

# Heard & Seen

"By Bull"

Here's hoping that the weatherman will be good to us today (Thursday) for Edenton's Christmas parade is scheduled to take place about 3 o'clock this afternoon. Again the parade will be sponsored by the Edenton Jaycees and if energy and initiative means anything, the parade should be a very successful one. Of course, the Merchants Committee of the Chamber of Commerce is again cooperating with the Jaycees so that if nothing interferes we should have a good time ushering in the Christmas season.

Among the most popular places in this neck of the woods Saturday night was at Gabby's Restaurant over toward Hertford. Gabby just completed a very nice addition to his restaurant and it was filled to capacity with his friends to help celebrate the opening of the new addition. Various groups of musicians and singers were on hand to provide entertainment so that just about any kind of music was presented. Then, too, apparently just about all present must have liked country ham, for before everybody was served the waitress said, "I'm sorry but the ham is all gone." Which meant that some had to settle for a roast beef meal.

This Saturday being the first Saturday in the month, the Methodist Men's Club will sponsor another of their pickled herring breakfasts. The meal will be served from 7 to 9 o'clock at the church and the "boys" are hopeful that another large crowd will turn out for a good breakfast with a goodly portion of fellowship as dessert.

Edenton reminded a fellow on Wednesday morning of "Merry England" with its share of thick fog. In fact the fog was so dense about time to go to work that here's one who thought it was almost necessary to use a compass in order to "get to town." Which brings to mind some information by the late Paul Olson. Paul one time told me that if lost in a woods just look at a tree and the side with a coating of moss was north. That might be of some help in Sweden, Paul's native land, but my trouble was that I could not find a tree with moss on it and it would not help anyway, for I didn't know in which direction to go in order to get out. So Paul's information, like a lot of voluntary information and advice, didn't do a bit of good.

## Career Center Discussed

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a plan would be consistent with state-wide emphasis on uniform educational preparation, including competency testing and certification. James D. Jones, Jr., director of instruction, termed the idea a "two-pronged concept with a vocational component and academic component including advanced courses requiring specialized equipment. He included the possibilities of a bio-medical program with related social studies, science and English courses; a marine science program; advanced courses in the arts; advanced placement in other academics such as English, math and science.

Thursday, December 1, 1977.

## The Chowan Herald

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of the Chowan in Virginia. There is much reason to suspect that if new pipelines are built the pressure will mount for withdrawals of much more than the currently sought 70 million gallons per day. These pressures will be almost impossible to resist once the lines are laid. They must be fought with every weapon that comes to hand.

As several speakers pointed out in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina voters have twice in recent years voted to issue clean water bonds to solve our state's water problems. It is only reasonable to demand that Virginia do something similar to solve its own water problems rather than attempt to drain away the downstream resources from Northeastern North Carolina. If southside Hampton Roads has outgrown its resources, its growth should be limited rather than stealing from its neighbors to the south and inhibiting their own future growth potential.

However, it has not yet been demonstrated that Hampton Roads has outgrown the potential of its own water resources. The Amelia County alternative is within the James River basin which feeds into Hampton Roads. Tidewater Virginia's proper fight is with the Richmond-Petersburg area not with Northeastern North Carolina. Only a desire to save the upstream James River water for further Richmond growth prevents this lone in-state solution from being adopted by Virginia authorities.

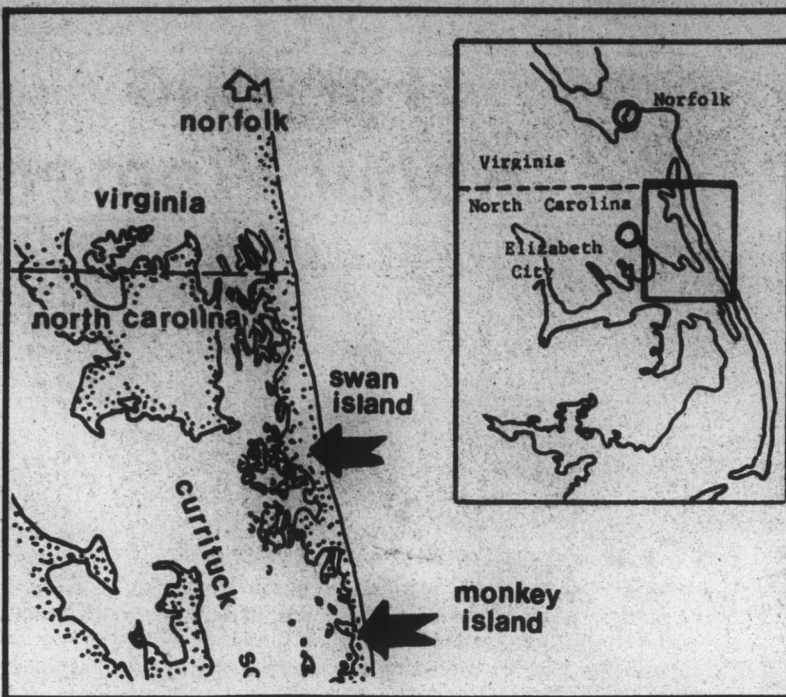
Rather than talking about getting more Roanoke or Chowan water, the whole discussion needs to turn instead toward shutting off the 48 million gallons per day that the Chowan is already losing to Tidewater.

We applaud and support the strong statement Gov. Hunt has issued in defense of our rivers. He was seconded at the hearing by Congressmen Walter Jones and L.J. Fountain. If North Carolina opposition stays united and tough as presented at Monday's hearing, ultimately Virginia, the Corps of Engineers and Congress will decide the Amelia county alternative or one of the rejected James River solutions is the only way to legally and morally supply the downstream James River water needs.

## Good Company

A recent poll by the UNC School of Journalism indicated that the groups of people more inclined to support the re-election of Sen. Jesse Helms are: whites, males, persons between 30 and 60 years old, and those living in Coastal and Piedmont areas.

There shouldn't be argument against being identified with them next fall.



## AEC Permits Are Discussed

Procedures to obtain permits for development in Areas of Environmental Concern (AEC's) was the major agenda item at the meeting of N.C. Coastal Resources Commission in Jacksonville, on November 29 and 30, at the Holiday Inn.

The Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) is planning the steps needed to apply for AEC permits, methods for review and evaluation of permit applications, hearing requirements for applications, processes of appeal, administrative actions in cases of violations, and the role of the permit officer. Procedures to be discussed are those for both major and minor development permits.

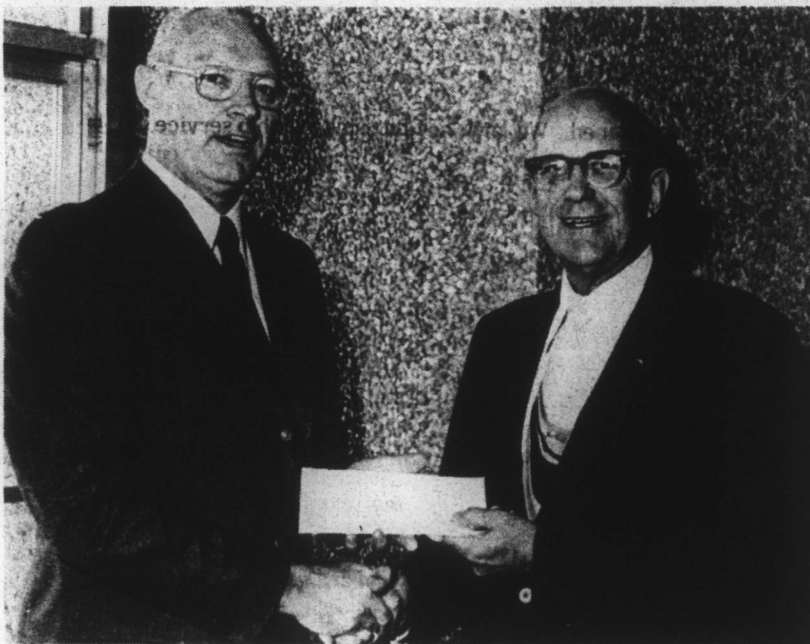
Permits will be required for most construction activity after March, 1978, as established by the 1974 Coastal Area Management Act. At that time, persons wishing to undertake development in designated areas of environmental concern must obtain a permit to do so from the Coastal Resources Commission. Permit officers will be making determinations of whether projects for

development occur in areas of environmental concern.

The permit procedures to be discussed by the Commission will be made available for public inspection for a period of 30 days prior to holding a public hearing on them. Comments from this hearing will then be included in the final permitting procedures adopted by the Coastal Resources Commission.

The Coastal Resources Commission reviewed the revised Carteret County Land-Use Plan at its meeting and considered comments received from other state and federal agencies on the revised plan. A public hearing on the Carteret County Plan will be scheduled for the next commission meeting in early January.

The commission also received a copy of the public hearing draft of the N.C. Coastal Plan for review. This plan is being prepared for approval for funds under the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. Tentative plans are to hold a public hearing on the Coastal Plan in January.



SUPPORT PROGRAM — NCSU Dean of Agriculture and Life Sciences J.E. Legates, left, receives notice of the support peanut farmers will give to research and extension projects from Joe Sugg, executive officer of the N.C. Peanut Growers Assn. (NCSU Photo by Ralph Mills).

## Peanut Assoc. Provides Funds

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projects total \$51,500, according to a joint announcement by Dean J.E. Legates of NCSU and Joe S. Sugg, association executive secretary.

Legates expressed appreciation for the support by the grower organization, calling it a "demonstration of the self-help spirit of North Carolina peanut farmers."

The university projects the funds will support are aimed at some of the top priority problems in peanut production, such as the spider mite. This tiny insect has inflicted severe crop losses on individual farms in recent years. Growers have been unsuccessful in controlling the pest with miticides.

Agricultural Experiment Station researchers have studies underway which could result in

## Felton Most

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Nichols. Certificates of participation were presented to the Edenton Aces jaycee squad by coach John Dowd. Mrs. Shelton Broadnax awarded certificates to the varsity cheerleaders and Mary Ralph made a similar presentation to the jaycee cheerleaders.

new approaches to spider mite control with reduced dependence on pesticides. One possibility involves the use of a trap crop that would have the effect of preventing the mites from reaching the peanuts.

A research project which could have a major impact on peanut disease control, if it is successful, is a search for resistance to Cercospora leafspot — a fungus disease affecting essentially all peanuts in the state.

This study is an outgrowth of a top priority NCSU peanut research project, which is the development of a commercial variety with resistance to Cylindrocladium black rot (CBR). This disease is potentially the most dangerous of all those affecting North Carolina peanuts.

In the CBR-resistant breeding work, new genetic materials have been used which researchers suspect may carry some level of resistance to leafspot. With the support of the N.C. Peanut Growers Association, they will be able to evaluate these breeding materials for leafspot resistance.

Leafspot reduces the North Carolina crop by an estimated 8 to 10 per cent a year. In addition, growers spend about \$15 an acre in attempting to control the disease.

## Grant Funds Purchase By Nature Conservancy

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Using a landmark \$4-million grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation of Pittsburgh, The Nature Conservancy will purchase for conservation two of the finest undisturbed areas remaining on North Carolina's Outer Banks.

The grant, made to the Conservancy's unique Land Preservation Fund, is the largest single cash foundation grant ever made to a private conservation organization in the United States. The 26 year-old non-profit Nature Conservancy will use the \$4-million to protect the Swan and Monkey Island properties in Currituck County, North Carolina.

Located about 20 miles south of the North Carolina-Virginia border, most of the Swan and Monkey Island tracts are no longer actual islands. With the natural closing of the last Atlantic inlet in 1828, what had once been a string of major barrier islands became a long narrow finger of sand and wetlands that stretches south along the Atlantic from Virginia Beach toward Cape Hatteras.

Included in the Monkey and Swan transactions are two major segments of the Outer Banks peninsula, thousands of acres of brackish marshes to the leeward Currituck Sound side, a number of small islands, and acres of vulnerable shoal waters.

Researchers indicate that the marshes of Currituck Sound are the most important unprotected wetlands area on the Atlantic coast. They provide habitat for 15 per cent of the waterfowl on the Atlantic flyway. Approximately 170,000 waterfowl use the marshes each winter. Marsh waterfowl include: mallard, black duck, widgeon, gadwell, canvasback, ringnecked ducks, greater snow and Canada geese. Over 100 bird species have been recorded in the area including peregrine falcon, southern bald eagle and osprey. The migrating route of endangered peregrine falcon follows the Outer Banks.

The marshes are also home to fifteen species of mammals, as are the dunes.

The Monkey and Swan Island highground tracts, separated by about three miles, run from the mean high water mark on the ocean side to the mean high water mark on the sound side. Together, counting the areas that will be purchased directly and where conservation easements will be acquired, 6,508 acres will be protected at Swan and Monkey. Combined, the purchases account for three and a half miles of ocean front. The sellers of Swan Island will retain limited compatible use rights.

Swan Island is being purchased from the Swan Island Hunting Club which was formed under unusual circumstances. Proceeding southward from Long Island in November 1870, a small group of hunters aboard the yacht "Anonyana" sought safety in upper Currituck Sound from a fierce winter storm. They anchored next to what is now known as Swan Island. When the tides subsided, the yacht was stranded. Taking advantage of their misfortune and surrounded by thousands of waterfowl, the travelers formed a hunting club. The group, returning each year, took its present name in 1876 and abandoned what remained of the yacht in 1877.

Monkey Island is being purchased from the heirs of the estate of C.A. Penn of Reidsville.

In announcing the grant, Patrick F. Noonan, president of the non-profit

Conservancy, said, "Thanks to the foresight of the Richard King Mellon Foundation, two of the finest segments of the ecologically valuable Currituck Outer Banks will be preserved in their natural state for future generations to know and enjoy. Today, when coastal areas everywhere face the threat of extensive and often unplanned development, Swan and Monkey will continue to provide habitat to a variety of wildlife. Even more important, the marshes they protect will contribute to the delicate ecological balance of the sound. Unquestionably, protection of the natural character of the Currituck banks is a matter of statewide pride and national importance."

Officials of the Richard King Mellon Foundation said that the \$4-million grant to the Conservancy is one of the largest ever made to a single organization in the Pittsburgh foundation's years of operation. L. Gregory Low, a North Carolina native, executive vice president of the Conservancy, and a key figure in the negotiations for the two areas, said, "The generous and very timely grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation gives the Conservancy the funding needed to exercise our existing options on Swan and Monkey Islands. We expect to do so during the first two weeks of December. Ours is a positive commitment to protect these valuable natural resources. The broad questions of the future of the Currituck Outer Banks must be solved by innovative, environmentally sound approaches by both the public and private sectors. The Mellon grant gives us time to work out the proper solutions. As a Tar Heel, I am particularly pleased to have been able to help in the preservation of these priceless elements of our state's natural heritage."

Monkey, Swan and the Currituck Sound have been called a top priority in eastern America by the American Land Trust, a national two-year effort aimed at protecting key natural areas. Nathaniel P. Reed, chairman of the American Land Trust, and former assistant secretary of the Interior, said that, "The Richard King Mellon Foundation speaks forcefully, by its example, to other philanthropies. By making its grant, the foundation underscores the responsibility we as Americans have toward protecting our diverse natural land. The Monkey and Swan tracts contain beach and wetlands of a type that are fast vanishing from our shores. Without major private action such as the foundation's, we stand to lose our remaining coastal islands and many other ecosystems upon which our lives depend."

The Conservancy has helped assure protection of approximately 80,000 acres of outstanding land in North Carolina to date, including areas in Green Swamp, in the Great Dismal Swamp, and Roan Mountain in the Appalachians. Conservancy North Carolina projects represent successful efforts to protect pristine ecosystems, endangered plant and animal species habitats, and areas of scenic and scientific value to North Carolinians and the nation. The North Carolina branch of The Nature Conservancy, which is based in Chapel Hill, concentrates on means of protecting the state's most select natural areas. These areas are identified by the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program.