

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

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Edenton, Chowan County, North Carolina. Thursday, April 13, 1939.

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Chief Of Police G. A. Helms Forced To Shoot And Kill Dangerous Negro In Fight

Josh Norman Puts Up Fight When Being Arrested

LIFE THREATENED

Coroner's Jury Exonerates Chief at Hearing Tuesday Night

Faced with the possibility of losing his own life, Chief of Police G. A. Helms at about 5:30 o'clock Monday afternoon shot and killed Josh Norman, Negro bad man. Chief Helms was forced to resort to use of his revolver when he was in the act of arresting Norman on a charge of assaulting another member of his race. Norman resented being arrested and put up a fight as the Chief was performing his duty. The two got in a tussle and it was when the Negro was about to get the better of the argument, clinching on to the Chief's shoulder strap and grasping for the revolver that Mr. Helms fired the fatal shot. Norman threatened to kill the officer.

The bullet entered Norman's face below the left eye traveling upward through the skull. He died before reaching the office of Dr. J. A. Powell, county physician.

Norman, a husky man of about 225 pounds had powerful strength and when influenced by liquor was possessed with a dislike for officers. Something over a year ago he was responsible for Officer Robert L. Pratt being hurt and forced to be off duty several weeks. Pratt, too, was in the act of arresting Norman when the latter took the officer's blackjack and pushed him off a porch, badly spraining a leg. He had the reputation of being able to handle any two officers in the county and when drinking apparently sought an opportunity to demonstrate his strength.

Chief Helms was scratched about his hands in the mixup and his clothes somewhat disheveled before he shot down his assailant.

A coronor's inquest was held Tuesday night at 8 o'clock when Chief Helms was exonerated.

The jury returned the following verdict:

"We, the jurors, find that Josh Norman came to his death from a pistol shot fired by G. A. Helms, police officer of Edenton. And further that Josh Norman in resisting arrest had threatened the life of G. A. Helms and that G. A. Helms fired the pistol only as a last resort when it became apparent that it was his only hope to save his own life. We, therefore, find that Helms shot in self defense and recommend that he be exonerated from any blame in connection with shooting of Josh Norman."

Members of the jury were: E. T. Rawlinson, Raleigh Hollowell, Hector Lupton, Benny Mizelle, Walter Jones and Henry Cuthrell.

Lions Anniversary Next Monday Night

Principal Speaker For Occasion Will Be J. Barnett Napier

Forced to be postponed on several occasions, the second anniversary of the Edenton Lions Club will be observed next Monday night at Hotel Joseph Hewes. For this meeting the principal speaker will be J. Barnett Napier, commissioner of Lions International and a very interesting program for the affair is being arranged. The meeting will be in the form of a ladies' night, wives of members of the club being invited to attend. The meeting will begin at 7:30 o'clock.

Lion Club Lectured About Proper Diet

One of the most interesting meetings in months was held by the Edenton Lions Club Monday night, when the principal address was made by E. J. Sampson, of Missouri. Mr. Sampson is a food lecturer and spoke very interestingly upon proper diet. During his remarks he stressed the importance of eating more fruits and vegetables, referring to statistics furnished by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in health booklets distributed by the Company.

Better Pay Up

At the meeting of Town Council Tuesday night, Miss Louise Coke, tax collector, was instructed to advertise for sale property of delinquent taxpayers for their 1938 taxes. The list will be posted Monday, May 15 and appear for four consecutive issues of The Herald, beginning Thursday, May 18.

The sale will take place at the Court House door Monday, June 12th. All delinquents are urged to pay before advertised in order to save expense and embarrassment.

Officers Elected At Annual Meeting Of Cemetery Group

Mrs. R. F. Tuttle Again President Cemetery Association

WANT MOWER

Owners of Lots Urged to Pay Promptly \$1.50 Fee For Upkeep

Among other matters discussed last week at a meeting of the Beaver Hill Cemetery Association, was the importance of every lot owner paying \$1.50 a year which covers the cost of mowing the grass, removing weeds and trimming around tombs. This matter is very essential in properly maintaining an attractive cemetery and collectors are now endeavoring to secure this amount from lot owners.

The annual meeting of the Association was held at the home of the president, Mrs. R. F. Tuttle, when officers for the year were elected as follows: President, Mrs. R. F. Tuttle; vice president, Mrs. E. S. Norman; secretary, Mrs. A. S. Smith; treasurer, Mrs. W. S. Privott. Mrs. Privott succeeds Mrs. T. E. Gardner, who had served nine years as treasurer and declined re-election. Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. C. S. Vann and Mrs. J. L. Wiggins were chosen as a nominating committee.

Mrs. Smith made a report of her work as secretary from April 1, 1938, to April 1, 1939, while Mrs. Gardner made a financial report for the year, showing a small balance on hand.

The idea of purchasing a motor mower was discussed, but this matter was referred to a committee to be acted upon at such time when funds are available, which is not the case at present.

During the meeting a vote of thanks was extended to Frank Hughes and J. Edwin Bufflap, street commissioner, for their valuable assistance in grading the driveways and other efforts to improve the cemetery. H. S. West was appointed the.

Edenton Host To Fair Attendants On Next Monday

Tour of Points of Interest Planned For Visitors

Edenton will be host to the World's Fair attendants from North Carolina on Monday, April 17, when this group of about five girls and six or seven boys will be entertained. Mayor J. H. McMullan has been notified that the party will arrive in Edenton at 5:15 Monday, spending the night here. From 5:30 to 6:45 they will be taken about town to see the various points of interest and at 7 o'clock will be guests at a chamber of commerce banquet. At this banquet not only members of the Chamber of Commerce will attend, but any other citizen who would like to be present for the occasion.

After breakfast Tuesday morning, the group will leave to visit Elizabeth City, Currituck and Manteo.

Town Council Calls City Election For Tuesday, May 2nd

Entire Board of Councilmen Will Again Seek Office

REGISTRARS NAMED

Thursday, May 25, Set As Final Day to File Candidacy

An election for city officials was officially called at the meeting of Town Council held Tuesday night when Tuesday, May 2 was the date set. At the same time registrars, judges of election and polling places were selected for the election. With a number of candidates already expressing their intention of filing their candidacy and rumors that others will enter the race. Tuesday, April 25, has been designated as the last day for filing in order to have names appear on the ballot.

Before the meeting adjourned every member of the present board announced his intention of seeking re-election, including J. H. McMullan, mayor; Dr. L. P. Williams, First Ward; Graham Byrum, Fourth Ward; Albert G. Byrum, Third Ward; W. M. Wilkins, Fourth Ward; O. B. Perry and J. Edwin Bufflap, councilmen-at-large.

W. H. Gardner, treasurer, will also seek re-election as well as the Board of Public Works, which includes F. W. Hobbs, chairman, Fred P. Wood and West W. Byrum.

Registrars, judges of election and polling places selected were as follows:

First Ward—R. L. Spry, registrar; W. A. Everett and H. T. Miller, judges polling place, Municipal Building.

Second Ward—C. H. Wood, registrar; N. J. Castelov and George H. Everett, judges; polling place, Court House.

Third Ward—H. C. Wozelka, registrar; A. M. Forehand and W. H. Parrish, judges; polling place, W. H. Parrish store on North Granville St.

Fourth Ward—W. T. Gordon, registrar; R. L. Ward and J. Paul Holoman, judges; polling place, H. T. Layton's store.

Skinner White Now Assistant Fireman

Skinner White has been appointed assistant fireman, taking the place of Tom Goodman, who is still unable to discharge his duties as the result of an accident several weeks ago. Mr. Goodman, while splitting wood at his home, badly injured a foot which has been very backward in healing. Mr. White will relieve Al Owens, regular fireman, until Mr. Goodman can return to work.

Question Box And Spelling Bee Be Held By P. T. A. On Friday

Prize of \$5.00 Is Offered For Questionnaire Winner

75 QUESTIONS

John A. Holmes Will Also Conduct Old Time Spelling Match

What should be a rather unique and interesting meeting is planned by the Edenton Parent-Teacher Association for Friday night. At that time they will conduct a "question box" during which 75 simple questions will be asked, all true or false, pertaining to current events and geographical facts. This questionnaire was prepared by Richard D. Dixon, Mrs. W. D. Pruden, Mrs. R. G. White and Mrs. John Sikes. A cash prize of \$5.00 will be awarded to the person answering the most questions correctly.

A small admission fee will be charged, the purpose of the affair being to raise funds to complete purchase of lunch room equipment. Everyone attending is asked to bring along a pencil to write answers.

Adding interest to the meeting will be an old time spelling bee which will be conducted while the winner of the question box is being determined. John A. Holmes will take down the old blue back speller and call out an average run of words. A prize of \$1.00 will be awarded to the winner in this contest.

Tickets for the affair may be secured from Mrs. Lee Moore, chairman of the ticket committee, or they may be secured at the door Friday night. The program will begin at 8 o'clock and it is hoped many friends of the P. T. A. will join in this unique entertainment.

Local Delegation At Area Meeting

At the meeting of the Legion Auxiliary held Friday night in the Armory a number of committee reports were heard, the major portion of the time being devoted to discussing the area meeting to be held in Williamston today.

The delegation from the local organization who will go to Williamston for the meeting is Mrs. W. E. Baker, Mrs. J. W. White, Mrs. R. E. Leary, Mrs. C. E. Kramer, Mrs. W. B. Shepard, Mrs. D. M. Reaves, Mrs. Shelton Moore, Mrs. Edna White and Mrs. Jordan Yates.

CAKE SALE SATURDAY

The Chowan Woman's Club will hold a cake sale at Quinn Furniture Store Saturday morning.

Arrangements Completed For Huge Music Festival In Edenton Sunday Afternoon

Director C. L. McCullers Expects Around 5,000 to Attend Outstanding Event; Community Singing Added to Program

At a meeting of the Albemarle Music Festival Association held Tuesday night final arrangements were made for the Spring Festival to be held in Edenton Sunday afternoon, the affair scheduled to get under way at 8 o'clock. A stage to be used by the music groups has already been erected at the Armory, where the event will take place. The program will be rendered out doors unless weather prevents, in which case it will be moved inside the Armory.

C. L. McCullers, president of the Association, is very enthusiastic over the occasion and confidently believes there will be 5,000 people here to hear the program. The program has been arranged, at the completion of which all the bands will parade from the Armory to the Court House green and back to the Armory for dismissal. Arrangements have been made to furnish refreshments to all participating in the program.

As a climax to the program the entire assemblage will be asked to join in community singing under the direction of Pat Alderman, of Kingston.

The program for the afternoon follows: "America", by Samuel Francis

Smith—All Bands and Glee Clubs, en-masse. "Safety March", by Harold Bennett—Junior Bands, en-masse (bands with one year's training or less). "Norma's Dream", waltz, by Harold Bennett—Junior Bands, en-masse. Medley of Songs, by Stephen C. Foster—All Glee Clubs, en-masse (five numbers). Intermission. "Washington Post", March, by Sousa—Advanced Bands, en-masse. "Best Loved Southern Melodies", plantation medley, by Al Hayes—Advanced Bands, en-masse. "Danube Waltz", by Strauss—Advanced Bands, en-masse. Medley of songs, by Stephen C. Foster—Massed Glee Clubs (three numbers). Mass Bands and entire congregation—Hymns, under the direction of Pat Alderman. "Mutual March", by Harold Bennett. "The Show Boy" march, by Will Huff—All bands en-masse. "The Old North State", song, by William Gaston—All bands and glee clubs, en-masse. "Star Spangled Banner", by Francis Scott Key—All bands and glee clubs, en-masse.

R. L. Chesson Wins Second Round In His Suit Against Kieckhefer Container Co.

Already!

Carrying out orders from the County Commissioners, Sheriff J. A. Bunch will advertise all 1938 delinquent taxpayers on Monday, May 8, the sale of property scheduled to be held on Monday, June 5. The list will appear in The Herald Thursday, May 11, appearing for four subsequent issues. Taxpayers are urged to pay before May 8 to save added expense and embarrassment.

Two Candidates File For Office In Town Election On May 2nd

Leroy H. Haskett and Dr. W. S. Griffin Officially In Race

MUCH INTEREST

John G. Small Says He Will Be Candidate In First Ward

Though only two, aside from present city officials, have filed their candidacy for office in the town election of May 2nd, John G. Small has made public his intention of entering the race as councilman from the First Ward, opposing the incumbent, Dr. L. P. Williams.

Of course, there are rumors that there will be other candidates, but none have filed nor have they committed themselves.

The two who have filed with City Clerk R. E. Leary are Leroy H. Haskett, who stated definitely Wednesday that he will run for councilman from the Third Ward, now held by Albert G. Byrum. It is Mr. Haskett's first attempt for public office and entered he said, only after numerous requests.

The other candidate to file is Dr. Wallace S. Griffin, who seeks a seat on the Board of Public Works. It is Dr. Griffin's first request for office at the hands of voters.

Though he has not filed, in announcing his candidacy, Mr. Small said he had the interest of the town at heart and would discharge the duties to the best of his ability. He is a former councilman, having served as councilman-at-large for three terms, his term of office expiring six years ago.

With the announcement of these candidates, interest in the coming election is greatly increasing, and a considerable amount of speculation is going the rounds as to who on the present board will have opposition by the time the voters cast their ballots on May 2.

John F. White Will Speak To Weekly Group Saturday

Fish Fry Scheduled For Weekly Publishers And Editors

Weekly newspaper folk of North-eastern North Carolina will meet in Edenton Saturday night, a shad fish fry being the incentive for attracting this group of pencil-pushers to Chowan County for their monthly meeting. The visitors will meet at The Chowan Herald office, from where they will go to the Bridge Inn, near the Chowan River bridge to enjoy a fish fry and hold a meeting afterward.

For this occasion John F. White, Chowan County's representative to the General Assembly, will address the weekly publishers and editors who are expected to number about 20. The fish fry is scheduled to begin at 7 o'clock.

Mayon Parker, of Ahoskie, is president of the group, and Miss Addie Mae Cooke, of Gatesville, secretary.

Jury Awards Plaintiff \$2,050 After Another Long Trial

SECOND VERDICT

Supreme Court Ordered Re-trial of Hotly Contested Suit

Robert L. Chesson won the second round in his suit against the Kieckhefer Container Company of Plymouth, when about 7:30 o'clock Saturday night a jury returned a verdict in his favor in his suit for \$11,000 damages for breach of contract. The jury returned an affirmative answer that Chesson actually had a contract with the pulp mill, that he was able, ready and willing to carry out his part of the contract and fixed \$2,050.13 as the amount to which he was entitled as the result of failure on the part of the Plymouth concern to carry out its part of the contract. This amount represents \$409.63 calculated to be Chesson's profits had the contract been fulfilled and \$1,640.50 as his loss due to the breach.

The case was tried at the December term of court when a jury awarded Chesson \$2,668.27, but the Kieckhefer concern appealed to the State Supreme Court, the latter ordering a re-trial when in reviewing the case Justice W. A. Devine cited the fact that in the former trial Judge C. Everett Thompson failed to emphasize the fact that the amount of damages in the case depended upon whether or not Chesson exhausted all means to minimize his loss. This point was argued by counsel for both sides, the plaintiff contending that it was impossible to sell pulp wood due to more or less of a monopoly in that wood in stipulated areas must be sold through producers for this company. They brought out the fact that Chesson cut and sold timber to the Major-Loomis Company as well as a quantity of stove wood to help meet expenses incurred due to his alleged contract.

On the other hand, defense attorneys argued that Chesson had no contract with the pulp mill and despite the fact that they purchased all of the wood sent to the plant, he failed to ship wood which, if there was a contract, rightfully belonged to them. It was brought out that Chesson had a supply of pulp wood cut and ready to be shipped, but refused to ship to the mill.

As in the former trial a considerable amount of time was consumed in hearing witnesses on both sides, as well as argument by attorneys. The trial utilized four days of the term of court, getting under way Wednesday and continuing until Saturday night. Judge Leo Carr observed extreme caution in charging the jury before deliberating, consuming two hours and forty minutes in rehearsing the testimony and instructing the jury on various points of law. The jury deliberated three and one-half hours before rendering a verdict.

Representing Chesson were Henry Leroy and John Hall, of Elizabeth City, while W. D. Pruden and Zeb Vance Norman of Plymouth represented the pulp mill.

Defense attorneys made arrangement to be heard at the Perquimans term of Superior Court next week when they will no doubt appeal again to the Supreme Court.

Two More Justices Of Peace Selected

John F. White Names C. T. Griffin and W. A. Everett

If all qualify following John F. White's recommendations to the General Assembly, Chowan County will have plenty of justices of the peace. Aside from the five already serving, Mr. White submitted the names of C. T. Griffin and W. A. Everett to serve in this capacity, all of whom must qualify within 90 days.

If they qualify, Griffin and Everett will officiate in the First Township, where W. S. Summerell and F. W. Hobbs have already been acting.

Aside from the above W. D. Moran, T. L. Ward and Charles Blanchard have been appointed for the remainder of the county.