



## Voters Hear Issues Discussed As Candidates Meeting Held Here

Fourteen of the eighteen candidates seeking office of direct interest to Franklin voters appeared on the platform at the Meet the Candidates forum here at Louisburg College Tuesday night. Two of the fourteen are unopposed and one of the four not attending is unopposed.

The traditional program, sponsored in election years by the League of Women Voters and the Louisburg Jaycees, was moderated by David Daniel, Director of College Relations. The crowd, while adequate, was smaller than both organizations had hoped for.

Sixteenth District Representative James D. Speed, unopposed for Seat No. 1 and veteran Register of Deeds Alex T. Wood, appeared on the platform, although neither has opposition in the primary or the general election. Jones H. Winston seeking a return to the county Board of Education, unopposed, was not present. Incumbent County Commissioner E.M. (Buck) Sykes and candidate for the Board of Commissioners in District 2, Booster White were absent. Wallace Chappell of Creedmoor, a candidate for District Judge was also absent.

The greatest interest was shown by the audience in the candidates for county commissioner. A host of questions were presented to the three candidates present.

Board of County Commissioners, kept to the script in his three minute address as he quoted from statements made in the League booklet. "I believe we can improve our county government and be more progressive," he stated. He referred to his being available to attend meetings of the Board and said he believes the schools will be our "most pressing problem" in the next few years.



HOUSE

He too urged a review of the welfare rolls and said he favored "some improvements to this airplane business" in answer to the airport question.

He said in answer to the question on making the county more progressive, I think maybe there would be some way to do it without additional taxes. On school consolidation, he stated, "There's been a lot of talk of putting schools together. I don't know if this is good or bad. I haven't studied it." He said he's "heard people say" that we've "already got bond issues we haven't finished paying for and why put another on."

Asked if he had contacted the Welfare Department in regards to people being on the rolls who could work, House replied, "No. All I know is what I hear, I don't read much." He made no response to the question on how to consolidate the schools without a bond issue.

ALEX T. WOOD

Register of Deeds Alex T. Wood also expressed his appreciation to the people for having allowed him to serve for many years. He welcomed suggestions on how he might improve the services of his office and invited the audience to stop by the office for a visit.

WILBUR M. JOLLY

Louisburg attorney Wilbur M. Jolly, also a candidate for State Senate, gave four "things" he believes will come before the legislature in the next session "as they do in every session." Among these Jolly listed "Needs of Education" and said he favors teacher pay raises. "If we can afford to educate (our teachers) we can afford to



JOLLY

pay them and keep them here", he said. He spoke of agricultural problems and the danger of the farmer becoming disoriented and urged full support to help the tobacco farmer. He combined his statement on more industry by adding that roads are essential to the attraction of new plants. He spoke of N.C. 56 east and west of Louisburg as being "terrible" and said the only "decent" road in or out of the county is the Raleigh road (U.S. 401 south).

Jolly said he felt the local option one-cent sales tax was a fair tax. He said the property owner is overburdened and indicated that, if a tax should be necessary, he would probably favor the sales tax over additional property tax.

EDWARD F. GRIFFIN

Gen. E.F. Griffin, a candidate for State Senate cited his experience in state government and said about education, "We have to do something about it." He said he favored "raising the standard of our schools" and predicted it can be done without additional taxes. "I am opposed to any new taxes," he stated.

He said he would not support a tobacco tax, but would if necessary support a tax on manufactured tobacco products, wine, beer, and liquor. When asked why it is that Franklin County has not received its rightful share of road funds, Griffin's opponent W.M. Jolly replied, "Maybe we voted for the wrong Governor." Griffin then replied to the question by saying, "Maybe Brother Jolly can tell us what Governor to vote for."



GRIFFIN

DISTRICT JUDGES

Five of the six candidates for District Judge appeared on the forum. Claude W. Allen, Jr. of Oxford; Julius Banzet of Warrenton; Thomas D. Hardie of Henderson; Linwood T. Peoples of Henderson and Royall H. Royster of Oxford all spoke of the "fine people of Franklin County" and assured fair and equal justice under the laws if elected. Allen said, "I will strive to apply criminal as well as civil law in a just and able manner." Banzet stated, "The line between Franklin and Warren counties is imaginary I am one of you and I hope you will consider me so two weeks from now." Wallace Chappell of Creedmoor was not present. Hardie said, I will render service to your county in a fair and impartial manner. I will protect the innocent and punish the guilty". Peoples stated, "I consider the District Judgeship a very serious thing. He promised to be "fair and impartial to all litigants". Royster said, "I am old-fashioned. I have a lot of patriotism. I love this country and I love the people." Paraphrasing, he said, "I want to make America safe from democracy."

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## C.R., Pearce's Registration Totals Given

George Champion, Jr., Secretary to the Board of Elections, announced the final registration totals of two of the county's eleven precincts today. The typing and tabulation of all registrations is now going on in the commissioner's room in the courthouse as Champion and his assistants prepare the books for next Saturday's Challenge Day and the May 4 primaries. Cedar Rock had a total of 910 persons to register during the four week period of re-registration. Of these, 756 were whites and 154 were Negroes. Only 44 registered as Republicans while 866 registered as Democrats. In Cedar Rock there were no Independents registered.

In Pearce's precinct, a total of 324 persons registered with 300 signing as Democrats and only 22 registering as Republicans. Two persons registered, giving "no party" affiliation. Of the total, 282 whites signed up and 42 Negroes.

Both precincts fall below their original registration, as recorded in 1966. Cedar Rock has 1148 registered voters and Pearce's had 504 in 1966. This gives Cedar Rock, third largest precinct in the county, a minus of 238 voters. Pearce's, already one of the smallest precincts, as well as the newest in name, is now minus 180 voters. The county total is expected to exceed 11,000 when all precincts are tabulated.

## Earl To Face Murder Charge

Herbert Gene Earl, 39, is to be returned to Franklin County from Massachusetts late this week to face charges growing out of the death of B. J. Mulkey, a 31-year-old carnival worker. Earl is alleged to have shot Mulkey in the abdomen on the afternoon of Oct. 6, 1966 at the Franklin County fairgrounds on the River Road.

Earl, captured soon after the shooting, was tried for assault and sentenced to a prison term near Henderson, from which he escaped. Mulkey lived several weeks following the shooting

## Cost Must Be Cut Courthouse Contracts Expected To Be Signed Next Week

The contracts for the renovation and enlargement of the county courthouse are expected to be signed sometime next week, according to an informed source. The Board of County Commissioners met here Wednesday with the architects and contractors in an effort to whittle the cost of the project down to within the \$200,000 budget.

The apparent low bidders presented a total of \$190,490.00 for the work here last week. Adding the architect's fee, the Board said the total would exceed the bond money and that there is no money on hand to make up the difference. Therefore the Board ordered the architect to get with the contractor and attempt to cut the costs.

Proposed changes and deletions discussed here Wednesday totaled \$5,105.36 with the possibility that the cooling chiller might be left off for the time being adding an additional saving of \$8860. This would, however, leave the structure without air conditioning and with courtrooms without windows, and is unlikely. Certain omissions of millwork and changes in wall finishes, plus a change in floor covering, a side entrance would cut the cost \$5,

105.36 under the general contract.

Under heating and plumbing, omissions of an anchor to the oil tank, which is to be reduced in capacity, changes in insulation of pipes and controls, would knock off an additional \$1696.

However, none of these changes were approved by the Board and all are subject to further study. Raleigh contractor Hal Thompson low bidder on the general contract, was requested to study proposed changes between plastered walls and paneled walls and certain changes to the court room floor. He is to return the figures of savings on these items when the Board meets here Monday at 2 p.m.

No figures have been given on the architect's fee and the minutes show no agreement between the county and the firm. However, the American Institute of Architects' Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Architect, calls for a minimum fee of 7.9 percent on a building project of this type. Based on the proposed cost, and if the AIA recommendations are followed the fee would run around \$15,048.

Adding this figure to the \$190,490 cost gives a total of \$205,538 or \$5,538 over the county budget.

## It's That Time Again

(Daylight Saving, That is)

While there is not quite so much hue and cry about it this year as there was last year, five will get you ten, you can find some very strong opponents to the switch Sunday back to Daylight Saving Time. But, regardless of the sentiment it might bring, love it or loath it, North Carolina is stuck with it from Sunday next to the last Sunday in October.

The simplest way to cope with it is as follows: Just before retiring for the night, Saturday run the old clock ahead one hour. If you're retiring, let us say, at 10 P.M., move the hands to 11 P.M. and then forget it until next October.

If you happen to be one to follow directions to the exact letter, wait up until 2 A.M. Sunday morning and run the clock up to 3 A.M. and then you will have been exactly correct. It will also help tremendously if you can refrain from making any mention of the new time whatsoever. It is also helpful if you ignore the sun's placement in the sky or when it rises or sets. Just follow the clock.

Parents of school children are reminded that they, too, must follow the new time. School buses will roll and classes will open by the new time, although it will really be an hour earlier by the sun. But, parents are forewarned, pay no attention to the sun. Set the clock ahead one hour Saturday night and then follow the exact same time schedule as always.

If this is confusing, just remember that all of us survived the change last year and most of us are likely to do the same this time around.

L.S. WARD

Candidate for County Commissioner from District 4, Lemeul S. Ward was first to appear. He asserted that "some county programs need to be studied and revised." He referred to the welfare department saying that "No one able to work should be on welfare." He also made reference to "No place for old people to get."



WARD

Later he clarified this statement by telling of "friends" who used to live in the Ben Franklin Boarding Home. The Home was sold and later torn down to make way for an industry which later changed its decision to locate here. He said he is "Quite interested in how our schools will operate next year."

Ward said he is a pilot and favors improvements to the airport; and said, "Deliver me from raising taxes," in reply to a question on how Franklin might be made a more progressive county. He said the "Only solution to (school) consolidation is the bond issue. He said he had not contacted the welfare department on ineligible recipients recently, but that he had had some contact previously. He said the response had been "wishy-washy."

RICHARD CASH

Incumbent County Commissioner Richard Cash of District 2 cited several things that have been accomplished in the county in the past four years. He mentioned several new industrial plants by name, enlargement of the hospital among them. "I don't mean we," he said, "it is the people who have done it." He also mentioned the new courthouse improvements.



CASH

In answer to questions posed by the audience, Cash said he is a pilot and favors airport improvements, saying, "I'd like to see something done. I sure would". In answer to what might be done to attract more industry, Cash said, "This is a puzzling question that perhaps should be directed to our industrial leader, W.J. Benton." He listed airport facilities, natural gas, vocational training and said others are "too numerous to mention." Asked what could make Franklin County more progressive, Cash replied, "I reckon for the county commissioners to raise taxes equal to Wake county." On schools, Cash said, "We've got to consolidate in order to meet the need of progressive America." He said he had talked to "too many people who are against a bond issue", in reference to a recent proposal by the School Board and said, "I can't come out and say I am for a bond issue at this time."

When asked how he would propose to pay for consolidation, he nor any other candidate responded.

JOHN W. HOUSE

John W. House, Franklin farmer and candidate for District 2 seat on the

## Franklinton Man Is Third Road Fatality

A 59-year-old Franklinton, Rt. 1, man became Franklin County's third highway fatality Wednesday afternoon around 1 p.m. when the pickup truck he was driving ran off the highway west of Franklinton.

Chester M. Ball, w/m/59 was killed instantly on N. C. 56 west of Franklinton and about a half-mile from his home when his truck ran off the right side of the highway, crossed over and ran down an embankment on the left side.

Ball is the third person to die on Franklin highways this year, the second this month. Eleven days ago, a 25-year-old Negro was killed near Eden's Store when his car ran into a tree.

and upon his death a murder warrant was issued for Earl, who by that time had returned to Massachusetts, where he was charged with stabbing his estranged wife and another woman. He has been serving time for these offenses.

Reports here say that he has completed his sentence in the Bay State and that Franklin Sheriff William T. Dement will travel to Massachusetts within the next few days to return the prisoner.

By this date last year, three persons had died on the highways.

Ball was a native of Granville County, and a member of the Mt. Carmel Christian Church. He was a farmer.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2 p.m. Friday at the Sandling Funeral Chapel by the Rev. Chip Conyers and the Rev. Herman Ward. Burial will be in the Mt. Carmel cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Gertrude Page Ball; three sisters, Mrs. Wheeler Ayscue of Rt. 1, Creedmoor, Mrs. Garland Evans and Mrs. Foster Henley, both of Rt. 1, Franklinton; and one brother, Graham H. Ball of Rt. 1, Franklinton.



Cubs, Cars And Friends

A portion of the crowd attending the Pinewood Derby races by the Louisburg Cub Scouts is shown above here Monday night. The annual event brought forth a great deal of interest from the youngsters and parents alike. Winners announced by Scout officials following the evening's activities are: Fastest Car, Dike Hinton, first place; Keith

Shearin, second place and Breck May, third place; Prettiest Car: Mike Murphy, first place, Gil Holton, second place and Ricky Duke, third place; Most Original Car: Robert Frisbee, first place; Robert Spencer, second place and David Williams, third place.

Staff Photo by Clint Fuller.