

## Republicans Will Attempt To Revise State Election Laws

Republicans in the General Assembly will attempt to revise the state election system in order to reduce the fraud that accompanies each general election in many parts of North Carolina. A bill to be introduced soon would change the method by which election board officials are selected and the system of prosecuting violators of the election laws.

The Republicans maintain that the present election system is based on an unrealistic assumption that the members of the political party can control the election process with complete fairness and impartiality. At present the governor appoints the five members of the State Board of Elections, three of whom are always from the majority party and two from the minority party with a simple majority deciding any issue. The State Board in turn appoints the three member county boards, with the Chairman and one other member always from the majority party and the other member from the minority party with a simple majority again deciding any issue. The County Board Chairman then appoints the three election officials inside the precinct. In many cases the officials supposedly representing the minority are installed over the objection of the minority party, thus not only is the majority party given the complete responsibility for controlling and conducting the election process, it also gets to select the officials who are supposed to represent the minority party's interest.

The Republican bill would remove the flaws of the present system by providing that:

1. Each party's Executive Committee choose two members each to serve on the State Board of Elections and those four members would then choose a fifth member from within the party. In case of a deadlock the Governor would appoint a fifth man.

2. Each major party's State Executive Committee shall ap-

point one member to the County Board of Elections and those two in turn will appoint a third member from either party and in case of a deadlock the State Board would appoint the third member.

3. Each County Chairman of each party would submit one name of a party member to serve as judge in the respective precincts within that county and the County Board of Election would approve each person. Any election official could be challenged by the board for cause—such as lack of good moral character. The precinct registrar would be appointed by the County Board of Elections. All other officials would be appointed by the party chairman from the parties they represent.

4. The County Election Boards would have the power to issue indictments where they feel the law has been violated.

5. Either the Solicitor or the Attorney General could prosecute any election law violator. As it is now, the Solicitor often does not prosecute because he himself may be the recipient of election irregularities.

The Republicans feel these changes would create a system by which fair and honest elections could be conducted, and unlike some people believe, all the people, not just the Republicans, would benefit from such a system.

## Social Security News

By: D. C. Nichols

Q. If I understand it right — when I failed to file for Medicare during the big "sign up campaign" last year for people over 65, I lost my chance to get the medical insurance protection. But can I still apply for the hospital insurance part of Medicare?

A. Yes. There's no sign-up deadline for that. You lost the opportunity only for the medical or "doctor bill" insurance part — until the next "general enrollment" period (October - December 1967). You may still file for hospital insurance at any time. But if you intend to do this, why run the risk of further delay?

Q. Don't you think it's important that we farmers keep good records of our income and expense? A farmer friend of mine pooh-poohs the idea of record keeping — says it's too much red-tape to bother with, and is something for the birds. I think he's wrong. Am I right?

A. You're right; he's wrong. Birds don't need to keep records. Farmers do. Agricultural agents and other farm management specialists have for years stressed the importance of good farm records. Record keeping is a good business practice.

Also, records are needed for tax-paying purposes. All self-employed people, including farmers, who have net earnings of \$400 or more in a year must re-

port such income to Internal Revenue and pay the social security tax — even though, because of low income, some of them do not have to pay the regular income tax.

Under certain conditions farmers may use an optional method and pay the social security tax on a percentage of their gross farm income, instead of on their net earnings. But only if they have kept the necessary records of farm income and expenses can they tell if this optional method is advantageous to use.

In cases where the self-employment tax reporting was incomplete, or where (in some instances) no return was filed, substantial social security benefits have been lost. Sad to say, there have even been cases in which, due to the self-employed farmers' failure to keep records and make proper tax reports, their surviving widows and children have been unable to get any benefits at all.

So it's extremely important to file complete and correct tax returns (as the law requires), reporting all self-employment earnings, since future benefits payable will be based on the amounts of income reported. For this purpose it is essential to keep current records of all farm income and expenses — and to save all sales receipts, paid bills or invoices, cancelled checks, etc.

Any simple record is satisfactory if all items of income and expenses are clearly, correctly, and completely shown. The itemized record of income should show what and how much was sold; when it was sold, to whom, and for how much money.

Good records make possible complete and correct tax returns that will ensure full social security crediting, which in turn will result in higher benefit payments later on.

## 4-H Leaders Have Training Session

4-H leaders met for a training session Friday night May 12 at the Amberjack Restaurant.

E. L. Dillingham, county extension chairman welcomed the leaders and reviewed the 4H goals in Target 2 Program for Yancey County.

Mrs. Alice Hopson, home economics extension agent explained the various 4-H activities that are scheduled for the coming months. These include the Fontana 4-H Resource Conference June 5-9, Demonstration Day, and 4-H Camp.

Leaders were supplied kits that included materials and publications on 4-H activities.

Leaders were encouraged to increase their enrollment in their own clubs and also to sponsor additional clubs.

When you look for the most room and the smoothest ride and the best value, you'll end up with a Chevrolet wagon everytime.



Top left: Chevy II Nova Station Wagon. Foreground: Chevrolet Impala Station Wagon. Top right: Chevelle Malibu Station Wagon.

**Chevrolet Impala, roomiest in its class.** While extra roominess is perhaps the best reason for buying a Chevrolet wagon, consider, also, these bonuses: Body by Fisher, Chevrolet dependability, flush-and-dry rocker panels and Magic-Mirror finish. **Chevelle Malibu, smoother, quieter ride.** A Malibu not only gives you a Full Coil suspension ride, but the body mountings are double-cushioned. And Chevelle carries plenty. It opens wide, 54.6 inches, to be exact, 28.5 inches high. Flip the second seat down and you've got 86 cubic feet of cargo space for all your gear. Chevelle was built to take a lot. **Chevy II Nova, best equipped for the money.** All-vinyl upholstery is standard. Flush-and-dry rocker panels that clean themselves are standard. Separate panels beneath each fender to inhibit rust are standard.

Mono-Plate rear suspension to smooth the ride is standard. Price? Below standard.

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