

# School Board Merger Bill Introduced In Raleigh

Rep. Philip P. Godwin of the First House District, Wednesday introduced a bill in the General Assembly to allow Chowan County voters to express themselves on the question of merging the two existing school administrative units.

The lengthy piece of legislation was expected to be sent to the newly appointed House Education Committee by Speaker David M. Britt. Rep. R. D. McMillan of Robeson was appointed committee chairman Tuesday.

Rep. Godwin reported from Raleigh Tuesday that although much publicity had been given the proposed

merger of the school administrative units of Chowan County and Edenton, he has heard very little opposition to it.

Speaking of the bill, Rep. Godwin said he doesn't see how anyone would object to giving the citizens of Chowan County an opportunity to vote on the question. However, he pointed out that a hearing could be held by the committee to which the bill is assigned for study if it is requested.

Edenton City and Chowan County boards of education have unanimously approved the administrative unit merger they have felt so strongly

about the matter that the boards have shared a superintendent of schools for more than a year.

It is expected that a referendum will be called in May. The bill states that immediately upon certification of a favorable vote of the people the two school boards will become one, known as the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education.

The five elected members of the Chowan County board and the six appointed members of the city board would serve until January 1, 1971. In the general election of 1970, the voters will elect a seven-member board to serve staggered terms. Between the time of merger

and the election vacancies which occur will not be filled unless the number of members falls below seven.

Membership on the newly constituted board would be set according to population. The First Township will have four members; the Second Township, one; the Third Township one; and the Fourth Township one.

Included with the merger question is a supplemental school tax not to exceed 15 cents per \$100 valuation. The city board has had such a tax on municipal books for many years but the tax has never been levied.

Text of the bill as introduced by Rep. Godwin was published in The Chowan Herald on January 12 under sponsorship of the two school boards.



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### Phone Officials Told Service Here Inadequate

More than 30 businessmen, industrialists and home owners in Edenton told officials of Norfolk & Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Co., Thursday they are dissatisfied with the telephone service being given this community.

W. B. Gardner, president of Edenton Chamber of Commerce, moderated a frank discussion of local problems between telephone subscribers and L. S. Blades, Jr., president, and L. S. Blades, III, vice president and general counsel.

"Edenton and Chowan County is making good progress and we must have the full cooperation of Norfolk & Carolina Telephone Company if we are to continue this growth," Gardner said.

He then listed numerous complaints registered with the Chamber with regards to telephone service. They included: lack of long distance operators to handle person-to-person calls; operators who are not adequately trained; too many subscribers on rural lines; phones for new arrivals hard to get, and installation costs too high.

Gardner said the chamber has experienced refusal by local citizens to join the organization because of inadequate telephone service.

L. S. Blades, Jr., spoke at length about how the company has spent or has budgeted nearly \$9-million since 1961 to bring to the Albemarle area the most advanced telephonic system in existence among independent companies today.

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### Town License Plates A Must

Police Chief James H. Griffin warned residents of Edenton that 1966 town license plates expired at midnight Wednesday and new tags should be purchased and displayed immediately.

Chief Griffin said the tags are on sale at the Municipal Building for \$1. Every vehicle registered to a resident of Edenton is required to display such a license plate.

The police department will immediately begin checking vehicles for town license plates and issue citations to those motorists found in violation.

### Chowan Hospital Will Get Funds

CHARLOTTE — The annual distribution of funds to assist nonprofit Carolina hospitals and child-caring institutions in financing services to needy patients and orphans is being made this week by The Duke Endowment. The appropriations total \$1,468,018, including \$907,983 to 141 hospitals and \$558,035 to 43 child-caring institutions.

Chowan Hospital in Edenton has an appropriation of \$2,300. Last year the Edenton hospital received \$2,000.

In North Carolina, 99 hospitals are receiving \$864,729 and 26 child-caring institutions, \$368,290.

Contributions to the hospitals are based on \$1 a day for each day of free service in the fiscal year which ended September 30, 1966.



**LOOKING FOR A REPEAT**—Principal Cecil W. Fry of John A. Holmes High School, right, and basketball Coach Jim Kinion here display the 1966 2-A Albemarle Conference Tournament trophy which the Edenton Aces won. The conference tournament opens here Monday night and the Aces will be seeking their second straight crown. They won the regular season play Tuesday night at Bertie and end the season here Friday night against Pasquotank Central. The Aces have lost but three of 17 conference games this season.

### Edenton Aces Capture 2-A Crown

The Edenton Aces have won their second straight 2-A Albemarle Conference cage crown and are favored to win the post season tournament opening here Monday night.

There was a considerable amount of pride in the voice of Coach Jim Kinion Wednesday morning when he reported: "Well, we wrapped it up last night at Bertie."

Coach Kinion has been building Edenton into a cage empire like the football program has been over the years. At the beginning of the season some doubted the Aces' ability to cope with conference competition due to heavy losses as a result of graduation.

However, Coach Kinion's cagers have come along throughout the season and have a 14-3 conference mark going into the final regular season game here Friday with Pasquotank Central.

The Aces were impressive in their two most recent victories with subs being used freely.

Last Friday they moved into position to capture the conference crown with a 57-24 victory over Perquimans County High School at the local gym. Quinton Goodwin had 13 for the Aces, followed by Billy Wallace with nine and Ronnie Harrell with eight.

At Bertie Tuesday, Thomas Willis scored 21 points. Frederick Sexton had 12 points and Wallace got 10.

The Acelets, who have had their problems this year, lost recently to Gates, 32-17 but beat Perquimans, 26-19. Beth Moore led the scoring for Edenton in both games. Santra Ange also aided the Acelet attack.

**Holiday Notice Given By Banks**  
Wednesday, February 22, will be a bank holiday.

George Washington's birthday will find all financial institutions in the area closed for the day in celebration of this event.

Those in our area to close include: First National Bank of Eastern North Carolina, Peoples Bank & Trust Company's main office and consumer credit branch, Edenton Savings & Loan Association and the Bank of Hobbsville.

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### Mayor Mitchener Seeks Fourth Term In Election

Mayor John A. Mitchener, Jr., today announced his candidacy to succeed himself in the May Municipal election.

Mayor Mitchener, who is serving as president of the N. C. League of Municipalities, has held the town's top elective position for the past six years. He served on the Town Council for eight years prior to being chosen mayor upon the death of Mayor David Holton.

Two years ago he defeated Roy Harrell in one of the town's most heated municipal elections in many years. In a statement issued to The Herald, Mayor Mitchener said:

"With the help and assistance of your fine Town Councilmen, we have spent the past six years endeavoring on two fronts: the consolidating and upgrading of your town's facilities and services; and the creation of jobs through industrial development for all our citizens so that they might live happier, more productive lives.

"I think, and I hope, our townspeople will agree that we have been extremely successful in both these endeavors. In the past, we have constructed a new sewage disposal facility, Municipal Building, fire station, off-street parking facilities and paved all the

Earlier, Mayor Mitchener praised the work of the Good Neighbor Council in establishing better race relations in the area. He said their efforts had garnered high praise from D. S. Coltrane, chairman of the state organization.

W. B. Gardner, town administrator, said he had discussed the sidewalk matter earlier in the week with Earl Jones and A. C. Hudson, Negro leaders in the community. He said they expressed appreciation for the consideration given requests by the council and hoped the sidewalk request would be looked on with favor as it is needed to insure the safety of children walking to school.

In presenting a request for immediate action on the annexation of certain property outside the town limits, especially Morgan Park, Har-

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### Boards Meet Monday; Sidewalk Work Okayed

Edenton Town Council and Board of Public Works will have a called joint meeting Monday night to discuss annexation. The meeting was requested at the council Tuesday night by Jesse L. Harrell, public works board chairman.

Mayor John A. Mitchener, Jr., urged councilmen to take immediate action on a request to construct a sidewalk on the east side of North Oakum Street from the Broad Street intersection to D. F. Walker High School.

The request was made by W. P. (Spec) Jones and George Alma Byrum, representing the Edenton-Chowan Good Neighbor Council.

Mayor Mitchener, who seldom injects his personal feelings into council deliberations, spoke strongly in support of the request. He said the Good Neighbor Council here is making considerable progress on many fronts and this is the first major request from them.

"I urge the council to authorize that this work be done in the best interest of the safety of these school children," Mayor Mitchener said.

He said the council should



**DR. JOHNNIE H. HORTON**  
**Dr. J. H. Horton Named To Board**

Dr. Johnnie H. Horton, area Negro leader, Tuesday night was named to the Edenton City School Board.

Dr. Horton replaces James M. Bond, who has resigned. Bond, a veteran member of the city board, within the past months has been appointed postmaster in Edenton. He also serves as Town Treasurer.

Dr. Edward G. Bond, chairman of the city school board, nominated Dr. Horton to fill Bond's unexpired term during the joint meeting with Town Council.

Dr. Bond said Dr. Horton's appointment had the unanimous approval of the city board.

Mayor John A. Mitchener, Jr., was named chairman of the joint meeting which followed the regular monthly council meeting.

Dr. Horton, a dentist, is vice chairman of the Edenton-Chowan Good Neighbor Council and has been prominent in area activities for a number of years. He is the first of his race to serve on the local school board.



**JOHN A. MITCHENER, JR.**

### Mrs. Moore Signs Proclamation; Invited To Tour

RALEIGH—The women of Edenton, N. C., have recruited Mrs. Dan K. Moore to their rebellion against heart disease in North Carolina.

Nine women of the Edenton Tea Party Chapter of the DAR brought a proclamation declaring "Independence From Heart Disease" to the Governor's Mansion where Mrs. Moore treated them with tea and signed their proclamation. The women of Edenton on January 2, 1967, restaged the historic Edenton Tea Party of 1774 in support of the North Carolina Heart Association's efforts to eliminate heart disease as the major cause of death in the state.

Their appearance in Raleigh was made in support of the 1967 Heart Fund campaign underway during the entire month of February. The annual campaign supports the Heart Association's efforts in heart research, professional and public health education and community service.

Mrs. Moore told the ladies of Edenton, "It has been a very great pleasure to have you ladies so beautifully costumed here this morning in behalf of the Heart Fund."

"I have been for many years interested in the North Carolina Heart Association, and Gov. Moore and I have participated in our home community in the fund-raising efforts of the Heart Association. It is a distinct pleasure for me to have a part in this statewide effort."

Mrs. R. J. Boyce of Edenton also invited Mrs. Moore to attend the 1967 "Pilgrimage of Colonial Edenton and Countryside" April 14, 15 and 16. She also invited Gov. and Mrs. Moore to attend the bicentennial celebration of the completion of the oldest court house in the United States, Edenton's

Chowan County Court House, Sunday, April 17.

On the occasion of both the pilgrimage and the court

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**SIGNING UP** — Mrs. Dan K. Moore here signs a proclamation presented by ladies of the Colonial town of Edenton proclaiming "Independence from Heart Disease" at the Governor's Mansion last Wednesday. The ladies, who restaged the historic Edenton Tea Party of 1774 on January 2, 1967, came to Raleigh to secure Mrs. Moore's support of the 1967 Heart Fund campaign of the N. C. Heart Association, in progress during Heart Month, February. Left to right are: Mrs. Wood Privott, representing Edenton Tea Party Chapter, DAR; Mrs. Thomas C. Byrum, Jr., Mrs. J. D. Elliott, and Mrs. B. J. Boyce, representing Edenton Woman's Club.