

# Agent On Duty

by Wilborne Harrell



A CHOWAN HERALD FICTION STORY

Bill Chandler elbowed the heavy brass marker as he leaned casually on the counter. The brass marker, read: "Agent On Duty". Bill was the agent and he was on duty. But being on duty did not prevent him from indulging in conversation.

Many times Bill had said that if he were ever held up by a stick-up man, the thief could have all the money in the cash drawer, and welcome to it. And he was saying it now.

"It's the Company's money, not mine," he was telling his newly-made friend. "Let the stick-up man have it. The Company can afford to lose the money. And it isn't my duty to risk my life protecting it. My duty here is to sell bus tickets and give out information—Excuse me a minute, there goes the danged phone! Hello! . . . Yes, this is the bus station . . . Next bus for Green-

ville, ma'am, leaves at six-ten . . . The fare would be one-forty-five . . . Round trip's two-sixty-five . . . G'bye . . .

"Yes, I'd hand over the money so quick, it would make your head swim. It isn't my duty to risk my life . . . Yes, ma'am, you'll need a reissue on this ticket. Fix it for you in just a minute. And I'll check your bag all the way through to Springfield . . .

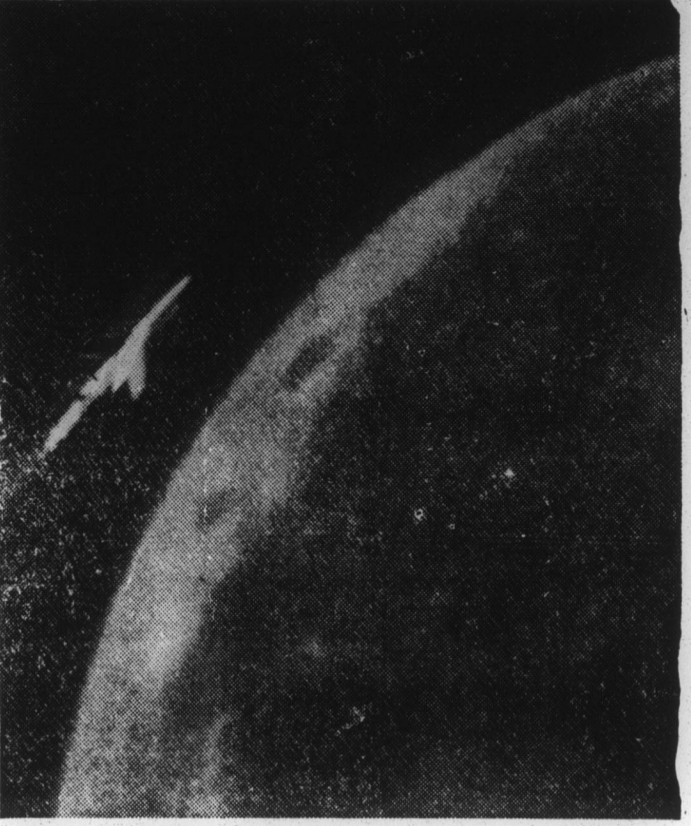
"Yessir, I'd hand over the money so quick—sa-ay—!" Bill ceased talking abruptly. A short, ugly looking gun was pointed straight at his head. The man behind the gun eyed Bill steadily.

"All right, buddy, you've talked enough. Hand out the money and be quick about it. Quick—!" Bill gulped. "You—you can't get away with this." The gun

menaced. Slowly Bill took a backward step and reached for the cash drawer. But in the fraction of time it took to take that step, something happened to Bill. Instead of the cash drawer, Bill's hand swiftly grasped the heavy brass "Agent On Duty" marker and brought it down in one swoop on the stick-up's head. The gun crashed and several million stars exploded inside Bill's head. When he came out of it, Patrolman Smith was leaning over him. "That was a close call, son. Why'd you pull such a fool stunt? You mighta been killed."

Bill grinned, albeit a pained, twisted grin. "Couldn't let the so-and-so get away with the Company's money, could I? And, besides, I had put some of my own money in the cash drawer, for safe keeping."

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**NOT QUITE YET**—The missile is real, and so is the moon, but this "preview" of space flight is the product of a test-firing of a LaCrosse surface-to-surface missile photographed as it appeared in that section of the sky occupied by a pale moon above the horizon during daylight. The camera's telephoto lens had a 96-inch focal length.

## Firemen Answer 10 Calls During March

Fire Chief W. J. Pates reports that Edenton firemen answered 10 alarms during March, five in Edenton and five out of town. For the Edenton fires the firemen were out six hours and 25 minutes and seven hours and 25 minutes out of town. They were on the air one minute and 15 seconds for the Edenton fires and 55 seconds out of town. The firemen traveled 12 miles in Edenton and 60 miles for the out of town fires. For the Edenton fires 2,950 feet of hose was laid and 1,156 feet out of town. Ladders were raised 84 feet in Edenton and 24 feet out of town.

Volunteers responding to Edenton fires were 76 and 120 out of town. Property involved in Edenton was estimated at \$79,000 and \$18,000 out of town. Damage done in Edenton was estimated at \$3,525 and no damage out of town. Insurance in town was \$68,000 and \$7,500 out of town. The firemen held one fire drill, extended two courtesies and answered one emergency call. He who has lost honor can lose nothing more. —Publius Syrus.

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## AROUND THE FARMS IN CHOWAN COUNTY

By C. W. OVERMAN, Chowan County Agent

**Corn Variety Test Demonstration** have been arranged with Gilliam Wood of Edenton community and A. D. Ward of Gliden community. As far as possible, we are using varieties which have proven best in Chowan County and also some new ones which the seed producers feel are adapted to this area. The purpose of these demonstrations is to afford farmers the opportunity to observe the varieties and compare them side by side in the field as well as aiding us in learning how these varieties respond in Chowan County.

**Simazin As A Weed Control** On Corn was tried for the first time in Chowan County with Carroll and Fahey Byrum of Cross Roads community last year. It gave excellent weed control throughout the entire season. The material is a wettable powder and was sprayed on the ground three or four days after planting, at the rate of four pounds of fifty per cent material per acre, applying it in at least thirty gallons of water per acre. Carroll informs me that they are using this material on all of their weedy corn land this year.

**Extension Weed Specialist** W. G. Westmoreland has furnished me a small quantity of the material for demonstration work again this year. Arrangements have been made to treat approximately one acre of field corn with McCoy Spivey of Gliden community. Two or three other demonstrations will be put out until the material is used up.

**Fumigating Soil To Control Nematodes** is "on the march" in Chowan County. During the last two or three years, sting nematode has done considerable damage to peanuts, cotton and corn on many farms in Chowan County. Root-knot nematode has done some damage to tobacco. Many of these growers are fumigating their soil this week to control the nematode. Row treatment costs about ten dollars per acre, but last year we found that the soil fumigant increased peanut yields five hundred to seven hundred pounds per acre and also considerably improved quality. Soil fumigation is a must in

good sweet potato growing, particularly on our lighter type soils. Several of our sweet potato growers have indicated they plan to fumigate their sweet potato land this year. The important thing to remember is to put the fumigant as deep in the soil as possible and cover it immediately. In the case of row treatment, the rows should be made up immediately following fumigation and disturbed as little thereafter as possible in order to let the fumigant penetrate the entire row. It is also very important to remember soil must be fumigated at least two weeks before planting. Otherwise, the fumigant may affect the germination of the seed.

**Peanut Variety Demonstrations** have been arranged with Thomas E. Corprew of Cross Roads community and Jarvis Skinner of Advance community. In these demonstrations we are using the best and newest varieties of peanuts, some of which have not been released for production, in order that growers may observe how they respond in the field.

Two of the newer varieties are particularly finding favor with our peanut growers. The NC-2 and Va-56R are Jumbo type peanuts giving excellent yields and excellent quality. The new 4-X variety has been released for planting this year, although very few seed are available. The 4-X has no yield or quality advantage except where growth cracking of hulls is a problem. The Kernel does not grow as tight in the hull and therefore no growth cracks usually occur. In the variety demonstrations we are using the very best of the new strains from which seed are available.

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## Williamston Downs Edenton Aces 7 To 0

Williamston's Green Wave handed the Edenton Aces their second straight shutout and fourth consecutive Albemarle Conference baseball loss by a 7-0 score in a game played on Hicks Field Thursday afternoon. The Greenies were mounting up 15 hits while some sorry base running was holding the Aces to just three safeties. They scored two in the first and second innings, and three in the sixth. Bowen slammed an inside-the-park homer in the seventh with a man on. But neither run counted as the first man failed to touch second base. The Aces threatened in the first when Jerry Tolley led off with a triple to center. But the Greenies pulled a smart maneuver to pick Tolley off third and squelched the only serious threat by Edenton.

**BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT**  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Thebault, Jr., of Rochester, Minnesota, announce the birth of a daughter, Kim Louise, born on March 21.

Mrs. Thebault is the former Cynthia Ambrose, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Ambrose of Edenton.

**CHICKEN BARBECUE SUPPER AT BELVIDERE ON APRIL 29**  
Sponsored by F. E. Smith and N. D. Chappell, V-C fertilizer dealers, a chicken barbecue supper will be served at the Belvidere.

## Plagued Day And Night With Bladder Discomfort?

Unwise eating or drinking may be a source of mild, but annoying bladder irritations—making you feel restless, tense, and uncomfortable. And if rest, less nights, with nagging backache, headache or muscular aches and pains due to over-exertion, strain or emotional upset, are adding to your misery—don't wait—try Doan's Pills.

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dere Community Building Wednesday night, April 29, at 7 o'clock. Quite a few invitations have been mailed, so that a goodly number are expected to be on hand for the occasion.

**CARD OF THANKS**  
Mr. and Mrs. Willie Roberts wish to thank those who expressed sympathy and rendered deeds of kindness during the recent death of their son, James Burke.

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## New Telephone Directory Going To Press

Please check your listings in the current directory to make sure they are correct. If you wish any change made, notify our business office now.

While checking your present listings, why not also consider extra listings? If your business deals with a variety of services or products, extra listings can prove very valuable.

Our business office will gladly give you information on this low-cost, high-convenience service.

Any Changes Desired Must Be Given To Us Before Noon, Saturday, May 2.

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