

Chlorophyll Level In Chowan River Has Doubled Since 1972

RALEIGH — An Environmental Management Commission report indicates the level of chlorophyll in the Chowan River above Edenton has increased up to twice the amount found in 1972.

The state standard is a limit of 40 micrograms per liter of the green plant pigment of photosynthesis. In 1972 there was no indication of high levels in the Chowan. In 1979, all of the river above Edenton showed levels exceeding 40 and more than 80 was recorded in large areas.

Last year the levels reached were as high as 150 micrograms, Dr. Al Duda, staff en-

vironmental scientist, pointed to the algae blooms which have been occurring in the Chowan for years as, the most complex issue found in a water-quality survey.

He indicated that other symptoms of the problem included the radical drop in the ability of striped bass eggs to live in the Roanoke River. He called the red sore disease found in fish in large quantities last summer an "epidemic."

He said large quantities of fish with the disease have recently been found below the pulp mills on the Roanoke River. He reported that fish catches are down in Currituck and the Neuse as well as the Chowan.

Alan Klimek, who heads the water quality planning branch of the commission, said that his staff members are extremely concerned with the deteriorating quality of the Chowan, Neuse and Tar-Pamlico estuaries.

He mentioned the sluggish nature of these waters contributes to the pollution. This pollution can accumulate for decades before the breaking point is reached. He said

the Chowan has reached that condition.

An article in the current issue of *Friend O' Wildlife* explains scientists' concern with the red sore disease. The bacterial infection is linked to deteriorating water quality in the Albemarle Sound-Chowan River drainage system.

Last year, the disease, which is usually found in commercial fish species, showed up in striped bass, bluegill, bass and other species of game fish.

A team of scientists from Wake Forest University has been conducting a study of the disease for the last two years and they believe it is caused by *Aeromonas*, a bacteria that seems to flourish in polluted water.

Fish under some sort of environmental stress become more susceptible to the infection. The declining water quality in the Chowan is providing the stress which is contributing to the outbreak, their report shows.

Dr. Gerald Esch, a member of the university team, says their research has shown two things.

The poor water quality places fish under a stress condition. This lowers the white blood cell count in fish reducing their ability to fight infection. The team has also found that the same factors that cause stress in fish increased the density of *Aeromonas* in water.

Esch says that high phosphate levels are associated with high *Aeromonas* levels. High fecal coliform counts are also often found in these areas.

Fecal coliform are bacteria that are found in human, animal and bird wastes. Phosphate enters the sound from industrial pollution and agricultural runoff.

Studies show that red sore disease may be harmful to humans. Although seldom contracted by humans, occasional cases do crop up. It is thought the disease is contracted by entering open sores on the body.

Endowment

Continued From Page 1

qualified hospitals for the fiscal year which ended September 30, 1979. During 1979, an additional \$11.94-million was appropriated to hospitals for capital and special purpose projects.

Immunizations Are Required

Continued From Page 1

protection against the childhood diseases before they can attend school in the 1980-81 year. We know that there are tens of thousands of these older students who will be getting shots, so we anticipate a tremendous rush at local health departments during the summer months.

"Now is the time for preschoolers who need them to get their shots," he said.

To register a beginning student, parents must present to school authorities evidence that the child has received all immunizations required by North Carolina law.

The diseases in question are polio, red measles, rubella (German measles), diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus.

The annual fall assessment of kindergarten and first grade students revealed that at the start of the current school year 95.3 per cent of 160,000 school beginners presented evidence of minimum immunizations, while only three out of 144 school districts (Green County, Rowan County, and Elkin City) reported 100 per cent immunizations during the first month of school. Followup by school principals ensured that proof of legally required immunizations was received.

Survey

Continued from Page 1

boards and citizen advisory committees. Their proposals were reviewed, approved and adopted by the county commissioners and the town council before being submitted to CRC.

This year the town and county will submit separate land-use plans. Work on the Edenton plan will be conducted from September 1980 through August 1981.

the board to all state workers.

It should be pointed out in this connection that when you are talking about public school costs, you are talking primarily about wages; for 92 cents out of every dollar supplied by the state for public education goes to pay somebody's salary and provide fringe benefits.

The point we are trying to make is that if the bond study committee comes in with a recommendation calling for between \$600 and \$750-million in state aid for school construction and the other comes in with recommendations calling for another \$600-million in increased operating funds, the problem of digging up more than a billion dollars in new money in one year will be regarded as almost insurmountable.

New Luddites

At the beginning of the industrial revolution in the 19th century, gangs of workmen (handicraftsmen) known as Luddites roamed England systematically destroying machinery.

An error common to the Luddite activists of the early eighteen hundreds and the neo-Luddites of today is that both confuse cause-and-effect. Both value motion over results — both offer simplistic solutions to complex social and economic problems.

The original Luddites blamed the new machinery for rampant unemployment and low wages of the time. Their modern counterparts may be found in the labor union movement where make-work rules and work slowdowns are among the present short-sighted answers to automation.

Actually, automation is a process whereby machines, rather than people, became the slaves, releasing millions of workers to a more rewarding life.

High per person, or per-man-hour production is the key to an improved standard of personal living. It seems incredible that this often is not understood — even by the very people who enjoy so much new leisure.

Neo-Luddites may even be found among some members of the clergy who seek "land reform" to force a return to horse and buggy agriculture. They can be found in the consumerist movement among those who consider certain mechanisms "unsafe at any speed."

They are found among the food faddists who would completely remove additives which prevent spoilage including the growth of dangerous molds ... additives which may increase the vitamin content, or destroy germs and bacteria.

Attacks on corporations because of size alone is part of the neo-Luddite movement resulting in product boycotts and proposals for divestiture, and for federal chartering and control of corporations.

Under the guise of "social concern" this Luddite thinking has unfortunately been accepted by far too many people.

Woman Charged In Shooting

Continued From Page 1

revoked.

Joseph Vann Holley, show cause order, nine months active sentence, stayed upon compliance with judgment of \$100 fine and costs.

Joseph B. Twine, worthless check, 30 days, suspended, \$15 fine and cost, and pay restitution of \$314.70.

Samuel Boston, failure to surrender license plates, continued.

Jackie Sutton, assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious bodily injury, probable cause hearing.

Charley Wills, assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious bodily injury, probable cause hearing.

Charles Jones, assault on a female and trespassing, 60 days, suspended, \$100 fine and cost, appealed.

Pencie May Gaylord, two counts of trespassing, 60 days, suspen-

ded, \$100 fine and cost, appealed.

John Bonner, shoplifting, dismissed.

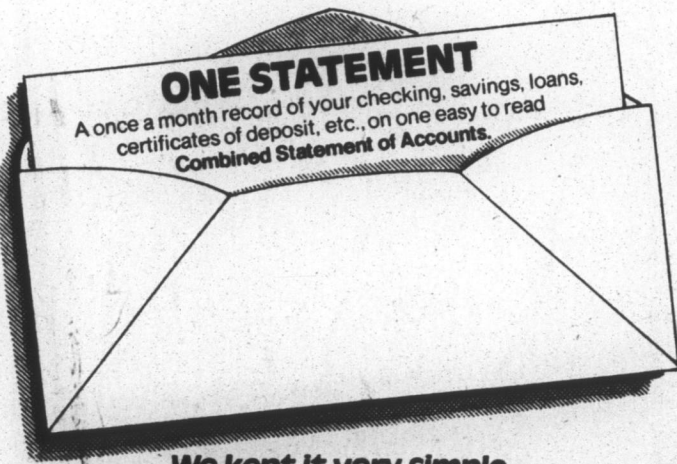
Joseph E. Chisor (Chism), worthless check, 60 days to run concurrently with sentence being served in Hertford County.

Lena Swain Myers, speeding, \$10 fine and cost.

Linwood Stallings, non-support, prayer for judgment continued upon payment of cost and child support.

Correction

In the February 14 edition of the *Chowan Herald*, it was incorrectly reported that Thomas Allen Dail was charged with exceeding safe speed by police Sgt. Joe Norman following an accident. It should have read instead that James Wade Smith of Denton was charged after he skidded into the vehicle operated by Dail. The *Herald* regrets any inconvenience the error may have caused.



We kept it very simple.

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The Chowan Herald (USPS 106-380)

P. O. Box 207, Edenton, N. C. 27922
Published every Thursday at Edenton by The Chowan Herald, Inc., L. F. Amburn, Jr., president and general manager, 421-425 South Broad Street, Edenton, North Carolina, 27922. Entered as second-class matter August 30, 1934, at the Post Office of Edenton, North Carolina, under Act of March 3, 1879.

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Subscription Rates

One Year (outside N. C.)	\$10.00
One Year (in N. C.)	\$9.36
Six Months (outside N. C.)	\$6.50
Six Months (in N. C.)	\$6.00

Edenton, North Carolina, Thursday, February 28, 1980

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