



Walter Not Out

There is something new in the journalistic field. It is called an "Analysis" which really is nothing but a reporter interviewing the typewriter when things get a little slack.

This was witnessed Tuesday by those who subscribe to our favorite morning daily of general circulation along the Public Parade.

Mary Anne Rhyne of the Associated Press did a pretty good job of filling a hole with a piece about work in the N.C. General Assembly being as slow as a snail's pace. But she went a step further and said "lawmaker's thoughts often turn to the challenge of seeking higher office.

This is not great discovery. We thought politicians always aspired to higher offices, just like lawyers, and newspaperpeople.

On down in her story she got around to the First Congressional District, which is largest in size and number of counties in the state and is actually larger in square miles than several individual states. The columnist named State Sen. Melvin R. Daniels, Jr., of the Isle of Pasquotank, and Rep. John Gilliam of neighboring Bertie as being potential congressional candidates in 1984.

What we want to know is what's wrong with Rep. Walter B. Jones, one of the most popular and efficient members on Capitol Hill? We visited with Rep. Jones last week as part of a lay delegation for the Agricultural Extension Service. We found him to be in good humor and good health. He has gained seniority to the point that he heads the Merchant Marines and Fisheries Committee—one of only 14 standing committees in the entire U.S. House of Representatives. His friends and foes alike give him high marks for his service.

In addition he has a constituent service which is the envy of the entire U.S. Congress (Much of the credit for this goes to Floyd Lupton his administrative assistant). Rep. Jones also says he still can cook the best fish stew available.

Younger men who aspire to higher office or greater things are to be congratulated and encouraged. However, we feel it's too soon to start giving the full count to Rep. Walter B. Jones.

Guest Editorials

One of the most important needs in the United States today, we believe, is the need to realize that better education is the key to a better economy.

There's no such thing as a prosperous nation whose people are illiterate and poorly educated.

It is no accident that one of the first acts of the earliest settlers of America in New England was to establish schools, including colleges.

Our forefathers knew well the value of education. Since their day, others have sometimes lost sight of it.

We must recapture that appreciation, especially now that we are entering what is being called the "information age" or the "knowledge age."

Already experts are predicting that this change will be just as important as the change from farm to factory 150 years ago.

But we are not meeting this challenge. The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that in the next ten years, there will be a shortage of 2½ million skilled workers.

Helping meet this shortage thru better education is exactly what North Carolina should do, to find new prosperity as a leader in high technology.

We don't have any scientific survey to prove it, but it's a good bet that one of the most frequently violated traffic laws is the speed limit in school safety zones.

Walk along the sidewalk in any school zone and you're sure to see cars go whizzing past 10 to 15 miles per hour faster than the posted speed limit.

Many of the drivers have their minds on something else and just don't notice the school zone signs, or stop to think that school hours are in effect.

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Methodist Church Adds Their Steeple

The raising of the steeple is a proud and special moment in the life of a church. It represents the realization of a dream and the promise of the future.

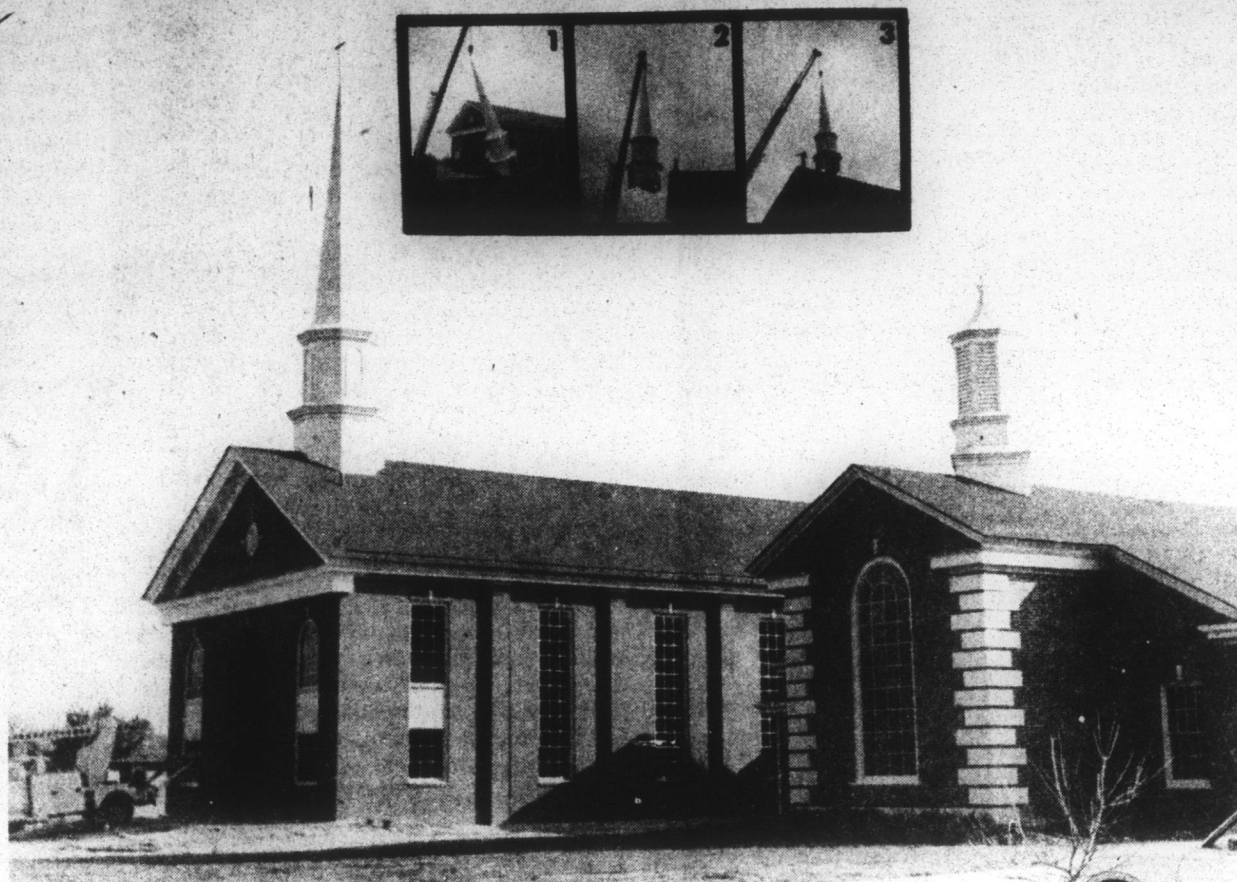
Such is the case with the raising of the steeple at the Edenton Methodist Church. It is the realization of their dream to have a sanctuary to replace the old building next to the Post Office; which had to be abandoned because of its rapidly deteriorating structure.

It represents the promise of a future filled with worship unincumbered by major repairs. It also promises to those that worship there that God looks over their physical and spiritual needs.

The steeple itself was constructed by Campbellsville Industry, Inc. of Campbellsville, Kentucky. It is a sleek white spire pointing heavenward and crowned with a cross.

It was scheduled to be put in place on Thursday, March 17, but was postponed until the next day because of rain. Friday came, but

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METHODIST CHURCH RECEIVES STEEPLE—The above series of photographs show the steeple of the Edenton United Methodist Church being put into place. The addition of the steeple signals the work on the sanctuary being nearly completed.

Commissioners Met To Discuss Civil Preparedness ✓ Brown Cited For Years Of Service

The Chowan County Commissioners met in a special called meeting on Tuesday, March 22 at 7:30 A.M.

The reason for the early breakfast meeting was to discuss civil preparedness with the district and state officers for emergency response.

Davis Spivey, District Civil Preparedness officer introduced Mr. Pugh of the State office by explaining that Mr. Pugh tries to meet with each county board of commissioners in the state, once every three years, to explain what his agency is and to see how they can be of service to the counties.

Mr. Pugh opened his speech by reminding the County Commissioners that the basic purpose of government is to protect its citizens.

He continued by pointing out that the major problem facing local governments, in the protection of its people in an emergency situation, is hazardous chemical spills. The EPA has identified 45,000 separate hazardous chemicals and around 120-million gallons of these chemicals are produced in North Carolina per year. "There is not a day that goes by, that the state Emergency Response Team is not contacted about a chemical spill," according to Mr. Pugh.

The basic response in counties to chemical spills or any other emergency situation must however

be handled by the county, according to Mr. Pugh. The reason for this is that the county services are the first ones confronted with an emergency, as such they should be trained to handle the emergency; thus becoming self-sufficient. Only when the county has done all it can, should the State Emergency Response Team be called in and they have statutory authority to get what is needed to the counties.

In the discussion that followed Mr. Pugh's talk, it was noted that the bottom line in emergency situations is communication. Chowan County is the only county in the area not to have implemented a single number for all emergency

agencies. Chowan County has nine separate numbers to call depending on the situation (fire, rescue, law enforcement, etc.). An informal poll showed that most people were only able to give one of these numbers. Mr. Pugh and Spivey both noted that there is a strong need for a single emergency number.

The Commissioner's meeting closed after they took action on a request by the Chowan Hospital for the power of garnisheeing on unpaid bills after all other avenues of collection have been exhausted. The Commissioner's passed the request and will now submit it to the legislator.

Town Of Edenton Chamber Of Commerce Releases Names Of Officers

The Town of Edenton opened bids on March 14 for renovation of six houses in the Oakum Street Community Development Area.

Bids were accepted on three of the six houses, while the bids on the other three houses were considered too high and put up for rebid.

Of the five contractors who bid on each house, three were awarded the contracts. The contractors for the first three houses are Kenneth Felton (Elizabeth City), Hurbert Whaley (Williamston) and Curtis Felton (Elizabeth City).

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Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce recently released names of officers, directors and committee members for the year. Tom Shepard is president and Bruce Gillikin is president-elect.

Ollin Sykes serves as vice president for internal affairs while John Dowd is vice president for external affairs. Les Fagan is past president.

Other board members include: Gary Anderson, Carol Becker, Alice Bond, George Byrum, Cliff Copeland and Warren Hibbard.

Spec Jones, Sam Noble, Tom Phillips, Bruce Wackelin and Mark Rose.

Agricultural Committee
Wesley Chesson - Chairman, David Bateman, Tom Byrum, Wallace Evans, Thomas Paul Griffin, Bill Monds, David Ober, Bud Perry, Leonard Small, Jr., Milton Tynch, Oscar White and Mike Williams.

Education Committee
John Dowd - Chairman, and Melvin Lane.

Highway Committee
Bruce Gillikin - Chairman, John Dowd, E.L. Hollowell, W.P. (Spec) Jones, Al Phillips and Bruce Wackelin.

Industrial Committee
Les Fagan - Chairman, Jim Ball, Alice Bond, George Byrum, Cliff Copeland, Bill Gardner, Bruce Gillikin, E.L. Hollowell, Spec Jones, Tilmon Keel, Sam Noble,

Daniels Files A Bill On Trailer Safety

Senator Melvin R. Daniels, D-Pasquotank, has filed a bill that will legislate safety standards for double or twin trailer use on North Carolina highways. Senator Daniels, who opposed the use of twin trailers on North Carolina's single lane roads in prior legislative attempts, stated that this new legislation would fully comply with the new federal law allowing double or twin trailers on many of North Carolina's highways. The

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The Local School's Dropout Prevention Approach Featured

By Walter Noneman

The Edenton-Chowan Schools "Dropout Prevention Approach" was featured at the Governor's Eastern North Carolina Conference on School Dropouts held on Tuesday, March 8, 1983 at the Mendenhall Student Center of East Carolina University, Greenville, N.C.

Governor James B. Hunt Jr. said "I am proud of our state's efforts to decrease the number of students that drop out of our public schools before graduating from high school. The numbers have been reduced significantly in the last five years; but the fact remains, that almost 25,000 of our young people dropped out of high school last year.

The effect that dropping out has on their personal lives and to the economic health of our state is immeasurable. In a time when technological skills are becoming more important to every citizen, it is imperative that we continue to focus our efforts on making public education appropriate to individual and community needs and keeping students in school."

The Model Program Description was presented by John B. Dunn, Superintendent; James R. Boyce, Principal of John A. Holmes High School; and Clara M. Boswell, Principal, Edenton-Chowan Alternative School. Our local school system was invited to make this presentation because of its dramatic performance in the area of dropout prevention. A brief description of Edenton-Chowan Schools' approach follows:

A dramatic decrease in the number and percentage of school leavers has occurred during the last twelve years. The school system's approach involves goals setting and commitment on the part of the Board of Education toward greater expectations of performance. The focus of the Edenton-Chowan School System's approach to dropout prevention recognizes the importance of developing the full potential of each

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TOWN CELEBRATES ARBOR DAY — The Town of Edenton planted a live oak across from the Barker House. Pictured here is Mayor Roy Harrell; Sam Noble, Town Administrator; and Dr. Dee Flannery, acting Chairman of the Town's Tree Committee.



CONTRIBUTIONS CONTINUE—Contributions to the Heart Fund are still being accepted, John Bohn of the American Legion gives the Legion's gift of \$200 to Evelyn Keeter, Heart Fund Treasurer.