

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

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Government Aid For Edenton School Improvement Now Seems As Assured

Every Report Points to Quick Action By Last Of This Month
\$74,500 TOTAL

Congressman Warren Writes Hopefully; Inspector Here

Edenton school officials felt more confident than ever this week that their hope for federal aid in furthering the project for town school improvements would go through, when word came from Congressman Lindsay Warren that Edenton was on the preferred compromise list, restrictions against which have been lifted by Presidential mandate, and if any PWA allotments are made Edenton may depend absolutely upon getting its request allowed.

And as evidence that Mr. Warren is correct in his surmise that action can be expected quickly was the appearance here on Tuesday of G. S. Brown, traveling inspector for the Works Progress Administration at Raleigh. Mr. Brown was voluminously equipped with documents from Washington calling for a quick survey of the local situation, especially with a view of reporting if the new improvement plans have provided for all fire hazard elimination.

Mr. Brown came here in the absence of School Principal John A. Holmes, who is visiting his family in Graham this week. He saw W. D. Pruden, of the local school board, and President Thomas S. Chears and later made an effort to catch up with Frank Benton, the architect, of Wilson. Later, he also, visited the school and made an examination of the premises and of the proposed changes. While more or less non-committal, Mr. Brown did say he understood that Edenton's grant was a

Edenton in canoats with a Chowan county anticipatory bond sale has actually bound the government to a part in the proposed project by laying something like \$41,000 on the line as its 55 per cent share in a grant of which the federal authorities would advance around \$33,500 on the customary 55-45 per cent PWA basis, making a total soon to be available for the Edenton school work of about \$74,500.

And it is in this connection that Mr. Warren has written in to Superintendent John A. Holmes, who has been fighting from the start for the federal grant, as follows:
"I am in receipt of your letter of July 9 in reference to the PWA application for Chowan county school. You referred to an item in an Elizabeth City paper stating that a street project there had been approved for that town by the PWA. I did not see the article in question, but it said that it is entirely incorrect. Elizabeth City had a WPA application for streets and that was approved but has nothing whatever to do with the PWA.

"If I can say it very modestly I think I had a great deal to do with working out the PWA compromise. Chowan county's school application is included in that. The President has already lifted his executive order but he has not called for the projects from the PWA. We are hoping that within the next week or ten days he will release these projects that have been approved and come within the compromise. Until he does we can only patiently wait."

To get the full trend of Mr. Warren's letter a word of explanation may be in order. The PWA has been a great functioning government agency under Secretary Ickes. It has made grants unrestricted as to the type of labor employed. Director Harry Hopkins, of the Works Progress Administration, has fought it, however, on the ground that all labor on work projects should be taken from welfare channels. Ickes has been unsuccessful in this fight and Hopkins prevailed upon the president to issue an order winding up the PWA and transferring its functions to the WPA. Ickes, however, convinced the President that there were a number of PWA projects in the country totaling many millions where communities and commonwealths had pledged their share of the 55-45 basis of grants, and that these projects should be carried out.

To this the president gave agreement in what has been called "a compromise plan." Chowan county, with its 55 per cent pledged money lying idle here, is clearly within that

Improvements Under Way In Many Places

Town Building Changes Total High Cost; Dr. J. A. Powell to Move Into New Quarters In Citizens Bank This Month

Building improvements that may run well up into the \$100,000 figure before the summer is over, are already under way in Edenton, and in addition to the work will ultimately provide for several changes in the location of some professional firms. Naturally the largest prospective item will have to do with work on the Edenton High School, told of in another column.

Of the other improvements, that being made on the ground floor at the Citizens Bank Building is, perhaps, attracting the most interest. This site is being entirely changed and made over to accommodate Dr. Jesse A. Powell and his recently acquired associate, Dr. Martin R. Wisely, of Waynesboro, Va., who will move from the present Powell office on East King Street before the month is out.

While no details are being announced as to this change it is understood Dr. Powell is making it because of crowded conditions where he is which make it impossible for him to give emergency aid treatments to his liking. Dr. Wisely has specialized in surgical work before coming here, and is said to be especially able in the removal of tonsil cases. It is understood to be Dr. Powell's plan to establish facilities in the bank building for such work, such as the placement of beds for temporary rest after operations—a sort of emergency hospital on a small scale, something Edenton has long needed. The two physicians and surgeons will utilize the entire first floor at the bank, which will give them plenty of space.

Dr. L. P. Williams will in turn take over the entire building which he and Dr. Powell have occupied jointly since its erection.

At the bank the changes underway will necessitate the removal of Wood and Berryman, who have occupied the front offices on the first floor, and the social security welfare organization. The latter body has temporarily adjusted itself and intends to take over the rooms heretofore occupied by the welfare sewing rooms elsewhere in the building. W. J. Berryman said yesterday he had no idea, however, where he and Mr. Wood would go.

Across the street from the bank Liles five and ten cent store has been under extensive repair and improvement in the rear. The work will provide added enlargement to the place, furnishing more floor space on the first floor and storage room on the second floor. The office will be located in the rear of the building.

A still further bit of building alteration will have to do with the renovation of the old Moore house soon to be taken in tow by Mr. and Mrs. Cad Capehart, of Merry Hill, as "Capehart's Inn." In connection with this acquisition came the announcement yesterday that Mrs. Lillie V. Bond, who has been operating a successful high class home for friends and boarders at Broad and Gale Streets, has decided to abandon this work. A number of school teachers have made Mrs. Bond's home their own for years.

At St. Paul's Church a new furnace and heating equipment is also to be established this summer.

APPROPRIATIONS ASKED OF TOWN

Council Asked to Approve Requests; More Boosts In Salary

Quite a lengthy session of Town Council was held Tuesday night which in part was caused by an executive session called for the purpose of further considering salaries for Town employees. This session resulted in a few more slight boosts in pay which were overlooked at a former meeting held for setting salaries and appointing employees.

AJ Owens' salary was raised from \$85 per month to \$90 as full-time fireman, while Miss Louise Coke, tax collector and R. E. Leary, town clerk, also were given a \$5 per month increase. William Riddick and Louis Harrell, colored employees on the city trash truck, both of whom have been faithful and efficient workmen for a number of years, were raised to 20 cents per hour from 17½ cents, the usual hourly rate for ordinary labor.

In the absence from the city of John A. Holmes, J. H. Conger appeared before the Council urging an appropriation of \$500 as was done last year to supplement the salary of the high school coach and assist in carrying on athletic activities at the school. Mr. Conger emphasized the fact that when the Armory is completed athletics will be expanded at the school in that the new Armory will permit playing of basketball by both girls and boys as well as other phases of sports. Another appropriation of \$200 was asked for the Edenton High School Band, which has now grown to a 30-piece organization with every reason to believe that it will be a credit to the town whose services can be secured for almost any occasion requiring band music. Mrs. H. C. Wozelka also made a request for a \$150 appropriation for the N. C. Employment Service, duplicating last year's amount.

All requests for appropriations were referred to the finance committee, who will meet some time during the month to prepare the year's budget. The books are now being audited by A. T. Allen and very shortly after completion the budgetary meeting will be held.

Edenton - Gatesville Girls' Soft Ballers Play Game Tonight

A treat is in store tonight for soft ball fans when the girls' soft ball team from Gatesville will play the girls' soft ball team of Edenton, the game being scheduled to be played at 8 o'clock under the flood lights at Hicks Field. W. Jim Daniels has been coaching the local girls and appears very optimistic over the splendid showing made during recent practices. It will be the first game played by the local aggregation and considerable interest has been created over the game.

Manager Daniels reports no dearth of applicants for berths on the Edenton team, almost two dozen having reported at various times for practice. For the game, tonight, Mr. Daniels expects to use, at one time or another, the following: Eva Byrum, Juanita White, Lena Leary, Goldie Layton, Ruth Privott, Dolly Spencer, Gene Bunch, Elizabeth Hurdle, Adelaide Tuttle, Brownie Cox, Hazel Goodwin, Helen Swanner, Margaret Swanner, Helen Byrum and Ethel Haskett.

Basement Citizens Bank Filled With Nine Feet Of Water

A rather unusual accident occurred in the Citizens Bank building Monday when a main line water pipe burst and before it was known the basement of the building was filled with nine feet of water approximating almost 100,000 gallons.

Workmen for T. W. Jones, plumber were making alternations on the first floor which is being fitted up for offices for Drs. J. A. Powell and Martin R. Wisely when they discovered what was thought to be a small leak in a water pipe. However, as pumping was resumed and the supply failed to diminish an investigation was made which revealed that the basement was filled with water.

The town's pumping machine was put to work, pumping all afternoon and until after 10 o'clock at night before the cause of the trouble was discovered and necessary repairs made.

As a rule, old age instead of character should get the credit for the decision to "cut it out."

COMING TO U. S.



General Evangeline Booth

Ernest I. Pugmire, of Atlanta, Territorial Commander of the Salvation Army in the South, announces that General Evangeline Booth of London, world leader of the Salvation Army, will come to Atlanta, October 1 for a four day visit, during which she will deliver a public address at the new City Auditorium.

General Booth will speak in only three cities during her stay in the United States, Atlanta, New York and Chicago, and two cities in Canada, Winnipeg and Toronto, Commander Pugmire states.

GEDDES POTTER PICKED AS HEAD OF LOCAL LEGION

Named Commander to Succeed John Holmes; Other Officers

ELECT DELEGATES

Selections Develop at Enticing Fish Fry And Ball Game

Abandoning a hot and stuffy room, Ed Bond Post of the American Legion took to the outdoors last Thursday night and held their meeting under the flood lights at Hicks field. The meeting was in the form of a fish fry, with members of the auxiliary as special guests. After a general get-together and up-to-the-minute meal the Legionnaires held a business meeting, the principal item of business being the election of new officers.

In connection with the meeting and adding to the pleasure of the affair a number of selections were played by the Edenton High School Band and the evening was climaxed by a soft ball game by two picked teams from Edenton's soft ball league.

The post's new officers, who will be installed prior to the state convention in Durham, follows:

Commander, G. B. Potter; vice-commander, J. H. Pruden; adjutant and finance officer, O. H. Brown; guardship officer, M. L. Bunch; sergeant-at-arms, W. H. Parker; chaplain, F. I. White; historian, C. D. Stewart; athletic officer, J. A. Bunch; child welfare officer, O. E. Duncan; Americanism officer, C. E. Kramer; employment officer, W. E. Baker; membership chairman, J. W. White; publicity officer, R. L. Pratt; service officer, W. W. Byrum; graves registration, M. P. Whichard; chairman Sons of Legion, R. D. Dixon.

R. L. Pratt and J. A. Bunch were elected as delegates to the state convention, with N. Bunch and E. L. White acting as alternates.

Methodists Called To Assist College

A meeting in connection with the \$100,000 Louisburg College Forward Movement was held in the Edenton Methodist Church Monday when Dr. D. E. Earnhardt, president of the college, presented the purpose of the movement. J. W. Foreman, of Elizabeth City, district chairman, and Rev. D. M. Sharpe, of Hertford, district director, also emphasized the need for helping the college.

Sponsor for the movement in Edenton is John A. Holmes, who together with Dr. W. A. Leggett, Mrs. J. W. Cates and Mrs. John G. Small, will present the Louisburg cause to the local church.

Police Force Supervision Hereafter By Commission

NEW GUARD GATES ON CHOWAN BRIDGE

Practically Same Type of Protection, But Placed Back 180 Feet From Draw

What may at least afford better protection for careless motorists on the Chowan River bridge was provided last week when the State Highway Commission changed the location of the guarding gates on both sides of the bridge draw. Practically the same type of one arm gates as before, although strengthened in several ways, have been erected 180 feet east and west of the draw, which will undoubtedly make it possible for anyone who may crash them to stop before sliding through to death in the open draw.

Heretofore the gates were but 40 feet each side of the draw. The number of fatalities during the past few years have all proved they were of small protection at this short distance. Last year four young folks in two automobiles crashed through them to a drowning death, one of the victims being Essie Bunch, a local high school girl.

The highway commission made no move to change the gates until last week, however, when the new ones were put up. Captain Pat Bell, bridge tender, believes their purpose will now prove effective.

Three Local Lawyers Attend Bar Meeting

John W. Graham, J. N. Pruden and William S. Privott composed the group of Edenton barristers to attend a meeting of the State Bar for the First District held in Washington, N. C., Friday. The principal speaker at the meeting was Judge I. M. Meekins of Elizabeth City.

Mr. Graham was re-elected as secretary for the district and Mr. Pruden was made a member of the executive committee.

\$1,000 FINE FOR OSCAR B. BUNCH

Bootlegging Conviction Brings No Judicial Leniency

A full session of Recorder's Court was held Tuesday morning, extending over into early afternoon, in the course of which Judge J. N. Pruden imposed the heaviest fine during his tenure of office and probably the biggest fine ever handled out in Chowan's Recorder Court. The victim of the fine was Oscar Bunch, who faced two charges, possession of intoxicating liquor for the purpose of sale and aiding and abetting Johnnie Bell Smithwick in the sale of whiskey to one Alberta Anthony. Bunch was found guilty on both counts drawing a sentence of six months on the roads on each charge, which was reduced to three months on each count upon appeal. For each of these sentences Bunch was fined \$1,000. The sentence was suspended since April 9, which was also necessarily revoked, making his sentence stand 21 months on the roads or payment of \$1,000 fine and costs and serving 15 months on the roads. He took an appeal with bond being set at \$1,500.

John Privott plead guilty to driving an automobile while under the influence of liquor and being his second offense Judge Pruden imposed a fine of \$100 and costs and his driving license was revoked for 12 months.

Della Brickhouse, white woman, was cleared of the charges of possessing intoxicating liquor for the purpose of sale and transporting liquor on the streets of Edenton. The case was dismissed on the grounds that the warrant for her arrest was illegally served.

Judge Pruden was lenient with Johnny Bell Smithwick, charged with possession of intoxicating liquor and selling liquor, giving him a six months' road sentence, suspended upon payment of a fine of \$50 and costs and showing good behavior for 12 months.

Consuming a considerable amount of the court session was the case against Alec Long, Perquimans County Negro, who was charged with altering a check from S. Hobowsky.

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Perry, Bond and Bufflap Selected as Members Of Commission

MEET SHORTLY

Department Most Likely Enlarged By New Patrolman

Convinced that there had long been a need for some sort of active regulatory supervision of the Edenton police department, the Town Council Tuesday night went on record as favoring a police commission to act in this capacity, and immediately afterward Mayor McMullan named Councilmen O. B. Perry, J. Edwin Bufflap and W. E. Bond as such commissioners. This step, somewhat revolutionary in a way but incited by much recent criticism, is an initial one for the community and much good is expected to result from it.

Coincident with the new commission's selection came the determination that the present permanent police force of two officers was inadequate and that a third patrolman should be appointed. At the moment no one has been named for the job, the question being left entirely with the commissioners for consideration after the regular town audit, now under way, is completed and the town's budgeting for the ensuing year has been cleared up.

The purpose of the new commission will be manifold. It will not be a gum-shoe body to spy on the force and see that activity takes the place of somnolence. Rather it will be a modern commission with up-to-date ideas for police improvement. The various functions of the police, such as traffic observations and the enforcement of motor violations, will be under the direct control of the commissioners, but in no other sense, of course, than supervisory.

It was brought out that the commission would not be expected to usurp the duties of Chief Helms or his force but would have full power and liberty to note and correct any shortcomings that might be hereafter apparent in the operation of the department.

One thing in particular that was discussed had to do with a frequently officerless police headquarters, due largely to a minimized force of but two men save on Saturday nights when an additional officer does special work. Citizens have complained that they have often gone to headquarters and found no one there, instead locating the officiating officer in a barber shop or at a drug store or restaurant recreating and cooling off.

Reference to the recent motor theft almost next door to police headquarters was made, and Fernor Hobbs appeared to say that at the present time Night Patrolman Bob Pratt goes off duty at 5 A. M. and that Chief Helms does not go on until two hours later, leaving the town unpoliced in that interval. This, he thought, emphasized the need for another member of the force.

The entire council seemed in sympathy with this idea and the matter was thrown to the new commission for their consideration. The commission will make the third selection. Whether the new appointee should be what is known as a plain-clothes man or a regular uniformed patrolman was not settled upon. Nor have the commissioners decided who the appointee may be nor what salary should be recommended for him.

As the town knows the present force is made up of Chief Helms, Night Patrolman Bob Pratt with young Carroll Boyce serving as a special officer week-ends. Wayland Moore has also officiated in the latter capacity often.

The new commissioners will meet later this month and give a consideration to what recommendations they may wish to make. In the meantime they will use their eyes and see what improvements they can suggest to Chief Helms should be made.

Masons Call Off Meeting Tonight

The usual Masonic meeting tonight has been called off by W. M. Wilkins, master of the lodge. Mr. Wilkins took this action in order to allow those who so desired to attend the soft ball game between the Edenton and Gatesville girls' teams which begins the same time as the lodge meeting.