

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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SPECIAL SESSION SUPERIOR COURT IS QUICKLY OVER

But Two Actions Docketed and Defendants Lose In Each
ENDS YESTERDAY

Two Divorces Granted And Two Motions Are Denied

With Judge J. Paul Frizzelle presiding the special December term of Superior Court got under way here on Monday and wound up yesterday. No criminal cases were docketed, these being put off until the March term, the special session being devoted to only two or three civil matters and the usual action on applications for divorce.

The first case up on Monday had to do with charges of alleged slander brought by Jerry and Earl Harrell and B. E. Chappell against their landlord farmer, Charles N. Griffin, of Edenton. The mix up centered about the distribution of peanut hay crop on the Griffin farms, and the complaints set forth that Mr. Griffin accused them of an unequal division of the hay, alleging "I'll get them in a tight yet for they stole it."

The three suits were for \$2,500 each and were joined for trial in one action, all day Monday being taken up with empaneling a jury that seemed satisfactory to the plaintiffs. Fifty-four jurors in all were called and excused or accepted before the venire was completed.

Once the jury box had been filled counsel for both sides got together in side room conferences and a settlement was reached in the case of the Harrells whereby the defendant disclaimed all intention of disparaging the conduct of the plaintiffs and agreed to pay them \$100 each. Chappell refused to settle, however, assuming a pugnacious attitude and going to trial. His troubles were quickly disposed of, the court, after reprimanding him sharply for his conduct on the stand, directing the jury to throw the action out, and return a verdict of no cause of action, which was done.

On Tuesday another double-barreled action was started in which Godfrey Chappell, mid-county white man, and Van Buren Holley, Negro, were plaintiff and defendant. Two trucks driven by Chappell's sons, Carson and Curtis, were smashed into on the Suffolk highway near Ballard's Bridge Swamp on August 29, 1934, and were damaged so that Chappell sued for \$1,000.

Holley, who was driving north a light car that is alleged to have caused the accident, and who lost his left arm as a result of the mishap, countersued with a claim for \$5,000 damages. The jury returned a \$300 verdict in favor of Chappell, and dismissed Holley's claims.

The case attracted much attention and brought a score or more Cross Roads residents into court as witnesses or auditors.

Before court adjourned for the term Judge Frizzelle entertained two motions, both more or less perfunctory, and ruled against each. One was a Pasquotank matter brought by Charles Aylett, et als, vs the Major Loomis Company having to do with the correction of a stock dividend. The other concerned exceptions to the report of Referee C. E. Thompson in the Perquimans County matter of the Growers Peanut Company vs E. J. Broughton and W. E. White, and had to do with the storage of 113,528 pounds of peanuts in 1929 with the Monarch Refrigerator Company, of Chicago. The referee held there was still \$771.63 to be collected by the Illinois concern and counsel sought to have this amount reduced to \$556.50. The motion was refused and the opinion of the referee was fully sustained.

Two divorces were granted, one to Josephine McClenny from Guerny McClenny, and the other to Valand J. Copeland from Mozell Copeland. Both couples were married several years ago in Suffolk, Va., and the usual charge of separation and desertion was brought in each action.

COTTON GINNINGS

According to F. W. Hobbs, special agent for the Bureau of Census, Department of Commerce, there were 3,251 bales of cotton ginned in Chowan County from the crop of 1936 prior to December 1, as compared with 2,924 bales ginned to December 1, of the 1935 crop.

Special Notice To Our Correspondents

In order to allow those employed by The Herald to prepare and enjoy the Christmas holiday, next week's issue of The Herald will be printed Tuesday Night instead of Wednesday, thus allowing readers to receive their copy of the paper before Christmas.

In order to do this we especially ask the cooperation of our rural correspondents, and urge them to send their community news so that it will be received not later than Monday.

The Herald is fortunate in having a capable and loyal corps of correspondents and believes this news will appear as usual next week.

SHAD PROTESTS HEARD TONIGHT

Committee Will Meet With Fishermen at Court House

A meeting of vital importance to fishermen in this section will be held in Chowan County Court House tonight (Thursday) at 8 o'clock. At this time the shad committee of the State Board of Conservation and Development will be here to consider protests which have come up from commercial fishermen with respect to the shortening of the season for taking shad in 1937. This meeting has been called in order to eliminate the inconvenience of Albemarle fishermen traveling to Raleigh in great numbers when the Board meets in January.

Members of the Board are J. L. Howe, Jr., E. S. Askew and Jim McNair. Aside from these men, others expected to attend the meeting are R. Bruce Etheridge director of the State Department of Conservation and Development; Captain John A. Nelson, fisheries commissioner and U. S. Deputy Fish Commissioner Leach.

The meeting will no doubt be well attended by Albemarle fishermen, as the plan for shortening the shad season has been cause for no little concern among local fishermen.

A. S. Smith, president of the Albemarle Fishermen's Association, is hopeful that a 100 per cent attendance will be registered from the organization, and in an effort to have every one present has sent the following information to each member:

The "Fish Commissioners, who control the fishing industry of this section, will be here at the Court House Thursday night, December 17, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of adjusting the fishing dates. All fishermen are urgently requested to be present."

1937 Vestry Elected For St. Paul's Church

At a parish meeting held Monday night in St. Paul's Church the following vestry was elected to serve for 1937: E. R. Conger, D. M. Warren, Fred P. Wood, M. P. Whitchard, John W. Graham, J. H. Conger, J. A. Moore, William I. Hart, George C. Wood, Julien Wood, E. T. Rawlinson and George Hoskins.

Guild Members Sponsor Children's Hour Dec. 28

A children's hour, sponsored by St. Mary's Guild of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, will be held at the Taylor Theatre Monday, December 28, at 11 a. m. The picture secured for this program is Jane Withers in "Pepper." This popular young star will please the youngsters as well as older folks, who are invited to attend.

A special low price will be made for the occasion, members of the Guild selling tickets for the show.

Maybe Santa Will Bring Pair Of Shoes

That some of the county's poor will receive a pair of shoes for Christmas is assured. S. Hobowsky, through a contest conducted for prizes, early this week had a collection of over 1,000 pairs of old shoes taken in exchange for votes.

Mr. Hobowsky will go through the huge pile of shoes, which includes any kind imaginable, and salvage those which can be of still further service. He will turn over to W. J. Taylor, welfare officer, what shoes are saved, who in turn will distribute them to those in need of shoes. It is expected that at least 200 pairs can be salvaged.

LICENSE PLATES FOR 1937 START WITH LARGE SALE

Inquiry Cards to Help Highway Planning Survey

YELLOW-BLACK TAG

Local Office Busy as Early Callers Purchase Licenses

Mrs. Leon Leary, manager of the local branch of the Carolina Motor Club, reports that the first day's sale of automobile license plates by far exceeds any previous year's first day sale. The tags went on sale Tuesday, and automobile owners not only from Edenton and Chowan County, but from adjoining counties, are taking advantage of the local branch to secure license plates.

With every new 1937 license plate sold, the vehicle owner will receive an inquiry card with the request that this card be filled out and returned by mail. Over 500,000 of these cards have been printed and distributed to the 50 branch offices of the Carolina Motor Club, and the proper card will accompany each pair of the new North Carolina license plates.

The distribution of these cards represents but one phase of the State-wide highway planning survey now being initiated by the State Highway and Public Works Commission in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads. These planning surveys are federally financed and are being conducted in some 41 states at the present time, including the neighboring states of Virginia, Tennessee and South Carolina.

These inquiry cards ask a few questions which, it is believed, every well informed vehicle owner can answer without much trouble. The main points desired are the location of ownership of the vehicle, the make and year of the vehicle, the amount paid for license plates, the mileage travelled during the past 12 months, and the average mileage obtained per gallon of gasoline. Vehicle owners are not asked to give their names, nor their license numbers. These cards may be returned without postage to the Raleigh office of the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads.

The State-wide highway planning survey consists of a number of related studies which seek to establish several basis factors. With these factors, it will be possible to determine the present state of the whole rural highway system; to prepare the way for a logical selection of those parts which merit inclusion in future improvement plans, and to assemble the facts necessary to determine the ultimate cost of owning and maintaining the various parts of the rural road system. All of these determinations are directed to the end that a definite and economically advisable long range highway improvement program may be established.

In simpler terms, the survey consists simply of assembling facts about highway income, highway conditions, highway service and highway costs, thinking straight about the facts, and attempting to do the logical things which these facts indicate to be most advisable in the public interest. In the final analysis, this is only a sound business-like procedure in which the vehicle owner is vitally interested, because of the fact that he is paying the highway bill.

The success of this phase of the Survey depends largely upon the interest and cooperation of the general public. By filling out and returning these Government franked cards, all motor vehicle owners will be rendering a valuable service in helping our Commission to provide the most efficient class of highway and road facilities.

Health Worker Inspects Timber In Court House

Dr. Roy Norton of the State Board of Health, and Dr. F. H. Garis, of Windsor, were visitors in Edenton Tuesday afternoon. Dr. Norton, who has traveled quite extensively, was particularly interested in the timber in the old Chowan court house, making a general inspection on the second floor as well as in the roof of the building. The quality of the timber was especially commented upon, and surprise expressed that the valuable old building has had so little publicity nationally.

TRAFFIC PATROL BY SCHOOL BOYS NOW UNDER WAY

Red Caps and White Sam Brown Belts Add Splendor

FOUR ON DUTY

Motorists Warned to Obey Directions In Passing Corners

Edenton's school boy highway patrol is on duty at four street intersections, and, in the voiced viewpoint of Chief of Police Helms, "means business." The junior traffic officers, tutored and trained as they have been by the Chief and Corporal George Dail, got on the job on Monday and are quite nifty looking and upstanding in their crimson caps and white Sam Brown belts. They will be in service just before and after all school hours to safeguard youngsters going back and forth to their studies.

The new "boy cops" will be in charge of Melvin Layton, their senior as captain of the squad, and besides Layton are Josiah Elliott, Robert Chesson and A. J. Mason. Layton will look after traffic at the post office corner, Elliott at Queen and Broad Streets, Chesson at Court and Queen and young Mason at Court and Church.

The boys will not be empowered to make traffic arrests but will otherwise be given full police authority to report all violations and appear as witnesses in court against those so reported. They have been tutored by Helms and Dail, and by especial admonition of their principal, John A. Holmes, to be courteous to everyone and never argue.

Chief Helms and the others are confident the new patrol will be successful in every way, and that they will be a credit to the town and State. The plan was tried once before but failed because the very conditions which the present day squad have been warned against prevailed on the previous occasion.

"The boys will mean business," said the Chief in discussing their selection, "and some doubters may have to face the judge to find it out."

Postoffice Be Open Saturday Afternoon

Postmaster C. E. Kramer informed The Herald Tuesday that the Edenton postoffice will remain open Saturday afternoon for the accommodation of patrons who wish to mail articles for Christmas. Mails are much heavier and Mr. Kramer urges early mailing of Christmas packages.

The local office is anxious to render the best service possible and in this connection the postmaster says the best times of the day to mail parcels is during the morning up to 11 o'clock, and from 2 to 6 p. m. By using these hours the rush period is avoided on account of receipt and dispatch of noon-day mails.

If parcels are desired to be dispatched the same day it will be necessary to send them special handling or special delivery as the afternoon Norfolk to Wilson star route does not handle parcels by ordinary mail.

Mr. Kramer especially warns patrons to securely wrap packages and address plainly. Money or valuable matter should not be sent by ordinary mail, but should be sent by money order, registered or insured. Air mail is now available to all parts of the country and connecting air lines to foreign nations, rates for which may be learned at the postoffice.

Bank Will Be Closed Day After Christmas

Though nothing definite has been decided upon, there is some agitation regarding the closing of business houses in Edenton on Saturday after Christmas. It is the general opinion that there will be very little business on that day and if the plan goes into effect it would mean a three-day holiday for clerks as well as merchants.

The Bank of Edenton on Wednesday was the only place which had definitely decided to remain closed, but it is expected others will follow suit. Patrons of the bank are especially urged to remember the holiday and transact their banking business accordingly.

Wanna Help Make Old Folks Happy?

The Welfare Department of Chowan County is anxious to help spread Christmas cheer among the 50 or 60 old dependents in the County. In this connection, W. J. Taylor, welfare officer, will be glad to receive any donation in the way of money, food or clothing which will go to make up a Christmas package for each of these unfortunate folks.

A telephone call or postcard to Mr. Taylor is all that is necessary to help make Christmas Day possibly a bit more happy for those who no doubt in years gone by realized the joy in helping make someone else happy.

CHRISTMAS SEALS SHOW QUICK SALE

Splendid Response Being Made Is Report From Canvassers

Delay in getting the sale of Christmas tuberculosis seals under way has been overcome this week by the eager interest shown in the purchase of the stamps. Mrs. J. Augustus Moore, chairman of the campaign, and the vice chairman, Mrs. R. C. Holland, are both gratified by the progress made and expect Christmas eve, the closing time of the sale, to show returns substantially as great if not greater than in previous years.

Mrs. Holland explained yesterday that the campaigners were particularly gratified by the way Edenton has been responding to the belated appeals. Especial mention was made of the keen and active interest exhibited by the colored schools and churches here.

A large proportion of the returns from the stamp sales is retained for local usage in combating tuberculosis cases in Chowan, and that this need was an anxious one was evidenced by Mrs. Holland's statement that last year 936 quarts of milk was given out to undernourished sufferers who might without it succumb to the white plague. This year, she said, it was hoped to increase this milk allotment, and this fact could be assured if the stamp sales went "over the top" as hoped.

The 1936 seals are different than usual, conveying no tuberculosis slogan as in other years, but merely depicting old rosy-cheeked and stub-nosed Santa Claus with "Holiday Greetings" thereon. For that reason the stamps serve a double purpose and can be employed in Christmas package decorations.

SERVICES AT HOLY INNOCENTS

Services will be held at Holy Innocents Episcopal Church, Avoca, Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Edenton "Dressed Up" For Christmas

Edenton has surpassed previous years in making Christmas this season a decorative sight. The town has strung its usual quota of varicolored lights along Broad Street, and has added to this brightness by decorating the light standards at street corners with large pine branches and holly sprigs, which are lighted at night. At the water front end of the thoroughfare hangs the large night-sparkling Christmas star also adding greatly to the appearance of the decoration is the large cedar tree immediately back of the star, lighted up with red and green lights.

Many of the stores, as on previous occasions, have adorned their curb frontages, also, with decorated trees, and inside the different places Christmas shows in a hundred ways in addition to the bountiful display of Yuletide offerings being displayed. The town restaurants have been enlivened with red and green colors and at the Joseph Hewes Hotel the manager, W. R. Horton, has put himself out to give the lobby and coffee shop a Christmassy appearance. Mrs. Horton, who has aided her husband in this beautification, has put up little electrically lighted trees at different points and the place has been made to resemble what its lessee calls it "a home away from home."

Already private homes have their trees and other decorations at work, and up and down the main streets are noticed what promises to be a very lively competition for the most attractively decorated house frontage. Merry Christmas!

WPA SCHOOL AID APPEARS LIKELY POSSIBILITY NOW

Work Plans Approved And Encouragement By State Officials

ASK FOR \$68,000

Whole Thing Now Depends On Action In Washington

Edenton's renewed application for WPA assistance toward the proposed improvements to the local high school, may now be on the way to a successful culmination as a result of a visit Principal John A. Holmes has made to the Local Government Commission at Chapel Hill. Great encouragement was given to him on this visit, the proposal was given full approval, and later Stanley H. Wright, State WPA director, expressed himself as heartily sympathetic and personally anxious to be of what help he could. The application for \$68,000 is now either in the hands of the federal authorities at Washington or on its way to the capital city, and some action can be expected after the new Congress meets and decides how lavish it will be with the Works Progress Administration next year.

As is by now well understood the recent school bond issue is insufficient to give the Edenton school building the improvements desired there, and it was because of this the County Commissioners recently gave hearty endorsement to the proposal to again approach the WPA for a larger amount, an amount that will permit a larger auditorium annex especially.

Mr. Holmes and Architect Frank Benton, of Wilson, went to Chapel Hill together armed with all plans and specifications and able this time to convince the Local Government Commission that Chowan, by its recent refunding bond issue, has re-established its financial credit and should be viewed in the same position as other commonwealths.

The approval was at once given and the plans and specifications were endorsed by the commission's engineering department and by the State insurance department. The visit to Mr. Wright followed and he seemed enthusiastic about the application, declaring he was personally anxious to see the loan made, and that his assurance that he would do what he could to push it along could be depended upon.

Granting the proposed loan will mean a substantial saving to Chowan county, as its share of the 55-45 per cent obligation will be much less than otherwise through the expenditure of bond issue funds, as well as giving the school the larger amount to carry on its work as desired.

"White Christmas" At Baptist Church On Sunday Morning

On Sunday morning the Baptist church and Sunday School will again observe "White Christmas" as has been their custom for several years. This is a free-will offering for those less fortunate at the happy Yuletide season and is the means of bringing joy to many homes.

The "White Christmas" is not limited to the Baptist congregation only, but baskets are sent where needed.

This year the Missionary Society of the church, under its personal service committee, will assist the pastor. The Ola Lee Circle will have charge of the decoration, and W. D. Holmes, N. K. Rowell and W. J. Taylor will assist in the distribution on Monday.

A liberal donation is hoped for.

Midnight Service At St. Paul's Xmas Eve

Rev. C. Aylett Ashby, rector of St. Paul's Church, announces that, as last year, a midnight service will be held in the church on Christmas eve. Special Christmas music will be rendered, and a cordial invitation is extended members of any church to attend.

ROTARY MEETS AT 1 P. M.

The usual Rotary luncheon will be held in the Parish House at 1 o'clock today. A number of the members of the recently organized Windsor Rotary Club are expected to be in attendance, and every Rotarian is urged to be present.