

Fountain Urges Committee To Approve "Fairness Legislation" For Tobacco

Second District Congressman L. H. Fountain, appearing before the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce studying cigarette legislation, Wednesday urged the Congressmen to approve one of several bills introduced by tobacco-state Representatives. Speaking for the entire North Carolina Congressional delegation, Fountain told the Committee, "We urge this Committee to approve 'Fairness Legislation' in order to prevent 'punitive and piecemeal regulation' which will otherwise reign."

The Tarboro lawmaker reminded the Committee that the Federal Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act will terminate on July 1, 1969. It was this act that resulted in labeling on all cigarette packages that smoking might be harmful to health. The tobacco-state Congressmen now fear that a multitude of conflicting labeling and advertising regulations will be forthcoming unless the Federal Act is renewed by the Congress. Already the Federal Communications Commission has threatened curtailment of tele-

vision and radio cigarette advertising when the present law expires.

Fountain said the "virtue of these bills" is "Fairness" and he pointed out that the present Act is fair to the Executive branch, the businessmen, the workers and small tobacco farmers. "They are fair to the public," he said. "And their right under the Constitution to make decisions for themselves." He added, "Indeed at this stage, there is no certain and convincing truth about the relationship between smoking and health."

"In three short months," the Congressman told the Committee, "when the advertising provision terminates this carefully constructed Congressional structure will be seriously weakened. Like a dike that is half torn down, it will do little to halt the flood of diverse, non-uniform and confusing cigarette advertising regulation. When this happens, the Federal Trade Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, the individual states and local governments will be as free as wind-driven flood water not only to

impede commerce and the national economy, but to devastate it."

He said such regulations would create "chaotic marketing conditions" and "consumer confusion." He warned that without "Congressional guidance" regulatory agencies and government officials "will be limited solely by their individual taste for authority and their prospects for achieving it." "For bureaucrats, like nature, abhor a vacuum," he added.

Congressman Fountain reminded

the Committee that "About 3 million men, women and children in American farm families are dependent for their living on the tobacco crop." All in all, he added, "about one and one-half million businesses and their employees and their families are dependent on the tobacco trade."

"Over and above the income taxes—individual and corporate—paid by the people who grow, manufacture, supply and sell tobacco, the Federal government, the states and local governments

derive an all-time high of \$4.2 billion on an average "about half the price of a package of cigarettes goes to the Federal or state tax collector."

"This right to advertise clearly comes within the right of free speech and free press which are protected by the First Amendment," he said.

Referring to the threatened FCC action against tobacco advertising Fountain said if this is permitted, what is to prevent such a ban being placed on candy because it supposedly causes

obesity, tooth decay and other health problems. "What about milk and eggs?" he asked and said that "Many medical experts" say the saturated fat increases cholesterol in the bloodstream. Then he asked if the Committee wanted the FCC to regulate advertising of milk and eggs.

Rep. Carl D. Perkins, D-Ky., who said he represents 17,225 tobacco growers, argued that "tobacco has been impeached and indicted but it

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Hart To Head Youngsville Lions Club

Youngsville - Mr. Earl Hart, who is associated with the Sure-Rest Mattress Co. in Youngsville, was elected as the Youngsville Lions Club President for the 1969-70 year, at the Lions meeting held Monday night of this week at the community house.

Officers elected to serve with Mr. Hart are First Vice President - R. E. Timberlake, Second Vice President - E. J. Pearce, Third Vice President - W. T. Moss, Secretary-Treasurer - J. T. Allen, Tailor - A. E. Hall, Lion Tamer - L. J. Phillips. Directors for one year, R. E. Cheatham and J. K. Tharrington. Directors for two years are Davis Hill and J. W. Weathers, Jr.

The slate of officers was presented by Marvin Roberts, chairman of the nominating committee.

Lion President C. R. Edwards presided at this meeting. Announcement was made of the annual Ladies Night which will be held Tuesday evening, April 22, at seven p.m. at the Seminary Cafeteria.

Speaker for the evening was Warrant Officer W-4 R. E. Cheatham, who is a member of the Lions Club. "The Two Faces of the National Guard" was the chosen topic. The speaker stated that "The National Guard is one of the best buys that you as American taxpayers, are making in the field of local and national security." The Guard is a bargain for 2 reasons. One is National defense and State and local emergency and disaster service. The other is that dollars paid to Guardsmen are to a large degree funneled back into local economy. The talk was concluded with information regarding military obligations of young men reaching draft age.

Vacancies Exist In Municipal Races As Deadlines Near

Reliable reports this morning say that Franklinton Mayor Joe Pearce and the three remaining incumbent members of the Town Board have filed for reelection. These latest filings fill the positions in the Franklinton elections except for three vacancies on the City School Board.

The Franklinton action leaves two positions vacant on the Louisburg Town Council and one on the Centerville Board. All incumbent Mayors, subject to the May 6 balloting have filed for reelection in Franklin County.

In the May 6 voting four Mayors and 19 council posts will be filled plus the three school board positions at Franklinton. On May 27, Bunn will elect a Mayor and four councilmen.

With some deadlines coming as early as this weekend, the picture across the county looks as follows:

LOUISBURG - Mayor V. A. Peoples has filed for a third term and is thus far unopposed. Four of the six incumbent council members have filed. Grover C. Harris, Jr., George T. Bunn, Jonah C. Taylor and Mrs. Breatie C. O'Neal have filed. Incumbents W. J. Shearin and H. D. Jeffreys have not announced their plans. No new-

comers have joined the race. The filing deadline is 5 P.M. Tuesday, April 22.

FRANKLINTON - Reports this morning say that incumbent Mayor Joe Pearce has filed for reelection. Incumbent Town Board members John F. Green and John Henry House filed several days ago to succeed themselves on the Board and today's report says that the remaining three incumbent members have also filed for reelection. These are Charlie Hight, Jr., Henry Franklin Holmes and James S. Joyner. None, thus far, have any opposition. According to reports, none of the three School Board members

whose terms expire this year have filed for reelection. C. H. Weston, William Avery Wilder and S. L. (Pete) Colbert are the members. Filing deadline at Franklinton is noon Friday, April 18.

YOUNGVILLE - Mayor Marvin Roberts has filed for reelection and thus far has no opposition. However, three candidates filed Tuesday for the town council in opposition to the five incumbent members who had filed earlier. The three new filers are: Jesse E. Preddy, Sr., Russell N. Strickland and John W. Pearce. The incumbents who filed earlier are: E. J. Pearce, See VACANCIES Page 6

Mrs. Mamie Clayton To Head County NCEA

Mrs. Mamie Clayton, Supervisor of Teachers for Franklin County Schools, was installed as the new President of the County Unit of the North Carolina Education Association in ceremonies held here Wednesday night. Retiring President Jack Ayscue, a teacher at Youngsville High School, presided over the annual banquet and performed the installation ceremonies.

Named to serve with Mrs. Clayton for the coming year were: James Boyette, of Gold Sand High School, Vice President; Mrs. Virginia Southerland of Edward Best High School, Secretary and Mrs. Evelyn Williamson of Louisburg High School, Treasurer.

Dr. Amos Abrams of Raleigh, Editor of North Carolina EDUCATION, the NCEA publication and Assistant Executive Secretary of the organization, was the featured speaker. Dr. Abrams told the group, representing every school in the county unit, they were "walking and living in Beulahland". He read letters teachers had received from former students including several addressed to him, in which the students indicated the important part played in their lives by their teachers.

Pointing to one particular letter he received from a former student in which enclosed a clipping showing that the student's son had received a scholarship, Dr. Abrams asked, "Do you think she sent this to her lawyer? To her doctor? To her real estate man?"

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MRS. MAMIE CLAYTON

Recovered Loot

Franklin Sheriff William T. Dement, left, and Louisburg Police Chief Earl Tharrington are shown above Wednesday with three television sets the two recovered Tuesday night. The sets were stolen from Strickland Electric Co. on Bickett Blvd. here early last Friday morning. Tharrington reported that Louis Harris, c/m/20, Perry's Street, Louisburg, is charged with breaking the plate glass window and hauling off the three sets valued at \$400.00. One of the sets had been sold, according to the Chief and the remaining two were found in an abandoned house near Harris' home some 100 yards from the location of the Strickland store. Tharrington credited Sheriff Dement with giving valuable assistance in solving the crime.

Highway Chairman, Deputy Attorney General To Speak In County Friday

Two top state government leaders will speak in the county Friday night in separate functions being staged in Louisburg and Franklinton.

State Highway Commission Chairman "Lauch" Faircloth of Clinton will address the spring fund-raising dinner of the Franklin County Democratic Party at Louisburg College and Deputy Attorney General Jean Benoy will speak to the 50th Anniversary ladies night of the American Legion at Franklinton.

Mrs. Betsy Pernel, Chairman of the

Democratic Executive Committee, announced last week that Commissioner Faircloth would address the Democrats at 7 P.M. in the Benjamin Duke cafeteria building on the College campus. Tickets for the affair have been on sale for several days by members of the Executive Committee and others. Faircloth was recently appointed to the Chairmanship of the Highway Commission by Governor Bob Scott.

Douglas Hoyle, Commander of the Franklinton Post, American Legion, announced earlier this week the appearance of Deputy Attorney General Benoy. Benoy is a recent addition to the Attorney General's office being named by Attorney General Robert Morgan to the post. The Legion banquet is set for 7:30 P.M. at the Legion Post Home.

Franklin Native Wins Freedom Foundation Award

Michael A. Brewer, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Brewer of Route 2, Louisburg, now living in Shelby, N. C., has won a coveted Freedom Foundation Award for a letter he wrote on "A Free Ballot-A Free Country."

Brewer, who works with the Highway Commission in Shelby entered the letter as a member of Co. E 105th En-

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M. A. BREWER

gineer Battalion, North Carolina National Guard at Kings Mountain. He and Major Lloyd J. Skidmore of Raleigh are the only two Tarheel winners. Each of the two men will be presented the George Washington Honor Medal in special ceremonies held in Raleigh on May 2. The Freedom Foundation of Valley Forge each year awards honors for persons fostering Americanism and patriotism in a number of fields. Brewer and Skidmore won the outstanding honor through the National Guard competition.

Brewer is a graduate of Edward Best High School, Louisburg College and the University of North Carolina.

Fund Change

The Franklinton City School Board would be authorized to transfer funds from one account to meet a deficit in another under a bill introduced in the General Assembly Monday by Rep. John Church, D-Vance.

The bill sets a sum not exceeding \$15,000 from the capital outlay fund to the current expense fund, where there is a deficit for fiscal 1967-68.

The authority under the bill would begin with fiscal 1968-69 and would extend to every fiscal year thereafter in which such a need arises.



Free Wreck Victim

Members of the Louisburg Rescue Service and others are shown above freeing an 18-year-old Wake Forest man from the wreckage of his car Wednesday morning shortly before 7:30 on US-401 eight miles north of Louisburg. The man, identified as Robert Medlin, Crowder Avenue, Wake Forest, apparently lost control of his car on the rain-slick highway and overturned. He was pinned in the wreckage while rescuers were summoned. Medlin was taken to Franklin Memorial Hospital where he was admitted for treatment of bruises and contusions. This was the second early morning accident in the county in the past week. Thirteen persons were injured in a wreck near Edward Best School last Thursday morning. There has been only one fatality in the county thus far this year. This occurred on January 24 on NC-96 west of Youngsville.

Staff photo by Clint Fuller.