

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

THE CHOWAN HERALD

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Limiting Of Fishing Season Worry Herring Fishermen

To Close Season April 15 Would Ruin Local Netters

MANY SPEAK

Large Crowd at Court House to Meet Special Shad Committee

Sympathetic in their desire to cooperate with the state in any plan for the increase of shad production in Carolina waters, but steadfast in their reiterated determination to oppose any curtailment of the shad fishing season which would eliminate herring catches from its provisions, fishermen from this section packed the Chowan County Court House Thursday night to meet with the special shad program committee of the Board of Conservation and Development.

Everyone of the netters who attended the meeting was agreed that something, maybe strict measures, would be advisable to restore North Carolina's most valuable migratory fish to the paramount position of importance it occupied in the fishing industry of the section 30 or 40 years ago. The gatherers were in hearty sympathy with the committee's belief that regulations should be imposed on seining and netting shad by those who specialize in such work, but that the catch of herring or other fish should be restricted by seasonal limitation because of this necessity, they did not agree.

The attitude of the fishermen was that the catch of herring only began to be of important size and income after the April 15 date, and that to stop fishing on or prior to that period meant that the herring men might as well go out of business, several of the fishermen, championed by John Small, in fact frankly asserting they possibly would do this very thing.

Frequent assertions by J. L. Horne, Jr., chairman of the visiting committee, to the effect that the proposed date limitation was being fixed largely upon the recommendation of federal authorities whom, he said, would step in and close the fishing seasons entirely here for several years except something was done, failed to alter the position of the fishermen, and the meeting closed with no definite decision being reached as to what would be done further than Mr. Horne's statement that the state board would act on the matter at its January meeting in Raleigh.

Prior to the meeting here the special committee had held a similar conference with coast fishermen at Manteo and on Friday were in session again at Oriental. Besides Mr. Horne those who accompanied him, largely as he said, to relieve the fishermen from the annoyance of traveling in a body to Raleigh to carry their grievances there, were Bruce Etheridge, director of the state board, John R. Nelson, state fishing commissioner, E. S. Askew, of Raleigh, and Jim McNair, of Laurinburg.

Members of the Albemarle Fishermen's Association, who had been notified to attend the meeting by their president, Sidney Smith, turned out almost 100 per cent and included among the number were fishermen from Stumpy Point, Perquimans County, Macksays, Plymouth and Colerain. Many were free to express their opinions of the curtailment of the season insofar as it affected them. Among those who made statements were A. S. Smith, Julien Wood, John Small, W. H. Winborne, John Waff, and E. N. Elliott, of Edenton; Charles Whedbee, lawyer, representing Perquimans pound netters; Roy Hampton, of Plymouth; J. W. Hobbs and J. B. Basnight, of Perquimans; Oliver Belch, of Colerain, and J. J. Bunch, of Macksays.

Backed by elaborate charts Mr. Horne opened the meeting and presided at it. The charts showed graphically how the shad production in the Albemarle waters had decreased from 8,963,000 pounds in 1897 to 883,000 pounds in 1931, and from an income of \$572,947 in 1928 to \$192,187 in 1934, and this, as Mr. Horne put it, "is something to contemplate and act upon."

The chairman outlined the committee's plan of procedure and promised that its members would make their report just as favorable to the fishermen and their wishes as possible, but be repeated with much emphasis that the government is using

BUSINESS FIRMS LIST EMPLOYEES IN FARM BUREAU

Bank of Edenton and Byrum Bros. Assist in Boosting Membership in Chowan County

Following the recent renewed agitation for increased interest and membership in the Farm Bureau Federation and in line with the court house meeting of ten days ago, told of elsewhere in this edition, Edenton business interests are lining up behind the movement, and several have already enrolled everyone identified with their concerns in the Bureau. President R. C. Holland and County Agent N. K. Rowell are hopeful this attitude will spread throughout the town and county and that soon after the first of the coming year the enrollment will be substantial.

The Bank of Edenton wasted no time getting its force enrolled, the bank paying for memberships for Cashier D. M. Warren, assistant cashier W. H. Gardner, tellers Geo. C. Hoskins and Edward L. Wells, Jr., and clerk, Miss Zene Elliott. The bank's president, Julien Wood, was one of the first bureau members of the Chowan branch, and several of the bank directors have, also, already allied themselves.

Byrum Brothers has also paid for seventeen memberships representing the enrollment of its hardware store clerks and employees of farms owned by the firm brothers. For the hardware company the new bureau enrollment listed Charles Hollowell, Louis Harrell, Haywood Bunch, Harry Spruill, Rupert Goodwin, Percy Saunders, Frank Perry, John Elliott, Jesse Harrell and Dan Carter.

From the Cam Byrum Cross Roads farm the firm enrolled T. C. Byrum, C. D. Hollowell and H. S. Byrum, and from the Byrum Brothers Farms in the same neighborhood four new members were named, G. P. Byrum, Will Jones, C. E. Hollowell and Gilmer Tappan.

Every Edenton resident, whether he be merchant or mere householder, who owns or has any interest in farm work, will be canvassed and urged to identify himself and those under him in what is viewed as one of the most helpful movements to agriculture that has been brought into focus for some time.

The local farm bureau branch is, of course, identified with the State organization, and the latter with the national body at Washington, and has for its main objective the stimulation of interest in all things beneficial to the farmer. It takes off the shoulders of the latter individual effort and aligns him with an organization which will look after his affairs in a manner that will bring him in the best returns.

Mr. Holland and those at work with him want to show a Chowan enrollment in this worthy cause equal to that of any other county in the State of equal farm strength, and are expectant that every local interest, business or otherwise, will line up within the next few weeks.

Four More Markers Now In Albemarle

Four more historical markers arrived in Edenton Friday and will be erected in the Albemarle during the week by state highway workers.

The four historical points to be designated are: Eden House, home of Governor Eden; the Great Dismal Swamp, the first school in Pasquotank County and the battle of Roanoke Island in Dare County.

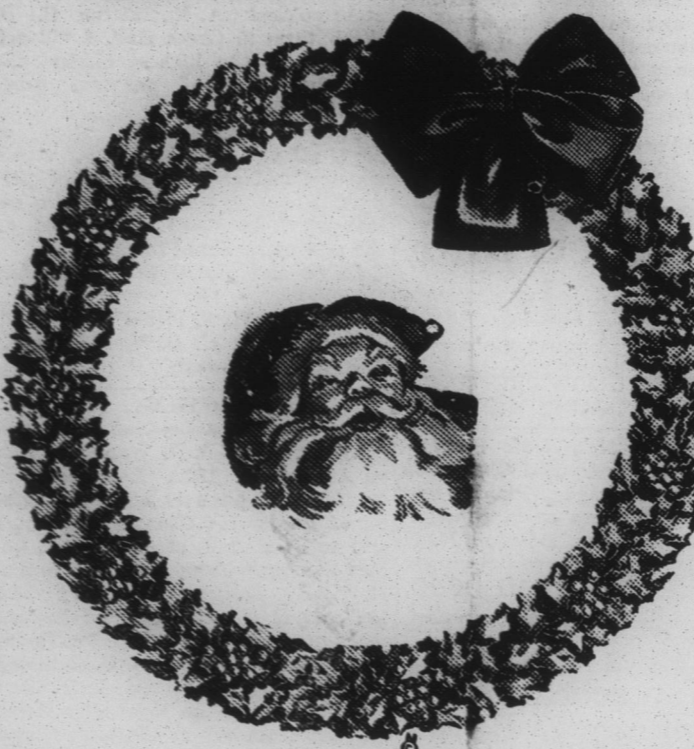
Bertie Roads Cause Extra Day Vacation

Though the Merry Hill and Mars Hill schools were scheduled to close last Friday for the Christmas holidays, teachers and students had a one-day longer vacation due to the schools closing Thursday. This action was taken due to the bad weather and terrible condition of the roads.

Bank Night Prize Is \$50 At Taylor Theatre

Again the Bank night cash prize at the Taylor Theatre is mounting to a figure that is drawing large crowds to the theatre. Tonight (Wednesday) the prize is \$50 and will be given to the person whose name is drawn from the hopper, providing he or she is present.

MERRIE CHRISTMAS



Christmastide

By H. W. THOMAS

Nearly two thousand years ago a group of shepherds watching their flocks on a hillside near the little town of Bethlehem saw a heavenly vision and heard a heavenly voice proclaiming "tidings of great joy which shall be to all people, for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." Heavenly music filled the air, and as the last notes died away the shepherds, forgetful of their sheep, hastened to the place where the young child lay, and with hearts overflowing with love and adoration knelt and worshipped at His manger cradle. Wise Men of the East, too, saw a new and wondrous star in the sky, and guided by its beams and laden with gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy and went in and saw the Babe with Mary, His mother.

Centuries have rolled by since that first birthday, but men still marvel at the simplicity and loveliness of the event, and at its perfect fitness to show God's love for us. How could He better do this than by coming to earth and living man's life from the cradle to the grave, interpreting through words of heavenly wisdom, deeds of loving kindness, miracles of healing, and His sacrificial death on the cross the new way of life mankind should follow,—life founded on God's affection for us, our love for Him, and the love we should show to one another?

Out of this love has grown our Christmas, a season, for truly it is more than a day, in which we honor His birth by multiplied deeds of kindness, by an overflowing spirit of cheer and happiness that reaches out and envelops in its strengthening warmth not only friends and loved ones, but all who would hear again the song the angels sang so long ago — "Glory to God in the Highest, on Earth Peace, Good Will Toward Men."

Hugh White Hurt By Hit And Run Driver

Hugh White, 38, farm hand employed by T. C. Byrum in the Cisco section of the county, was the victim of a hit and run driver Saturday night and was very badly hurt. He was walking along the Suffolk highway a short distance from the city limits when struck by a model T Ford.

Herman Monds, who was driving back of the hit and run driver, was the first person on the scene, but in his excitement at the sight of the injured man, failed to notice the license number and the only information he could give was that it was a model T Ford with no rear light burning. He immediately notified Patrolman George Dail, who brought White to Dr. J. A. Powell's office.

The car passed over White's chest resulting in internal injuries, his left arm was broken and was cut and bruised about the face and body.

Sheriff J. A. Bunch as well as Patrolman Dail searched for the offender but no arrests have been made.

White Christmas At Baptist Church Is Very Successful

Generosity on the part of the Edenton Baptist congregation was apparent Sunday morning when a large number of gifts were taken to the church in connection with the White Christmas celebration of the Sunday School and church. The pulpit of the church was attractively decorated in white and presents of all kinds were brought for those of more unfortunate circumstances.

A committee was appointed to distribute the White Christmas gifts to the poor, which was done the early part of this week.

Baptist Christmas Program Tuesday

On next Tuesday evening, Dec. 29, at 7:30 o'clock, the Baptist Sunday school will give its annual Christmas entertainments at the church. The various committees are at work, and hope to have an interesting program.

Superintendent W. J. Taylor is chairman of the affair, and he is being assisted by R. E. Leary and W. D. Holmes. Mrs. W. J. Daniels is chairman of the decoration committee, and Miss Frances Ward heads the refreshment committee. Mrs. T. E. Gardner and Mrs. Gus Hughes have charge of the program, which will include "Christmas in Art" by the advanced grades and a visit from Santa Claus, (impersonated by Frank Hughes).

Prepare Packages For Poor Children

Though a goodly number of packages have been prepared by the Service League of St. Paul's Church for poor children of the city, more funds could be readily utilized for the long list of children on hand.

These Christmas packages will be sent to children regardless of denomination and any who wish to donate to the stocking fund should give their donation immediately to either Mrs. W. O. Elliott, Jr., or Miss Louise Coke.

Wm. J. Davis Still Confined To Home

W. J. Davis, who was seriously burned about the leg last week by gasoline while burning tar from the wheels of a highway tractor, is still deprived of the use of his leg. While the injury is healing somewhat, Mr. Davis is still obliged to remain in bed or on a reclining chair.

Majority Edenton's Stores Will Be Closed Saturday

How Would You Enjoy Sleeping Like This Man?

Though the Christmas spirit seems to pervade every nook and corner, the United Charities has let it be known that in not every spot is the outlook for Christmas so cheerful. In one instance especially the ladies are appealing for a mattress, which if received will make it not only cheerful but more comfortable for one man.

At present this man is forced to sleep on a set of springs covered with only corrugated paper and if someone will donate the mattress the ladies will greatly appreciate it.

Rotary Meeting Is Called Off Thursday

The regular luncheon of the Edenton Rotary Club has been called off this week on account of the Christmas holidays. The Rotarians, however, decided to pay for their meal just the same which money will be turned over to the stocking fund of St. Paul's Service League.

The regular 1 o'clock luncheon will be held next week.

At last week's meeting Parson C. Aylett Ashby made an extremely interesting address on the opportunities afforded by Rotary membership which was made primarily for the benefit of two members of the newly-organized Windsor Rotary Club, Rev. William Latta and C. J. Lancaster, who were present.

John A. Holmes, secretary of the local club, reported that a Rotary bell had been ordered which will be presented to the Windsor Club at the charter meeting to be held in Windsor shortly after the holidays, at which Rotarians from all over the section will be present.

Held For Big Court On Theft Charge

Richard Holley, colored, was held for March term of Superior Court by Judge J. N. Pruden in Recorder's Court Friday morning.

Holley was charged with the theft of a wallet containing \$51.50, property of Leroy Bunch, on December 16, when he was given a ride in an automobile. The defendant testified that he picked up the wallet in the car, and though he knew whose property it was, he didn't return it because the owner hadn't asked him if he had it. He was reason for considerable laughter in court by his ridiculous testimony and comments during the trial. Bond was set at \$300.

William Coffield Appendicitis Victim

Friends were sorry to learn that William Coffield, a student at The Citadel, was stricken with an attack of appendicitis Saturday night while on his way home to spend the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Coffield.

He was met by his mother at Rocky Mount and was stricken between that city and Tarboro, where he was taken to the hospital and operated upon Sunday.

Latest reports are to the effect that he is making satisfactory progress.

Masons Elect New Officers For Year

Officers for the year 1937 were elected by Unanimity Lodge at the regular meeting Thursday night. Those who were elected were as follows:

Master, W. M. Wilkins; senior warden, G. A. Helms; junior warden, J. R. Byrum; treasurer, Charles H. Wood; secretary, J. Edwin Bufflap. The meeting this week has been called off due to falling on Christmas eve, with the installation of both elective and appointive officers scheduled to be held Thursday night, January 7.

Elliott Child Shows Little Improvement

Ruth Rea Elliott, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Elliott, is reported to show little signs of improvement. The child has been in the Norfolk General Hospital, Norfolk, Va., the past two weeks suffering with pneumonia.

Feeling That There Will Be Little Business After Christmas

3-DAY HOLIDAY

Grocery Stores Fail to Agree on Closing; All Will Be Open

Except for the grocery stores, Edenton's business houses for the most part will be closed all day Saturday, following the Christmas holiday. This decision was reached Tuesday, when a three-day holiday was decided upon by the majority of the merchants in the main business section, Christmas Day, Saturday and Sunday. There was a feeling that there would be little business on Saturday and in order to allow their corps of loyal clerks a well-earned rest, the following places of business would be closed Saturday:

S. Ganderson's, Badham Brothers, Rose's 5, 10, 25c Store, Preston's, J. H. Holmes Co., T. W. Jones, Byrum Brothers Hardware Co., D. B. Liles, L. F. Ziegler & Son, Cuthrell Department Store, E. L. Pearce, S. Hobowsky, W. I. Cozzens, Bank of Edenton, The Chowan Herald.

Though other merchants did not sign up to close, it is altogether possible that these stores will also close for the day.

The feeling, a perfectly natural one, on the part of the grocers is that should one store remain open all should, and that it will be upon this basis whether they join with the rest of the town merchants in observing this holiday.

Solely to acquaint its readers with the likelihood of a holiday observance on Saturday The Herald canvassed all places of business yesterday. There was a unanimity of opinion everywhere that the proper procedure to permit clerks a worthwhile holiday was to lock up at midnight Christmas eve and not open shop again until Monday morning.

N. K. Rowell Pleased With Conference

N. K. Rowell, Chowan County farm agent, returned over the week-end from Raleigh, where he attended the conference of the State College Extension Service. He was very well pleased with the meeting, saying it was one of the most interesting and informative meetings of the kind he had ever attended.

Mr. Rowell was accompanied by Miss Rebecca Colwell, Chowan home agent, who left for Wallace, N. C., after the conference to spend the Christmas holidays with relatives.

Great Aunt Of Rev. George Blount Dies

Rev. George W. Blount, pastor of the Methodist Church, last Thursday received word that his great-aunt, Mrs. Minnie E. Whiteside, age 86, had died at the home of his mother, Mrs. C. E. Blount, in Wilson, where she made her home. Mrs. Whiteside was the wife of the late Dr. Whiteside of Hickory, where she lived until the death of her husband.

She was buried Saturday at Hickory.

Postoffice Employees Working Like Trojans

Local postoffice employers are working like Trojans this week handling a mail and general sales business that by far exceeds last year's volume. Postmaster C. E. Kramer on Tuesday expressed his appreciation for the splendid cooperation offered by patrons of the office in depositing mail at the most convenient time to be dispatched and said the office would do everything possible to handle mail both coming in and going out in order to be delivered in time for which it was intended.

Vera Mae Chappell Patient In Hospital

Vera Mae Chappell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Chappell, is in a precarious condition in the Albemarle Hospital, Elizabeth City, following an operation Saturday. The little girl is a pneumonia victim and was reported to show little signs of improvement as The Herald went to press.

Mrs. M. V. Steele, a trained nurse of Edenton, is with Vera Mae.

(Continued on Page Eight)