

With the North Carolina Post Office Clerks At Goldsboro

The news items and pictures on this page are reproduced through courtesy of the October issue of The Tar Heel Fed, official publication of the North Carolina Federation of Post Office Clerks and Ful Credit and The Journal's thanks are due The Fed. This coverage is for a meeting of the eastern district POC of North Carolina, held in Goldsboro on September 17 and 18.



Left to right: Junius E. Council of Wilmington, retiring eastern district president, congratulating Ed G. Howell, of Goldsboro, newly elected president, and R. J. Powell, of Wilmington, secretary eastern district association.



Left to right: Mrs. Norman L. Harris, Shelby, parliamentarian; Mrs. Junius E. Council, Wilmington, scrap book chairman; Mrs. F. E. Stanley, Wilmington, vice president; Mrs. George D. Williams, Raleigh, national vice president; Mrs. A. J. Garner, III, Asheville, president State Auxiliary; Mrs. W. E. Evans, Raleigh, vice president; Mrs. Jack B. Cliff, Durham, vice president; Mrs. J. B. Houser, Jr., Gastonia, vice president.



Left to right: U. S. Senator Frank P. Graham, Oscar L. Whitesell, national vice president, Greensboro; Leo E. George, national president N. F. P. O. C.; Junius E. Council, of Wilmington, former president eastern North Carolina Postal Employees association.



Eastern district meeting banquet at St. Pauls Baptist Church dining room, September 17.

Progression Through Organization

By CHESTER L. STEPHENSON, Vice-President, NCFPOC

Today, Tuesday the 27th of September, the House of Representatives passed H. R. 4492 by a vote of 332 for and 2 against. The major features of this bill will give the postal clerk a salary increase of \$150, raise his annual leave to twenty days a year and provides for three longevity grades. It is the wish of this writer that by the time this publication reaches you, the Senate will have passed a similar bill.



CHESTER L. STEPHENSON

I wonder if the average postal clerk has ever stopped to think how the passage of such legislation came about. If there are any doubts about this question I would like to say that all beneficial legislation for the postal clerk became law by the postal clerk himself being organized, organized to the extent that he could be heard by the Congress of these United States.

can get for the postal clerk. Conditions change every day and the only way that the postal clerk can keep up with the times is by being organized.

There are two organizations in this state that have the postal clerk at heart, THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF POST OFFICE CLERKS and its state affiliate THE NORTH CAROLINA FEDERATION OF POST OFFICE CLERKS. These two organizations have gone to bat for the postal clerks in the past and will be in there battling for them in the future. Many pieces of legislation that are now law and gives the postal clerk the advantages that he is receiving today were made possible through these organizations.

We have seen what these organizations have done for us in the past and we will be looking forward to these organizations in the future.

There is no let up, no end of good that these two organizations

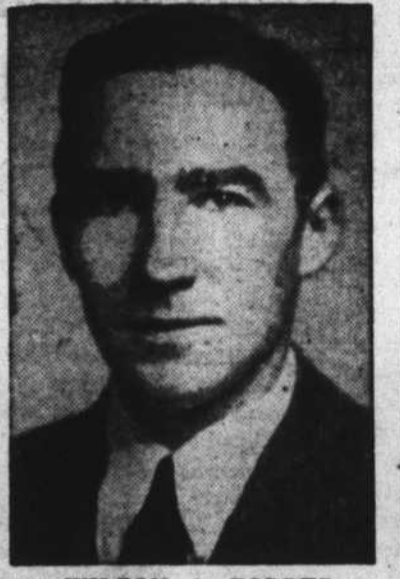
If there is a clerk in your office that is not a member of THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF POST OFFICE CLERKS and THE NORTH CAROLINA FEDERATION OF POST OFFICE CLERKS, you will be doing yourself a favor as well as the other fellow if you will sign him up today. As Shakespeare once said, "It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life, that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself." SIGN UP THAT NON-MEMBER TODAY.



Left to right: A. J. Garner, III, president North Carolina Federation of P. O. Clerks; Jere C. Gay, Raleigh, legislative representative; Sam F. Blackwelder, Charlotte, secretary-treasurer, N. C. F. P. O. C.; Chester L. Stephenson, Fayetteville, first vice president; President Leo E. George; Oscar L. Whitesell, Lenoir, second vice president; Frank Overman, Burlington, national state representative; Jack B. Cliff, Durham, third vice president; Thomas B. Moore, Fort Bragg, editor Tar Heel Fed; vice presidents Wilson A. Forbes of Gastonia, Stanley C. Curtis of Raleigh, William B. Farmer of Rocky Mount, were not present.

\$461 IN BACK PAY Fort Bragg Clerk's Salary Adjusted BY THOMAS B. MOORE

If you're one of those clerks (or carriers) whose salary grade has been kicked around a bit, you'll probably be interested in the case of Richard L. Johnson, a clerk in the Fort Bragg branch of the Fayetteville post office.



WILSON A. FORBES

Dick entered the service at Fort Bragg on November 19, 1940, as a temporary substitute clerk. During the war years he advanced to top grade war-time regular and stayed there until after V-J Day. As former employes returned from military duty to reclaim their jobs, Dick was demoted to his old status of temporary substitute and finally on June 30, 1947, he was relieved. He was carried on the office rolls, however, until October 31, 1947, when it became mandatory that postmasters drop the names of all such appointees from their rolls.

AS I SEE IT

As I see it, the hat should be tipped to the Goldsboro folks for the refreshing and inspirational meeting. They did a swell job. And on this occasion under the able direction of President Garner, the State Executive Board really did some constructive work for the furtherance of the Federation work in our state. At no previous meeting of the board which I have been privileged to attend, was more accomplished.

On November 1, 1947, Dick went to work in the Angier post office in his old familiar status of temporary substitute. He was still there when on March 6, 1949, he received an inquiry from the Fayetteville postmaster which asked whether he would accept appointment as a classified substitute clerk. Dick, incidentally, had passed the Civil Service-Carrier examination back in 1946.

My highly optimistic outlook for favorable legislation from this session of congress was greatly strengthened by the remarks of Hon. Frank P. Graham and the reports of President George. As I see it, we have possibilities of three bills being passed: the Veterans Credit bill, the increased Compensation for injury bill and our favorite H. R. 4495. As yet only possibilities, the difference depends upon you, the membership of this Federation.

So on March 7, 1949, Dick was appointed classified substitute clerk and was assigned to Fort Bragg Branch where he's spent most of his time since 1940 anyway.

Don't miss any opportunity to contact your Congressman and Senators; see that they are acquainted with the provisions of our bills and give sensible, concrete reasons for your wanting those things. You'll find that they are both sympathetic and understanding. As I see it, you should contact your Congressman and Senators again. Do It Today!!

They told Dick in the "front office" that his pay would start at the \$1.29 per hour minimum as this was his first classified appointment.

As I SEE IT, IF YOU DON'T WRITE YOU'RE WRONG!!!

Dick was pretty well satisfied with his classified status and \$1.29 per hour until one day he read in the Manual of Instructions for Postal Employees that credit for past service could be granted in determining salary grade if such past service was continuous to time of classified appointment.

WILSON A. FORBES, Second Vice-President.

He thought this over for a few days and then asked Chester L. Stephenson, Fort Bragg employee and NCFPOC vice president, if anything could be done about it. Stephenson went to work on the case and a few weeks later news came from Washington that the claim had been approved.

Postal Employees Council Formed

The Department had ruled that inasmuch as Johnson's name was on the Fayetteville roster until the time of his temporary appointment in Angier, he was subject to call and his service, therefore, was considered as continuous.

The employees of the Fayetteville post office have joined the ranks of similar groups throughout the state in forming within that office a Postal Employees Council, the membership of which is composed of employee representatives from all branches of the Fayetteville postal facilities.

With quarterly and yearly reports to think of, it took the boys who keep the books a little while to bring Dick's account up to date, but the other day he received a take-home check for \$461.35 and, of course, he'll keep getting that \$1.79 per hour until somebody gets tired of paying it and makes him a regular.

The move was sparked by a joint meeting between clerks, supervisors and the postmaster at which time it was recommended by the postmaster that such an organization be formed.

Ed. Note: Dick's membership in the Federation has been continuous, too. During an interview the other day he asked whether he could pay in advance for a lifetime.

Representatives of the two larger groups, clerks and carriers, are elected for staggered periods ranging up to three years while the smaller groups composed of rural letter carriers and custodial employes are given representation on a yearly basis.

Graham Addresses P. O. Employees



FRANK OVERMAN



MR. WHITESELL

On Sturday, September 17, the Goldsboro Council of Postal Employees was host to a "Fall Roundup" of Eastern North Carolina Postal Employees. Attending were Postmasters, postal supervisors, postal clerks, carriers and rural carriers from a score or more of surrounding counties.



MR. WHITESELL

The Honorable Frank P. Graham, North Carolina's junior Senator and Leo E. George, President of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks were principal speakers.

Senator Graham, who is a member of the Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee, told the large assembly that his committee has been seriously concerned with pay raise and liberalized sick and annual leave measures.

"It is our wish to report out a bill which will be assured a reasonable chance of passage," he said.

MESSAGE FROM VICE-PRESIDENT WHITESELL

Team Work

We have full proof that team work pays off.

President George expressed considerable optimism that measures granting pay increases, increased annual leave privileges, longevity benefits and uniform allowances stood in good chance of passage during the current session of Congress.

It is difficult to elect to every state office men who will earnestly try to fulfill their obligations to the membership during their terms of office. All state officers elected at the Asheville convention have already shown the membership that they are not just "convention officers."

During his address at the evening banquet, Mr. George cited the progress which has been made during the history of postal employee organizations.

Each state Vice-President has been assigned his territory and he will see that his territory is well covered and represented. Of course, it will be more difficult to do the job if you, the members, don't give them your cooperation.

"There was once a time in the city of Chicago," he said, "when postal clerks who wanted to organize, met in darkened rooms and in secret for fear of losing their jobs. And some of them did lose their jobs."

Few members realize the work of a state officer who seeks to do his duty. During his term of office, a state officer gives most of his vacation, compensatory days, many Saturdays and Sundays and additional hours each day in working for YOU, the members. Excepting the small salaries of the Editor and Secretary, they get NO PAY. So we ask that you co-operate by seeing that your state and national dues are paid promptly and that you urge non-members to join the organization.

The dining room of the Saint Paul Methodist Church was the scene of the evening banquet. James W. Butler, Secretary of Goldsboro Chamber of Commerce, presided as toastmaster. Following an invocation by Henry Belk, a one-man half-hour show was staged by Herman Joseph, a cigar company representative who is a former circus performer and acrobat. Joseph recounted numerous amusing experiences from the days when he trooped under the big top with Barnum and Bailey shows.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank each member of the Federation and the Woman's Auxiliary for the very fine work in helping us get those petitions signed in Washington. This is another example of team work and team work pays off!

An address of welcome was delivered by Henry A. Simmons, Jr., Chairman of the Goldsboro Postal Employees Council and Junius Council, ENCFPEA President, responded.

Meeting are scheduled to be held monthly and all phases of postal and personnel matters will be considered as they appear on the agenda.

D. Ed Howell, Secretary-Treasurer, ENCFPEA, accomplished the introduction of guests and President George was presented by Oscar L. Whitesell, Vice-President, NFPOC, of Greensboro. Following an awarding of door prizes, A. J. Garner, III, NCFPOC President, pronounced benediction.

sent Local 227, National Association of Post Office Maintenance Employees.

Council officers have been elected for a term of one year and they are J. R. Teabeut, chairman; J. P. Hales, vice chairman; and Thomas B. Moore, secretary.

Meeting are scheduled to be held monthly and all phases of postal and personnel matters will be considered as they appear on the agenda.

James E. Dunnagan will represent

St. Paul.—Congressman George M. Rhodes, an AFL organizer in Reading, Pa., told the 68th AFL convention:

"Politics is a job day in and day out throughout the year. It isn't only a job for a few weeks before election day."

RHODES SAYS POLITICS NOW AN EVERY DAY JOB