

Fresh Troops Needed

For the second time in four years the finger is being pointed at CF Industries as the source of nitrogen which triggered the latest massive algae bloom in the Chowan River. The discovery casts a big shadow of doubt over the state's ability to police and enforce water quality regulations.

The huge chemical fertilizer plant at Tunis has been allowed to put 42 pounds of nitrogen a day into the water. Officials state that this coincides with the amount in water removed from the river for industrial use.

After much drum beating last week officials finally took samples of water around the plant and found that an estimated 520 pounds of nitrogen was being put into the water daily. Even worse, CF officials have known "for more than a year" of seepage from holding ponds.

Where have the state folks been? In 1972 industry officials lied to top water quality control people at the state level. Only a week ago they further misled investigators.

It is to the point now that CF officials cannot be trusted. Even worse, it is to the point where state water quality control personnel, from the top to the bottom, cannot be trusted.

And if things could get worse, all this mistrust and sleeping at the switch comes at a time when, through the Coastal Resources Commission, people on the local level are attempting to prove themselves worthy of enforcement at home rather than from Washington, D. C.

The first episode at Tunis, four years ago, should have been of sufficient magnitude to not only get the attention of state officials, but to keep it. The latest catastrophe is proof positive that this didn't happen.

All credibility on the state level has been lost. The federal agencies must not be brought in to insure that enforcement is constant. A slap on the wrist has proven to be too light a punishment.

Noted And Passed

As a child, we heard our father say that the shortest winter is brought about by a financial note due in the spring.

We now contend that the best way to bring needed rains is to sign a construction contract in late May.

Results Awaited

School is out! School is never out, as the learning process continues so long as one maintains control of his faculties.

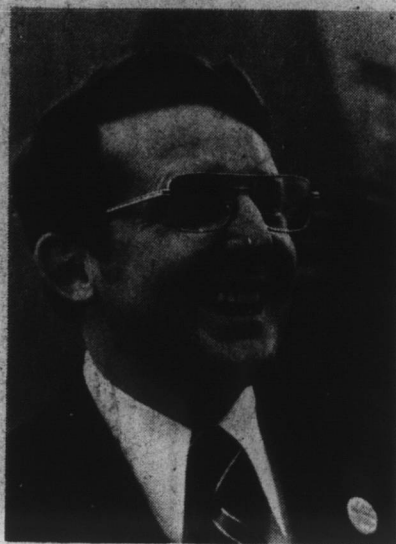
However, for 94 per cent of the students in Edenton-Chowan Schools their formal education takes a summer break. The other six per cent is now involved in the first school board structured summer program.

Eighty-five of the 144 students involved in the summer program are seeking credit in order to advance in grade. What is amazing is that the other 59 or 41 per cent are involved in an elementary enrichment program.

Except for in-kind contributions, such as buildings, maintenance, etc., the summer program is supported totally by tuitions. No county funds are going into the program over and above what would be necessary anyway.

This is a plus for the Edenton-Chowan Schools.

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Lane Brown

Lane Pushes Accountability

"To maintain our excellent bond rating and the financial reputation for which we have worked so hard will require an active and aggressive watchdog. I expect to provide that fiscally conservative leadership."

This statement is the lead paragraph on campaign literature being circulated by Lane Brown, Democratic candidate for state treasurer.

"Accountability to the taxpayer" is Brown's theme as he rides the highways of North Carolina seeking support for his candidacy. He was in Chowan County Monday for the second time since he decided to seek the Council of State position now held by the legendary Edwin Gill.

Brown, in a late afternoon interview, said he finds the people interested in what the state treasurer does. "The candidates find themselves in an educational as well as a political role," he pointed out.

Recently endorsed by PACE, the political arm of the N. C. Association of Educators, Brown claims that it resulted from his background in education policy and finance. "The state treasurer plays an important role in education in this state," he notes, and he was a strong supporter of education as a member of the N. C. General Assembly.

The Albemarle attorney said this race gives the opportunity for the voters to elect a "fresh face"

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Free Clinic

A free blood pressure clinic will be held Saturday from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. at the Unit 3 Rescue Squad Building in Rocky Hock.

The clinic is being sponsored by the unit of Edenton-Chowan Rescue Squad and people throughout the area are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to have their blood pressure checked without charge.

Some 17-Year Olds Eligible

Seventeen-year-olds can register to vote in the August 17 primary election if they will be 18 by the date of the general election on November 2, according to Mrs. Byron P. Kehayes, chairman, Chowan County Board of Elections. They must, however, register between June 18 and July 19.

The books will be closed for the primary at 5 P.M. on July 19 for all who either desire to register to those who have moved to another precinct since the last election.

The law pertaining to 17-year-olds also applies to residents who may move into Chowan County between June 18 and July 19. They may register and also vote in the

Tunis Plant Admits Seepage Into River

CF Industries at Tunis again has been cited as responsible for triggering a massive algae bloom in the Chowan River. Industry officials have admitted to state officials that they have been aware for about a year of seepage waste water from holding ponds.

The problem is so serious that the Federal Environmental Agency in Atlanta, Ga., will send representatives to the Environmental Commission meeting in Raleigh next month.

CF officials last week denied any knowledge of a problem.

However, the Water Quality Section of the State Department of Natural and Economic Resources sent two men from Raleigh Friday. They discovered the seepage and estimated 520 pounds of nitrogen daily was being discharged into the river.

The chemical fertilizer firm has been allowed to discharge 42 pounds of nitrogen daily into the river. Officials said this amount was to continue with the amount of nitrogen in the water withdrawn from the river for industrial use.

"It (nitrogen) was 10 times higher

than what we normally find in the river," stated Grover Cook in pointing out the problem. Cook is a state official.

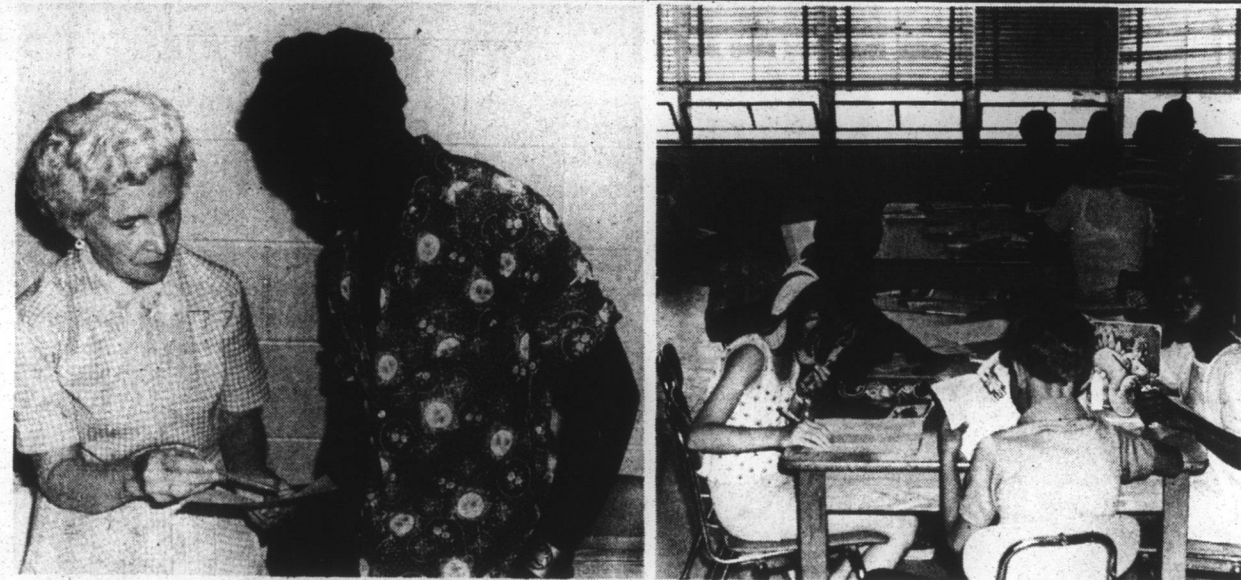
State officials will recommend penalties against CF for the violation. The maximum is \$5,000 per violation.

W. L. Hoelscher, CF plant manager, the firm has an engineer working on a possible solution to the problem.

A statement on the problem was expected later this week from Everett Knight, chief, Division of DNER.

THE CHOWAN HERALD

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CLASSES UNDERWAY—Summer School programs are underway in the Edenton-Chowan Schools, operating four hours each day. At Holmes High School there are four classes being held. Mrs. Margaret Smithson, above left photo, teaches one of them and is shown giving assistance to a student. Elementary summer school is held at D. F. Walker. Two classes are being held there, one of which is shown above in the right photo.

Summer School Underway

Summer school is now in progress in Edenton-Chowan Schools for nearly 150 students. For the next six weeks these students will attend two or four hour courses which will enrich their education or provide credits for advancement.

Donald T. Lassiter, director of instruction, assures local taxpayers that the program is supported by tuitions, except for usual maintenance of the two facilities being used.

At mid-afternoon Tuesday, 85 registrants were enrolled in programs at John A. Holmes High School. Another 59 were in four elementary classes at D. F. Walker School.

Lassiter, who with Lee Bass, Betty A. Bissette, Clara Boswell, Bruce McGraw, and Margaret Smithson designed the program,

said the response has been nearly 100 per cent above projections. He said while the high school program is credit-oriented, the elementary phase is designed to give the student additional help at the level he has previously attained.

The migrant program, with Mrs. Loretta Guard, as tutor, and Mrs. Janice Dunn as part-time nurse, has bolstered the elementary program which accounts for nearly half the students.

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Wood To Speak

George Wood, Democratic candidate for governor, will appear at a fish fry and rally in his home county—Camden—Saturday night. The event is expected to draw several thousand supporters from throughout Northeastern North Carolina.

The event begins at 5 P.M. at Camden High School. Plates will be served until 7 P.M., at which time the rally will begin. The candidate will be the central figure at the rally and will make an important speech.

Entertainment will be provided and those who cannot attend the rally are encouraged to purchase tickets and mingle with Wood and his friends at the fish fry. Plates will be available to take out.

Charles Creighton, campaign coordinator, said tickets, at \$2 each, are available here from J. Clarence Leary, Jr., W. P. Jones, Scott Harrell, Tom Reid and others. Creighton also has a supply of tickets.

Drug Arrests

Net Five Men

Five arrests on drug charges have been made in Chowan County in the past week. The arrest culminated an extensive undercover campaign by the State Bureau of Investigation, in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies.

The Chowan County Sheriff's Department, assisted by Edenton Police Department and the SBI, conducted a major drug bust early last Thursday morning, resulting in two arrests and involving seven pounds of marijuana.

Three Negroes were arrested by Edenton Police Department Monday night on indictments obtained by SBI Agent Bill Godley and a Negro undercover agent who has done extensive work in the area. They were:

Fred Sykes, 24, Route 2, Edenton; William Edward Hollowell, 47, 103 West Peterson Street; and Enoch Jones, 17, 105 West Gale Circle. They have each been charged with possession of a controlled substance as well as selling or delivering the substance.

An additional charge of

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Court Cancelled

The regular weekly session of Chowan County District Court was not held Tuesday. Jurists were attending a Judge's Conference.

Court will resume at 9:30 A.M. Tuesday in the Fourth Floor Conference Room of the County Office Building. Superior Court will convene in the courtroom of the court house.

75-Cent Tax Rate Needed For Budget

Chowan County commissioners now have a \$2,079,799.69 budget for the next fiscal year. A 75-cent tax rate, up five cents from the current year, will be needed to fund the record budget.

The fire district tax would be four cents, up a penny from this year.

Mrs. Pansey A. Elliott, finance director, said the proposed budget is based on a valuation of \$112-million and 95 per cent tax collections.

A public hearing on the budget Monday morning drew little comment. However, no formal action on adopting the budget resulted because Commissioner N. J. George said a vote at that time would be illegal.

Commissioner David Bateman was not present and George argued that the purpose for the meeting was to hold a public hearing with no mention of action on the budget.

Later Chairman C. A. Phillips called a meeting for 10 A.M. today (Thursday) for consideration of adopting the budget ordinance as well as other matters.

C. M. Evans, a former commissioner, made a plea for lights on the baseball field at Chowan High School in order that recreation in the county could be expanded. He said he favored an athletic program but urged the commissioners to obtain records as to how funds put into Edenton-Chowan Recreation Department are being spent.

Evans cited the program at Rocky Hock Community as an example of what can be done if a community wants recreation. He said facilities are inadequate and lights at Chowan would add to the program.

Chairman Phillips and Commissioner Alton Elmore explained that steps are now being taken in the hopes that the lighting may be obtained by next summer.

Fewer than 10 people attended the public hearing and Chairman Phillips explained that the budget contained all of the items traditionally funded by the county and two additions—tax maps and soil maps.

Regarding recreation, the chairman said the idea is to carry the program throughout the county and emphasis should be placed on improving facilities where the county now has a lease.

The proposed budget ordinance notes that \$798,000 of the total budget would be received from property tax. The local option

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Biggs Trial Set

The trial of James Junior Biggs on the capital offense of first degree murder is scheduled Monday in Chowan County Superior Court.

Biggs was convicted earlier and sentenced to die. However, the N. C. Supreme Court overturned the conviction and ordered a new trial.

Judge Elbert S. Peel, Jr., of Williamston, will preside over the criminal term. Asst. Dist. Atty. J. Richard Parker of Elizabeth City will prosecute the docket.

In addition to the Biggs case some 33 others are included on the calendar distributed by Mrs. Lena M. Leary, court clerk.

Six drunk driving cases, one involving third offense and four in which second offense is charged, are scheduled for trial.



REMODELING—The new colonial-style front of Belk-Tyler was only the beginning of an extensive remodeling project that is now underway and nearing completion. George Moore, manager,



explained that many departments have been expanded to handle new lines of merchandise, including high fashions and a gift shop. Departments have been rearranged and in some instances



locations have been shifted. The entire store is being painted and carpeted, except for aisles, and all new fixtures have been installed.