

One For Us

Well, we went out to D. F. Walker Cafeteria last Friday night to present an award and ended up receiving one. It was one of the most thrilling experiences of our life.

To be of service to the 10-county Albemarle Area is in itself a signal honor. To be recognized in the company of Dave Dear and Leon Ballance is something else.

Mr. Dear, now of Washington, D. C., was one of the early presidents of the Albemarle Area Development Association. During his tenure the Economic Improvement Council, Inc., was formed and has reigned as one of the most respected anti-poverty agencies in the country.

Mr. Ballance is from Hyde County and is in our opinion, one of the most respected leaders in the entire area. If a stabilizing force exists in the area it resides in Leon Ballance.

We were pleased to have been asked to become the first AADA president to serve two consecutive terms. We were further flattered when we were asked to pick up the reins when employment required our successor to move out of the area.

The time spent with AADA is rewarding. It is an opportunity to see people grow and not crowd; to see people witness collectively; to see them compete openly and with pride; to see them serve and not wait to be served.

It is a signal honor to be asked to participate in a position of leadership, with the greatest reward and recognition being the expression on the faces of those who are recognized for excellence.

The area is full of Dears and Ballances who have not yet surfaced. But to be singled out as one of three among the many is an honor which causes lumps to develop in the throat and causes one to stop and take stock, not so much as where we have been, but to the future and what contribution can be made.

Clean Sweep

We want to be among the first to publicly congratulate Mayor Bill Cox of Hertford upon his election as chairman of the Albemarle Association of Counties and Towns. Mayor Cox, who also serves as town manager, is an able leader who is vitally interested in the 10-county area.

Mayor Cox has maintained a low profile in past skirmishes within the region. He does not enter his new chairmanship with a lot of scars. For this reason he is the logical person to lead the logical organization to bring order out of the chaos which now exists in regionalism along the Public Parade and throughout Northeastern North Carolina.

We have long maintained that our problems would not have developed in such magnitude if locally elected officials had kept a handle on what was happening. When things appeared to be getting out of hand they turned loose rather than tightening their

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RECOGNIZED BY AADA—Three past presidents of the 15-year-old Albemarle Area Development Association were presented special certificates of merit Friday night for service to the 10-county organization. Left to right are: David Dear of Washington, D. C.; L. F. Amburn, Jr., of Edenton; and Leon Ballance of Engelhard. (See Public Parade.)

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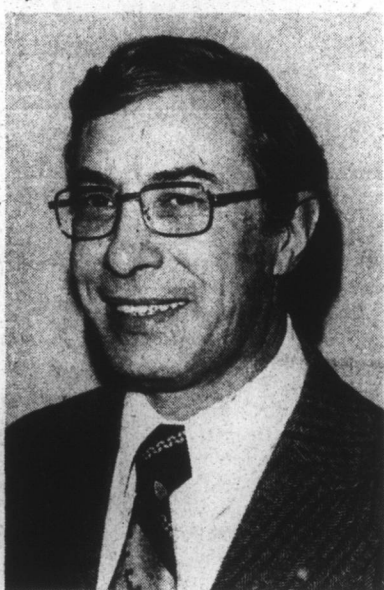
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BANQUET PRINCIPALS—Lt. Gov.-Elect Jimmy Green of Bladen County, center in picture at left, talks with State Sen. Melvin Daniels, left, and Mayor Roy L. Harrell of Edenton, at Friday night's annual meeting of Albemarle Area Development Association held at D. F. Walker School Cafeteria here. In the other picture, W. Raleigh Carver of Elizabeth City, outgoing president, is shown at left with Thomas



Paul Griffin of Edenton, who holds the area development trophy won by Chowan County; R. L. Stevenson of Hertford, newly elected president; and Dr. Tom Hobgood of Raleigh, area community development specialist who was presented the Duke of the Albemarle certificate.



Thomas M. Surratt

Resignation Announced By Surratt

Thomas M. Surratt, president of Chowan Hospital, Inc., resigned as chief executive officer Tuesday. He has accepted a position as administrator of Carteret General Hospital in Morehead City, a 120-bed acute care facility with a medical staff consisting of 20 physicians.

J. Gilliam Wood, board chairman of the hospital here, announced the resignation following a breakfast meeting of the Executive Committee. The resignation was accepted "with deep and sincere regret."

W. A. Whichard was immediately named chairman of a Selection Committee that has instructions to "pursue immediately and with all deliberation and speed" a replacement for Surratt. Serving with

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Chowan County Takes Top AADA Award

Chowan County has been named recipient of the area development award in the 10-county Albemarle and Hudson Grove placed second in the small community category of the Albemarle Area Development Association.

These and other winners were announced Friday night at the 15th annual AADA banquet where R. L. Stevenson of Hertford was elected president. He succeeds W. Raleigh Carver of Elizabeth City.

At the same time three past presidents—David Dear and Washington, D. C.; Leon Ballance of Engelhard; and L. F. Amburn, Jr., of Edenton—were voted special certificates of appreciation for service to AADA.

The Albemarle Regional Planning & Development Commission's designation of Duke of the Albemarle went to Dr. Tom Hobgood. Dr. Hobgood, veteran area community development specialist, has been transferred from the Northeastern to North-western region. Amburn presented the framed certificate.

Dr. Vance Hamilton, who replaces Dr. Hobgood here, was in attendance.

Lt. Gov.-Elect Jimmy Green of Bladen County was keynote speaker and in his folksy nature he promised to give the state's

Warning Issued

Police Chief J. D. Parrish today issued a warning to motorists that he has instructed local officers to more strictly enforce the one-way ordinance on Park Avenue, between North Broad and North Oakum streets.

Chief Parrish said he realizes a lot of violations are creatures of habit but Town Council made the designation in order to make the street safer and in the future the ordinance will be strictly enforced.

Commissioners Okay Proposal

Chowan County commissioners have approved a proposal from Albemarle District Jail Committee which allows local prisoners to continue to be housed in the Elizabeth City facility.

The cost to Chowan County over the next six months would be \$10,475. On July 1, 1977, the district committee will evaluate the agreement and re-negotiate terms for continued use of Tri-County Jail by a non-member government.

Elizabeth City Police Chief W. C. Owens proposed an agreement based on population per capita plan and that depreciation costs based on a 50-year period. Chowan County would also pay necessary medical or other extra expenses incurred for Chowan prisoners.

Chowan County prisoners have been housed in Elizabeth City since June, 1976. The cost has been \$15 per day with no additional cost

second highest office his personal touch during the next four years. And he expressed his awareness and concern over the need for better highways in the East as well as greater use of Tar Heel ports.

As a member of the State Board of Education he promised to "go to school" and sit down, look, listen and see what is taking place. "That is the kind of lieutenant governor I will be," he said.

"We have to improve the roads in Eastern North Carolina, he declared.

Hertford Mayor Heads Revived Association

Local elected officials from the 10-county Albemarle Area talked to and heard from four members of the General Assembly as they revived their association Monday night at Angler's Cove Restaurant in Perquimans County.

State Sens. Melvin Daniels of Elizabeth City and J. J. (Monk) Harrington of Lewiston; and Reps. Vernon James of Weeksville and Stanford White of Manns Harbor, attended the re-organizational meeting of the Albemarle Association of Counties and Towns.

Mayor Bill Cox of Hertford was elected chairman. W. Raleigh Carver of Elizabeth City was elected vice chairman, with R. S. Monds, Jr., of Hertford, being named secretary-treasurer.

Prior to discussions of the Dismal Swamp Canal, utility bills and the Coastal Area Management Act the group heard Sen. Harrington call the meeting with elected officials "the greatest single meeting he attends in the district."

Upon the suggestion of Macon Johnson of Camden County the group passed a resolution against closing of the Dismal Swamp Canal. Mayor John Bell of

He served notice on State Sens. Melvin Daniels, who introduced the speaker, and J. J. (Monk) Harrington that he would be a tough boss. He said he would demand 40-hour work weeks.

Amburn, as chairman of the nominating committee, presented the slate of new officers. In addition to Stevenson they are: Mrs. Leon Powell of Shawboro, Mrs. Nellie Sanders of Plymouth, and Tom Hutto of Sunbury, area vice presidents; and Mrs. Gloris Elliott of Edenton, secretary-treasurer.

Thomas Paul Griffin, head of

the AADA committee in Chowan, accepted the first place trophy. Griffin was in charge of banquet arrangements which saw more than 200 people attend at D. F. Walker School Cafeteria.

Mrs. Lillian James of Plymouth presented the development awards with Pasquotank being judged second and Tyrrell, third.

Ed Brown of Hertford, chairman of the industrial committee, presented 10 county industrial awards. The Chowan County award was garnered by Edenton Cotton Mills.

Elizabeth City spoke in favor of no alterations to the canal schedule.

Mayor Cox brought up the question of high utility bills with Sen. Harrington responding by explaining a utility watch-dog committee, of which he is a member.

He said the committee has gained the attention of the big power companies; that Gov.-Elect Jim Hunt is "no darling" of big utilities; but that he doesn't foresee a cut in utility bills although the committee is getting a handle on it.

T. Erie Haste, Jr., of Hertford, a

member of the Coastal Resources Commission, said it is in the best interest of most people in the state to have such a measure as is now being challenged in the courts. "This is not something the General Assembly has done to the coastal area but something they have done for us," he declared.

Haste continued by saying the act is designed to do away with some duplication in permits, etc. Sen. Melvin Daniels said legislators are there to serve and see that something "good is going to happen to you." He said North

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Haste Is High In Praise Of Many CRC Accomplishments

T. Erie Haste, Jr., was a natural choice to fill a position on the brand new N. C. Coastal Resources Commission back in 1974. His activities in his community have always reflected his concern for the future of Northeastern North Carolina.

He is serving as a councilman for the Town of Hertford. He was president of the Albemarle Area Development Association during the creation of the Albemarle Regional Planning and Development Commission, the Lead Regional Organization for the area. He is on the board of directors for the Bank of North Carolina in Hobbville in Gates

County. He is owner and operator of Hertford Hardware & Supply Company, Inc., in Perquimans County and City Marina, Inc., in Camden County. His familiarity with all these areas proves to be a great asset to the operations of the Coastal Resource Commission.

When reviewing the activities of the commission for the past two years in a recent interview, Haste admitted that the commission started out with a monumental task: "All of the original commission members were appointed from the 20 coastal counties. We were all laymen that knew little about the Coastal Area Management Act and the responsibilities we would have as commissioners."

Their first job was to help local governments produce land-use plans for long term growth. "This was a painfully slow process... a learning process for all involved," attests Erie.

Yet Haste feels that the quality of the land-use plans approved this year reflects the extensive work and research that was expended in their development. He points out that Chowan and Perquimans counties, for instance, have had some "helter-skelter development" in the past. "Two developments in this area, Holiday Island and Snug Harbor have had serious problems," asserts Haste. "These mistakes

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T. Erie Haste, Jr.