

In Time Of Crisis

The stroke of a federal judge's pen has caused more unrest in this community than any single act since another federal agency closed the military base a decade ago.

Closing of the base shook the economic foundation of the community. Community leaders rose to the challenge. As a result, the economy along The Public Parade is more stable and general conditions are much improved. The industrial payroll is rapidly rivaling the farm income for top spot in the local economy.

The integration order deals with a horse of a different color. While we cannot now see a single benefit to be derived by any segment of our citizenry it provides a challenge everyone must be willing to face and share a portion of the burden.

At first glance it would appear things just couldn't be any worse. They certainly could. The judge's pen might have stroked one through 12 just as easily as it did one through six. This is happening in other counties in Tar Heelia and other states throughout our country.

The best legal minds at our disposal tell us there is little hope of obtaining a stay in execution of the order or winning on an appeal. The judge has strong legal grounds for his order.

The Edenton-Chowan Board of Education must now take steps to implement the integration plan contained in the order. They don't want to do it any more than the 500 citizens who attended Monday's meeting. They are, however, charged with this responsibility.

Now is the time for cool to prevail along The Public Parade. Emotionalism must be put behind us and an attitude of cooperation and practical thinking must be in the forefront. It will be hard enough for educators to implement the plan this year and probably even more the next.

The education of the 3,200 children in Edenton-Chowan Schools has priority over everything else. Regardless of what course of action may take, the vast majority of these children, by necessity, must be educated in the public schools.

Those who attended Monday's board meeting are now better informed. They are reassured that the board wants to do what the majority of our citizens want done. But in this particular case it is impossible. The judge has spoken. And he speaks louder than all 11,500 citizens of Chowan County combined.

This has created a crisis in our community. It is not the first and very definitely will not be the last. A bad situation can be made better with understanding, cooperation and action based on sound reasoning.

As a citizen we have a responsibility to do just that.

Rep. Jones Needs Help

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover proclaims: "America is NOT a sick society." In the latest FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin he cautions citizens to stop condemning the whole populace for the sins of a few. "When we face adversities and tragedies, let us do so with resolute confidence, avoid panic, and reserve judgment until all the facts are known," he writes.



REP. JONES

This statement has a sound foundation.

Recent events along The Public Parade and other areas of Eastern Carolina cause us to question Director Hoover's statement about society's illness.

When two federal judges in the area signed wholesale integration orders, less than a month before the 1968-69 school term opens, Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Dis-

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Stay In Order, Appeal Are Being Filed By School Board In Integration Matter

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education is seeking a stay in execution of a school integration order issued by Federal Judge John D. Larkins. The board voted Monday the decision of the judge and stay in execution pending out-of-court appeal. W. J. P. Earnhardt, attorney for the board, said both the request for a stay and the appeal are being filed this week in U. S. District Court.

Earnhardt said Judge Larkins will hear the motion for a stay in execution. He has not been able to determine a time for this hearing. "If he doesn't hear us soon it won't do us any good," Earnhardt said, pointing to the short period of time before schools open. Edenton-Chowan Schools open September 3.

More than 500 citizens, upset over Judge Larkins' order to pair the elementary grades at Swain and Walker as well as White Oak and Chowan schools, urged the school board to take whatever action necessary to prevent the rapid integration. At the board meeting, Earnhardt said he had dim hopes of obtaining a stay or winning an appeal. "In view of cases

(Supreme Court) before the judges they had no alternative but to immediately integrate the schools," the attorney counseled. "The law is certainly against us, otherwise freedom of choice would have held good."

If the stay in execution of the order is denied, the board must comply when the 1968-69 term opens. Earnhardt warned if the board fails to comply with the order members are subject to being found in contempt of court.

Bruce F. Jones, a board member, asked Supt. Bill Britt if the board could use the shortness of time before school opens as a solid grounds for appeal. "No sir," Supt. Britt replied. "I do not feel we could say it is a physical impossibility."

N. J. George, a board member, said the board would have to follow the order. "There is no question to it," he stated.

He did, however, make the motion to take an appeal and seek the stay. Later, George requested that a final hearing be held in the federal case in which

BULLETIN

The Chowan Herald learned early Wednesday afternoon that a called meeting of Edenton-Chowan Board of Education will be held tonight (Thursday) at 8 P. M., in John A. Holmes High School.

Judge Larkins order. Earnhardt had stated the board, as defendants, had not had a hearing.

Jones made a motion, and it passed, putting the responsibility of assigning the students and teachers on the board, rather than administrative officials.

Too, the board approved a motion not to hold a teacher to her contract if she desires to resign as result of the court order. Under state law, the board could request the State Board of Education to revoke a teacher's certificate for one year if she resigns within 30 days prior to the opening of school.

During the discussion between school patrons and board members, it was explained that some felt it would be better to mix the high schools rather than elementary grades. Also, there was an expression of concern over having grades one through three and seven through 12 at Walker School.

Supt. Britt said it would not be wise educationally to combine the high school

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Water, Sewer Study Set Miss UPDW Gets Crown At Outing

Chowan County Planning Board has received a \$4,500 federal grant for a comprehensive plan of water and sewer systems in the rural area.

George Lewis, chairman, said J. N. Pease & Associates of Charlotte has the contract to do the engineering study and submit the plan. The final plan is to be presented by December 1, 1969.

George S. Rawlins, Pease executive vice president, outlined the study plans for the planning board and county commissioners Monday.

He said information such as will be gathered in the study is necessary to avoid overlapping, duplication, under-design of water and sewer facilities which may be constructed in the area. Also, such a plan would reduce, eliminate or avoid pollution and hazards of health and safety.

Rawlins said this would not be a study to determine the size of lines to a given area. That would come, he said, when a decision is made to develop a system in the rural area.

Melvin Howell, FHA area representative, said completion of the study would help Chowan County to qualify for other federal grants or loans in the future.

The board accepted with regret the resignation of Fletcher Lassiter as agriculture extension agent. Charles Over-

Firm Makes Plans

The United Piece Dye Works enjoyed a big increase in income during the first six months of this year and the board of directors has proposed recapitalization of the company.

Shareholders will have a special meeting October 1 at which a vote will be taken on recapitalization. The proposed plan would recapitalize each share of the preferred stock with accrued dividends into five shares of common stock.

"The board believes the plan to be in the best interest of the shareholders of United Piece Dye Works and the future growth of the company," a spokesman said.

In a separate report to shareholders, it was reported that total income was \$12,306,997 for the six months ended June 30, compared to \$9,912,831 in 1967. After provisions for federal income tax, including surtax, net income was \$591,653, compared to \$272,927 in the preceding year.

The report, signed by Harold Welburn, president and chief executive officer, and Charles Blount, Jr., chairman of the board, it was stated:

"Current operations are continuing on a satisfactory basis, notwithstanding the normal slowdown at this time of year.

"Judging from known purchases of greige goods by our customers, we feel confident of maintaining operations above 1967 levels for the balance of the third quarter, with fourth quarter volume projected at near capacity of the third's."

man, extension chairman, said a replacement would not be named immediately.

Chairman W. E. Bond said now is a good time to abolish the position. He said there were only 40 Negro farmers in the county and less than five per cent of them request extension services.

Oberman said he and Harry Venters would continue to work with these farmers and a decision about the position would come at a later date.

Mrs. Mary C. Lane requested commissioners to assist in getting State Highway Commission to continue to maintain a portion of road near Tyner. She said if the road is not worked the mail route will be discontinued. Also, a school bus travels the road.

Mrs. Lane said for the past 20 years the state has maintained the road but the last work was done in October. She

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New Cans Bought

Edenton merchants have placed orders for 16 trash containers to be used in conjunction with a new packer truck ordered recently by Town Council.

W. B. Gardner, town administrator, said a three cubic yard demonstration container has been ordered and delivery is expected this week. He said anyone wanting to inspect this unit should contact him or J. C. Parks, superintendent of the Street Department.

Gardner said delivery of the truck and containers can be expected within four to six weeks and containerized trash collection will begin as soon thereafter as possible.

The administrator said such collection will enable town employees to make the daily rounds in the downtown area faster and the use of containers will keep trash from blowing.

"We believe this is a real progressive step and one our merchants will benefit from once containerized collection begins," he said.

Grid Star Chosen To Coach Aces

Wayne Bell of Raleigh has been named assistant football coach at John A. Holmes High School. He succeeds David Bumgarner who has moved to Greenville.

Bell, a 1968 graduate at Lenoir Ryne College in Hickory, will assume his duties here in mid-August.

The new coach was an outstanding athlete at Broughton High in Raleigh. He played four years of varsity football at Lenoir Rhyne, being named to the NAIA All-America squad this past year.

Bell was the eighth round draft choice of Chicago Bears in the professional ranks but was released because of a knee injury.

Bell's wife, Linda, will be teaching in the elementary grades in the local system.



MISS LOWE

Miss Jo Ann Lowe recently was crowned Miss United Piece Dye Works by Plant Mgr. J. P. Gaino.

The selection of Miss Lowe for the company honor was a highlight of a family outing held July 27. She was presented a dozen red roses.

The first event to take place was a pie throwing contest with plant supervisors as targets.

Later, a scavenger hunt was of most interest to visitors from ages three through 15. In the hunt the participants had to find and return such odd items as frogs and dead ants.

Old people at the outing either participated in or watched the water skiing contest.

Following a barbecue chicken dinner, prepared by Center Hill-Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department, door prizes, such as a TV, radios, a camera, a blender, a percolator, material, and a fan were awarded.

The Silhouettes helped to put the finishing touches on a perfect day by furnishing music during dinner and the remainder of the outing.

Per Capita Fire Loss Is Down Here

The per capita loss as result of fire in the Town of Edenton dropped 44 per cent during fiscal 1967-68 as compared to a year ago, according to Fire Chief W. J. Yates. At the same time, the loss in the rural area served by the department increased.

Chief Yates reports the local per capi-

ta loss at \$3.49 with damage to property and contents during the year amounting to \$17,440. This was based on a population of 5,000. The per capita loss in 1966-67 was \$5.07.

Meanwhile, the loss in the area of Chowan County served by Edenton Fire Department was \$6.48, based on a population of 3,000. Last year it was \$5.22.

The department answered 26 coded alarms in town and 34 out of town. There were 53 silent alarms in town and 16 outside the corporate limits.

Of the 129 calls answered the breakdown included:

Residential, 40; auto or truck, 20; woods and grass, 30; business establishments, 14; manufacturing, five; storage buildings, two; old buildings, five; standby at airport, two; and false alarms, two.

Auto Theft Count

Two Georgia teenagers—one AWOL from an Army post—were apprehended in a stolen car near Edenton Tuesday morning following a high speed chase down Highway 32.

State Trooper R. H. Allen made the arrest near Valhalla at 9:50 A. M.

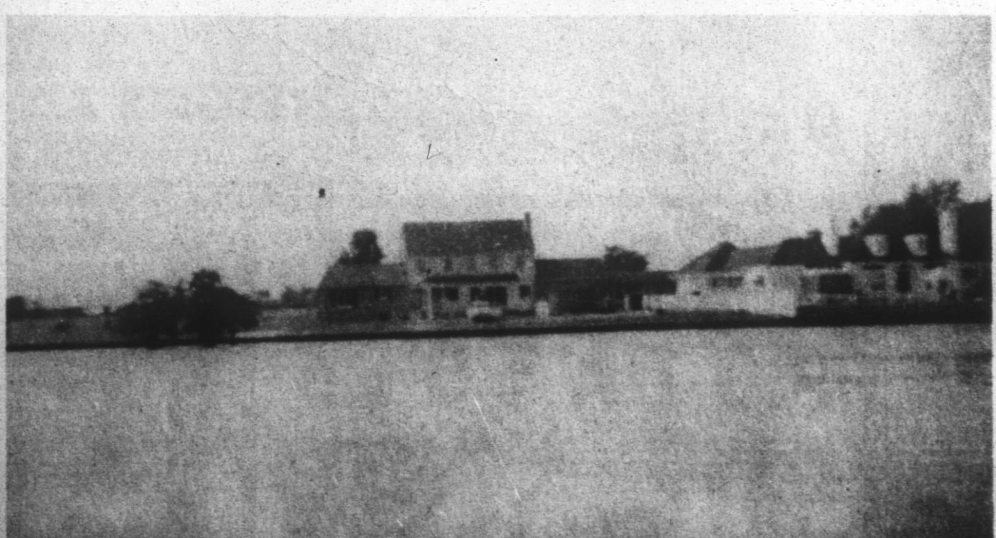
Arrested was the driver, Donald Marshall Burnette, 18, of Toccoa, Ga., and the passenger, Leland Eugene Hemrick, 16, also of Toccoa. Burnette said he was AWOL from Ft. Benning, Ga.

Trooper Allen said Hemrick at first would not give his name or address.

They were lodged in Chowan County Jail and interviewed by a special agent of the FBI. Later they were turned over to the Newport News, Va., Police Department.

The local trooper was alerted a short time before he spotted the vehicle on Highway 32. He had information that the 1967 Camaro convertible had been stolen in Virginia. Also, the license number was obtained by a Suffolk, Va., service station operator when the occupants failed to pay for gasoline.

At times the chase reached speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour before Burnette, unable to maintain his speed in curves, pulled to the side of the road.



STUDY IN CONTRASTS—In recent years town officials and citizens have made special efforts to make more attractive the waterfront along Edenton Bay. New homes being built on the water in the Queen Anne's development are adding greatly to this effort. Above are the residences of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hollowell, left, and Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Townsend. Just round the bend, however, is this unsightly old fish house, portions of which on the east side are falling in. Until such as the delapidated old buildings are removed, the waterfront improvement will be unsuccessful.