

## Public Parade

### For Safety's Sake

Two mornings this week people along the Public Parade and throughout most of Northeastern North Carolina have been faced with heavy fog as they began the day's work. There are more and more reports of near mishaps because motorists fail to turn on their headlights when driving in dense fog.

It is fortunate that no serious accidents have resulted from this carelessness on the part of some motorists. We feel the neglect to turn headlights on a motor vehicle while driving under such adverse conditions is a violation of the traffic laws.

For safety's sake, motorists should show more consideration for not only themselves but others on the highway.

### Dear Maru

Parents along the Public Parade and throughout the nation are going through a new experience this month or early next month—their first born leaves home for college. You are mine!

Something was different Wednesday morning on West Gale Street. I had the luxury of sufficient hot water for a shower. My toothpaste, deodorant and hair spray were all in their proper place. I even had a dry towel available.

There were no letters needing postage and a trip to the mail drop.

But it was when I opened the door to your room that I had full realization that something had happened. The room was clean, so you must be in college.

St. Mary's never had it so good. Your roommates? Well!

The trip home from Raleigh Tuesday afternoon was uneventful. I smoked a cigar. Your Mother read. The smoke often got into my eyes. I cannot explain why her's became watery.

There wasn't much conversation. My smoking was more progressive than her reading, for she seemed to dwell for ages on the same page. (Must have been a sorry book.)

I thought of the heated arguments which no one seemed to win; lecturing and being lectured to; but most of all loving and being loved. And that is what it is all about.

Thoughts passed through my mind of things I should have done and didn't; the things I did and shouldn't have done, as well as the fact that your job and boyfriend and my job weren't too compatible during the summer.

In college, and probably moreso at St. Mary's, you will grow spiritually, educationally, and socially. The drama associated with college is great. Maybe it is because as Thomas Wolfe said, "one cannot go home again." I hope this is different from my experience some 25 years ago.

You possess commitment, self

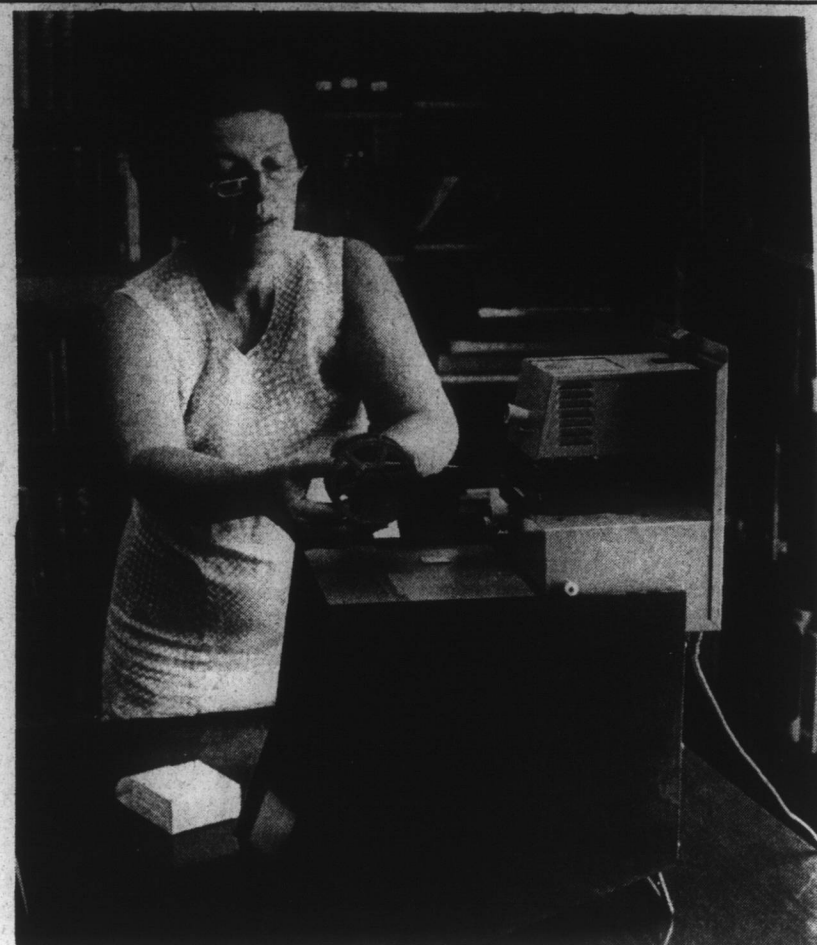
Continued On Page 4

## Cranford To Address Rotary

H. C. Cranford, Jr., of Durham, governor for District 771 of Rotary International, will speak to the Rotary Club of Edenton today (Thursday) at its luncheon meeting at St. Paul's Parish



H. C. Cranford, Jr.



**FILM VIEWER**—Mrs. Louise Darby, librarian at Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library, prepares a microfilm viewer for a demonstration run. The library recently received 100 reels of microfilm from the State Department of Archives and History containing county records of historical interest. The original copies are stored in Raleigh with a complete set provided locally for the convenience of both the public and county officials.

## Microfilmed Records Arrive

Nellie M. Sanders, director of the Pettigrew Regional Library, announces the arrival of microfilm copies of many important county records of historical interest for Chowan, Tyrrell and Washington counties. These are available to the public for use at any of the

libraries in the region - Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library in Edenton, Tyrrell County Public Library in Columbia, or Washington County Library in Plymouth.

The magnitude of this project by the Division of Archives and History is indicated by the number of reels of 35mm film required to cover the books involved. Some counties in the state had very few early records still in existence because of fires and other kinds of losses. But, according to Mrs. Sanders, "The counties in the Pettigrew Region were among the fortunate ones. It took 19 reels to cover the materials from Washington County and 43 for Tyrrell County. Chowan County holds the record for the state, I think, since it required a full 100 reels to contain their records. Some of the land transactions date back to 1729 so this effort at preservation, as well as increased usefulness, is none too soon."

The microfilm serves two purposes: the original is stored in Raleigh as a permanent record and the copy in the public library gives the historian and genealogist a convenient place to do their research without "bothering" the

Continued On Page 4



**COUNTY TOUR**—Chowan County hosted a tour by the N. C. Grape Growers Association, last Thursday. Pete Thompson, county extension chairman, took the 80-member group to Pert Lab, to view aspects of peanut research followed by a tour of Seabrook Blanching Corp., bottom photo. Their next stop was Deerfield Winery where they studied the wine making process, and tasted the local vintage. In the upper photo visitors are shown inspecting the Sell Grape Harvester, and at right, Rick Ervin checks the wine level in a vat as two visitors observe. Later the association was treated to the Historic Edenton tour, and held a dinner meeting, hosted by the American Legion.

## Bunch, Spruill Runoff Set For Position

A runoff has been slated between Jean A. Bunch and Mrs. A. K. Spruill, for the Democratic nomination for register of deeds, the Chowan County Board of Elections reported Tuesday. The second primary will be held September 14.

Mrs. Spruill polled 849 votes to Mrs. Bunch's 547 in the August 17 election.

Mrs. Bunch issued the following statement Wednesday morning:

"I would like to thank all the voters of Chowan County who supported and voted for me in the August 17 primary and take this opportunity to solicit your support and vote in our second Democratic primary.

"I emphasize the importance for each voter to exercise the right to vote. I feel I am a qualified candidate with adequate prior experience. If elected I will do the best possible job for all people of Chowan County and again I urge everyone to vote."

If a voter was not eligible to vote on August 17 he or she cannot vote in the second primary, according to election officials. However, the books are not closed. Anyone who is not registered and desires to do so in order to qualify for the November election can register.

## Still Raided

Two Hobbsville men were arrested early Friday morning when officers raided an illicit liquor still in Perquimans County. They were James Wallace Hinton, 50 and Derek Lee Butts, both of Route 1, Hobbsville.

Evidence was that the distillery had been operating for some time. It consisted of four 280-gallon "submarine" stills, 500 gallons of fermenting mash, 21 gallons of liquor, one 280-gallon wood cooler box, a copper coil condenser, 20 gallons of kerosene, 211 one-gallon plastic jugs and other distilling apparatus.

Special Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms were assisted by Deputy Sheriff Ronnie Stallings of Perquimans County, Bennie Halstead, Pasquotank ABC officer; and Garland Bunting, Halifax County ABC officer.

A spokesman said tax fraud to the federal and state governments could be well over \$10,000. It was the first still which has been seized in the area for more than a year.

# Retail Sales Show Increase

Chowan County has experienced nearly a 25 per cent increase in gross retail sales in the past two years. Latest figures show sales in the county during 1975-76 amounted to \$38,679,298.

In 1973-74 the sales amounted to just over \$29-million. Figures for 1974-75 were not available for comparison.

The rate of increase in business activity in this county appears to exceed the state-wide figures released by the State Department of Revenue.

Gross retail sales in Chowan County have more than doubled in the past 10 years. In 1965-66 sales were reported to be \$17,540,000.

Retail sales in the 10-county Albemarle Area amounted to \$356,566,143 during the past fiscal year. Pasquotank led the list with sales of \$110,920,611 reported.

Dare County had sales of \$58,898,486; Washington, \$48,393,689; Currituck, \$35,103,924; Perquimans, \$22,789,028; Gates, \$14,228,469; Hyde, \$11,890,762; Tyrrell, \$8,872,563; and Camden, \$6,789,313.

Following is a break down of sales in Chowan County:

CHOWAN COUNTY	Gross Collections	Gross Retail Sales
1% Retail Sales	\$ 35,483.95	\$ 3,657,881
2% Auto, Planes & Boats	51,193.92	2,634,747
Apparel	15,161.39	522,371
Automotive	68,007.64	6,049,046
Food	283,787.13	10,113,696
Furniture	36,099.40	1,361,810
General Merchandise	165,283.13	8,040,574
Building Materials	26,693.98	1,747,829
Unclassified Group	75,964.29	4,551,344
Use Tax — 1% & 3%	19,805.41	
Licenses — Wholesale & Reg.	360.00	
TOTALS	\$777,840.24	\$38,679,298



**READY FOR SCHOOL OPENING**—Today (Thursday) the familiar red school crossing flags will re-appear on the local scene. Police Chief J. D. Parrish is shown here with six of the 11 guards who will man posts. Left to right are: Mary Holley, Ginny Gardner, Craig Halsey, Frank Halsey, Chief Parrish, Lynn Dale and Cathy Dempsey.

## Child Center Has Openings

The Chowan Child Development Center has several openings for three, four and five year old children starting immediately.

The center, sponsored by the Department of Social Services, provides child care for working mothers, transportation, lunch and two snacks daily as well as a planned program of growth unique to each child's age group. Requirements for enrolment are based on family income and family number, and each applicant must talk with Jimmy Bond at the Social Services office to determine the monthly fee, if any. Parents must be working or attending school on a regular basis and residents of Chowan county.

If interested, contact Bond at the Department of Social Services office, 482-7441.



## Care Urged

Today, (Thursday) approximately 2,600 students—riding or walking—will flood the streets, sidewalks, and highways of Chowan County in response to blaring school alarm bells. In their excitement of meeting the new teacher, seeing old friends, or not being late, students might not be as cautious as usual.

All citizens of the area are urged to take those extra precautions for assuring the safety of every child during the coming year. The most crucial hours will be between 8 A.M. to 8:30 A.M. and 3 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. In the county, buses run as early as 7:30 A.M.

As in years past, the Town of Edenton and Edenton Police Department will work cooperatively with the school system by providing school crossing guards at eight strategic locations in Edenton. Police Chief, J. D. Parrish feels that "the cross-guards do an excellent job, especially where younger children are concerned."

Chowan County has been fortunate in not having any serious accidents involving students traveling to and from school. Every effort will be made to keep this reputation.

## Arson Suspected

Arson is suspected in a fire early Monday morning which heavily damaged the home of B. M. Lamb on County Line Road in Chowan County, near Belvidere.

Sheriff Troy Toppin said the fire was discovered at 4 A.M. and the Belvidere Voluntary Fire Department arrived some 12 minutes later. The brick structure was damaged beyond repair by fire and water.

The sheriff said the SBI Crime Lab was called to the scene and it is believed that some type of oil was spread in a bedroom and bath and set on fire.

The fire is being investigated by the Chowan County Sheriff's Department along with the SBI.