



Craig Talks Of Order County Jail In Big Trouble

The last rites were administered Monday afternoon to the oldest jail operating in America.

J. Clarence Leary, chairman, Chowan County Board of Commissioners, presided but Clifton M. Craig, commissioner of the State Department of Social Services, did the honors. While no tears were shed, it was one of the saddest hours for members of the county board.

Craig said his personal inspection of the jail is the final step before issuance of a closing order. He and his staff

listened patiently to pleas from various board members who desire to maintain the status quo.

"poverty" claims fell on deaf ears as Craig said numerous counties across the state had similar problems, yet he had to enforce the law.

The commission from Raleigh said he could no longer rate on promises. "I must have a definite commitment from the commissioners," he said, as to what is planned and when it can be accomplished. "Our department has been lenient long enough,"

he added.

Meeting with the Chowan board prior to inspecting the jail, Craig expressed his sympathy for the county's position. "I have no alternative under the law but to issue a closing order if your jail is not brought up to standard," he stated. Repeatedly during the discussion, the commissioner said the ultimate goal is not to close jails but bring them up to standard.

The Chowan County Jail does not meet the state standards, he said, reading a list of some 25 deficiencies. He admitted some of them were insignificant, although not in accordance with the standards. The most glaring ones being: the lack of continuous supervision; and separation of juvenile females.

Chairman Leary explained that Chowan is no different from all small counties with regards to the revenue picture. "We just have so much money to operate on," he said. "I hope we can keep it as it is for the present time."

Craig said, though, it was his understanding the present facility cannot be brought up to standard without extensive renovation and at a considerable cost. This would appear to leave the county with two alternatives: build a new jail or participate in a regional jail.

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General Inspection — Clifton M. Craig, right, commissioner of the State Department of Social Services, looks at the old keys of Chowan County Jail prior to his personal inspection Monday afternoon. With him is Jailer Glenn Perry. Craig said such an inspection is made prior to issuance of a closing order. He had met earlier with county commissioners.

Public Parade

Gone Fishing

Two Teen-Agers Sent To Prison

Two Pennsylvania teenagers, one on probation, the other free on bail, were given active prison sentences Tuesday in Chowan County District Court. Judge Elton Aydtlett also encouraged them to change their way of living to escape a life in prison.

Gary Victor Neal, 19, was convicted of no operator's license and disobeying a stop signal. Lawrence Melvin Thompson, 17, was convicted of no operator's license. They were each given 30-day sentences.

Solicitor Wilton Walker told Judge Aydtlett the pair faces charges of larceny in Perquimans County and auto theft in Norfolk, Va.

Sporting long hair, no shoes and an almost constant smile, Neal and Thompson slouched in their chairs as Patrolman Ray Coston testified of the events leading to the arrests.

The Edenton policeman said he saw a Thunderbird fitting the description of a car reported to have left a service station in Perquimans County without paying for gas. He later stopped the vehicle and found Neal to be the driver. Neal produced a New Jersey license.

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Burglar Is Sought By Edenton Police

Police are pushing an investigation into the burglary and attempted rape of a local woman early Monday morning. The victim was Miss Mary Lee Copeland, 309 West Queen Street.

Chief J. D. Parrish said police rushed to Miss Copeland's home at 4:34 A. M., in response to a call from W. J. Yates. He and Mrs. Yates had heard screams by Miss Copeland.

The chief said investigation showed the burglar entered the house through a window on the south side after attempting to open two others. Miss Copeland told officers when she first awakened the burglar was standing by her bed.

"He told her if she screamed he would kill her," the chief said. However, she did scream several times, according to witnesses.

After the rape attempt was unsuccessful, the burglar told Miss Copeland he was going to take her with him. They went through the house and onto the back porch where he was frightened and ran.

Chief Parrish said Miss Copeland described the burglar as a Negro between the ages of 16 and 20 years. The chief said when apprehended he would be charged with first degree burglary and attempted rape.

O. L. Wise of Elizabeth City and Doug Phillips of Williamston, agents for the State Bureau of Investigation are assisting local police. They brought the SBI mobile crime lab to the scene and set up operations.

Business Is Good

The United Piece Dye Works reported a near record second quarter for the current year. Net earnings for the three months ended June 30, including an extraordinary item due to income tax refund from prior years, totaled \$580,413. In the corresponding period of 1969 net earnings were \$374,230.

The company operates a plant in Chowan County.

"Except for the diversification in our plants, enabling us to meet the changing needs of our market, such results could not have been achieved," said Albert V. Moorell in explaining the results.

The chief executive officer added: "Although we cannot be strong optimists in face of National Economic Policy, I expect our year will at least line up to the trend of our first half."

Cruiser Damaged

A police cruiser was heavily damaged early Tuesday morning when it struck a utility pole on North Broad Street. Driver of the 1970 Plymouth was Patrolman Herman Ray Coston, 23, 209 West Gale Street.

The investigation showed that Patrolman Coston went to sleep while on routine patrol at 4 A. M., went to the left side of the street and struck the pole. The mishap occurred near the intersection of Broad and Third streets.

Learning Lab Seeking More Participation By Adults

Wanted! More adult students.

Apply: Learning Lab, Swain School or call 482-4745.

While the Learning Lab, operated by College of the Albemarle of Elizabeth City, has been a busy place this summer, it is not operating at full potential due to the absence of adult participation, according to Mrs. Betty Bisette, coordinator.

Mrs. Bisette, substituting for Mrs. Anne Britt this summer, said adults can obtain their high school diploma through the local facility or take one of the numerous general interest courses offered. There is also a program for veterans



Promote Feeder Pig Cooperative — Roy L. Harrell, left of N. C. Rural Fund for Development, looks at a slide taken by Gene Sutton, rural services specialist with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, showing progress being made by a farmer on his feeder pig program. A cooperative has been formed to aid farmers and Sutton has been employed to manage the program for the next year.

Pig Co-Op Gets Manager

Albemarle Cooperative Association, Inc., while founded by an anti-poverty organization, hopes to upgrade and expand the feeder pig industry in the 10-county area.

Roy L. Harrell, organization-education specialist with N. C. Rural Fund for

Development, said Martin County has now joined the Albemarle Area counties in the cooperative. "While the general goal is to upgrade low income farmers this cooperative is not restricted to a particular group," Harrell points out.

And, he sees the cooperative of being more than for the hog industry. He said feeder pigs were chosen because there appeared to be a greater need and more potential in this area.

Gene Sutton, former extension agent in Iowa, has been sent by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to manage the local co-op.

The project was funded in 1968 but did not become operative until February, 1969. Harrell already has success stories in the file. He said they are the result of agencies pooling their efforts—Chowan County Extension people, Jack Parker, area livestock specialist, Economic Improvement Council and the Rural Fund for Development.

There are now 112 members in the open membership cooperative.

Sutton, Harrell, Parker and others are now working to develop quality production. This is being done by holding training sessions and securing good breeding stock.

Sutton said the place of the cooperative is to establish and coordinate a program in feeder pigs. He continuously points out the program is designed to supplement services already available, such as extension specialists. "We utilize their information and experience and pass it on to farmers," he said.

"Our program is totally coordinated with existing agencies."

He said the emphasis is on quality and sufficiently large operations to have an economic unit.

Harrell said this is a self-sustaining and income generating program for the Albemarle Area.



Mrs. Tommy Leary
Watermelon King Terry

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Learning . . . A Continuous Process — While most school-age people take a vacation, others continue the learning process by going to the Learning Lab at Swain Elementary School. Ron Rogerson, PACE student assistant, left, goes over an assignment with Thomas I. Jones, a veteran who studies at the lab. The center picture shows a group of students at work. Mrs. Margaret Smithson, summer school coordinator, is shown at right reviewing work of Willie Holley, left, and Wayne Bond.

