



Aerial Photo of Albemarle Peanut Company's Mill Purchased by Fisher Nut Company

Board Gives New Breath To Program

Chowan County commissioners Monday kept alive hopes for continued operation of the area Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center and Mental Health Clinic by approving a request for additional funds.

The county had already earmarked 5 per cent of the profits from the local ABC Store for ARC. They had been asked to join the other five counties in paying 20 cents per capita for the Mental Health Clinic. This was not included in the new budget.

After hearing pleas from local supporters of the program, including one of the two commissioner-appointed board members, it was decided to give an additional \$750 to the program. This is matched two for one by state and federal funds.

During the discussion, led by Ernest Kehayes, it was learned that \$8,000 is needed for the program to exist during the year. This is still some \$40,000 short of the proposed ARC budget.

Kehayes assured the commissioners ARC had spent its money wisely. He said a need had been found for the program and the program is just now getting started. **Continued on Page Four**

Joint Committee Push Tax Issue

Edenton Town Council and Chowan County commissioners are forming a committee to work toward a favorable vote on the one cent increase in the state sales tax.

Chairman W. E. Bond said Monday that Mayor George Alma Byrum had asked him to appoint someone from his board to work with representatives of the council.

While commissioners agreed it is a "fair tax" and one which could lower the county tax rate, Bond said he would wait until September to name the county's representatives on the point committee.

Chairman Bond said it has been estimated that the tax would provide between \$75,000 and \$80,000 for Chowan County alone. About half this much would be realized by the Town of Edenton.

"I am for it," the chairman said. **Continued on Page 4**

Nowell Gets Area

RALEIGH — Geographic areas were assigned to each one of the 23 new state highway commissioners sworn in last Wednesday morning.

Gov. Bob Scott announced the assignments at the ceremony which took place in the auditorium of the State Highway Building.

Joe Nowell, Jr., of Winfall, was assigned Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Pasquotank and Perquimans counties.

Carroll H. Gilliam of Windsor was assigned: Bertie, Hertford, Martin, Northampton, Tyrrell and Washington counties.

Edenton Mayor George Alma Byrum, Thomas Shepard and W. B. Gardner attended the swearing-in ceremonies.

Fisher Nut Buys Albemarle Peanut

Fisher Nut Company has reached an agreement to purchase the Albemarle Peanut Company of Edenton from ITT Continental Baking Company. The announcement was made by Harold Feder, executive vice president of Fisher from his St. Paul, Minn., headquarters.

The Albemarle operation cleans, shells and grades raw farmers' stock peanuts. According to Feder, "by having our own shelling operations, which brings us one step closer to the farmer, Fisher will be in a position better to control the quality of raw peanuts used in our processing."

Feder said, "Operating personnel of Albemarle will remain unchanged, but a new name has been chosen for the shelling plant. It will be called 'Fisher Nut Company, Albemarle Mill'."

Fisher Nut Company, a Division of Beatrice Foods, is headquartered in the

Twin Cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, and is the second largest peanut processor in the country.

Louis Smerling is president of Fisher Nut Company; and S. S. Fisher is chairman of the board.

The reason Fisher purchased Albemarle is because the plant is well located, well managed and well run, a spokesman said.

Beatrice Foods had sales last year of \$1.3 billion.

The firm owns many other companies, such as the D. L. Clark Candy Company, makers of Clark bars and Zag Nut bars; the Holloway Candy Company; the Durham Milk Company of Durham, and dozens of other major companies.

W. B. Gardner, chairman, Industrial Committee, Edenton Chamber of Commerce, said the committee had been actively engaged in securing a new owner

for Albemarle since ITT Continental Baking Company made known their plans to close down the local operation.

"We are extremely pleased to learn of the purchase of Albemarle Peanut by Fisher Nut Company," Gardner said. "Fisher Nut has a fine reputation in the peanut industry and the addition of this fine, progressive company to the Edenton area industrial family is a welcomed one."

Gardner added that while the Industrial Committee has been most active in securing new industrial jobs for the area, efforts have been equally as strong in assisting existing industries to expand and prosper.

"Albemarle Peanut is one of the area's pioneer industries and we were shocked to learn it was closing," he continued. "We are excited now over the future of this mill under the banner of Fisher Nut and the big umbrella of Beatrice Foods."

Classes Scheduled On Food Budgets

Ways to stretch a limited food budget will be taught in a two-week consumer education course which begins August 11 in Edenton.

Called "Project Moneywise — Breadbasket," the course is designed for community leaders in low-income neighborhoods who are expected to teach others. Thirty-five neighborhood workers and leaders will be enrolled. They represent the 10-county area served by the Economic Improvement Council, Inc., according to Roy L. Lowe, executive director.

"Project Moneywise — Breadbasket" is sponsored by the Emergency Food Program under the Office of Economic Opportunity and conducted by the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions. Classes will meet at the Economic Improvement Council, Inc., Administrative Office, at Edenton Municipal Airport.

Although inadequate income and low educational level are readily recognized causes of poverty, lack of knowledge and information about various programs to help disadvantaged citizens also contributes to the problem. Existing Federal and State food programs will be discussed as well as ways to overcome the obstacles that prevent the participation of needy families. The agenda for "Project Moneywise — Breadbasket" will be discussed at the meeting. **Continued on Page Four**



PATROL CAR FOR SHERIFF—Sheriff Troy Toppin, behind door, and Deputy Glenn Perry are shown here with the new patrol car furnished the sheriff by Chowan County. Sheriff Toppin said he and Deputy Perry are on 24-hour call and are spending a considerable amount of time cruising throughout the county.

Two Local Teen-Agers Road Victims

Funeral services were held here this week for two local teen-agers who were killed early Saturday morning when they were struck by a car while crossing a highway at Nags Head.

Clay Thomas Freese, 14, of Cape Colony, and Christopher Wood Pruden, 15, Route 2, Edenton, died almost instantly being struck by a car operated by Donald Wayne Davis, 23, U. S.

A. R. Owens, 67

Alfred Rogerson Owens, 210 East King Street, died suddenly at 9:30 P. M. Saturday night after suffering a heart attack earlier at his home. He was 67.

Mr. Owens was retired from Edenton Fire Department. Since his retirement he had served as a dispatcher for Edenton Police Department.

He was born in Chowan County on July 22, 1902, son of the late Willis and Sadie Rogerson Owens. He was married to Mrs. Verna R. Owens, who survives.

Also surviving is a son, Alfred R. Owens, Jr., of Elizabeth City; two brothers: Willis Owens of Sanford; and Gerald Owens of Daytona Beach, Fla.; and one grandchild.

He was a member of Edenton Methodist Church.

Funeral services were held at 3 P. M. Monday in Williford Memorial Chapel with Rev. E. L. Earnhardt in charge. Burial was in Beaver Hill Cemetery.

Williford Funeral Home had charge of arrangements.

Coast Guard stationed at Oregon Inlet.

Davis was automatically charged with two counts of manslaughter and will be given a hearing in Dare County District Court on August 15. He was released without bond.

The accident occurred at approximately 1 A. M., Saturday as the youths crossed the heavily traveled highway near the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Pruden, Jr., parents of one of the victims.

Trooper A. G. Wright, investigating officer, said the two youths were in the northbound lane attempting to cross the west side when Davis pulled out to pass another vehicle and struck them.

Both victims were students at John A. Holmes High School in Edenton.

Young Pruden was born in Chowan County on April 15, 1954, son of W. D. and Cabel D. Pruden. In addition to his parents are his paternal grandmother, Mrs. Mary Tucker of Edenton; five brothers: Mark and Dossey Pruden of the home; Jim Fletcher of Nags Head, David Fletcher of Ocracoke; and John Fletcher of Ayden; and a sister, Mrs. Carolista Baum of Chapel Hill.

Graveside services were held at Beaver Hill Cemetery at 3 P. M., Sunday with Rev. Charles Reber and Rev. Edwin T. Williams in charge.

Young Freese was born in Bainbridge, Md., on November 30, 1954, son of Carl E. and Verna D. Freese. In addition to his parents he is survived by a brother, Scott Michael Freese of the home.

He was a member of Cape Colony Church of God. Funeral services were held at 3 P. M. Monday in Williford Memorial Chapel with Rev. E. L. Earnhardt in charge. Burial was in Beaver Hill Cemetery. **Continued on Page 4**

Public Parade

Help From Churches

Well, we are happy to report all the Amburns are back under one roof after a hectic first half of the summer.

The Presbyterians took care of Melissa for six weeks at the Blue Ridge Reading Clinic at Glade Valley.

And the Episcopalians took care of Maru for two weeks of roughing it at Camp Chanco in Surry, Va.

And the Methodists took care of the others by air conditioning the church.

As of this writing we haven't had a chance to call on the Baptists for anything other than Pete Manning.

Rough All Over

Robert Hendrix, director, Chowan County Department of Social Services, has a classic example of the need for additional privacy in his office.

"Why one day last week I had to take a man around to the drug store to talk with him," the director told county commissioners.

When a situation like this develops, it is evident that Hendrix needs some privacy in his own office.

Fruits of Labor

We want to be among the first to welcome Fisher Nut Company to the Public Parade.

We also want to be among the first to publicly commend the Industrial Committee of Edenton Chamber of Commerce for successful efforts to secure a buyer for Albemarle Peanut Company.

Some members of our industrial family in the past have been critical of the committee's activity. It was even advocated about two years ago that this important—and most active committee in the entire community—group disband.

In interesting Fisher Nut Company in the Albemarle property the Industrial Committee has proven it is just as interested in saving existing industrial jobs as it is in securing new ones. The disbelievers can now take note.

We number among those meandering along the Public Parade who believe good industry will draw its own labor. Also, we labor under the belief that good industry will attract other top industry in the area. They complement each other.

This is evident in the fact that in the past few years new industry locating here as a direct result of the Industrial Committee's efforts has put nearly \$5-million valuation on the tax books and Chowan County alone will realize \$78,928.47 in taxes from these plants.

With the extension, and equalizing, of town limits, in 1970 the Town of Edenton will get more than \$43,000 from four of the six industries about which we speak.

The town and county are not the only ones to benefit from these industries. The industrial payroll this year will match the agricultural payroll in Chowan County. This money is spent, in the main, within the confines of the community with the benefits being widespread.

The Industrial Committee of Edenton Chamber of Commerce needs no defense. The tangible results of their efforts on the part of this community prove their value to the community.

There is a significant sentence in the announcement for the Fisher Nut Company's purchase of Albemarle Peanut. **Continued on Page Four**



AIDS TO THOSE WHO AID OTHERS—Edenton-Chowan Rescue Squad members are dedicated to aiding those in need of their services. The tables were turned recently when Rocky Hock Community Center members put on a benefit fish fry to aid the rescue squad. Jack Evans, left, presents a check for \$678.25 to Capt. Bob Roberson, right. In the center is Murray Ashley, operations and training officer for the squad.