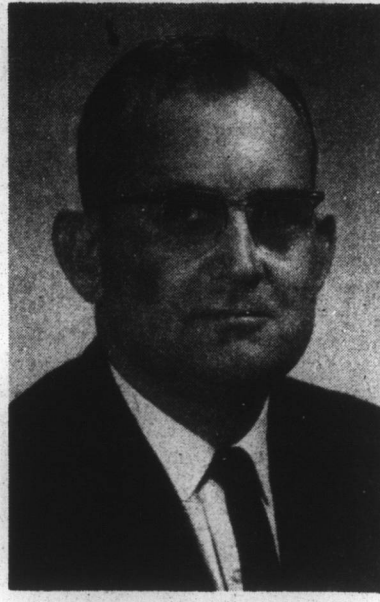


THE CHOWAN HERALD

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Public Parade
Keeping In Touch
 Well, we meandered near the west Raleigh branch of the Greater University of North Carolina for a couple of days last week. The occasion was a conference to unveil the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service Advisory Leadership System. It is a credit to the sponsors that 95 of the 100 counties in Tar Heelia were represented at the two-day event. It happened at the worst time for a weekly newspaper publisher (Tuesday-Wednesday) but since we had screamed so long and loud for some type lay organization we felt an obligation to answer the call when it came. The system is an expansion of the highly successful Program Committee which has been closely involved in development of several long-range plans, the latest of which is known as "4-Sight". This system creates an Advisory Council on the county level which includes representation from Extension's four program areas — Agricultural and Natural Resources, Home Economics, 4-H and Youth and Community Resource Development. The council is expanded to include other resource people in the county who are interested in communicating the programs to relevant publics, helps professionals chart general directions, coordinates efforts of program committees, and helps link programs with other groups. To be successful, the program must go beyond the county level. The group voted to expand the Advisory Council concept to include a statewide study group made up of two representatives from the seven Extension districts. This will result in a 14-member group representative of the entire state that can coordinate activities among the individual counties to head off, as one representative put it, the "reinvention of the wheel" in each county. In workshop session there was a fair and open exchange which can prove to be beneficial in the years ahead. The main interest expressed is to wipe out duplications. Agencies tend to spread out to become all things to all people and the Extension Service is not immune. Regardless of labels, which are certainly easy to attach, the Agricultural Extension Service has an enviable track record for the delivery of educational programs. The Advisory Leadership System will enhance this record and insure future successes. Sure, it is a bit political, but ain't that the name of the game.



Jesse L. Harrell

Harrell Chaired Hospital Board

Jesse L. Harrell, 7 Queen Anne Place, has been elected chairman of the Chowan Hospital Board of Trustees, a post he previously held for more than 10 years. He succeeds J. Gilliam Wood, who was not eligible for re-election to the board.

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Changing Direction
 Judge Albert W. Cowper of Kinston has been meandering along the Public Parade this week. He asked to be assigned to preside at the January term of Chowan County Superior Court. The amiable jurist was of the opinion that this would be his last term of court and he wanted to spend it in the historic Chowan County Courthouse. "The records got fouled up in Raleigh," and he will have two more terms to conduct before his retirement. But being a good and noble sailor, this change of direction didn't cause him any trouble. Judge Cowper is an outspoken conservative. He believes that the prison system is the best means of rehabilitation. He doesn't adhere to the theory that society can best be improved by social programs outside the confines of the judicial system. At the same time, Judge Cowper believes in the doctrine of a second chance when circumstances warrant. He possesses an almost uncanny ability to reduce rhetoric to essential facts which are necessary in arriving at basis for a fair decision. There are times when Judge Cowper is wrong. However, his "rights" far outweigh his shortcomings. It may be a generation before it is proven. Those who know him the best know that it will be more than a jib sail to force him to change direction.

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Energy Officials Hear Complaints Over Rates

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Northeastern North Carolina's revolt against high electric rates arrived in the nation's capitol Tuesday afternoon when officials of Operation Overcharge met with the officials of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Richard S. Coiner, chairman of Operation Overcharge, a group organized by the Chambers of Commerce in Northeastern North Carolina "to fight exorbitant electric rates being charged both wholesale and retail consumers by Virginia Electric and Power Company, (Veeco), led the delegation.

Thieves Strike

Money was stolen from pocketbooks in four offices of the Chowan County Office Building Wednesday afternoon of last week. A total of \$89 has been reported missing.

Deputy Sheriff Glenn Perry said \$41 was taken from two offices on the Fourth Floor; \$38 from an office on the Third Floor and \$10 from the Second Floor.

Deputy Perry said the time of the thefts was around 4 P.M. He added that none of the pocketbooks or billfolds stolen were taken from the building, only the money.

In the group meeting with the Feds in addition to Coiner, were: Joseph Parker of Ahsokie; Stanley W. Hege, Edenton; Ed. Walker of Greenville, and James E. Fulghum, consultant to Operation Overcharge.

In a prepared presentation, Coiner asked the FERC officials to start a comprehensive investigation of Veeco. He said the company's mismanagement had caused its rates to be way out of line with other power companies operating in North Carolina.

"This is economic discrimination," Coiner told the FERC officials, "and we want something done about it."

Coiner and his delegation were backed up by petitions signed by more than 45,000 electric consumers in the region calling on the North Carolina Utilities Commission to roll back retail rate increases approved for Veeco, and on FERC to roll back wholesale increases granted to the company.

"If Veeco is to continue to be ripe with mis-management, then its stockholders, and I happen to be one of them as are others in this group today, need to bear that burden, not the customers," Coiner told the FERC officials.

Britton, Brooks Get Active Sentences

Two John A. Holmes High School seniors were given active prison sentences in Chowan County Superior Court after entering pleas of guilty to charges resulting from an armed robbery December 12 at S&R Super Market in which an assistant manager was shot and some \$3,184 in cash was taken. Judge Albert W. Cowper of Kinston sentenced Linwood Paul Britton to 10 years as an uncommitted youthful offender. Britton, 17, was charged with

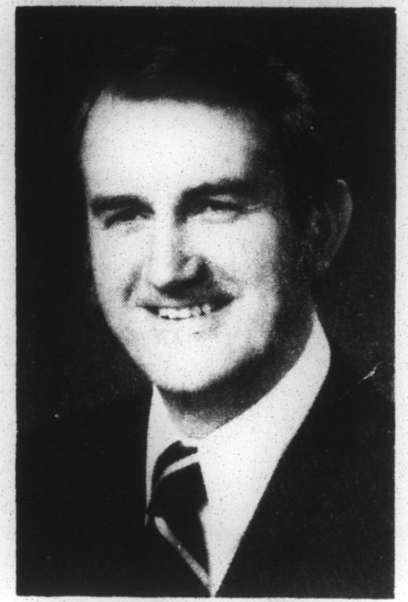
armed robbery. John Allen Brooks was sentenced to seven years as a youthful offender. He pled guilty to conspiracy to robbery and accessory after the fact. He too is 17. Judge Cowper described the sentences as "terrible" but said the dictates of his conscience required them. He noted that Britton could have gotten a life sentence while Brooks faced a maximum of 10 years on each of the two counts.

Paul Blake Stokley, the assistant manger, testified as to the events surrounding the robbery and his being shot. Police Chief C.H. Williams testified as to statements the defendants gave December 15 after being picked up for questioning. Both defendants admitted that drugs were involved. Capt. Williams said \$1,954.56 was recovered from the defendants. He said Brooks claimed he had not spent any of the money he received from Britton.

In a brief statement prior to sentencing, Britton apologized to the community for his actions. Neither defendant testified but both offered a number of character witnesses. Asst. Dist. Atty. J. Richard Parker prosecuted the docket. Most of the activity was Monday, with court being in session about 30 minutes Tuesday morning. There were no jury trials.

Action taken included: Wilbur Lawrence Allio, aid and abet in violation of insurance laws, six months, suspended upon payment of \$300 fine and costs and surrender his insurance license. Teresa Barnes Cayton, forgery, 18 months, suspended upon payment of costs, \$100 for attorney fees, and placed on probation for three years.

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Vann H. Johnson

Heads Drive

Vann H. Johnson, city executive and senior vice president of Peoples Bank & Trust Company, has volunteered to be president of Chowan County's Heart Fund drive. The drive is to be held the month of February.

Co-workers for the drive are: Mrs. Evelyn B. Keeter, Memorial chairman; Mrs. Fran M. Ward and Murray Goodwin, rural chairmen; Alton Clark, city chairman; Mrs. Norma Dirom, special events chairman; Miss Rhonda Kirby, Saturday Balloon Sales chairman and Mrs. Carolyn Ricks, publicity chairman.

"Although much has been done through Heart Research, Heart Disease still remains America's number one killer," Johnson said.

February has been designated as Heart Month. During the month there will be several special events. Residents in Edenton and Chowan County and all business establishments will be contacted.



EARN'S HIGHEST JAYCEE AWARD—Tom Phillips, vice president and secretary of Edenton Cotton Mills was recipient of the Jaycee Distinguished Service Award, presented at a banquet last Thursday night. Phillips' selection for the highest Jaycee award was based on his outstanding community involvement. An active Jaycee member, he is also a member of Edenton Rotary Club, Edenton Baptist Church, Chowan Hospital Financial Authority, and serves as a local leader to the Boy Scouts. Mayor Roy L. Harrell made the presentation before a crowd of about 100 persons. In the photo above, Phillips, center, is shown with Bill Smith, left, president of Edenton Jaycees, and Tom Watts, district attorney, who was keynote speaker.

Retail Figures Reflect Decline

Retail sales in Chowan County during December, 1979, were not on par with those in other area counties, according to a report released this week by the State Department of Revenue.

Gross collections from the 1 per cent local option sales tax amounted to \$27,222.37 in Chowan, some \$12,400 less than in Washington County. This would indicate that sales in the neighboring county were more than \$1.2-million above the total in Chowan.

Sec. Mark G. Lynch reported the following other totals for the

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Health Care Talks Planned

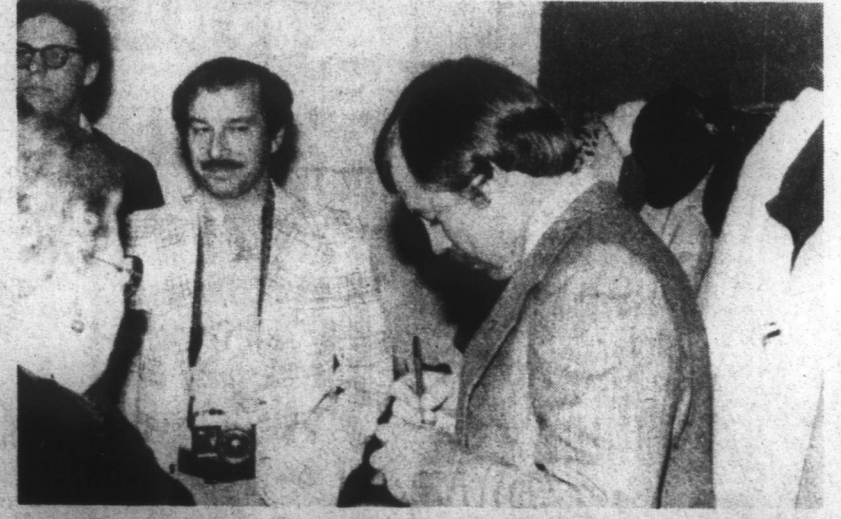
HERTFORD — Northeastern Rural Health Development Association is requesting a meeting with board of Trustees of Chowan Hospital to discuss meeting the health care needs of the region. The decision was unanimous at NRHDA's monthly board meeting here Monday night. Chowan Hospital is currently involved in a long range planning study and NRHDA board members felt it is important that a close coordination of efforts be maintained.

In December, NRHDA expressed concern over the hospital bed allotment for Northeastern North Carolina, as stated by East Carolina Health Systems Agency and modified by the State Health Facilities Plan.

NRHDA, in conjunction with Albemarle Family Health Services, is in the process of setting up a system of health care for the citizens of six-county area with Edenton and Chowan Hospital as

the hub. Dr. Clement Lucas, Jr., told the board that "one year from now you won't believe the number of physicians we will have" in the

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AUTOGRAPHS GALORE — Jim 'Catfish' Hunter of Hertford, in left photo, and Gaylord Perry of Williamston, in right photo, were popular targets of autograph hunters at last Saturday's event. The Hall of Fame Banquet was a shot in the arm for the area American Legion Baseball program. A large part of the



INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME — Some 350 people packed Edward G. Bond Post 40, last Saturday night, as the local American Legion post hosted the Baseball Hall of Fame banquet. It was the first time in 12 years the banquet has been held east of Greensboro, and it drew a number of baseball notables including Mike Caldwell of the Milwaukee Brewers, above right, who is shown being interviewed by Bruce Creekmore of WBXB. Caldwell, along with Lawrence 'Crash' Davis of Gastonia, Bill Leonard of Salisbury, and John H. Moss of Kings Mountain were inducted into the Hall of Fame.



\$2,000 needed to support the team this season will be provided by the proceeds from the banquet. Profits will also be applied to the post building fund and local charities. Last year members of Post 40 and area businesses provided funds to reinstate American Legion Baseball in Eastern North Carolina.