

Court Action Is Next Step After House Vote Deadlock

For the first time in more than 100 years, a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives may be seated by his peers.

Sunday, the State Board of

Elections announced its decision to count the ballot of Mrs. Grady Carol Formyduval. The ballot, which showed a vote for Thomas Harrelson but was declared spoiled by election officials in

South Lees precinct, deadlocks the race between Harrelson and Democrat Arthur Williamson at 5,453 votes apiece. Both men were certified by the state board. Usual procedure would have

either candidate seated by the predominantly Democratic state legislature, but Harrelson said in a telephone interview that he will take the matter to court.

"We will file an appeal to Wake County Superior Court to get a recount of ballots in every precinct in Columbus County," the Southport man said. "We contend that the registrars and other election officials were improperly instructed how to count the votes and how to determine whether or not some votes were valid."

"It was proven in South Lees precinct that the officials were unable to count the votes properly and could not determine the validity of some ballots," Harrelson stated.

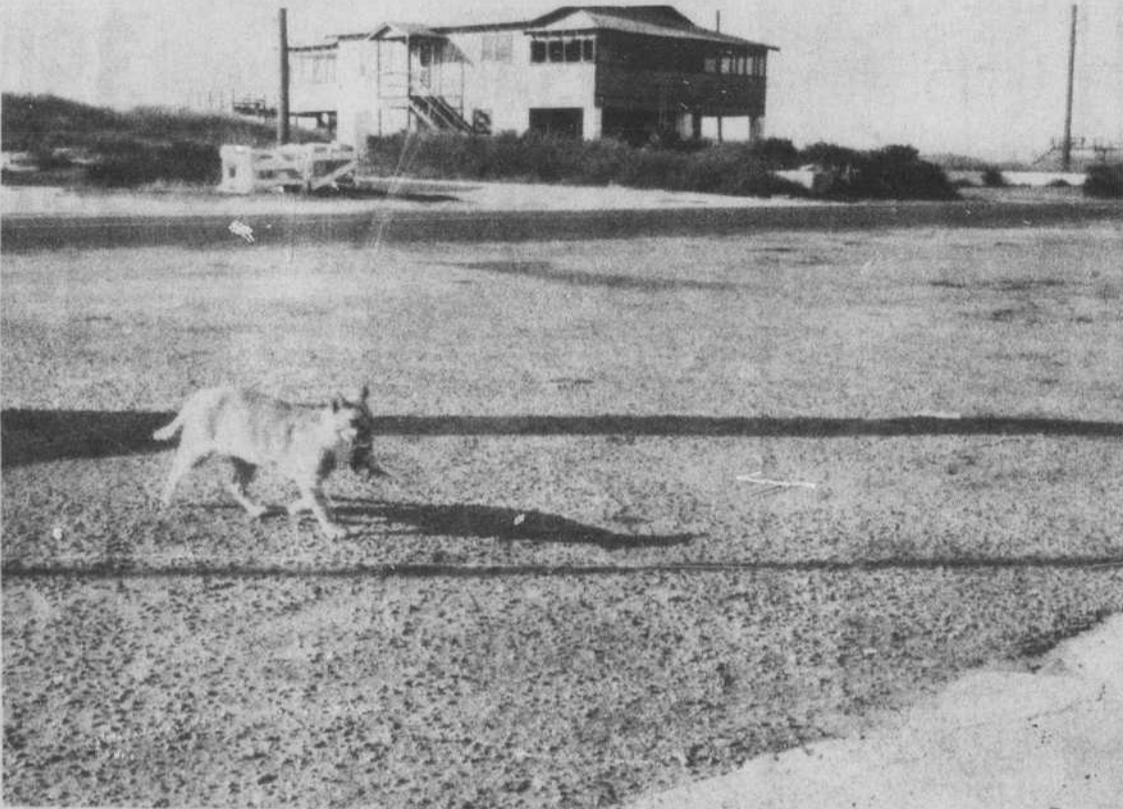
Unofficial results of the November 3 general election had Harrelson trailing his opponent by five votes in the race for a House seat to represent Columbus and Brunswick counties. The Brunswick County canvass showed an additional 15 votes for Harrelson and six more for Williamson, but the Chadbourne farmer-businessman picked up seven votes in his home county for a two-vote margin.

Harrelson asked for a recount of votes in Columbus County but the request was denied by the county Board of Elections. The state board heard an appeal and allowed a recount in South Lees, where the Republican judge said 13 votes were cast for Williamson and the Democratic judge and registrar stated the candidate received 20 votes.

The recount showed 19 votes for Williamson, cutting his apparent victory margin to one. Friday, the state board heard an appeal by Harrelson that concerned a disputed ballot, also in South Lees precinct.

The ballot, which reportedly was cast by Mrs. Formyduval, showed a vote for Harrelson and

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Some strange things happen on the beach, and one is to find a pilfering cat who steals fish from beach fishermen. Brice Helms though he had been losing a part of his catch from his gill net, and Dan Shannon caught the feline culprit in the act. Yes, that's fish the cat has in its mouth.

HEW Orders Board To Change Bus Plan

Federal officials from the Civil Rights Office of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare visited the Brunswick County School System last week for the purpose of making a unit-wide review and survey relative to school desegregation matters.

The two-day survey was conducted by three HEW staff members from the Washington and Atlanta Civil Rights office and included an on-site inspection of the operation of each of the eight county schools according to Ralph C. King, Superintendent, Brunswick County Schools.

The officials requested detailed information as to school transportation, staff and student assignments, sale of property to private schools, class organization, extra-curricular activities and many other facets of the total school operation.

As a result of the visit the group cited some discriminatory practices observed in the schools and listed some major deficiencies of the school system in its effort to eliminate the dual

school system. The school system was directed to reorganize the school transportation system in a manner which would eliminate all vestiges of a dual bus system. Reference was made to previous directive from HEW which states:

"School systems are responsible for reorganizing their transportation system to facilitate the elimination of the dual school structure. Race, color, or national origin may not be a factor in assigning students to buses, nor may school systems continue to maintain overlapping, duplicative bus routes which segregate students. Therefore, affirmative steps must be taken to eliminate the problems dealing with segregated bus routes."

Another concern of the HEW staff members was the assignment of teachers to the various schools. It was cited that the racial percentage of each school did not reflect the county-wide percentage which is required by law according to a directive

received from HEW which states:

"Faculty Desegregation—Faculty members have not been reassigned so as to completely desegregate the faculties of all of your schools. In this connection, current judicial decisions, as well as our policies, require that staff members be assigned so that the ratio of Negro to white teachers in each school is substantially the same as the ratio that exists system wide."

"Under the requirements of the above stated rule, no faculty of any of your schools should be predominantly black, since your black-white faculty ratio is approximately 38 percent black and 62 percent white."

The Brunswick County Board of Education and officials were given until December 18 to come forth with plans to satisfy the above concerns or legal action which would involve administrative enforcement to proceedings by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, these to be initiated immediately.

Next Week Is Clean-Up Time

Mayor Eugene Tomlinson is calling upon all citizens to observe December 14 through 19 as Clean-Up Week in this area.

"Begin by your own property clean-up, then assist with public property clean-up by meeting at the Cedar Bench on December 19 at 9 a.m.," he asks.

"Various clubs and individuals will move out into assigned areas to help with a citywide clean-up for Christmas. Let's present a good appearance to the many people who are beginning to visit Southport," the Mayor said.

Mayor Tomlinson stated that the citywide effort was sparked by a recent resolution presented to the Board of Aldermen by local Garden Clubs who have agreed to support the Saturday morning operation.

Bald Head Developer Says Value Of Island's Marshland 'Overrated'

The man who wants to develop Bald Head Island does not believe that only governments can be responsible.

William R. Henderson, who reportedly agreed to buy the island from previous owner Frank Sherrill for \$5.5 million, told a meeting of the Conservation Council of North Carolina Sunday about his plans to build the island into a multi-million dollar resort without destroying the beauty of the Cape Fear River at Southport.

He indicated that he wouldn't yield to the wishes of Gov. Scott, and that he would go to court to secure access to the island. Gov. Scott and other state officials have announced they would not grant dredging permits that Henderson would need for ferry access to the island.

Henderson said his lawyers

have told him, "There is no basis for the state not granting the permits."

Henderson, a former official in the N.C. Department of Conservation and Development, is president of Carolina Cape Fear Corporation. The group is involved in one of the greatest conservation-development feuds in state history, and one of the major adversaries is the conservation council.

The would-be developer said the question of ferry-access to the island could be resolved and construction on the island could start next spring. He also doubted that the courts would uphold a state decision to condemn the property so the government could have the island as its own.

"I do not subscribe to the theory that only governments can be responsible," Henderson told the conservationists Sunday in Reidsville. He was an invited

guest at their meeting.

He was reminded of Scott's suggestion that he bought the island so he could raise the price and sell the 12,000 acre island to the state. He denied this.

"I am not selling it to the state or any other group," Henderson stated.

Henderson gave an outline of the development that he claimed would enhance rather than destroy the natural value of the subtropical island.

According to the developer: "The development, in clusters of about 100 acres or less, would never exceed 16,000 persons."

"The value of the marshlands surrounding the island has been greatly exaggerated."

"All settlement, including roads, would be set back from the shoreline."

"All historical features, including the lighthouse, would be preserved."

"This is not the normal kind of development one might think of," Henderson said during his 45-minute speech. "It will be for people with sufficient appreciation of nature."

No resident would be allowed to remove a tree over four inches in diameter or remove or plant any shrubbery without the permission of a special conservation committee.

Sewage would be processed, Henderson said, by a treatment plant more advanced than any used by a municipality in this state. The sewage would not be released in the water, but even if it were it would be 300 percent cleaner, he said.

"We are not going to have a lot of roads," he stated. "Automobiles may be prohibited. It is my personal desire to prohibit them if at all possible."

The discussion of most concern (Continued On Page Six)



New Commissioners Sworn In

This was the scene in the Brunswick County Courtroom Monday morning when members of the new Board of County Commissioners were administered their oath of office before Judge Ray H.

Walton. Left to right, they are W.A. Kopp, Jr., chairman; Robert Simmons, Vardell Hughes, John H. Bray and J.T. Clemmons. (Photo by Spencer)



Swearing-In Ceremony

Participating in swearing-in ceremonies held Monday morning were Sheriff Harold Willetts, left, and Clerk of Court J.E. Brown. On the right is



Coroner Lowell Bennett, receiving congratulations from Judge Ray H. Walton, who administered the oaths of office. (Photo by Spencer)

New Board Of Commissioners Name Lewis County Manager

Newly elected Brunswick County officials were given their oath of office by Judge Ray H. Walton Monday morning. Included were members of the

new board of County Commissioners, who met and named W.A. Kopp, Jr., to serve as chairman. Other members are John H. Bray, J.T. Clemmons,

Robert Simmons and Vardell Hughes.

One of their first acts was to appoint Jerry D. Lewis as County Manager, and this fulfills one of their campaign promises. Republican candidates for this office had promised to create and to fill this position in county government.

Lewis resigned his position as an engineer with Riegel Paper Co. to accept this appointment. Prior to going to work at Riegel in 1968 he had been doing work as a consulting engineer for several years while establishing a retail business at Shallotte. In 1964 he resigned from a position with Western Electric in Winston-Salem to return to his native Brunswick county. He is a graduate of University of North Carolina at Raleigh.

His salary was set at \$10,400 per year.

The new Board of Commissioners named Thomas Horne to serve as County Attorney.

Others sworn in during the courtroom ceremony were Sheriff Harold Willetts, Clerk of

Court J.E. Brown and Coroner L.B. Bennett.

At the conclusion of the swearing-in ceremony, Judge Walton said, "Brunswick County has a history of good government. We are more or less turning our government in Brunswick County over to you for a few years. I charge you to keep that tradition moving."

The board resolved that all bond proofs be turned over to Clerk of Court Brown for safe keeping and in a place where they could be presented for inspection at the commissioners' request to prevent future troubles along the same lines.

The board also named Waccamaw Bank and Trust of Southport and the Bank of North Carolina at Shallotte as the county's two official depositories. Waccamaw formerly served as the county's only depository.

In other actions before recessing the meeting, the board discussed departmental operations with county department heads.

CP&L Plant Now At 10 Percent Mark

Work on North Carolina's first nuclear electric generating plant is approximately 10 percent complete, according to W.B. Kincaid, Carolina Power & Light Company manager of plant design and construction.

The plant, being built by CP&L near Southport will consist of two identical 821,000 kilowatt units costing over \$300 million. The first unit is scheduled for completion in 1974, followed by its twin in 1976.

Work is progressing on the basic foundations and structures for the units. Nearly 770 employees are working at the 1,200 acre construction site, according to W.C. Strickland, project manager for Brown & Root, Inc., constructor of the unit.

The first General Electric reactor pressure vessel is scheduled for delivery in August of 1971. The reactor vessel, which weighs 530 tons, will be inside a 148-foot high containment building when the plant is completed.

CP&L has nearly completed a 700,000 kilowatt nuclear unit near Harsville, S.C. The unit will be the largest on CP&L's system and the first commercial nuclear unit in the Southeast.

By the end of 1976 the power company will more than double its present generating capacity. CP&L spends an average of \$500,000 per day on construction.

New Officers For Lay Group

The Brunswick County Home Health Service Lay Group held its quarterly meeting at the New Hope Freewill Baptist Church on November 23 with 15 members present. John Sloan of the church presented \$6 to the group and the Women of the Moose at Yaupon Beach presented \$25 toward the purchase of a walker for the loan closet operated by the group.

A new slate of officers was presented and the following were unanimously elected: Mrs. Ada Mims, chairman; Mrs. Josie Smith and Mrs. Katie Wimbrough, who will work together as vice-chairman and program chairman; Miss Kay Moore, treasurer; Mrs. Peggy Parker, secretary, and Mrs. Gladys Fish, publicity chairman. Joseph Wimbrough and Vinton Fish have volunteered to keep equipment in good repair. Since the meeting the loan closet has received two hospital beds from Doshier Memorial Hospital.

The organization wishes to remind readers that it can use all kinds of sick room equipment, lines, pajamas, robes, etc. The need is always greater than the supply.

Time And Tide

December 4, 1935, and winter had been here. The temperature had dropped to 26-degrees, and some out-of-season blossoms had been blighted by the cold. There was a note that Boatswain Roy Robinson, in charge of Oak Island Coast Guard Station for the past 4 years, was being transferred to Boston, Mass.

There had been no Thanksgiving dinner served at the Brunswick County jail for the simple reason that the local bastille had been empty during the holiday period. A dozen men from the local CC Camp had given blood for a patient at the local hospital; and Dr. D.I. Watson had celebrated his 79th birthday with open house at his home here.

Thomas Crady Floyd, Southport boy, became the first man to be furnished the armed services through the local Selective Service Board. He volunteered for one year and left on Wednesday, December 4, 1940, for Ft. Bragg. That was the same day The Pilot came out that week. Orion reported a profusion of early blooming camellias, probably as the result of an unusually mild November.

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