



The Public Parade

The Right Plan Necessary

There suddenly is a flood of proposals for the proper treatment of Highway 32 into Edenton from the east. Two of them, quite naturally, are designed to protect East Church Street's beauty.

The State Highway Commission says this street needs widening to 36 feet. They claim a heavy traffic count on the street and with the area east of Edenton building up rapidly, it is expected to climb even higher.

George K. Mack, a retired highway department engineer, suggests that Highway 32 be moved over to East Queen Street, tying it directly into U. S. 17 at Broad Street. Since Ernest A. Swain Elementary School is between Church and Queen streets, you would still have the problem of traffic around the school. Otherwise, this proposal has some merit.

Elsewhere in today's paper is a lengthy letter from Ralph Van Matre. It takes him several paragraphs to do so, but finally he gets around to putting Highway 32 down Freeman, across Jackson Street and out into Old Hertford Road. There is a great deal of logic to this approach. It would not only keep the traffic from downtown but would open up new land between Jackson Street and Old Hertford Road.

Other people probably have additional proposals for Highway 32. However, what Edenton needs is a thoroughfare plan to guide future extension and improvements of our streets and highways. Until such a plan is developed, no one will really be sure that what they are doing is in the best interest of this community.

Edenton's charm and beauty, its friendly atmosphere, and potential caught our eye more than three years ago. We have witnessed almost unbelievable progress in this time and haven't seen any drastic change in the community. Edenton can be the true hub of the Albemarle and retain the things Mr. Van Matre dwells on.

There needs to be more expression of concern from people like Mr. Van Matre. He should have put ink in his pen 41 years ago. We welcome free and open discussion of community matters? Who'll fire the next shot?

Run of the Field

Vacation yarns have a way of getting distorted. Therefore, it was our sincere intention to slip out to the Chowan River for a couple of weeks, return to town living and not bore those who meander along The Public Parade with what happened in between.

Since we have to pay the price (working for being poor, it has been necessary for us to commute while the five little Amburns and their mother bask in the sun.

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JC RANCH VISITOR—Joe Crisanti here tells his niece, Maria Luisa Crisanti of Rome, Italy, about a big fish he landed. Miss Crisanti is visiting her uncle at JC Ranch during an extended visit to the United States to study American history. She is much impressed with the Edenton area.

Pretty Lawyer Likes Us

Maria Luisa Crisanti doesn't speak English.

The reporter doesn't speak any of the foreign languages in which she is fluent.

Nevertheless, when Maria Luisa expresses in any language her pleasure in finding people in Edenton deeply interested in their heritage it sounds some-kind of nice.

Vehicles Increase

Chowan County ranked 86th in North Carolina in 1966 motor vehicle registration. The Town of Edenton had 3,802 vehicles registered.

These figures were supplied this week by the N. C. State Motor Club.

Charlotte's motor vehicle registration of 158,307 leads all cities in the state.

Complete figures for 1966 show Raleigh, ranked fourth in population, holding second place among the state's 10 largest cities with a registration of 95,687, followed by Greensboro with 90,761.

North Carolina's total 1966 registration climbed to 2,587,117, a gain of 177,139 or 7.4 per cent over 1965. The state's increase was almost double the national gain of 4.2 per cent, from 90,360,721 to 94,176,799 motor vehicles.

Miss Crisanti is a beautiful, young, intellectual from Rome, Italy. She is a rarity in her own country—a lawyer.

She came to the United States little more than a month ago, seeking true Americanism. During a stay with relatives in New Jersey, she failed to find what she was looking for. She found her inability to speak English a tremendous obstacle.

Speaking through her uncle, Joe Crisanti at his JC Ranch home, she said she is very much interested in the background of America. In New York she was primarily interested in finding out about the economic condition of the U. S.

"I am interested in finding out precisely how the American people are accepting the financial responsibility that Europe is looking to this country to guide," she stated. But she didn't learn much, she said.

In New Jersey and New York she found people hard at work trying to do their jobs, but disinterested in the historic background of the nation.

But in Edenton, she has found something she didn't expect to find in America. "I am very pleased with the attitudes in this area," she says.

The homes, the friendly people, the history that is everywhere has impressed her greatly. And she looks forward to spending a lot of time in the library at Hayes, where historic books are in abundance.

Miss Crisanti has studied some American history. However, she didn't find anything in the north to resemble what she was looking for, she points out. "I am well aware of it here," she adds.

In Rome she worked in the legal department of a big architectural and construction company.

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New Voter Registration For County Is Proposed

The first completely new voter registration in Chowan County in the past 27 years may not be too far in the future.

E. L. Hollowell, chairman, Chowan County Board of Elections, said existing registration books can accommodate only one more primary election and the state requires a new system by January 1, 1970.

Since all counties must go to a loose-

leaf registration system, Hollowell said now is the time to have a completely new registration. "Since the registration books have to be copied it would be best to go all the way," he said.

Hollowell, board member Claude Griffin, Town Administrator W. B. Gardner and W. E. Bond, chairman of Chowan County commissioners, met Monday to discuss the situation.

At the same time, Hollowell proposed that there be only one set of books for the city and county.

Gardner said this sounded real good. "There has been a lot of confusion among the people about registering in the town and again in the county."

Bond added that there have been a lot of complaints about having two sets of books.

The commission chairman then stated there had not been a new registration here since 1940.

Gardner added that the new registration as well as a set of books for the town and county is long past due. "This move will help the election board and be more convenient for the voters," he said.

Also, Hollowell discussed the possibility of allowing voters in the Yeopim Precinct to cast their ballots in East Edenton. This would not make for a voting

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Report Released On Labor Survey

Fifty-two per cent of respondents in a recent labor availability survey here were females, about one-half were under 35 and three-fourths were under 45.

These are some of the major survey highlights, as reported by Employment Security Commission of North Carolina.

The report showed over 3,570 individuals completed survey questionnaires.

Further highlights included:

More than three-fourths of the respondents had higher than a grammar school education and more than half of this group had completed high school.

Fifty-seven per cent of the respondents with higher than grammar school education were less than 35 years of age.

Almost three-fourths of the experienced but unemployed respondents were less than 45. Of this group, about 90 per cent had higher than a grammar school education, and more than 45 per cent had completed high school.

The labor availability survey was conducted by Edenton junior and senior chambers of commerce in cooperation with the ESC. The survey was requested by Chris-Craft Corporation, the world's largest manufacturer of motor boats. The nationally-known firm has an option on more than 50 acres of property south of Edenton Municipal Airport.

Bank Assets Jump

JACKSONVILLE — Assets of First National Bank of Eastern North Carolina increased 28.4 percent during the 12 months ending June 30, according to the bank's quarterly statement of condition released here today.

Total assets were listed at \$58,790,247 and compared with \$42,101,509 on June 30 last year.

The sharp increase was achieved "through aggressive business production and without benefit of mergers," it was noted by J. Hugh Rich, executive vice president.

Also he noted that two new branch offices were established during the 12-month period — one at Edenton and the other at Benson.

Although not reflected in the current statement, a merger with the \$4-million Bank of Lillington has been approved by stockholders of both banks and is awaiting final approval by the U. S. Comptroller of the Currency.

Highway Work Opposition Filed

An official protest to widening East Church Street has been filed with the State Highway Commission in Raleigh.

Dr. Christopher Crittenden, director, Department of Archives and History, has said the proposed project would damage the James Iredell House property as well as lessen the beauty on this street. He offered an alternate route for Highway 32, entered Edenton from the east.

"We also feel compelled to object strongly on the grounds that elimination of the present green strips and trees, and building a curb against the sidewalk as proposed, will completely eliminate the little that remains of the original front yard from previous widening of the street," the director stated.

He said plans are in the mill to plant additional shade trees in front of the shrine as soon as utility poles are relocated.

The director said an alternate route, submitted by George K. Mack, is down East Queen Street "which would give a more direct east-west route through Edenton . . ."

In addition to the Iredell House, Dr. Crittenden said there are several other early homes on Church Street, which he feels will be adversely affected by the intensification of heavy traffic on the street if the highway is continued on that street.

"One of Edenton's prime community

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Seabrook Blanching Plane Places 1st In Reading Show

At the 18th annual Reading, Pa., Show of Aviation held on June 9, Seabrook Blanching Corporation's single engined Beechcraft Bonanza was awarded first place in Class 1. Nearly 500 aircraft were entered in the seven categories judged.

Aircraft were judged on appearance, variety and quality of equipment and the service of the plane and equipment to their owners. The plane was piloted by James W. Gardner and accompanying him was Charles B. Smith, sales manager of Seabrook.

Gardner said the plane has been most beneficial in conducting business in an efficient manner. It has more than served its purpose because of the extensive traveling between the company offices in Tyrone and the plant in Edenton.

Among the plane's impressive list of electronic equipment is an automatic pilot, radar altimeter and radar transponder.

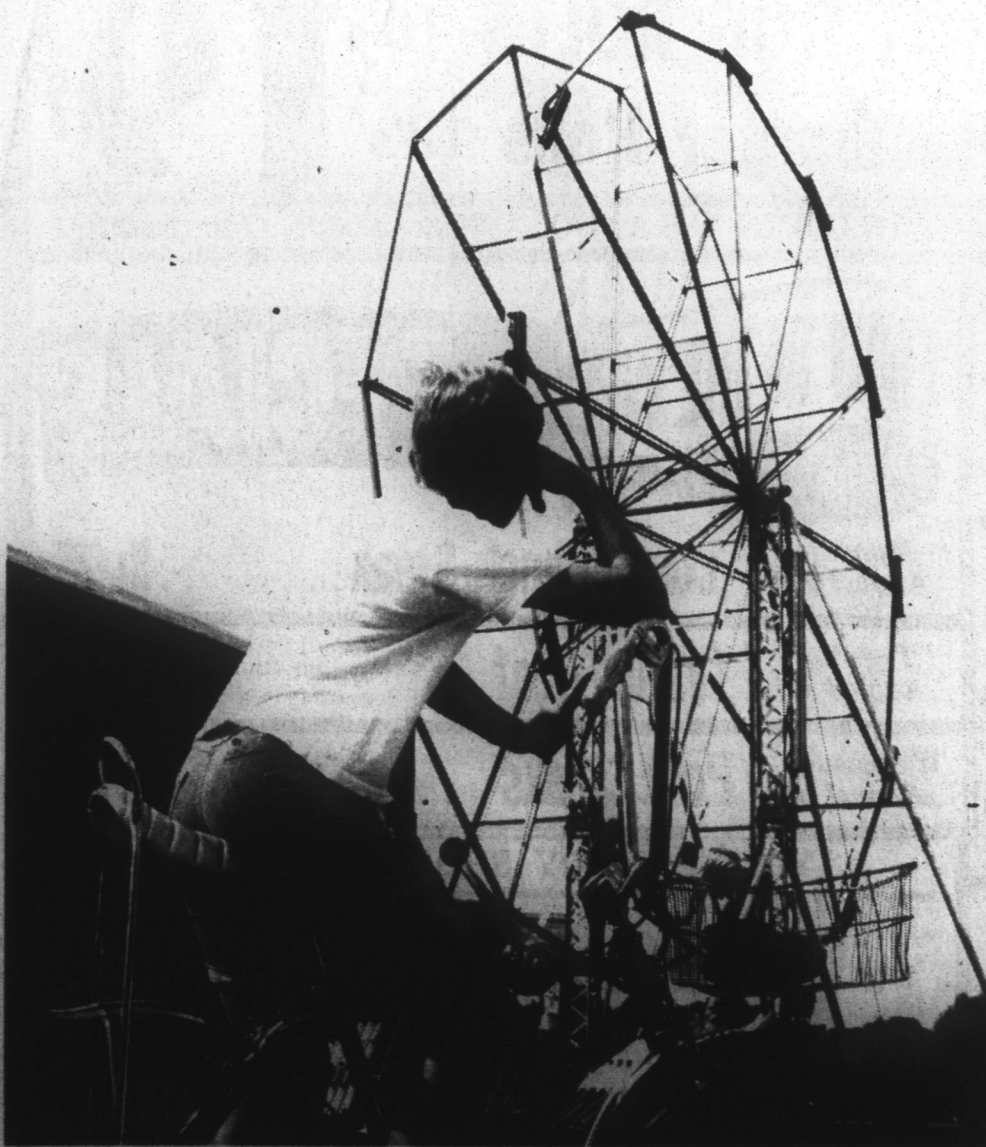
Smith said Gardner began flying 28 years ago "by the seat of his pants" so to speak, without any instruments and by natural feel for the aircraft . . . but today, with his background of flying, he must be considered one of the best pilots around and certainly has the airplane to remarkable de-fatted peanut. That is,

complement this experience.

Seabrook, which custom blanches peanuts for national and international concerns, continues to explore its new process at the plant in Edenton. It is the taking a portion of the oil out of the

nut and reconstituting it, thus lowering the calorie content and making it more attractive to the confectionary industry and ultimately to consumers that watch their weight. Gardner said "we're just

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BICYCLE SUPERINTENDENT—Robbie Brooks, 818 Johnston Street, provides a little moral assistance to a crew of men erecting a Ferris wheel on Park Avenue in preparation for a Jaycee-sponsored Fun Fair this week. Robbie, with baseball glove in his basket, stopped to watch the operation Monday morning. The rides will be located back of the new Fire Station through Saturday night.



FIRST PLACE WINNER—Seabrook Blanching Corporation's single engined Beechcraft Bonanza was judged first in its class at the 18th annual Reading, Pa., Show of Aviation. Here at the show are pilot James W. Gardner, right, president of Seabrook Blanching, and Charles B. Smith, director of sales.