

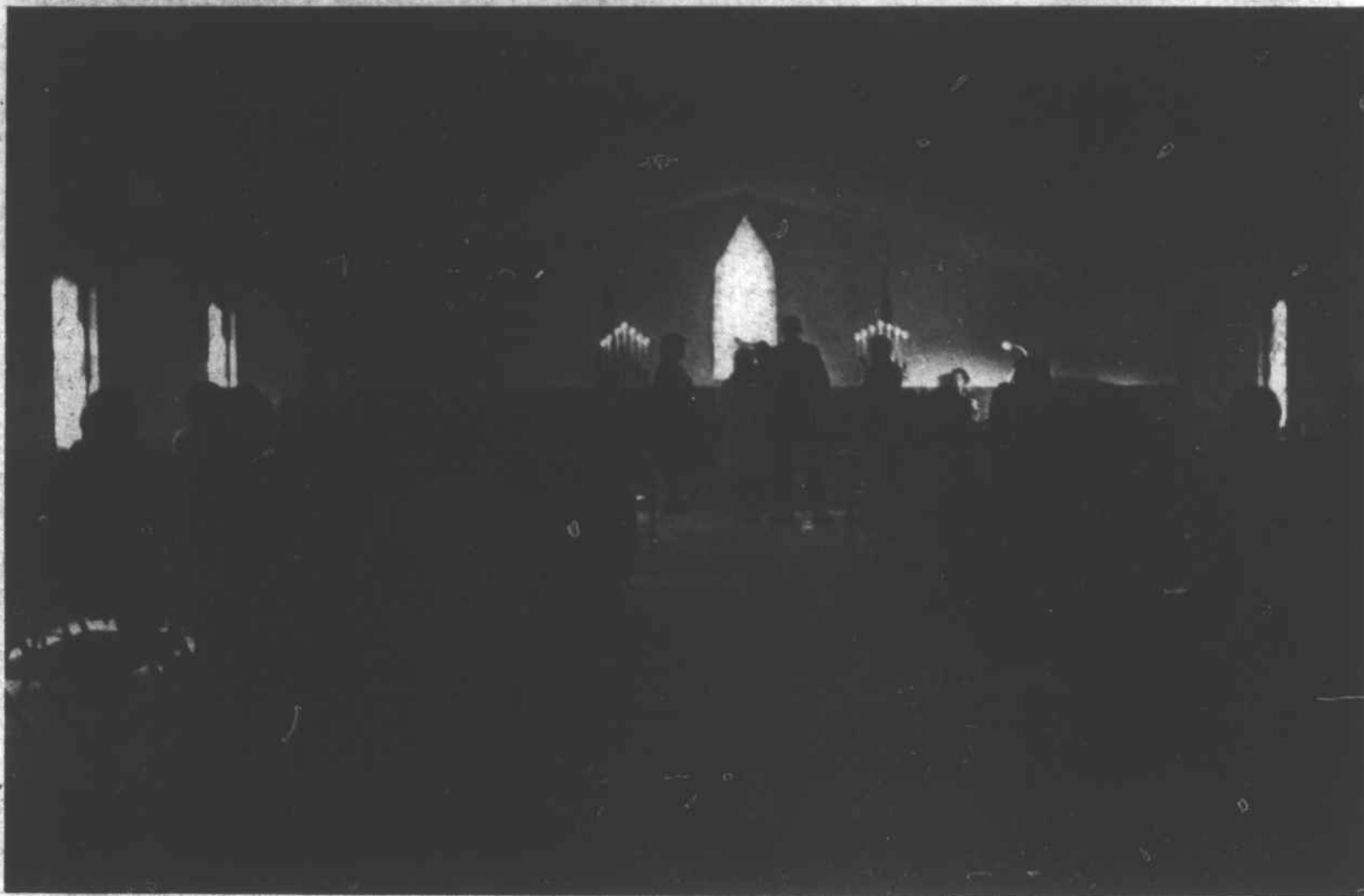
THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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20 CENTS



First union

Teresa Hudson and Gary Ridgeway are married during the first wedding

ceremony at the new Snug Harbor Community Church.

The congregation has been holding services at the new

church, still under construction, since August.

High winds and rain cause auto accidents

A tree blown down by high winds Monday morning, caused three auto accidents in Winfall in the space of ten minutes.

State Highway Patrolman Mike MacArthur reported that four people in one car suffered minor injuries when their 1975 Oldsmobile ran through the branches of a fallen poplar tree on SR 1220 near Cedar Grove Methodist Church in Winfall.

Five minutes before that 6:25 a.m. accident, another car had hit the

same branches, and about five minutes later, a third car also ran through the same place.

MacArthur said that he believed a fourth car had also been damaged there, but the driver didn't make a official report.

"It was like a cave," said MacArthur about the branches.

The patrolman said that though that stretch of road is a straightaway, the rain and fog during those pre-dawn accidents made it

nearly impossible to see the blown-down tree.

Each car was traveling east on the road, and as it hit the branches, it spun out to the right and off the road, so that none of the cars hit each other.

In the first accident, Milton Riddick of Winfall smashed the left side of his 1978 Honda, but he was uninjured.

In the second, 6:25 accident, the Oldsmobile, driven by Rufus James

Spellman of Route 2, Hertford was totaled. Spellman along with three other passengers, his wife Susanne and Buena Walton of Belvidere and Allen Perry of Route 2, Hertford, all suffered minor injuries and were treated and released from Albemarle Hospital.

In the third accident, a 1973 Ford station wagon driven by Troy Jackson of Belvidere was also totaled, though Jackson was uninjured.

Recreation supporters organize

A group of citizens supporting tax-funded recreation programs has formed in the last few weeks before the Nov. 2 election to encourage voters to turnout and mark "yes" the county-wide referendum concerning the Recreation Department.

This group, informally called "Concerned Citizens for Recreation," is probably the first time since the school bond referendum at few years ago that an ad hoc group of residents has formed to take a stand on a local issue.

The group, co-chaired by Betty Hare and Mary Ruth Smith, was formed only a few weeks ago during a meeting of the Recreation Department's Advisory Committee. "It just started out of the blue,"

said Smith. "When I was first showed the ballot, I nearly dropped my teeth."

Since that time, the group has collected the names of some 580 local residents who say they will vote to continue county funding of the department, as well as received endorsements from the Hertford Town Council and a few local civic groups.

In addition, they have run advertising in this paper — including a full-page ad — stating their position, with more expected elsewhere before Election Day.

Opposition to the group's position — those who will vote "no" next Tuesday — has not been very vocal, but no one would be very surprised if

it turns out to be a silent majority.

"We've got a lot of people out in the county working," said Smith. "We're trying to hit every part of the county with the group."

Chief among their concerns is getting people to understand the wording of the ballot, which they believe is slanted in favor of those who wish see county funding discontinued. "We're trying to show people the ballot and explain what it means," she said.

In addition, they're pushing for a large turnout among "yes" voters. With the rest of the election slate consisting of judge's elections, school candidates, and somewhat esoteric state-wide referendums, a big voter turnout was not expected, though the controversy over this issue may bring voters out.

Crafts festival successful

With the work of about 40 different craftsmen and women's groups jammed into every nook and cranny of White Boarding House on Church Street, the Perquimans County Extension Homemakers opened their second Festival of Skills last week attracting about 950 people during the two-day affair.

"It turned out really good, I was very pleased," said Extension Home Economics Agent Paige Underwood, who helped organize what has become an annual fall show of area — mostly Perquimans County — craftsmen.

This year's turnout exceeded last year's first festival by about 250, and receipts from admissions, concessions and crafts sales reach about \$8,000. The Extension Homemakers' share of that money will go towards various projects as well as traveling expenses of Homemakers' representatives.

Underwood noted shoppers

(Continued on page 2)

Development group holds first meeting

The recently organized Committee of 100, chartered as a citizens' group to promote industrial development in Perquimans County, held their first meeting Monday night at Anglers' Cove Restaurant.

In the group's first order of business, they elected T. Erie Haste of Hertford chairman of the committee, as well as six other officers.

Haste expressed his appreciation to the group, but made it clear that he didn't expect to do the committee's work by himself. "I'm flattered by your decision," said the hardware store owner and former Hertford town councilman following his election, "but this is going to take the effort of everyone."

"If you don't plan to get involved," he added, "then you're kidding yourself...you're \$100 (the membership dues of the committee) is wasted."

Along with Haste, the group of 37 in attendance elected two vice-chairmen, Allen Asbell and Jan Spruill, Barbara Nixon as secretary, Becky Winslow as assistant secretary, Paul Smith, Sr. as treasurer and Joe Towe White, Jr. as assistant treasurer.

The Committee of 100, whose members consist of local and out-of-county citizens who donate at least \$100 to the group, was organized late last September as a non-profit, non-tax supported organization to assist the county Industrial Development Commission in attracting new and expanding present industry in Perquimans County.

The executive committee of the Committee of 100, which includes the elected officers as well as county Industrial Development Commission Chairman Joel Hollowell, will meet in the next several days before

holding another general meeting in the near future.

After the election of officers, Haste opened the floor for comments, during which many present expressed their feeling that the economic situation in Perquimans County has nearly reached — if not long passed — the deperation point.

Among the most revealing comments made was by Tim Brinn, who said that according to the finding of his organization, Perquimans County tops even lowly Tyrrell in one statistic: highest average age among the population in this region. Without job opportunities, young people, said Brinn, are leaving the county in droves.

Frank Terranova, owner of the county's newest addition to the industrial base, Dijop Sportswear, suggested the committee think small. "We're not going to get General Motors," he said. Large industrial sites, like the empty shell building in Elizabeth City's industrial park are, he said, "white elephants."

But from his experience, he said, there are countless small businesses in large northern cities that are eager move into a cheaper labor market if the price is right. "We have to offer them cheap land and cheap buildings," he said.

When the topic of previous, failed attempts at industrial development organization came up — particularly the tax-supported and now more or less inactive Industrial Development Corporation — Haste said "This committee is going to succeed because it has to succeed. In the past, we thought (industrial development) was icing on the cake. Now we're sweating for the cake."



Giving blood

Nurse Dorothy Miller prepares Edgar Roberson to give blood during last

Thursday's visit by the Red Cross Bloodmobile. The bloodmobile, sponsored here

by the Perquimans County Jaycees, collected 57 pints of blood from 67 donors.



Shoppers mill around during the Festival of Skills.

Police caution parents on Halloween

Halloween is an occasion for the kids to have a good time, and parents can keep the trick-or-treating fun if, as local officials advise, they follow a few safety tips.

Hertford Police Chief Marshall Merritt will probably have his hands full with all of the activity on Halloween, and he asks parents to make his job a little easier by keeping the following rules in mind.

Customarily in this area, when Halloween falls on a Sunday, as it does this year, children usually make

their trick-or-treat rounds on Saturday evening. To avoid having two nights of Halloween, Merritt suggests parents follow that custom again this year and keep the kids home Sunday night.

Parents or other adults should accompany the children on their rounds.

The police chief asks that Trick-or-Treaters follow traffic rules while on the street. The Edenton All-Stars will be playing a football game Saturday evening at the high school,

so there will probably be a lot of cars in the area.

Wear light-colored clothing so drivers can more easily see you, and don't wear costumes that block vision or impair walking.

The police chief also suggests parents check everything their kids get before they eat it. Sadly, there have been many cases around the country of people giving children poisoned or otherwise dangerous treats.