

BOARDS APPROVE MERGER PLANS

Chowan County Board of Education and Trustees of Edenton City Schools have agreed on conditions for merger of the two administrative units. A vote of the people will be requested for 1967.

Differences over certain conditions for the merger were worked out Tuesday afternoon during a two-hour joint session. Action by the joint boards on the entire plan was unanimous.

The boards agreed to request a local bill in the 1967 General Assembly to allow a vote on the merger that

would become effective in September, 1967.

Following are the main conditions worked out by the joint group:

1—The name of the merged board would be the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education.

2—Upon a favorable vote of the people, the 11 members serving on the two boards at the time would make up the first merged group. Six would come from Edenton City Schools while five members would come from the county board. This group would serve until January 1, 1971. Should any seat become vacant between the time of the merger and January 1, 1971, it would not be filled unless

the number fell below seven.

3—On January 1, 1971, a seven-member elected board would take office. They would be voted on in the regular election of 1970. Four members are to come from the First Township and one each from the Second, Third and Fourth Townships. (This representation is based on current township population.)

4—A supplemental school tax throughout Chowan County of 15 cents per \$100 valuation may be levied to supplement and improve the educational level of the public schools and to provide a higher level of education than provided by the state. (This is already applicable to the

First and Fourth Townships but has never been levied.)

5—No present employee of the two school systems will be discharged or have a cut in salary as a result of the merger.

Although no action was taken, it is generally understood that the Chowan County Board of Education will in the near future petition the State Board of Education to allow them to employ City Supt. Hiram J. Mayo to fill the unexpired term of Supt. C. C. Walters.

It is understood that the city board is agreeable to allowing Supt. Mayo to take on the added duties and that he has indicated his willingness to assume the county post if details can be ironed out in Raleigh.

Following the joint meeting Tuesday, Supts. Mayo and Walters expressed their approval of the plan for merger of the two units.

"I am pleased with the action taken today and look forward to a favorable vote of the people to bring this merger about," Supt. Mayo said.

Supt. Walters said he is in agreement with the board and feels such a merger would be in the best interest of the school children of the area.

Dr. Edward Bond, city board chairman, and O. C. Long, Jr., county board chairman, headed the joint meeting.

Edenton Cage Squads Are 4-0 In Albemarle

The cage squad at John A. Holmes High School has taken over where the grid team left off last fall—as a leader in the 2-A Albemarle Conference.

The Aces of Coach Jim Kinion have posted two more victories to give them a 4-0 conference record and a tie for first place in early season play.

Coach Sully Lytch's Aces are also 4-0 in the conference.

The two powerful cage teams go to Northampton Friday night for another conference tilt and hope to close out pre-holiday play undefeated in the league.

Tuesday night Wes Chesson, who gained statewide recognition as a junior quarterback for the Aces, poured in 33 points to lead his team over Gates, 76-61. Dwight Flanagan, co-captain of both the grid and cage squad, had 10 points—his best night of the year.

The Aces won over Gates 44-32.

Coach Kinion said today he is highly pleased with the way his team has come along in early season play. The squad had only a week to practice before the season opened and for the first two games were without the services of Bill Griffin, 6'6" center.

Last Friday night the Aces defeated Hertford 73-32 with Chesson again leading the way with 19 points. Donald Pierce had 10.

"In the Hertford game we played the best basketball I have seen since coming to Edenton," Coach Kinion said. His squad has shot 50 per cent or better in the last two contests.

The mentor has opened up his offense this year and the run, run, run strategy is paying off in victories.

Biggers Is Given Anti-Poverty Job

John T. Biggers of Hertford, former superintendent of Perquimans County schools, has been named head of a nine-county Albemarle Area anti-poverty program.

The \$400,000 grant to support an in-school Neighborhood Youth Corps was signed Wednesday in Washington.

William Penuel, director of the Albemarle Economic Opportunity Council in Elizabeth City, said Biggers' office will be located in Edenton. The AEOC has been granted office space at Edenton Municipal Airport by the Town Council and Airport Authority.

Serving with Biggers will be three other staff members including a deputy director, a counsellor, a secretary and bookkeeper.

The program is designed to help 750 students between the ages of 16 and 21 for a period of 34 weeks. It will permit them to attend school and also furnish jobs for them in the schools for 15 hours per week at \$1.25 per hour.



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The Public Parade

WITH THE JONESES—The end is at hand for one of the shortest congressional campaigns in North Carolina annals.

At 6:30 A. M., Saturday polls will open throughout the 15-county First Congressional Districts. Twelve hours later these polls will close and the voters will have had their say.

There are five candidates in the race to fill the unexpired term of Rep. Herbert Bonner. However, the race in actuality is between two of the candidates.

State Senator Walter Jones of Pitt County and Roger Jackson, Jr., of Hertford County, are the prime contenders. Some veteran political observers believe the vote will be adequately split to force a second primary.

In Chowan County it is just about all Jones. It was not until the waning days of the campaign that Jackson was able to get anything that resembled an organization. This does not speak bad for the candidate, for Chowan was Jones country in 1960 when veteran Rep. Bonner won re-election by about 7,000 votes.

Jones, an able legislator as well as a seasoned campaigner, maintained a great deal of that Chowan organization that carried him to a local victory over the late congressman. These dedicated workers were waiting for his announcement and had already lined up influential support that went the other way in 1960.

Too, Jones is married to an Edentonian and has adopted this Chowan County seat as his second home.

There has been little time for the usual campaign issues and in the short time between Gov. Dan Moore's action and election day, this is as it should be.

Therefore, the candidates for the special election have more or less had to run on their past records.

Jones has a commanding lead in this department and we predict his past record of accomplishments and his close political ties in the district will carry him to victory Saturday.

This candidate has proven his ability to produce results rather than lip service. He is a man you can put your finger on and depend upon to be the same today, tomorrow, next week and next year. He believes in progress but he believes stronger in principle.

Jones was a highly respected member of the 1965 General Assembly and has many friends who will determine how this district comes out of the reappointment session on January 10, 1966.

We contend it would be in the best interest of Chowan County and the First Congressional District for Walter Jones to be the Democratic Party's nominee for congress.

A HELPING HAND—Got any unwanted shoes, clothing any toys around the house? If so, now is the time to get them out of the way.

The Chowan County Scottish Rite Club is currently gathering items at Edenton Fire Department to share with needy families during the holiday season.

Henry Quinn, who is spearheading the drive, said a variety of items are needed and any gift will be greatly appreciated.

LOSS AT HAND—The reapportionment case is like a child leaving home and turning against parents. We have never been able to warm up to these folks. And likewise the various "plans" of reapportionment.

It was in Eastern North Carolina that Tar Heelia was born. Chowan County, for example, was formed in 1672 and has had representation in the General Assembly from the start.

This will not be true after mid-January if the big city political powers are allowed to conspire with our orbiting federal courts. They would put us in a six-county district with only two representatives. And they would further spread out the First Senatorial District making it more difficult for the senator to remain in contact with his constituents.

In the sparsely populated east and west the slide rule "plan" lumps numerous counties together with only a sprinkling of representation. Down here it would mean a candidate for the House would have to run in counties from the Chowan River to the Atlantic Ocean. Such a campaign would be out of the financial reach of many persons who would otherwise be able representatives.

What we are saying is this. The big boys are putting a price on running for office and limiting us little or no voice in Raleigh.

There is widespread concern over the apathy of North Carolinians, as well as Americans. Will taking our representation help this situation? If those already interested in obtaining a better life for Chowan County, for example, had to call long distance to talk to their representatives, would they be apt to do so?

Throughout the heavily populated areas of this state and among political powers—from Gov. Dan Moore on down—there are cries of "What can we do?" following the federal court decision.

Our own capable Rep. W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., finds the answer to this question in the Dirksen Amendment. The Dirksen Amendment is a constitutional amendment to permit one branch of the bicameral legislature to be elected from districts apportioned on factors other than population.

Rep. Earnhardt contends if

Bond Selected For Post

James M. Bond, 106 West Church Street, has been recommended for the position of acting postmaster in Edenton.

Bond's name was forwarded to Senator Sam Ervin Saturday following a meeting of the Chowan County Democratic Executive Committee. Senator Ervin

Firms Planning Holiday Hours

Peoples Bank & Trust Company, the U. S. Post Office and local merchants go on a holiday schedule this week for the convenience of local citizens.

The main office of Peoples Bank & Trust Company will remain open from 2:30 P. M. to 4:30 P. M., from December 15 through December 24. The consumer Credit Branch already stays open until 4 P. M., each day.

R. Graham White, executive vice president, said the bank's main office hours are being extended to offer additional service to its patrons during the busy holiday season.

Postmaster J. L. Chestnutt said the post office will be open from 8:30 A. M., to 5 P. M., Saturday and parcel post delivery will be on a six-day a week schedule from now until Christmas.

Local stores will begin staying open until 9 P. M., on Monday. This will be in effect until Christmas, according to Britton Byrum, chairman of the Merchants Committee of the Chamber of Commerce.

Downtown establishments will be closed December 25 and December 27 for the Christmas holiday. The bank will observe the same holiday.

Dividend Rate To Be Increased

Edenton Savings & Loan Association anticipates paying 4 1/4 per cent dividend, effective January 1, 1966.

At the regular monthly meeting of the directors on December 9, the board announced the new anticipated annual dividend that will be compounded semi-annually.

The increase in the anticipated dividend is in keeping with the association's policy of paying the highest possible dividend to its savers and the increasing demand for home mortgage financing in this area, according to James M. Bond, executive vice president.

In making the announcement, Bond stated the association has made loans of well over \$1,000,000 in 1965 for purchase and construction of homes.

HOLIDAY IS SET

Edenton and Chowan County schools close at the end of classes Friday for the Christmas holiday. The schools will reopen on January 3.



JAMES M. BOND

Aces Dominate All-East Squad

Three members of the 1965 football team at John A. Holmes High School were voted first team berths in the annual News & Observer All-East Class 2-A squad.

Junior Quarterback Wes Chesson and seniors Bill Griffin and co-captain Charles Swanner were picked for the first team. All first team selections, with the exception of Chesson, are seniors.

Co-captain Dwight Flanagan and Mike Overton were chosen for the second team.

The Edenton Aces landed four more players on the talented honorable mention list. They are: Ikey Davis, Bill Wallace, Bill Mitchner and Bob Bass.

A total of 55 coaches, both prep and college, sports-writers and sportscasters across Eastern Carolina did the choosing in what was said to be the toughest and most difficult endeavor in the history of the All-East program.

Archie Miller of Perquimans won a berth on the first team as did H. C. Francis of Ahsokie, two other Albemarle Conference players.

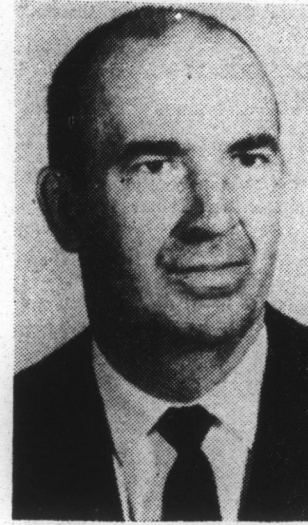
STATED COMMUNICATION

Unanimity Lodge No. 7 will hold a stated communication Thursday at 8 P. M. to confer First Degree upon two candidates. All master Masons are cordially invited and urged to attend.



OSCAR DUNCAN

CHANGES AT POST OFFICE—Oscar Duncan, left, assistant postmaster here for 15 years, will retire December 31. Named to succeed him in this position is W. F. Goodwin, right. Goodwin has been with the local post office for 27 years.



C. C. WALTERS



HIRAM J. MAYO

Walters Resigns Here; Going To Perquimans

Chowan County School Supt. C. C. Walters has resigned to accept a similar position in Perquimans County. He will assume his new duties January 10, 1966.

Action on Supt. Walters' resignation was taken Friday at a called meeting of the Chowan County Board of Education. O. C. Long, Jr., chairman, said it was accepted with regret.

In Hertford, Dr. Allen Bonner, chairman of the Perquimans County Board of Education, announced the employment of Supt. Walters to replace Supt. John T. Biggers.

The Perquimans County school post was vacated by Supt. Biggers on December 1 after the board cancelled his two-year contract because

of an audit made recently by the state. The superintendent at first refused to step down but following lengthy hearings, said he was vacating the position because he felt it would be in the best interests of the school children.

Supt. Walters was midway through his third year as head of Chowan County schools when he resigned. He came here in July, 1963, from Nashville in Nash County, where he had been principal for 10 years. He completed a two-year term here and received another two-year contract in July.

"We have enjoyed working with Supt. Walters and feel we have accomplished a great deal during the time he has been with us," Long said. Long added that the board wishes him well in his new position.

Supt. Walters said the offer from Perquimans County was a promotion for him and presented an opportunity that he could not turn down. (There are some 2,300 students in Perquimans while there are only 830 in the Chowan system.)

"I have enjoyed working in this county and appreciate the cooperation of everyone with whom I have come in contact," Supt. Walters said.

A native of Jamesville in Martin County, Supt. Walters is a graduate of Atlantic Christian College in Wilson and received his master's degree from Columbia University. He has done graduate work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and East Carolina College.

He began his teaching career in Bertie County in 1937 and during the past 28 years has been connected with education in Martin, Gates, Bertie, Nash and Chowan counties.

Supt. Walters is married to the former Kate Lowrance of Gatesville and they have a daughter, Jane, a freshman at East Carolina College.

First District Voting Saturday

Voters throughout the First Congressional District go to the polls Saturday to nominate a congressman to fill the unexpired term of Rep. Herbert Bonner who died recently.

Five candidates are in the race and because of the number in the race a second primary is being forecast by some observers.

West W. Byrum, chairman of the Chowan Board of Education, said only a few names were added to the local books during the three-week registration period. "Little or no interest was shown in the registration," Byrum said.

The chairman said all is in readiness for the election. Polls in Chowan County precincts will open at 8:30 A. M., Saturday and close at 6:30 P. M.

Court Adjourns Without Hearing Lease Case

How does it feel to be scheduled to go to court and find there is no court to go to?

Town Attorney W. S. Privott and Edenton's Town Council were caught in that situation Wednesday in that dispute over termination of a long-term lease with United States Lumber Company.

The town on December 1 was cited to a hearing Wednesday in Camden County Superior Court after the firm obtained a temporary restraining order which prohibited them from reclaiming the base property.

However, at Tuesday night's council meeting, Privott said the term of Camden court adjourned earlier in the day.

company's attorney in Durham, Privott said a conference had been requested on the site for December 22. Town Councilmen agreed to this suggestion.

Lawson Lester, president of U. S. Lumber Co., claims he has met all the conditions of a 50-year lease he obtained to most of the base property controlled by the town. The lease was signed four years ago.

However, the town contends he has failed to comply with most of the lease agreement, especially the portion which deals with employment. The firm has been shut down since mid-December, 1964, while the lease calls for a substantial employment.

Mayor John A. Mitchener,

Jr., announced publicly the council's recent adjustment of salaries for town employees. He said this was done in an effort to keep good employees and at the same time will help the general economy of the area.

Fire Chief W. J. Yates thanked the council for the raises which were voted.

The council voted to accept a low bid for gas and oil which was submitted by Sinclair Refining Co. Town Administrator W. E. Gardner was instructed to check the specifications to make sure the firm had complied with them.

While no action was taken, it appeared the council will abandon plans to build a Colonial type fire station here. The board had set

aside \$70,000 for this building and the initial bids came to nearly \$160,000. After cutting corners the bid was reduced to \$138,000.

Councilman J. D. Elliott, head of the fire station committee, said the cost of the structure is "way over our heads" and he would recommend that the council forget about this particular type building.

A low bid of \$13,420.99 was awarded for the purchase of a piece of equipment for the Electric and Water Department.

The council discussed vandalism and drag racing at Edenton Municipal Airport. No action was taken although a special policeman is being investigated.