

Operation ABC Store Thoroughly Aired at Joint Meeting Of Boards Monday

Investigation Held Following Arrests For Illegal Sale

CHARGES DENIED

Vote Taken Retains All Members of ABC Board

Meeting jointly Monday morning the County Commissioners, County Board of Education and Board of Health aired growing complaints and criticism of operation of the Chowan ABC store, which developed since the illegal sale of whiskey was brought to light about a week ago, resulting in the arrest of Harry F. Stallings of Kinston and Rupert Goodwin, manager of the store. Since Stallings' arrest, when he had eight cases of whiskey in his car, he apparently committed suicide, his body having been found drowned near Kinston.

In calling the joint meeting of the three boards, which have the power to elect or discharge members of the ABC Board, West Byrum, chairman of the Commissioners, stated that no little complaint had been registered with him recently and it was his desire to have a meeting to determine if the criticism and complaints had any foundation and if so, to take steps to remedy the situation, and if not, to bring an end to the increasing rumors.

After stating the purpose of the meeting, Mr. Byrum asked if it was the desire of those present to proceed with an investigation. A motion was subsequently made and unanimously passed to conduct an investigation.

E. A. Helms, a clerk in the store when Stallings and Goodwin were arrested, was the first witness called. Helms stated that he began working as a clerk on May 1, and shortly thereafter Gus Beasley, the other store clerk, advised him to watch the stock, as whiskey in case lots was disappearing Thursday nights. Helms said he noticed that cases of whiskey would be missing and that later the following day the sale would be registered on the cash register. Thursday before the arrests, Helms said, he found a check from H. F. Stallings in his cash register, after which he informed Sergeant George Dail of the State Highway Patrol. Dail, said Helms, watched the following night and saw Goodwin loading the whiskey in his car and took it to a warehouse on the waterfront, from where it was loaded on Stallings' car. Dail and C. D. Fentress then went out along the Windsor highway, where they stopped Stallings and arrested him, the latter claiming that he bought it from Goodwin.

Quite a few questions were asked Helms, among which were if members of the ABC Board or others had purchased whiskey without coupons, and if liquor had been held under cover and sold only to certain persons. Helms' answer was "yes" to both questions. Another statement was made that one member of the board had been seen on the

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Richard D. Dixon Is Not Reappointed As Superior Court Judge

Governor Cherry Reduces Special Judges From Six To Three

In Governor Gregg Cherry's appointment of special Superior Court judges Saturday, Judge Richard D. Dixon was one of three who were not reappointed, the Governor reducing the number of special judges from six to three. Those reappointed and sworn in at the Governor's office were Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn, Judge Luther Hamilton and Judge Hubert E. Olive, while the three not reappointed were Judge Dixon, Judge Jeff D. Johnston, Jr. and Judge J. C. Rudisill.

The Governor said that under present war conditions he could not see any necessity for appointing six special judges.

Judge Dixon was appointed to the Judgeship four years ago when Governor J. M. Broughton was elected.

Entire Magazine Page Devoted To Edenton Marine

An entire page of the Pictorial Magazine section of the Baltimore American on Sunday was devoted to a picture of Joseph C. Griffin, Edenton Marine, and his dog, Max, a Doberman pinscher. The drawing was made by Gilbert Bundy for King Features Syndicate, who says it was difficult to get Private Max to sit while the Marine stood still even though the dog and boy were dead tired after long hours at flaming battle lines.

Extension Of Rural Lines Planned By Edenton Officials

Projects Discussed at Joint Meeting Tuesday Night

Meeting jointly Tuesday night, Town Council and the Board of Public Works discussed proposed projects of the latter board which, if completed, will represent an expenditure of approximately \$150,000. These projects include the extension of rural electric lines, which is estimated to cost from \$15,000 to \$25,000. As previously discussed, it is intended to improve the town's water by installing a softening system and centralization of the electric system which includes a modern building on the town property on Freemason street. This project is estimated to cost \$80,000.

Another project contemplated when finances warrant is a swimming pool which is calculated to cost in the neighborhood of \$30,000. Besides, it is necessary to replace wires on the town's whiteway very shortly and this is estimated to cost possibly \$5,000.

The announcement of these improvements prefaced the remarks of J. H. Conger, chairman of the Board of Public Works, who advanced the idea that Town Council refrain from asking for any electric and water earnings for a period of possibly five years so that the above projects can sooner be realized.

However, the matter of appropriations made by Town Council for purposes for which, under the law, no tax levy can be made, were brought out and after a thorough discussion it was finally agreed that Town Council would secure \$5,000 from electric and water profits this year, which will aid in holding down the tax rate, at present apparently certain to be materially boosted.

Of course, \$80,000 has been earmarked for improving the water and electric systems, and Town Councilmen on Tuesday night approved the expenditure to extend rural electric lines if the Board of Public Works deemed the project of benefit to the town. After some further investigation on the part of E. & W. members this project will get under way within a short time, providing nothing develops which would tend to change the minds relative to the expansion being an asset.

Beoref adjourning, Town Council considered the possibility of removing sunken piles at the county dock and dredging in order to provide adequate facilities for boats to come in to the harbor. It was brought out that the DuPont company needs safer docking facilities, as well as more space being needed for watermelon boats. J. Clarence Leary, Jordan Yates and J. Edwin Buflap were appointed to make an investigation relative to the amount and nature of work necessary as well as the cost involved.

ROBERT E. ASHLEY ON DUTY IN THE PACIFIC

Coast Guardsman Robert E. Ashley, chief boatswain's mate, of McClellanville, S. C., is serving aboard a Coast Guard-manned army freight-supply ship in the Pacific. The sturdy supply vessel delivers equipment to invasion forces carving an island road through the Pacific to the Jap homeland.

Coast Guardsman Ashley's wife and two sons live in McClellanville. He is the son of Mrs. R. L. Ashley of Edenton.

Sgt. John Byrum Returns Home After Being War Prisoner

Forced to March 77 Days Before Being Liberated

S-Sgt. John Byrum, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Byrum, returned home Sunday to spend a 60-day furlough. Sgt. Byrum, a tail gunner on a bomber, was a prisoner of the Germans for 8½ months, having been captured when his plane was shot down over Hungary on September 1, 1944.

No little concern was caused on the part of relatives and friends when it was reported that he was missing, for no word was heard concerning him for months. He underwent many hardships while a German prisoner, being forced to march 77 days before he was liberated by the British. He lost considerable weight due to lack of food and rest, but is rapidly gaining weight and strength.

Sgt. Byrum has been awarded the Purple Heart, Oak Leaf Cluster and the Air Medal.

At the end of his leave Sgt. Byrum will report at Palm Beach for reassignment.

Pvt. Wm. Stokely Home From Prison Camp In Germany

Edenton Boy Held In Stalag IIB For Seven Months

Private William Stokely returned home last week after experiencing almost seven months in a German prison camp. Pvt. Stokely, a member of the 29th Division of the 115th Infantry, was taken prisoner while in a foxhole in Germany on October 21, 1944, and was released by the Russians on May 3, 1945.

While a prisoner, Pvt. Stokely was confined in Stalag IIB, where he was poorly fed and was obliged to sleep on a wooden box in quarters which were extremely unsanitary. While interned, relatives had no news from him until a month or more ago, when radio listeners heard a request that his wife be notified that he was safe in a German prison camp. He is scheduled to report to Miami, Fla., on August 21 for reassignment.

Baptist Bible School Finals Sunday Night

Commencement exercises for the vacation Bible school which is still in progress at the Baptist Church will be held in the auditorium of the Baptist Church Sunday evening at 8 o'clock.

The program will consist of a devotional period in which all the pupils will participate as they have each morning during the school. This will be followed by a brief program by each of the four departments: Beginner, Primary, Junior and Intermediate. The handbook which has been made by the pupils during the two weeks of school will be on display. The Rev. E. L. Wells, pastor, and Mrs. Senterfitt, principal of the school, urge especially that the parents of all the children who have been attending regularly be present. The public is cordially invited also.

We Dood It Again

Chowan County Exceeds E Bond Quota By More Than \$10,000; Overall Quota Shoots Over Goal By More Than \$247,000

Chowan County has again not only met but far surpassed its quota in both the overall and E bond quotas in the Seventh War Loan drive, Chairman T. C. Byrum and W. H. Gardner reporting Wednesday morning that sale of E bonds totaled \$151,438, the quota being \$141,000. In the overall quota the county far exceeded the quota of \$385,000, total sales amounting to \$632,938, or \$247,938 beyond the quota. Both quotas were the highest

Legion And Auxiliary Officers Installed At Meeting On July 10th

Barbecue Chicken Dinner On Green Precedes Meeting

New officers for Ed Bond Post, No. 40, American Legion, and the Legion Auxiliary will be installed Tuesday night, July 10, in connection with which a barbecue chicken dinner will be held. The dinner will be served on the Court House Green at 7:30 o'clock, after which the installation ceremony will take place in the Court House. Tickets for the dinner are now on sale by R. L. Pratt, J. W. White and at Leggett & Davis drug store. The public is invited to attend both the dinner and installation.

Roy L. McMillan of Raleigh will be in charge of the installation of Legion officers, while Mrs. McMillan will install the Auxiliary officers. Mr. McMillan is a past State commander and a former national vice commander. He is being sponsored by North Carolina posts as a candidate for national commander.

Edmund Schwarze was elected as commander of Ed Bond Post, but due to present business conditions, he is unable to serve, so that Shelton W. Moore, who was elected as first vice commander, will be installed as commander. Mr. Schwarze will be first vice commander. Other officers who will be installed follow: William S. Elliott, second vice commander; Jordan Yates, third vice commander; J. W. White, adjutant and finance officer; John A. Holmes, service officer; T. C. Byrum, assistant service officer; W. C. Bunch, chaplain and R. L. Pratt, sergeant-at-arms. J. L. Chestnut is the outgoing commander.

For the Auxiliary Mrs. J. Paul Holoman will be installed as president, succeeding Mrs. J. W. White.

Union Bible School Will Close Friday

Exercises Will Be Held In Methodist Church At 8 P. M.

Friday will bring to a close the Jaily vacation Bible School held jointly for two weeks by the Presbyterian, Episcopal and Methodist Churches. In the neighborhood of 75 children have been enrolled in the school with classes conducted at the Methodist and Presbyterian churches and at St. Paul's Parish House for various groups. A great deal of interest has been shown, so that it is felt that the school has been a success.

A program will be presented in the Methodist Church Friday night at 8 o'clock, when those enrolled will take part. The program will reflect in part what has been learned during the two weeks' session. Parents and friends are cordially invited to attend.

Standard Oil Company Allocates \$1,500 In War Bonds To County Credit

J. A. Burglass, field supervisor, with headquarters in Elizabeth City, has announced that Standard Oil Company of New Jersey had purchased war bonds in the amount of \$500,000.00 in North Carolina in connection with the Seventh War Loan Drive. In line with the company's policy of allocating this purchase among the 100 counties of North Carolina in proportion to each county's quota, Chowan County has been allotted \$1,500.

ever allocated to the county and at the outset both Byrum and Gardner realized it was a huge task, but throughout the drive felt that Chowan County people would live up to their past reputation despite the large amounts asked.

Both of the chairmen are very much elated over the success of the drive and desire to thank all workers and those who purchased bonds to help maintain a perfect record for the county.

Directors Of Hospital Sign Contract For Plans And Construction Supervision

Edenton Marine Gets Big Scare In Iwo Jima Foxhole

Joseph C. Griffin Also Shares In Capturing Jap Prisoner

A spent flare that fell in his foxhole somewhere in the Pacific scared Marine Private Joseph C. Griffin more than anything else during the battle of Iwo Jima.

The incident occurred during the 19-year-old Leatherneck's first night at the front. A member of Third War Dog Platoon, Third Marine Division, Griffin and his Doberman pinscher, "Mac" had been assigned to a regiment for bivouac security and patrolling.

Griffin was on security watch at



PVT. JOSEPH C. GRIFFIN

the time. The bivouac area was in the weird ridge-and-ravine country of northern Iwo.

Flares, fired above the area by warships off shore, were kept constantly burning to discourage Jap infiltration.

Griffin was in a foxhole with two other marines. Overseas only three and a half months at the time and without previous battle experience, he was more than ordinarily apprehensive.

"Grenade!" yelled one of the men, executing an upward dive. The bottom of the flare, which had burnt itself out, plopped into the hole.

Griffin and the other man also reacted like released springs. They leaped out of the hole, floundering in the blankets in which they had wrapped themselves for the night.

"It's a wonder we weren't shot for Japs in the commotion," said Griffin. "I lost my carbine in the scramble and didn't find it till morning."

During the next two weeks Griffin had another exciting experience. He shared in the capture of a Jap.

"It was about 8:30 in the morning," said Griffin. "We were still in our foxholes. We saw the Jap about 150 yards away. He was running. A guy and I took after him. The other fellow yelled, 'Hey!' The Jap turned, saw us, stopped and held up his hands. He was unarmed." When questioned, the Jap said he had slipped away from 50 other Japs in a cave with the intention of surrendering. He later made an unsuccessful attempt to talk the others into giving themselves up.

Griffin, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Griffin, was born and reared in Edenton. He played on the football, basketball and baseball teams of Edenton High School, leaving in his senior year to join the Marine Corps.

Eric G. Flannagan of Henderson Is Selected For Initial Job

SITES SURVEYED Local Committee Visits Randolph County Hospital

Eric G. Flannagan, architect-engineer, of Henderson, N. C., has signed a contract with the directors of the Chowan County Hospital Association to draw plans and supervise the construction of the proposed hospital for Edenton and Chowan County. Mr. Flannagan was chosen after personal interviews with a number of the leading architects in North Carolina and Virginia. His selection by the directors was based on the fact that he specializes in hospital work and on his record of building hospitals in this and adjoining states.

Among the hospitals and hospital buildings constructed under his direction are the Randolph County Hospital, Granville Hospital, Harnett County Hospital, Cabarrus County Hospital (including a 75 bed addition), nurses' home and 50 bed addition to Roanoke Rapids Hospital, sanitoriums in Henderson, Halifax, Edgecomb Counties and numerous others. He is at the present time supervising the building of several hospitals, the largest being a 150 bed plant at Petersburg, Virginia, and a 100 bed hospital and 75 bed nurses' home in Burlington.

A committee from the directors, composed of Albert Byrum, West Byrum, J. Clarence Leary, John Wood and Marvin Wilson, visited the hospital in Randolph County and was much impressed with its "frankness and style. This is a plant comparable in size to the one planned for Chowan county and is considered the outstanding hospital of its size in this area. An addition to it is now underway under Mr. Flannagan's supervision.

Surveys of proposed sites are now being made and the drawing of the plans will get underway as soon as this preliminary phase is completed.

Board Of Health Votes To Abolish County Physician

Budget of \$3,250 For Year Approved at Meeting Friday

At a meeting of the Chowan County Board of Health Friday afternoon it was decided to recommend to the County Commissioners that the office of County Physician be abolished, the position now held by Dr. John W. Warren. It was brought out at the meeting that the County Health Officer of the Chowan-Bertie-Gates Health District performs similar duties in Bertie and Gates and that under the program these duties could be performed in Chowan without the added expense of a county physician.

The matter will be decided by the commissioners at their July meeting, at which time the budget for the year 1945-46 will be adopted.

General health conditions in the county were also discussed at the meeting and the budget for the year approved, which calls for an appropriation of \$3,250.

Richard H. Goodwin Returns From Persia

Richard H. Goodwin, who for over a year has been in Persia in the employ of an oil company, returned home Friday and will be assigned to a position in this country. It required 35 days' time for him to arrive at New York from Persia, traveling by train and by boat. He was met in New York by his wife.

Robert McM. Francis Returns From Brazil

Robert McMullan Francis, AM 1-c this week returned from Brazil and is now visiting his wife and baby and parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Francis. Young Francis landed at Miami, Fla., and will on Saturday report to Norfolk for reassignment.