



**TWO NEW FACES TO** appear at the Northampton County Agricultural Extension Service Office in Jackson in the past month are those of Assistant Home Economics Agents Mrs. Becky Brittle, seated, and Mrs. Cynthia Wallington. Mrs. Brittle, a native of Scotland Neck and, more recently Ashoskie, will work chiefly as a 4-H coordinator and Mrs. Wallington, of Seaboard, will center her duties with the extension homemakers.

## Joan Culbreth New MSFA Project Chief

JACKSON — The State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board has recently conducted investigations for conflicts of interest in North Carolina's ABC system. Their efforts have linked distillery representatives to allegations of kickbacks and attempted bribery.

The liquor probe has found possible conflicts of interest on five local boards in Northampton and New Hanover Counties and Asheville, Nashville and Hot Springs. In their ABC systems, a board member also serves as manager of the system. In Asheville, there has been a constant dispute about this as early as 1966. Barlett R. Burgwyn, chairman of Northampton

County's board and supervisor of the system commented, "Our ABC board is operating according to the general statutes of this state in Section 18A-16. It is illegal if the manager is also hired as a supervisor for another salary. Salaries are fixed by joint meetings of boards who appoint members of the

board. I get around \$6000 a year as chairman but draw no salary as supervisor. "The ABC board meets every month, sometimes twice a month as we did in February. It follows the law to the letter. Since October 1965 when the first store opened, more than they would have gained had ERA passed. The law is set up so that the man must support the wife and the children, this idea being based on the fact that in the past the man was usually the bread winner. Things are different now but the area of responsibility has not changed," the Gates senator

## Burgwyn Denies ABC Misdoings In N'ampton

By JEANETTE DAVIS  
 RICH SQUARE — Even without the help of ERA, one

female Ashoskie import has moved into a seat capably filled by a man in the past and the seat is quite comfortable. The woman, Mrs. Joan Culbreth, was named last Thursday as Training Center Chief of the Family Development Project here, formerly the RCA-CADA Project. The project is the only one in the country to have survived and progressed since its inception. Joan replaces Eugene R. Jones who is being transferred to New York City by RCA and he leaves some big shoes to

fill. The new chief, a native of Montgomery, Ala., came to Ashoskie in 1970. Her training and work experience before coming to the Roanoke-Chowan area has been interesting and extensive for a woman of her years. She graduated from Huntington College in Montgomery and taught high school English for two years before going to Auburn University to get her masters degree. She taught at that university for three years.



**MRS. JOAN CULBRETH, Training Center Chief of the MSFA Project in Rich Square, comes to her new job with experience in teaching both high school and college, and six years with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.**

## Odom Supervisor Not Transferred

RALEIGH — Department of Corrections officials would not confirm reports that R. L. Turner, former superintendent of Odom Prison near Jackson has been transferred to a similar

position at Crestville Prison near Plymouth. Harold Lilly, area administration for the department said that Donald Batten was still acting superintendent at Odom and that Turner was still on the state payroll but was not acting in any official capacity for the Department of Corrections.

"Turner still has his residence at Odom," Lilly said, "and he is now taking his vacation time while the Secretary of the Department of Corrections Lee Bounds and other agency officials consider what steps to take next."

Turner was relieved of duty at Odom shortly after the capture of Henry Jarrett, a former Odom inmate who escaped from custody at a State Jaycee convention in Raleigh last month.

Jarrett was president of the Jaycee chapter at the prison and was to attend the convention with another inmate under the supervision of a prison official. Jarrett escaped during registration in a Raleigh hotel lobby.

After being re-captured and returned to custody, Jarrett was charged with murder, rape, kidnapping and armed robbery.

A spokesman at Crestville Prison said Turner had never been in charge of that unit and he was unaware if any word had been received that Turner was to take command of the unit.



**TALKING TOGETHER AFTER** Wednesday's meeting of Peanut Growers in Jackson are Z. L. Davenport, left, of Gumberry, Mutt Barnes of Severn, center, and Marshall Grant of Seaboard. All attended a hearing in Washington, D. C. Tuesday to state the case of the North Carolina Peanut Growers but returned with little or nothing in the area of hope and encouragement.

# Equal Rights Amendment Dead What's Next For Legislators?

By JOSEPH COVOLO JR.  
 Managing Editor

RALEIGH — The 1973 General Assembly session's first major issue to be resolved was the one which generated the most attention and the most lobbying in the early weeks of the session, that being the Equal Rights Amendment. It was defeated 27 to 23 with both the Roanoke-Chowan Area senators voting against it.

"With a few more states voting it down I am sure that proposed amendment will be defeated for good," said Bertie's Senator J. J. (Monk) Harrington. "I believe there is a district difference between men and women — the Good Lord made us that way and I think it should stay this way. I do not believe women should be drafted or serve in some areas where the hazards are great. I do believe they are entitled to equal pay and equal job benefits and if they do not get them there are laws on the books to insure a route to get them."

Gates' Senator Phil Godwin had similar feelings on the matter. Like Senator Harrington, he was opposed to the amendment proposal from the very beginning.

"As an attorney I am of the opinion that women would have forefitted an awful lot more than they would have gained had ERA passed. The law is set up so that the man must support the wife and the children, this idea being based on the fact that in the past the man was usually the bread winner. Things are different now but the area of responsibility has not changed," the Gates senator

said. "I think, in the long run, the average women throughout the state will thank us for not adopting ERA. Too much was being left to chance with the courts having to make future decisions to continue to protect women. We are all better off this way."

Nationwide on the ERA question it will take ratification of 10 more states to make it a constitutional amendment. If three more kill it then its out.

Legislation Deadline  
 Senator Godwin reported March 15 is the deadline for

local legislation to be introduced for this session. He urged all local governments with some idea of getting legislation going in Raleigh this year to move on it now or give it up for another year.

Local Visits  
 The local senators reported

going to a meeting in the first house district last week.

"With the redistricting in effect we are now spread pretty thin. These local meetings are very helpful," Senator Godwin said. "If the people in our other two house districts are interested in local meetings we will be very glad to accommodate them. It's one good way to find out what some of the local issues are and how we can help them."

ECU Med School  
 With ERA now a past subject another battle which may be shaping up in the Senate is the expansion of the Eastern Carolina University Medical School to a four-year program.

A report by a study committee three months ago recognized the need for more doctors in the less populated areas of the state but avoided the ECU Med School expansion issue. Instead it recommended a team of out-of-state consultants to study the problem. Their report is expected in September.

Senator Harrington, a backer of the med school expansion, favors holding off acting on the issue until they can see the report and if it does not support the expansion then they can take issue with it in the 1974 General Assembly.

"We are entitled to that medical school and we are going to get it," Senator Harrington said.

"Senator Harrington and I have the same feelings on this issue," Senator Godwin stated. "We do not want to jump the gun and spoil our chances of success but we do want to let everyone concerned that we are not sleeping on the matter either. We will get that school."

"I heard the other day," Senator Godwin said, "that there are over 800 doctors in Orange County alone. We do not have that many in the entire First Congressional District. Something must be done to relieve this situation and a four-year medical school at ECU is a part of the solution." the Gates' representative concluded.

Appropriations  
 Ashoskie's Representative

(See EQUAL, Page 14)

## \$120 Million Sales Break Area Record

RALEIGH — Using any criterion, inflated or otherwise, the four-county Roanoke-Chowan area enjoyed a prosperous \$120,491,460 retail sales year in 1972.

It was only a few years ago that the four-county total—Gates, Hertford, Bertie, Northampton—passed the \$100 million mark in record sales. Now the sales figure stands at \$120,491,460 after a 7.9 per cent increase over the \$111,663,063 reported in 1971.

Indicating a continuing high degree of dependence on agriculture, the Roanoke-Chowan economy rose to highest levels in the fall. Highest retail sales months in 1972 were October in Bertie, Gates and Northampton Counties and September in

Hertford County. February was lowest in Bertie, Hertford and Northampton. August was lowest in Gates.

Gates County  
 Comparing calendar years 1971 and 1972, Gates County sales rose 4.8 per cent. The 1971 record of \$9,875,228 rose \$477,313 to \$10,352,541 in 1972. Highest retail sales month of 1972 was October with \$1,052,679 reported. Lowest figure was \$741,670 in August.

Bertie County sales increased from \$26,886,506 in 1971 to \$28,674,930 in 1972. Rate of increase was 6.7 per cent or \$1,788,424. High sales month was October with \$2,683,787. Smallest figure was given in February at \$1,976,737.

Hertford County  
 Recording the highest

percentage increase and the highest total retail sales figure in the area was Hertford County. Hertford businesses sold \$55,926,111 worth of retail sales items in 1972, compared with \$51,021,843 in 1971. Increase was \$4,904,268 or 9.6 per cent. Biggest sales month was September with \$5,220,772 and smallest was February with \$3,924,658.

Northampton County  
 Northampton County business volume increase by \$1,658,392 or 6.9 per cent in 1971-72 comparison. Sales were \$23,879,486 in 1971 and \$25,537,878 in 1972. Most successful month was October with sales of \$2,430,699. Least successful was February with \$1,764,241.

## Project Life Adding Two More For Financial Aid

RICH SQUARE — Project Life's Board of Directors Tuesday night elected Pete Moody, a Gaston farmer to the board. He will now serve with other board members as a representative from the far western end of Northampton County and the Roanoke Rapids areas.

Moody's election to the board was one of three actions taken at this first meeting in seven months by the directors. Other actions included the Project Life Board of Directors going on record to include in their support program two more cases, those being 18 year old Rickey High of Gaston and a two-month-old infant, Stephen Joyner of Conway; and to purchase a second kidney machine to be located in the western end of the four-county area.

Project Life came into existence in January of last year as an initial fund-raising drive to aid in medical support of then 16-year-old Kirwan Vann of Conway who is suffering from a kidney disease. Over \$27,000 was raised. Of that amount the project has approximately \$20,000 left.

"We are, as originally planned, expanding our support to other area residents suffering from kidney diseases," stated Joe Edwards of Pendleton, president of the board. "We will spend all we have to give needed support to sufferers of kidney diseases. When the money starts to get low then we will have another drive like the last one. I am sure our neighbors will rise to the occasion once again if and when the time comes."

In addition to the funds in

the Project Life account there is an approximate \$10,000 in a bank left over from Operation Hope which was conducted for Mike White of Ashoskie in the Fall of 1970. White, a student then, was treated and received a kidney transplant and as of last year was given a clean bill of health.

Some members of the Operation Hope Board of Directors have voiced approval to transfer those funds to Project Life once the Hope funds are straightened out.

## REMCO Customers Will Pay 23 Per Cent More

RICH SQUARE — Customers of the Roanoke Electric Membership Corporation will be paying approximately 23 per cent more for their electricity effective April 1.

The new rates come as a direct result of a wholesale rate increase imposed by Roanoke EMC's major power

supplier — Virginia Electric and Power Company (VEPCO).

This wholesale rate increase, amounting to 30.13 per cent plus a monthly fossil fuel adjustment, became effective Jan. 11.

Based upon Roanoke EMC's 1972 billing, the total percentage, including fuel adjustment, runs to 31.83 per cent. Projections through March show that the fossil fuel adjustment alone will increase the cooperative's monthly wholesale billing by a substantial amount.

VEPCO furnishes 73 per cent of the Cooperative's power. Thus its 31.83 per cent hike in power charges amounts to a net wholesale power cost increase of 23.24 per cent. This net increase alone is the amount by which

the Cooperative is revising its own rate schedules.

Brown said the decision was based upon the following factors:

(1) an agreement by VEPCO that it will not place a subsequent wholesale rate increase into effect prior to January 1, 1975.

(2) an assumption that wholesale rates from the Cooperative's other power supplier (Southeastern Power Administration) will not be increased during the next two years.

(3) an assumption that the fossil fuel factor will not get out of hand.

(4) an assumption that all other operating costs will remain relatively constant during the next two years, and

(See REMCO, Page 14)

## Wreck Kills County Man

RICH SQUARE — David Clinton Gorham, 34, of Rural Rich Square was killed instantly at 3:30 a.m. Monday, when the 1966 Ford in which he was a passenger ran off the road, knocked down several small trees and finally crashed sidewise into a large tree.

The accident occurred on N.C. 308 about four miles east of Rich Square on what is known as Deadman's Curve.

State Trooper B. R. Cooper investigated the crash and arrested Leroy Holley, 37, of Kelford and charged him with driving under the influence and manslaughter. The manslaughter charge comes from the death of Holley's passenger. He was removed to Northampton County Jail, where he is being held without bond.

The death of Gorham was the third highway fatality for Northampton County this year and was the first involving a person in a vehicle.

The other two were pedestrian deaths. Linwood Garner of Route 1, Garysburg and Waverly Lassiter of

Woodland both were killed in separate incidents, when struck by cars earlier this year.



**ONE MAN IS DEAD AND ANOTHER IN JAIL** as a result of this 1966 Ford leaving the road on "Deadman's Curve" on N. C. 308 east of Rich Square early Monday morning. David Clinton Gorham, 34, of rural Rich Square was killed instantly. Leroy Holley, 37, of Kelford is being held without bond in Northampton County Jail on charges of driving under the influence and manslaughter. Here Robert Deloatch of the Deloatch Auto Service Center in Woodland points to the point of impact where the car struck a huge tree.