

Saturday's the Day; Here are Our Guesses

Congress Race

Jones County's vote in the heated Third Congressional District race can hardly be classified as decisive because it is such a small part of the overall district vote.

The retirement of New Bernian Graham Barden and the all-out effort by four of the five men seeking to replace Barden assure a much larger vote this year than four years ago when Jimmy Simpkins ran against Barden and was defeated 21,427 to 9,390.

In that race Jones County only cast 1,788 votes in the total of 30,757, and it gave Barden 1,129 and Simpkins 559.

Everyone concedes that with Barden retiring, but still exerting influence in the campaign Simpkins will be stronger than before.

The other candidates: Robert Stallings, Mayor of New Bern; David Rose, State Senator from Wayne County; David Henderson, County Judge of Duplin County, and Skinner Chalk, Carteret County rector, have never been before the voters of Jones County. Guessing is about all that can be done as to their vote-winning potential, either in the district at large or in Jones County in particular.

Henderson is the Barden candidate, and as such is expected to be a top contender.

Simpkins because of his determined, energetic campaigning is also classed as a top contender.

Stallings is felt to be a strong man in his home county of Craven, and will perhaps damage Simpkins badly there since they are both New Bernians.

Stallings is also felt to be strong in the more heavily populated eastern section of Jones County.

Rose is rated fourth by everyone who sizes up the voting in Jones County. Chalk, who is simply in the race to give Carteret County its ancient "bargaining position" in the second primary will certainly run fifth in every county in the district, possibly even in his own home county.

Because it is difficult for a politician to pass his strength to another, and because Henderson has not conducted a very aggressive campaign in Jones County he is expected to come in third with first place honors in Jones County being divided between Stallings and Simpkins, with the latter getting the slight nod for the No. 1 slot.

Register of Deeds

The quiet, but intense fight going on between Jones County's incumbent Register of Deeds, Mrs. Dorothy Noble Koonce, and her one opponent, W. D. "Bill" Parker is one of the two purely local races before the voters of the county on Saturday of this week.

Nobody in any part of the county is willing to register even a whispered guess on the outcome of this contest.

Mrs. Koonce is now serving her first term in the office, but served as assistant to Retired George Noble for five years before being elected over James Simmons in a second primary four years ago.

Parker is making his debut in official politics, but he is far from being a stranger in any part of the county, and he has waged for the past two months an active fight to unseat Mrs. Koonce.

Mrs. Koonce also has not sit quietly by. She also has done a lot of visiting and handshaking.

Actually Mrs. Koonce was winner in the first primary four years ago but failure to insist upon proper counting of the ballots forced her into the second primary against Simmons which ended in a very

With the last minute campaign oratory echoing through the hills and swamps of Tar Heelia the folks who call themselves experts are saying there is no difference now in their predictions of nearly a year ago, to wit: It is a race between John Larkins of Trenton and Terry Sanford of Fayetteville.

Of course, those energetic souls who are beating the bushes in the names of Beverly Lake and Malcolm Seawell hardly concur in these "expert views".

For months friends and supporters of John Larkins felt that his campaign was suffering a bad case of "Chinese pneumonia" (lead in the pants). Now with the voting day in sight the Larkins star has zoomed and his followers see his as high man in the first primary and easily disposing of whoever might meet him in the accepted

Governor?

2nd primary.

Terry Sanford was shoved out in front by his friends in the newspaper business and in the press he has kept that rail position throughout the long, really dry campaign. Now, even his staunchest supporters concede that Sanford will not win in the first primary—as some of his fanatical admirers dreamed not so many months ago.

Beverly Lake is still the really unknown quantity in the race. Last to enter, his allies say he will finish atop the ballot stack on Saturday. However, in three months of strenuous, deadpan campaigning Lake has not offered anything new on the segregation subject which is the major string in his political fiddle. Lake is expected to get in every county the fanatical segregationist vote, but this is not felt to be enough to do the job—barring a full blown racial incident

between now and election morning which would throw the voters into an emotional spasm and possibly toss the governor's job into Lake's prim lap.

Seawell has been dogged by a number of political millstones—he has had to support the Hodges Administration as a part of it, but without the full support of the administration. Hodges himself has never blown the whistle for an all-out "Help Seawell effort", and now, in the dwindling hours of the campaign, frightened conservatives afraid of the apparition of Sanford in the governor's chair and tossing their lot in with John Larkins, rather than running the risk of splitting the conservative vote, and money too finely.

No. 1 John Larkins

No. 2 Terry Sanford

No. 3 Beverly Lake

No. 4 Malcolm Seawell

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Ladies for Larkins Spark Open House Sunday Evening

The Ladies for Larkins were out in front when 46 of them attended the Democratic Convention in Raleigh last Thursday. On the bus going back to Trenton, they decided to have an open house for their candidate Sunday afternoon.

It was held at the Legion Hut in Trenton from four o'clock until seven with approximately 350 guests attending.

All seven townships and precincts were well represented and ladies from each township helped make and serve the refreshments. Mrs. Jack Brock, Mrs. Harold Mallard, Miss Zelle Pollock, Mrs. Wilmer Mallard and Mrs. Isabelle Mallard were organizers of the open house and have praised all the wonderful ladies who gave their full support and co-operation. Without their quick response, the affair could not have been the big success that it was.

Ladies from each township who were in charge of committees were Mrs. Virginia Booth of Pollocksville, Mrs. Robert Mattocks of Maysville, Mrs. Jack Brock, Trenton, Mrs. Paul Taylor of Beaver Creek, Mrs. Tillman Holloman of Saspers Mill, Mrs. W. L. Dail,

close race.

The "ballot counting" mixup came in this fashion: A number of ballots had not been properly marked for offices other than register of deeds—people had either voted for more or less than five in the county commissioner race, and election officials simply set aside the entire ballot, while the law says the other properly marked offices on such ballots will count.

Mrs. Koonce needed only 12 such ballots to have had a majority over all opposition in that first primary, but since she did not protest to the election board in "due time" the second primary resulted.

How much, if any the so-called "vigilante" effort to "clean out the court house" will effect the Koonce-Parker race is unknown. This is largely confined to the county commissioner battle.

Prediction: A very close vote and either Mrs. Koonce or Parker could wind up winner in a photo-finish.

Chinquapin, Mrs. Cecil Hargett, Tuckahoe, Mrs. Bruce Foy of Cypress Creek, Mrs. Fannie Foster, Comfort, Mrs. Lynn Parker of Piney Grove, Mrs. Lila Loftin, Maple Grove and Mrs. Nannie Scott of Oak Grove.

Larkins was making speeches out of town and could not be present, but he sent his regrets in a telegram and was represented by his family. Mrs. Larkins of Trenton and her daughter, Mrs. Dalton Loftin and her boys, Johnny and Hugh Muriel of Hillsboro were present, as well as Charles Larkins of Kinston and Mrs. Norris Reid of New Bern.

Hosts were Cecil Hargett, John Hargett, Murray Whitaker, J. R. Westbrook, Robert Mattocks and John D. Jenkins.

Guests from out of the county were Clarence Grady of Kinston, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Crawford of New Bern, Mr. and Mrs. Muriel Boggs of Richlands, Mr. and Mrs. Alton Mills of Richlands, Mr. and Mrs. Booth Marston of Kinston, Mr. and Mrs. Graham Eubanks of Belgrade and Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Brinson of Kenansville.

The building was decorated in a color scheme of red, white and blue and cake, punch and nuts were served—along with campaign buttons for Larkins.

Jones Negro 4-H's Church Service Sunday

Jones County's 892 Negro 4-H Club members will observe their National 4-H Church Program Sunday, May 29 at 11 A. M. at St. Matthew A.M.E. Zion Church in Trenton.

The Theme of the program is "Life Dares Youth to Live." 4-H Church Sunday is designed to develop guiding principles for 4-H members to live by according to the dictates of their religious faith.

4-H teaches discipline to build moral fiber. Discipline develops self control, self respect, self reliance and creates clean minds and clean living.

The speaker will be Rev. W. H. Simmons, pastor of the Church.

All 4-H members, parents and interested persons are cordially invited.

Craven Tragedy

Failing in a Sunday morning effort to persuade his wife, Virginia Koonce Garvey, to return to him, Linwood Thomas Garvey shot her twice and killed himself instantly with a bullet in the head at the home of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Pearl Hines Koonce in the Fort Barnwell section of Western Craven County. Mrs. Garvey died two hours later in a New Bern Hospital from the head wound inflicted by her husband.

Contest Saturday for Jones, Greene, Lenoir 4-H Tractor Drivers

The annual Tractor Operators' Contest for Lenoir, Greene, and Jones County 4-H Club Members will be held at 8:30 a. m. Saturday, May 28, at the Lenoir County Livestock Association Building, 2½ miles south of Kinston on the Pink Hill Highway.

Approximately 15 boys are expected to participate in the tractor event which will include (1) written examination, (2) driving through an obstacle course, (pulling and backing a limespreader- and (3) safety.

County winners from each county will be selected to compete in district contests, and district winners will be eligible to compete in the state contest. At this tri-county event, a trophy will be awarded to the overall winner by Radio Station WELS.

Tractors and other implements for the contest will be provided by Turner Tractor and Implement Company, West Machinery Company, Barker-Sanders Equipment Company, L. Harvey & Son Company and Johnson-Sherman Company.

Check Yours Now

Spot checks are being made for the next three weeks in Greene, Jones and Lenoir counties by the Highway Patrol in an effort to eliminate what is believed to be a lot of driving without a valid driving license. Persons who are not certain about the validity of their present driving license are urged to contact an officer and avoid embarrassment and indictment for driving with an expired, invalid license.

Board Fight

The most bitter fight in many a long year over the five seats on the Jones County Board of Commissioners has developed this spring and centers around what is being called a "Vigilante Committee" whose purpose is to "clean out the court house".

This campaign got underway in April when Lame Duck Commissioner D. A. "Doc" Jones protested that private parties renting space in the court house were paying too little. From this beginning Jones spread his loop a bit further and began trying to hang County Attorney George Hughes, who holds that appointive office.

Once the fat was in the fire and the epithets and accusations began to fly there seemed to be no end in sight, nor any limit to which the parties involved would go to win.

Absurd accusations such as that Hughes was the highest paid county attorney in Eastern North Carolina began to cloud the issue. His salary is \$1,800 per year. Lenoir County Attorney Tom White averages about \$8,000 per year—White is paid a retainer of \$1200 per year but fees for special work increase his "take home pay". Hughes has not made a charge for such work since the first year he held the job.

Jones, after kicking over the hornet's nest decided things were a little too hot for him and declined to seek re-election.

Then Trenton Mayor M. E. Hines, miffed because the present board of commissioners had voted the same \$40 per month for the Maysville Fire Department that was voted for the Trenton Fire Department, issued an insultingly low blow in the Kinston Daily Free Press which inferred that the present board was comprised of a group of ignorant characters who had no business training.

Then political hell broke loose. Which among the candidates are the "well trained business men" who Hines says are so badly needed to conduct the affairs of Jones County in a more proper fashion?

These candidates include Nelson Banks, Fred Foscoe, Joe Turner Jr., Eugene Simpson, Horace Lee Haddock and Preston Reynolds.

The incumbents include Chairman John W. Creagh, Harold Mallard, Ralph Scott and Braxton George.

Nobody except the members of the "vigilante committee" itself expects to wipe out the entire slate of incumbents, since all are veterans in the ballot battling of the county and each comes from a large and influential family.

Prediction: Not more than two new commissioners.

Trenton's Legion Auxiliary Winner Top Post Trophy

Tuesday in Asheville at the annual convention of the Department of North Carolina of the American Legion and the Legion Auxiliary the Auxiliary of Glen Newton Smith Post No. 154 in Trenton was voted the best all-round unit in state.

Listing the numerous activities of the Jones County Auxiliary and the leadership it has exercised in the community the award carries with it the "Arelia Ruth Adams Trophy", which each year is presented to the top unit in the state.

CAUGHT IN KINSTON

Pvt. Robert W. Janowski of Camp Lejeune was caught in Kinston last Friday night with a car stolen earlier in the same night in Jacksonville.