

In these columns will be found a fair presentation of local and county news of general interest.

# THE CHOWAN HERALD

A HOME NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF CHOWAN COUNTY

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## Edenton Now Assured New Armory Building

### One of 12 Municipalities Out of Forty-three To Be Favored

#### AT HICKS FIELD

### Town Will Furnish Cost Of Skilled Labor on Project

Efforts under way since last summer for a new national guard armory here to be erected by the federal government and under its supervision, bore fruit last Saturday afternoon when word was received from WPA headquarters in Raleigh that Edenton had been selected as one of the 12 North Carolina municipalities to be favored. Since then E. S. Askew and W. R. Wyatt, WPA chieftains for this district located in Elizabeth City, have been here, have approved the proposed site on the North Broad Street front of the old fairgrounds, and announced that plans would be started at once to make the armory a place of reality in the near future.

The new building will cost in the neighborhood of \$25,000, something like \$24,100 to be exact, of which amount Edenton and the State National Guard will guarantee \$8,000 in skilled labor.

The tentative plan is that the Elizabeth City office will requisition the district employment office at Edenton for the number of workmen, both skilled and unskilled, and they will assemble the labor. Skilled labor will be paid by the town, amounting to approximately \$8,000, of which the local ambulance unit has agreed to supply \$1,000. A committee of three representing capital, labor and industry, will be appointed to ascertain and determine the prevailing wage scale now being paid in Edenton for the various classes of skilled labor, which scale will be paid to workers on this job.

In its selection for an armory Edenton was signally honored. Forty-three municipalities put in applications for similar buildings but a curtailment of revenue recently made it impossible for the State WPA to provide for more than 12 armories. It was not thought Edenton would be included in the 12 owing to its small size, but pressure was brought on the ground that if a new armory was not allotted for Edenton its National Guard unit might have to disband as its present home had been declared unsafe for occupancy. Recent complaint by two grand juries to this effect proved helpful in bringing about the satisfactory result.

The new armory will house the 115th Ambulance Company marshalled by Major M. P. Whichard and will be the only armory in the entire Albemarle section. It will be suitably commodious so that its drill floor may be turned over for indoor recreational events, like boxing and wrestling matches, dancing and high school athletics. It will take the place of a town auditorium, also, for public meetings.

Architect's plans are now being drawn in Raleigh by Linthicum and Linthicum, a copy of which will be sent Mayor Spiers when completed, and it is expected work on the building will be begun within a few weeks.

Major M. P. Whichard and Mayor Spiers have been quietly working on the armory project, with the splendid cooperation of Messrs. Askew and Wyatt, and Adjutant General Van B. Metts, but both local men hesitated to release any information until the project was definitely secured.

Late Wednesday afternoon the E. & W. Department transferred \$6,603 from its fund to the general fund, together with the \$1,000 furnished by the National Guard, will take care of the skilled labor cost.

### Special Meeting Of Red Men Monday

Cards are being mailed to all members of Chowan Tribe, No. 12, Improved Order of Red Men, who are in good standing, announcing a special meeting for Monday night, when the Tribe will vote on two amendments to the new set of by-laws recently adopted by the Tribe.

These two amendments deal with the salaries paid the lodge officers and the sick benefits paid by the Tribe. The change in by-laws has been reason for much comment pro and con, and a full attendance is expected Monday night when the proposition will be either rejected or approved.

### Commissioners Name Hobbs Tax Supervisor

Fermor W. Hobbs was appointed as Chowan County tax supervisor by the County Commissioners at their meeting on Monday. Mr. Hobbs replaces W. S. Privott, whose death caused the vacancy. The tax supervisor is appointed for one year at a salary of \$75 per month for four months.

Mr. Hobbs was selected from a list of six candidates considered by the Commissioners.

The Commissioners also voted to pay the list taken of the First Township \$100, \$60 for the Second Township, and \$50 each for the Third and Fourth Townships.

### 170 CHILDREN NOW OUT OF SCHOOL ON ACCOUNT SICKNESS

#### Thought Unnecessary to Close School Due to Many Cases of Influenza and Colds

Multiple illness among the pupils of the Edenton school, largely traceable to influenza and other colds, resulted in a conference this week as to the advisability of closing the school until the mild epidemic had worn itself out. County Health Officer J. A. Powell and Thomas Cheers, chairman of the city school board, went over the situation thoroughly and decided there was no occasion at the present time to do anything. Both officials felt that conditions were much less grave than last year and that they would soon wear themselves out with no more serious consequence.

More than 170 pupils have been reported on the sick list this week, most of them being down with attacks of the "flu" so rampant in this County and throughout the whole Albemarle section. Superintendent John A. Holmes was knocked out himself ten days ago and has been confined since to the house. His two children have been ill with the same complaint at the same time. He was reported as somewhat improved yesterday and expected to be able to be out again today.

### R. F. Tuttle Assists In Making Tax Returns

R. F. Tuttle, deputy commissioner for the second district, will be in his office at his home, 105 West Queen Street, on March 14 and 16 for the purpose of assisting taxpayers in filing their State income tax returns. Mr. Tuttle is required to be in Edenton only two days and those desiring his services should see him as early as possible.

Those required to file a return are all unmarried persons or a married woman who had an income of at least \$1000 during 1935 and married men who received as much as \$2000 during 1935.

The return must be made on or before March 16 under a penalty for failure to do so.

### Governor Unable To Be Banquet Speaker

A definite date for the annual banquet of Unanimity Lodge is still in doubt due to the fact that at this time Governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus, who was invited to be the special speaker, is unable to say just when he could come to Edenton.

In a letter to E. W. Spiers the Governor said that due to the press of business and the present uncertainty of the tobacco situation, he could not give any definite time when he could come. The lodgemen had arranged to hold their banquet on a night convenient to the Governor. The matter will be discussed at tonight's Masonic meeting.

### Mrs. Caleb Goodwin Is Very Ill At Morganton

Friends in Edenton will regret to learn that Mrs. Caleb Goodwin is seriously ill at her home in Morganton. Her mother, Mrs. S. A. White, and Mrs. A. W. Hefren, of Hertford, left by bus Tuesday morning to be at the bedside of Mrs. Goodwin.

Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin, former Edenton residents, several months ago moved to Asheville, but later moved to Morganton.

## TAYLOR THEATRE STAGES AMATEUR NIGHT ON FRIDAY

### Five Acts Scheduled On First of Series of Programs

#### \$10 PRIZE GIVEN

### Acts Include Singing, Dancing and Musical Numbers

All arrangements have been completed for the first of a series of amateur nights to be held each Friday night at the Taylor Theatre. This first amateur night will be held Friday, taking place between the two shows, at 8:45 o'clock.

Manager Jimmy Earnhardt has arranged for five numbers on the first of these programs, and feels certain this part of the program alone will be worth the price of admission to the entire show. In conjunction with the amateurs, he has booked one of the best pictures of the year, starring George Burns and Gracie Allen in "Here Comes Cookie!" These two popular radio and screen stars will also no doubt draw a large crowd and the theatre management anticipates a crowded house.

A \$10 cash prize will be awarded to the winning amateur team, with a week's pass to the theatre given to those who appear on amateur night programs, but who do not win a prize. Mr. Earnhardt has a long list of applicants to appear on the stage, but will still sign up any who are interested in competing.

The amateurs making their appearance Friday night include the following: Miss Messick, of Washington, N. C., who will give a tap dance and song act.

Miss Ruth Vail, of Edenton, will appear in an accordion and harmonica-dancing act.

Bill Cozart, who has made a very creditable showing in a number of home talent entertainments, will appear on the program as a singer, being accompanied at the piano by his sister, Miss Orphia Cozart.

John Presley, Wilborne Harrell and Myrtle Presley will have a part in the program, the three being scheduled to render a number of Hawaiian selections.

Bertie County will also be represented on the program with Stevenson White's three-piece string band of Merry Hill, completing the first set of amateurs scheduled to appear. Manager Earhardt plans to continue the amateur night idea as long as the talent will permit.

### Good Attendance At District Medical Meet

Infant mortality and surgical obstructions were the principal subjects under discussion at the winter-spring meeting of the First District Medical Society in the Hotel Joseph Hewes last Thursday night, when an unusually large attendance was on hand. Dr. Frank Garris, of Lewiston, county health officer for Bertie, made an address on the former subject, and Dr. Cola Castello, of Windsor, spoke on the latter.

Dr. P. H. Ringer, of Asheville, and Dr. L. B. McBrayer, of Southern Pines, president and secretary, respectively of the North Carolina State Medical Society, who have been attending similar district meetings throughout the State, also addressed the gathering.

Dr. J. A. Powell is district president, while Dr. L. P. Williams is district secretary. The summer meeting of the Society will be held at Elizabeth City, but no definite date has been set for this at present.

### Signs Of Spring Finally Putting In Appearance

Whether spring has come or not, the fact remains a couple of its harbingers have made their appearance in town. The fine large Lady Banksia rose bushes on the south side of the Cupola House were noticed in bloom yesterday, and a bunch of wild arbutus adorned a restaurant table on Tuesday. The last named flower, usually the first spring flora culture in this section, has been hindered in its advance by the vicious winter weather this season but managed to make itself apparent early this week.

### SUNBEAMS MEET AT CHURCH

The Sunbeams will have their regular meeting at the Baptist Church Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. All children from three to nine years old are cordially invited to attend.

## School Situation In Chowan Puzzles County Commissioners

### Watermelon Growers Meet In Edenton On March 13th

Watermelon growers of Chowan County will have an opportunity to hear a tentative revised watermelon marketing agreement discussed when a meeting is scheduled to be held in the Chowan Court House on Friday, March 13, at 2:30 P. M. Eight similar meetings will be held in the watermelon growing sections of North Carolina during the early part of March through which it is hoped growers will sign the agreement which is intended to regulate the shipment of melons in the two Carolinas, Georgia and Florida.

This agreement was made last year, it will be remembered, when a number of Chowan farmers disregarded its provisions and were subsequently called upon to face Federal investigators.

### WILLIAM PRIVOTT SPECIAL SPEAKER AT ROTARY TODAY

#### N. K. Rowell Enlightened Rotarians On Agricultural Situation Last Thursday

Rev. C. A. Ashby will be in charge of the Rotary program today at the weekly luncheon of the Edenton Rotary Club. As a special feature of the program Mr. Ashby has secured William S. Privott, County prosecutor, to speak to the Rotarians on "The State of the Nation and His Own Job."

N. K. Rowell, Chowan County Agent, was the principal speaker last Thursday and very clearly rehearsed farm conditions in the country as a whole, but more particularly in Chowan County. He displayed a number of authentic charts by which he explained the acreage and production in the County, showing figures whereby farmers were greatly benefited by the decreased acreage under the AAA plan.

He likewise showed by figures that in 1910 agriculture contributed 18 per cent of the national wealth which had reached its lowest point during 1931-32 and since had gradually risen until it had climbed up to about 10 per cent in 1934. Following the information received from the charts, Mr. Rowell said it was very imperative that farmers to maintain their rightful place must study their problems, keep up with changes and make adjustments in keeping with the times.

Mr. Rowell, in beginning his speech, said he was thoroughly convinced that agriculture is the biggest subject on the face of the earth, explaining how practically every industry is either directly or indirectly dependent upon agriculture.

The Rotarians were very much interested in Mr. Rowell's talk, during which he brought out many facts which are not generally known by the average business man.

### New Athletic Club Formed In Edenton

A new organization is now in the course of formation in Edenton and will be known as the Albemarle Athletic Club, with headquarters over Ed Habit's dry cleaning plant. The principal feature of this new club will be the sponsoring of dances, boxing and wrestling matches.

The upper floor of the Ed Habit building has been thoroughly remodeled and those most vitally interested in the club are hopeful that a large number will join. The first function of the club will be a dance, which will be held next Tuesday night, beginning at 9 o'clock. Music will be furnished by Kenneth Floors and his orchestra.

A meeting has been called for Thursday night, March 12, for the purpose of perfecting the organization, at which time officers will be elected. Anyone interested in joining the club is urged to attend this meeting or get in touch with Joe Habit.

Once each month the Club will sponsor a dance, boxing or wrestling match, which most likely will draw a good attendance.

### FISH MARKET

(By Courtesy of G. W. Moger & Co., Baltimore, Md.)  
March 4  
Roe Shad sold .....37c  
Buc' Shad sold .....22c

### Plans Presented For New Building at Cross Roads

#### MUCH INTEREST

### Joint Meeting Called For Next Monday at 2 O'clock

The Chowan County Commissioners are now faced with the most paramount and still no doubt, the most vexing problem ever to come before the present Board. The school situation presented itself at the meeting Monday morning, which later resulted in a joint meeting of the Commissioners and the County Board of Education relative to the erection of a new school to replace the Chowan High School which was destroyed by fire several weeks ago.

The Board of Education, through Frank Benton, Wilson architect, presented two drawings of school buildings either of which would be satisfactory to the Board of Education. The first of these buildings costing \$140,000 is a magnificent two-story brick plant equipped with a total of 23 rooms, including 16 classrooms and quarters for other phases of school work. It provides for an auditorium seating 730 as well as a gymnasium.

The second sketch presented a building of 16 class rooms and other rooms used for school work, which could be transformed into class rooms if the occasion demanded. It also provided for an auditorium seating 610 as well as a gymnasium. Both buildings could be built of either fire-proof or semi-fireproof construction.

Members of both Boards discussed at length the needs and merits of the buildings, but the Commissioners were of the opinion that the first plan submitted was absolutely out of the question. The cost of the other building is \$106,000, but after some eliminations it is thought this plan could be erected at a cost of approximately \$100,000.

Cognizant of the fact that the Edenton school is in a bad state of repair, and over-crowded, and that Edenton school officials will present a claim for a new building or repairs or possibly both, it was finally decided to call a joint meeting of the County Board of Education, County Commissioners, and the Edenton School Board for Monday, March 9, at 2 P. M., at which time the school needs will be ironed out and steps taken to relieve the situation as far as possible.

The Commissioners are fully acquainted with the absolute need for something to be done immediately, but the cost of the undertaking is the cause of much worry, for without any doubt the tax rate will be boosted materially to take care of the situation.

The upper county people are anxious to have a creditable plant, and it has been suggested that when a new one is built it be placed on the opposite side of the road from the old site farther north, on higher ground.

Just what the city board will request isn't known, but will in all probability be a much more expensive school than the one sought for Cross Roads.

Some little difficulty developed regarding the insurance on the burned building. It was hoped to pay the \$5,000 indebtedness remaining out of the insurance, but it developed that if this was done the County could be forced to pay the indebtedness of the Edenton school district, which is in the neighborhood of \$50,000.

According to Superintendent W. J. Taylor about the only thing that can be salvaged from the fire would (Continued on Page Five)

### Strange Car Chased From Freight Depot

What evidently was a second attempt to burglarize the Norfolk Southern freight station was again frustrated last Friday night when a high-powered car was seen to drive up to the warehouse. Night Patrolman Boyce happened along about the same time but the strange car quickly out ran the police car, making a getaway.

Boyce is of the opinion it is the same car which was pursued about a week ago when the office door was broken open. The car, going too fast to turn into Court Street, continued on to Broad Street, where it rapidly gained on the police car, traveling north on Broad.

### County Wants Taxes Paid On All Dogs

That the County is due to receive more money in dog taxes has been discussed by the County Commissioners and as a result efforts will be made to the end that all owners of dogs will have to pay this tax. In order to check up on the number of dogs in the county, Sheriff Bunch has alphabetically arranged all dog owners who during the summer had their animals vaccinated and force will be brought to bear to have all dogs listed and the proper tax paid.

### COURT HOUSE TO BE LOCKED NIGHTS IN NEAR FUTURE

#### County Commissioners See Necessity of Safeguarding Historic Building Against Damage and Fire

That the Chowan County Court House will be locked at night most likely will very soon become a reality. The matter of allowing the old historic building to remain open at all hours was discussed among the County Commissioners on Monday when C. G. Conger appeared before the Board endeavoring to sell automatic fire extinguishers for the valuable old Court House.

The cost of this equipment, excluding the Masonic lodge hall, would be about \$300, the Commissioners deciding to think the matter over until the next meeting.

D. M. Warren, chairman of the Board, is of the opinion that the door should be locked at night when not being used and has asked that the Masonic Lodge discuss the matter so that the front door can be locked and the keys given only to R. D. Dixon, clerk of court, M. L. Bunch, register of deeds, whose offices are in the building and a representative of Unanimity Lodge.

Heretofore the building has been always open and on many occasions has been used by boys and even drunks who very easily could either mar the building or even set it on fire.

### Demonstration Clubs Plan Summer Tour

Right much interest was apparent at the meeting of Chowan County club women with Miss Rebecca Colwell, home agent, on Friday to discuss a tour to Washington, D. C. Sixteen were present and it is thought enough will sign up to make the tour possible.

The tour, lasting two days, will be held the third week in April and will be conducted by Paul Ricks of the Teachers College at Greenville. The bus will hold only twenty and the first ones to sign up will be taken on the tour. Letters will be sent to the various club presidents in order to secure the quota for the trip. In event over 20 desire to go the number will have to be boosted to 40 in order to secure a second bus.

### LEGION MEETING CALLED OFF

Due to the illness of John A. Holmes, commander, the regular meeting of Ed Bond Post, scheduled for Tuesday night, was postponed. No date has been set for a meeting to take the place of the one missed.