

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

THE CHOWAN HERALD

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A HOME NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF CHOWAN COUNTY

Volume IV—Number 15.

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\$1.25 Per Year

Soil Conservation Checks Go Out To Chowan Farmers

Much Elation Over Receipts For 1936 Farm Practices

\$42,003.88

County Agent Starts Distribution With More to Come

Gratifyingly elated by the unexpected size of their individual receipts and of the enormity of the award to Chowan County as a whole, Chowan farmers have been happy callers this week at the office of County Agent N. K. Rowell, who has been distributing the first of the 1936 batch of soil conservation checks. Up to right now two such batches of checks have been received from Washington, the first lot for \$21,808.16 and the second for \$20,695.73, both totaling \$42,003.88, a pretty substantial sum for a generous "New Deal" government to pass out in this little county for joining in a movement that benefits all.

And there will be a still further receipt and distribution, which if based on the same ratio of allowance, will aggregate half as much more in final completion of the 1936 agreements.

Around 538 farmers in Chowan made themselves beneficiaries under the 1936 conservation program, and so far Mr. Rowell has received 475 checks for distribution to 378 of the original applicants, many of them tenant farmers as well as landlords.

No program blanks for 1937 payments have yet been signed. This year's basis of agreement will be somewhat different from 1936 in this regard. Farmers will be required to sign up a soil-depleting acreage table, showing what crops and in what crops and in what proportion are soil-depleting, what the maximum diversion is to be, what the diversion payment per acre will total, and what acreage can be drawn with largest diversion payment.

While highly pleased at their payments this week the farmers realize that the money they are receiving constitutes but a minor benefit they

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DISTRICT FARM BUREAU MEETING IN E. CITY FRIDAY

Number of Timely Topics to Be Discussed by Able Speakers; Open Meeting

A district meeting of the Farm Bureau will be held at the Central High School, Elizabeth City, Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. At this time addresses will be made by W. R. Ogg, secretary-treasurer of the American Farm Bureau, a representative of State College extension work and other speakers, according to J. E. Winslow of Greenville, president of the North Carolina Farm Bureau.

Topics to be discussed are very timely, including community programs, county programs, the 1937 farm program, State and national peanut program and national truck growers program, as well as the national farm outlook and local problems and state issues.

The meeting is open to farmers and business interests whether members of the Farm Bureau or not, and anyone interested is urged to attend this meeting, which is one of a series of five held in the eastern section of the state.

A goodly number of Chowan farmers are expected to attend the meeting.

Mary Perry Speaker Today At Rotary

As a special feature at the Rotary meeting today in the Parish House, Miss Mary Perry, Edenton High School student, will deliver her essay on building and loan associations, recently entered in the Kessler Memorial Essay Contest. Miss Perry as county winner participated in the district contest last week in Rocky Mount, when she carried off second honors.

Earl Goodwin had charge of the program last Thursday when he very entertainingly told his fellow Rotarians about the ups and downs of the grocery business, explaining during his discourse the progress made in the handling of groceries.

Mrs. George Elliott contributed to the pleasure of the meeting by singing several solos.

DISTRICT MEETING U. D. C. SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK

More Than 100 Delegates Expected From All Over Albemarle; Meeting Held at Hotel

Much happy anticipation is being experienced by the matron members of Bell Battery Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, over the opportunity to be official hostesses at next Thursday's annual Fourteenth District Convention of the organization, which will be held at the Hotel Joseph Hewes, and which, in addition to a lively business session and hotel luncheon, will be made somewhat of a social affair. More than 100 delegates from the different district chapters in the Albemarle are expected to be present.

Of added interest at the gathering will be the presence of Mrs. John H. Anderson, of Raleigh, the state president, who will make an address after the delegates have been welcomed by Mrs. George W. Byrum, Bell Battery Chapter president, and the gathering has been turned over to Mrs. James G. Fearing, of Elizabeth City, the district president.

Other speeches will, also, be made, one expected being by Mrs. Claudius McGowan, who will give a record of the past year's activities in the district.

An elaborate musical program will provide entertainment at intermissions in the business session and during the luncheon which will be given at the hotel at 1 o'clock.

District Meet At St. Paul's Wednesday

A district meeting will be held in Edenton Wednesday, next, at 9 A. M., under the direction of Bishop Thomas C. Darst, to last through the day, when matters connected with the Episcopal Church will be taken up. Lunch will be served by St. Mary's branch of the Woman's Auxiliary. About forty delegates are expected.

SATURDAY NIGHT WAS DRY, SO DRY!

Sheriff Plugs Spigot By Series of Lightning Like Raids

Frankly regretting that he had not acted earlier on numerous criticisms and complaints leveled at him for some time, Sheriff J. A. Bunch took the bull by the horns last Saturday afternoon and instituted a series of illicit liquor raids that just about cleaned up this end of the county and that netted him several prisoners, all of whom are under \$200 bonds for court appearances tomorrow.

Those who will face Recorder Pruden are Joe Habit for operations at the Edenton Cafe and Habit's Beer Garden, Joe Bunch, of the Yeopim Road, Albert Lassiter, who runs a section, Albert Lassiter, who runs a fish house on Queen Anne's Creek, Charles Lassiter, who lives across the same creek, and Julius Upton and Estelle Honea, who have been clerking at Harry Crummey's filling station on the Windsor Road, and Harry Crummey.

At none of the raided places was there any large quantity of liquors found, but at Crummey's and the Habits the wet goods was in the shape of bonded bottles labeled as indicating previous A. B. C. sales. The Lassiters and Bunch gave up bootlegged "white lightning," but even so very little of it was secured. Naturally the tip got around that the raids were on and the Sheriff's forces feel that much of the stuff that might have otherwise been confiscated was drained off prior to the

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Tea Room Officially Opens On Friday

The Tea Room in the Cupola House will be officially opened Friday afternoon between the hours of 3:30 and 6 o'clock. Reservations for cards or tea should be made by calling either of the hostesses, which this week are Mrs. L. D. Bond and Mrs. W. J. Hart. A tasty menu has been arranged.

BOOKLET MOVED AHEAD TOWARD ITS PUBLICATION

Sub-editorial Committee Named to Pick Writers at Once

LOCAL TALENT

Meeting Monday Night Enthusiastic for Brevity and Accuracy

Attractive illustrative features typifying Edenton's past and present with brevity and rigid accuracy as essentials in the preparation of what reading matter may be offered, were the two main keystones decided upon Monday night at a meeting of the editorial and publications committee in charge of the preparatory work on the proposed booklet descriptive of Edenton's industrial future to be issued this spring by The Chowan Herald.

The committeemen, chaired by Julien Wood, were a unit in pressing for a quick publication of the booklet and another meeting will be held soon for the purpose of selecting those local heads of industry and civic life as writers of the terse chapters decided upon.

It was the unanimous opinion, and this in the face of a visiting suggestion to the contrary, that the booklet must be something that can be taken in quickly, not too quickly, of course, but something that should serve as an easily understood guide to the town rather than an extensively written brochure that might require lengthy and extensive perusal around the evening fireside table.

Mr. Wood is a strong proponent of this theory of conciseness, and so expressed himself at the meeting, as did several of the others. It was, also, decided that Edenton was better able to write of its past and present and hoped for future than could any outside writers be who were unacquainted first hand with the information Edenton has been living with for over two centuries. And in this connection the gathers Monday night were in no sense uncertain as to the eligibility of its own citizens to put this material together in a concise and easily censorable form.

A sub-editorial committee comprised of J. H. Conger, J. A. Moore, R. D. Dixon, and the editor of The Herald, was selected to pick the local writers and to pass upon the material that might be submitted by them. In this regard this quartette will act as censors who will pass the approved copy on for final sanction by the full committee made up of the four mentioned, Mr. Wood, as chairman, Mayor E. W. Spires, N. K. Rowell, Rev. C. A. Ashby, John A. Holmes and James E. Wood, all of whom but Parson Ashby were on hand Monday night.

The committeemen were regaled by the fine companionable humor and suggestive ideas at the meeting of the state director and assistant, of the WPA Federal Writers Project, Edwin B. Bjorkman, of Asheville, and George L. Andrews, of Raleigh, who came here to volunteer their services in any way. Except in regard to an extended story being told throughout the book, previous preparatory plans of the publication committee, had embodied most of the Bjorkman-Andrews ideas.

BAPTISTS STUDY WORK OF B. Y. P. U. HERE NEXT WEEK

Week's Program Begins With Banquet at Baptist Church Monday Night; 150 Invited

The B. Y. P. U. Department of the Edenton Baptist Church will entertain at a banquet in the church on Monday evening at 6:30 o'clock. An interesting program has been arranged consisting of music under the direction of W. Jim Daniels, assisted by his orchestra, and followed by an inspirational address by Nathan C. Brooks, N. C. Baptist Training Union secretary, of Raleigh.

These exercises will be immediately followed by the banquet at which 150 invited guests are expected. After the banquet study classes for each phase of B. Y. P. U. work will be organized and the remaining evenings of the week will be devoted to a familiarization with the fundamentals of Baptist Training Union work. Large classes are anticipated.

Instructors for these classes will be Rev. E. L. Wells, with the Senior Department; Mr. J. L. Chestnut, with the Intermediate Department, and Miss Mildred Munden, with the Junior Department.

N. S. RAILROAD TO BUILD PIER OVER BAY FRONT

Council Gives Consent Providing Abutting Owners Agree

COST \$12,000

Will Facilitate Unloading of Sound Bridge Shipments

If the action of the town council this week is sustained by adjacent property owners, as it is expected it will be, the Norfolk Southern Railroad Company as represented by its receivers, is to be permitted immediately to build a 250 foot extension wharf and railroad pier from the end of its freight yard siding out of the bay water front. The cost of the work will be around \$12,000 and the work is to be carried out to facilitate unloading of materials for use in the construction of the forthcoming vehicular bridge over the sound.

In a sense the pier extension will be but temporary, at least will fall into disuse when the big bridge is completed 18 months or two years off. Representatives of the railroad were here on Monday with the request and after papers had been considered by Town Counsel W. D. Pruden it was brought up at council meeting Tuesday night. Mayor Spires explained the matter and the councilmen were a unit in granting the consent providing the Water Street property owners who own the riparian rights in front of their lands offer no objections. Such property owners include J. H. Holmes, Julien Wood and Mrs. William J. Leary, and it is understood they are so far making no protest.

The extension pier is scheduled to run toward the Willis Warehouse. Shallow shore waters make it necessary to build the structure out as far as has been suggested so as to reach a depth into which sound craft can arrive with their heavy bridge barges. Already, it is understood, much of such material is on its way to these shores so work will be started at once by the railroad concern.

COURT HOUSE MAY GET PORTRAITS OF OLD COLONIALS

Parson Ashby Making Heroic Effort To Have WPA Artists Paint Pictures For Display Here

Rev. C. Aylett Ashby, of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, who almost alone and in the face of much skepticism got the legislature here on its recent commemorative visit, and who seems out to do or die in his vigorous effort to have the historic shrines of the Albemarle taken into some sort of a federal park scheme, is out with another chip on his frail shoulders and expects to keep it there. He fully hopes that he will be able to have the government through its WPA portraiture experts provide Edenton with a series of paintings of its old Colonial for display on the second story walls of the court house, which would be a real accession.

Edenton has no such portraits, nor are there any real ones in existence. There is not even a picture of Governor Eden in town, in fact there is only one and that from imagination and hanging on the State House walls in Raleigh. That one Edenton once possessed but with its customary disregard for such ownership gave it up to the state government and has since been without any.

The Parson, wondering as to the why and wherefore of such matters, voiced his wonderment recently in the town library. Mrs. McMullan, the librarian, was sympathetic and showed him some pen and ink work or Edenton sites by WPA artists, another set of which is in the post office possession of Postmaster Kramer. The Parson took the bait and pounded out a lively appeal for the portraits in a letter to Washington.

The other day he got a message back from Ellen S. Woodward, assistant federal WPA administrator, in which she spoke kindly of the request and suggested that the state director of the Federal Art Project of the WPA at Chapel Hill, D. S. Defenbacher, should be written to, and she felt sure he would lend what aid he could. And the Parson has done so and is nervously awaiting Mr. Defenbacher's reply.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Harrell at their home on the Yeopim Road, on Thursday, April 8, a son, Thomas Stanley.

Mayor Spires Refuses To Run Again For Reelection

All City Officials Seeking Reelection

Except for a Mayoralty candidate to be yet selected, all the present town officials announced today that they would file at once for re-election on May 4. This means Councilmen at large, O. B. Perry and T. Wallace Jones; First Ward Councilman, Dr. L. P. Williams; Second Ward Councilman, Graham Byrum; Third Ward Councilman, A. G. Byrum; Fourth Ward Councilman, W. E. Bond; Board of Public Works, J. A. Woodard, F. W. Hobbs and F. P. Wood, and treasurer, W. H. Gardner. It also means that none of these need figure in further gossip as candidates for mayor.

'SAFETY SABBATH' SET FOR SUNDAY

Mayor Joins In General Proclamation Demand For More Care In Motor Driving

Next Sunday has been officially termed a "Safety Sabbath" for motoring in North Carolina, and Mayor E. W. Spires is joining with all municipalities in so proclaiming it. It will be the second "Safety Sabbath" sponsored in this State by the Carolina Motor Club, and is proposed again in an effort to curb the high accident toll each week-end.

In his proclamation anent the subject the Mayor refers to "The appalling number of preventable accidents and deaths upon the highways," stating that "Our beautiful threads of travel, designed for pleasure and trade have been converted by the reckless driver and the careless, incompetent operator into lanes of horror." He urges everyone "by precept and example to foster the ideal of consideration for the rights of others" so there will be an irreducible minimum in accidents and deaths.

Churchmen and ministers are urged to sermonize on the subject next Sunday, and by prayer, anyhow, join in the "Safety Sabbath" movement.

TOWN ELECTION SET FOR MAY 4TH

Short Time to Register; Ward Officials Are Reappointed

Election of city officials will be held Tuesday, May 4, between the hours of 7 A. M. and 7 P. M., the election being one of the principal matters to be discussed at the meeting of Town Council Tuesday night.

The legal time allowed for registration had just about reached the dead line and R. E. Leary, town clerk, was instructed to place notices on Wednesday at the various polling places, thus allowing 20 days for this purpose, according to law.

Further planning for the election registrars and judges of election were appointed as follows:

First Ward—R. L. Spry, registrar; W. A. Everett and H. T. Miller, judges of election. Polling place, Army building.

Second Ward—C. H. Wood, registrar; Tom Leary and N. J. Castelov, judges of election. Polling place, Court House.

Third Ward—H. T. Layton, registrar; G. B. Potter and A. M. Forehand, judges of election. Polling place, Alex Rawlinson's store.

Fourth Ward—W. T. Gordon, registrar; Worth Layton and Roland Ward, judges of election. Polling place, Worth Layton's store.

Whether or not there will be a rush of candidates could not be learned this week, even present members of the Board being very reluctant to say whether or not they will run for re-election.

Masons Neck And Neck In Contest

That the attendance contest now in progress among local Masons is creating considerable activity is evident by the number present at last Thursday's meeting when 28 members were present with each side claiming 14. W. Jim Daniels and G. A. Helms are captains of the opposing sides with Mr. Helms leading by only one to date.

Another largely attended meeting is expected tonight.

Announces Retirement At Meeting of Town Council Tuesday

ILL HEALTH FACTOR

Colleagues Listen Feelingly To His Surprise Decision

As if stunned by a bomb from a clear sky members of Edenton Town Council at their meeting Tuesday night listened breathlessly as Mayor E. W. Spires told them of his intention not to run for mayor for another term. The announcement followed official action calling for the regular city election which will be held on Tuesday, May 4.

Feelingly Mr. Spires expressed his profound appreciation to the board members for their cooperation and sympathetic understanding during his tenure of office and urged the same loyalty and consideration for the new mayor whoever he might be. "If anything has been accomplished during my administration," said the Mayor, "the two city boards are responsible, for we have been as one family and got along far better than many families do."

Mr. Spires gave for his reason not to run again for the office that due to his health it was imperative that he take a rest from the arduous activities in connection with the duties of chief executive. He further stated that due to the amount of time required by the office he has sacrificed his personal efforts which he feels would have been more remunerative to him. And in this connection he informed his colleagues that his future plans would not allow the time which he felt rightly belonged to the office. He did not intimate what these plans were, but assured the councilmen that he had not contemplated leaving Edenton.

"Though I have had a lot of worry and many headaches acting in the capacity of Mayor," said the Mayor, "it has been a labor of love. I will always have the welfare of Edenton at heart and will be willing at all times to lend a helping hand."

Mr. Spires paid tribute to the present board, explaining that when the town's affairs were taken over there was a \$4,000 bond default and that at a time when the town was in the depth of the depression. However, the board was very conservative in a hard up-bill struggle and in the face of less money to work with due to a \$5,000 yearly appropriation instead of \$10,000 from the E. & W. Department. "This is no reflection on the department," said Mr. Spires, "but a condition that could not be averted."

The highest kind of praise was expressed by Mr. Spires in behalf of J. A. Woodard, chairman of the E. & W. Department. "I say it without any fear of an expression of jealousy or contradiction," said Mr. Spires, "that Mr. Woodard has been the most valuable citizen in Edenton for the past 16 years. My one regret is that he is not only 40 years old so that the Town could be favored by his valuable services for so many more years."

Members of the council expressed great regret at Mr. Spires' decision and urged him to reconsider his action or else run for office and if elected to serve until such time that he would have to retire. However, the Mayor said he had not taken snap judgment on the matter, but that his decision was the culmination of serious consideration during the past several months.

In closing his remarks Mr. Spires expressed the hope that if people in Edenton appreciated what has been done by the present council, they show their appreciation by a vote of confidence by paying taxes due the town. He expressed wonderment at the slow payment of taxes this spring and said that if 80 or 90 per cent of taxes due were paid, the town would be in good shape financially.

W. J. Taylor, county welfare officer, who happened to be at the meeting, arose to bespeak on behalf of the organizations with which he is associated sincere appreciation for the attitude and interest shown by Mayor Spires and the entire Board on every occasion he has been obliged to come before them for various requests.

Despite Mr. Spires' announcement that he would not run, very little authentic information could be obtained by the councilmen, some not committing themselves while a few expressed a willingness to run pre-

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