

CHRIS - CRAFT LOCATING HERE

Chris-Craft Corporation will erect a modern boat manufacturing facility in Chowan County.

Construction began this week on the free-standing steel building. It will be located on more than 50 acres of land on the Albemarle Sound near Edenton Municipal Airport. Boats to be built here will include cruisers of varying sizes—all

of fiberglass material.

Announcement of the firm's plans were made today by Donald A. Wich, vice president of operations.

Wich also announced that William M. Sanford, general manager, and Donald M. Gilbert, plant manager, have moved to Edenton to assume their respective positions. Temporary construction

is in a warehouse building on the site.

Monroe Construction Company of Greensboro is building contractor. Luke May is construction superintendent.

Chris-Craft announced several months ago that option had been taken on the base property and called for a labor availability survey. This successful survey was completed in June.

No announcement was made as to the potential employment at the Edenton operation. However, the firm said those seeking employment should make application through Employment Security Commission's Edenton office.

Employees will be trained in buildings at the base while the plant is under construction.



GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY—Local officials of Chris-Craft Corporation, representatives of town and county governments and the chamber of commerce are shown at groundbreaking ceremonies for the boat manufacturing concern's new plant on Albemarle Sound. Left to right are: William N. Sanford, general manager; W. B. Gardner, town administrator and chamber leader; W. J. P. Earnhardt, Sr., chamber president; W. P. Jones, past chairman of the Industrial Committee; Mayor John A. Mitchener, Jr.; W. E. Bond, chairman, Chowan County commissioners; Donald M. Gilbert, plant manager, and Robert W. Moore, chamber executive vice president. The firm will build fiberglass boats at the local plant.

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The Public Parade

Politics And Stuff

All is fair in love, war and politics? Since this is the season for campaigning for top state offices just about anything and everything is kosher.

We seem to remember about four years ago when a "certain" candidate for residence on Blount Street in Raleigh made considerable political hay out of a promise to sell the state-owned airplane.

Once he got elected he took a second look. He found the plane to be an asset in industry-hunting.

The industry-hunters are no longer content with the \$70,000 DC-3. Only Tuesday they proposed to get into the jet age to the tune of \$750,000. Too, they want a helicopter for short jaunts.

As one of the officials said: "North Carolina is not a poor state." Even he will have to admit that many \$1-million proposals like the aircraft one will send Treasurer Edwin Gill into a rage.

There is, however, some consolation in the fact that at least one true conservative is seeking high political office. We can testify to that. One political announcement came postage due.

We're looking to Bob Morgan for a six-cent stamp.

Needless to say, it is going to be an interesting Spring.

Out Of Character

Edenton Town Council must stop playing with second reading on the granting of a franchise for North Carolina Natural Gas Company to serve local citizens.

While delay after delay is experienced, neighboring municipalities are becoming a part of the 20-town network proposed by the firm.

While our Board of Public Works cautions about loss of revenue from the sale of electricity, others say they are willing to meet the competition head-on.

While our council studies the feasibility of conducting a feasibility survey we are seeing our reputation as being the most progressive community in Northeastern North Carolina washed down the drain.

Industry that has located here in the past few years have had more to do with the maintaining of a low tax rate than many of our ranking officials will admit. When told by a representative of one of the most progressive — Seabrook Blanking Corporation — they fall for a good serving of pabulum.

As we stated, while our council studies our neighbors move ahead. R. W. Luther was quoted in one of our favorite afternoon papers on January 19 as saying he would recommend the granting of a franchise to N. C. Natural Gas.

He said natural gas would be in competition with municipally owned electric systems, but added: "Competition is good; that's progress. There certainly is a place here for it (gas)."

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Little Symphony To Perform Here

The N. C. Little Symphony will give two concerts in Edenton on March 25—an afternoon concert for children and an evening concert.

This will be the third year the state symphony, directed by Dr. Benjamin Swalin, has been in Edenton.

Chowan Arts Council is again sponsoring the appearance of the group in Edenton.

Mrs. Thomas Cheers, Jr., president, recommended that since the student concert is being limited to children in the elementary grades, an effort should be made to make a large number of free tickets available to high school students for the evening concert. The remainder of the tickets would be sold to meet the contract cost of the performance.

Also, the council was told that the School of the Arts in Winston-Salem, has offered a second concert in Edenton on March 21. The first group appeared last fall.

Other council business included investigation of the possibility of having classes sponsored by the College of the Albemarle Fine Arts Center held in Edenton. Mrs. Jack Douglas will inquire about local interest in various classes.

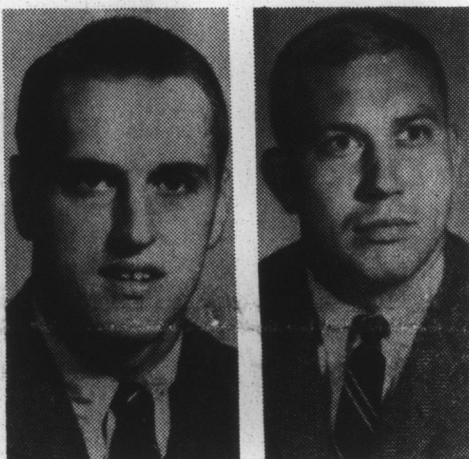
Building Permits

Building permits in Edenton for 1967 totaled \$343,897, according to a report issued by W. B. Gardner, town administrator.

Gardner's report showed permits for business and industries amounted to \$197,722.

New home construction amounted to \$93,500 while home alterations were \$52,675.

Gardner said all of the \$343,897 represents taxable improvements.



Coaches Gibbs and Kirby

Kirby Assistant In Benefit Game

GREENVILLE — Four of North Carolina's top prep football coaches have been selected to coach the North and South All-Star squads for this year's sixth annual Boys' Home All-Star Bowl Game.

Jack Wall of Greenville, state chairman for the 1968 contest for the North Carolina Jaycees, announced the following selections: Roger Thrift of New Bern High School, head coach for the South. His assistant is Steve Yates of North Rowan in Spencer.

Head coach for the North All-Stars is Alex Gibbs of Mt. Airy Senior High School. Gibbs' assistant will be Marion Kirby of John A. Holmes High School in Edenton.

"All four, stated chairman Wall, "have truly outstanding records both on and off the field. We are extremely honored that these four young men have agreed to participate in our sixth annual North-South All-Star Classic."

The date for the 1968 game has been set for Saturday night, August 3, at 8 P. M., at East Carolina University's Ficklen Stadium. The coaching selection

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CANDIDATE VISITS IN CHOWAN—During a whirlwind tour of Northeastern North Carolina this week, J. Melville Broughton, Jr., Democratic candidate for governor, stopped for a few minutes at Chowan County Court House. In the picture at left he is introduced to some two dozen area citizens by J. Gilliam Wood, a former State Highway Commissioner. Broughton posed in front of the court house with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Habit. It was later announced from his headquarters in Raleigh that Habit would manage his campaign in Chowan County.



Board Views Office Plans

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education will submit preliminary plans for an administrative building to Chowan County commissioners February 5.

Cost of the 2,700-square-foot office building has been estimated at more than \$50,000.

Board members Tuesday night viewed the sketch and floor plan and agreed it is what is needed to house the superintendent's office.

Chairman Edward G. Bond said this is another attempt to get adequate space for the administrative offices of local schools.

N. J. George recommended that the information be given to the commissioners and that board members be told "this is what we need." George said: "I don't think they will turn us down."

Another member, Bruce Jones, remarked: "This is what we have to have and at the earliest possible date."

Later Dr. A. F. Downum added: "We have waited long enough for the commissioners to do something (about providing space for the school offices). We are going to have to make the move."

For some months the board has been exploring various avenues toward getting adequate office space and move the superintendent from John A. Holmes High School.

Supt. Bill Britt said the preliminary plans didn't cost the board anything. However, if a building is built the architect would collect the usual fee—in this case \$3,560.

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Candidate In Chowan; Habit Named

J. Melville Broughton, Jr., of Raleigh, brought his campaign for the Democratic nomination for governor to Chowan County Monday afternoon as he made a speedy swing through Northeastern North Carolina.

He spoke briefly to some two dozen area citizens who greeted him at historic Chowan County Court House. He later huddled with a group of local supporters. It was announced from his headquarters

Edenton Board of Public Works Thursday night was successful in delaying second and final reading on an ordinance to grant N. C. Natural Gas a franchise to operate here.

After a lengthy discussion, town councilmen tabled the second reading for the second time. This is to allow a council committee to study two reports given and give council time to decide whether or not to call for a feasibility study on municipal ownership of a gas system.

Councilman H. G. Quinn objected to the delay. "I believe we were elected by progressive people, who see us as progressive," he said. "I think the citizens of Edenton will feel we're falling down on the job if we don't take proper action to provide them with the opportunity such as this."

The two reports presented the council came from Supt. R. N. Hines of the Electric and Water Department and Town Administrator W. B. Gardner. Their conflicting results brought about council's action for further study.

Jesse L. Harrell, chairman of the Board of Public Works, requested delaying any granting of a franchise until such time as a feasibility study could be completed to determine whether or not the Town of Edenton should install the gas system themselves.

He further stated he felt the council should be cognizant of the fact that revenue would be lost to competitive gas systems and that they take this into consideration during deliberations.

Harrell said loss of revenue from the

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J. E. Coffey Dies

Word has been received here of the death of J. E. Coffey, former Edenton resident, in Henderson Tuesday evening.

Mr. Coffey was married to the former Margaret Hollowell, who survives.

Full details of his death were not available at press time. It was learned that services will be held at 11 A. M., Friday in Williford Memorial Chapel with Rev. R. N. Carroll officiating.

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ters in Raleigh Tuesday morning that Jack Habit of Edenton has been named to manage Broughton's campaign in Chowan County.

Broughton said he was pleased that such an outstanding man could handle his campaign here.

Habit is a native of Edenton and has been active in civic affairs here. He is currently president of Edenton Rotary Club, chairman of Edenton Housing Authority and has served as president of the Jaycees and vice president of the N. C. Jaycees.

He is a past recipient of the DSA and has been active in Boy Scouting.

Broughton was introduced on the court house steps by J. Gilliam Wood, a former State Highway Commissioner.

The candidate said he understands people in this area are interested in a great many things, not the least of which is highways. "Commissioners Wood and Broughton didn't complete all the road projects," he said in jest.

"I have a deep interest in Northeastern North Carolina and in roads," he continued. "I believe I understand this matter of great concern to you."

However, he said he is interested in the total development of all North Carolina. He cited the importance of keeping more of our young people in the section of the state where they are born and in North Carolina.

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