

Hospital Bonds Are Approved By Big Majority

Chowan County commissioners Thursday were given voter authority to sell \$1-million bonds for construction of a new 60-bed hospital. At the same time, voters approved a maintenance tax of 10 cents per \$100 valuation.

The vote for the bonds was 888 to 172. The maintenance tax passed, 839 to 203.

The question of the county providing funds for new medical facilities was first put to the citizens in November, 1966. At that time it was soundly defeated. However, then the question was for \$1½-million.

It is estimated that the new facility will cost \$1.6-million. The remaining funds are expected to come in the form of a federal grant as well as contributions from foundations and individuals.

Jesse L. Harrell, chairman of Chowan

Hospital trustees, said Tuesday the board has voted to exercise option for the 25-acre site on the Ward Farm, just west of the existing facility. Cost of the property is \$50,000.

Also, Harrell said the site has been approved by Medical Care Commission and Atwood Skinner of Wilson, architect, has been instructed to proceed with plans and specifications.

Chowan Hospital authorities will meet again with Medical Care Commission to discuss what part the federal government will play in financing a portion of the construction costs.

Edenton Jaycees undertook to promote the hospital bond referendum. Wallace Evans and Jerry Holmes headed a special committee to inform voters of the need.

One of the strong selling points, in addition to a definite site selection, was the fact that the existing hospital will be turned into an extended care facility. When the work is completed, Chowan Hospital will have a combined total of 150 beds. This is anticipated to be adequate for many years.

E. L. Hollowell, chairman, Chowan County Board of Elections, said the 1,060 total vote represents less than one-fourth the total registered voters in the county.

Final figures released by the elections board showed that the big majority of voters in all six precincts favored selling bonds for hospital construction.

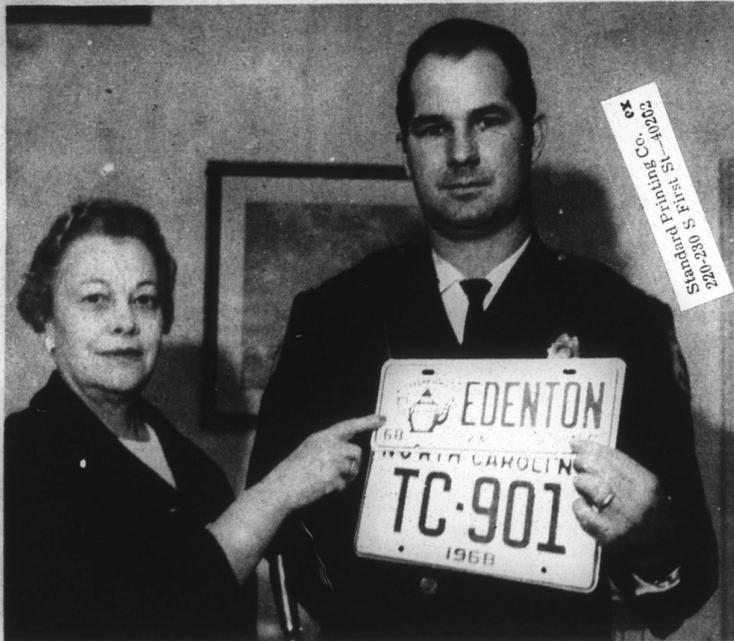
Wardville, the most northern precinct, favored the issue 69-32. This was the closest. The widest margin came from West Edenton with a spread of 352

to 52. Evans, spokesman for the Jaycee committee, said this was a great victory for all the citizens of Chowan County. "It is a tribute to the progressive thinking of our people," he said. "A new, modern medical facilities and an expansion of the extended care unit will make this

a better balanced community." Evans and Holmes thanked all the people who assisted in the campaign and paid special tribute to the news media. "Everyone cooperated to give the people the facts in this referendum so they could cast an intelligent vote," they stated.

Vote In Bond Election

| Precinct | Hospital Bonds | | Maintenance Tax | |
|--------------|----------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| | For | Against | For | Against |
| East Edenton | 236 | 41 | 220 | 49 |
| West Edenton | 353 | 52 | 331 | 66 |
| Yeopim | 50 | 10 | 50 | 13 |
| Center Hill | 73 | 21 | 73 | 21 |
| Wardville | 69 | 32 | 70 | 34 |
| Rocky Hock | 107 | 16 | 95 | 20 |
| Totals | 888 | 172 | 839 | 203 |



NEW TAGS—Town of Edenton tags have a new look this year. The newly designed license plate has a tea pot in the corner and is red on white like the state tag. Police Chief J. D. Parrish holds the new plates as Mrs. Goldie L. Niblett, license agent, points to the emblem. State tags go on sale Tuesday at Edenton Office Supply, South Broad Street, while the town tags are sold at the Municipal Building. All vehicles must have the 1968 tags by February 15.

Holmes, Williams Homes Winners

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Holmes, Blount Street, and Mr. and Mrs. Albert H. Williams, 20 Stratford Road, took top prizes in a Christmas decoration contest in Edenton.

The Holmes residence won first place in the beauty class. The prize for origi-

nality went to the Williams'.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Byrum, Jr., West Eden Street, won second place in the beauty division. Honorable mentions went to Mr. and Mrs. Roland H. Vaughan, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Gardner, Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Copeland and Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Belch, Jr.

In the originality class, Dr. and Mrs. Edward G. Bond, Pembroke Circle, won second prize.

Honorable mention went to Edenton Presbyterian Church, D. F. Walker High School, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brooks, 816 Johnson Street; and Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Harmon, 45 Hawthorne Road.

Bank Dividend

Directors of Peoples Bank and Trust Company have declared a five per cent stock dividend to stockholders of record December 20 and payable on or about January 12, 1968.

An extra cash dividend of 15 cents per share, in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of 25 cents was also declared payable December 30.

President W. W. Shaw reported that earnings through November 30 amounted to \$3.02 per share as compared to \$2.19 one year ago.

The directors also authorized a transfer of \$500,000 from undivided profits to the capital and surplus accounts, increasing the legal loan limit to \$500,000.

Auto Accidents During Holidays Numerous In Area

State Trooper R. H. Allen, weary from a rash of highway mishaps which have kept him on the run, asks motorists to drive with caution during the forthcoming long New Year's holiday.

The trooper said speed, carelessness and liquor played a role in mishaps investigated by him in Chowan and Perquimans counties between Friday afternoon and Tuesday morning.

"I would say 95 per cent of the drivers I stopped to check had been drinking," Trooper Allen said. "I've never before witnessed the like," he added.

Property damage was extremely heavy in the accidents and a passenger in one of the cars involved is in Norfolk General Hospital with a broken back.

Edward Rankins, 32-year-old Negro, Route 1, Edenton, has been charged with reckless driving following the accident in which George Edward Johnson, 42-year-old Negro, Route 3, Edenton, was critically injured.

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The Public Parade

Thing Of Beauty

Garden of Eden Club members did themselves and the community proud with their 18th Century decorations at the Cupola House.

The ladies put in many hours in getting all the unique decorations made and in place. Those who were on hand during the public showing and heard the favorable comments were well rewarded for their labors.

People, not only from Edenton and Chowan County but throughout the area, came in large numbers to see the house and decorations. It was further proof that we have a lot here to share with others and outsiders are willing to come visit us if we offer something not so stereotyped.

The garden club can and will play an important role in making Historic Edenton something more than a fancy brochure or a sign at the town limits. The talents of all in the community are needed and they have shown a willingness to give generously of theirs.

Let's Be Reasonable

The passage Thursday of a \$1-million hospital bond issue has placed additional responsibilities on Chowan County commissioners. The county is now in the hospital business.

Not only must they see that the new medical facility is built and equipped at the best possible price, they must find the money to retire the bonds once they are sold.

This, without question, will affect the tax rate on property owners.

The commissioners must keep this in mind when discussing capital expenditures with other agencies.

Specifically, commissioners must be firm with Edenton-Chowan Board of Education on the matter of office space for the school superintendent. Now certainly is not the time to start erecting a separate structure for these offices.

Action by the school board indicated recently that they have disregarded earlier advice from the commissioners. Several months ago when the board was considering the purchase of an old house to convert into offices, commissioners warned them not to do anything without consulting them.

Some time afterwards the commissioners were advised that suitable space could not be found in Hotel Joseph Hewes for the superintendent's office.

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Creek Project Approved

The Filbert's Creek flood control project has been approved by the U. S. Corps of Engineers.

Postmaster Bond Says, 'Thank You'

Heartfelt thanks from Postmaster James Bond and his employees were expressed to the public today.

"We couldn't have done the job alone," the postmaster said.

Everyone cooperated beautifully and we were able to deliver all the holiday mail reaching the Edenton post office in time for the last delivery and postal employees were able to spend Christmas with their families, the postal official said.

"If people had waited for the last minute to mail their gifts and greetings we would have been working throughout the holidays," he said.

No backlogs were noted in post offices throughout the area.

Another significant factor was the use of ZIP Code on a great volume of the mail passing through the Edenton post office. This meant more efficient mail handling operation than in previous years.

Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District, announced last week that the project is expected to cost \$30,000. Of this amount, \$19,000 will come from federal funds with the remaining being in the form of no cost right-of-way.

The project provides for channel improvements from the mouth, upstream 1.1 miles to Highway 32. The bottom depth will run from 30 feet at the mouth to 10 feet at the upper end, near Chowan Medical Center.

Funds for planning and survey work were made available for the U. S. Corps of Engineers from funds provided annually by Congress for such work.

Several previous attempts to get flood control work done on Filbert's Creek were unsuccessful.

Schools Re-Open

The big yellow school buses begin rolling again Tuesday morning after being silenced for more than two weeks due to the holiday season.

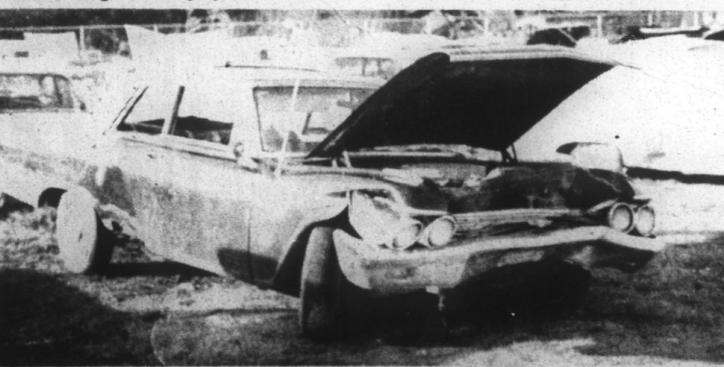
Supt. Bill Britt of Edenton-Chowan Schools, said classes will resume Tuesday at the regular time. All schools in the unit closed December 15 for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.



ALL GONE—Rev. E. C. Shoaf, center, George Lewis, left, and Tony Miley are all smiles after the mortgage to Edenton Methodist Church was burned during services December 24. Lewis and Miley, chairmen of the official church board and trustees, participated in the service and here hold the bowl that contains the ashes. The mortgage burning climaxed years of work on the part of many people throughout the community. A recent drive to pay the church debt exceeded the amount by \$300.



HIT ON BRIDGE—State Trooper R. H. Allen here looks at a car that was struck in the rear on Albemarle Sound Bridge early Tuesday morning. A motorist was charged with driving drunk.



SPEED—A passenger of this vehicle suffered a broken back Friday in one of many area accidents. State Trooper R. H. Allen said excessive speed caused the mishap.

of Perquimans County, Sarah R. Baker, Route 3, Hertford, and driving a 1967 Mercury was involved in a collision with James Edward Turner, 18-year-old Negro, driving a 1964 Chevrolet. The woman pulled from a driveway and Turner tried to pass on the left side and the cars hit. Damage: \$200 to Turner's car.

Friday, 11 P. M., Highway 32, William Edward Taylor, 37-year-old Negro, Route 1, Tyner, driving 1963 Ford, spun on the slick highway and wrecked. Damage: \$500. Charge: Driving too fast for conditions.

Saturday, 2 P. M., near Joppa, a 1961 Ford was damaged beyond repair. The vehicle was owned by Alphonzo H. Dail, Route 2, Tyner, who was in the car along with A. J. Chappell, also from Route 2, Tyner. Both are hospitalized. The car was out of control for 582 feet before stopping. Dail and Chappell both

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