

This column 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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Holmes Takes Exception To Recent Rating Given Local School By Health Officials

Says Comparison Made In Survey Was Next To Ridiculous

INVITES PUBLIC

Admits Grounds Untidy But Building Always Sanitary

Following a meeting of the Edenton Parent-Teacher Association held Tuesday night of last week, at which was discussed a recent rating given the Edenton school in a sanitation, cleanliness and neatness survey by the Health Department, Superintendent John A. Holmes takes exception to the standing as reported, which placed the local school fourth from the bottom of the list of all white and colored schools.

Mr. Holmes in a letter to The Herald has this to say:

"On January 25th, you published an article under the caption 'Health Officials Grade Schools for Cleanliness'.

"In that article you listed the twenty-one schools of the county with a rating from ninety-nine to eighty-four. The Edenton school received a rating of eighty-six.

"Knowing human nature as I do, I am sure that a great number of parents felt a deep concern for the health of their children. Many of them know the condition of some of the colored schools that received ratings in the high nineties and naturally they would think that a school rated eighty-six in comparison with those schools must be quite insanitary.

"The School Board and the teachers are as much interested in having a sanitary building as the health officials, but we do not believe that the system of grading now in force gives a fair basis of comparison and a true condition of sanitation.

"The grade sheet used by the health officials made it possible for a school to earn fifteen points on the (Continued On Page Eight)

Beautification Topic At Club Meet Feb. 29

Landscape Specialist to Make Address at Cross Roads

Home demonstration club members, as well as any others who are interested are urged to attend a meeting to be held in the Community House at Cross Roads on Thursday night, February 29, beginning at 7:30 o'clock.

The topic of this meeting will be Home Beautification, and of special interest will be the presence of John Harris, extension landscape specialist, who will make the principal address. Mr. Harris will speak on "Propagation and Screen and Border Plantings."

Miss Rebecca Colwell, home agent, desires it to be known that this meeting is not only for club members but is open to any who are interested, and she hopes that a large number will be present.

Rotary Program Today In Charge Jesse White

Jesse White will have charge of the Rotary program at the meeting to be held in the Parish House today (Thursday) at 7 o'clock, and it is hoped another 100 per cent attendance meeting will result.

An attendance contest in progress by the club members remains deadlocked, perfect attendance being registered by the club for the last two meetings. The contest will continue until one side weakens, at which time an oyster roast will be furnished by the losers. The contest has created much enthusiasm with Carroll Kramer and John Graham heading the two sides.

TENANT HOUSE BURNED

A tenant house on the farm of E. N. Elliott burned Wednesday night during the wind storm. The fire is thought to have originated from a spark on the shingle roof, and when discovered was beyond control. The house was occupied by George Saunders and his family. Very little of the household and kitchen furniture was saved. There was no insurance.

Next Concert Here

Following the concert in Washington last Friday night by the East Carolina All-Star High School Band, which was largely attended and much enjoyed, C. L. McCullers announces that the next concert will be held in Edenton.

While the date has not been definitely set, Mr. McCullers says it will most likely be on May 24.

Wade Leary Chosen As Scoutmaster For Edenton Boy Scouts

Named By Troop Committee at Meeting Monday

EAGLE SCOUT

First Meeting of Troop Called For Friday Night

Interest in Edenton's Boy Scouts is now on an upward trend following a meeting of the troop committee which was held in the Municipal Building Monday afternoon. At that time Wade Leary was chosen as scoutmaster to succeed Kermit Layton, who resigned several weeks ago, and since which time considerable concern has resulted relative to the possibility of abandoning the Edenton troop.

In the meantime various schemes were discussed in the hope of raising funds with which to pay a scoutmaster and have very necessary repairs made to the attractive cabin on Hicks Field. At present several enthusiasts contemplate staging a wrestling match, and a canvass is being made to ascertain if enough would attend such an attraction. During this year Town Council provided an appropriation of \$15 per month, \$10 of which was earmarked for the scoutmaster and \$5 for the assistant.

Mr. Leary is well qualified for the important position of scoutmaster. He is a former Edenton Boy Scout who applied himself to the tenets of the organization and steadily advanced until he was awarded the honor of Eagle Scout, the only one in Edenton. He is a graduate of State College and only recently returned to Edenton from New York City to assist his father, T. P. Leary, during the fishing season in connection with his duties for the Board of Conservation and Development.

Mr. Leary is very much interested in Boy Scout work and promises his best efforts to create interest in the troop and develop an organization of which the town may be proud. He has called his first troop meeting for Friday night in the Scout cabin, when it is hoped all boys interested will be on hand.

Mrs. Wm. Badham Badly Hurt In Fall

Topples Down Stairway at Home of Mrs. R. D. Dixon

Mrs. William Badham is in a serious condition in the Albemarle Hospital in Elizabeth City following an unfortunate accident last week. Mrs. Badham, who had been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Richard D. Dixon, at Beverly Hall, fell down an entire flight of steps as the result of which she sustained a broken leg, knee cap and wrist.

The accident occurred when Mrs. Badham while reaching to turn on a light to come down stairs for supper in some manner lost her balance and toppled down the stairway. She was taken to the Elizabeth City hospital where an operation was necessary.

MASONS MEET TONIGHT
Masonic Lodge No. 7, A. F. & A. M., will hold their regular meeting tonight at 8 o'clock. All Masons are invited to attend.

Warren Presents Facts About County At Rotary Meeting

County's Bonded Indebtedness Less Than In Many Years

FAITH IN SECTION

Edenton's December Retail Sales Largest In History of Town

Rotarians at their meeting last Thursday were presented some data concerning the town and county in a very interesting address by D. M. Warren, who was the principal speaker. In beginning his talk, Mr. Warren said that ordinarily statistics formed a tiresome subject, but that Rotarians, he thought, should know more about their town and county.

Leading his remarks with facts about the county liquor store, he said that about \$100,000 represented sales in the local store since it began operation late in 1937. Of this amount about \$60,000 has gone out of the State for liquor purchases, and while he was neutral in reference to a liquor store, he could not understand why, if it is right to sell liquor in the State, the right is not given to manufacture it in the State in order to secure much of this revenue. Mr. Warren emphasized the fact that liquor profits have resulted in a reduction of the county tax rate, and that if this profit is not forthcoming, either the rate would have to be boosted or else the county would have to eliminate some of the appropriations now in effect.

An encouraging phase of Mr. Warren's remarks was the fact that the county at present owes less money than in a score or more years, the present bonded indebtedness being \$470,000, which includes \$340,000 in road bonds and \$131,000 in school bonds. This indebtedness is gradually being reduced.

Quite encouraging, too, was Mr. Warren's reference to retail trade in Edenton during the year just ended. In 1939, he said, retail sales in Edenton amounted to approximately \$1,360,000 and that during December \$170,000 worth of merchandise was sold, which was the largest amount (Continued on Page Eight)

Red Men Will Hold Annual Banquet At 7:30 Tuesday Night

Affair Will Be Held at Cross Roads Community House

Chowan Tribe of Red Men will hold their annual banquet next Tuesday night, at which time wives of the members will also attend. This year's banquet will take place in the new Community Building at Cross Roads, where a turkey supper will be served by the Chowan Woman's Club. The affair will begin promptly at 7:30 o'clock and over 100 are expected to attend.

An interesting program is being prepared for the occasion, at which Walter Cohoon, Jr., of Elizabeth City, will make the principal address. Tickets for the banquet were put on sale Monday and the entire membership will be solicited in an effort to get as many to attend as possible.

Dr. McDonald Open Forum Speaker Here

Public Invited to Hear and Take Part In Timely Discussion on March 5 Which Is Sponsored By Ed Bond Post of the American Legion

Sponsored by Ed Bond Post of the American Legion, an open forum will be held in Edenton on Tuesday night, March 5. The forum will take place in the high school auditorium, beginning at 8 o'clock.

Interest in this forum will undoubtedly be aroused due to the fact that the speaker for the occasion will be Dr. Ralph McDonald, who gave Governor Hoey and his forces quite a scare in the last gubernatorial race. Dr. McDonald will use as his subject "Federal Aid to Education or Next Steps In Education." After

Edenton-Chowan Chamber Of Commerce Vigorously Opposed To Rerouting Of U. S. 17 Over Albemarle Sound Bridge

PTA Question Box Changed To Mar. 5

Other Events at Same Time Causes Postponement

Mrs. R. F. Elliott, president of the Edenton P. T. A., has found it necessary to postpone the question box planned by the Association on March 1st, to March 5, because of a conflict with other events coming at that time. The affair will be held in the school library, to which a small admission charge will be made.

A group of 50 questions are being arranged by Mrs. Ep Debnam, Richard Dixon and Philip McMullan, with a prize of \$5 to go to the person guessing the most correct answers. While the quiz contest is being corrected, an old-time spelling bee will be conducted, with a \$1 prize going to the best speller.

At the conclusion of the contest, tea and sandwiches will be served.

A & P Soon To Have Enlarged Quarters

Carpenters are now at work renovating the interior of the Dixon building on the corner of Broad and King Streets, which has been vacant for several months. When the work is completed the building will be occupied by the A. & P. Tea Company, which organization plans to add a meat market to its present store. The A. & P. at present occupies the adjoining building, the two buildings to be transformed into one large store room, with a new front and greatly enlarged floor space.

BANK CLOSED TODAY

The Bank of Edenton will be closed all day today (Thursday) in observance of George Washington's birthday, a national holiday. Doors of the bank will open as usual at 9 o'clock Friday morning.

W. Kerr Scott Will Be Principal Speaker For Farmers' Night

Banquet Held In Parish House Next Thursday Night

Farmers' Night will be observed by the Edenton Rotary Club next Thursday night in the Parish House, when approximately 50 farmers from every section of the county will be guests of the Rotarians. The affair is always one of pleasure to the Rotarians and this year's banquet should be of especial interest to the farmers due to the fact that W. Kerr Scott, commissioner of agriculture, will make the principal address.

Arrangements for an interesting program are already under way and President William Jones anticipates another 100 per cent meeting. The affair is scheduled to get under way promptly at 7 o'clock.

Lions Club Hears Facts About Blind

Mrs. Dorothy Tucker Speaks at Meeting on Monday Night

With almost every member present, Edenton Lions enjoyed a very interesting meeting Monday night when Mrs. Dorothy Tucker of the State Blind Commission, spoke on various phases of her work. Adding interest to the meeting was a quiz conducted by Mrs. Tucker regarding the blind situation in North Carolina, in which Oscar Duncan won the prize.

Mrs. Tucker told the Lions that there are 6,000 blind people in the State and emphasized the importance of the blind project adopted by Lions clubs. The program was in charge of Dr. P. W. Tedder, who introduced Mrs. Tucker.

Following the meeting the directors were called into session to discuss special work among boys in the community. T. J. Wood, Dr. P. W. Tedder and Rev. W. C. Benson were appointed as a committee to investigate and make recommendations to the club.

13 Prisoners In Jail Horrified As Inmate Sets Fire To Bedding

Johnny Shaw Creates Excitement Sunday After Arrest

No doubt in the expectation of gaining his freedom, Johnny Shaw on two separate occasions Sunday evening set fire to bed clothing in a cell in the Chowan jail, causing the building to become filled with smoke and requiring the services of the fire department. Thirteen prisoners were in jail at the time, causing much excitement due to fears of stifling from the smoke.

Shaw, together with W. A. Sexton, Sr., Kenneth Bazemore and Tommy Brooks, colored, were arrested while on a drunken party in an automobile. At a hearing in Recorder's Court Tuesday, Shaw was given 60 days on the roads and will be brought back for the April term of Superior Court to face a charge of arson.

Sexton's sentence was 90 days on the roads or a fine of \$60 and costs and showing good behavior for 12 months. His automobile, which he was driving, was confiscated and ordered sold for transporting illegal whiskey.

Bazemore was fined \$5 and costs and must show good behavior for 12 (Continued on Page Five)

Ford Agency Now In Knitting Mill

Tom Byrum, E. Q. White And J. Alvin White Owners

Edenton's newest enterprise is a Ford agency which is located in the old knitting mill on East Hicks Street, unoccupied for many years. The name of the new concern is Edenton Motors, providing sales and service for Ford cars.

Owners of the business are Tom Byrum, of Center Hill; E. Q. White, of Winfall, and J. Alvin White, of Hertford. Each of the trio has had considerable experience in the automobile business and is very well and favorably known in this section.

The brick building which for many years remained vacant affords ample room for display of cars, as well as years has been without a Ford for servicing, and the newcomers expect to place Ford cars in the forefront in a section which for several agencies.

The building and grounds are undergoing renovations and cleaning up and the three partners in the business extend an invitation to all to visit their plant.

Resolution Passed at Meeting Held Tuesday Night

WILL FIGHT

Committee Named to Meet With Windsor And Williamston

One of the most interesting and best attended business meetings in recent months of the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce was held Tuesday night in the Municipal Building when 27 members were on hand to discuss suggested activities of the organization which was entered into with a vim. Secretary J. H. McMullan presented 14 items which should interest members, and each one came in for its share of comment.

However, the one resulting in the greatest amount of discussion pertained to tampering with U. S. Route 17. A newspaper article in the Elizabeth City Advance of Monday crediting John Darden of Plymouth with a desire to re-route 17 from about five miles from Edenton over the Albemarle Sound bridge into Plymouth aroused strong protest. And subsequent editorial comment in the same newspaper relative to an alternate route of 17-A to appease Edenton met with just as strong opposition. The organization went on record as opposed to any tampering with re-routing 17, and to prove that it means business, President Millard F. Bond, Jr., appointed a committee to confer with officials in Windsor and Williamston with power to institute a fight if necessary to prevent any change in the present route. This committee is composed of E. W. Spires, G. H. Harding and Mayor J. H. McMullan, all three executives of the Ocean Highway Association. It was brought out that the organization desires to cooperate and work in harmony with every town in the (Continued On Page Five)

Democrats Name Board Members

Burton and McMullan Members of Board of Elections

At a meeting of the Chowan County Democratic Executive Committee held Saturday afternoon in the Court House, Lloyd C. Burton, as chairman and Philip McMullan as the second member of the Democratic portion of the County Board of Elections were chosen. These two will be recommended to the State Board of Elections and will almost without doubt be approved. They are at present members of the Board.

A goodly number was on hand for the meeting, which was presided over by Warner Evans, chairman, who stated that precinct meetings will be held on Saturday, May 4, to be followed by the county meeting on the following Saturday, May 11. The State meeting will be held on May 17. At Saturday's meeting every precinct was represented except East Edenton.

J. L. Horne Speaker At Newspaper Meeting In Edenton On March 9

Northeastern North Carolina weekly newspaper editors and publishers will hold their monthly meeting in Edenton on Saturday night, March 9. That a goodly number of newspaper folk will be on hand is expected due to the fact that J. L. Horne, Jr., of Rocky Mount, will make the principal address.

Mr. Horne will direct his remarks at various forms of propaganda in behalf of the objectives of the Board of Conservation and Development, and that his address will be one of especial interest to the newspaper people is not doubted.

R. F. ELLIOTT BETTER

Friends will be glad to know that Richard F. Elliott, who has been very ill the past ten days, was right much improved Wednesday. Mr. Elliott is suffering with an abscessed throat, but at first was thought to have contracted diphtheria.