

Incumbents Keep Seats On Warren Boards

Neighbor For Owens-Illinois Found

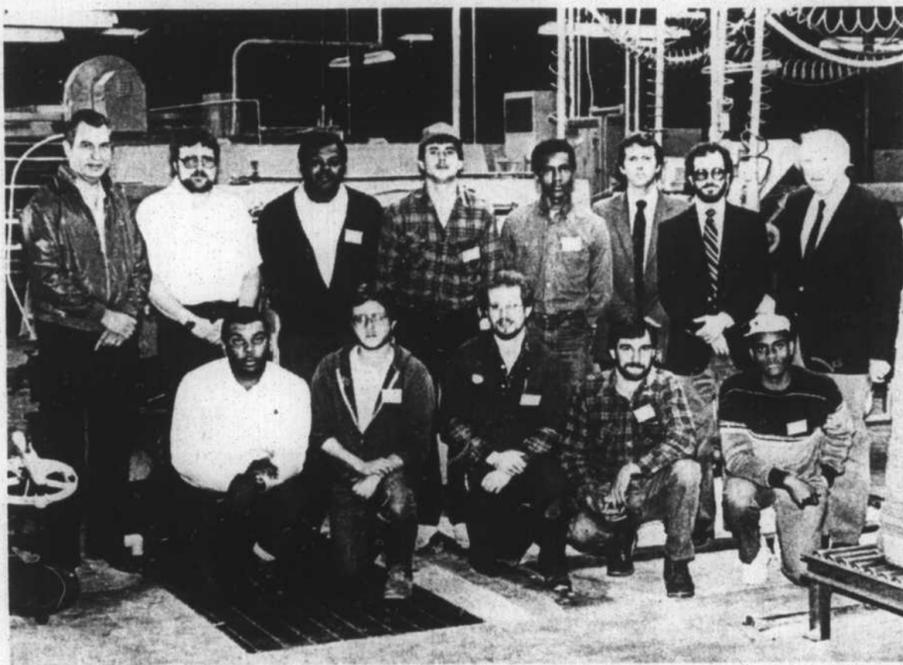
A Salisbury trucking firm that serves as primary carrier for the Forest Products Division of Owens-Illinois, Inc. plans to construct a garage and office facility adjacent to the O-I plant site on U. S. 1 at Ridgeway.

Jim Swing, president of Swing Transport Company, said last week he anticipates construction of a two-bay garage and office facility to begin in late fall on a four-acre site purchased last week from Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bender of Ridgeway.

According to Swing, the company will eventually employ between 10 and 15 drivers, an office clerk, a shop foreman and one or two mechanics.

A terminal manager has been hired and is currently in training. Swing said the company hoped to fill other positions locally.

The company, which began in 1975, has terminals in Salisbury and Newberry, S. C.



Members of the first training class at the Warren facility of Owens-Illinois, Inc. recently completed a 37-hour safety course in machine operation and have now begun the actual production stage of training. Participants shown above are (kneeling, left to right) Charlie Dortch, Jim Tucker, Joe Civitello, Ricky Munn, and Kenneth Preston; (standing) Gene Frey, O-I production manager, Mike Theiler, O-I personnel and purchasing

manager, Bill Kearney, Fred Powell, and Leslie Richardson. Also shown are Danny Guin, director of community services at Vance-Granville Community College, Jim Whitley, executive director of the Warren County Industrial Development Commission, and John Evans, O-I plant manager. According to Theiler, a total of 19 people have been employed by O-I to date. (Staff Photo)

Norlina Textile Firm In Bankruptcy Seeks Relief For Property Tax Bill

By KAY HORNER
Staff Writer

A Norlina textile company which filed for bankruptcy in October under Chapter 11 of the Federal Bankruptcy Act Monday requested Warren County commissioners to compromise on \$50,000 due in back property taxes and interest to enable the company to get back on its feet and continue

operation.

Norlina Mills President W. Richard Fero told the commissioners that the total debt of the company is approximately \$3 million and that the company has not turned a profit since 1979. The mill was begun in October 1978 by Fero and two other partners, James L. McCormick, now deceased, and Howell Moss, vice presi-

dent of manufacturing. Corporate offices are in Greensboro.

According to Fero, Glen Raven Mills, Inc. of Glen Raven has an option to acquire all of the stock of Norlina Mills, but there are what Fero termed "two or three more hurdles" to overcome before the takeover.

Fero outlined a three-step plan which he indicated would put the company in a position for acquisition: 1) Approval of a seven to 10 percent cash settlement with creditors; 2) completion of negotiations with Harriet & Henderson Yarns, Inc. of Henderson, owner of Norlina Mills' facility on U. S. 1 South of Norlina, for 100,000 square feet of manufacturing space; 3) and settlement with the French government on a lien on 10 high-speed texturing machines purchased in 1979 from a French company at a cost of \$4.2 million.

Fero told the commissioners that he would like for the county to accept the percentage of payment ordered by the bankruptcy court for other creditors. That amount has not yet been set, and by statute, the county can demand full 100 percent payment of

the taxes due.

All of the commissioners were polled by Chairperson Eva M. Clayton for their comments on the request, and all agreed that they would like to see the company remain in operation.

"It is in our vested interest to help you," Mrs. Clayton said.

However, she cautioned that the board would not be able to make a decision until after consultation with the County Attorney Charles T. Johnson, Jr. and County Tax Collector Susan Whitley.

Norlina Mills' financial woes are traceable, Fero told the board, to the purchase of the texturing machines from a French company with financing through the French government.

The machines, which process fiber, were mechanically faulty, Fero said, and Norlina Mills has spent three years of evaluation to correct the problem.

The company produces fine denier nylon for ladies hosiery and until the problems were corrected, yarn could not be produced that would dye evenly.

Fero expressed confidence to the commissioners that (Continued on page 2B)

Traylor, Skinner Are Victorious; Hundley Faces Prospect Of Runoff

Two incumbent members of Warren County governing boards withstood serious challenges Tuesday as voters went to the polls in large number.

Leigh Traylor of Norlina, seeking his third term on the Warren County Board of Education, turned aside a bid from Robert D. Kirk, Jr., a ranger at Kimball's Point in northwestern Warren County. Traylor got 2,603 votes to 2,555 for Kirk.

William T. Skinner, resident of Rt. 3, Littleton who has served several terms as a Warren County commissioner, turned back the challenge of retired judge Archie D. Williams in a District Five contest. Skinner got 2,638 votes, while Williams collected 2,359.

Incumbent Register of Deeds Jim H. Hundley of Norlina was the top votegetter in a four-candidate field, but faces a possible runoff from Mariam Boyd teacher's aide Margaret J. Pettaway, who could not be reached Wednesday morning to determine her plans.

Severe Storm Creates Havoc In Warren Co.

A severe storm blew through Warren County late yesterday afternoon leaving in its wake uprooted trees, downed power lines, and damaged homes and buildings.

A Macon man escaped injury about 4:45 p. m. when a tree fell on the roof of his car as he was driving on U. S. 158 east of Norlina.

According to Norlina Police Chief Romie Williams, Waddell Smith of Route 1, Macon saw the tree falling, but was unable to get out of its path.

"He said he just laid down on the front seat of the car, and the car skidded into the ditch and the tree hit flattening the top of the car," Chief Williams said.

Smith, who celebrated his 22 birthday Tuesday, was given the best gift of all, Chief Williams noted, "the gift of life."

Smith was checked for glass in his eyes at Warren General Hospital and released. Chief Williams said Smith's 1968 Pontiac was totalled.

There were reports of extensive power outages throughout the county, and Carolina Power and Light Company Customer Service Representative Jimmie R. Ikner estimated this morning that about 1,200 to 1,500 customers were without electricity at some point during the afternoon and night.

"Our first call came from Norlina," Ikner (Continued on page 8)

Hundley got 2,511 votes, finishing first in eight Warren precincts. Mrs. Pettaway got 1,885 votes, Sheriff's Deputy Lawrence E. Harrison got 686 votes and Kathy H. Wilson, currently a member of the Warren Board of Education, got

620 votes. A runoff also looms as a likelihood in the race for the District Five seat on the Board of Education where retired teacher Cora T. Watson led a three-candidate field. Mrs. Watson got 2,502 votes; Joyce D.

Odom, a former Board of Education member, got 2,196; and political newcomer Al L. Cooper, Jr. got 781.

Mrs. Odom was unavailable this morning to discuss her plans for a possible runoff on June 5.

Primary Election Table On Page 2-B

Jackson Leads Presidential Hopefuls Here

The Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, who campaigned in Warren County two weeks before Tuesday's Democratic primary, gathered in the support of his faithful yesterday to finish first in Warren County in the presidential preference primary, although he finished third statewide, trailing both Sen. Gary Hart and former Vice President Walter Mondale.

Jackson, who engineered a mammoth voter registration campaign and offered his coattails to fellow black candidates in several eastern North Carolina counties, got 2,877 votes in Warren, far ahead of Mondale, who carried the state but got only 1,238 in Warren. Hart got 1,137 votes from Warren supporters.

Other Democratic presidential hopefuls who were no longer in the race but whose names appeared on Tuesday's ballots, included Reubin Askew, 22 votes; Alan Cranston, 4 votes; John Glenn, 81 votes; Ernest F. Hollings, 13 votes; and George S. McGovern, 42 votes. Some 161 Warren voters indicated they had no preference in the presidential primary.

Riding to victory with Jackson was Kenneth Spaulding, a state legislator from Durham who was challenging first term Congressman Tim Valentine of Nashville.

Spaulding, seeking to become the first black Congressman from North Carolina this century, got 2,950 votes here to 2,809 votes for Valentine. Valentine held a slim advantage as votes from throughout the Second District were tallied early this morning.

Voters in N. C. House (Continued on page 2B)

In Hospital

Patients in Warren General Hospital on Tuesday afternoon were listed as follows:

Nancy Leonard, Bessie Terrell, Edna Harris, Eugene Taylor, John Wilkerson, Clarence Shearin, Janet Alewine, Stewart Wortham, Charles Burton, Sarah Stamm, Harvey Richardson, Walter Rivers, Velma Norris.

Faircloth Given Top Warren Spot

While Attorney General Rufus Edmisten and former Charlotte Mayor Eddie Knox are expected to meet in a runoff election June 5, it was Clinton businessman, farmer and gubernatorial hopeful D. M. (Lauch) Faircloth who captured the hearts of Warren County Democratic voters on Tuesday.

Faircloth, who won endorsement from both black and white leaders of Warren County early in the campaign, finished third in the 10-man state race to be the Democrats' gubernatorial nominee, but in Warren he was first, chalking up 2,315 votes out of 5,532 cast in the governor's race.

Finishing second when votes were counted from Warren's 14 precincts at 3 a. m. Wednesday was Edmisten with 1,104. Knox was favored by 683 Warren voters to finish third locally, although he finished second to Edmisten statewide.

Lt. Gov. James C. Green was the choice of 576 Warren voters, while 500 Warren voters favored Insurance Commissioner John Ingram. Former State Rep. Thomas O. Gilmore, who was endorsed by both the State AFL-CIO and the N. C. Association of Educators, gathered 226 votes in Warren.

Less serious contenders in the governor's race were J. A. (Andy) Barker, mayor of Love Valley, who got 27 votes; Robert L. Hannon, retired black educator from Greensboro,

who got 43 votes; Glenn Miller, a Ku Klux Klan leader from Angier, who got 49 votes; and J. D. Whaley, a railroad engineer from Dover, who got nine votes.

In the Democrats' U. S. Senate race, Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr. had little trouble with two opponents wanting to compete for Sen. Jesse Helms' seat. Hunt had 3,596 votes in Warren, while Thomas L. Allred polled 1,062 and Harrill Jones had 450.

In the lieutenant governor's race which was determined by Democratic voters, Warren gave the nod to Carl Stewart, Gastonia native and former House speaker who was defeated for the state's second ranking post four years ago by Jimmy Green. Stewart got 3,508 votes in Warren.

Finishing neck and neck with Stewart statewide was 51-year-old four-term State Legislator Robert B. Jordan, III, a Mount Gilead businessman. However in Warren, Jordan attracted 2,809 votes. Stephen S. Miller, a member of the Carolina Knights of the Ku Klux Klan who campaigned on a platform of racial segregation, got 193 votes in Warren.

Secretary of State Thad Eure, 84, was leading Democratic challenger Betty Ann Knudsen, a Wake County commissioner, statewide, but Warren voters gave a majority of their support to Mrs. Knudsen, who outpolled Eure here, 2,658 to 2,473.

Labor Commissioner (Continued on page 2B)

Voters Give Approval To Finance Amendment

Warren voters joined the statewide trend Tuesday in casting a majority of their ballots for a constitutional amendment which would create a state agency authorized to issue up to \$200 million in tax-exempt agricultural revenue bonds.

Favoring the Farm Finance Amendment in Warren were 2,875 voters. Some 2,017 Warren County residents voted against the

amendment. The revenue bonds would be sold on the open market and would enable lending institutions to lend to farmers at a low interest and fixed rate. The loans, strongly favored by Governor Hunt and major farm organizations, would be for land and new equipment only, and the top amount a farmer could borrow would be \$500,000.

Top Vote Honor Goes To Martin

Superior Court Judge John C. Martin of Durham was the top Warren County vote-getter in Tuesday's Democratic primary, easily outdistancing two opponents in the race to fill a vacancy on the N. C. Court of Appeals.

Martin, who took a strong lead throughout the state, polled 4,066 votes in Warren, compared with 565 for District Judge Robert J. Cecil of High Point and 384 for Meyressa H. Schoonmaker, a Winston-Salem lawyer.

In the other judge's race Tuesday, Warren voters gave their endorsement to incumbent N. C. Supreme Court Justice Henry E. Frye,

picking him by 3,315 votes to 1,729 for challenger Raymond M. Taylor, a Raleigh attorney who was librarian and marshal for the state Supreme Court for 13 years.

The race between Frye and Taylor, each of whom is 51 years old, was to determine who would face Republican Attorney Clarence Boyan in November. Frye was appointed as the first black to sit on the state's highest court by Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., who endorsed Frye in the waning days of this spring's campaign.

Martin will face no opposition from the Republican camp in November.