

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 V.—Number 27.

Edenton, Chowan County, North Carolina, Thursday, July 7, 1938.

\$1.25 Per Year.

Chowan County's Tax Rate Cut From \$1.30 To \$1.15 By Commissioners Monday

Reduction Made In Face of Lower Property Valuation

LONG MEETING Income From Liquor Is Responsible For Lower Taxation

In the face of a lower county property valuation of something over \$3,000,000, due principally to the elimination of levying upon intangible property, Chowan County's tax rate for 1938 was set at \$1.15 by the County Commissioners at a very lengthy meeting Monday. The rate represented a drop of 15 cents from the \$1.30 rate of last year. Property valuation in the county dropped to \$6,700,000 as against a little over seven million dollars last year.

After considering the various budgets, carefully studying anticipated expenditures and income, it was felt that a \$1.15 rate would meet requirements. The drop in the rate was principally the result of income from the County's liquor store, which for the past several months has turned over \$1,000 to the County's coffers, with a similar amount and even more expected through the sale of liquor.

The \$1.15 rate provides for the following levy:

Bonds	.....	\$.75
Schools	.....	.21
Social Security	.....	.09
General County	.....	.08
Health	.....	.04
Charity	.....	.03
		\$1.15

Budgets presented to the Commissioners provided for the following outlay:

Bonds	.....	\$52,465.70
Schools	.....	18,603.72
General County	.....	19,260.00
Social Security	.....	6,000.00
Charity	.....	2,700.00
Health	.....	2,300.00
		\$101,339.42

The Commissioners realize that some tax money will be forthcoming from the State on intangible property, but the amount was so uncertain and its distribution so unsettled that no provision was made in income side of the budget.

Craddock Team Will Play Here Sunday

Game With Blands Last Sunday Called Off On Account Rain

Edenton's baseball game Sunday afternoon with Blands was rained out, thus affording a rest for the players. The game was scheduled to be played on the local diamond, and was called off due to threatening weather.

Craddock will be the attraction next Sunday afternoon at Hicks Field, which with an improved Edenton outfit, should result in a very interesting game. The game will start at 3 o'clock and officials of the league hope a large crowd of fans will turn out.

Jailer Moore Requests More For Jail Meals

In view of a decrease in the number of inmates at the county jail, Jailer Shelton Moore, at the Commissioners' meeting Monday, requested an increase in the amount provided for furnishing meals to prisoners. At present the jailer is allowed 45 cents a day for feeding prisoners, which Mr. Moore says would be sufficient if a larger number were served.

The Commissioners, however, refused to allow any more for feeding inmates.

JOHN SIKES RETURNS

Friends of John Sikes will be interested to know that he is again back in Edenton, having been appointed special representative for the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company of Greensboro. Mr. Sikes will represent Bertie, Gates, Hertford, Chowan, Perquimans, Washington and Tyrrell counties with headquarters in Edenton. He was several years ago the manager of the

Cracking Down

Following orders from the County Commissioners, Sheriff J. A. Bunch within a very short time will crack down on taxpayers who have not paid their poll tax. Complaint was registered by the County Board of Education that a considerable amount of poll tax has not been paid and the Sheriff was subsequently instructed to furnish names at the next meeting of the Board of Commissioners of all those who have not paid their poll tax for the years 1935-36 and even further back.

Mr. Bunch further was ordered that in event these taxes are not paid to attach property and garnishee those who fail to pay. The Sheriff said it was an embarrassing situation in that some of the delinquents are paid by the State, but that he would carry out his orders.

Conger Says Service Men In Front Rank To Extend Courtesy

Many Opportunities to Show Genuine Hospitality to Visitors

INFORMATION

Service Station Usually First Contact Made By Motorists

"With the annual invasion of North Carolina by thousands of tourists and vacationists from north, east, south and west already well under way, service men are in the front rank of North Carolina's Hospitality Committee," says J. H. Conger, local distributor of gasoline and oil and president of the Chamber of Commerce.

"The opportunities of service men," says Mr. Conger, "to extend courtesy and hospitality to our visitors will be numerous. A service station is usually the first contact visiting motorists make upon arrival. In many instances the need for information and conveniences offered are the factors that make them drive in. Automobile supplies and services may be of secondary importance to them for the moment. There are motorists, also, who like to stop for a friendly word or two and relax a few minutes after long drives. No matter why they stop, we have the opportunity to greet them cordially and in a friendly manner, help them with their varied and often complex problems.

"While there are many sources of free information today, numbers of motorists leave their homes for distant points without definite information about routes, road conditions, points of historic interest and scenic beauty, accommodations available and probable cost.

"To these visitors, service station employees will be able to render a real service by familiarizing themselves with best routes and distances to our scenic points. We should take advantage of every opportunity to get first-hand information about our main points of interest, so as to be able to discuss them with our visitors in an interesting and enthusiastic manner. Our own travels and experiences will add a bit of zest and color to these discussions. Service station men are supposed to know the answers to all the questions our visitors ask. How well we do the job of helping these visitors to North Carolina spend their time and money pleasantly will determine in most cases, whether they return and bring their families and friends. Rich and poor alike respond to courteous and friendly attention.

"We need make no mistake about the tangible and intangible value of such service to our business and to the development of North Carolina.

"While the oil industry has played an important part in the building of our unexcelled system of highways and has made possible greater performance of cars on these roads yet almost the only way that this great industry contacts its largest group of

J. A. Woodard Dies At Home Saturday After Long Illness

Hardy Stamina Responsible For Life Longer Than Expected

72 YEARS OLD

Pioneer In Many Ways In Building Edenton's Business Interests

Edenton and Chowan mourned heavily at the grave of the late James A. Woodard in Beaver Hill Cemetery Sunday afternoon. Inclement weather had but little influence on the large crowd that gathered to do this last honor to one they loved so well. Scores of beautiful floral tributes from the official and private life of the community attested to this general grief, and sadness was in all eyes.

In accordance to the wishes of the deceased, the grave services, there were nine at the home, were as simple as could be arranged at. Rev. C. A. Ashby and Rev. E. L. Wells read the committal services from the Bible, and a quartette sang "Crossing the Bar." There were no honorary pall bearers but the following close friends and former business associates of Mr. Woodard acted as active pallbearers: Julien Wood, David M. Warren, Dr. W. A. Leggett, Roy Leary, former Mayor E. W. Spirez, W. H. Coffield, J. L. Pettus and W. D. Holmes.

Death came at last at 6:20 o'clock Saturday morning to Mr. Woodard in his modest bungalow home on the Court House Green. Since last Thanksgiving, when he was first stricken, he has several times been given up as hopeless and only his hardy stamina has kept him here before passing into the Great Beyond. Friday a week ago he suffered a final relapse, falling into an unconscious condition since which time he had taken no nourishment, and in the ensuing interval the whole town has had but one query on its lips, whether he was still alive or not.

Deceased was a Chowan native of 72 years. In a hundred ways he was an Edenton pioneer, but in the hearts of the people he will ever be best known for his self-effacing generosity and his work as chairman of the Board of Public Works, or electric and water department. On a score of occasions, personally and through his official work, he has come to the rescue of the town when funds were most needed to keep up the community's credit.

"We charge a little more for our electric service than we have to pay for it," Mr. Woodard would often say in the hesitating manner he had, "but we call it a 'silent tax,' and no one feels it and when we need money we always have it."

New York bankers holding local securities always said "Amen" to that thought, and because of it have never failed to take over Edenton bonds when offered for sale.

Mr. Woodard was the son of James A. and Elizabeth Woodard, the former (Continued on Page Five)

New Plaque Placed In St. Paul's Church

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Wilbourne Weddell

St. Paul's Episcopal Church here, the oldest parish in North Carolina, already adorned with a score or more of wall plaques descriptive of important events and people in its life since 1701, put up another one Saturday, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Wilbourne Weddell, of Richmond, Va., United States Ambassador to the Argentine, whose mother lived in Edenton as a little girl.

Mr. Weddell was visiting here last fall with Mrs. Charles Wales, and was told of the founding date of the church. He left a substantial check with Mrs. Wales with which to secure one. The new plaque goes into the history of the church's start and mentions Colonial Governors Henderson Walker and Thomas Pollock, who are buried in the churchyard, and William Duckenfield, Nicholas Crisp, Edward Smithwick, John Blount, James Long, Nathaniel Chevin, William Benbury, Col. William Wilkinson and Captains Thomas Leuten and Thomas Blount as the first vestry men.

John F. White Adds Spice To Meeting Of Commissioners

Complains About Activities of Social Security Program

WANTS TO KNOW

Puzzled as to Who Has Final Authority to Pass on Cases

"The bill should be taken by the horns in reference to the social security set-up," said John F. White to the County Commissioners Monday, "and it might just as well start in Chowan County."

Mr. White thus prefaced his remarks which added spice to an otherwise quiet meeting devoted principally to studying figures in approving budgets and setting a new tax rate. He told the Commissioners that it was nothing personal on his part, but if it is necessary to continue blindly in a program that was forced upon the County, to continue so, but that if any authority is given, it should be well known in whom this authority is vested. He produced letters from the White House referring the application of P. L. Holland for old age assistance to the State Board, and the State Board in turn referred the case to the County Board. The latter Board refused Mr. Holland old age benefits on the ground that his wife is employed by the WPA sewing room and to put Mr. Holland on the old age roll at \$12 per month would eliminate his wife, who received something over \$20 per month. In order to appeal, the case was locally referred to the State Board which caused Mr. White to decide to endeavor to find out definitely whose authority it is to pass upon applications. In the course of the discussion pointed questions were asked by Mr. White, which led to a vote on the action of the Welfare Board upholding their disposition of the case. However, Mr. White continued in his argument which brought a sharp rebuke on the part of Chairman D. M. Warren that "so far as the County Commissioners are concerned the case is closed."

Mr. White asked several questions of Welfare Superintendent W. M. Perkins, one of which was why some securing old age relief received a certain amount and others a different amount. "Standard of living," was the Welfare Officer's answer, which Mr. White apparently couldn't understand. He also asked West Byrum a question pertaining to the case, but Mr. Byrum replied that he would rather refrain from making a statement except when the Welfare Board was in session.

The discussion spread to the street and Mr. White, though he didn't make any headway Monday, expects to continue his efforts to learn just who has authority to finally pass on applicants for assistance, many of whom, he said, had come to him for advice. He appeared considerably peeved Monday when, after the case was closed, the Welfare Superintendent was permitted to explain in detail (Continued on Page Five)

County Home Now Is Virtually Closed

George Harrell, After 22 Years, Out of Job As Caretaker

Though not officially, Chowan's County Home is virtually closed, Welfare Superintendent W. M. Perkins reporting that only one more inmate remains at the institution, and this one will soon be placed with a private family.

With the Home lacking inmates, some of whom are now receiving old age assistance and others placed in private homes, George Harrell, caretaker, will be out of a job on August 1. Mr. Harrell has been in charge of the home for 22 years and has served well during all of these years.

The Commissioners at their meeting on Monday offered Mr. Harrell the proposition of continuing to live at the Home with permission to utilize the land for his own purposes, but of course minus the salary of \$60 per month. Mr. Harrell was given a month to study over the matter and will report his acceptance or rejection of the proposition at next month's meeting.

Clem Johnston Uses New Deal As Target In C. of C. Banquet Speech Thursday

Committee Meets

Chairmen of various committees and sub-committees of the Albemarle Sound Bridge Celebration have been notified by C. W. Tatem, chairman of the Central Committee, to meet in Edenton today (Thursday) at 11 o'clock. The meeting will be held at the Municipal Building.

This meeting has been called by Mr. Tatem for the specific purpose of receiving reports from all of the standing committees and passing upon same. It is very necessary for a full attendance because policies and details of the celebration will have to be definitely passed upon, says Mr. Tatem.

Masons Send Stone For Masonic Marker Near Great Smokies

Local Lodge Represented By Piece Ancient Ballast

STONES SCARCE

Local Masons Proud of Unique Contribution To Monument

Not to be outdone by other sections of the nation, Edenton Masons have sent a stone for inclusion in the great Masonic marker being erected at the entrance to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park near Waynesville, N. C. The gigantic monument made up of stones of all sizes from every Masonic section of the nation—President Roosevelt, a Mason, took sufficient interest to have a large slab sent from his summer home at Hyde Park—will be bared to the view of travelers at formal Masonic dedication exercises next week.

Frankly, stones are a rarity, as everyone knows, in this section, and the members of little Unanimity Lodge, No. 7, eager to be represented in the big marker were at first at a loss to know how to secure their contribution. Wise heads got to thinking, however, and the result was that Secretary J. Edwin Buffall rolled up his pants and sloshed out into the harbor and raised one of the ancient ballast rocks. This was bundled up and sent off posthaste to the Waynesville marker builders.

And with it went Unanimity's description stating that the stone was one of countless many such rocks dropped in the harbor front here in pre-Revolutionary days, having been used previously as cargo ballast by ships coming here from the Barbadoes and other West Indian ports. The local lodge feels quite proud over its part in the marker and members hope to see the huge monument with the Edenton stone included therein.

County Pays Half Of Celebration Expense

Chowan County Commissioners, sensing the importance of the Albemarle Sound Bridge celebration on August 25, readily agreed Monday to appropriate half of the county's expense amounting to \$250. The total expenditure for Chowan, according to West Byrum, chairman of the finance committee, will be approximately \$500, with Town Council expected to pay the other half. This amount also includes the cost of Chowan's entry in the parade of historical floats.

New Rotary Officers Be Installed Today

No program has been arranged for the Rotary meeting today, the principal business of the Club being installation of new Club officers who were elected in May. Oscar H. Brown will be installed as president of the Club, succeeding John W. Graham. W. M. Perkins will be the new vice president, with George Capehart, Jr., G. D. Stewart, C. E. Kramer and W. J. Hart, Jr., as members of the board of directors.

Says Man More Than Social Security Number or Case Number

PARTING OF WAYS

Almost Hundred Members Attend Annual Banquet

Edenton business as represented by nearly 100 of its leaders turned out enthusiastically at the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet in the Hotel Joseph Hewes last Thursday night, applauded heartily several enlightening reports of progress, listened approvingly to an unusual electro-musical orchestra, partook of a fine cold supper and sat unmoved beneath the stirring and somewhat startling anti-Roosevelt address of Clem D. Johnston, of Roanoke, Va.

It was the second Chamber banquet within a year and interest in the affairs of the organization, its past accomplishments and its future promises of achievement, remained keen. Perhaps, not such a large attendance was noticed as on the other occasion when Governor Clyde R. Hoey was present to make his usual worth while address, but the time was red hot mid-summer and many were off on vacations and unable to be on hand. However, the little dining room was crowded to capacity and the occasion was a noteworthy one.

President Joseph H. Conger had the seat of command at the head of the speaker's table and called the brief program by introducing the speakers. Rev. George W. Blount delivered the invocation, Secretary J. H. McMullan spoke tersely of what the Chamber had been doing and what it planned to do during the ensuing year, notably by reason of the new Sound bridge, Chairman Junius W. Davis, of the committee on membership, reported that reports from all the canvassers had not yet come in to him, but sufficient had been received to indicate interest in the body was in no sense waning and that the roll when finally completed would show an interest; the Hollywood Strollers, an orchestra of four boys showing that night at the local theatre, brought much applause by their efforts, and then Mr. Conger introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. Johnston.

For nicety of diction, beauty of thought and language, Mr. Johnston, who had never spoken here before, could probably not have been excelled, but it must be said frankly there was (Continued on Page Five)

Albemarle Sound Bridge Completed

Approaches, However, Prevent Turning Over To Traffic

True to the prophecy of the contractors last January that the bridge over the sound, terminating near Edenton, would be finished on Independence Day, bridgemen announced on Monday last that the span was done in every particular, cleared of all workmanship, and would be officially turned over to the State Highway Commission this week or early next.

This means that the crossway, started on May 5, 1937, and costing around \$2,000,000 has been completed in fourteen months, viewed as a record by those in on the know. The bridge was built by two contractors, the Tidewater folks of Norfolk, Va., handling the work on the north side from the draw, and the Golding concern, of Goldsboro, doing the same thing on the south side.

The connecting highway terminals on both sides, started before the bridge itself, will not be finished until around the first of next month, so the bridge, while done, will not be available to traffic until that time. State Highway Chairman Frank Dunlop has promised to throw the bridge open to travel immediately the roads are finished and not wait for the dedication celebration on August 25.

The latter show continues to show gigantic proportions, and more than 10,000 people are expected to attend the celebration which will be held on the south side near the terminal there.