



THE CHOWAN HERALD



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School Boards Agree To Ask Time For Perfecting Merger

Students Ready To Answer Toll Of School Bells

Students in Edenton City and Chowan County schools go back to the classroom Wednesday for assignments prior to the opening of the 1966-67 term the following day.

Supt. Hiram J. Mayo said the two administrative units are ready for the new term and will operate on the same schedule.

This schedule includes a holiday September 5, which is Labor Day.

Work on the physical plants at the schools has been completed and Supt. Mayo, save three spots, has the best faculty obtainable. At press time he still had two vacancies in the city system and a single open spot in the county.

However, the lack of these three teachers is not expected to appreciably hamper the opening of school.

The familiar orange buses take to the roads Wednesday delivering students to Chowan High School and White Oak Elementary School in the county and John A. Holmes High School, Edenton Elementary School, and D. F. Walker School in the city.

Supt. Mayo said more than 3,200 students are expected to enroll in the two systems for the fall term.

On Wednesday the schools will operate on a half-day schedule. The students will be assigned to homerooms, receive books and pay fees. Fees have been kept to a minimum in the schools with book rental being the big item to high schoolers. Most other fees have been abolished by the school boards.

Teachers in the systems report to work Monday and will have a joint faculty meeting at John A. Holmes High School here at 9 A. M. Supt. Mayo, who heads both units, is attempting to operate the schools as if there

Continued on Page 5

Lightning Causes Loss Of Power

Residents of Edenton and Chowan County were not alone Saturday afternoon when the lights went out. A report from Virginia Electric Power Company's office in Williamston said they had a lot of company.

The nearly three hour outage here, one of the longest in years, began at 1:34 P. M. when a direct stroke of lightning hit VEPCO's 110,000 volt substation at Winfall. This single stroke destroyed two 110,000 volt potential transformers and various other equipment.

"VEPCO's automatic equipment in Suffolk, Va., and Elizabeth City isolated the trouble and repair crews were immediately dispatched," the release stated. "These crews worked throughout the afternoon and evening restoring damaged equipment."

Service was interrupted to VEPCO customers in Gates, Chowan, Perquimans, Washington and Tyrrell counties.

Action On Compliance With Civil Rights Act Endorsed Tuesday Night

An appeal was being made Wednesday to the U. S. Office of Education to allow eighth grade graduates at rural White Oak Elementary School to enroll at D. F. Walker High School for the 1966-67 school year.

Dr. Edward G. Bond, chairman of the Edenton City School board, O. C. Long, Jr., chairman of the Chowan County Board of Education,

and Supt. Hiram J. Mayo were instructed Tuesday night to contact federal officials and further explain the local situation.

This action came at a city board meeting which was attended by four of the five county board members. It came after the city was notified they would not be considered in compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 if 30 upcoming ninth graders were accepted in the city school.

Both the city and county school units have an "open door" policy which states they will accept any student in Chowan County, including those residing in the city administrative district, who make application to attend a school outside their district.

In the spring, Supt. Mayo distributed freedom of choice forms to students in both units. All of the eighth graders at White Oak indicated they would prefer to attend D. F. Walker this fall.

The two boards have agreed on conditions for merger of the administrative units in the county. A bill has been drawn outlining these conditions and is expected to be presented to the General Assembly shortly after it goes into session in early 1967.

Those attending the meeting Tuesday night expressed the belief that federal school officials were not clear on this point.

Too, members of the county board said they were led to believe when visiting officials in Washington last year their compliance plan was approved for two years, allowing time to get the merger bill to the legislature and have the people vote on the measure.

N. J. George, a member of the county board, proposed a conference in Washington. "If a satisfactory solution is not obtained then we must put them (the students) where it is necessary," he said. He went on to say that by putting the students at Chowan High School "we will lower the standards" of

Continued on Page 5

Negroes Given Transfer Choice By City Board

Negro students assigned to D. F. Walker High School will be given additional opportunity to transfer for the coming school year to schools where they can obtain a de-segregated education.

Letters will go to parents of the students telling them of recent action by the trustees of Edenton City Schools which allow for request of transfer during the period from August 24 through September 13.

Supt. Hiram J. Mayo said the new opportunity is offered only to students wishing to transfer to a school where they can obtain a de-segregated education.

The local school trustees are allowing additional opportunities to transfer in order to continue compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the U. S. Office of Education guidelines on de-segregation of the schools.

Soybean Growers Urged To Vote

Frank White, Jr., chairman, Chowan County Soybean Referendum Committee, said today it is very important that farmers in this county vote on September 9 to approve an assessment to promote this commodity.

Fourteen polling places throughout Chowan County have been established for the convenience of the farmers. White said the farmers are

Continued on Page 5



CONGRESSMAN VISITS AREA — Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District is shown in front of the Cupola House in downtown Edenton during a visit to this area Saturday. The congressman spent the day talking with constituents in and around Edenton.

Representative Jones Says:

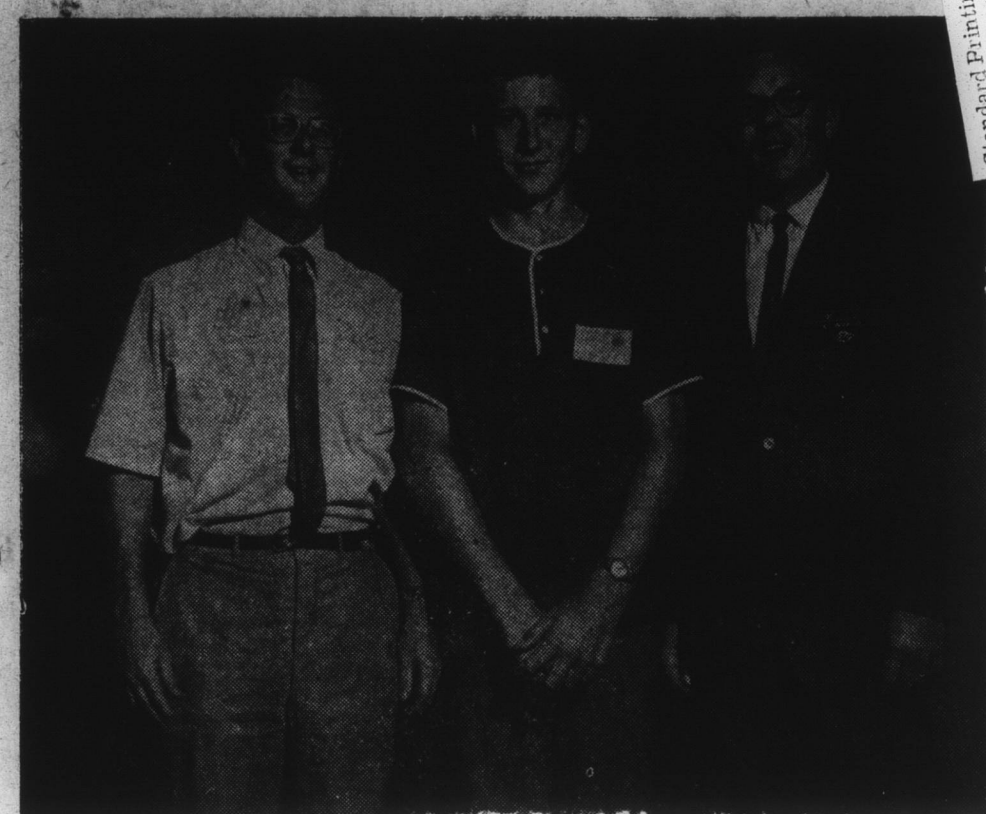
89th Congress Balking

Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District said here Saturday there is increasing evidence that Congress is beginning to "exert itself" and termed it a healthy sign.

"It is high time this happened under our system of checks and balances," he said.

Rep. Jones went on to cite the recent Civil Rights bill as an example of the close scrutiny members of the Congress are giving legislation pushed by the White House. He said the vote was

Continued on Page 5



ATTEND ELECTRIC CONGRESS — Chowan County 4-H Electric Project Winner Dwight Francis, center, is shown at the State 4-H Electric Congress held in Asheville August 15 through the 17th. With the contestant are Harry Venters, Chowan County extension agent, left, and R. L. Bryant, Virginia Electric and Power Co. The project winners were selected on the basis of achievement in their 4-H farm and home electric projects. Virginia Electric and Power Company sponsored their trip to the Electric Congress.

The Public Parade

AT LAST—Over the past two weeks we have had numerous calls concerning the publication date of home room assignments at John A. Holmes High School. A delegation even visited our office shortly after noon Tuesday wanting to read the galley proof.

The assignments, compiled by Principal Cecil W. Fry, today appear on page eight, section two. They are there, at last, for all to read.

For many years the last edition of The Chowan Herald prior to the opening of school has been a most popular one. Students, loose for three months, are anxious to see who will be their homeroom teacher.

Again Principal Fry asks students to report to their newly assigned homeroom at 8:30 A. M., Wednesday, August 31, and go through the schedule for half a day. This schedule includes receiving books and getting class assignments. We are happy to devote considerable space to the homeroom assignments and hope all 502 students in grade seven through 12 at John A. Holmes High School receive the homeroom teacher they desired.

However, like omissions from the honor roll, if there are any complaints we would advise you to call Ethel LaVoie and not The Chowan Herald. You see, we just report the news, not make it. Have a good school year!

APPLYING THE SHOULDER—Those who live in the forest often times become blind to the trees. Naturally, this is by no means original. But it pretty well sums up the attitude taken by most civic leaders along The Public Parade with regards to making Edenton a mecca for tourists.

Recently a State School Survey Team visited our area. Back in Raleigh to compile their report, they wrote:

"Pictorially situated on the banks of the Albemarle Sound and the Chowan River, Chowan County is the smallest county in North Carolina in land area; but by no means is it small in historical significance, scenic wonder and undeveloped industrial potential."

Yea! Outsiders recognize the value of what they see when they visit "ye towne on Queen Ann's Creek." How about the remainder of us?

The opening of the Cupola House to the public on a regular schedule is the first concrete step toward offering the traveling public more than trash can lined streets, a major highway running through the middle of town, and a citizenry satisfied with the status quo.

During the past week many people have visited the historic home in downtown Edenton. Reports are that most of them are from out of state, a few from Tar Heelia, and only a handful of local people.

If this shrine is to become the attraction its historic significance to this community deserves it is going to take a community effort. Local people are going to have to trouble themselves enough to pay it a visit and then recommend it to their friends and relatives who come to Edenton.

There is an admission charge. However, once a local person pays the charge he can return with guests free.

There are those who, like the Cupola House Association, have high hopes for other historic structures which can be transformed into community assets. The Barker House, James Iredell, etc. The Iredell Association enjoys much more support outside Chowan County than it does at home. Were this not the case, there would be no association.

In addition to local action the community must have the cooperation and support of the State of North Carolina. That can come in the form of a by-pass of U. S. 17 to aid the motorist. It can come in the form of a tourist center. It can come in many other ways.

However, local initiative must come first. We, as citizens of Edenton and Chowan County, need to quit falling back on numerous committees. Our shoulder must be applied to the wheel if it is to turn with any degree of success.

SUPPORT BAND—Members of the John A. Holmes High School Band are in their second week of the annual magazine campaign. Reports are the musicians are in a position of exceeding last year's record sale of \$1,800.

Stuart Patten, band director, said the solicitors are being well received, along

Continued from Page 4

Student Leaves To Study Abroad

Neal Hobbs, 502 North Broad Street, sailed Monday for Germany, where he will become a foreign exchange student.

Hobbs, son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy C. Hobbs, sailed aboard the M/S Europa for Brilon, Germany, where he will have eight weeks of training in speaking German. He will reside with a German family during this period of training prior to entering the Free University of Berlin in October.

The student has majored in German at Wake Forest College and was chosen from that institution to be a foreign exchange student during the next year. Hobbs will be in Europe for a full year. During a six week holiday in February and March he plans extensive traveling in Europe.

The student is a graduate of John A. Holmes High School.



NEAL HOBBS

Flames Consume Tobacco Barn

Fire destroyed a barn filled with tobacco shortly after noon Tuesday and firemen estimated the damage at \$2,500.

The barn was located on the farm of J. Wallace Goodwin, Mexico Road. Fire Chief W. J. Yates said a barn located nearby was saved by firemen who arrived on the scene.

Chief Yates said this is the first tobacco barn fire in Chowan County in the past two years.

State Troopers Qualify At Edenton Pistol Site

Edenton was the focal point this week for a concentration of members of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol.

It was neither a riot nor a demonstration which brought the 52 troopers to town.

They were here for annual pistol qualifications. Cpl. C. D. Fox of Elizabeth City and Trooper Harry Pridgen of Havelock, troop range officer, put the highway patrolmen through the paces at Edenton Police Department Pistol Range.

Cpl. Fox stated it is a requirement of the State Highway Patrol that each trooper qualify with his .38 caliber service special each year.

Qualifications are being made this year by Troop "A" in Edenton and Kinston. By the end of this week each trooper will have qualified at one of the two cities in order to remain with the patrol.

There are 115 members of the troop.

Cpl. Fox said each member fires 50 practice rounds and then returns with 50

rounds for score. They must make at least 60 points out of a possible 100 in order to qualify.

Police Chief James H. Griffin said the Edenton range is designated as a Practical Police Course. The 50 rounds for score are fired as follows:

- 1—Hip shooting from seven yards.
- 2—Prone shooting from 60 yards.
- 3—Prone and sitting, as well as right and left handed shooting from behind barricade, 60 yards.

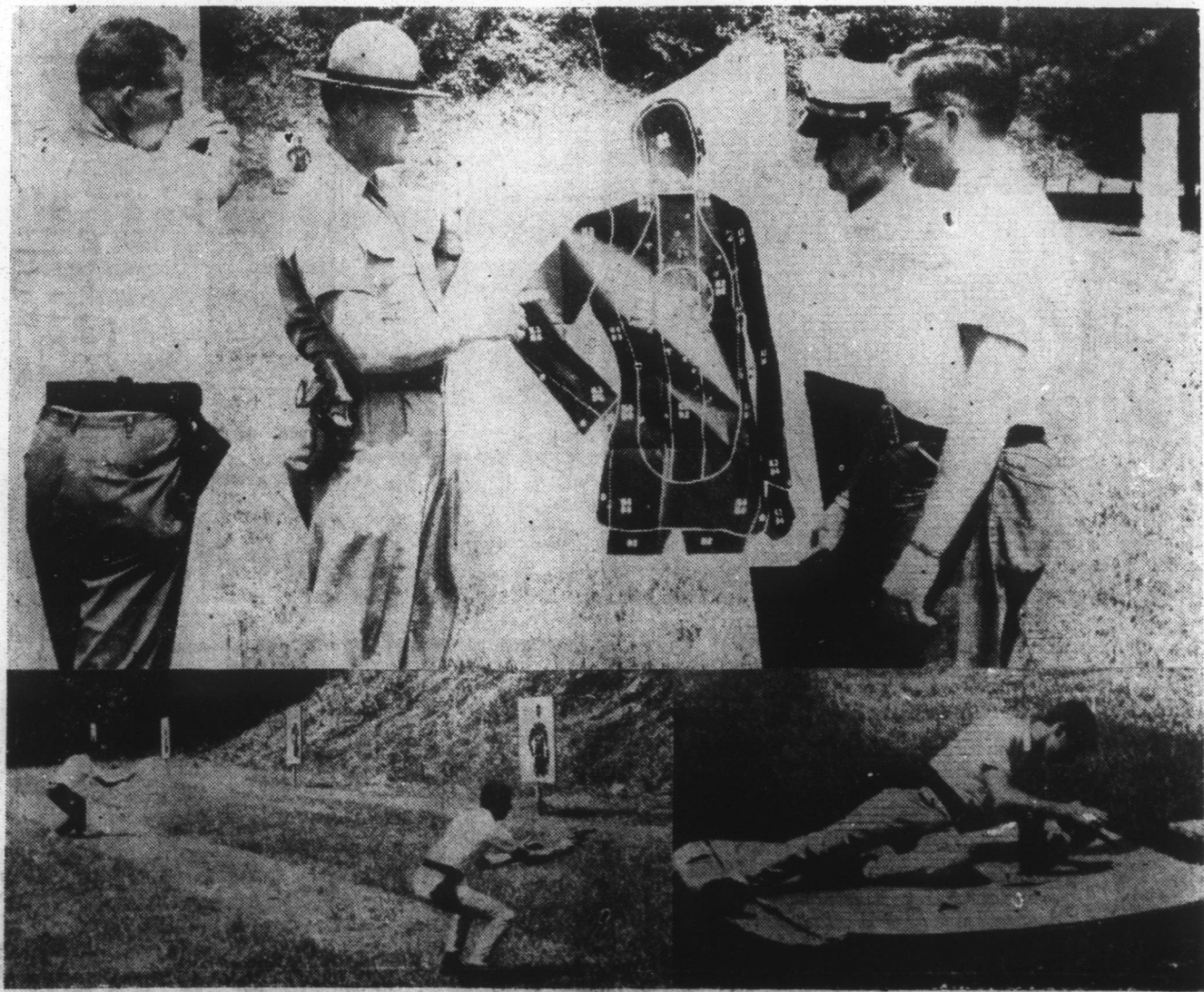
4—The above duplicated from 50 yards.

5—The same as above but from 25 yards.

The above course must be shot in five minutes and 45 seconds in order for a person to qualify.

Trooper D. R. Cumbo of Hertford qualified with a score of 91 which was the highest posted by noon Monday.

Annual qualification with the pistol he carries regularly is but one of the in-service training requirements of the patrol.



'READY ON THE RIGHT, READY ON THE LEFT'—The familiar chant of the range officer was heard Monday and Tuesday of this week at Edenton Pistol Range where members of the State Highway Patrol in the area qualified with their weapons. Top picture shows Trooper D. R. Cumbo, left, ready to fire as Range Officer Harry Pridgen goes over Cumbo's target with Police Chief James H. Griffin of Edenton, and Cpl. C. D. Fox of Elizabeth City. Cumbo, stationed in Hertford, fired 91 out of a possible 100 on the range. Bottom photo left shows troopers lined up for firing. At right, Trooper J. E. Whitehurst of Roper pauses to reload during the exercise officers must go through annually to remain with the patrol.