

The Chowan Herald

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THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1960.

A LIFT FOR TODAY

What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God, —Micah 6:8.

WE FALL SHORT of the glory of God by choosing the wrong road — the end of which is death. On the right road we shall see the signs of Justice, Mercy and Humility — pointing us to peace with God and man.

Our Father, our world needs to walk in the way of brotherhood. We pray that a deeper spiritual insight may come to us out of the present suffering of mankind.

All Should Pay

It should be interesting to note that Sheriff Earl Goodwin reports that delinquent taxes due Chowan County amount to the staggering sum of \$66,495.52. This is a deplorable situation and one which creates a hardship and a burden upon those citizens who pay their taxes like they should.

If the County had in hand the \$66,495.52 due in back taxes it is obvious that a lower tax rate would result or possibly many things done which now go by the board due to lack of money.

It just isn't fair for the great majority of citizens to pay their taxes and allow a certain group to go year after year without paying a just debt and one which affects every taxpayer in the county.

The Commissioners and the Sheriff have been doing all they can to collect back taxes, and many of the delinquents are able to pay but just do not come across.

The laws have been quite complicated regarding selling property for taxes, but some method should be put in force whereby if a taxpayer continuously refuses to pay his taxes his property should be sold. It just doesn't make sense for some people to pay taxes and others not.

Procrastination Costly

It's said that procrastination is the thief of time, but it's also a thief of money so far as Edenton is concerned.

It was learned in Raleigh last week that had the sewer bond election passed, a contract let and construction on a sewage disposal plant begun, Edenton would have risen from 26th place to eighth or ninth on the list applying for federal aid.

In such position Edenton would have stood a fair chance of securing about \$150,000 toward the cost of a sewage disposal system.

Previously, too, procrastination on selecting a site was responsible for the loss of a substantial amount of federal aid.

The sewer bond election was defeated, so that Edenton is now exactly, except for a site, where it has been at the outset. Not only has Edenton lost out on its application for federal assistance, but the opinion now is that the election defeat will have a very unfavorable influence in its quest for new industries.

Town Council, as well as other organizations, are vitally concerned, and Town Councilmen on Tuesday night went on record as favoring an application for a permit to extend the time for dumping raw sewage into local waters, so that another election can be held on the matter. Of course, all of the previous preliminary work will be necessary, so that the chances for federal aid become dimmer all the time. Many towns and industries along the Chowan River Basin have or will soon be involved in diverting raw sewage from the waters and, of course, applications will go in for federal aid. In that case Edenton will be shoved further down the list for federal aid, so that the longer we wait, the more we are apt to lose federal assistance.

It is the belief that the State Stream Sanitation Commission has the authority and will crack down if the demands for pollution eradication is flouted. However, they apparently are willing to go along if some effort on the part of the town is made to comply with the mandate. Town Councilmen are of the opinion that if an election is properly held the majority of voters will vote for a bond issue, thus eliminating a ruckus with the Stream Sanitation Commission and at the same time showing signs of progress.

The best way to get your share of the wealth of the country is to work hard for it. Most older folks will tell you that the old days were wonderful, but, if they're honest, few of them would wish to have them back.

Heard & Seen

By Buff

It's a crying shame that so few people in Edenton appreciate good music as was reflected Friday night when the Concert Band of the John A. Holmes High School presented its winter concert. I have no relative in the band, so that there's nothing personal in my belief that more people should attend the various concerts presented by the band. Taking the parents out of Friday night's audience would have left a mere handful of people to listen to a very good program, just as good or even better than some music I hear over radio and television. Had a program of rock 'n roll trash been on tap or a hillbilly outfit, the chances are that seats in the auditorium would have been at a premium. It was a splendid program. Though not being so well versed on music techniques, every boy and girl in the band, in my opinion, performed just about perfectly. My hat's off to 'em and their director, Derwood Bray. They all had spent a great deal of time and effort in perfecting the program and it's a shame that the auditorium was less than half full of people to hear them. Here's one who's with the teenagers for recreation in Edenton. However, the complaint is often made there's no place to go. Well, Friday night the teenagers were conspicuous by their absence at the concert and but for the teenagers in the band, they were few and far between. Then, too, a preaching mission is on progress this week at the Methodist Church. That's a place also that teenagers and older people, too, can spend a very profitable hour.

The Chowan County Commissioners' meeting Monday morning was just about as spirited as one might expect the Edenton Tea Party to have been. Two groups, one seeking to improve the Court House Green and moving the Confederate monument to a proposed parkway at the foot of Broad Street and the other opposed to the plan, met head-on in an effort to convince the County Commissioners to give or refuse permission to move the monument. Neither side can claim a victory, for the Commissioners, though not unanimous, decided to allow the county's voters to decide the issue in the Democratic primary election in May, when county and state officials will be elected. A check has been made with the State Board of Elections and this procedure is legal. With some opposition for county officials already on tap and the vote on the monument removal should bring out a big vote for a change. While Monday's meeting was spirited, it also included some caustic remarks, all of which made the meeting more unpleasant than it did pleasant. Thank God, though, for a town, a state and a nation where men and women can express their views without fear of being slapped in jail, and that having expressed their views, it should not necessarily mean that enemies have been made. Both sides, however, expected the Commissioners to give a definite answer as to removal of the monument, but the decision will now be up to the people in the entire county who have enough interest and will put forth enough effort to go to the polls and vote on May 28.

Raleigh Peele, dean of the County Commissioners, said he has been a Commissioner for 20 years and in all that time he has not experienced so much commotion about any matter coming before the board. Then after the groups left the Court House Joe Webb, Jr., came up front to present a matter to the Commissioners. Joe walked careful as he pulled up his pants legs. "I want to be sure I don't step on anything," he said.

Wednesday night of last week the weather man dumped about three inches of snow in these parts and but for rain which developed during the night, we might have been digging out Thursday. It was 33 years ago that we had a sure 'nuff snow and for a time it appeared as though we were in for another one. It snowed a little Monday night and as this column (running late) is written about 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, it is again snowing. The weather man will fool around until we get a snow like a lot of us don't want.

Members of Chowan Tribe of Red Men have a "dutch" dinner once a month, the first of which was held Monday night. It was a good 'un, too, and if the boys prepared the meals themselves their wives ought to know about it, for they'd be able to take a little vacation from the cooking chores. Of course, three different members are selected each time to serve the dinner, so the Lord only knows what might be in store for the boys at some subsequent dinners. Anyway, a goodly number were on hand for the first one and nary a compliment was heard.

Speaking about the band at the Rotary meeting, Bill Rosevear was wondering why somebody don't play a Lochenspiel (whatever that is). "Well," piped up one of the Rotarians, "you must have German beer to play one of those things."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Tale Of The Chicken County Board Of Commissioners

It was a beautiful day for the County Commissioners' meeting always held the first Monday of each month at nine A. M. It's five members took their appointed seats to face one of the largest audiences ever seen in historic Chowan County courthouse in many a day. Standing room only when I got there.

It was a day when these five supposedly brave and elected men were to hear arguments pro and con for the removal of the Confederate monument from its present location to one of another. Tempers, tension, and personalities were to face each other and everyone present knew it would happen and it did. The Commissioners serious in listening gave their undivided attention until the last voice of either approval or disapproval had been expressed. A packed courthouse emptied itself upon the chairman's assurance that all would know their decision later that day. It would be only a short dispensing of routine matters before this group of men would eat lunch and return in executive session to ponder their awaited decision. All felt certain of a definite answer. Both proponents and opponents, felt and looked relieved when the chairman made his announcement.

It was five-thirty P. M. when the commissioners descended the twenty-four steps from upstairs in the courthouse. A majority of them must have felt relieved, for their decision was to place the issue in plebiscite next May. It was a majority that had voted to investigate such a possibility. It must have been embarrassing to the chairman to realize he had been placed in a position of having to back down on his promise to a full courthouse previously that the commissioners would fulfill its obligation to the public and give them a definite Yes or No answer to the issue. The same day at that.

There was a chain of events that led up to the board's decision to make its chairman investigate the legality of putting the issue to public vote. In the beginning a motion was made by a board member to allow the relocation of the monument. There must have been heavy silence as the board sat there waiting a second to the motion on the floor. Lo and behold none was to be heard. I'm sure the chairman must have thought that even an opponent would second the motion in order to bring the issue to a head and dispense with it once and for all. Nothing happened, however, so no vote could be called. At this point the chairman entertained a motion that was carried three to one to investigate the possibilities of submit-

ting and deciding the issue by plebiscite. At this point also each member should have realized that the responsibility of their elected office had been ravished, rebuked, and repouced by their very own decision. They must now feel that passing the buck had at this moment set a precedent and would become a terrible error in judgment on their part. To save face all the County Board had to do now is place the present or future issues to public vote and thereby escape making the decision themselves. Little do they realize that when May comes they will have to face the voters in their own campaign and answer how they stand on moving the monument.

Well, the road is now paved and some of the members must have slept well last night resting in the security of belief that they were out of a tight spot. Many citizens, however, awaked to realize that they had to wait until next Monday to receive a decision that wasn't a decision.

As I left the courthouse steps after talking to some of the commissioners I thought how serious the situation really was. Someone near me uttered the word "chicken". A woman asked me what it meant. I turned to her and replied, "Ma'am, it's an old Army expression and simply means, 'No Guts'." Haughton Ehringhaus.

Sunday Trustee Day At Kadesh Church

Trustee Day will be observed at Kadesh A.M.E. Zion Church Sunday, March 13, with services at 11 A. M., 3 and 7 P. M. At the 11 o'clock service the Rev. Sister Clay will preach, accompanied by her choir and congregation of Columbia.

At 3 o'clock the Rev. Mr. Ward of Bay Branch A.M.E. Zion Church will preach, accompanied by his choir and congregation.

The Glee Club of Edenton High School will sing at 7 o'clock. Other dignitaries of Eastern North Carolina will take an active part in the affairs of the day. The public is invited to all of these services.

Attend Tractor Training School

By CARLTON PERRY
Assistant County Agent Harry Venters and Carlton Perry, 4-H leader from the Advance community, recently attended a 3-day Tractor Leader Training School at Raleigh. The school was sponsored by The American Oil Company, and was conducted by the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service. The purpose of the school was to teach better methods of tractor maintenance to adult 4-H leaders from Eastern North Carolina. They in turn were to pass this information on to the 4-H members in their communities.

On Monday Mr. Venters and Mr. Perry had a class which was taught by J. C. Ferguson. Mr. Ferguson showed the importance of the points and plugs and taught the proper method of setting them. He also showed the firing orders of different tractors, and the important part the distributor plays in the running of a tractor engine.

That afternoon was spent in a tractor shop where they were able to do what they had been taught in class.

Tuesday morning classes were taught by John Glover. He showed how to set the valves and carburetor on an engine. That afternoon was spent in the shop.

Tuesday night there was a banquet held at the Union Building, after which each person was given a ticket to the basketball game that night.

The last day was spent in review of what had been done on Monday and Tuesday, and each leader was tested on what he had learned. Mr. Venters and Mr. Perry passed the tests and were given instruction booklets to enable them to hold classes for 4-H boys in Chowan County.

BONDS ORDERED PAID
W. E. Bond, Chairman of the Chowan County Commissioners, on Monday, was authorized to pay \$23,779.38 on the county's indebtedness. The amount represents school building bonds and coupons which fall due on April 1.



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FOR RENT — TWO-BEDROOM house in Albemarle Court; as is \$35.00 month. Twiddy Insurance & Real Estate, 103 East King Street, phone 2163. ttc
FOR RENT — 7-ROOM HOUSE and bath, located 5 miles from Edenton. Has garden spot. Rent \$35 per month. Apply Gilbert Harrell, Rt. 3. Phone 4211. ttpd

WATCH REPAIRING — JEWELRY repairing and engraving. Prompt service. Ross Jewelers. Phone 3525. ttc
PICTURE FRAMING — FOR THE best in custom picture framing, see John R. Lewis at the Edenton Furniture Company. Complete line of moulding to choose from. ttc

FOR RENT OR SALE — TWO and three bedroom houses. Electric stove, refrigerator, hot water heater. On school bus route. Terms can be arranged. I. E. Francis, Route 3 Edenton. Phone 3472.
GOOD HOME FOR SMALL family. Westover Heights. Very low cost. Fontaine Boutwell. Phone 3561. ttc

FOR RENT — TWO-BEDROOM house at 116 Morris Circle. Nice, large yard. Phone Mr. Bunch, telephone 3410. Mar3,10,17,24c
APARTMENT FOR RENT — 3 bedrooms, downstairs. See C. W. Swanner, 217 East Queen Street. Phone 2544. Dec28tfc

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