



## Public Parade

### Bible in Boardroom

There is evidence that the Bible is returning to the boardroom of business and industry. In the past it was sometimes difficult to find a Bible on which to take an oath; editors even found them scarce when it came time to print the Christmas story.

Encouragement is being found in that heretofore "closet" Christians are exerting themselves in the business community.

A businessman and former lawyer says it helps him to "think more before" he acts. A politician admits that his nearness to his religion is one of the reasons he doesn't seek re-election. And a prominent businessman considers it an invaluable opportunity for people of different races and religions to get together.

A person doesn't have to wear a badge on his lapel to declare his convictions. There are those who flaunt religion like they do their success in business, not giving proper credit for the source of strength which brought them to new heights. Sure, "self" plays an important part, in fact one must start with one's self to overcome adversity as well experience the joys of life. All of us must stop now and then to smell the flowers!

There have, however, been more important decisions made in the boardrooms of this nation over a cocktail than following prayer, or even a moment of silence. The evidence that Christian businessmen are exerting more leadership under their true colors is something that can lead this country back to the greatness which will feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

### Gliberal Feast

The gliberal press throughout Tarheel and throughout the country is feasting on 11th hour maneuvering which kept a confessed murderer of three law enforcement officers from paying his debt to society with his life. Our least favorite morning daily of general circulation along the Public Parade and Northeastern North Carolina made prominent note that two Tar Heel judges were main characters in the drama.

James W. Hutchins, a white man, was saved by a state law which was designed to save minorities. The howl that is now being heard from the U.S. Supreme Court to the man on the street may be of sufficient magnitude to get the General Assembly to do some much needed closing of a loophole. Mr. Hutchins should not have been allowed to escape through that gap, even if his escape might be of brief duration. Too much is being made about the fact that he would have been the first person in 22 years to be put to death in North Carolina for criminal misconduct. The bleeding hearts have had some set-backs recently, but they found a breather in a state law and order should be a habit.

To discipline a child can be compared to capital punishment, in our mind. It doesn't hurt to let children sit around for a brief period and reflect on what they did wrong and what punishment to expect. However, the yoyo manipulation of the legal process to save a man such as James W. Hutchins from giving what he took—life—is certainly not something a state can accept with any degree of pride.

There is another area in which the courts need to get tougher. This is in the area of child molestation. Dirty old men, and some not so old, are ruining the lives of perfectly innocent children and every possible measure should be taken to put a stop to it.

Up in Norfolk, Va., last week, a 67-year-old man with 18 previous felony convictions for child molestation was given just half the maximum sentence on two more charges of sexually assaulting young children. He was aided and

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## Singletary, Cartwright Testify In Arson Trial

A Chowan County Superior Court jury is expected to decide this week the fate of an attorney who is charged with arson in connection with the burning of an unoccupied dwelling in the county.

Judge Elbert S. Peel, Jr., of Williamston will charge the jury following closing arguments by prosecutors and defense counsel.

This is the second week of the trial which has experienced several delays and where defendants in related cases have turned state's witnesses.

James David Singletary, 33, of Kenyon Street, Hertford, has been charged in connection with the June 2, 1982 burning of the Elliott House on Route 32. Four other men have also been charged in connection with the burning.

Singletary is charged with conspiring to burn an uninhabited dwelling, conspiring to burn and burning a building under construction and conspiring to burn and burning a building for fraudulent purposes.

One of the lingering questions in the trial is whether or not Jimmy Singletary and Luckie Cartwright were "friends". Cartwright

described their relationship as very close. Singletary charged that they had a normal lawyer-client relationship.

On Thursday, January 12, the State called Luckie Douglas Cartwright to the stand.

Cartwright, a Hertford farmer, heavy duty equipment operator, and an admitted dealer of cocaine and marijuana, had been employed at the Elliott House to perform bulldozer work on the land surrounding the house and to renovate the house itself.

In his testimony, Cartwright said that he, Singletary and three other men were involved in the burning of the Elliott House.

The Elliott House was owned by Hay Makin International, Inc. located in the British West Indies. The Elliott property was to be used as a model cattle farm and the house was to be used to lodge overnight guests.

On March 3, 1983, Cartwright was arrested at the Elizabeth City Holiday Inn on charges of drug trafficking. By testifying for the State, he will receive a reduced sentence for the drug charges. The maximum sentence Cartwright could receive

is 20 years. According to the defense, Cartwright normally could have received 70 years for his alleged offenses.

Cartwright told SBI officials on March 8, 1982 that he, Mitchell Duke Ivey, Larry Wayne Sanders, James Singletary and Peter Rosenthal were involved in the Elliott House fire.

Cartwright testified that after mid-night on June 2, 1982, he and Sanders entered the Elliott House and started two fires in the house with a Bic lighter, stacked wood and newspapers.

He said that he started the fire only after Rosenthal, an agent for Hay Makin International, told him by phone to do so on the evening of June 1, 1982. Cartwright also testified that Singletary instructed him on the most successful way to burn a house.

The benefits Cartwright said that he was to receive from setting the fire were not in the form of cash but rather in assurance that things were going to run smoothly for all concerned. Cartwright indicated that he and Singletary planned new offices and a gun shop in the Morgan Building in Hertford. The

Morgan Building is owned by K-C Farms, Peter Rosenthal's wife's company.

Defense attorney Stephen R. Burch of Windsor, suggested to Cartwright that Peter Rosenthal had fired him during their second conversation the night of June 1, 1982, when Cartwright claimed he ordered him to burn the Elliott house.

On Friday, January 13, two SBI agents, Walt House and Bill Godley testified that in an April 28, 1983 interview, Singletary admitted that he knew that Cartwright was taking him seriously when he was discussing ways to burn a building.

The interview with the SBI agents occurred after Singletary failed to pass a polygraph test in Chowan County Sheriff, Troy Toppin's office.

SBI agent House said that on March 3, 1983 Cartwright said that Singletary advised him not to use any flammable liquids in starting the fire because they could be detected by law enforcement officers. House also stated Cartwright said that Singletary told him to board up the windows of the house and to start the fire at the bottom of the stairwell.

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## Council Passes A 7.9 Rate Increase

The Town Council Monday passed a 7.9 percent electric rate increase which will take effect March 1.

City Manager Sam Noble noted that the planned increase preserves existing revenue without causing a budget short-fall at the end of the year.

An estimate of the 1983-84 electrical revenue and purchased power costs for the town by Southeastern Consulting Engineers, Inc. of Charlotte advised the Council that the rate increase would be the most pragmatic approach toward maintaining service to the community as well as a balanced budget.

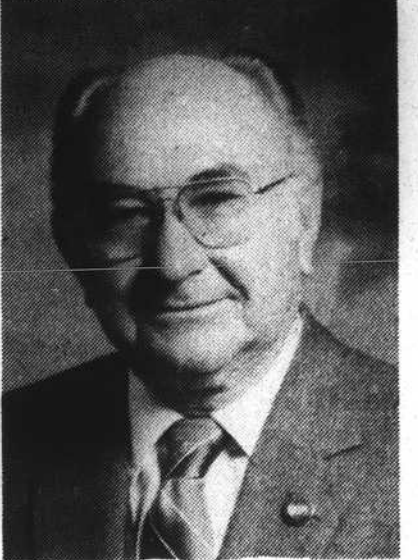
The Council absorbed a \$28,000 loss by effecting the rate increase on March 1 rather than February 1. This action was taken rather than burden the citizens with payment for the first two weeks in February when the increase was actually not in effect.

The 7.9 percent increase by the Town of Edenton represents retail electric rates that are two per cent less than VEPCO rates, which will be effective in February.

The average residential customer (using 1,385 KWH) during the summer months will see a 6.8 per cent increase in charges. Under the existing town rates the customer would pay \$105.35, and with the new rate the charge will be \$112.50.

The average residential

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Rep. Vernon James

## James To File For Ninth Term

ELIZABETH CITY—Rep. Vernon G. James will file Tuesday for re-election as First District state representative. Rep. James, who ranks fifth in seniority among all state representatives, will be seeking his ninth term of office.

He brings to the office 16 years of experience in the General Assembly and a career in agriculture and farming. He is currently chairman of the Agricultural Committee and serves the Southern Legislative Conference, Council of Governments (16 Southeastern states) as chairman of the Agricultural and Rural Development Commission.

In addition, he is vice chairman of the Constitutional Amendments Committee and the Water and Air

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## Truesdell New AADA Leader

The Albemarle Area Development Association met Thursday night at Overton's in Edenton, and the following officers took office: Hobart G. Truesdell, II, president of First Colony Farms of Creswell, was elected president of the association. Pete Lacy, vice president; Patsy Miller, secretary and Chuck Little, treasurer, will serve with Truesdell.

Truesdell said he was in the process of putting the 1984 active committee chairmen together for agriculture, community development, economic development, publicity and finance. Truesdell succeeds Bill Meekins of the Carolina Telephone Co. as president.

The purpose of the Albemarle Area Development Association of North Carolina Inc. is to provide opportunities for citizens to participate in developing an educational program which will call attention to the problems blocking the desirable development of the human and natural resources of the area, to promote area-wide cooperation, and to create a favorable climate for area-wide improvements.



TARHEEL BANK—Susan Bass, left, and Elizabeth Jones, right, have recently been made officers of the Gatesville-based bank.

## Tarheel Bank And Trust Names Bass And Jones As New Officers

Mac Self, Vice President and City Executive of Tarheel Bank and Trust Company, recently announced the names of two new bank officers.

"They will both be a part of the

management team, not only in Edenton, but in the bank as a whole," Self said.

The new officers are Susan Bass and Elizabeth Jones.

Susan R. Bass has been employed with Tarheel Bank since 1979. Miss Bass has been promoted to Assistant Cashier. Her responsibilities include management of tellers, bookkeeping functions, and general bank operations.

Miss Bass is a 1977 graduate of Chowan High School and was graduated from Louisburg College, Louisburg, N.C. in 1979.

Elizabeth P. Jones has been with

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## Jaycees To Begin Annual Jelly Sale

Allen Mills was named chairman of the Edenton Jaycee Jelly Sale by Steve Sawyer, President of the Edenton Jaycees. Mills will head the local jelly sale to raise money for the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center in Chapel Hill.

Jaycees will be on WBXB Friday, January 20, at 8:00 A.M. selling jelly.

"A goal of 1200 jars of jelly has been set for the WBXB listening area," said Mills. "I am quite confident that the citizens of our area will continue to support the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center."

The 23-bed North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center is one of the most comprehensive burn facilities in the country. It is dedicated to providing the crucial combination of specialized medical care and rehabilitative services required by victims of severe burns.

"During the past two years, five patients at the burn center were residents of northeastern North Carolina," explained Mills. The average patient spends approximately six weeks in the burn

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## Animal Welfare Concern Grows

A meeting is scheduled for 8 P.M., Thursday, February 2 at the Municipal Building to discuss steps necessary to establish an animal shelter for dogs and cats in the area.

A need has been expressed by concerned citizens for some time to collect and care for stray animals. Through publicity, homes would

then be found for many of these animals.

It is hoped that through a volunteer service and local veterinarian care a program can be established in the very near future.

Anyone interested in animal welfare is urged to attend this first meeting.



ANIMAL WELFARE IMPERATIVE—Marcia Crandall is promoting the establishment of a local shelter for dogs and cats. Her dog, Kumquat, was a stray Mrs. Crandall rescued and nursed back to health six years ago.

## Bond Referendum Proposal Rejected

The Chowan County Board of Commissioners said at the combined County Commissioners - School Board meeting held on January 16 that they did not think the \$4.7-million Bond issue proposed by the School Board would "fly" with Chowan County citizens.

But, the County Commissioners did say that they are willing to work closely with the Board of Education members to see that the needed improvements and expansion of existing buildings in the Edenton-Chowan School System are begun.

The joint meeting began with a brief description of the School Board's three-stage development plan presented by Dr. John Dunn. The total cost of the plan is \$8,326,000. But the School Board is asking for enough money to complete the first two stages of the plan which would cost approximately \$4.7-million.

After Dunn's presentation, Alton

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DUKE QUARTET—Bob Beaumont distributes posters announcing that the Chowan Arts Council will present the Ciompi Quartet & Dr. Lily Tong Chou in concert on January 27, at 8 P.M. at Edenton United Methodist Church. The Duke University quartet is one of the nation's leading chamber music ensembles. Tickets for the concert are available at Hollowell and Blount Drug Store, Shepard-Pruden Library or from Chowan Arts Council board members.