Mrs. Vonetta Ridge Named 1975 Garden Club Queen

Mrs. Vonetta Ridge of Charlotte's Irvin Park Garden Club was crowned Queen for 1975 at the 40th 'Annual Federation of Garden Clubs of North Carolina Convention recently at Sheraton Center

Mrs. Ridge, competing with representatives from approximately 100 garden clubs from throughout North Carolina. raised the most money - \$305 and received the First Prize of a \$25 cash award, a gold pewter vase, certificate and the crown from out going state President Virginia H. Levister of Louisburg, N. C. at the organization's annual Ban-

Other Charlotte Garden Clubs represented at the annual convention were: Fleur Joli, President, Annie Mae Dale; Four Leaf Clover Garden Club, President, Lizzie M. Nowell; Washington Heights Garden Club, President, Mrs. M. G. Gillespie; Druid Hills Garden Club, President, Mrs. Eva Wiley; Artistic Garden Club, President, Mrs. Danelle Hill. Mrs. Annie Dunn is President of the Irvin Park Garden Club whose member, Mrs. Vonetta Ridge, won this year's contest

Second place went to the Old Fashion Garden Club of Louisburg and Third Place winner was the Greensboro Garden

This year's convention was attended by approximately 200 garden club members and the money raised from the contest goes to help underwrite the organizations scholarship program and various special projects, accordding to newly crowned queen Vonetta Ridge

The members of Irvin Park Garden Club are: Mrs. Annie

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MRS. VONETTA RIDGE ...Irvin Park's vice president

Dunn, President; Mrs. Vonetta Ridge, Vice President; Mrs. Annie Carson, Secretary; Mrs. Hattie McCray, Assistant Secretary; Mrs. Emma Westbrook, Treasurer; Mrs. Sadie Nash, Mrs. Margie Hooper, Mrs. Willie Mae Simpson, and Mrs. Lucina Cherry.

Queen Vonetta Ridge is 32 years old and is married to Samuel Edward Ridge. They live at 913 Log Cabin Road in Hidden Valley and have no children. Mr. and Mrs. Ridge are members of Huntersville Presbyterian Church pastored by Rev. E. R. Richardson.

Her main hobby is gardening and she likes to bowl when punch. she can find the time.

Huntersville, N. C. She is a Clubs of North Carolina is Ms. Lytle High School and Salem, N. C.

received her clerical training at Central Piedmont Community College. She has been employed for the past yearand-a-half as an accounts receivable clerk at Memorial

Irvin Park Graden Club President Annie Mae Dale hosted a lawn party on Monday, August 4, at her home at 3614 Manchester Drive with approximately 75 to 100 of the Federation of Garden Club delegates attending. She also entertained the Junior Garden Club members on Sunday night, August 3, in Room 613 of the Sheraton Center, with cookies, potatoe chips and

The incoming president of Mrs. Ridge is a native of the Federation of Garden 1961 graduate of Torrence Romelia Mason of Winston-

Black Employment Rate Rose Sharply In July

Washington--The unemployment rate for blacks appeared to show signs of improvement in July, dropping seven-tenths of a percentage point to 13.0 percent. The jobless rate for blacks in June was 13.7 per-

The unemployment rate of 13.0 percent in July for blacks showed greater improvement than the rate for whites, which remained at 7.9 percent.

Nationally, the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that unemployment declined and total employment rose further in July.

Johnson C. Smith

Sets Evening Class Schedule

Dr. Limone C. Collins, Vice President of Academic Affairs at Johnson C. Smith University, has released information concerning a new evening class schedule for the institution. This accommodation has been planned for regular students who have part-time jobs, for persons in the community who work and do not have day-time hours free and who wish to pursue a degree and for former students who wish to complete degree requirements.

Courses to be offered during the fall semester include English 190, the freshman English course; Business 121, Personal and Family Finance; Accounting 235, Principles of Accounting; History 135, United States to 1865; Education 222, Measurement and Evaluation; and Psychology 131, General Psychology I.

Registration for all classes will be held on August 28-29 for freshman and September 2-3 for upper classmen.

At 8.4 percent, the unemployment rate was down sharply from the second quarter level of 8.9 percent but was still much higher than a year earlier. (The July figure was not complicated by seasonal adjustment difficulties encountered during the 2 previous months.)

Total employment-as measured by the monthly survey of households-rose by 630,000 in July to 85.1 million. After declining by nearly 2.6 million during the 6-month period ended in March, 1.2 million persons have obtained jobs-in the subsequent months.

Total nonagricultural payroll employment -- as mea-

State Grant To

Aid City Water Supply System

A grant totaling \$1,073,299 has been awarded to Charlotte to aid in financing improvements to its water supply system, according to Human Resources Secretary David Fla-

Similar grants have been made on five other occasions to cities and towns throughout North Caorlina. In all, \$53 million has been awarded totaling 294 grants since the program began in 1972.

Applications for the grnts were approved in accordance with the Clean Water Bond Act of 1971. Voters approved the issuance of \$150 million in clean water bonds in a 1972 referendum.

State grants provide only a portion of the total project cost. Most of the financing comes from local sources with some projects receiving federal assistance, though the amount of federal grant money has decreased during recent months.

sured by the monthly survey of establishments-rose in July by 90,000 from the June low of 76.3 million (as revised). However, increased strike activity kept an estimated 95,000 more workers off payrolls than in the previous month. Although employment

comparable in the household

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over short periods of time, as in the last few months.

Unemployment totaled 7.8 million in July, seasonally adjusted, a decline of nearly 400,000 from the second quarter average. Nearly all worker groups have shared in this decline. Rate dropped trends are generally quite most sharply among teenagers and adult women, from and establishment surveys, 20.5 to 19.1 percent and 8.5 to

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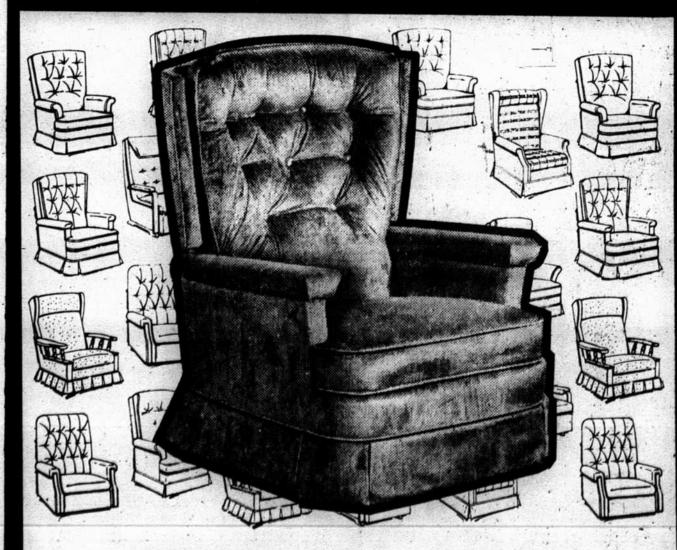
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