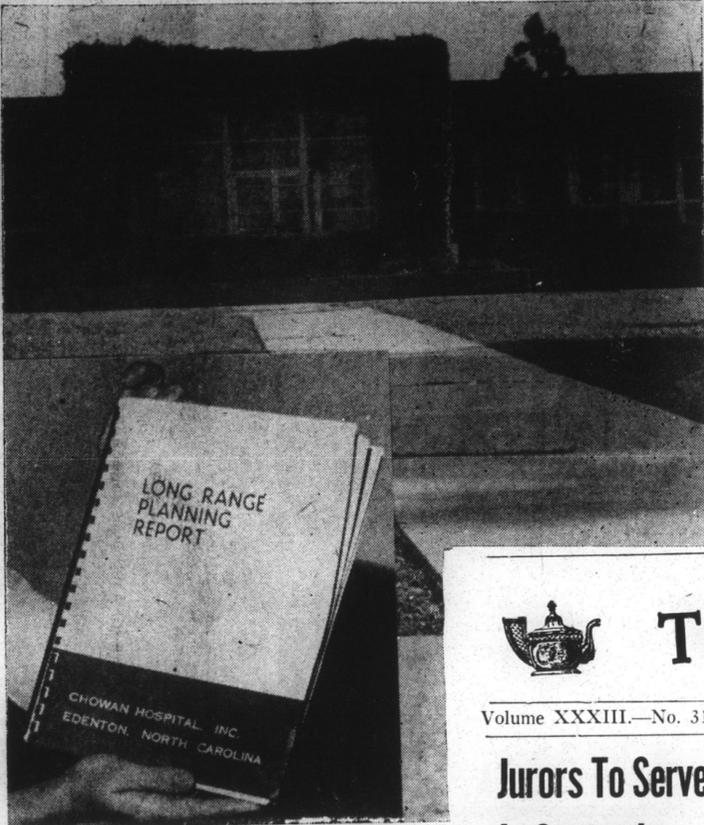


Commissioners Authorize Vote On Bond Issue To Construct \$1½ Million Hospital In County



PRINCIPALS IN MOVE FOR \$1½ MILLION HOSPITAL REFERENDUM

Needs Are Cited; Referendum Set On November 8

A \$1½ million hospital bond referendum has been called in Chowan County for November 8. If voters approve, a new, 70-bed hospital will be constructed.

Chowan County commissioners Monday called for the referendum after being told of the urgent need for more and better medical facilities in the county.

The request for this vote of the people came from the board of trustees of Chowan

A complete text of the statement by Jesse L. Harrell of the Chowan Hospital Trustees is on page 5.

Hospital, Inc., a non-profit corporation which has operated the local hospital since it was constructed. The trustees acted on recommendations made in a Long Range Planning Report completed by experts in the hospital field.

It is anticipated that a 70-bed hospital would fulfill area needs to 1975, the period covered in Stage One of the recommendations.

While the referendum is for authorization to issue \$1½ million in bonds, authorities estimate that only about \$1 million would actually be required. They anticipate at least \$300,000 in federal grants and foundation gifts once the voters have expressed themselves as favoring the construction of a new hospital.

If the vote is favorable, the present hospital property would be deeded to the county and in turn leased back to a hospital board to operate the facilities.

Too, it was pointed out that the 15-bed professional nursing care unit needs expanding and the existing hospital would be used for this purpose.

Jesse L. Harrell, hospital chairman, read a lengthy statement for the board pointing out the needs which exist and are now considered critical.

He states that the hospital census is currently running more than 20 per cent above what is considered normal for a hospital. More space, as well as additional equipment is needed in practically every department.

Harrell stated that the survey team recommended a new hospital site when the cost of expanding the existing 35-bed unit ran close to the estimated cost of a completely new facility.

Stating it would take two to three years to complete a new hospital, Harrell said: "We are crowded now; just think what it will be like in three years."

He added that Medicare will increase the hospital census, but how much is not known.

Harrell also told the com-



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Jurors To Serve In September

The names of 50 Chowan County taxpayers to serve as prospective jurors were drawn Monday by county commissioners.

The men will report on September 12 when a mixed term of Chowan County Superior Court will open. Judge William J. Bundy of Greenville will preside.

Solicitor Herbert Small of Elizabeth City will prosecute the docket, aided by Solicitor Thomas Cheers, Jr., of Chowan County Recorder's Court.

Nine new members will be drawn for a 12-month tour of duty on the county's continuing Grand Jury. T. E. Parker, Sr., is foreman of the panel.

Those who will be instructed to serve are:

First Township
Fred Keeter, Willis H. Bond, Charles H. Small, Jr., Harry Davenport, James H. Goodwin, Jr., Samuel L. Collins, Jr., Otis McCurtis, Jerry Miles Jernigan, Charlie P. Hughes, Irvin S. Lassister and Leo Katakavek.

Also, Johnnie L. Owens, Murray Rudolph Dale, William V. Clark, George Walton, William P. Jones, Milton Sills Martin, Jack Barrow, Horace R. Jordan, Henderson Goodwin, Heywood Ziegler, Jr., and Burley Winfield.

Also, J. C. Cobb, John G. Jethro, J. C. Forehand, James A. Quain, Julius L. Hardison, Lee Sadler, M. E. Parker, Frank H. Habit and C. W. Overman.

Second Township
Charlie E. Peele, William Carl Bunch, Marvin Smith, Roy E. Lane, Jr., F. A. White, Sr., Wilford N. Toppin, William Edward Whitman, Willie Lee Morris, and J. N. Jordan.

Third Township
T. D. Berryman, Nurney D. Chappell, Charles F. Noble, Jesse L. Byrum, Lycurgus Perry, J. S. Hendrix, James L. Byrum, and R. D. Chappell.

Fourth Township
J. Thomas Brabble and Lloyd Overton, Jr.

Escaped Convict Taken In Va.
George Thomas Young is reported to have been apprehended in Hopewell, Va., following his successful escape from a road gang in Chowan County last Wednesday.

Authorities said Young escaped from a road gang in the Greenfield section of the county where work is being done on a highway.

The prisoner reportedly entered a home in Yeopim on Thursday and stole several items of clothing.

MEETING CHANGED
Edenton's Town Council will meet at 8 P. M., Thursday, August 11, instead of August 9, according to Town Administrator W. B. Gardner.

HOLLOWELL INSTALLED — W. Herbert Hollowell, Jr., was installed Thursday night as District Governor of Lions International. He is shown in the picture at right behind a banner which will be displayed by Edenton Lions Club, his home club. Relinquishing the banner is Alphas T. Doughtie of Powellsville. Left to right in the other picture are: Wallace West of Wilmington, past International Director; Hollowell, and Daniel Reaves, president of the local club. West addresses the more than 175 Lions and their wives at the installation banquet held at Chowan Golf & Country Club.

New Board Established Spring, Summer Weather Harmful

An ordinance creating the Chowan County Planning Board was approved by Chowan County Commissioners Monday and a resolution was passed entering into a contract with the board to have a county-wide survey of sewer and water needs.

A grant will be received from the Farmers Home Administration to finance this comprehensive study.

Chairman W. E. Bond said West Byrum, Jr., had resigned as chairman of the Overall Economic Development Program Committee which will constitute the new board. Byrum is chairman of the board of elections and this would constitute double office holding.

Chairman Bond said a meeting of the board would

be held as soon as possible so work could proceed on attempting to get a federal grant for extension of sewer and water lines to the new Carter's Ink Company property, east of Edenton.

Bruce F. Jones was vice chairman of the committee and members included: T. A. Berryman, L. C. Bunch, J. H. Conger, Jr., W. J. P. Earnhardt, Sr., W. B. Gardner, Scott Harrell, W. P. (Spec) Jones, West Leary, George Lewis, Woodrow Lowe, C. W. Overman, Thomas Shepard, J. M. Robinson, W. J. Taylor and J. A. Webb, Jr.

Melvin Howell, FHA supervisor, told county commissioners a comprehensive county-wide plan of water and sewer needs would be necessary before any further progress could be made on applying for a grant. He also said a planning board must be in existence.

Howell said grants such as the county is seeking cannot exceed 50 per cent of the project costs.

W. P. (Spec) Jones, tax supervisor, told the commissioners Chowan County's assessed valuation for 1966 is \$27,300,000. This is an increase from \$25,713,000 last year.

At the same time Jones advised the board the county suffered a \$495,000 reduction in auto valuations due to a new system used throughout North Carolina.

The jail report showed 23 inmates confined for from one to 31 days at a cost of \$304.47.

Mrs. J. D. Elliott, county auditor, explained a state local government retirement plan which is in force in 62 North Carolina counties. It would cost the counties.

(Continued on Page Six)

MEETING CHANGED
Chowan County Board of Commissioners will meet on September 6 instead of Monday, September 5, which is Labor Day.

Pavlich's Lawn Earns \$5 Award
Edenton Jaycees have selected John Pavlich as winner of the Lawn-of-the-Month contest in Edenton for July. The Pavlich home is located at 12 Hawthorne Road.

Aubrey Davis, chairman of the Jaycee community development committee, said Pavlich will receive a \$5 cash award.

Honorable mention during July went to the following: Bruce F. Jones, 201 Blount Street; Mrs. Wood Privott, 125 Blount Street; J. Edwin Bufflap, 104 East Church Street, and Kenneth Worrell, 4 Stratford Road.

The Jaycees will pick another lawn for recognition in August.

Award Presented To G. A. Lapiene
George A. Lapiene, 55, of Largo, Fla., has been awarded a bronze medal, it was announced today by the U. S. Commerce Department's Environmental Science Services Administration (ESSA). The award for superior service is the highest honor a commerce bureau can confer upon an employee.

Lapiene, who retired in December, 1965, after almost 35 years' service aboard Coast and Geodetic Survey ships, was commended for "many years of exemplary service exhibiting diligence, mechanical skill and technical proficiency throughout his career."

The Survey is a major

Continued on Page 4

The Public Parade

FAVOR NEW HOSPITAL—An announcement this week that Chowan County voters will be asked this fall to express themselves on a \$1½ million hospital bond issue has already caused some raised eyebrows.

There are those who are satisfied with the status quo, regardless of its inadequacy.

There are those who aren't willing to face up to the challenge of the time.

There are those who have a chip on their shoulder over some past experience with the hospital administration.

There are those, then there are those, and those . . . \$1½ million is no drop in the bucket. It is difficult for many to comprehend why a county with only \$27 million assessed valuation should even consider such a hospital.

Up until now, Chowan County taxpayers have not been called upon to give support to Chowan Hospital. County commissioners have taken some of the load off the hospital by paying for welfare patients who are treated. Yet the amount paid does not anywhere near reach the per-patient cost at the institution. Therefore, the county really hasn't been too generous.

So long as Chowan Hospital could fill the needs of this community while operating in the black, there was no real need for the county to get into the hospital business. Hospital officials have managed to pull enough in grants and foundation gifts to keep the wolf from their door.

However, the tide is now turning. Maybe it has already turned. While the community got a \$465,000 hospital several years ago for a meager \$150,000 local investment, this cannot be duplicated.

There is now some grant and foundation money available. The exact amount is not known. It is estimated that while the bond issue is for \$1½ million there will not be any necessity to sell more than \$1 million. Nonetheless, in order to get assistance of any great amount, the voters must approve the entire amount to show their intention to have a new hospital.

The completion of a new, 70-bed institution in Chowan County and the conversion of the existing hospital to a professional nursing home would give the area 135 hospital beds. It is anticipated

the needs would be met for many years.

The hospital bond referendum will be one of the biggest and most far-reaching questions ever put to the voters of Chowan County. Between now and November 8 when they go to the polls to vote on this issue, every voter has an obligation to become completely familiar with the question. The voters must cast an intelligent ballot.

At the same time, those interested in seeing this issue approved have an awesome duty to give the taxpayers something more than an educated guess to questions asked. It will be necessary to come forth with the facts on all fronts and not become offended when well-meaning questions are asked.

We still have enough faith in humanity to believe they will respond in the positive once a worthwhile program is launched and they are given ALL the facts upon which to base their decision.

We agree with Dr. Richard Hardin, chief of the medical staff at the hospital, when he says the citizens of this county are fortunate in that they have not had to be taxed for a hospital all these years.

The initial cost of getting into any business is not cheap and certainly when one considers the hospital issue. Therefore, we believe the request for \$1½ million is justified.

While we support the request there are many questions concerning the future of a county hospital and its operation which must be answered.

Between now and November 8 we intend to ask these questions and obtain acceptable answers. This is our duty as a taxpayer and voter. Yours is no less.

PERSONAL SURVIVAL—The better educated can take care of themselves; the need is for a program in personal survival for the low income group. Every price or tax rise means that these people have less to live on than they had before.

This card comes from William R. Sullivan of Los Angeles, Calif.

There is considerable food for thought in these two sentences.

Sure, the better educated stand a greater chance for survival. However, a price

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