

FPC Gets Request For Vepco Increase

RICH SQUARE — Virginia Electric and Power Company last week filed with the Federal Power Commission an application for an increase in revenues from the rural electric cooperatives, municipalities and private utility it serves on a wholesale basis.

area customers affected are the municipalities of Windsor and Scotland Neck and the Roanoke Electric Membership Corporation of Rich Square. Negotiations have been under way since September when notification was received. The company has requested that all of these increases be made effective retroactive to January 11, 1973.

Vernon E. Taylor, Roanoke Electric Membership general manager, said this week the increase to Remco will be 31.83 per cent. "Although meetings are still taking place and we are yet to have a completely clear picture from Vepco on every point, our customers will see their electric bills increased around 23 per cent," Taylor stated. "Remco gets 73 per cent of its power from Vepco and the other 27 per cent from the Southeastern Power Administration (SEPA) in Elberton, Ga. It's the 73 per cent of our power from Vepco which is going up over 31 per cent so the increase will not be as great when passed on to our customers. Sepa's last increase was in July 1971."

Windsor was represented in protesting the increase by attorneys for Electri-Cities, an organization composed of the towns that sell their own electric power after wholesale purchases. Town administrator Robert Elliott said the attorneys were able to work out an agreement with Vepco that brought the initial proposal down from a 22.5 per cent increase to a 17.3 per cent, on an average. Negotiations also resulted in the pledge from Vepco that it will not apply for an additional increase to any of these wholesale customers before September 1, 1974, with such increase not to become effective, if approved, until January 1, 1975.

The last increase, retroactive to July 1971, and argued until early 1972, cost same average 535 kwt hours per month will not cost \$16.03, an increase of \$3 per month. "Last year we paid Vepco \$407,000," Taylor said. "Under the new rate we would pay them \$537,000, an increase of \$130,000."

Area Industries Named By EPA As Polluters

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Several area industries have been placed on a list of "major dischargers" of water pollutants compiled by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The list includes 73 North Carolina concerns.

Area industries included are Farmers Chemical, Winton, Albermarle Paper Company, Federal Paper Board and J. P. Stephens, all in Roanoke Rapids, and Weyerhaeuse, Plymouth.

discharge permits. They must conform to federal guidelines established under the Water Pollution Control Act of 1972, which declares a national goal of "Zero dischargers" by 1985. Failure to comply with federal effluent limitation, which will be increasingly rigid as the goal year approached, could subject these industries and all other water polluters to civil and criminal prosecutions and unlimited fines for willful offenders.

John Lawrence, acting plant manager at Farmers Chemical, said Wednesday "We have not received an correspondence from the EPA since this list was compiled, so I couldn't make a really knowledgeable comment."

At the present time Farmers Chemical is not time discharging effluent into Chowan River.

Rich Square Town Office Has Moved

RICH SQUARE — The Rich Square Town offices have been moved temporarily from the Town Hall Building into the space formerly occupied by the Lambertson Insurance Agency next door to the Northampton County Times-News office on Main Street.

decide to move the offices immediately. Once the old offices have been renovated, the town offices will go back to Town Hall.

Offices affected are the Police Department, Town Clerk, and the Town Magistrate. The drivers license examiner and the Employment Security representative will also use the new offices when they are in Rich Square.

Plans had been under consideration for some time to renovate the Town Hall building, but the fire last week caused town officials to

Government Payments Up Half Million \$ Over '71

JACKSON — "Government programs for the farmer are presently being reconsidered, reduced, or altogether cut," said Northampton County Extension Chairman Brodie Harrell. "Although we may be losing some helpful programs it is interesting to see how much we got from the government the last two years. For example overall government programs in Northampton County increased \$475,376 in 1972 over the preceding year."

Program figures are as follows:
 Conservation Program (R.E.A.P. or A.C.P.) 1971-\$50,813; 1972-\$78,176.
 Feed Grain Program Payments 1971-\$292,578; 1972-\$426,144.
 Wheat Program Payments 1971-\$30,679; 1972-\$25,193.
 Cotton Program Payments 1971-\$1,509,435; 1972-\$1,845,373.
 Wool Incentive Payments 1971-\$289; 1972-\$461.
 Cropland Adjustment Programs 1971-\$52,347; 1972-\$36,170.

Total Government Payments in 1971 were \$1,936,141. The same category in 1972 increased to \$2,411,517.

School Teacher Hurt In Wreck

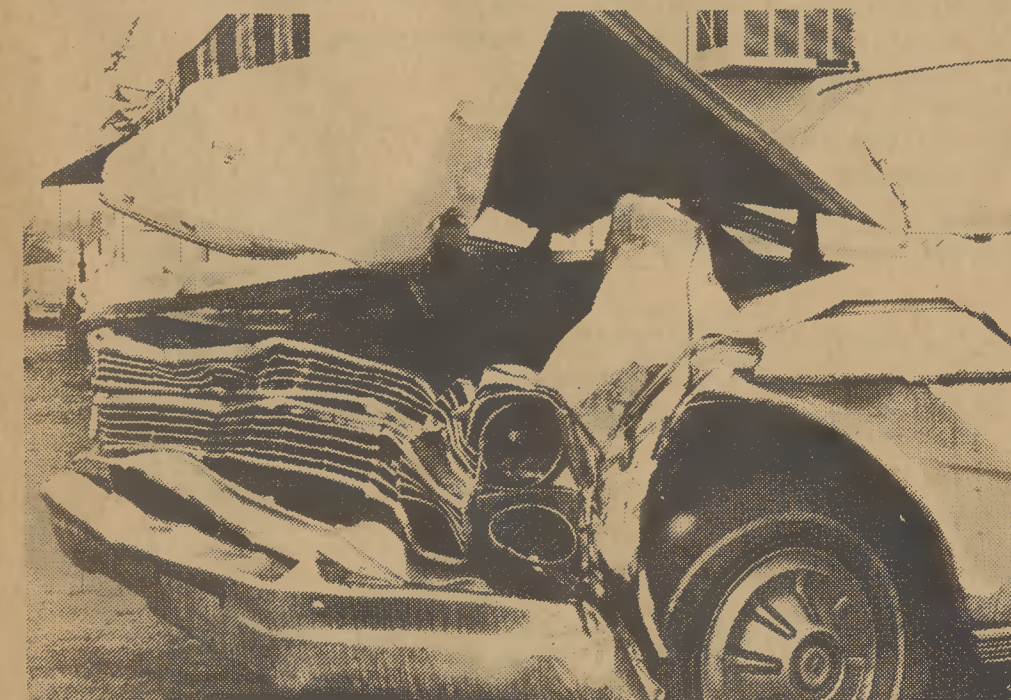
RICH SQUARE — Mrs. Rosetta Adams of Woodland, a teacher at the W. S. Creedy

High School in Rich Square, was injured in a two vehicle collision on route 258, just inside the northern town limits of Rich Square, Monday morning.

According to Rich Square Police Chief Willie Wayne Coner, who investigated the accident, Kenneth Pou Barber of Woodland reported he was driving a 1973 International Tractor truck north on Route 258 and was towing a house trailer.

A vehicle in front of Barber stopped suddenly and, he applied his brakes, his truck jack-knived and swerved into the southbound lane in front of Mrs. Adams, who was on her way to school in her 1966 Ford. The Adams car struck the right side of the truck, hitting a tool box just to the rear of the right door.

Chief Conner said the side of the truck sustained some damage, but the Ford was a total loss. Mrs. Adams was taken to the Roanoke-Chowan Hospital by the Rich Square Rescue squad and was admitted for treatment of severe bruises on both knees, her chest and arm. She was later allowed to return home, where she is under the care of Dr. J. H. Stanley of Woodland.



MRS. ROSETTA MAGETT ADAMS of Woodland miraculously escaped from this car with only bruises on her knees, chest and arm after the car collided with a jack-knifing tractor truck hauling a house trailer on Highway 258 near the northern town limits of Rich Square Monday morning. Mrs. Adams, a teacher at Rich Square W. S. Creedy High School, was admitted to Roanoke-Chowan Hospital for treatment but was released the same day.

Measure Defeated

Harrington, Godwin Vote Against ERA

By JOSEPH COVOLO JR. Managing Editor

EDITOR'S NOTE: When contacted Monday morning the Roanoke-Chowan's two senators both predicted the ERA measure would be very close. It was defeated 27 to 23 Wednesday.

RALEIGH — The quiet and routine atmosphere which has generally prevailed over the State House in Raleigh the past few weeks was disrupted a bit this week as the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) came up for a vote in the Senate Wednesday.

Prior to the vote the following quotes were made. "I haven't polled my fellow senators on their feelings towards the measure but I do feel it will be very close and there may be only a two or three vote difference," said Gates' Senator Phil Godwin. "I am against it and will vote that way."

Speaking in the same vein was Senator J. J. (Monk) Harrington of Lewiston. "Like Senator Godwin I, too, am against it I will vote against it, and I also feel its going to be a very close vote."

Breathalyzer In the area of two breathalyzer bills Senator Godwin commented, "We have given a lot of time to those bills and I hope we can wrap things up this week. From the original legislation which was introduced we have made some changes and gotten them more into line," Senator Godwin said.

Senator Harrington said that he thought it would pass

with a few more changes. "We all are striving for the goal of getting the drunks off of the highways," Senator Godwin said. "It's not all that easy to make laws to control it because many technical points must be worked out. If not, the defending attorneys will win most of the cases in the courtroom on these technicalities."

Other Areas Northampton County Rep. J. Guy Revelle of Conway reported he is urging state highway officials to improve U.S. 158 from Conway to Interstate 95 at Roanoke Rapids.

Revelle said he is promoting the 25-mile stretch to "open a major trade route" from metropolitan Norfolk, Va.

Rep. Revelle said Friday he has discussed the proposal several times with highway officials. He said it will be presented to the State Highway Commission. The former chairman of the Northampton County Board of Commissioners said improving the road would open a major trucking route from Norfolk to Raleigh. He said trucks now use roads in Virginia until reaching I-95 and Virginia reaps the benefits of the traffic. He stated that the road has been improved to Conway and that the unimproved section is from Conway westward.

Revelle said the county would benefit in revenues from facilities along the truck route such as motels and cafes. He pointed out that people in the area would be provided easier access to I-95 and to Roanoke Rapids.

Ahoskie's Representative Roberts Jernigan reported Monday morning that things were pretty routine at this time in the House and that arrangements for the visit to Ahoskie by Secretary of Transportation Bruce Lentz was taking up most of his time last week.

Rev. Hawkins Recalls History For Rotarians

RICH SQUARE — February 27th is an historic date in the early life of North Carolina and "even the nation as a whole," said the Rev. Wade Hawkins, pastor of the Rich Square United Methodist Church, in a talk to the local Rotary Club Monday night.

History relates that it was on that date in 1776 that the "Battle of Moores Creek Bridge," a tiny cross roads community in Pender County, took place. It was "actually civil action," according to Hawkins, because it was fought between "fellow countrymen of divergent political views."

In the early phases of the American Revolution there were two strong factions within the colony. The "patriots," who were of the opinion that the only course open to settlement between the colonies and Great Britain was war. Then, there was the "loyalist" forces who still found the thought of fighting the "mother country" "abhorrent."

The North Carolina capital at the time was in New Bern and the British appointed Governor was Josiah Martin. However, the legislature, which was oddly enough, popularly elected, opposed the royal appointee "to a man."

Word of this action reached New Bern and the provincial government dispatched Cols. James Moore, Richard Caswell and Alexander Lillington, with scarcely 1,000 men to counter Martin's move.

Lillington and Caswell were charged with guarding the Moores Creek Bridge area, which was in the path of the loyalist forces. On the night of February 26 the patriot militia "retreated" across the 50 foot wide creek and dismantled the wooden bridge that spanned the creek. The floor and girders were greased and reassembled.

Early in 1775 Martin abandoned New Bern and fled to the Cape Fear River area, where he set about to raise an army of 10,000 loyalist that were to rendezvous with Lord Cornwallis, and others, in Brunswick (County) on February 15, 1776 with the objectives in mind of re-establishing royal authority in both North and South Carolina. Martin was able to raise approximately 1,600 men for the British side.

condition at Halifax Memorial. He suffered a broken hand. The Roanoke Valley Rescue Squad attended the injured.

JACKSON — The death of seven-week-old Carolyn Lassiter in Rich Square last week has been determined to have been of natural causes, according to the Northampton County Sheriff's Department. The infant was found dead Monday morning in her bed at the home of Glennie Lassiter in Rich Square, where she lived with her mother, Hazel Lassiter.

Cause of death was determined after an autopsy, which has been ordered by an assistant state medical examiner at North Carolina Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill.

Tournament Directional Signs Stolen LASKER — Visitors coming to the Carolina Academy Conference Tournament, which started Tuesday night, are having to depend on local residents for directions to Northeast Academy, according to Headmaster Arthur Dempsey Jr.

"The state highway department put up new signs last week on Highway 158 directing traffic to the academy and they've all been stolen by vandals. "Area residents and folks connected with the school were quite upset by this and the theft was reported to the Northampton County Sheriff's Department. The signs do not belong to the school but were property of the state highway department," said Dempsey.

County Accountant Tim Ellen, right, talks with workmen as they complete the renovations of the Commissioners Meeting Room. They are Don Cockerham, superintendent for T & S Construction of Greensboro, right, and A. G. Ferguson. In addition to use by the Commissioners the meeting room will be used by judges for private hearings and by the department heads for meetings. Below, workmen refinish furniture for the new room. They are, from left, James H. Wood, Buddy Peterson and Joe Harrington, all of Wood and Peterson of Roanoke Rapids.



COUNTY ACCOUNTANT TIM ELLEN, right, talks with workmen as they complete the renovations of the Commissioners Meeting Room. They are Don Cockerham, superintendent for T & S Construction of Greensboro, right, and A. G. Ferguson. In addition to use by the Commissioners the meeting room will be used by judges for private hearings and by the department heads for meetings. Below, workmen refinish furniture for the new room. They are, from left, James H. Wood, Buddy Peterson and Joe Harrington, all of Wood and Peterson of Roanoke Rapids.

