

County News

By MRS. ROLAND EVANS

The Chowan Home Demonstration Club will have a joint club and community meeting at Chowan Community Building January 31 at 6:30. Extension people will be the guests and others interested. Club members will carry picnic supper.

Rocky Hock Baseball Club will present a minstrel show on February 2 at Rocky Hock Community Center at 8 o'clock.

Extension members of Rocky Hock this week is Mrs. Jack Bass.

A study in I Corinthians has been in session this week at Rocky Hock Church; being taught by the Rev. Thurman Allred.

The Ballard's Bridge Church has called a new pastor, the Rev. Carl Hart. He assumed his duties there January 16. He is a native of Tennessee. Mr. Hart preached his first sermon on Sunday, January 22.

The Annie Hollowell Circle of Ballard's Bridge met with Mrs. Mary Evans Tuesday night of last week.

R. T. Pickler of Edenton Construction Company has been named a member of the labor relations committee of the Carolina Beach Associated General Contractors of America for 1961.

Mrs. Lillie Saunders is visiting in Rocky Hock.

Mrs. Stuart Holland, John and Carolyn spent the week-end in Norfolk.

Miss Ruth Leary of Winston-Salem is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stillman Leary.

Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood Harrell spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Harrell.

Mrs. Ralph Dail is at home.

IN MEMORIAM

In sad and loving memory of our husband and father, Percy M. Harrell, who went to live with God one year ago, January 24, 1960.

We've journeyed on a full year at a sad and lonely pace. For there is no one else in this old world that can come and take your place.

When you told us you had to go, it was hard to say good-bye. But we knew God up in heaven had prepared a better place for you than could I.

People think the grief is lessened. Though the smiles may hide the tears. But sweet memories will linger despite the passing years.

They say time heals all sorrows. And helps us to forget. But time so far has only proven how much we miss you yet.

God gave us strength and courage. To fight the heavy blow; but only one who loses one will ever really know.

So when you look down upon us from your castle in the sky Please don't forget to kiss us when you see us start to cry. —Mrs. Annie Mary Harrell and Family.

from the hospital.

Danny Nixon has gone to Raleigh and on to Texas to join the service.

Joe Nixon has gone to Manteo to work. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Peele and Mrs. Dorothy Nixon accompanied him for the weekend.

Mrs. Mitchell Sliva and children have gone to Maryland to live after a visit with her mother, Mrs. Florine Nixon.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Evans and Lloyd Wayne went to Norfolk on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Evans spent the weekend in Elizabeth City with Mrs. Barbara Sawyer and family.

Frank Jones, Gloria Bunch's husband, was home for the weekend.

State YWA House Party will be held at Campbell College January 27-29.

Senior Class of Chowan High School will sponsor its annual homecoming February 17 in the high school gym. Miss Celia Rae Elliott will reign over the occasion.

Miss Frankie Barber of Winton is visiting Mrs. Minnie Corprew.

Mrs. E. N. Elliott is visiting her brother this week in Tarboro.

Jack White is in the University Hospital in Charlottesville, Va., under observation.

Mr. and Mrs. George Byrum, Jr., and son of Hertford, Mr. and Mrs. Alphonso Robinson and family visited Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Evans on Sunday.

Junior Class of Chowan High School had candy pulling at Oak Grove Community Building Wednesday night at 7:30 o'clock.

Baker Hollowell was home for the week-end from East Carolina College at Greenville.

Thankful

First Spinster—Is it true that you are going to be married, Miss Antigue?

Second Ditto—No. But I am thankful for the rumor.

Frankly Speaking

By Frank Roberts

In a little room a few feet away from the main offices of the Chowan County agricultural headquarters, I learned more about farming in the space of an hour and a half than I'd ever known before. In this room, surrounded by numerous files, fifty or-so cigar boxes, mimeo machines, desks, three tank tires, boxes marked as models for exhibits, Christmas favors and so on, I sat and talked to an old friend, the Chowan County Agricultural Agent, Charlie Overman. Charlie is the busiest man in this or any country, of that I'm sure. He's a member of the Agricultural Agents Association, area chairman, district chairman, a member of the state board of directors and member of the national committee. For his recognition in this work, he received the district service award from the National County Agricultural Agents Association. He is also a member of the Agricultural Extension Fraternity, Epsilon Sigma Phi. Here, I took a deep breath, but Charlie was still going strong as he mentioned being a member of the Edenton Baptist Church and a director of that church's training union. He's also superintendent of the Junior Sunday School Department and a member of the choir. Still more. Charlie Overman is a member of Rotary and has been for 24 years. He was head of Scoutmaster troop 156 in Edenton and now serves on the executive board of the Tidewater Council, Boy Scouts of America. Also, he's received the Silver Beaver Award for service to Scouting in this area. Another top honor came from the honorary fraternity of Scouting. He's a vigil member of the Order of the Arrow. All this, in addition to being the proud fa-

ther of four children.

Charlie was born in Pasquotank County, attended country schools there. He graduated in 1924 from Elizabeth City High School and in 1928 he graduated from North Carolina State College with a BA degree in horticulture. Since 1941 he's been working with the farmers in this area. Co-incidentally, since 1941, farmers in this area have seen their greatest advancements. For example, in that year 90 to 95% of farming was done with mules. Today, 90 to 95% of the farming in Chowan County is mechanized. Again, in 1941, the farmers of the county were limited to the amount of land they had to cultivate due to limited power. Today, thanks to mechanization, a farmer, who in 1941, could cultivate 25 to 30 acres, now can cultivate one hundred acres. Looking at the overall picture, it's noted that farmers in our county compare favorably to those of any other county, economically. Does this mean the picture is completely rosy? By no means. Many farmers are afraid of mechanization, completely or partially. They're afraid of costs involved. Many farmers are unwilling to try new methods. Individually, they'll talk to their agricultural agents concerning advanced farming methods, but won't always try it. Individually, they'll find out about the newest advancements in farming, but it's sometimes hard to get them to work together, to get them to attend meetings which will be beneficial to them. Matter-of-fact, Charlie pointed out that the farmers who need that information most are the ones who attend the least meetings. Another aspect of the local farming picture, and one which is favorable and unfavorable at the same time, concerns the fact there are fewer farms and farmers now than in the past. That means a lot of good, experienced hands are leaving the farms to go into industry; on the other hand, it also means that smaller units have now become larger farms. Breaking that down to cold facts and figures, I found that in 1948 there were 1,048 farms in Chowan County; 895 farms in the year of 1955 and, according to last year's census, less than 700. By the way, the census last year doesn't include tracts of land under five acres, whereas they were counted in the previous census. So the movement has been this way: less farms, but larger and more efficient farming units. From

the farm picture in Chowan County, I went on to find out some facts that town-folks don't think too much about. Why is the farmer having a hard time of it? Simple economics. The price of farm products have gone down; the price of farm machinery and farm labor have gone up. Also, on the national farm picture, Charlie lit up his favorite (only, I think) pipe and reminisced about the farmer and the depression days when hogs sold at 3 to 5¢ a pound, when peanuts were just a penny a pound and when cotton sold for 5 or 6¢ a pound. In other words, agriculture suffers first when the economy of the country goes down and benefits last when the economy rises. So, Charlie Overman has an interesting and a rewarding career, doing so much to aid the farm picture in Chowan County. He's a hard worker, a sincere person, and he likes working with people, he likes helping others, he likes to do what he can in getting better living conditions for the people in the rural areas. But one of the most important aspects of his job is helping to train the youth of our community, helping them become better citizens for tomorrow. In line with this, he has worked closely with the local 4-H Clubs. The result? Some of the most outstanding 4-H Clubbers in our state emanate from our country. These are youngsters that will be leading this country in the world of tomorrow. "And Charlie," I asked, "what of that world of tomorrow?" He feels that there's a greater possibility than ever before of the world working as one community. "If we just have patience and understanding."

The most important aspect of the interview, I think, came when I asked Charlie this question: "What part does religion play in your life?" He told me he couldn't imagine life without the religious aspect. Charlie feels, and rightly so, that the Bible gives the answer to every question. All we have to do is search it out. And, perhaps, that's the reason for Charlie Overman being so successful in his job, with his family, friends, church and community. A personal salute, if I may, to one of our outstanding citizens, Charlie Overman.

From time to time, Frankly Speaking will concern itself with a look at some of the interesting citizens of our community. There are many, and we'll tell you about another one next week.

Closing thought: The man who does his work, any work, conscientiously, must always be in one sense a great man.

Baptists Show Great Progress In State

North Carolina Baptists entered 1961 with record high levels for number of churches, membership, and financial gains for all causes.

The twenty-fifth annual report of L. L. Morgan, statistical secretary of the Baptist State Convention, released Monday, showed for the state 3,369 churches with a membership of 913,176. This is a gain of 33 churches and 19,497 members. A total of 30,337 members were added by baptism. The number of churches reporting no baptisms was 561.

Total offering in the churches for 1960 amounted to \$46,788,109. This is a gain of \$2,666,975. The amount reported spent on church building was \$12,940,419. Local gifts amounted to \$39,576,678.

This is a gain of \$2,361,085 over 1959. Mission gifts amounted to \$7,211,431 which is a gain of 607.

\$305,960. Total per capita giving for Baptists during 1960 was \$51.24, compared with \$49.37 in 1959. The per capita gift to local objects was \$43.34. For 1959 it was \$41.64. The per capita gift to mission objects for 1960 was \$7.90. In 1959 it was \$7.73.

Among the 3,369 churches, 3,358 have Sunday School Schools. There are 61 mission objects, making a total of 3,419 schools with a membership of 772,420.

The statistical report shows 2,832 Vacation Bible Schools with an enrollment of 288,130. There were 2,069 churches that reported Training Union work, with an enrollment of 189,849.

Twenty-three hundred and thirty-two churches reported Women's Missionary Union work, with 169,531 members.

Thirteen hundred and ninety-two churches reported Brotherhood and Royal Ambassador work with a membership of 51,607.

EDENTON NEGRO WOMAN INVITED TO INAUGURATION

Mrs. Penelope Badham Overton of Edenton, mother of L. Joseph Overton of New York, was the only one of her race in her day to receive two invitations to attend the President's inauguration ceremonies.

One invitation was sent from the Presidential Committee headed by John R. Sparkman, chairman, and the other from Representative Adam C. Powell.

The invitations were accompanied with a program of the inaugural ceremonies.



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