

James W. Gardner

The death of James W. Gardner on Thursday of last week leaves a void along the Public Parade and other communities in this country as well as in Europe. He died, at the age of 75, as he lived—quietly; working right to the final breath; and where he would have chosen—at an airport.

Mr. Gardner was a private man. He did great deeds but chose to stay out of the limelight. He was friendly and possessed with a warm personality. He was a strict disciplinarian and a tough taskmaster who gave 100 per cent and expected the same in return.

His Seabrook Blanching Corporation and Pert Labs are models in the peanut industry. The businesses bore Mr. Gardner's seal of approval but as any perfectionist, he went to his greater reward not completely satisfied with their performance.

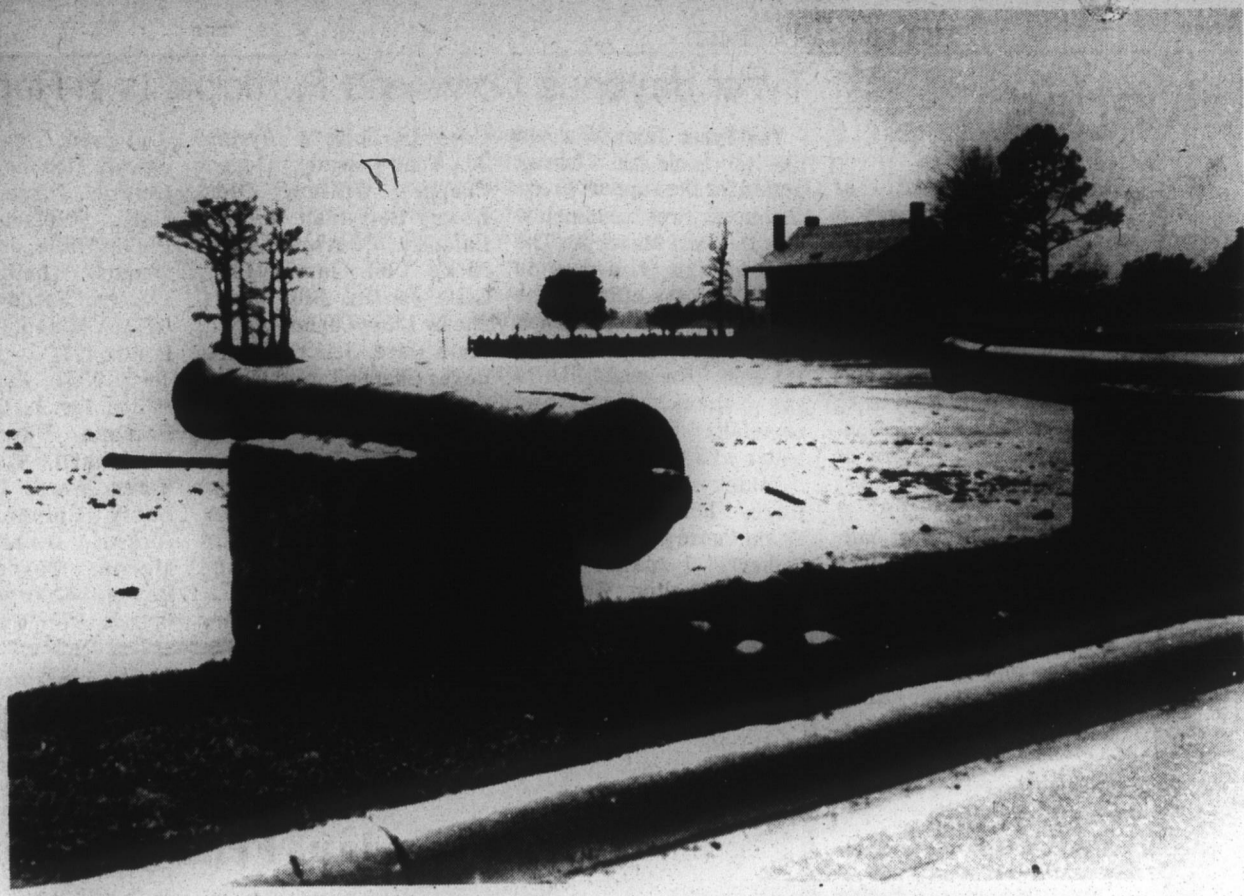
Mr. Gardner made his work his hobby. About the only thing to rival his vocation was flying. He loved flying and put himself into it the same way he did everything else. He was heartbroken when his health failed to the point that he couldn't handle the controls of his airplane.

He would return to Edenton from a business trip into a busy airport. As he got into his awaiting car he would say: "Now the dangerous part begins."

While being a mechanical genius, this man possessed a tenderness which best showed when he talked of his family—his devoted wife, children and grandchildren.

While he didn't spend a great deal of time at his residence on West Gale Street, he was never so busy during the prime of his life to stop and speak with neighbors, especially children. And he endeared himself to a lot of youngsters by giving them their first, and unforgettable, airplane ride.

That's the Jim Gardner all who knew him want to remember.



CANNONS OVERLOOK EMPTY HARBOR — The recent strong winds have caused the water in the harbor behind the Barker House to recede way out. You can see the debris scattered along the bottom of the harbor. (Staff photo by Jeffrey W. Winslow)

Veeco Puts In Request For \$18.3 - Million Rate Increase

Virginia Electric & Power Company asked the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on March 30 for an \$18.3-million wholesale rate increase. The next day, the N.C. Local Government Commission sold a \$400-million issue of electric revenue bonds on behalf of N.C. Eastern Municipal Power Agency, at an extremely favorable rate.

Simultaneously, Veeco asked the Virginia State Corporation Commission for a retail rate increase of \$96-million, or 8.94 per cent.

The Town of Edenton is one of 32 municipalities under the umbrella of the power agency, after defecting from Veeco a few months ago. Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation, headquartered in Hertford, is affected by Veeco's request which amounts to a 10.1 per cent increase. Veeco asked that the rate become effective May 30.

Veeco already has a \$20.5-million retail rate increase request pending before the N.C. Utilities Commission that would increase bills by 8.9 per cent in the firm's 22-county service area in this state.

C. M. Jarvis, Veeco's vice president for regulation, said the wholesale rate increase would give the company an overall rate of return of 11.78 percent. The rate increase would raise the return on stockholders' equity to 16 per cent.

ElectricCities, a group that represents the wholesale customers in many rate matters, is seeking a five-month suspension of the rate increase.

At the same time, Jack Aulis, ElectricCities spokesman, said the power agency sold bonds at a net interest rate of 12.28 per cent, about two points below the price expected last month.

Aulis said the low financing cost means that consumers in cities that are members of the power agency will not have to pay as much for electricity. The driving force behind formation of the agency almost three years ago was to find a cheaper electric supplier than Veeco.

An engineering report prepared for the agency estimates that over the next 20 years, the agency's power costs will be 5.5 to 6 per cent lower than the cost of the same amount of power bought at wholesale from the private utilities.

Principal and interest on the bonds will be paid from the revenues of the electric utilities operated by the municipalities participating in the agency project. No pledge of the municipalities' taxing power is involved.

Recent Changes By N.C. Board Of Agriculture

RALEIGH — The N.C. Board of Agriculture met here last week and modified regulations pertaining to boll weevil and the eradication - suppression program conducted in the state.

Changes included the date all cotton farm operators and growers of noncommercial cotton in boll weevil suppressive areas must submit the Cotton Acreage Reporting Form to their county ASCS office. The regulation now requires filing of the form by April 15, two months sooner than the previous June 14 deadline.

Also adopted were restrictions on growing noncommercial cotton in a suppressive area without a written waiver obtained from the plant pest administrator for each growing season.

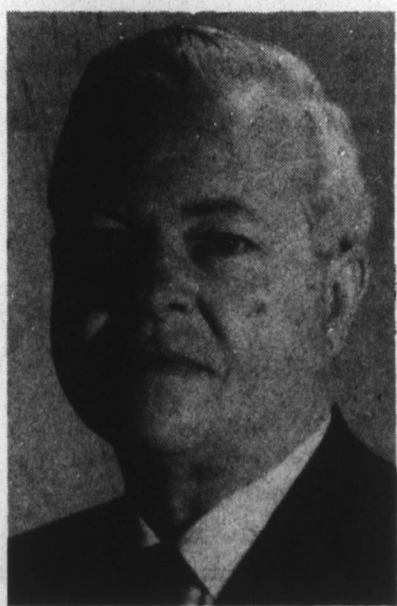
If the farmer fails to comply with the new regulations, the commissioner of agriculture, through his appointed agents, will proceed to destroy such cotton, and will bill the grower for the cost involved. The grower will have no claim for damages when the commissioner orders such action.

THE CHOWAN HERALD

Volume XLVII - No. 13

Edenton, North Carolina, Thursday, April 8, 1982

Single Copies 25 Cents



James W. Gardner

Held For Gardner

James W. Gardner of Edenton and Tyrone, Pa., died Thursday in Chowan Hospital. Mr. Gardner, 75, was founder and chairman of the board of directors of Seabrook Blanching Corp.

In addition to the Seabrook plant in Edenton, the company operated facilities throughout the Eastern United States and Europe. Mr. Gardner also established Pert Labs in Edenton.

The Gardners maintained a home at 107 West Gale Street.

He was born Dec. 12, 1906, in Tyrone, the son of James A. and Theresa Campbell Gardner. He was married to Carmen Myers. He was a lifelong Tyrone resident.

He is survived by his wife, two daughters, Mrs. Keith (Carmen) Reeves, of Raleigh, and Mrs. Alan (Natalie) Rutherford, of Panama City, Fla., 10 grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and one sister, Mrs. David (Nancy) Black, of Tyrone. He was preceded in death by a son, James A. Gardner II.

He was a member of the Trinity Episcopal Church, where he had served on the vestry for a number of years. He attended Staunton Military Academy, Staunton, Va., and was a graduate of the Tome School, Havre de Grace, Md.

He was extremely active in the peanut industry, his contributions ranging from new process inventions to new applications for peanut products. His influence is felt world-wide in the fields of manufacturing and food processing.

He was a member of B.P.O.E. 212, Moose Lodge 25, F. and A.M. 494, Williamsport Consistory, Jaffa Shrine Temple, Spruce Creek Rod and Gun Club, Tyrone Chamber of Commerce.

He was a trustee of Camp Anderson, a member of the Air Force Association, and a member of the board of directors of Grier School.

In 1946 he was one of the original incorporators of the Tyrone Hospital and a member of its first

Algal Bloom On Chowan River Likely

Scientist at the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development report that early conditions are right for an algal bloom on the Chowan River this summer.

A wet winter and early spring caused runoff to flush additional nutrients into the river. If these early conditions are followed by a hot, calm summer with some moderate rain, a large algal bloom could occur during the summer.

"It's one of those good news - bad news situations," said Joseph W. Grimsley, secretary of the department. "Our people in the Division of Environmental Management inform me that frequent rains during the past few months have had a cleansing effect on the river, keeping the water moving and dispersing the pollutants that harm the water quality of the river."

He pointed out, however, that the flushing of the nutrients from the land surface and small tributaries has put more nutrients into the river, one of the conditions necessary for a large algal bloom in the lower river later this year.

"The present condition of the water, although temporary, makes us optimistic that the herring run will be better this year than last year," Grimsley said. "We are certainly hoping for a good herring run so the fishing industry in the area can have a

12.6 Percent Rate Increase Approved

RALEIGH—Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Company has been granted its second rate increase this year. The 12.6 per cent increase approved Tuesday by the N.C. Utilities Commission will generate \$15.9-million in additional revenue.

In January the telephone company was granted a \$7.1-million long distance rate increase.

In the latest awarding, the company had asked for a 54 per cent boost. Tuesday's action disappointed CT&T officials.

The Utilities Commission gave the telephone company until April 16 to file a proposed rate schedule for the additional \$15.9-million.

The commission's public staff was pleased that the \$45-million request was cut by nearly two thirds. The staff also won two other victories. One was that the utility was ordered to include \$8.5-million in Yellow Pages income as operating revenue to offset higher local rates.

Also, the commission changed the capital structure of the company to favor long-term debt over stocks.

good year."

The Chowan River has been the subject of an intensive clean-up effort by the Division of Environmental Management. Grimsley said the Chowan River clean-up is a top environmental priority of Gov. Jim Hunt.

At Hunt's request, the federal Environmental Protection Agency sent in some of its top scientists in a number of fields of knowledge to look at the river, assess the state's clean-up effort and make recommendations. The team's report indicated the Division of Environmental Management was on the right track, according to Grimsley.

"The Chowan River didn't get in this shape overnight," Grimsley said, "and the clean-up won't be accomplished overnight. We are making the kind of steady progress that we feel will lead inevitably to success. However, it will take cooperation from local governments, industry, farmers and private citizens to accomplish our goal."

Grimsley said his department has been receiving good cooperation from citizens, communities and industries in the area. He pointed out many of the towns along the river are upgrading their wastewater treatment facilities, and United Piece and Dye Company has

Landfill To Close

The Perquimans - Chowan Sanitary Landfill will be closed Easter Monday (April 12). They will be open Tuesday at the regular time.

voluntarily reduced its phosphorus input.

"These are just a few examples of the kind of cooperation we are getting," he said, "but it may take an even greater effort on the part of the people in the area to restore this great river."

Grimsley pointed out that approximately 75 per cent of the river's watershed lies in Virginia and that the Division of Environmental Management and the North Carolina Virginia Water Management Committee will continue to work with the State of Virginia to limit nutrient inputs into the river from Virginia.

Sentence And Fine

COLUMBIA — Dr. C. Clement Lucas, Jr., of Edenton, who operated a clinic here for two years, Tuesday was given a suspended jail sentence and fined \$90,000 on charges of Medicaid fraud and soliciting employees to defraud Medicaid.

Judge Herbert Small, presiding in Tyrrell County Superior Court, entered the judgment he approved after plea bargaining between attorneys for Dr. Lucas and Dist. Atty. William C. Griffin.

Dr. Lucas has until January 1, 1987, to comply with the money portion of the judgment. It was stated during the trial Monday that the 39-year-old physician has established himself in a New York medical practice.

At Monday's four-hour

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Room For Locals

"Southern Folk and Decorative Arts Before the Civil War" is the theme for the sixth biennial Edenton Symposium. Presented by Edenton Historical Commission and the Division of Continuing Education at East Carolina University, the symposium will be held April 29-30.

Every year with an odd number brings throngs to meander along the Public Parade during the Edenton Woman's Club home and garden tour. Twelve years ago it was decided to have a symposium to deal in more depth with this laboratory where we live.

Tours turn people on, as is evidenced by the thousands who come every other year. Symposium's appear to be a couple of cuts above the most of us and lacks enthusiasm among locals. But it doesn't have to be that way at all.

We don't know Carolyn Weekly, John Bivins or Dr. Charles G. Zug; three of the four distinguished speakers obtained for this year's Edenton Symposium. They must be cracker jacks to rival Dr. Tom Parramore, the Meredith College professor who continues to amaze audiences with his Edenton lore.

What we are saying is there is plenty of room for locals at the symposium later in the month. The \$55 fee would be a bargain at twice the price.

Big Jim

By the time this is distributed along the Public Parade we hope N.C. Commissioner of Agriculture James A. Graham is out of the hospital and well on his way to complete recovery.

For those who might have missed the news, Big Jim was taken ill after a luncheon meeting in Raleigh on March 24. He was taken to Rex Hospital.

Information distributed by his department noted that it is possible that Big Jim had suffered a light heart attack with some slight heart damage. The last report was that he is in stable condition and resting comfortably without pain.

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RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS — Tony Creecy, middle left, and Eddie Morris, middle right, recently received football scholarships to Elizabeth City State University. Seated beside Creecy, who played linebacker and running back for the Edenton Aces, is his grandmother Esther Creecy. Besides Morris, who was the Aces quarterback, is his mother Dorothy Washington. Behind them is Aces coach Jimmy Addison, right, and assistant Louis Belfield.