

Final Phase Reached For Securing Textile Operation

Town Council Will Present Proposal to Navy Department For Edenton NAS Property

Prospects Brighten to Secure an Area For Construction of Sewage Disposal Plant

Town Council and several other interested persons met in the Municipal Building Monday night to consider the possibility of the Town of Edenton securing the Edenton Naval Auxiliary Air Station primarily as an industrial site.

Meeting with the group were T. J. Crooks, representing Captain S. K. Wilson, CEC, USN, deputy district public works officer, Col. R. C. Berkley, Jr., representing Brig. Gen. E. C. Dyer, commanding officer at Cherry Point, and T-Sgt. A. F. Beeler, caretaker of the Edenton base.

Mr. Crooks explained the status of the Edenton station, stating that the Navy Department had screened the property and that it was not wanted by any branch of the armed forces. He said, however, that the Navy cannot negotiate a transfer of the property, which must be done by the General Services Administration. The GSA will, when the property is released to them by the Navy, again screen it and if not accepted by some branch of the armed services, efforts will be made to dispose of it, but that the property is not on the block for sale.

The first step to be taken by the Town Councilmen, Mr. Crooks pointed out, is to submit a firm proposal to the Navy Department setting forth for what purposes the town desired the property. He said he felt sure the Navy would analyze the proposal and relinquish the property to the GSA.

Mr. Crooks said he was not in position to say under what terms the property would be transferred to the town, but that in dealing with other branches of the service, the GSA was interested in a dollar and cents exchange and was eager to secure as much as possible for any surplus property. He said the book value of the Edenton base was something like \$13,000,000, but that due to deterioration the value would not be so high at present.

Col. Berkley at one point of the meeting said the Marine Corps was more or less a fly in the soup at the present time for the runways and approaches will be used at intervals as a bouncing field for jet planes from Continued on Page 6—Section 1

Commissioners Express Their Appreciation For Long, Loyal Service Of Two County Officials

Chowan County Commissioners at their meeting Monday morning read and had spread upon the minutes of the meeting two letters sent to J. A. Webb and E. W. Spires in appreciation for their long and loyal service to the county. Both officials retired from public office due to the most part to their health. Mr. Webb served as a County Commissioner for 38 years and Mr. Spires was Clerk of Superior Court for 17 years.

The letter to Mr. Webb follows: Dear Mr. Webb: Your recent voluntary retirement as a member of the Board of County Commissioners of Chowan County terminated a career of more than thirty-eight consecutive years.

At the close of this long and honorable period of service to our country, the members of this board desire to express to you their official and personal appreciation and commendation. Your good judgment and keen insight have contributed much to the smooth functioning of our board and to the welfare and security of Chowan County. Your capable and efficient service and close attention to detail have been of great benefit to the proper functioning of this board and to the security of Chowan County.

Chowan's First Baby In 1959



In above picture is Mrs. Edward Lee Smith, Route 1, Hobbsville, holding her son, Thomas Lee Smith. The baby was the first born in Chowan County in 1959, having arrived at Chowan Hospital at 2:22 P. M. on New Year's Day. Tom Ridgeway, hospital administrator, is shown presenting Mrs. Smith gift certificates from the Edenton Chamber of Commerce which can be exchanged for merchandise by 14 Edenton merchants for the first 1959 baby.

Rocky Hock Club Selects Mrs. O. C. Long, Jr., "Homemaker"

Rocky Hock Home Demonstration Club women proudly present Mrs. O. C. Long, Jr., as "Homemaker of the Month." She is a figure of poise, sincerity, industriousness, and of admiration by her family, neighbors and friends.

When approached with the question "What Matters Most to You in this Life," she thoughtfully replied: "That people might have more true happiness, and some of the things that make for true happiness are: (1) First of all—contention, for we know that if contention is the theme, life's melody is sweet; (2) time is capital and we should measure it wisely; (3) good reputation and a clear conscience; (4) and knowledge of having given happiness to others.

"But, most of all that matters to me is that all may obtain peace and security that comes only by taking time to be holy."

In her own words, Mrs. Long expressed the quality which makes her an outstanding mother, homemaker, and leader in her home and community activities. It is reflected in the way she is Continued on Page 3—Section 1

Commissioners Express Their Appreciation For Long, Loyal Service Of Two County Officials

richly deserve. Most sincerely, Board of Commissioners of Chowan County. W. E. Bond, Chairman. The letter to Mr. Spires follows: Dear Mr. Spires: Your recent voluntary retirement as Clerk of Superior Court of Chowan County terminated a career of more than seventeen consecutive years as such officer.

During your period of service as Clerk of Superior Court and in performance of numerous collateral duties as County Accountant, clerk of Recorder's Court and judge of Juvenile Court you have worked closely and efficiently with the Board of Commissioners of Chowan County. Your capable and efficient service and close attention to detail have been of great benefit to the proper functioning of this board and to the security of Chowan County.

Each member of this board joins me, officially and personally, in thanking you for your splendid cooperation, loyalty and service, and in wishing you the comfort, health and personal satisfaction to which your long career of public service so richly entitles you. Most sincerely, Chowan County, Board of Commissioners of W. E. Bond, Chairman.

Hobbsville Baby First To Arrive In Chowan For 1959

Mrs. Edward L. Smith Gives Birth to Son at 2:22 P. M. on New Year's Day

Little Thomas Lee Smith, born at 2:22 P. M., on New Year's Day, was the first 1959 baby to arrive at Chowan Hospital, Tom L. Ridgeway, hospital administrator, has announced. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lee Smith, Route 1, Hobbsville, and began the new year at 7 pounds and 12 ounces.

Mrs. Mary V. Smith was notified by Ridgeway that the baby is the lucky recipient of many gifts contributed by fourteen Edenton merchants and business firms. She received gift certificates from the Chamber of Commerce which can be exchanged for free merchandise or services at Mitchener's Pharmacy, Peoples Bank & Trust Company, Tots and Teens Shop, Belk-Tyler's, Cuthrell's Dept. Store, Elliott Company, Leggett & Davis Drug Store, P & Q Super Market, Malone's 5 & 10, Quinn Furniture Company, Byrum Hardware, Ricks Laundry and Elliott Cleaners. Ridgeway said the hospital will also give the baby a gift.

Mrs. Smith, who has two other children, was very pleased that her third child arrived in time to win the new year's title. She was thrilled and thanked the Chamber of Commerce and the business firms for making the event so memorable. Ridgeway also commended local businessmen for honoring the first 1959 arrival at the hospital.

Dr. Frank Wood Is Senior Warden At St. Paul's Church

Other Officials Elected at Meeting of Vestry

Dr. Frank Wood was elected senior warden of St. Paul's Episcopal Church Sunday evening at the first organizational meeting of the new vestry. He succeeds John W. Graham, who retires from the vestry this year according to the rotation plan. Dr. Wood, a local surgeon and prominent in local affairs, begins his second year as a vestryman.

David Warren was elected junior warden to succeed Joseph H. Conger, Sr., who retires from the vestry. Thomas Hoskins Shepard becomes the new clerk and Robert Graham White continues as treasurer.

Several appointments were made at the meeting by the rector, the Rev. George B. Holmes, to include each of the twelve-man parish administrative group. J. E. Debnam, memorials chairman; R. D. Dixon, Jr., church school; O. E. Duncan, promotion; Haughton Ehringhaus, ushering; J. Clarence Leary, Jr., music; W. E. Malone, canvass and offerings; Judge Marvin Wilson, social relations, and John Gilliam Wood, laymen.

The vestry considered consecration plans for the church scheduled for January 26, the Diocesan apportionment, and some property repairs. An emergent communication of Unanimity Lodge No. 7, A. F. & A. M., will be held tonight (Thursday) at 8 o'clock. The principal item of business will be the installation of officers for the year 1959, which will be in charge of H. A. Campen. Daniel Reaves, the outgoing master, is very anxious to have a large attendance for the installation ceremony.

Masonic Officers Installed Tonight

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"HOMEMAKER OF THE MONTH"



Members of the Rocky Hock Home Demonstration Club have chosen Mrs. O. C. Long, Jr., as their "Homemaker of the Month." Mrs. Long is pictured above as she takes time out from her daily routine to read a story to her daughter, Deborah.

County Is Planning To Revamp Method Of Collecting Taxes

Special Meeting Monday to Confer With Institute of Government Expert

Chowan County Commissioners are deeply concerned about the staggering amount of delinquent taxes on the tax books and are planning to revamp the tax collection structure in the county and adopt whatever methods are necessary to collect back taxes and, so far as possible, prevent delinquent taxes to accumulate over so many years.

Some of the Commissioners stated at their meeting Monday that they have heard numerous complaints about delinquent taxes not being paid, the point being brought out that if so many people fail to pay their taxes, why should others pay their taxes promptly?

The Commissioners feel that some change in the tax collection structure should be made. At present tax books are scattered in three different offices, the sheriff's office, the Register of Deeds office and the office of the Clerk of Court. For one thing, the Commissioners are of the opinion that all tax books should be in the tax collector's office.

In order to consider a revamping of the present system of tax collecting, the Commissioners on Monday morning contacted Henry Lewis, an expert connected with the Institute of Government. Continued on Page 6—Section 1

Christian Workers School At Hertford

Sponsored by the North Carolina Board of Education of the Methodist Church, a Chowan-Perquimans Subdistrict Christian workers school will be held at the First Methodist Church in Hertford. The school will be held January 25 to 27 from 7:30 to 9:30 o'clock each night and will be open to all Methodists in Chowan and Perquimans counties.

Various courses of study will be offered during the session including "Christian Stewardship," "How To Improve the Church School," "The Use of the Bible In Teaching Youth," and "Working With Children." Teaching the various courses will be the Rev. R. L. Jerome, pastor of the First Methodist Church at Roanoke Rapids; John Meares of Raleigh, the Rev. Walter McDonald of Louisburg College and Miss Elizabeth Jarratt of Jarrett, Va. Continued on Page 2—Section 1

Necessary To Raise \$228,000 Here To Land Huge Concern

Coffee Day

Edenton Jaycees, sponsors of the March of Dimes, announce that Saturday, January 10, will be Coffee Day. During the day all restaurants and drug stores selling coffee will donate their coffee sales to the March of Dimes.

Members of Town Council have also agreed to donate all dimes found in parking meters during the month of January to the March of Dimes, so that anybody desiring to donate any dimes to the cause may insert them in the parking meters, which do not register when dimes are inserted.

Best Opportunity Edenton Has Ever Had To Improve Its Economic Situation

Over 50 vitally interested men met in the Court House Tuesday night to consider the possibility of securing a large textile operation for Edenton. All in attendance appeared very enthusiastic when it was pointed out that after long and hard work the last obstacle was ready to be hurdled. This problem is to raise local capital in the amount of about \$228,000, which was classified as a very sound investment in that it was estimated that over a period of 20 years the value of the investment would be more than doubled.

Joe Conger, Jr., president of the Edenton Development Corporation, presided over the meeting and minced no words to emphasize the fact that if Edenton people want to make a permanent improvement in Edenton's economic situation, now is the time to do it, or else forget about any progress along this line.

Mr. Conger stated that all requirements have been met to secure the new industry except the local capital which is required to construct a building. A site has been purchased, a 59-acre tract on U. S. 17, opposite the Colonial Motor Court, was pointed out that the building, of modern design, will contain 113,000 square feet of floor space and at the beginning of operations 250 people will be employed with an annual payroll of approximately \$350,000.

It was further stated that a second phase of the plant was anticipated, when approximately 350 people will be employed with an annual payroll of approximately \$1,768,000.

The cost of the building is estimated to be about \$728,000 with the concern adding \$200,000 in lease-hold improvements, so that the industry will represent an investment of about one million dollars.

Mr. Conger informed those present that at present a \$400,000 loan on first mortgage is available and it is hoped that it will be increased to \$500,000, that local capital to be raised, estimated at \$228,000.

John W. Graham, president of the Chamber of Commerce, explained in detail the soundness of the money invested locally, pointing out that the concern had agreed to pay a rental of approximately \$69,000 annually for the first 10 years and that for the second 10 years the rental will be \$100,000. Concluded on Page 6—Section 1

Bishop Penick Will Participate In Consecration Service At St. Paul's Church On January 26

The Right Reverend Edwin Anderson Penick, Bishop of the Diocese of North Carolina of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and the oldest bishop in the church, will be in Edenton January 26, for the consecration of Saint Paul's Episcopal Church.

The Diocesan is a native of Kentucky and is the father of three children, one of them, the Rev. Charles I. Penick, himself a clergyman and rector of Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church in Goldsboro.

Bishop Penick attended schools in New Jersey and Arizona, graduating from Sewanee Military Academy and the University of the South. He earned his master's degree at Harvard and his Doctor of Divinity degree at Virginia Episcopal School in Alexandria. Later he was awarded the LL.D. at the University of North Carolina and D.D. at the University of the South.

His ministry has included a

varied and inspiring number of parishes and missions served in North and South Carolina. He was a chaplain in World War I and has held many important offices including secretary of the Board of Religious Education, member of the National Council, president of the board of trustees of Saint Mary's School and Junior College, president of the board of trustees of Saint Augustine College, state chairman of the North Carolina Commission Interracial Cooperation, vice-president of the National Council of Churches, vice-president of the House of Bishops, president of the Fourth Province, vice-president of the American Church Institute and others.

A forceful speaker and dynamic person he is a most beloved bishop and has enjoyed an active ministry all his church life. Bishop Penick will conduct evening prayer at the service of consecration and assist in other portions of the service.

Resigns

Mrs. Geneva Harrell, for about two years secretary for Chowan County's home and farm agents, has resigned due to the family moving to Florida. Mrs. Harrell is at present visiting her parents at Kitty Hawk until Mr. Harrell finds living quarters at Cocoa, Florida.

Mrs. Melba DuBois of Tyner, succeeds Mrs. Harrell as secretary and began her new duties Friday of last week.

Lions Approve Visual Screening

At their regular Monday night meeting, Edenton Lions reconsidered the matter of visual screening of elementary school children in Edenton and Chowan County Schools. This reconsideration was a result of the previous meeting at which State Health Department personnel and representatives of the Commission for the Blind appeared to discuss their views on the matter.

Since this group could not present any valid reasons for their objections to the program, the club went on record as favoring the program unanimously, that is, to make available a screening instrument (an orthorater) to be administered by selected adults, with the approval and cooperation of the PTA and school officials.

20 Years Ago

As Found in the Files of The Chowan Herald

G. H. Harding, new owner of Hotel Joseph Hewes, took over the management of the hotel, replacing W. R. Horton.

W. D. Pruden, on behalf of a group of property owners, requested the County Commissioners to pass a resolution to be forwarded to the State Highway Commission in the hope of effecting proper drainage on the highway from Edenton to Hertford and from the Edenton-Hertford road to Albemarle Sound bridge.

For the third consecutive term D. M. Warren was re-elected as Chairman of the Chowan County Commissioners. The Chowan County Commissioners refused to sign a WPA project for sewing rooms in Chowan County due to the county's part of the cost being increased Continued on Page 2—Section 1