

## Call For Tough Action Gets Cool Response

ROANOKE RAPIDS — North Carolina's top environmental officials Tuesday called on their counterparts in Virginia to get tough in increasing action to clean up the Chowan River.

While the action was not greeted with a warm reception, Dr. Neil S. Grigg, assistant secretary of the N. C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, got a positive response to points which will keep the Chowan Technical Panel

exchanging information regarding the best way to halt massive algae blooms in the river.

R. V. Davis, executive secretary, Virginia Water Control Board, told a reporter after the

meeting that he did not see the urgency in his state beefing up regulations which limit nitrogen discharges to the river.

Earlier, Dr. Grigg stated most emphatically that North Carolina, led by Gov. Jim Hunt and Sec.

Howard Lee, was taking a "get tough" policy in regards to the river. "We are committed to a project which will restore the Chowan River to its beautiful state before the algae blooms."

Dr. Grigg was quick to say the project could not be implemented overnight. "Because of the complexity of the problem," he continued, "it is going to take the full attention of the best minds both in the government as well as lay leaders who have a vested interest in the river."

Dr. Grigg also said a Chowan Regional Task Force was being drawn together by Sec. Lee and would include representatives from all the counties bordering on the Chowan or Albemarle Sound. Seven members of this group from Chowan County were in attendance at the five hour

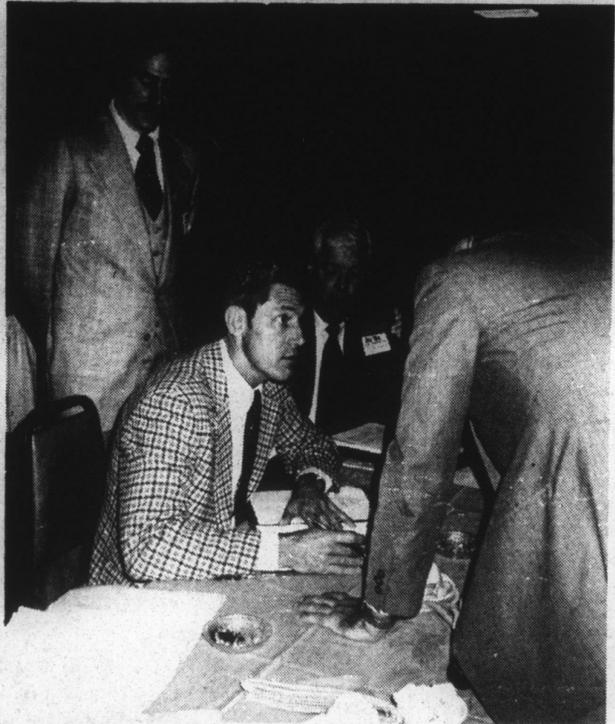
meeting. They were: Capt. Al Howard, W. B. Gardner, W. E. Smith, J. D. Peele, Cliff Copeland, Charles Creighton and L. F. Amburn, Jr.

Peele, a Chowan County commissioner and fisherman, suggested that Union Camp move its discharge from December through March to a fall discharge which would not affect recreation on the river as well as allow time for the herring runs.

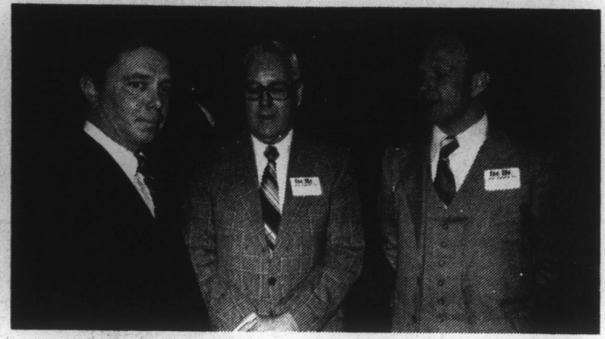
He said this would be better than no dumping at all, which he advocated.

While Davis was cool to most of the suggestions put forth by the North Carolina spokesmen, he did say it is important to have a free exchange of information "so we can arrive at the same solution at an early date." Then he said: "We

Continued on Page 4



WORK ON CHOWAN RIVER PROJECT — Officials from North Carolina and Virginia met in Roanoke Rapids Tuesday to discuss clean up procedures for the Chowan River. Seated at left are Dr. Frank Humenik of N. C. State University and Capt. Al Howard of Chowan County. Standing is Dr. Bob Holman of Edenton. Above right is Charles Creighton of Edenton, im-



mediate past president of Chowan-Edenton Chamber of Commerce with R. V. Davis of Richmond, Va., and Dr. Neil S. Grigg of Raleigh. Alan Klimek, far right, is shown with other local representatives at the meeting. Left to right are: W. B. Gardner, J. D. Peele, Cliff Copeland and W. E. Smith.

## Rural Store Owner Beaten And Robbed

Two suspects are being held in Albemarle District Jail in lieu of \$30,000 bond in the robbery and beating of a rural grocery store owner on Friday.

Mrs. Eula Mae Watson, owner and operator of B&R Grocery, located on N. C. 32 about 10 miles from Edenton, phoned Deputy Pam Byrum at 1:08 P.M. to report the robbery. Less than an hour later, Chief Deputy Glenn Perry had two suspects in custody and a trail dog provided by Police Chief D. M. Morgan of Colerain was on the scent of evidence stashed in the woods off SR1315, Mavaton Road.

According to Deputy Melvin Evans, Mrs. Watson was treated at Chowan Hospital for a concussion, facial bruises and a swollen hand before she returned

home. Evans had been passing Valhalla, headed toward Edenton, when the call for help was made. He turned around and went back to the store to investigate.

According to reports, Mrs. Watson was alone in the store when two black men entered at about 12:45 P.M. One man bought a drink while another milled around a candy rack behind her.

Asked if she could help them, the other man grabbed her from behind and threatened her with a butcher knife held at her throat. They left with about \$1200 after both beat her, made her empty the cash drawer and took her wallet from her purse.

Both men had left by the time she regained consciousness and

Continued on Page 4



ROBBERY VICTIM — Mrs. Eula Mae Watson, still showing signs of a brutal beating received during a robbery on Friday, is shown in B&R Grocery where the crime took place. Quick action by law enforcement personnel from both Chowan and Bertie counties resulted in the arrest of two black men less than an hour after the incident. Mrs. Watson was treated for a concussion, facial bruises and injured hand at Chowan Hospital.

## Public Parade

### Focus On Coast

President Jimmy Carter has designated 1980 as the "Year of the Coast" in America. Gov. Jim Hunt is bringing the Tar Heel State into the mainstream by focusing in with the same emphasis.

During the current year attention will be zeroed in on programs that significantly affect coastal resources.

For the past five years there has been a lot of attention drawn to our fragile coastal area via implementation of the Coastal Management Act of 1974. The Coastal Resources Commission has recently been put to the test with regards to certain policies for building on coastal waters. In each case the members have stuck to their guns and a better development program will come forth.

The Coastal Management Act got tagged early on as a "no development" act. This certainly not the case; but a sensible development program can be worked for the betterment of all the people in the state and nation.

In late August, 1979, President

Continued on Page 4

## Curriculum Development Begun

Curriculum for the proposed Tri-County Career Education Center is being developed in a two-day meeting currently being held at the Perquimans County Office Building in Hertford. School superintendents, principals, parents, teachers and staff members will be working through this afternoon, lead by Dr. Jack Owenby, a consultant with the Southeastern Regional Agency of Tuscaloosa, Ala.

From the sessions will come information to be used in drafting a floor plan for the career center.

Once that work has been completed, the acreage necessary for the center will be determined.

Kenneth L. Stalls, director of the Tri-County Career Center feasibility study, said it is hoped these studies will be completed by March 1, so the steering committee, acting as a site location committee, can begin investigating potential building sites by mid-March.

According to Stalls, this week's meeting is a major undertaking of Phase II of the project. Phase I, the initial feasibility study, was

completed in October. Phase II will end on September 30.

Attorneys in Chowan, Perquimans and Gates counties are currently studying a draft of the proposed papers of incorporation this week. Once any legal questions concerning corporate structure are resolved, the papers will be filed with the N. C. secretary of state, Stalls reported.

Stalls told the steering committee at a meeting Monday, February 11, they had been approached to try for a handicapped and placement grant for a project being initiated by a professor at UNC-CH.

He said a proposal had been written and submitted and some word concerning it could be expected by around April 15.

Stalls also reported that new vocational money will probably become available through a CETA project, and that those funds will be designated for use with students in school, rather than with drop-out programs.

He noted that some eleven primary funding agencies had been identified and that steps will be taken to secure their assistance.

Stalls learned that use of Coastal Plains Regional Commission funds for construction must be matched, and that matching dollars must be identified. Further implications of the stipulation are not yet known, he said.

## T.G. & Y. Construction Set

O. E. Bates, division vice president of T. G. & Y. Stores Co., the Oklahoma based national chain of variety and general merchandise stores, announced today plans for a new 40,000 square foot family center to open in June, 1980, to be located at the southeast corner of the junction of U.S. Highway 17 and Coke Avenue.

Bates stated that the new T. G. & Y. store is expected to employ about 40 local residents when it opens for business.

T. G. & Y. Stores Co. was founded in 1936 by R. E.

Tomlinson, E. L. Gosselin and R. A. Young, who gave the initials of their last names to the name of the company. It has always had its national headquarters in Oklahoma City, during its growth to a major chain with over 900 stores coast-to-coast in 29 states.

Sales for 1977 reached the billion dollar mark, enabling T. G. & Y. to become the 13th retailing billionaire of the United States. This goal was attained in only 41 years, the shortest period in retailing for such an achievement.

T. G. & Y. stores are of three classes: one is the expanded variety store, primarily convenience merchandise ranging to about 15,000 square feet and carrying limited junior department store lines; secondly, the family center unit ranging from 20,000 to 30,000 square feet; thirdly, the larger family center unit ranging from 40,000 to 80,000 square feet. Depending upon the size of these family center units, they go heavily into sporting goods, hardware, wearables, fabrics, automotive lines and several other departments, considering the needs of the community. Some of them may include an auto center, pharmacy, or outdoor garden and lawn sales.

J. M. Newgent, president of the company, stated, "We know that the economy of Edenton is excellent and that its future prospects are good. We want to be part of the progress of Edenton."

## Rescheduled

The northeastern pork conference, which was canceled due to snow, has been rescheduled for February 28th. The conference will be held at the American Legion Building on the Chowan County Fair Grounds, Edenton.

Registration begins at 9:30 A.M. and the program starts at 10 A.M. This meeting is sponsored by the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service and the Albemarle Feeder Pig Coop.

All pork producers in northeastern North Carolina are invited to attend.



NEW VARIETY STORE — A new T.G.&Y. family variety store is slated to open in June at Edenton Village Shopping Center, according to O. E. Bates, division vice president of T.G.&Y. Stores Co., an Oklahoma based firm. The 40,000 square foot facility will be located near the junction of Coke Avenue and U.S. 17.

## Funds To Cover Deficit

Chowan County commissioners went through the formality Monday morning on revenue sharing funds and heard presentations by three firms seeking a contract to do revaluation work.

Following the hearing, commissioners voted to use \$18,000 in revenue sharing funds to cover a deficit in the courthouse-detention facility budget.

Chowan County will revalue in 1982 and a contract is expected to be awarded in the not two distant future.

Cliff Copeland, county manager, estimated that a saving of between \$70,000 and \$80,000 could be realized if the work could be put on a computer. However, board members were in unison in emphasizing that the county needs to get the best possible contract. Chairman C. A. Phillips joked

during the meeting about public reaction to revaluation. "I don't know of any group getting a petition to praise us for revaluation," he said.

Commissioner George Jones said many times revaluation is misunderstood. "If the valuation goes up," he said, "the tax rate will be adjusted to cover it."

Commissioner Alton G. Elmore, who has been involved with a computer project of the Alliance For Progress, said having work done by computer would allow more frequent check of values and keep proper equalization.

Dallas Jethro, county tax supervisor, urged the board "not to save a dollar and get something less than what is desired."

The first presentation, by Bill Allen of Allen Appraiser, had some questions about the

Continued On Page 4