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THE Northampton County TIMES-NEWS

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 THE ROANOKE-CHOWAN TIMES — Established 1892 ☆ THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY NEWS — Established 1926



Volume LXXVI, No. 16

Rich Square LE 9-2859
 Jackson LE 4-2656

Rich Square and Jackson, N. C., Thursday, April 13, 1967

Covers All of Northampton's
 Towns and Communities

10 PAGES



"AND THEY'RE OFF"—"Step-Right-In," owned and driven by G. F. Owens of Chesapeake, takes an early lead in the Classified Trot 1:34-1:41 competition in the

Northampton Saddle Club sponsored pony harness races, held Sunday near Conway. Owens, who rode on to victory in the event, claimed the \$100 purse.



"ROUNDING THE BEND"— Trotting ponies and determined drivers round one end of the quarter-mile racing track owned by the Northampton Saddle Club and scene last Sunday of 16 racing heats.

Ponies and drivers take each heat in two laps for a total of 1/2 mile per heat. The Sunday event attracted veteran racers from North Carolina and Virginia.

Overflow Crowd Views N'ampton Harness Race

CONWAY — An overflow crowd witnessed the running of 16 heats and awarding of \$700 in purses to winners in the Northampton Saddle Club - sponsored Pony Harness Races, held Sunday on U.S. 158 near Conway.

Racers from Virginia and all over the Tar Heel State were on hand when race time began.

Champion racing stock, including "Country Boy," owned

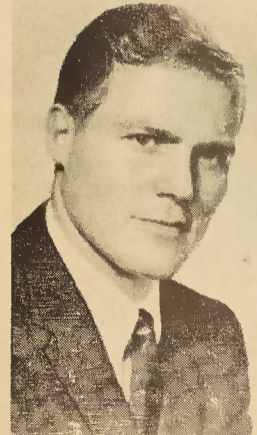
by A. R. Butler of Carrsville, Va., provided an action-packed afternoon for the spectators.

Winners of the events were as follows:

Persian Jewel, owned by H. Williams of Petersburg, Va., (Classified Trot 1:50-1:57); Tinkerbell, owned by W. D. Faircloth, Chesapeake, Va., (Classified Trot 1:50-1:57); My Lady, owned by James Cox, Newport News, Va., (Classified Trot 2:07-2:15); Tigerlady, owned by W. D. Faircloth of Chesapeake, Va.,

(Classified Trot 2:07-2:15); Cool Breeze, owned by Kelly Davis of Conway (Classified Trot 1:42-1:49); Holly Run Belle, owned by W. M. Camp of Franklin, Va., (Classified Trot 1:58-2:06); Step-Right-In, owned by G. F. Owens of Chesapeake, Va., (Classified Trot 1:34-1:41); Flash, owned by Wilson Butler, Carrsville, Va., (Classified Trot 1:34-1:41); Holly Run Kid, owned by W. M. Camp, Franklin, Va., (Classified Trot 2:25-2:16);

(See OVERFLOW, Page 4)



CIVIL RIGHTS SPEAKER— John R. Salter Jr. of Raleigh will speak at an NAACP sponsored rally to be held in Murfreesboro Sunday, April 16, at the First Baptist Church. Salter assisted in planning the "massive non-violent demonstrations" in Mississippi during 1963. He also has done investigatory work in Mississippi concerning economic and physical reprisals levied against Negroes in that state.

New Measures To Boost Cost Of Operator's Licenses In Future

By RANDOLPH THOMAS
 RALEIGH — State Representative Emmett W. Burden of Aulander, chairman of a special House committee to study the feasibility of using photographs on N. C. operator's licenses, says approval of the measure and hikes to be requested by the Department of Motor Vehicles may boost the cost of a driver's license to \$4.

Burden says he will confer with officials of the Department of Motor Vehicles Tuesday to see if a bill cannot be drawn which will include both proposals and not raise the cost of the operator's license needlessly.

Burden says use of pictures on an operator's license will cost approximately 75 cents.

A bill to be introduced by the department would ask an additional \$1 per operator's license to cover costs of hiring additional personnel last year, he added.

This would make the cost of each license \$4.25, Burden says. He added all concerned were

skeptical of raising the cost "more than \$1 per year."

The joint meeting will be held to determine whether or not the two measures can be combined into one bill and cut back some on the total cost.

Burden said he felt the use of photographs on operator's licenses would eliminate the problem of persons obtaining licenses fraudulently.

Burden had planned to visit Georgia last week to talk with law enforcement and Motor Vehicles Department personnel in that state to get their feelings on the use of photographs on operator's licenses, a practice which has been in operation in that state for several years.

He canceled the trip when the joint meeting was requested.

BROWN-BAGGING

Burden and other Roanoke-Chowan legislators hailed the House-passed version of the controversial "brown-bagging" bill as one of the best bills for ABC control they had ever read.

The bill, introduced in the

VEPCO Objects To \$255,277 Tax Hike

JACKSON — Representatives of Virginia Electric and Power Company appeared before Northampton County's Board of Equalization and Review Monday to object to tax revaluations of VEPCO property amounting to \$255,277, according to reports.

In a formal appeal, the VEPCO representatives stated that property owned by the company within the county was appraised by VEPCO on January 1 at \$20,563,650.

They added, however, that a letter from County Tax Auditor Melvin Holmes dated January 31 increased the total valuation of the property to \$20,818,927. "No explanation was given as to how the increase was determined," the representatives charged.

VEPCO's appraisal was based on exemptions granted by the State Stream and Sanitation Committee totaling approximately \$287,000.

The company charged that this exemption was not allowed when valuation was made by the county tax office.

VEPCO has estimated proper-

ty worth for its three Northampton County holdings as follows: Roanoke Rapids Hydroelectric Project—\$9,411,054.
 Gaston Hydroelectric Project—\$10,754,784.
 Kirby Township electric lines—\$397,812.

The January 31 valuation of the company's property is as follows:
 Roanoke Rapids Hydroelectric Project—\$9,493,553.
 Gaston Hydroelectric Project—\$10,855,062.
 Kirby Township electric lines—\$470,312.

Company representatives asked that the appraisals of January 1 be declared final and the January 31 appraisal be declared "null and void."

In an answer to the appeal, the Northampton County tax supervisor denied the company's claims.

The answer stated that the appraisal was made by a private firm of appraisal engineers in accordance with the North Carolina "Machinery Act of 1939 as amended."

According to the answer, the Roanoke Rapids submerged weir was "not included" in the appraisal valuation report because it was not considered to be of any "market value," inasmuch as it consists "of nothing more than a pile of crushed rock in the river."

The tax supervisor stated that he allowed credit for the Gaston submerged weir.

Justifying another increase, the tax supervisor's office stated that a substation, valued at \$145,-

000, had never been listed by the company.

The answer stated that the appraisal firm listed by name each substation, itemizing each item of equipment plus the reproduction cost new and the depreciated value of each substation.

However, since the AMPAC substation is on property owned by AMPAC Manufacturing Company which was appraised by a different appraisal company, this substation was omitted from their report.

The county's appraisal value was made by comparison of the substation with the Woodland substation which was appraised at \$145,000, the answer stated.

In other action, representatives of several cotton ginning companies in the county appeared before the board asking that gin machinery and gin buildings be separated and that gin operators be allowed depreciation on machinery.

Appearing for the ginners were (See VEPCO, Page 4)

Rich Square Water, Sewer Bond Elections Postponed

RICH SQUARE — Rich Square residents will not be able to vote on the proposed water and sewer extension and improvement bonds in the May 2 elections, according to Mayor Charles E. Myers.

Mayor Myers stated that word was received this week from the Local Government Commission stating that it would be impossible to hold the elections at the same time.

The commission explained that there would not be enough time to advertise sale of the bonds as prescribed by law.

The vote has been rescheduled for some time in June, according to Myers.

Voters will, however, go to the polls to elect a mayor and five town commissioners.

In that race, Mayor Myers lost an opponent this week with the announcement by V. E. Taylor, who had been nominated as a candidate, that he was withdrawing from the race because it would involve too many extra duties.

Gaston Mayor Files For Third Term In Office

GASTON — Only one person has filed for the May 2 municipal elections in Gaston according to reports received Thursday.

Incumbent Mayor Firman C. Myrick filed recently for his third term as mayor of the Northampton community.

Filing deadline for the Gaston election is 5 p.m. April 18.

Northampton's Multi-Service Sponsors Outing

ROANOKE RAPIDS — The Northampton County Multi-Services Center sponsored an outing for several women of the Occaneechee Township to Glover's Fabric Center, located in Roanoke Rapids.

According to reports, Mrs. Glover and her staff demonstrated use of patterns, discussed selection of pattern size and gave the group tips in selection of material for making clothing.

The group has scheduled a sewing class on April 25 at 2 p.m.

Chuckle

Three men at the office were discussing what most people wanted to get out of a new car. "Dependability," said one fellow, "Styling," declared another. "Economy," said the third.

Just then a fourth man, who recently had bought a new car, entered the room. They decided to pose the question to him.

"What is the thing you'd like most to get out of your new car?" they asked.

"My teen-age son," he replied.

Compulsory School Age Hike Requested By Judge Gwyn

REIDSVILLE — Judge Allen H. Gwyn, who recently presided over a two-week term of Northampton County Superior Court, requested introduction of a bill in the N. C. General Assembly recently raising from 16 to 18, the age limit for compulsory school attendance.

In a letter to members of the Assembly, Judge Gwyn stated, "The necessity to do something about illiteracy, poverty and crime has reached such proportions throughout the land that the federal government deems it necessary to take a hand in the correction of these degenerating conditions."

"We grumble when the federal government steps in," he continued, "but the fault is with us who fail to face up to our responsibilities."

Judge Gwyn stated there is no use to consider illiteracy, poverty and crime in separate categories. "There is a definite and unmistakable correlation between the three," he asserted.

"Illiteracy and poverty go hand in hand," the judge said, "and

crime is the culmination" of the two.

Judge Gwyn said that the first step in the elimination of the problem is to repeal the statutory invitation to drop out of school at the age of 16.

He stated that it finally dawns on the dropout that he is a left-out and a misfit. "They see others move ahead enjoying the more affluent life," he said, "and a deep-seated envy sets in."

"They are ready to buck the prevailing social order, he added."

Judge Gwyn stated that during the last session of Northampton Superior Court, 19 defendants came before him and not one was a high school graduate.

"Every single one was a school drop-out except one," the judge commented. "This one had not been to any school," he said.

Gwyn said that raising the age limit will not solve all problems of illiteracy, poverty and crime, but it is the first essential step.

The compulsory age limit should be reasonably commensurate with the 12 grades of high school, he said. The statutory invitation to walk out of the school room on the eve of the 16th birthday should be converted into a statutory mandate to remain and reap the benefits of our investments in schools and teachers . . .

Judge Gwyn concluded, "We can no longer afford our tremendous deficit spending on account of school drop-outs. There is a more economical way to fight poverty and crime."

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Mayor Outland Unopposed In Woodland Nominations

WOODLAND — Mayor J. G. Outland of Woodland was the unanimous nominee for the office of mayor in the Friday town convention, according to reports received by "Your Home Newspaper."

Outland, who first was elected mayor two years ago, and completed the unexpired term of former Mayor John Stanley, who resigned, was unopposed.

kins, Roy Parrish, Patrick Barnes, Mrs. John Vick, James Brittle (who later withdrew), Lloyd Bowen, Hazel Griffin, W. R. Reinhardt, Paul Sykes, Charles Bailey, and E. R. Powell.

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Woodland Board Sets Election, Register Dates

WOODLAND — The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the town of Woodland was highlighted by approval of a resolution calling a general election for mayor and commissioners.

Election date was set for May 2. Registration books will be open for the purpose of registering qualified voters from Friday, April 14, to Friday, April 21.

Hours for registration are from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Challenge Day will be on April 22 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. The registration book will be at the town hall.

In other action, street lighting and street surfacing problems in certain areas of the town were discussed. The matters were left open for study.

The town clerk was instructed to post notices reminding property owners that if taxes are not paid by May 12, advertising will begin on May 19.



OPEN HOUSE—Approximately 300 persons attended an open house at Ashley Grove Community Building Sunday, according to President James Vinson. The clubhouse, completed in December, is the

site of many community affairs in the Conway-Ashley Grove area. The open house was held to show appreciation to the persons who had contributed to the construction of the building.