

The Public Parade

On Tuesday, November 8th, voters in Chowan County went to the polls and overwhelmingly disapproved the issuance of bonds for the construction of a new hospital. Nevertheless, the need for additional medical facilities still exists and the citizens of this county must face up to the task.

As in most bond elections, the question of erecting a new 60-bed hospital here became quite emotional with more personalities than logic being involved.

Too, while it was anticipated that only \$800,000 would be needed for the project, the voters were asked to approve the entire amount of the estimated cost of the hospital. By their vote, Chowan citizens said they were apprehensive of such a plan.

Throughout the campaign to educate the citizenry to the need which exists, those in a position to know told of the crowded conditions at Chowan Hospital.

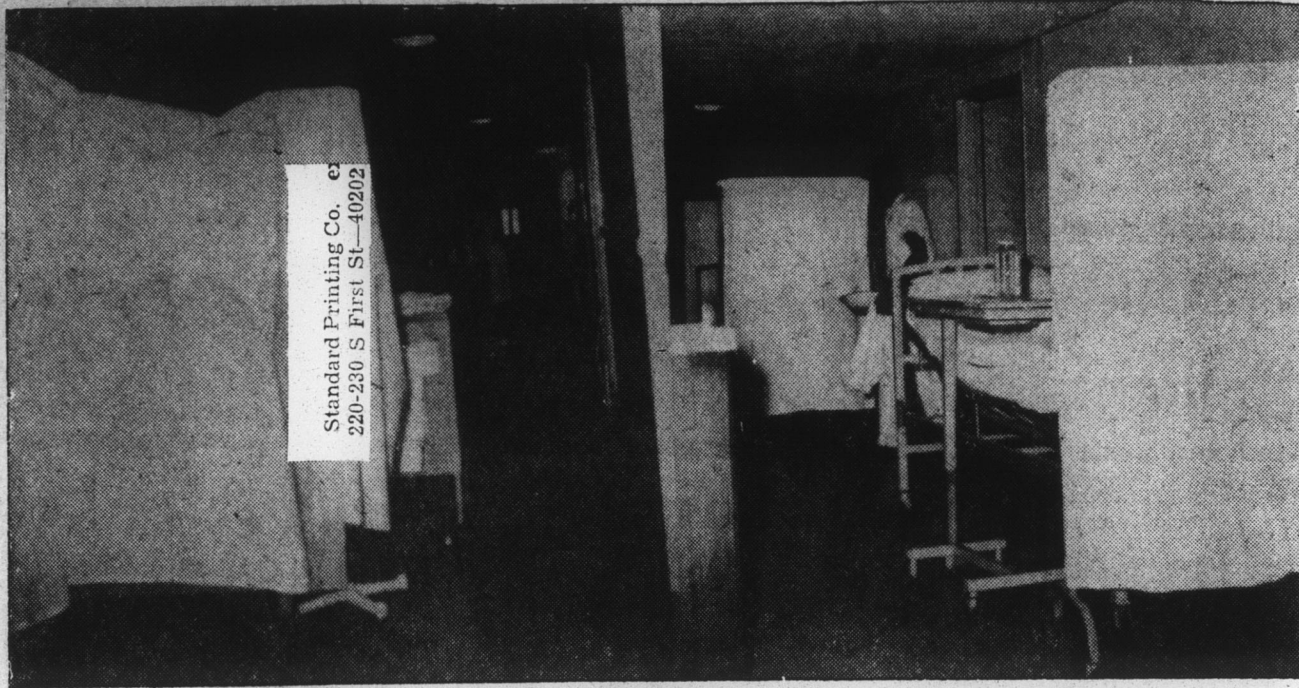
This newspaper asked for, and received, a 10-day census at the hospital.

It showed that on Saturday, November 26th, there were 24 patients at the hospital, a normal census for this time of year. However, an unfortunate automobile accident occurred that night in which two young Elizabeth City boys lost their lives. Seven others were hospitalized.

With the normal discharges on Saturday and the admission from this accident, Sunday morning there were 29 patients in the hospital.

Monday morning found still 29 patients in the hospital. Tuesday morning there were 34. Two of these had to be placed in the labor room, one had to be placed in the medical library. This was necessary because even though Chowan Hospital is a 35-bed unit, male and female patients must be separated and when there is a four-bed ward with two females in it and the next two admissions are males they cannot be admitted to this ward.

There were 43 patients on the roster Wednesday morning. Six of these were newborns. New mothers cannot be placed in the room with surgery or any infectious disease patient for the protection of the mother and baby. So, there were four beds in the halls, one in the medical library, two in the labor room and six in the nursery, as well as 30 patients in regular hospital rooms.



BEHIND THESE BLINDS ARE PATIENT BEDS AT CHOWAN HOSPITAL
Overcrowding means patients must be kept in halls for unlimited period of time.

Thursday found a census of 42, with about the same situation as the day before, excepting the placing of two patients in the administrator's office.

The situation on Friday was like Thursday, but the administrator had been readmitted to his office. On Saturday there were 27 patients in the hospital and because of situations explained earlier one was still in the hall.

Sunday morning found 23 patients in the hospital and things had returned to normal for the first time in nine days.

With 25 patients hospitalized Monday it amounted to over 70 per cent of the bed capacity.

Experienced hospital authorities recommend that when a 35-bed hospital has 60 per cent or more of its beds filled, plans should be made to add additional facilities. This situation has existed at Chowan Hospital for the past three years and trustees had conducted an extensive survey of the need.

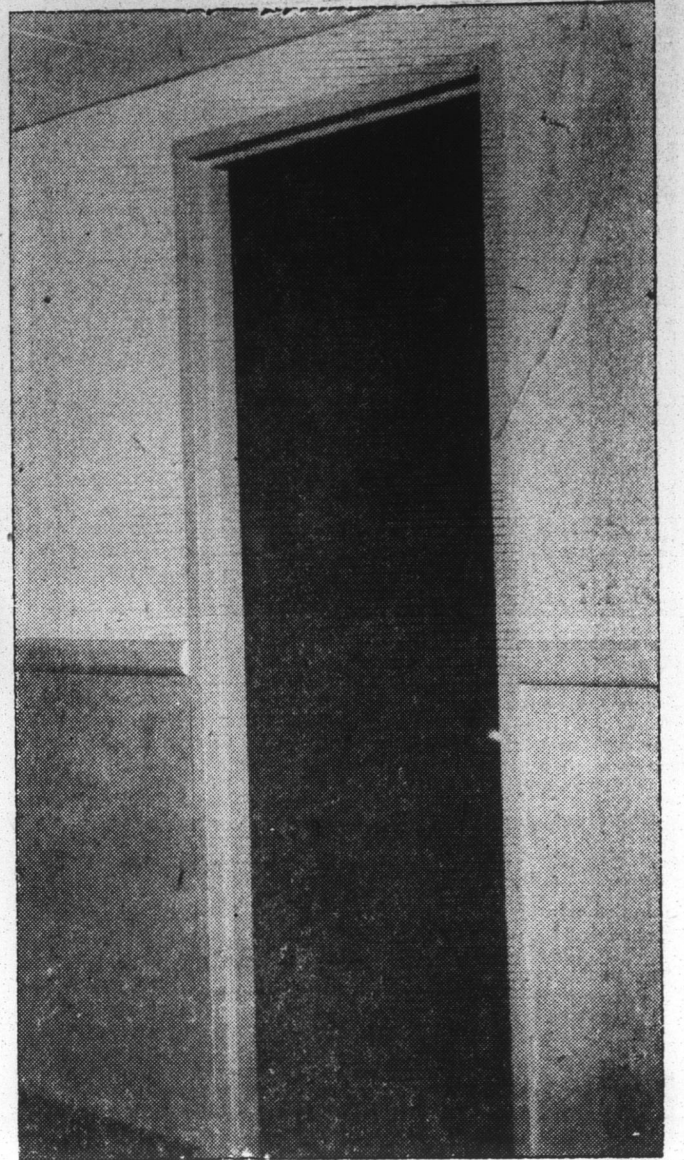
The trustees were faced with two alternatives. They

could plan an addition at the present site or build a completely new hospital. The survey team of hospital officials recommended the latter, which also appealed to the trustees.

Even an addition to Chowan Hospital at the present site will require a considerable amount of money—more than \$1-million. What part the federal government, foundations and others will play in such a scheme is not known. However, it is a known fact that in order for this community to have desirable hospital facilities which will take care of the needs of our people, bonds are going to be necessary.

It is not a trait of the citizens of Chowan County not to face up to the responsibilities like the hospital issue. Some satisfactory plan can be worked out and definite steps taken toward the erection of more and better medical facilities here.

The situation which exists at Chowan Hospital is critical. Continued on Page 4



DOCTOR'S LIBRARY
Used for overflow at Hospital



THE CHOWAN HERALD



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Little Theater

Mabe Elected President

Glenn Mabe, 16 Albania, is the new president of the expanding Edenton Little Theater. Mabe was elected Monday night at the annual membership meeting of the group held at the Parish House of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

J. H. Conger, Jr., outgoing president, presided at the meeting and expressed his appreciation to the membership for the support given the organization during the only production of the year, "Royal Gambit".

Conger termed the production last month "highly successful" and reported that 65 per cent of the little theater membership either attended or participated in the play directed by Ross Inglis.

Prior to the election of a

new slate of officers, Conger appealed for a wider based organization. "We have a good membership but we need more than 18 to 20 people active," he said.

A discussion was also held on having a short course for prospective directors for future productions.

The membership voted to continue the \$100 high school scholarship.

Also, the by-laws were amended to place the theater year on the calendar year rather than from April 1. Conger said this is necessary if the organization is to continue to have successful spring productions.

The group also agreed to explore the possibility of having a play to coincide with the biennial tour of Historic Edenton and Countryside coming up in April, 1967.

Mrs. Jack Leary, secretary, read the minutes of the previous membership meeting and the treasurer's report was given by Wes Chesson.

Elected to serve with Mabe were: Charles Wood, vice president; Mrs. Jack Leary, recording secretary; Mrs. Marcia Crandall, secretary; Leonard Small, treasurer; and Miss Catherine Aman and Bill Cozart, trustees.

TOWN COUNCIL

Edenton Town Council will meet in regular session Tuesday night at 8 o'clock. A councilman for First Ward is expected to be appointed.



LIVE AND DIRECT — Mrs. L. S. Blades, Jr., is engaged in a telephone conversation over the gold Albemarle Metro unit while Mayor John A. Mitchener, Jr., of Edenton, Harry T. Wescott of Manteo, chairman of the State Utilities Commission, and Mr. Blades, president of Norfolk & Carolina Telephone Company pose. Albemarle Metro, which brings free dialing in a 3,900-square-mile area of Northeastern North Carolina, was launched Friday night with a call from Wescott to J. Clarence Leary of Edenton.

Chowan Board Delays Action On Sheriff's Pay

Chowan County Commissioners Monday began a new term of office and set a salary scale for the register of deeds while withholding action on putting the sheriff on a salary.

Following a break for lunch Monday, Chairman W. E. Bond announced that the

board members had thoroughly discussed the matter at lunch and said no changes in the sheriff's salary-fee system would be made at this time. Bond said the current set-up would be maintained until further study could be made.

The commissioners set the salary of Mrs. Bertha B. Bunch, register of deeds, at \$4,800. She will be paid an additional \$1,200 for being clerk to the board of commissioners and another \$1,200 for making up the tax bills.

Also, the county will pay for an assistant in Mrs. Bunch's office.

All fees collected by the register of deeds will now go to the county.

The county currently pays Sheriff Earl Goodwin a salary of \$4,200 per year plus \$1,000 mileage. He is paid 15 per cent of the delinquent taxes collected on real property and 20 per cent on personal property.

Bond went on to say the matter of making a change at this time in the pay set-up for the sheriff had been discussed with County Attorney John Graham and the attorney had recommended that it remain as is for now.

He lauded the work Sheriff Goodwin has done in the area of tax collections and said Chowan is in the top 10 counties in the state with regards to the collection of taxes.

Dallas Jethro, Jr., made the motion that a change be made in the method of paying the register of deeds while making no changes. Continued on Page Two

Mrs. Ward Gets Home Agent Post

Mrs. Frances M. Ward will become Chowan County Home Economics Agent on February 1, 1967. At that time Mrs. Mary Cowper will assume similar duties in Gates County.

Mrs. Cowper has been county home agent here since Miss Pauline Calloway resigned to continue her education at N. C. State University. She lives in Gates County.

At the same time it was announced that Mrs. Gladys Roberts of Pamlico County will become assistant home agent here.

The action was taken by Chowan County commissioners Monday on recommendation of C. W. Overman, extension director in this county.

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Another 'Choice' Period Is Voted For 26 Students Now At Walker School

Twenty-six Negro ninth graders at D. F. Walker High School will be given another "freedom of choice" as to the school they wish to attend for the second semester of 1966-67.

These students reside in the Chowan County school district and have been the center of a dispute over their assignment to the city unit.

Chowan County Board of Education Tuesday night approved a seven-day choice period for these students, beginning Friday, December 9. The information concerning this new choice period will be sent to the parents by certified mail, return receipt requested.

The county and city boards have an open door policy with an understanding that any student can request transfer to any school in the two units. The county board

has maintained that they will honor any request for transfer and will be bound by the wishes of the students in the new choice period.

Students in the county and city administrative units were given identical choice forms last Spring and the 23 students involved all chose to attend the Walker school this year.

However, the Office of Education in Washington said by accepting the rural students in the city unit the Edenton City Schools would be out of compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The students were sent back to the county and for several weeks attended Chowan High School.

The county board of education brought suit and was successful in obtaining an injunction forcing the city to admit the students to the

Walker school. Since that time the suit has been dropped.

At a conference late last month in Washington, the county board agreed to give the students another "freedom of choice" and to abide by the wishes of those students involved.

Supt. Hiram J. Mayo told the board Tuesday night that two white teachers employed last month to work at White Oak Elementary School had returned their contracts unsigned.

The board then hired James D. Singletary, Jr., as a sixth grade teacher at the school. The white teacher was to report to work today (Thursday). Supt. Mayo said Singletary will also work on a guidance program at the school as well as instruct in physical education.

O. C. Long, Jr., chairman, advised the board that he had received a letter from David S. Seeley, assistant commissioner, Officer of Education, agreeing to extend the deferral period on action by his office to March 1, 1967.

Such postponement will Continued on Page Seven

Bertie Hands Aces First Loss

The Edenton Aces, fresh from two straight basketball victories, ran into deep trouble and were beaten out Tuesday night by Bertie, 63-52.

It was the first loss in the young 2-A Albemarle Conference race for the Aces. They opened Friday night at Pasquotank Central and won easily. They returned home Saturday night to defeat Elizabeth City.

Wes Chesson led the Aces in scoring against Bertie with 23 points. However, Tom Willis, leading scorer in the first two encounters, was held to a mere eight points. In the opening game Friday at the College of the Albemarle gymnasium in Elizabeth City, the Aces walloped Pasquotank Central in a 2-A conference tilt, 65-35.

Tem Willis poured in 22 points and was followed by Wes Chesson, who scored 12.

The halftime score was 29-11 in favor of the Aces.

Coach Kinion cleared the bench in the game with all 14 squad members seeing action.

The Aces opened the home season Saturday with an impressive 50-43 victory over the Elizabeth City Yellow Jackets of the 3-A conference.

Willis was again high scorer as he dumped in 19 points. Rusty Boatwright trailed with 14.

The Aces led at halftime by 32-19 and were never in Continued on Page Two



GLENN MABE



SANTA ARRIVES — Thousands lined the streets of Edenton last Thursday to witness the annual Christmas parade and await the arrival of Santa Claus. In the photo at right, Roy Hurrell, local businessman, is surrounded by children as he stands on a truck bed so a better view of the parade can be obtained. After the parade, hundreds of the children were thrilled with the appearance of Santa Claus. Later hundreds of the children sat on Santa's knee and whispered their secret wishes into his ear. John Phillips, in left picture, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Phillips was among those who kept Santa busy.



DISTRICT COURT PRINCIPALS — Judge W. S. Privott of Edenton, right, veteran Recorder's Court judge, Monday called his first session of the new district court in Chowan County. Prior to the opening of court he is shown with Wilton Walker of Currituck, solicitor, left, and Ralph E. Parrish, magistrate for Chowan County. Judge Privott will share the bench with Judge Fentress Horner of Elizabeth City in seven counties in Northeastern North Carolina.

First District Court Session Held

A new era in the administration of justice in Chowan County began Tuesday morning when Judge William S. Privott opened his first session of the new District Court here.

Judge Privott took the oath of office in Elizabeth City on Monday as one of two judges in a district made up of seven Northeastern counties. He and Judge Fentress Horner of Elizabeth City will travel the circuit holding both civil as well as criminal court sessions.

The Edenton jurist said he looked forward to the same efficiency and cooperation of court officials and officers

which he had enjoyed for many years.

Solicitor Wilton Walker of Currituck County asked for the cooperation of everyone connected with the court. "Working together we can make this a better court system," the solicitor said.

The first case Solicitor Walker called was Mrs. Ethel H. Boyce, who was charged with failing to stop for a stop sign.

Solicitor Walker lost his first case in the Chowan court when Judge Privott found Mrs. Boyce not guilty.

In other cases called, Judge Privott took the following action:

Henry R. Trotman, failing to have his vehicle inspected, \$10 fine and costs. A charge of failing to have a valid operator's license was not pressed.

Delvin E. Lamb, speeding and no operator's license, 60 days, suspended upon payment of \$75 fine and costs.

Marvin Walter Sautten, speeding, 10 days, suspended upon payment of \$11 fine and costs.

Alton Earl Corey, driving drunk, prayer for judgment continued until January 10, 1967.

Clarence L. Pickell, trespass, prayer for judgment. Continued on Page 8