

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

This newspaper is circulated in the territory where Advertisers will realize good results.

Volume III.—Number 32.

Edenton, Chowan County, North Carolina, Thursday, August 6, 1936.

\$1.25 Per Year

Increased Budget Causes Boost Of Tax Rate To \$1.19

County Called Upon to Spend \$10,000 Over Last Year

BUDGET \$80,000

Commissioners Cut to Bone to Hold Down New Rate

The Chowan County Commissioners at their regular meeting Monday morning approved the County tax rate for 1936 taxes, fixing the levy at \$1.19 per \$100 to raise a budget expenditure of \$80,000. The budget calls for approximately \$10,000 more than last year, when the tax rate was \$1.06. The increase is due to a large appropriation for three items of expense, \$2,000 more for charity and health, \$3,000 for schools and \$5,000 for bonds. The levy was made on a property valuation of \$6,750,000.

The \$1.19 rate is thus made up:

General County	-----	\$.15
Charity	-----	.10
Health	-----	.08
Bonds	-----	.69
Schools	-----	.17
Total	-----	\$1.19

The school levy this year will be on a county-wide basis, the County taking over the indebtedness of both the Edenton and Chowan school districts, totaling \$55,000, the increased rate, therefore, having little effect on the total amount of taxes paid in these two districts. It will, however, raise taxes in that portion of the County not included in special school districts which heretofore escaped the tax on school indebtedness.

The Commissioners did not hastily arrive at the new tax rate, but scrutinized each individual item in the budget and did what twisting and eliminating of figures they could to arrive at as low a rate as possible to transact the County's business during the year. Various calls have been made upon them for outlay of County funds, some of which they would have liked to accept, but after careful consideration they put thumbs down on everything except what they deemed was absolutely necessary in order to hold down taxes, which are hard to collect even at the lower rate.

To date Sheriff Bunch reports \$48,387.76 collected from a total of approximately \$76,000 on the tax books.

New Storm Sewer Being Laid In North Edenton

Laying of a storm sewer in North Edenton was begun Monday morning, the project being approved at the last meeting of Town Council. The work started at Park Avenue and pipe will be laid on Johnson Street to Third Street. The project calls for the employment of 32 men, with 20 of this number starting work the first day.

The construction of the sewer is under the supervision of J. H. Wroten, city sewerage foreman, with W. M. Williams acting as labor foreman. It is estimated that the project will take three months to complete, involving an expenditure of \$3,925, of which the Federal Government will pay \$2,295 and the Town's share is \$1,630. The Town, however, expects to share its part of the expense to about \$1500.

Chief Of Police Helms On 10 Days' Vacation

Chief of Police George A. Helms started this morning on a 10 days' vacation, which will be spent in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Helms and their son, Parker, left for Willis, Virginia, where they will visit relatives.

During Mr. Helms' absence the police duties will be handled by Robert L. Pratt and Carroll Boyce, who will be assisted by Wayland Moore as extra policeman.

Legionnaires Hear Convention Report

Despite the extremely hot weather, a goodly number of Legionnaires attended the regular meeting of Ed Bond Post held on Tuesday night. The principal item of business was an interesting report of the State Convention held at Asheville which was made by Robert Pratt and Shelton Moore.

NO IMPROVEMENT SEEN IN CHOWAN MELON CARGOES

Not a Single Load Has Left Harbor During Past Week

NO BOATS HERE

Estimated Only Half of Crop In County Has Been Harvested

Though it is calculated that just about half the Chowan County watermelon crop has been shipped, loading of the crop at the County Dock has been at a complete standstill during the past week. Not a single boat has left since last week's issue of The Herald when the total boats leaving was eleven. Of this number not a single boatload was completely inspected, though some growers had a portion of the load inspected.

R. L. Peck, inspector, is still in Edenton, and is at the service of growers who want the inspection service, but very few of the growers appear to want the service.

Just what is holding up the shipment of melons is not certain, the opinion being that a major portion of the crop has been taken to the markets on trucks without being inspected, and also that the cold weather of last week materially affected the ripening of melons and that many more will soon be shipped.

A shroud of mystery surrounds the outcome of growers who have refused to have watermelons inspected. This newspaper was unable to learn what or if any action will be taken for bolting the watermelon agreement which was signed by a majority of watermelon growers in Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina. According to the agreement any action taken will be directly through the Secretary of Agriculture.

According to information, the Chowan crop is far below normal, which was the case also in the watermelon belts further south.

Baptist Services Called Off After Sunday Night Remainder Of August

The evening service next Sunday night at the Baptist Church will be the last night service during the month of August. This announcement was made by Rev. E. L. Wells, the pastor, at the close of the service Sunday night, saying it would enable members of the congregation to have a vacation from attending church at night during the hot weather.

Rev. George W. Blount, pastor of the Methodist Church, before leaving on a two weeks' vacation, expressed his opinion that he would also call off his night services during the remainder of August.

Patrolman Dail On Two Weeks' Vacation

State Patrolman George Dail, Mrs. Dail, Miss Agnes Chappell and Mrs. Wallace Jones left Sunday morning for a two weeks' northern trip through the Shenandoah Valley. While on their trip they will visit the Luray Caverns and New York City, but expect to spend the greater portion of the time at Atlantic City.

Firemen Receive Pay At Meeting Tonight

R. K. Hall, fire chief, has announced that a meeting of the Fire Department will be held tonight (Thursday) at 8 o'clock. The firemen will be paid at this meeting and all are urged to attend.

Only One Service At M. E. Church Sunday

Due to Rev. George W. Blount, pastor of the Methodist Church, being on his vacation, no night service will be held Sunday. The morning service will, however, be held with Rev. Mr. Ritchie, Duke University student, doing the preaching.

PICNIC RAINED OUT

The annual Masonic picnic scheduled to take place at Tuscarora Beach last Thursday was rained out. It was the hope of the picnic association officials to draw a large crowd and turn over a substantial sum to the orphanage. Rain continued all day, however, resulting in no picnic at all.

County Commissioners Approve \$90,000 Bond Issue To Build And Repair Schools

Legion Auxiliary Wins Citations At State Meet

The following members of the Auxiliary have returned from Asheville, where they attended the American Legion State Convention. Delegates: Mrs. W. E. Baker, president of the local unit; Mrs. Edna White, and Miss Nannie Ward; alternates: Mrs. Shelton Moore, Mrs. C. Y. Parrish and Mrs. D. M. Reeves. Mrs. Howard Jackson was a visitor from the local unit, and Mrs. Duffy Sawyer and Miss Bernice Williams were non-member visitors.

The delegates were honored in receiving three citations: one National and one State citation for membership, and one State citation for filling all obligations, placing the unit on the honor roll.

Mrs. Jesse White was president of the Auxiliary for the past year, and Mrs. Shelton Moore was chairman of the membership committee. The Edenton Auxiliary received special mention in the meeting for the work that had been accomplished during the past year.

Over 400 women attended the Convention and found it to be very interesting. The membership of the State Auxiliary is 5,027.

Commissioners Delay Action On Two Items

W. J. Taylor, County Welfare Officer, brought to the attention of the County Commissioners Monday that in order for Chowan County to have a certifying agent to enable relief workers to secure jobs on various projects it would be necessary to appropriate \$32.50 per month as the County's part of the salary.

Mrs. J. H. McMullan had been serving in this capacity until the first of July, when the Federal government made it necessary for the counties to share in the expense. It would be necessary for Mrs. McMullan to serve as only part time, but the Commissioners tabled the matter until their next meeting.

The appropriation of \$137.50 as the County's share in maintaining the district office of the North Carolina Employment Service was likewise held over for consideration at the next meeting by the Commissioners.

TYRRELL CITIZENS WANT NEW ROADS

Large Delegation Confer With Commissioner Julien Wood Wednesday Morning

A delegation of Tyrrell County citizens that just about filled the Chowan Court House appeared in Edenton Wednesday morning to confer with Julien Wood, member of the State Highway Commission, in behalf of new roads for their county. There were over 75 in the group with R. H. Bachman acting as spokesman.

The Tyrrell County folks want about 26 miles of improved roads or at least made passable during the coming winter. It was brought out that the county was absolutely defeated in both school and marketing efforts due to roads that not even a horse can travel over.

Two roads were urged, both leading from Columbia to Fort Landing and Gum Neck aggregating approximately 26 miles.

Mr. Wood informed the delegation that \$100,000 had been set aside for Tyrrell roads, but that he was hopeful of securing an additional \$50,000, this amount, however, being insufficient to permanently improve both roads. He asked for opinions as to how the delegates thought would be the best way to spend the money and do the most good; the consensus of opinion being that half the amount be spent on each road to insure passage over them.

Mr. Wood told the committee that he realized the pathetic situation in Tyrrell and that he was anxious to remedy the situation, but there is only a certain amount of money available with which to do it.

Another delegation will undoubtedly appear before the Highway Commission when they meet the latter part of next week.

COMMISSIONERS MEET AT COUNTY HOME AUGUST 24

The Chowan County Commissioners will meet at the County Home on Thursday, August 27, at 10 A. M. This is the usual meeting for the Commissioners to check up and inspect conditions at the Home.

NEGRO FARMERS DESIRE SERVICES OF FARM AGENT

Willing to Raise Cost Among Themselves; Would Serve Chowan and Perquimans Counties

Rev. S. N. Griffith appeared before the County Commissioners Monday morning in behalf of colored farmers of the County in an effort to secure a home agent whose time would be equally divided between Chowan and Perquimans counties. He explained that farmers of his race were anxious to have this service and that part of the cost would be paid by the State and part by the Commissioners of the two counties.

The Commissioners, however, in the face of a boosted tax rate felt reluctant to add the extra expense to the county inasmuch as N. K. Rowell, Chowan's home agent, has charge of the entire county and devotes his time to the problems of colored as well as white farmers.

The Commissioners are aware of the fact that more work has been placed on Mr. Rowell than he can handle, but were of the opinion that both white and colored farmers would have to be content with the service he can render under the circumstances.

The colored folks, according to Griffith, are so anxious to have a home agent that they are willing to raise the cost of the venture among themselves, but would have to have a resolution passed by the County Commissioners endorsing the employment of a man. This the Commissioners agreed to do providing they would not be called upon for an outlay of money.

List Jurors Drawn For September Term Court

The September term of Superior Court for Chowan County will convene on Monday, September 14, with Judge J. Paul Frizzelle, of Snow Hill, scheduled to preside.

The County Commissioners at their meeting Monday morning drew the following list to serve as jurors during the term of court: Roy Parks, F. G. Rountree, John R. Asbell, M. W. Jackson, McCoy Spivey, A. W. Bunch, R. A. Chappell, Wilbur Hollowell, E. B. Williams, W. H. Dail, James Davenport, R. A. Beasley, George C. Wood, E. J. Bunch, N. E. Hollowell, Edgar Pierce, Earl Davenport, E. B. Boyce, Elliott Belch, O. E. Duncan, J. N. Smith, T. J. Jordan, A. S. Smith, Russell Byrum, L. A. Bunch, J. V. Lane, C. C. Nixon, W. C. Bunch, C. H. Barber, Albert Bunch, Glenn Bunch, F. O. Muth, T. S. Leary, J. W. Overton, Herbert Jordan and J. H. Hasket.

Baptists Meet In Hertford Sunday

According to George W. Lassiter, associational chairman, on Sunday afternoon at three o'clock in the Hertford Baptist Church, there will be held the monthly meeting of the Chowan Sunday School Convention and with it the Executive Promotion Committee of the Chowan Association, which consists of all the pastors, and one layman appointed from each church.

The speakers will be mostly for the Sunday School work, but one will direct and explain the promotion stewardship revival for the association.

Every member of the committee, and one representative from each Sunday School is urged to attend.

Baseball Game In Edenton Sunday

Baseball fans will have an opportunity to witness a game of baseball Sunday afternoon when the Edenton Club will be host to the Perrytown team in a Bertie-Chowan League game. A large crowd was on hand last Sunday to see Edenton down the Westhaven club of Norfolk 4 to 1 and another large crowd is expected Sunday.

The local team played in Perrytown Wednesday afternoon, while the schedule calls for Windsor here today with a return game in Windsor Friday.

NEW SIGN AT QUINN'S

The latest improvement to the business section of Edenton is an attractive neon Philco radio sign in front of the Quinn Furniture Company. The sign was put up the latter part of last week.

Agree on \$66,000 For New Building at Cross Roads

MEET AUGUST 18

New Auditorium and Repairs Will Be Made At Edenton Plant

After six months of worry, study, correspondence, traveling, and arguing the County Commissioners on Monday took definite steps toward the erection of a new school building to replace the one burned at Cross Roads and to make necessary repairs and additions to the Edenton school. The long delay has been caused by the expectancy of receiving Federal aid in replacing the burned school and it was only as last hopes apparently faded that the Commissioners decided to assume the total indebtedness to meet the school needs.

Up until this week hope was held that the County would receive a grant through the PWA to build a new school, but chances appeared slim, indeed, following receipt of letters by Representative Lindsey Warren and Dr. H. G. Baity, State director of the PWA, as well as newspaper reports that President Roosevelt intended to be "hard-boiled" regarding the employment of relief work on PWA projects.

Mr. Warren's letter gave Chowan a slim chance to receive help due to the large number of projects submitted in comparison to North Carolina's allotment of funds. He must have, however, been referring to the original application made by the County which had since been reduced, and since which the County's financial status has improved.

Dr. Baity's letter also held no ray of hope in that he made it clear that skilled labor for projects must be furnished in the county where the work is done. Chowan, on the other hand, has none of this labor available which by assumption is to the effect that it is not eligible for the grant.

The Commissioners met with school representatives in an afternoon session, when all concerned seriously went over the matter of school requirements, finally resulting in the Commissioners approving a bond issue of \$90,000 to build a new school at Cross Roads and make necessary repairs to the Edenton plant. Of this amount \$49,000 will go for the new school at Cross Roads to which will be added the \$17,000 insurance money on the old building, making a total of \$66,000. The remaining \$41,000 will go toward improving the Edenton school, which includes a new roof, new heating plant, toilet facilities on the second floor and a new auditorium.

The amount seemed too small to both the county and city units, but wearied with meeting after meeting and no headway being made, and realizing the expense to which the county will be put all apparently were satisfied and relieved at the action taken by the Commissioners, by which the school situation will be greatly relieved.

Thomas Cheers, chairman of the Edenton School Board, protested at the amount awarded for the Edenton school, saying it was not sufficient to make only absolutely necessary repairs. He did, however, thank the Commissioners for what they had decided upon in that it would at least enable some improvements to be made.

Likewise the County unit doubted if they could put up a building of the type specified by the Commissioners for the amount given them. Contracts had been received for the erection of a school, but most of these have been withdrawn due to increase in the price materials.

At any rate school officials and school patrons as well appear happy over the prospect of work soon being started on the building.

The school proposition took precedence over other matters coming before the Commissioners and after the Board of Education passed a resolution authorizing the expenditure of the respective amounts, the County Commissioners approved the bond issue.

The Commissioners adjourned to reconvene on Tuesday, August 18, when any taxpayer may register his or her protest to the issuance of the bonds, which will be on a County-wide basis.