

### 'Great Scott'

In the Inaugural Ball program we found in our seat in Reynolds Coliseum Thursday night was an ad which said: "Great Scott". And when historians pen the accomplishments of North Carolina's youngest Chief Executive, we predict the two word ad will be proven correct.

We foresee few surprises in the next four years. As head of the United Forces for Education, as master of the N. C. State Grange, as lieutenant governor and as a candidate for governor, Bob Scott didn't go around pulling rabbits out of his, or anyone else's hat. He discussed openly the issues of the times. He shared with all who would listen his hopes and aspirations for the Tar Heel State.

In his 23-minute inaugural address he broadly outlined a course of action for the Scott Administration. This was by a man more familiar with the needs of the people of this state than any other to take the oath as governor.

He made it plain at the outset that he will not pit section against section, department against department. North Carolina is fortunate in that here is a governor who never developed the art of talking out of both sides of his mouth.

Bob Scott resembles the editorial writer who must gather his information, settle in his own heart and mind what is best and lay it on the line. The fact that it will not taste good to everyone does not upset him. He has to move on to other important things.

The Scott Administration will be a grassroots administration. The executive branch of government will be brought closer to the people than at any time in history. This will be due somewhat to necessity—his programs will be costly and someone must pick up the check. However, it will be mainly because Bob Scott knows nothing better than a people-to-people approach.

So, we are not to be fooled by the enlanguated sideburns. They are worn by one who has proven his worth in everything he has undertaken. The governorship of North Carolina will be no exception. The state must now brace itself for the "Great Scott".

### More, Not Less

Now is a time when it is more important than ever to have the best minds and talent become involved in public affairs. These are the people who must be out front leading, not just going along for the ride.

In times such as this it is disappointing to see people like Bruce Jones step down from a position of public trust. In the past four years we have watched him as a member of first the Edenton City Board of Education and later as a member of the merged city and county boards. He has made a real contribution to both.

Jones was one of the first members of the city board to see the advantages of a single administrative unit in the county. He viewed it as a means of drawing the entire county, town, community, hamlet, crossroads, etc., into a

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## Anonymous Contribution Welcomed

In the past week a substantial contribution was made to the Chowan Hospital building program.

By some standards a \$50 contribution would not be considered substantial. However, this gift was considered so because the contributor asked to remain anonymous and she is not one who people normally would feel could give such an amount to a cause like the hospital.

This first personal contribution brings to light a strong feeling by certain people in the community who wish, in some way, to be a part of the proposed new hospital. This person had no idea the extent of her contribution to the community. It shows great respect and concern for mankind and their health needs,

## Privott Pledges Contribution To Curbing Road Deaths

Judge W. S. Privott said Tuesday he plans to make a contribution toward efforts to reduce the highway death rate in North Carolina.

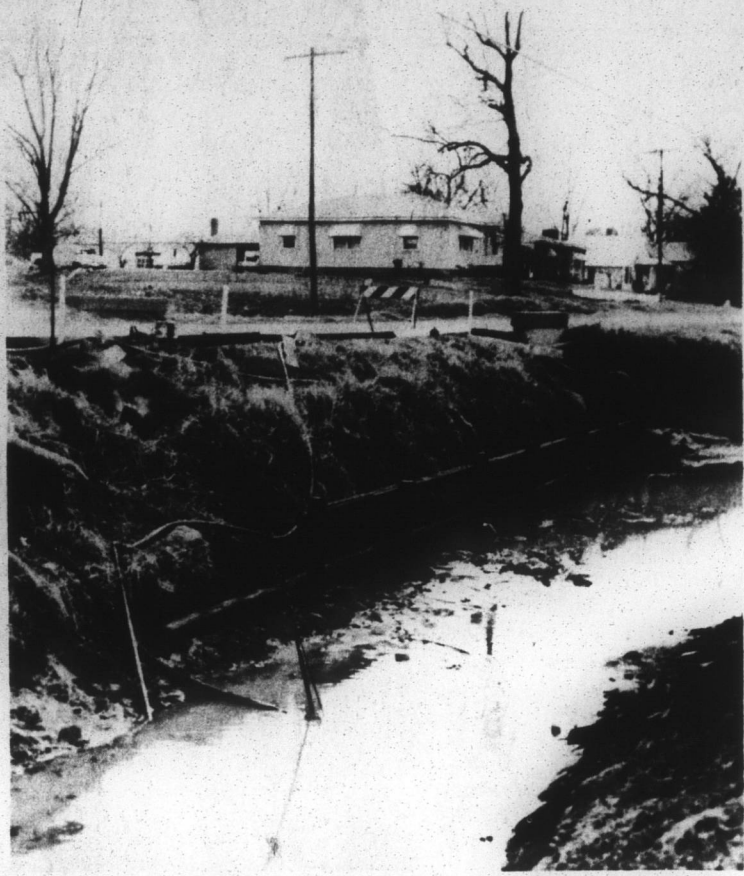
Presiding in Chowan County District Court, the Edenton jurist said the minimum fine for drinking drivers will be the exception rather than the rule.

His remarks followed by one week a statement made from the same bench by Judge Fentress Horner of Elizabeth City about his concern over the climbing fatality rate and the role alcohol is playing in it.

Judge George Ragsdale of Raleigh, presiding over a term of Superior Court, dealt harshly with drunken driving defendants, saying the courts must get tough to curb the highway fatality rate. Judge Privott's statement follows:



**TO SAVE A STREET**—Construction of a three-foot high retaining wall along 500 feet of Filbert's Creek began Monday in an effort to save a portion of North Granville Street. Hooker Construction Company has the contract to do this work. The picture at left shows some of the erosion which has eaten the bank up to the curb-line. In the picture at right, workmen begin putting in the first section of the wall. Town Administrator W. B. Gardner said the bank will be sloped and seeded to hold up the street. The portion of North Granville from Hicks Street to the emergency entrance to Chowan Hospital has been closed and will not reopen until the project is completed in about 10 days.



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## Gardner Directing Mitchener Being Pushed March Of Dimes

W. B. Gardner, Edenton Town Administrator and civic leader, has been named March of Dimes fund-raising campaign chairman for 1969.

Gardner heads the committee of Edenton Jaycees, who annually conduct the campaign for funds to fight birth defects. In announcing the selection of Gardner to head this important committee, a spokesman said he is among the eminent leaders in various walks of life in Chowan who have joined forces to insure success of the annual drive.

"We have an exceptionally strong cross-section of our county's leadership in charge of our various activities for fund raising throughout January," it was stated. "In view of the great need to continue our mission of preventing the physical and mental abnormalities that strike 250,000 babies each year in our country, we had to have the most knowledgeable and skillful people we could find. And we found them."

"In the 1969 March of Dimes campaign," Gardner said in announcing activities during the month, "It is up to each of us—thinking of our own children as well as tomorrow's babies—to give as much as we can."

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Chowan County commissioners are actively soliciting support for Mayor John A. Mitchener, Jr., in his bid to become highway commissioner from this district. Copies of a resolution endorsing Mitchener, passed at the board's December meeting, this week were mailed to boards of county commissioners throughout the 10-county Albemarle Area.

## Rep. Jones Says Grant Approved

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Rep. Walter B. Jones Monday announced formal approval of a federal grant of \$600,000 for the Chowan Hospital at Edenton.

Rep. Jones said the grant was provided under the Hill-Burton Act and will be used toward construction of a new 61-bed facility. Hospital officials plan to modernize the existing 35-bed hospital, making it into a convalescent unit.

Earlier it was announced from Raleigh that the Chowan Hospital will be granted \$108,000 in state funds. Chowan County citizens have approved the sale of \$1-million in bonds. The \$1,708,000 is believed to be sufficient to construct and equip the facility.

Rep. Jones said he was pleased that the much needed federal funds had been approved and they would upgrade the medical facilities for the people served by Chowan Hospital.

Plans for the new hospital are now being reviewed by federal authorities and are expected to be released to contractors for bids in the very near future.

## Road Project Set

The State Highway Commission has issued a call for bids for the January 28 highway letting.

Included in the call is one project in Chowan County. It calls for 0.227 miles of grading, bituminous concrete base and surface on improvements on U. S. 17, in Edenton, from about 900 feet east of Pembroke Creek Bridge, southeast.

out the 10-county Albemarle Area.

Commissioner Al Phillips suggested that copies of the resolution and a letter asking that consideration of support for Mitchener be sent to neighboring counties. Others on the board agreed it would be helpful.

Chairman W. E. Bond read a letter from Gov. Bob Scott acknowledging receipt of the resolution. It was stated that appointments to the commission probably won't come until spring and that Mitchener would be considered at that time.

Tyrrell County commissioners have already endorsed Mitchener for the post and it is believed that other boards in Northeast North Carolina are prepared to do so in the near future.

Commissioners formally adopted a 20-year plan for repayment of the \$1-million hospital bonds, once they are sold.

Considerable discussion was held at the meeting Monday concerning the bonds. Commissioner Phillips questioned the Local Government Commission's recommendation that no bonds be sold until after bids are received and opened. He said this might tend to weaken the participation of good contractors if the money is not available at the time of bidding.

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## Stamps Popular

The greatest participation yet in the Food Stamp program was experienced during December, according to Robert Hendrix, director, Chowan County Welfare Department.

Hendrix reported to county commissioners Monday that \$10,244 in food stamps were purchased by needy families. He said 163 families were certified during the month. Of this number, 154 paid \$5,130.50 and received stamps valued at \$10,244.

The welfare director said it is expected that participation in the program will continue high throughout the winter months.

Other activity in his department included:

Old Age Assistance, 109 cases, \$5,957 grant, \$54.65 average.

Aid to Dependent Children, 73 cases, \$6,138 grant, \$17.79 average.

Aid to Permanently and Totally Disabled, 43 cases, \$2,387 grant, \$55.51 average.

Aid to Blind, Nine cases, \$613 grant, \$68.11 average.

Eight persons were hospitalized in the county at a cost of \$799.54; \$96.30 county funds, \$703.24 joint funds.

Five persons were hospitalized outside the county at a cost of \$786.02; \$36.40 county funds, \$749.62 joint funds.

There were four out-patient services, \$31.80 joint funds.

One hundred eight pharmacy bills were paid, totaling \$1,100.70; \$7.90 county funds; \$1,092.80, joint funds.

Three physicians services 190 county funds.

The department reported 487 cases where financial assistance and/or service was rendered.

# Board Vote Delays Plan For Schools

Will Edenton-Chowan Schools have adequate facilities to take the final step toward total integration in 1969-70? This is the 64 dollar question and it could be answered this (Thursday) afternoon.

Bids for additions to John A. Holmes and D. F. Walker high schools are to be opened at 2:30 P. M., today in the office of Supt. Bill Britt. If the bids are in line and the successful bidder and architect can convince members of Edenton-Chowan Board of Education the new facilities will be ready for occupancy by September, it appears likely a plan for integrating grades seven through 12 will be forthcoming.

Because of the uncertainties at hand, board members Monday night voted to delay selection of a plan for 1969-70 to submit to Federal Judge John Larkins. The board is under court order to submit such a plan during January.

Eugene Jordan, board member, said education in Chowan County has suffered this year because of the lateness of Judge Larkins' order, as well as the order itself which totally integrated grades one through six in the system. He made a plea for action which would not result in the same type situation in the other five grades.

Jordan also called for the board to be united. He said only through a united front can the best possible education available be given the students.

Supt. Britt expressed doubt that the new facilities—a cafeteria at Walker and classrooms at Holmes—would be ready by September. However, he said the project's architect said it could be expected to be completed in plenty of time.

N. J. George contended more study and planning is needed before the board approves any plan for the high schools, if the students are to be properly educated. George said it is not a matter of housing, but of educating. "We could put all the children at Swain school if we wanted to," he said.

O. C. Long, Jr., vice chairman who

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## Bruce Jones Quits School Board Post

Bruce F. Jones, 201 Blount Street, has resigned his position on the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education. He has served for nearly four years.

The letter of resignation, dated December 10, 1968, was read Monday night during the regular monthly meeting of the board. He stated that he had enjoyed working with the board and "will share your problems in the future".

Jones was first appointed to the Edenton City board. The city and county administrative units were later merged, with the board being composed of the six members from the city board and five from the county. All have continued to serve up until this time.

Board members at first discussed refusing to accept the resignation. Later it was decided that they should comply with the wishes of the fellow member.

Mrs. J. Clarence Leary called Jones "a very valuable man" to the board. And N. J. George, who has often been in disagreement with Jones on board action, said: "He is a thinker. We'll miss him."

According to the act setting up the single administrative unit, all existing board members were to serve until 1970 when seven will be elected by popular vote. Unless the number falls below seven prior to the election no vacancy will be filled.

## DSA Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the annual Distinguished Service Award, presented by Edenton Jaycees.

Bill Bunch, DSA chairman, said the winner of this coveted award will be announced at a special banquet at the Jaycee Community Center on Base Road on January 23. Time of the banquet has not been finalized.

Bunch said anyone between the ages of 21 and 35 can be nominated for this award. Anyone who desires to place a name in nomination can do so by completing a form which is available from Bunch at Peoples Bank & Trust Company or Wallace Evans, Jaycee president. Deadline for making nominations is January 20.

Presentation of the DSA will climax observance of Jaycee Week by members of the local club. A speaker of statewide prominence is expected to keynote the banquet program.