

COUNTY VOTERS FACE ISSUES AT POLLS

HOSPITAL POT BUST WHO CARES?

On Tuesday, Nov. 4, 1980, Colleton County voters resoundingly said "No" to giving the present hospital board the full authority to build a new hospital, but exactly what they do want still remains in question.

As it stood 6,593 to 4,211 defeat of the referendum puts the question who is going to build a new hospital back into the hands of County Council. Despite a heavy predilection for signing a contract with a private hospital corporation, it is conceivable that they could choose to let the hospital remain public.

Campaigning during the previous months before the election, the voters were confused. Many did not know whether or not to vote Yes or No. Nonetheless the majority of the voters said No, giving the Hospital Corporation of America (HCS) to take over the hospital system in Colleton County. HCA took over the system officially with a unanimous vote after the election.

EDUCATION

Colleton County voters agreed to elect A. L. Smoak, new superintendent of Education in Colleton County June 12, 1980. Smoak ran on the county democratic ticket against the incumbent John Ewing. Ewing got popular votes in Walterboro's district 1, 2, 3, and 4, but Smoak got his victor throughout the rural areas of Colleton County.

Smoak will succeed Ewing in June, 1981, and further plans for the new county school deficit. Mr. Smoak is still present director for the Colleton Area Voc. while Ewing is still presently Superintendent of Education.

Thanksgiving Day Nov. 27, 1980 brought about the biggest Pot Bust in Colleton County history. Twenty-eight persons were arrested and placed in the Colleton County jail in connection with the incident. This occurred near Bennets Point in the Greenpond and Edisto areas.

Former Sheriff John I. Seigler and deputies arrested these persons and seized the marijuana. According to Sheriff Seigler, they learned of the scenes through tapping. Colleton County with Sheriff Seigler was within the state news for the past week.

Thus this brought about the end to the biggest Pot Bust in Colleton County history.

REPUBLICAN

First Congressional District U.S. Rep. Thomas (Tommy) Hartnett set up an office in Colleton County as one of his striking campaign promises. Tommy Hartnett is one of the republican congressmen since Reconstruction and The Solid South. Hartnett defeated Dem. Charles "Pug" Ravenel in the General Election Nov. 4, 1980. He plans to represent other areas in his district also.

Hartnett opened the office in Walterboro so that the people in Colleton County can voice their opinions in Washington. Hartnett succeeded a long congressman Mendel J. Davis and recently was appointed on the House Armed Services Committee which his opponent was said to have gotten a better chance.

The major purpose of Hartnett's elected congressman is said to serve the "Will of the People."

"Who shot J.R. was one of the Biggest mysteries in television time. Larry Hagman who portrays the wealthy oil businessman gave viewers one of the biggest mysteries to solve. Hagman (J. R.) was one of the most unlikeable persons in television history because of mischievous doings was shot by a mysterious person on the show who the viewers did not know. Suspense took over the mind of T.V. watchers as they guessed at who shot J. R.?"

At WHS, these were the results:

Alan - 6
Baby - 7
Bobby - 6
Cliff - 7
Ms. Ellie - 163
Kristen - 108
Lucy - 6
Marilee - 6
Pam - 4
Vaughn 11
Other - 59

It Turned out that Kristen shot J. R. WHS students were not far off in their predictions.