

Citizens Vote Today In Hospital Referendum



YOUNG FARMER RECOGNIZED—Edenton Jaycees Thursday night honored Sammy Byrum, left, as Outstanding Young Farmer in Chowan County. Byrum is pictured with Dr. I. D. Porterfield of N. C. State University in Raleigh; Jaycees President Frank Habitz and Dick Bryant of Elizabeth City, representing Virginia Electric & Power Company. Dr. Porterfield was principal speaker at the OYF banquet held at the Jaycee Community Building on Base Road.

Byrum Wins OYF Award; Livestock Boom Predicted

Sammy Byrum, Route 1, Edenton, Thursday was named Outstanding Young Farmer in Chowan County.

Byrum, who lives in the Rocky Hock Community, was honored at a banquet by Edenton Jaycees. He has been farming for 11 years and is a leader in

the community in which he lives.

Joe Hollowell, master of ceremonies for the OYF program, said agriculture is the number one industry in Chowan County. He said seven local businesses nominated young farmers from throughout the county for the OYF award.

Dr. I. D. Porterfield, head of the department of animal science at N. C. State University, discussed education and research in his principle address.

He said this country has a tremendous potential for food production. However, he admitted that food is a critical issue today.

Christmas Holiday Being Planned

Christmas will be observed here Monday with most commercial establishments planning to close for the day.

At the same time, town and county

offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday as will Peoples Bank & Trust Company, First National Bank of Eastern North Carolina, Edenton Savings & Loan Association, Employment Security Commission's Edenton office, and the driver's license office.

W. B. Gardner, town administrator, said garbage will be collected throughout Edenton Saturday and there will be no collection on Monday as street department employees will have a holiday.

The regular schedule will resume on Tuesday, he said.

The Merchants Committee of Edenton Chamber of Commerce recently recommended that Christmas Day and New Year's Day be observed as general holidays in the area.

Downtown businesses are staying open at night all this week for the convenience of shoppers. They will be closed on Monday.

Campaign Headed By Dr. Downum

Dr. A. F. Downum, Jr., of Edenton has been appointed director for the Chowan County 1968 March of Dimes campaign, it was announced today by Clarence W. Walker, Volunteer State Chairman.

"It's time we stop telling ourselves that birth defects strike only at 'other people' and 'other people's children,'" Dr. Downum said. "A birth defect can hit any family, rich or poor, any race, any nationality."

"Birth defects are this nation's second greatest destroyer of life, claiming approximately half a million unborn babies each year and killing 60,000 of our children and adults," he declared. "More than 250,000 American babies are born each year with a defect, and an estimated 15 million persons of all ages have one or more defect that affects their daily lives."

The director said that the March of Dimes, which won the fight against polio, attacks birth defects by financing research and supporting more than 90 birth defects centers at major medical institutions throughout the United States.

Dr. Downum, doctor of optometry, received his education at the University of North Carolina and Southern College of Optometry. He is a member of the Edenton Jaycees, Varsity Club and the Methodist Men's Club. Dr. and Mrs. Downum are the parents of three children.

Chowan Employment In Big Gain

Employment increased 6.2 per cent in Chowan County during the second quarter of 1967 and the average weekly wage also showed a substantial increase.

R. E. Cheek, manager of Employment Security Commission's Edenton office, said the increase in the number of workers covered by unemployment insurance was especially significant in Chowan County. "The fact that increases were noted in every single classification is significant," Cheek said. "This shows a healthy growth."

The classifications are construction, manufacturing, transportation, trade, services, financial, insurance, and real estate.

Chowan was the only county in the entire Albemarle Area to show a marked increase in non-seasonal employment.

Insured employment in North Carolina showed a 1.4 per cent increase the second quarter over the first quarter of the year.

There were 91 reporting units with an average employment of 1,925. These firms paid \$1,874,000 in wages for an average weekly wage of \$74.88.

Manufacturing topped the list with 1,097 employees. These workers received a total of \$1,163,000, or an average weekly wage of \$81.55.

During the first quarter, the average number of employees was 1,004. They received \$1,013,000 for an average weekly wage of \$77.66.

Eighty-nine units reported in the first quarter that they had 1,813 workers and paid \$1,723,000 in wages for an average weekly check of \$73.10.

Light Turnout Expected At Polls; Supporters Find Little Opposition

Voters throughout Chowan County will go to the polls today (Thursday) to cast their ballots in a Hospital Bond referendum.

The polls open at 6:30 A. M., and close at 6:30 P. M. A generally light vote is expected.

Chowan County commissioners have

authorized the referendum to determine whether or not a new county hospital will be constructed. The issue calls for a \$1-million sale of bonds to finance the hospital and a 10 cents per \$100 maximum levy for maintenance.

In order to vote for the construction of new medical facilities here one must vote in favor of the maintenance tax.

Plans call for a 60-bed hospital on a site west of Chowan Medical Center. Chowan Hospital has an option on 25 acres of the Ward Farm that would allow entrances from both Highway 32 and Granville Street.

The existing hospital, now accommodating 35 patients, would be converted to an extended care unit and give the hospital complex a total of 150 available beds.

Edenton Jaycees have been promoting a favorable vote on the issue. Wallace Evans and Jerry Holmes have been co-chairmen of the special Hospital Bond committee which has held meetings throughout the county to familiarize the citizens with the need for new, modern medical facilities.

There has been no organized opposition evident.

The precincts, polling places and election officials are:

WEST EDENTON—Municipal Building; Mrs. George C. Hoskins, registrar; Mrs. J. A. Curran, Mrs. S. F. Hicks and

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The Public Parade

Christ Is Born!

Hard as one may try, it is impossible to improve on the Bethlehem scene as described in the Gospel according to St. Luke:

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David):

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Ho, Ho, Ho!

This has been an interesting year. Yes, interesting on many fronts. Not only the General Assembly, but officials closer home have produced some pretty hilarious copy.

Last week though, 'Cousin' Joe Hunt spouted forth with what may be voted the funnybone tickliness statement of the century.

Representatives from Northeastern North Carolina were in Raleigh to talk sense with the chairman of the State Highway Commission—the one body has earned the reputation of being the most political of all others—including the

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Board Will View Plans For Office

An architect is currently working on a design and cost study analysis of a structure to house the superintendent's offices at Edenton-Chowan Schools.

The board of education last Tuesday authorized Supt. Bill Britt to obtain the information for presentation at the January, 1968, meeting.

At the same time the board abandoned an earlier idea of leasing a re-locateable structure. The state department of school planning would not sanction such a building.

During the discussion it was again pointed out that there was no suitable space available in the county-owned Hotel Joseph Hewes for the superintendent's staff.

All school buildings in the system are insured with the state and Supt. Britt pointed out that the coverage is excellent and the premium about one-half what the board was paying local agencies.

The new policies provide total coverage of \$2,948,100 at an annual cost of \$3,390.32. In the past, the coverage was \$2,138,300 and the premium was \$6,229.03.

The superintendent reported on a con-

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New Hours Set

New hours of operation for financial institutions here and for the Municipal Building staff become effective January 2.

Frank L. Harrelson, commissioner of banks, has granted Peoples Bank & Trust Company and First National Bank of Eastern North Carolina to adjust their schedules to allow Saturday closing.

At the same time, Edenton Savings & Loan Association announced that the same office hours would be maintained by them.

Beginning January 2, the banks and savings and loan office will be open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9 A. M., to 4 P. M.; on Wednesday from 9 A. M., to 12 noon; and on Friday from 9 A. M., to 6:30 P. M.

W. B. Gardner, town administrator, has announced that the Municipal Building will operate on a five-day week, closing on Saturdays.

The town office will be open from 8:30 A. M., to 5 P. M., Monday through Friday, beginning January 2.