

Population, Productivity Trends Are Compared

(Editor's Note: In 1962 an individual interested in making an investment in Chowan County sought information from a state agency which is now the Department of Commerce. The following paper -- Major Population and Economic Trends for Edenton and Chowan County -- was prepared. It is interesting to relate the projections of 20 years ago to the scheme of things here today. LFA).

For many decades agriculture has been an important source of employment for the people of Chowan County. Greater productivity per worker due to farm mechanization and improved technology has greatly reduced and is still reducing the need for manpower in agriculture. In the absence of sufficient nonagricultural employment to replace the dwindling employment opportunities in agriculture, many native-born residents of the county have found it necessary to search elsewhere for employment and, as a result, have moved out of the county.

So while the world hears much of a population explosion, Chowan County has difficulty in maintaining the status quo. The number of people in the county in 1960 was only 1,500 greater than it was at the turn of this century. The 1960 population of 11,729 was 811 people smaller than the 1950 population.

For the most part, the county's gain in population over the past sixty years has taken place in the Town of Edenton and the rural areas of Edenton Township. While half of the county residents lived in Edenton Township at the turn of this century, two-thirds of the people were reported as living in this one township in 1960.

Although Edenton's population increased by almost 1,500 people over the past 60 years, its growth has been rather erratic. During three of the past six decades, the town's population declined. This decrease in population occurred during the first, second, and sixth decades. Rather than having 10

fewer people in the town in 1960 compared to 1950, the town's population would have declined during the decade by 464 if this number of people has not been annexed into the town.

Judging from the relatively high fertility ratio in Chowan County, the county should have had a population gain during the past decade greater than the state's 12 per cent increase.

If the natural increase (births minus deaths) in population during the past decade had been added to the 1950 population, the county would have experienced a 21 per cent gain instead of losing population because the natural increase amounted to 2,653 people.

No doubt migration works both ways. People move in as well as out of a county. However, Chowan County had a net migration loss of over 3,400 people during the past decade and over 1,300 people moved out of the county during the 1940's. Chowan is one of the few counties in which the white people are leaving at a faster rate than the nonwhites. Although nonwhites accounted for 55 per cent of the natural population increase during the decade 1950 - 1960, only 42 per cent of the total number of people leaving the county were nonwhites.

As a result of such movements, nonwhites represent an increasing proportion of the shrinking county population -- 47 per cent of the total population in 1960 compared to 44 per cent in 1950. A similar trend is evident in Edenton but not at the same degree as found in the county. The proportion of the town's total population represented by nonwhites rose from 37.6 per cent in 1950 to 38.1 per cent in 1960.

For the most part, those leaving the county are young adults. More than a third of the people are

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Z. Roberta Banks

Banks Announces Her Resignation

Roberta Banks, a teacher in the Edenton School System for 36 years announced her resignation for retirement at a recent Board of Education meeting.

Miss Banks, a native and lifelong resident of Chowan County, now plans to spend more time to work on community functions.

"I plan to work with social and civic groups and along with my church more now," she said. Miss Banks will also join the Retired Teachers Organization.

While teaching she served under four principals, with the longest term of 20 years under D.F. Walker. She says that she was inspired to teach by Mrs. Walker. "I guess she was sort of my play mama," said Banks, who established tremendous rapport with her students over the years. "She was a very good teacher," said Goldie Wells, a former student. "She was so interested in her students reaching their maximum potential."

Miss Banks, who has already traveled to Europe, says she now has time for a cruise that she has been wanting badly.

Respecting retirement she echoed these sentiments, "I will mostly miss the students and the daily routine."

Through it all, however, she says she will still be available to help with volunteer work at the school if asked.

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UPS MOVES — On September 10 United Parcel Service will be moving to their new location on North Oakum St. The trucks will be leaving the old location on deliveries in the morning, as usual, and will return to their new home at the end of the working day. Ron Wilson Division Manager said, "The Manager" (Donnie Medlin) is looking forward to the modernization of the new building and the ability to operate more cost effectively." UPS services all or part of twelve northeastern North Carolina counties from their Edenton location.

State Agriculture Award Presented To L. F. Amburn

The N.C. Association of County Agricultural Agents has presented its 1982 "service to Agriculture Award" to L. F. (Bud) Amburn, Jr., of Edenton.

Amburn, editor and publisher of The Chowan Herald, is chairman of the National Extension Advisory Council. As such, he is credited with helping to organize groups of volunteer citizens across the U.S. to assist extension workers in carrying out educational programs.

Amburn is immediate past chairman of the State Extension Advisory Council, the first person

to hold this office. During his three years as council chairman, Amburn encouraged the formation of an extension advisory council in each county of the state.

Amburn also serves as chairman of a policy advisory group to Secretary of Agriculture John Block and has headed many county and regional development activities in Northeastern North Carolina.

"It is an honor to serve in Amburn's home county," said J. Michael (Mike) Williams, Chowan County extension chairman, in making the presentation on behalf of the association.



PUBLISHER RECOGNIZED — L.F. Amburn, Jr., left, accepts the Service to Agriculture Award from the N.C. Association of County Agricultural Agents from Chowan Extension Chairman Mike Williams.

Aces Defeat The Eagles, 21 - 6

The gridiron hummed with anticipation as the Edenton Aces opened their season with their old rivals, the Northeastern High School's Eagles. The rivalry was enacted this year on the Eagles

home turf but this advantage did not help the Eagles as the Aces ran away with the game which ended with the score of 21-6.

The Aces first possession came after they forced Northeastern to punt on the fourth down. Edenton, after seven plays and three first downs moved into the end zone with a thirteen yard run by Milton Hedgebeth.

Edenton's next scoring drive took place when the Aces got the ball on their own fifteen yard line. Eleven plays after taking possession the Aces scored as junior, Ed Alston, ran up the left side for seventeen yards and the Aces second touchdown.

After the kick off the defense of the Aces held as the Aces took over possession at their own forty nine yard line. Two plays later junior, Earl White, evaded defenders for a thirty yard run. Another run, then a pass from Joe Hollowell connected with Robert Cofield, a senior; another run by Hedgebeth of eleven yards; Edenton had first and goal at Northeastern's seven yard line. From the seven the ball was given to White who made it to

the end zone bringing the score to 21-0.

The half ended with the crack of the gun and Edenton went to the lockers with a three touchdown.

Coach Addison linked his teams fine defensive play and the overall experience of the front line for its strong showing during the first half.

Mike Herring, coach for Northeastern reportedly said, "We knew they were going to be strong but I was expecting us to do better."

Late in the third period the Eagles blocked an Edenton punt and Northeastern's Terry Hughes recovered the ball at the one yard line. The Eagles tried four times to break the Edenton defense unsuccessfully when their junior quarter back, Melvin Hawkins kept the ball on an option and tried for the goal line. Robert Cofield of Edenton was there to meet Hawkins, however and forced him out of bounds just in front of the goal line.

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Guest Editorials

Five Acres Each

By John Sledge
N.C. Farm Bureau

Around 50 years ago, there was an average of over 10 acres of farmland per person in this country. Thirty years ago it has declined to about eight acres, 15 years ago to six and one-half, and now to about five acres.

This means that each of us is dependent upon five acres of land for our food, some of our clothing and our lumber. (Actually, less than half of that five acres is really suited for the cultivation of crops.)

Actually, the farmer's efficiency is so great that he can produce on those five acres about three times as much wheat as you can eat, about 40 per cent more cotton and soybeans than you can use, and a fourth more feed grains than it takes to feed the livestock and poultry producing your meat, milk, and eggs.

Since you can't use all the food the farmer raises on your five acres, the farmer looks for an export market overseas. If he can't find a market, he will have to cut back production. And, if this happens, his costs per bushel and bale will go higher and our food and fiber will cost us more. So, production from that five acres going to the export market helps hold down your food costs.

As long as the farmer can produce more than you need and can find export markets, then it's good news here and overseas. Although other countries are less efficient in agriculture, many do produce things that we don't grow and make amny consumer items that they often can produce more cheaply than we can.

These countries are happy to sell us their goods and use the money to buy the extra food and fiber the farmer produces on your five acres. Our total farm exports also make jobs for a half million nonfarm people. The money earned from farm exports strengthens the dollar in international trade, allowing you to get more for your dollar when you buy imports. Stronger dollars also hold down inflation.

Moving Patients

In an effort to stretch federal dollars and save money for hospitals and paying patients, the N.C. Hospital Association is urging doctors and hospitals to send medicaid patients to smaller hospitals.

The rationale is that smaller hospitals often have spare beds and they can operate at a cheaper daily rate per patient while larger hospitals have had to increase their rates to paying patients to help defray the cost of accommodating the poor.

North Carolina's medicaid allocation for this year is \$154 million and it's anticipated that it's not enough to fully reimburse all hospitals for their services to the poor. One hospital should be as good as another for recuperating patients who need minimal care.

Therefore assigning or transferring non-paying medicaid patients certainly has merit from an economical point of view, but in devising such a plan, saving money should not be the only major consideration. Paramount with this austerity measure should be consideration for the patient's welfare: such as, continuity of needed patient services, mental attitude of patient, doctor-patient relationships and the attending logistical problems of doctor, hospital, patient and family.

This kind of move can inadvertently lead to disparities in services to poor patients. Needed concern for economic costs should not compromise patient well-being.

PTA To Meet

Chowan Junior High School will hold its annual Open House in conjunction with the first PTA meeting on Thursday, September 16. After a PTA Business session at 7:30, in the school's auditorium, the parents will follow a shortened version of their children's schedules. All parents and interested citizens are invited to attend.

Heart Association Officers Elected

Bruce Gillikin, President of the Chowan County Heart Association has announced the new officers for 1982-83. These were chosen at a recent meeting of the Heart group's Board of directors.

In addition to Gillikin the officers chosen were: Pete Manning, Public Information Chairman; Carolyn Ricks, Secretary; Evelyn Keeter, Treasurer.

In announcing the officers Gillikin pointed out that they will lead the unit during the next year in efforts to reduce the number of persons in Chowan County with high blood pressure who are not under treatment; to encourage rheumatic fever patients to

Football Games Are Scheduled

The Chowan Junior High School football team opens the 1982 campaign at Ahoskie on September 22, according to Jay Swicegood, athletic director and head coach. The game starts at 4 P.M.

The Bulldogs will be at home on September 29, hosting Elizabeth City Junior High, at 4 P.M.

On October 6 the team will journey to Manteo and return home to host Knapp Junior High on October 13. The following week the team goes to Gates County and concludes the regular season against Perquimans Union at home.

All of the games begin at 4 P.M., except the Perquimans contest which will start at 3:30 P.M.

The Coastal Athletic Conference playoffs begin November 3.

Swicegood is assisted by Willie Koonce and Doug Ashton.

Net Collections \$117,570.81

Net quarterly collections of the 1 per cent local option sales and use tax amounted to \$117,570.81 in Chowan County for the period ending June 30, according to the N.C. Department of Revenue.

Proceeds for distribution totaled \$116,460.94 with Chowan County receiving \$91,923.20 while the Town of Edenton's share was \$24,537.74.

Net collections in other Albemarle Area counties included:

Camden, \$20,768.15; Currituck, \$65,790.11; Dare, \$284,326.81; Gates, \$30,083.78; Hyde, \$31,419.56; Perquimans, \$32,966.15; Pasquotank, \$361,870.43; Tyrrell, \$19,165.14; and Washington \$104,900.62.

At the same time, the state agency reported gross retail sales

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