

Rep. Messer Will Seek Reelection

Ernest Messer of Canton, veteran member of the North Carolina House of Representatives, announced today as a candidate for a tenth term in the North Carolina General Assembly.

He will run for one of the two seats in the 44th House District composed of Haywood, Jackson, Madison, and Swain counties. Liston Ramsey of Marshall is the other incumbent representative.

Messer is serving a second term as Chairman of the first Committee on Aging ever to be created in the General Assembly. The committee, with Messer as chairman, was appointed by House Speaker Carl Stewart during the early days of the 1977 session of the General Assembly.

The Committee on Aging sponsored and influenced the passage of legislation to establish a Division on Aging in the Department of Human Resources, grant a Homestead Tax Exemption to the elderly, create a Bill of Rights for Patients in Nursing Homes, provide free tuition to persons over 65 years of age who attend Community Colleges, and expand nutrition programs. Another important program now being sponsored provides for expansion of in-home services for the infirm elderly in order to enable them to continue to live at home.

Messer is currently co-chairman of the House-Senate Study Committee on Aging, a member of the National Association of State Legislatures' sub-committee on Aging, and serves by appointment of the Governor on the North Carolina Advisory Council on Aging.

Messer was a member of the committee that in 1963 wrote the act creating the Community College system. He presently serves on the Community College Advisory Council.

He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Haywood Technical College.

Messer has served on the House Appropriations Committee during all his nine terms in the General Assembly.

He helped secure appropriations for the Western Farmers Market, for research programs for beef cattle and tomatoes, and for expanded programs in health and mental health.

During his nine terms in the House, Messer has served as chairman of seven major committees. In addition to his position as Chairman of the Committee on Aging, he also serves on the Committees of Appropriations, Economy, Higher Education and Water and Air Resources.

He is a member of the Canton First Baptist Church and the Canton Lions Club. He served in the Navy during World War II and is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.



Ernest Messer

Schedule Of Job Corps Consultant

Terry Gunter, Job Corps counselor for Madison County, will be at the Opportunity Corporation in Marshall on Jan. 7 and 21. He will consult with interested agencies and individuals helping with recruitment of youths 16-21 years old for job training at residential Job Corps centers. For further information call 649-3231.

Liston Ramsey Will Run For The House Again



Liston B. Ramsey

Liston B. Ramsey of Marshall announced today that he will be a candidate for reelection to the North Carolina House of Representatives. If re-elected it will be his tenth term.

Rep. Ramsey, along with Ernest Messer of Canton presently represents Haywood, Jackson, Madison and Swain counties in the North Carolina General Assembly.

During the last few sessions of the General Assembly, Ramsey has served as chair-

man of several important committees. In 1969 he was chairman of the Local Government Committee. In 1971 Ramsey served as chairman of the Legislative Redistricting Committee and was successful in drafting a bill that realigned the House Districts throughout the State. This was one of the few bills pertaining to legislative districts realignment in the entire nation that was never challenged in court.

Ramsey served as chairman of the House Finance Committee during the 1973,

1974, 1975 and 1976 Sessions. He is presently serving as chairman of the Committee on Rules and Operation of the House and was held this Chairmanship since March 1978.

Since being a member of the House of Representatives, Ramsey has sponsored or co-sponsored many appropriations bills, such as the Western North Carolina Agricultural Center, the Western North Carolina Farmers Market, Beef Cattle Specialists for the Test Farm in Haywood County, Tomato Research, funds to

aid the Cherokee Boys Home, new equipment at Haywood Technical Institute, extra funds for Southwestern Technical Institute, extra funds for Western Carolina University, a \$250,000 grant plus a \$100,000 loan for the Cherokee Historical Association, to secure funds for promotion of tourism in Western North Carolina and many others. Ramsey is well known for support of workman's compensation benefits, minimum wage increase and the expansion and upgrading

of the retirement system for all former and present state employees.

Ramsey, during the period when the General Assembly is not in session, serves on several committees and commissions. He is also a Member of the Advisory Budget Commission, a position he has held since 1973. The Advisory Budget Commission is a twelve-member Commission that prepares a recommended budget for the General Assembly.

Ramsey served in the Army

Air Force during World War II and is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. He is a mason, a member of the Elks Club, a trustee of the Cherokee Historical Association, and a Baptist. He is married to the former Florence McDevitt and they have a daughter, Martha Ramsey Geouge, who resides with her husband Michael in Gulfport, Miss.

The largest crowd in the history of Madison Square Garden, 23,306, saw Fritzie Zivic knock out Henry Armstrong in 12 rounds in 1941.



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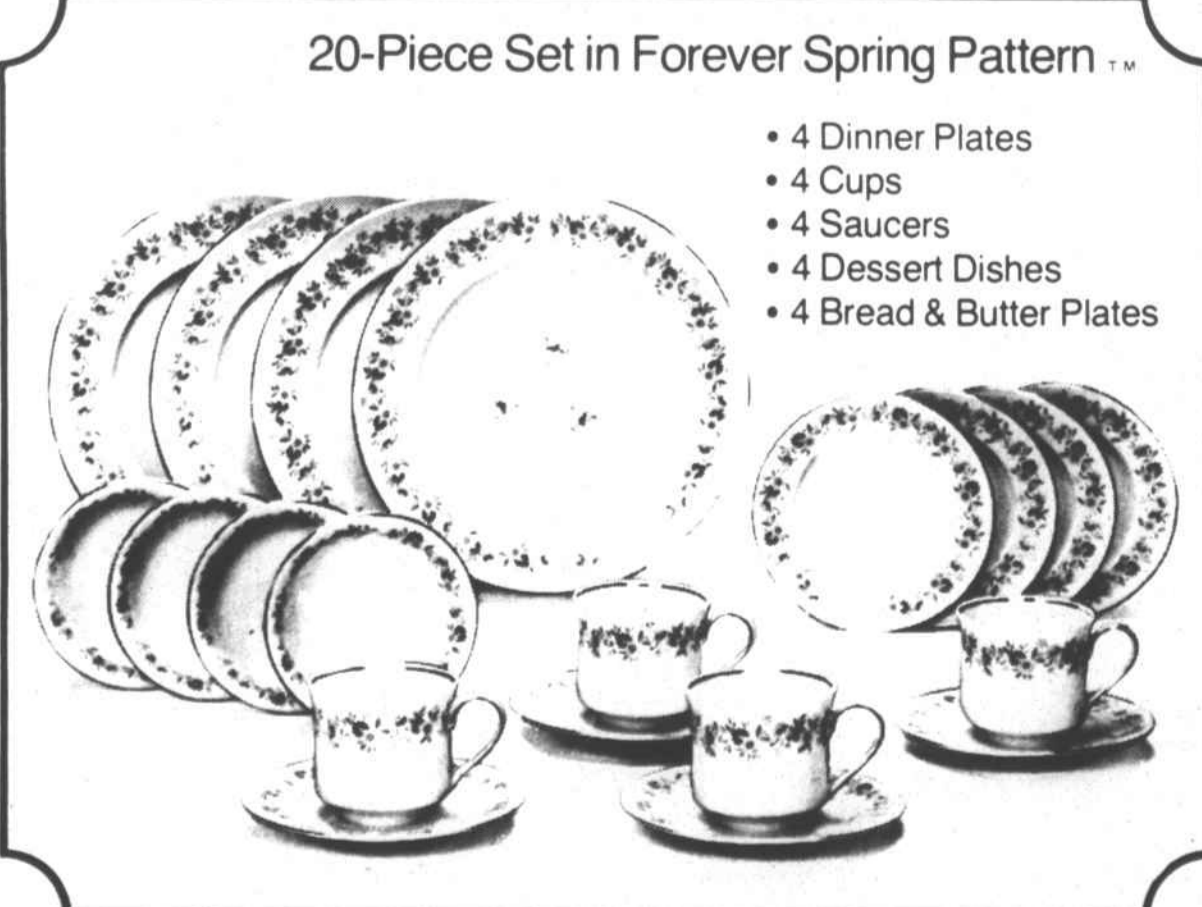


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