

YOUR HOME NEWSPAPER'S editorials are the opinions of staff members. As such they may be wrong. Whether you agree or disagree our columns, under "The People Write" heading, are open for you to express your own opinion.

Commissioner Action Saluted

The Times-News has been criticised at various times for being critical of actions the Board of County Commissioners has taken or failed to take. We think it is the purpose of a newspaper to stimulate discussion within the county and to try to develop support for progressive action that will help in the development of the county and so we do not regret having ventured some unpopular opinions. We do confess that by nature editors tend to dwell on what is yet to be done rather than what has been done. To make amends we publicly admit that this week's commissioner meeting left little to be harped on in the "undone" category.

The commissioners completed one task that has been needed for a dozen years and took on a new task that has been somewhat unpopular.

The Welfare Department officially acknowledged its acceptance of the new office building facing the courthouse by serving a meal for the commissioners. It is now functioning from the new building in a way that was impossible in the cramped and inadequate quarters assigned to them on the third floor of the courthouse.

The best part about the arrangement is that the state and federal governments have agreed to participate in the project by paying rent in an amount that will in time pay for the cost of constructing the building. In time the county will have had the costs of the building repaid from the rents received. Aside from this, the citizens of the county, many of whom are aged and infirm, will not have to climb three flights of stairs in order to transact their business with the county.

In a second action, the board endorsed the referendum that will be voted on November 2 to allow up to a levy of five cents per \$100 valuation so the board can participate in the county's share of the necessary improvements to Tri-County Airport. It also favored the up to two cents levy for library improvements.

There has not been a great deal of outspoken popular support for these measures to date but this is not too surprising in a rural county. The board has emphasized that the money is available from the county's surplus now and from ABC money in the future, but that they would like the understanding and support of the voters in this matter.

The county manager has advised the commissioners that there will not have to be a tax increase in the near future in order to carry out these development plans. The county is favored by a low tax rate and a rate of evaluation that is actually 50 per cent of true value. Few counties are in better tax shape when the benefits of having two VEPCO dams are considered as sources of tax revenue.

The commissioners are right to want the public to understand this problem and they are to be admired for being willing to take a public stand in order to try to convince the county that a short range view will not help the county to find jobs or to stem the population loss that will in time mean a declining economy.

We must admit that they have served the county well in adopting these courses of action. Gentlemen, we salute you!

Consequences Law Catches Up

It came as a shock, last week, to the three generations of Americans who have watched actor Charles Boyer grow—on film—from a young man to a middle-aged, graying adult, to learn that his son had—apparently—killed himself.

There were many among us who wondered why. Why this young man who seemed to have so much to live for, should have taken his life.

The antics of Russian roulette were said to have resulted in the death, the 21-year-old dying with a bullet in his head.

Notification of the shooting in Hollywood was telephoned to Boyer in Paris only after Boyer's manager telephoned Boyer's wife in Hollywood and saw to it that she, in turn, telephoned her husband in Paris. Nobody wanted to break to the father the tragedy of the son's act. And the son was beyond earthly consequences, perhaps for the first time in his life.

We teach our children, we modern parents, just about everything but the

law of consequences. There, we foolishly and unwisely are forever trying to protect them.

Apparently this son had never been brought face to face with consequences, had not been made to realize that if you pull the trigger of a loaded gun you can expect a bullet.

How many times we parents have stepped between our children, out of some misguided belief, and the equivalent of that bullet, so that they have escaped the consequences of some act—to leave them protected, yes! But without that most valuable of all lessons, that consequences follow cause, and without the interference of the misguided, we can expect to pay a price.

We are of course sorry for the stricken and bereaved father but somehow sorrier for all the millions of American youth growing up without this most important of all lessons, that sooner or later the law of consequences catches up with all of us.

An Unrecognized Health Hazard

Venereal disease has become an increasingly urgent health problem in the United States in the past year. There are, apparently, several causes for the rising number of cases.

One factor is that new birth control pills have induced freer behavior among many of the nation's young and middle-aged. And while the danger of pregnancy is greatly lessened, the danger of VD is still very much present.

(There has been a tendency among doctors not to report all patients by name, which can prove a sensitive issue, so that health officials might check these who might unknowingly have been exposed.)

There is also a belief among some that new drugs have made the threat of VD

a thing of the past. While new drugs are effective, it is not true that VD has been eradicated, either in the United States or elsewhere, and the rising rate of infection proves this point conclusively.

The contraction of syphilis in those under twenty in the United States has risen 200 per cent in the past five years and, in some areas, the gonorrhea rate increased on a like scale, or even faster. VD has reached epidemic proportions in some U. S. cities.

The American Medical Association has announced a nationwide counter-attack, a campaign to inform and warn the public of the trend, and the effort should have the support of civic leaders everywhere.

Our Food Is Pesticide Safe

The farm population and the amount of land devoted to farming have declined over the years, while the population as a whole has soared. Yet our farmers have been able to supply the nation with an abundance of foods of every kind, and of the highest quality. This is one of the remarkable, if little recognized, achievements of our time.

There are a number of reasons why this has been possible. One, and a most important one, is found in the general use of pesticides. These destroy the natural enemies of crops which, in past eras, vastly undermined the farmer's ability to produce. Without pesticides, and the other agricultural chemicals in common use, the problem of meeting our demands for food would be critical.

However, some little time ago, there was a wave of fear that pesticides were contaminating our foods and had become a menace to health. Luckily, thoroughgoing "total diet" studies conducted by

found at all. The tests were made on composite samples representing 12 major food groups including root vegetables, dairy products, and grain and cereal products.

What this means is that the pesticides are safe when properly used—and that the farmers are using them properly. The manufacturers' labels clearly describe the safe ways to employ the products. No one need fear that the food we see in such succulent abundance in the market are anything but healthful.

the Food and Drug Administration disapproved this. The latest of these found that the amount of pesticide residues detected in our foods by today's highly sensitive analytical methods are insignificant from a health standpoint. Pesticide levels found in test samples were generally less than one per cent of the safe legal tolerance, and many of the most commonly used pesticides were not



Carlton Morris Writes—

Analysts, Engineers, Programmers; Perhaps They Were Here Before



Usually the male of the species decides what he's going to do in life as soon as he can talk, and it's quite interesting to note what he really does in comparison to what he says he'll do. For some reason completely unknown to me, the females, almost without exception, plan to nurse. Ask any kid what he wants to be and he has an answer. In other years he wanted to be a fireman or policeman. A little later he wanted to be a cowboy or engineer, and by engineer he wanted to be the man who pulled the whistle on the big steam engines that traveled our railroads. For in my generation, the lonesome whistle of the locomotive hurted stronger at a youngster's heart-strings than any other man-made sound.

Commissioners PAVING

(Continued from Page 1) been approved. County manager Melvin Holmes told the board and commissioner Liverman repeated it in making his motion that "taxes will not have to be raised if this levy for the airport is approved."

Liverman said, "The people ought to be informed of this." Holmes said the county treasury could pay the airport costs out of its surplus thus not requiring a tax increase.

Chief advantage of voters approving the levy November 2 is that the county could go ahead and pay its share now without having to wait to accumulate sufficient funds from non-tax sources.

To pay the \$25,000 from non-tax funds would probably require waiting until the new ABC system began paying profits into the general fund it was pointed out.

In other action commissioner Boone asked why minutes of the September meeting, including salaries set for county employees, had not been published.

There was discussion as to whether publishing the salaries with only the county portion listed gave a true picture since some employees receive state and federal supplements while others do not.

A representative of "The Times-News" said the \$12,500 paid for publishing the commissioners' proceedings each month did not cover the costs.

Boone said, "I think the people have a right to know." On a motion to discontinue publishing official proceedings and post the minutes on a courthouse bulletin board instead Boone voted "no" with others present voting "yes."

Reports from departments included a briefing for the board on status of a proposed multi-county mental health service by Dr. Raleigh Parker, health officer.

off to an early start. "Be we probably won't, for it has ever been thus. It was the same way back in my time. All my life, or from the day I learned to read, I wanted to write. And I felt I was wasting my time when I had to clean the stables every spring. If they had simply taken the trouble to explain to me that I was learning to be a Sanitary Engineer, I might well have gone on to become a great Compost Analyst. You can't tell; I could even have made as much money as a columnist.

(Continued from Page 1) the highway department used average cost figures of \$30,000 per mile for secondary road paving.

Based on this average cost 29 miles of paving would cost \$870,000.

If the eight requests were all made the top priority roads in Northampton for paving it would require all the county's share of the state bond issue money plus all secondary road funds for about six years at current spending rates to complete paving all eight.

It is state policy for highway commission representatives to meet each year with County Commissioners in each county for recommendations on priorities for secondary road work.

Presumably this is the purpose for the coming meeting with Matthews.

The state sets minimum standards which a road must meet before it is considered for road work. Only roads with a year around daily vehicle count of more than 50 vehicles are considered for paving. Less than 50 vehicle roads may be graded and stabilized.

In establishing priorities, in addition to recommendations by commissioners, number of houses, school bus and mail route uses are also taken into consideration.

It is state policy that each year secondary road work ends about November 1 and is resumed about April 1. Any project recommended by county commissioners to Commissioner Matthews to come out of the current budget will not be started until next spring.

Text of the Voter Movement statement said: As citizens of Northampton County, we wish to present for your consideration a few of the roads in the county that are most in need of improvement. We are calling these roads to your attention at this time in view of the fact that they will soon be voting as to whether we want to pay tax in order to have better roads.

CHOANOKE Fatality Is County's 12th For Year

(Continued from Page 1) WOODLAND — Northampton County recorded its 12th traffic fatality of the year early last Saturday morning.

David Lee Whitaker, 21-year-old Negro of near Rich Square, died of a broken neck when pinned in an overturned automobile here.

Whitaker was a passenger in a 1958 Ford allegedly driven by Hardy Whitaker, Jr., 17-year-old Negro of near Rich Square.

The driver and another passenger, Willie Harrison, 27, of Lasker were both thrown clear of the auto and were unharmed.

Driving his mother's auto, Hardy Whitaker, Jr., lost control of the auto on a curve just north of Hebron Church, skidded 630 feet, hit a small ditch, and the auto turned over one and one-half times.

He is being held in the county jail under \$1,000 bond on charges of drunk driving, driving without operator's license and manslaughter.

Trooper Glenn Swanson was assisted in the investigation by Trooper Bob Corey and Sheriff E. Frank Outley.

Mon. Wreck Sends Driver To Hospital

CONWAY — A one-car accident just beyond the town limits west of here Monday night sent the driver to Roanoke-Chowan Hospital with cuts, abrasions and a possible broken leg.

Raymond C. Garris, 23-year-old Negro of Baltimore, was admitted to the hospital after receiving treatment from Dr. Joe Fleetwood.

Garris, driving a 1959 Pontiac, lost control of the car on a curve and skidded 390 feet, knocked down several mailboxes and broke and splintered parts of a wood fence in the yard of Mrs. Junius E. Flythe.

Garris, identified men from the Severn area were passengers in the car but were not injured. Trooper Glenn Swanson, who was assisting in the investigation by Police Officer Lindsay, charged Garris with reckless driving.

New Officers Named By Church

SEVERN — The new officers and teachers for 1965-66 of Severn Baptist Church assumed their duties on Sunday, October 3.

Church officers include: treasurer, J. Q. Taylor; clerk, Carol Parker; organist and choir director, Mrs. Kenneth Stokes; usher chairman, J. C. Long, Jr.

Sunday school officers include: superintendent, J. W. Barkley; secretary, Richard McGee; pianist, Mrs. Jack Britt; and department superintendents: intermediates, Mrs. Richard McGee; juniors, Mrs. James Parker; primaries, Mrs. Garland Barnes; beginners, Mrs. Wallace Stephenson.

Director of the Training Union is Henry H. Barnes. Serving on the nominating committee are: Ray Futrell, chairman; J. C. Long, Jr., Mrs. R. B. Edwards, Mrs. Jack Britt and Mrs. M. A. Britt.

Illit, Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Outland and daughter, Debbie, of Hampton, Va., and Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Carter of Williamston were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Leggett.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Lanier of Rocky Mount, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Weeks of Tarboro and Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Martin of Jackson visited Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Elliott and family on Sunday, C. L. Odom of Norfolk was a dinner guest on Friday.

Miss Patricia Futrell of Elizabeth City spent the weekend with Mrs. Celia Chappell and family. Sunday guests were Mrs. Ivan Futrell and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Wingate Strickland and children and Mr. and Mrs. James Futrell and son.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lovegrove and children visited Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Felton and sons in Colerain and Mr. and Mrs. "Futrell in St. Johns.

Beads 'n Deeds

Russia's alarm over the possibility that the Indian-Pakistani war might precipitate World War III is reassuring, as it strongly indicates she won't backup her often rattling bombs and missiles by suiting actions to words.

Lowering tax rates to increase tax receipts "doesn't compute" (to quote the "Living Doll"), but it seems to work.