



By EULA N. GREENWOOD

VITAL VITLES . . . Bob Gavin, the Lee County gentleman who did so well as in 1960 as the Republican candidate for Governor, is at it again.

This time his opponent will not be Terry Sanford, but one very close to the State Administration. Gavin has decided to run against the winner in the Democratic Primary May 26 . . . for the Lee House seat.

Harvey Faulk is opposing Shelton Wicker in the Primary — and Gavin has filed as the Republican candidate for the fall election. In all probability it will be Wicker vs Gavin. The interesting thing about it is that Wicker was chairman of the House Finance Committee in the 1961 Legislature. He carried the ball for the Governor on the food tax.

Sanford has said publicly he will go to bat if necessary this fall for candidates who have trouble with the tax on food. So you may see Sanford and Gavin going at each other again in Lee County late this year as they did Statewide two years ago.

P. S. Lee County usually goes Democratic by about four-to-one. If it does much worse than that this time, put down victuals' taxes as the prime reason. Gavin is sure to push hard on this pedal . . . with big help.

NO FOOD FIGHT . . . But with the exception of Lee County, Stanly County, and about four other spots in the State — not more than a half-dozen in all — the sales tax on food will not be an issue this spring.

The legislative filing date came and went April 13 at noon . . . and

a goodly sprinkling of the 1961 General Assembly members who led in finding food as the best-all-around, dependable tax source for better schools have no opposition whatever this spring or fall.

Unless it raises its head mightily in the fall elections, the food tax is here to stay and is as dead as a dodo as campaign fodder.

BOND FAILURES . . . Citizens who plan to represent the voters in Raleigh or Washington next year would do well to keep in mind the outcome of bond issues taken to the people in recent months.

The first big awakening came in the fall when they turned a vigorous thumbs-down on the Statewide issues. Since then, numerous local issues for a wide assortment of improvements (mostly schools) have failed.

Out of three voted on in the past three weeks — Rockingham, Lumberton, and Johnston County — two were voted down; and it now looks as if a legal ruling may kick out the Lumberton victory (a one-vote margin).

Beer and wine elections win; whisky is voted in; but we vote down borrowing to have better schools, more hospitals, and other

good works. Why are we so sorry? The answer seems to be that we feel "taxed to death" and are becoming "fed up with it."

The bond issues rank in third place in the tax ladder . . . or possibly fourth . . . and little support is left for them. First comes the vast Federal taxes; then the tremendously increased State taxes; and then the county and municipal taxes; and then, at the last, the bond issues to raise these latter taxes. Uncle S. may be mostly responsible for bond failures.

Literally thousands of North Carolinians (ask your banker) have to borrow money with which to pay their income taxes.

JUST TREES . . . This young physician in a nearby city bought a country estate last year. A very confident fellow with more dollars than sense, he wanted to have a showplace. He did his own landscaping, decided what he needed in the way of shrubbery, terraces, and what-have-you.

In early January he bought for \$5 each (\$4 for tree, \$1 for planting) 200 balsams neatly balled for

setting out. In two or three weeks he noticed a few turning brown, then others. He dug up one, two, three, a dozen. They were all old, neatly balled, left over Christmas trees. As of last week neither the truck, the salesman, nor the nursery could be located.

NOTES . . . There seems to be a real fight developing in the Fifth Congressional District between Wake Forest Alumnus Ralph Scott, incumbent, and Wake Forest Alumnus William Z. Wood, the dark horse from Winston-Salem who led the ticket in Forsyth County balloting in the 1960 primary . . .

The deal on a recently purchased radio station in N. C. may be called off by the Federal Communications Commission . . . BECAUSE the day the new owners took over they played the SAME TUNE all day long. Now the FCC is wondering if the new owners are capable of operating the station so that it might prove beneficial to the community . . .

Good Times Note: For January-February-March, money paid out to unemployed persons in the State was down three-million-seven-hun-

dred thousand dollars from the same period a year ago . . . Money saved!

GOP joke: The initials J.F.K. means Jobs For Kinsfolks . . .

GOP joke: Yes, the Kennedys did a lot in their own way to reduce unemployment in 1961. They added 85,000 to the Federal payroll!

A. J. Fletcher, Raleigh radio and television mogul . . . and a native of Ashe County . . . is in Duke Hospital. . . R. H. Carson, advertising director for the Raleigh News & Observer-Times, is recovering from a serious operation. . . Memorial Hospital, Chapel Hill. . .

One of the most personable beauties in the Miss Raleigh pageant was Donna Dawson, daughter

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