on the citizens and the federal government has been almost painless. But, one of the greater aspects is that local elected officials have kept their pledge to the people. They have budgeted the funds wisely. So long as they continue on this course one can expect some of the tax burden on property to be eased.

Chowan County commissioners and Edenton Town councilmen will soon begin the budgeting process for fiscal 1974-75. They will do it with a new property valuation in addition to the sales tax and revenue sharing funds.

The manner in which they go about their work will certainly determine their longevity in office. And a word to the wise should be sufficient.

EIC Forges Ahead

The status of the Office of Economic Opportunity and the Community Action Program changes almost daily. But the uncertainty of funding for various programs and the diversion of others to new agencies doesn't appear to have deterred the Economic Improvement Council, Inc. (EIC).

As the anti-poverty agency along the Public Parade and Northeastern North Carolina, EIC was a ready-made target for criticism from many quarters. Barbs have mainly come from those who are ill informed of the organization's activity and success; those who read in big daily press or weekly slicks of the failure of similar agencies in other areas.

There is a definite place for EIC in the Albemarle. There are citizens in the area to which no other agency can relate; they are the ones who need a relation with

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Copeland Presented Jaycee Distinguished Service Award

Edenton Jaycees have bestowed the highest award available to them on one of their own—Woody R. Copeland. He was presented the 1973 Distinguished Service Award by Mayor Roy L. Harrell at Thursday night's banquet held in the Jaycee Community Building.

Thomas W. Willis, director of the Regional Development Institute at East Carolina University, predicted in his keynote address that the looming battle between economists and environmentalists would cause more polarization in this country

than any issue we've seen.

Willis was pinch-hitting for State Sen. J. J. (Monk) Harrington who was kept in Raleigh because of an important meeting dealing with the expansion of the ECU Medical School.

Mayor Harrell noted that



Joe Hollowell John Paul Bass Thomas W. Willis



Rev. Raymond W. Storie

St. Paul's Calls Rector

Rev. Raymond W. Storie of Morehead City will assume the pastorate of St. Paul's Episcopal Church here Sunday. He will deliver his first sermon as rector at the 11 A.M. worship hour.

Mr. Storie comes to Edenton from Morehead City where he served the parish of Saint Andrew's Church. His first parish in the Diocese of East Carolina was in Clinton, which he joined in 1963.

Earlier he served parishes in the Diocese of South Florida, including Tampa, Winter Garden and Sebring.

Mr. Storie was educated in the public schools of Miami, Fla., and attended the University of the South in Seawee, Tenn. He is also a graduate of Seabury Western Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill.

The rector is married to the former Patricia Musick of Tampa, Fla., and they have two children, Mark, 13, and Susan, 11.

Resigns Post

E. L. Hollowell, 13 Queen Anne Place, resigned Monday as chairman of the Chowan County Democratic Executive Committee to work actively for the nomination of Atty. Gen. Robert Morgan as U. S. Senator.

Hollowell said he did not consider it proper to retain his party post and work on a state-wide basis for a particular Democratic candidate in the primary. He pointed out that he and the attorney general have been close personal friends for many years and he felt an obligation to assist him anyway possible in his bid for the nomination.

In a letter to George Alma Byrum, secretary of the executive committee, Hollowell simply stated: "I have enjoyed working with you and the rest of the county executive committee. I shall continue to work with you and other committee members in any way that I can."

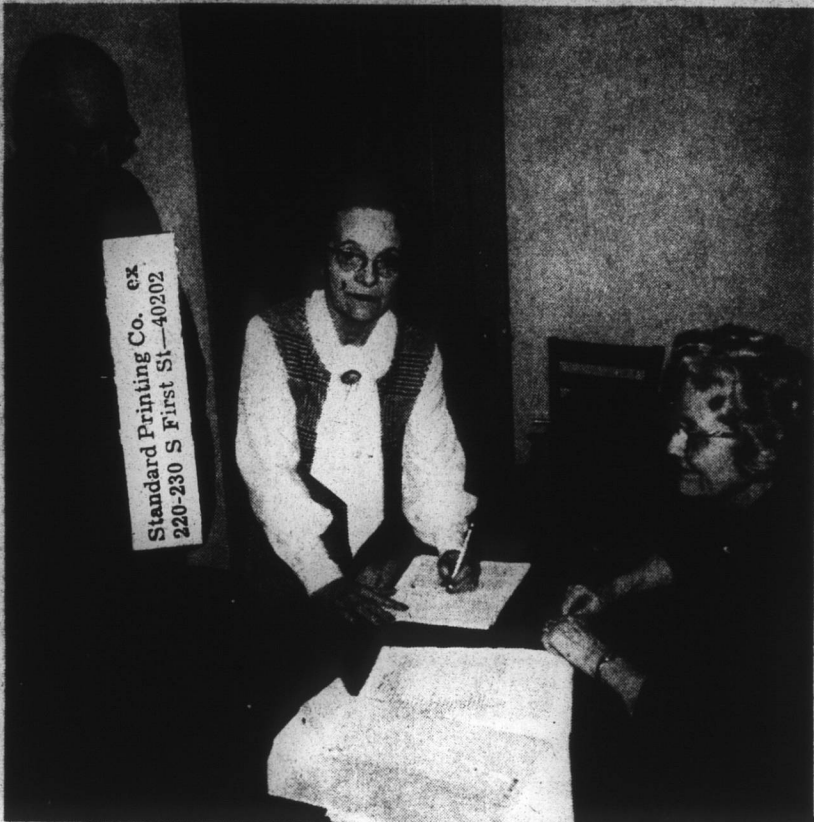
Hollowell was in Raleigh Tuesday attending an organizational meeting of Morgan's Finance Committee, of which he is a member. There are 25 members on the committee and Hollowell is the only representative from Northeastern North Carolina.

The committee member served nearly two years as party chairman and previously was a member and chairman of the Chowan County Board of Elections. His other community activities have included work with the Lions Club and American Legion.

Hollowell is president of Chowan Veneer Company, Inc.



Mayor Roy Harrell Woody Copeland Mrs. Copeland



CANDIDATES FILE—Sheriff Troy Toppin and Mrs. Lena M. Leary, clerk of court, Tuesday visited the office of Mrs. George Hoskins to file for re-election to their respective posts in the May 4 Democratic Primary. Sheriff Toppin will be seeking his second term of office and Mrs. Leary will be seeking her third term.

Myers' Bargaining Pays Off

ELIZABETH CITY—Plea bargaining paid off for a Hertford man charged with two 1973 bank robberies in the Albemarle Area. Johnnie A. Myers, 31, was given an effective prison term of 25 years on the two counts and a third involving auto theft.

Judge John Larkins of Trenton sentenced Myers to 20 years each for the robbery of banks in Edenton and Hertford, with the sentences to run concurrently.

Also pleading guilty to the theft of an automobile from Pensacola, Fla., the defendant was given five years. This vehicle was used in the getaway after the September 18, 1973 robbery of the Northside Shopping Center Branch of Bank of North Carolina in Edenton.

The defendant was arrested in Gates County shortly after he held up Peoples Bank & Trust Company in Hertford.

One of the items purchased with a portion of the money taken in the Edenton robbery was a \$5,300 automobile, confiscated when Myers was arrested after the Hertford job. It has been

impounded.

Herbert Mullen, attorney for Myers, said the defendant is willing to turn over the title to the car once it is determined who is to get it—the Edenton bank or the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

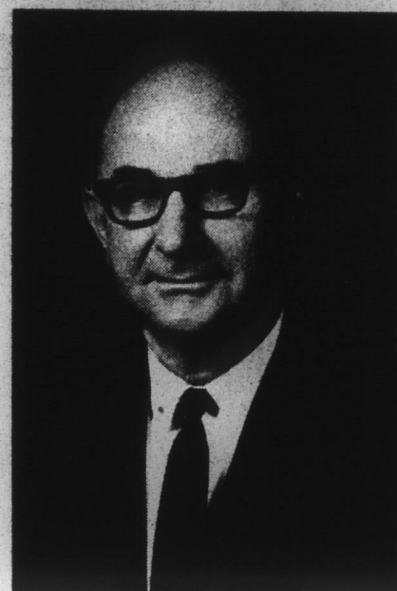
When arraigned shortly after court opened here Monday, Myers pleaded not guilty to all three indictments. At about 1 P.M., Mullen informed Judge Larkins of the change in pleas to guilty.

An FBI agent who testified in the case said while all the money taken in the Edenton robbery had been spent by Myers, the money taken in Hertford was recovered at the time of the arrest.

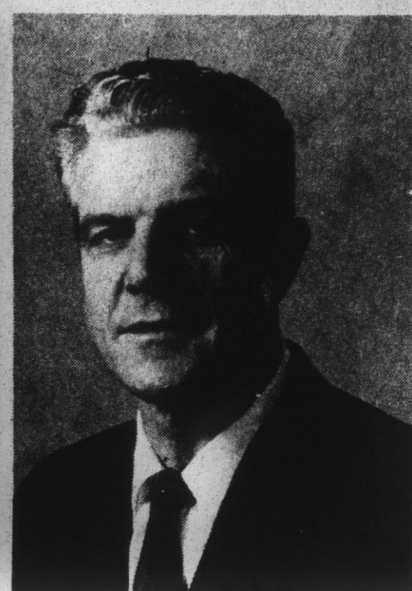
Swine Co-Op Meeting Set

The Albemarle Cooperative Association, Inc., will hold its annual membership meeting at 7 P.M., February 8, at the Jaycee Building with Rep. Walter B. Jones as featured speaker.

This is the third year for this event and the first since the



Vernon James



O. C. Abbott

Action Is Brisk For Democrats

Candidates for various positions to be voted on in the May 4 Democratic Primary, continued to either announce their intentions or formally file. In Chowan County, the first two people to file were Mrs. Lena M. Leary, incumbent clerk of Superior Court, and Sheriff Troy Toppin.

Mrs. Leary and Sheriff Toppin filed Tuesday afternoon with the Chowan County Board of Elections.

State Rep. Vernon G. James of Weeksville filed for re-election with the Pasquotank board Monday, and Elizabeth City attorney Grafton G. Beaman, on the same day filed with the State Board of Elections in Raleigh as a Democratic candidate for judge of the First Judicial District.

Beaman, a former U. S. Magistrate, is seeking the seat being vacated by Judge Wilton F.

Walker, Jr., of Currituck, who has previously filed as a candidate for the Superior Court bench. Beaman will oppose O. C. Abbott for the post.

Attorney John T. Chaffin has filed for the other District Court judgeship to replace Judge Fentress T. Horner of Elizabeth City who is retiring.

Sheriff Toppin, who assumed his post to fill the unexpired term of the late Earl Goodwin and was consequently elected sheriff in 1970, is a volunteer fireman at the Center Hill Crossroads Fire Department, member of the Chowan Ruritan, and is commander of the Edward G. Bond Post, American Legion.

He has also served as district commander of the American Legion and is a member of Center Hill Baptist Church.

Mrs. Leary has served in the office of the clerk of court since 1949, when she began as assistant clerk. Involved in many civic organizations, Mrs. Leary has served as president of the Edenton Business and Professional Women, past director BPW, and state parliamentarian. She has also served as president of the North Carolina Clerk's Association, and is president of the Edenton Historical Commission.

Mrs. Leary is director of the Children's IV Department of Edenton Baptist Church where she is a member and part of the Adult Choir.

Both candidates reflected that they are eager to continue to serve the citizens of this county, and will continue to do so to the best of their ability.

Rep. James is president and manager of James Brothers, Inc., a farming operation in Northeastern North Carolina. He was a representative in the General Assembly in 1945 and 1947 and served on the Board of Trustees on the Greater University of North Carolina from 1947 to 1955.

He was president of the National Potato Council in 1965 and was appointed by Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman to the Potato Advisory Committee in 1961 and served until 1968.

Rep. James was the first individual to receive the

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In Compliance

A report recently released by the State Board of Education's Division of Teacher Allotment and General Control reveals that Edenton-Chowan Schools are among the 99 units reportedly in compliance with the class size and limitation bill passed by the 1973 General Assembly.

The new legislation required the following class size maximums: (a) no more than 26 students per teacher in average daily membership for grades one through three; (b) no more than 33 students per teacher in average daily membership for upper elementary grades; (c) and no more than 35 students per class or 150 students per teacher per day for junior and senior high schools except as permitted by regional accrediting agencies.

Joe Hollowell, club president, said this is the 20th such award presented by the local chapter.

John Paul Bass, president of the Exhausted Roosters Club, presented the Jaycees with a check for \$450. The money is profit from a recent club function to boost the building fund.

Willis said he did not believe the problems of the economic man and environmental man cannot solve their problems and the problems of the nation by fighting

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