

The Public Parade

Sticking To Guns

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education, yielding to pressure from federal civil rights officials, soon will transfer 120 Negro students contrary to their choice of schools.

Even this, which more than doubles the number of Negro students crossing the color line in local schools, is not acceptable in Charlottesville, Va., and has been kicked on up to Washington for further action.

The forced transfers riddle the local freedom of choice plan but it is apparent that the board of education will stand by the June action. They have not seen fit to meet in July and the next session is August 5, just a matter of days before the 1968-69 term opens.

Up in Rocky Mount, however, the board of education plans to continue its freedom of choice system. They had received the same letters from HEW but passed a resolution stating that any changes made now would cause confusion within the school system. "The board said students had been assigned to the schools of their choice and parents had been notified," according to a news account of Monday's action.

A similar resolution by the local board would have been wiser than the course of action taken.

Call To Reason

This week the first "industry hunter" in Northeastern North Carolina, and one of the few so designated in Tar Heelia, went to work in neighboring Perquimans County. It is a bold, expensive venture for the Economic Development Commission there.

Next week the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce manager leaves his post, allegedly the result of a disagreement over employment of a separate "industry hunter".

While we wish Tom Brown well in his new \$8,000 per year job, it is regrettable that his employers have probably dealt a fatal blow to the chamber. Perquimans County, like the others in Northeastern North Carolina and elsewhere, can ill afford two executives whose duties are so similar.

Working for the Economic Development Commission, Brown's published duties include: encouraging new business, industrial development, agricultural, educational and cultural progress. Are these not the responsibilities of a chamber of commerce? ?

Brown's salary is considerably more than that of most chamber executives in the surrounding area. The Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce will have difficulty obtaining a replacement for Leon Edwards at a price less than that. The county can't afford two such executives.

Here at home we are working our way into the same corner.

The success of Chowan County in ob-

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'Head Start' In Edenton Nearing Successful Finish

Fifty-five spirited youngsters boarded a bus Tuesday morning for a day of "firsts" in their lives.

The bus pulled away from in front of



Swain Elementary School and headed west. In Rocky Mount, after enjoying cookies made by their project director the night before, the children toured the Maola dairy plant—showing their appreciation by leaving a drop of a sample portion of ice cream.

Later they boarded the train and enjoyed a ride to Winton where they were met and returned to Edenton.

This was but one of many field trips taken in the past six weeks by participants in the summer Head Start program of Edenton-Chowan Schools.

There are 120 pre-schoolers in the

THIS IS HEAD START — Activity was brisk Tuesday morning at Swain Elementary School where the summer Head Start program was in its sixth week. The pictures here show some of the projects. At left is a decoration in Mrs. George Tillet's room, erected after the students visited a Norfolk, Va., zoo. A portion of Miss Mary Elliott's well arranged room is at left. At left in

program, operated on federal funds by Economic Improvement Council — the anti-poverty organization in the 10-county Albemarle Area.

Earlier this week federal inspectors visited the local project and were highly complimentary of the program and progress being made. Mrs. John F. White, local project director, said she was quite pleased with the good report given by the visitors.

Mrs. White said staff members have tried hard to make the program meaningful and more than a baby-sitting service. She believes they have succeeded.

the picture at bottom left is Mrs. John F. White, project director, as she supervises the loading of a bus which took students on a field trip. Mrs. Barbara Twine is shown in the center picture as she instructs four of her students. Art is one of the most popular activities and at bottom right Mrs. Vivian Clark assists a youngster in the art of making a paper mask.

Citizens In County Get Big Payments

A record \$103,019 was paid out in social security cash benefits to 1,641 residents of Chowan County as of the end of February, 1968, and \$83,845 was paid out in social security cash benefits to 1,576 residents in Chowan County as of the end of December, 1966, according to Jack Tatem, Greenville Social Security District Manager.

This is an increase of 19,174 over the amount paid out for December, 1966.

"February, 1968, was the first month in which increased benefit rates provided by the 1967 amendments to the Social Security Act were payable," Tatem noted.

Nationally, the amount of monthly benefits exceeds \$2-billion, an increase of more than \$360-million above the December 1966 figure. More than 24-million men, women, and children, or nearly one out of every eight Americans

are now receiving some type of monthly benefit.

"Most of the changes in the 1967 social security amendments provided more protection for younger people," Tatem noted. For instance, some 175,000 children are now eligible for benefits based upon the earnings of a mother who has died or is entitled to disability or retirement benefits. Previously, women needed to have worked for at least one and a half of the last three years. However, that requirement has been removed. Payments can now be made to the children of a woman worker who has died, become disabled, or retired if she has enough work credits—earned at any time—to be "fully insured".

Another change made 100,000 younger persons—disabled workers and their dependents—eligible for benefits. The amount of social security work credits required for the payment of benefits to workers who become totally disabled before they reach 31 years of age has been reduced substantially—for those below 24 years of age, to as little as a year and a half of coverage.

Some 65,000 widows, unable to work because of severe disability, were able to get monthly benefits as early as age 50. Dependent disabled widowers also became eligible for payments, and in some cases so did divorced wives of deceased workers.

Bin Sale Tuesday

The public sale of 10 steel circular bins by Chowan County ASCS officials will be held at 10 A. M., Tuesday on West Queen Street Extended, next to Westover Service Station.

H. O. West, ASCS office manager, said the minimum acceptable price is

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Judge Privott Reopens Larceny Case In District Court

Judge W. S. Privott Tuesday reopened a larceny case in Chowan County District Court, vacated a probable cause judgment and allowed the defendant to plead guilty to a lesser offense.

Robert Cooper had a hearing July 9 on the larceny count. Probable cause was found and the case sent to Superior Court. However, Cooper, through Attorney John F. White, requested that the case be reopened and he be allowed a guilty plea to petty larceny. The plea was accepted by Solicitor Wilton Walker.

Judge Privott sentenced Cooper to 60 days, suspended and placed on probation for 12 months upon payment of \$25 fine and costs. He was also ordered to

pay \$18 into court for benefit of Thelma Ford.

Howard Alexander, also charged with petty larceny, was given an identical sentence.

In other cases called by Solicitor Walker the judge took the following action: Mcses Mabane, breaking and entering, four months, suspended and placed on probation for 12 months upon payment of \$10 fine and costs.

Joseph Holley, larceny, 30 days, suspended and placed on probation for six months upon payment of costs.

Delvin Eugene Lamb, reckless driving, 60 days, suspended upon payment of \$50 fine and costs. Notice of appeal given and bond placed at \$250.

William D. Rea, Jr., assault, prosecuting witness refused to testify and was ordered to pay court costs.

Carlton Copeland Rountree, speeding, 10 days, suspended upon payment of \$10 fine and costs.

George Johnson, Jr., assault with a deadly weapon, 90 days, suspended upon payment of \$25 fine and costs; carrying a concealed weapon, 60 days, suspended upon payment of \$10 fine and costs.

Grady Liverman, assault on a female, 60 days, suspended upon payment of \$25 fine and costs.

Alfonza Moore, assault on a female, six months, suspended upon payment of \$25 fine and costs.

