

THE CHOWAN HERALD

A HOME NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF CHOWAN COUNTY

Volume XIV.—Number 10.

Edenton, Chowan County, North Carolina, Thursday, March 6, 1947.

\$1.50 Per Year

Formal Opening Of Hospital Friday

Arrangements Made For Public To Visit And Inspect Plant Between 3 - 5 P. M.

Only Matter of Hours Until Patients Will Be Admitted

PERSONNEL LISTED

Auxiliary Boiler Being Installed For Sterilization Purposes

Again postponed by the necessity to install an auxiliary boiler for the purpose of sterilization, it now appears that the Chowan County Hospital at the Edenton Naval Air Station will be ready for operation within a matter of hours. Everything in the hospital itself is ready to receive patients, and it is expected that the final handicap will be completed today (Thursday), after which everything will be in readiness to operate.

Arrangements have been completed to observe the formal opening Friday afternoon, when the hospital will be open for public inspection between the hours of 3 and 5 o'clock. It is hoped many people will avail themselves of the opportunity to visit and inspect the hospital prior to going into full operation.

At present 57 beds and six bassinets are ready for use, and what few items were necessary when the Navy abandoned the hospital have since been added.

Adequate and competent personnel has been secured and all are ready and eager to get down to real business.

Dr. Frank Wood, a native of Edenton, is medical director and surgeon, while Miss Lucille Hall of Durham, is business manager. Mrs. Margaret Jenkins of Baltimore is anesthetist. Miss Francis Tillett of Elizabeth City is bookkeeper and Miss Grace Wilkins of Edenton is secretary to Miss Hall. Miss Michael Rath holds the important position of laboratory and X-ray technician. Miss Rath is a native of Chatham County and a graduate of the Duke School of Medicine.

Five graduate nurses are at present employed and include Misses Anne Tucker and Helen White of Hertford, Miss Rosa Gosney of Greensboro, Miss Virginia Early of Old Fort, N. C., and Miss Nina Culbertson of Chapel Hill. Mrs. Pearl Hall, mother of Miss Hall, is hostess in the nurses' home.

There are five nurses' aides, who are all Chowan County girls, including Misses Marguerite Ward, Colleen Roberts, Lenora Cobb, Beulah Blanchard and Nina Emminger.

Mrs. Carl Cease will be in charge of the kitchen, having as cooks Lindsay Blount and Sawyer Belle Clemmons, both of Edenton. Orderlies are Lorenzo Collins and Herbert Gramby. Albert D. Chestnutt, of Baltimore, an ex-Navy man who was stationed at the base, but decided to remain in Edenton, is the fireman.

When the hospital is opened for business there will be 57 beds available, with 12 private rooms for white patients and two semi-private rooms for colored. The remainder of the beds will be in roomy, clean and very desirable wards. Those in charge of the hospital are very well pleased with the plant as a whole, and are looking forward to being of great service not only to Chowan County, but over a wide area in this section of the State.

An oil burner is now enroute for providing heat for the nurses' home, and it is expected this problem will be solved within a few days. In the meantime the nurses are making their home in the main hospital as a temporary arrangement in order to speed up the hospital opening.

CHARLES F. RUSSELL ILL

Charles F. Russell is seriously ill at his home on North Broad Street, although on Tuesday night he was somewhat improved. Mr. Russell several weeks ago suffered an attack, but recovered and was able to return to his work as night watchman for the Electric and Water Department. On Wednesday of last week, however, he again became violently ill and was in serious condition for several days.

ILL WITH MUMPS

Miss Dorothy Buflap has been confined to her home since Tuesday of last week with a stubborn case of mumps. She is somewhat improved, but still unable to leave the house.

Time To Complain

Chowan County Commissioners will sit as a Board of Equalization and Review on Monday, March 17, at which time they will hear any complaints relative to the valuation of property in the county. This is the only time the Commissioners can legally alter any valuations, so that complaints must be registered at that time.

The Commissioners will meet at 10 o'clock and continue in session until all complaints are heard.

Up-County Citizens Make Another Bid For Gym At Chowan

Group Appears Again Monday Before Commissioners

Upper Chowan County citizens, representing the Ruritan Club and Chowan Parent Teachers Association, made another bid for a gymnasium at Chowan High School when a delegation from both groups appeared before the County Commissioners Monday morning.

Upper Chowan County citizens, representing the Ruritan Club and Chowan Parent Teachers Association, made another bid for a gymnasium at Chowan High School when a delegation from both groups appeared before the County Commissioners Monday morning.

The Commissioners admitted the need is apparent, but faced with other very costly school needs, again expressed the opinion that both the city and county school units should compile a list of their actual needs and arrive at a figure which will be necessary to make the improvements, after which a bond issue should be voted on by the voters of the county. This, apparently, is about the only way the Commissioners can and will consider any school needs, for they were frank in stating that they realize something should and must be done about the schools, yet the most important angle is financing, which will have to come through a bond issue.

Jurymen Chosen For Next Term Of Court

Judge Everett Thompson Will Preside Over April Session

Jurymen for the next term of Chowan Superior Court were drawn by the County Commissioners at their monthly meeting Monday. The term of court will convene Monday, March 31, with Judge Everett Thompson of Elizabeth City presiding.

Those drawn for jury duty were as follows:

Fred Hoskins, Roland Ashley, N. E. Jordan, L. W. Privott, H. E. Bunch, Lewis George Wilkins, Jimmie Jordan, Kermit L. Layton, Ellsworth Blanchard, J. D. Ward, J. A. Webb, Jr., Thomas B. Wood, Sidney Campen, W. H. Heath, Henderson Ray, Peele, A. M. Harrell, M. P. Perry, Howard Overton, E. J. Ward, Thurston D. Stallings, Thomas J. Hoskins, Jr., J. T. Parrish, A. V. Abell, McCoy Spivey, Jacob Spivey, R. H. Byrum, George E. Hassell, J. A. Curran, T. Eric Haste, Jesse W. White, C. C. Privott, J. L. Collins, E. E. Privott, Johnnie Bass, Fred Davenport and H. V. Bass.

Most Sordid Crime In History Of Edenton Committed By Negro

John Eggleston Held on Charge of Raping 7-Year-Old White Girl

One of the most sickening and disgusting crimes ever perpetrated in Edenton occurred Thursday morning of last week when an attempt was made to rape little Margaret Alexander, 7-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Alexander, who live on the old Hertford road about a quarter mile from W. O. Spight's gin house.

Shortly after the attack John T. (Alligator) Eggleston, 30-year-old Negro, was arrested in Edenton by State Patrolman Clyde Pentress. When confronted by the Negro, the little girl identified him as the man who committed the crime.

According to the little girl's story as told by Sheriff J. A. Bunch, she was on her way to school, being a member of the first grade in the Edenton school. Near the gin house she met the Negro, who asked her to go into the gin house to look at some baby chicks. The girl refused, saying that she had to go to school. But, according to her story, she was taken by the hand and forced into the house.

Instead of going to school, she went back home, where it was learned that she had been attacked and the police notified.

After his arrest Eggleston denied the charge despite being identified by the little girl. He appeared rather unconcerned about being held in connection with the crime as he was confined and questioned in the police station, and up to Tuesday night did not admit the crime.

Though quite a bit of feeling developed in connection with the crime, no disorder was apparent. However, as a precautionary measure, Sheriff J. A. Bunch removed the prisoner from Chowan County Thursday night. Up to Tuesday night, no date was set for a hearing.

Creswell Boys And Plymouth Girls Win Basketball Tourney

Mary Trueblood of Roper Chosen as Queen Saturday Night

Creswell High School boys and the girls' team from Plymouth won top honors in the local basketball tournament held in Edenton the latter part of last week. Edenton's two teams, paired with Sunbury High School, were forced from the tournament when the latter teams failed to put in an appearance.

The finals were played Thursday night with both boys' and girls' teams from Creswell and Plymouth winning out in the semi-finals and meeting for the championship.

The Creswell boys had little trouble in downing Plymouth, the score being 40-16.

The Plymouth girls' team had a hard fight on its hands and finally edged ahead of the Creswell girls, winning by a score of 18-13.

The climax to the tournament occurred Saturday night when a beauty contest was held, with contestants entered from the towns represented in the tournament. Miss Mary Trueblood of Roper won out as the queen of the tournament.

Another feature Saturday night was an athletic program arranged by Coach Tex Lindsay. The program opened with a basketball game between sixth and seventh grade girls, followed by a game between boys from the same two grades.

Jimmy Cates gave a punching bag exhibition, which was followed by a boxing bout between Rodney Cayton and Lyn Boswell. The match was declared a draw by Referee Jimmy Cates. Ping pong and roller skating was also enjoyed by a goodly number of the young people.

MRS. DAVIS IMPROVING

Friends will be pleased to learn that Mrs. J. S. Davis, who has been critically ill at her home on North Broad Street for the past four weeks, is much improved and able to be down stairs. Mrs. Davis will be delighted to have her friends call and see her.

Sentiment Develops For Another Series Community Concerts

Membership Drive to Be Held During Week of March 31 - April 5

At a meeting of directors of the local Community Concert Association Thursday night, it was decided, in view of the popularity of the concerts already held, to conduct another membership drive to schedule a series of concerts another season. The date of the drive was set to begin March 31 and end April 5, during which time members must join if they desire to attend any of the forthcoming concerts. The campaign will be conducted along similar lines as the last one. J. W. Davis and Mrs. R. F. Elliott made the suggestion that the same canvassers serve, in view of their splendid results.

Mrs. Elliott stated that the 20-piece St. Louis Little Symphony can be secured for Edenton if enough memberships are secured, the sort of talent depending upon the number of members. It is the hope of many interested persons that since the concerts have been so well received, many more people will want to become members.

Mrs. Elliott also stated that tables will be placed in the high school on the night of the final concert in order to secure memberships. This plan was adopted after it was pointed out that it might be more convenient for members to join than to wait until they are canvassed. It is permissible to join before the membership drive, according to Mrs. Elliott, but after April 5 no more memberships will be sold.

At Thursday's meeting Edmund Schwarze, secretary, was given a rising vote of thanks for his interest and work in connection with the concerts. Mr. Schwarze will soon leave Edenton, so that R. F. Elliott was chosen to succeed him as secretary.

School Lunch Room Affected By Lack Of Federal Funds

Necessary to Add Extra Five Cents For Milk Served With Meal

Local school lunch room officials are faced with a critical situation in that Federal funds have been practically exhausted, so that with this aid lacking, some necessary changes will have to be made. While the local program has been hard hit, as of March 1, about the only change made is a charge of an extra five cents for milk. Up to that time meals were served for 15 cents, which included milk, for which the school was reimbursed nine cents per plate. Now, however, it is necessary to charge the usual 15 cents for the meal and if milk is desired, it will cost an extra five cents.

It will, of course, be necessary to ferret out other ways of cutting down on lunch room expense, though those in charge of the lunch room say an adequate meal will continue to be served the children.

Reason for the dwindling Federal aid has come about by increased participation which is far beyond predictions made at the beginning of the school year. At present there are 1,233 schools in the program with an average of 289,520 pupils participating daily. This is an increase of 77,911 pupils per day over last year's number.

Chowan PTA Meets Tuesday, March 11

The Parent-Teacher Association of Chowan High School will hold its regular meeting Tuesday night, March 11, at 7:30 o'clock in the school auditorium. All patrons are urged to attend.

The State program of the Parent-Teacher Association is on "Health," and Miss Leary, county health nurse, is scheduled to be present and give a short talk.

AUXILIARY MEETS FRIDAY

A meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary will be held at the home of Mrs. W. W. Byrum, 212 West Queen Street, Friday night at 8 o'clock. Mrs. J. Paul Holoman, president, requests all members to attend.

Town Of Edenton Charges Hervey Foundation Broke Contract; Damages Asked

At Last!

W. W. Byrum, chairman of the Chowan County Commissioners, was informed this week by Highway Commissioner Merrill Evans that the contract was let to hard surface the road from Valhalla through Rocky Hook to Cross Roads. The contractor has arrived on the scene and work is expected to begin very shortly.

Mr. Byrum was also informed that the Cowpen Neck road going by the Macedonia Church will probably be hard surfaced during the summer.

Another Candidate Is Seeking Nomination In Primary On May 6

Frank Holmes Says He Will Be Candidate In First Ward

That more interest is developing in the Edenton Democratic Primary Election to be held Tuesday, May 6, than was apparent in 1945, is reflected in the fact that another candidate has announced his intention to run for office. The latest candidate is Frank Holmes, who will seek election as Councilman from the First Ward, now represented by J. Clarence Leary.

Last week George S. Twiddy announced his candidacy as Councilman from the Third Ward, while Mayor Leroy Hasket, though not filing officially, has made the statement that he will definitely be a candidate for reelection. While there are rumors that there will be aspirants for other city offices, no prospective candidate has officially notified Town Clerk R. E. Leary.

Mr. Holmes, the latest candidate, is a graduate of the University of North Carolina, graduating in 1940 with an AB degree in political science. He is vice president and sales manager of the W. D. Holmes Wholesale Grocery, Inc., he and his brother, William having taken over the business after the death of their father, the late W. D. Holmes. He is married and has one child, the family making their home in Pembroke Circle. He is also a past president of the Edenton Rotary Club and a past Scoutmaster of Troop 156, Edenton Boy Scouts.

Wake Forest Alumni To Meet At Colerain Next Tuesday Night

Former Governor J. M. Broughton Principal Speaker

Alumni of Wake Forest College will gather in a reunion Tuesday night of next week when a barbecue chicken dinner will be served at 7:30 o'clock in the community building at Colerain. The affair is sponsored by four Colerain alumni of Wake Forest, Tom Belch, Melvin Perry, Joe Jenkins and Elliott Harrell.

The principal address for the occasion will be made by former Governor J. M. Broughton, and among other distinguished guests will be Jim Weaver, athletic director, and Prof. J. G. Carroll of the Mathematics Department.

The dinner will be free to Wake Forest alumni, and provisions will be made to accommodate 150. Any Wake Forest alumni are invited to attend, but an intention of attending must be reported to Walter Holton as soon as possible. Mr. Holton stated Tuesday night that up to that time 115 had already asked for reservations, so that any other planning to attend should notify him as early as possible.

Judge Thompson Names William S. Privott as Receiver

LONG AT ODDS

Defendant Required to Answer Summons on March 22nd

With officials of the Town of Edenton and the Hervey Foundation being at odds for a few months, court proceedings were instituted Monday of this week, when David Hervey, president of the Foundation, was served a complaint and summons by Sheriff J. A. Bunch. Earlier in the day Everett Thompson of Elizabeth City, Superior Court Judge, signed receivership papers and subsequently appointed William S. Privott as receiver. Mr. Privott on Tuesday assumed charge of the base, according to Judge Thompson's order.

Reason for the court action was based on the charge that the Hervey Foundation had broken its contract in several ways, the principal one of which was failure to furnish adequate heat for the operation of a hospital, the major reason for the Town of Edenton being interested in leasing the base from the Navy.

Due to the charge of breach of contract, the complaint asks \$50,000 or some other large sum as damages, taking into consideration that due to failure to furnish adequate heat for a hospital, it has been necessary for the Town of Edenton to erect a brick boiler room, move a boiler from another section of the base and has suffered considerable other monetary loss due to failure of the Hervey Foundation to carry out its terms of the sub-lease.

The legal angle of the court action was handled by John W. Craham, Town Attorney, and J. C. B. Ehringhaus of Raleigh.

Provisions of the complaint require the Hervey Foundation to appear on March 22 at 11 A. M. to show cause why the Town of Edenton should not regain control of that part of the Edenton Naval Air Station sub-leased to the Foundation.

In the meantime, Mr. Privott has accepted the receivership on a full time basis and is now engaged in taking an inventory and will be in complete charge, according to the court order, until the matter is finally settled.

Several weeks ago Town Council terminated the sub-lease of the Hervey Foundation due to the hospital heating requirement, but a counter charge was made that the Town had also failed to carry out its contract, so that while the action of the Foundation is not known at this writing, it is logical to expect that it will fight the receivership, thus culminating in court trial.

Carlton Will Resume Radio Broadcasts On Sunday, 1:30 To 1:45

"Let's Be Neighborly" Programs Weekly Over WCNC

Sponsored by three local business men, Peter Carlton, Executive Secretary of the Edenton-Chowan County Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association, goes back on the air again after a lapse of three months, with his own program entitled "Let's Be Neighborly." Beginning this coming Sunday, March 9, it will continue for 12 more consecutive Sundays from 1:30 to 1:45 P. M.

As Field Scout Executive with the Boy Scouts, Carlton had charge of all radio programs and wrote, directed and participated in the majority of them over WCNC of Elizabeth City and WTAR of Norfolk. Both programs ran concurrently for 14 months, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon. He received high praise from Dr. Elbert K. Fretwell, Chief Scout Executive, for this (Continued on Page Eight)