

Chowan Is Area Leader In New Jobs, Payrolls

Chowan County set the pace for industrial development in the Albemarle Area during the past four years and was second in Northeastern North Carolina in payroll and employees added. The Commerce and Industrial Division of the N. C. Department

of Conservation and Development, said 528 employees were added to the industrial payrolls and the new and expanded payroll amounted to \$2,328,000. This increase was topped only by Hertford County where 811 new jobs were created and pay-

rolls jumped \$3,289,000. Two new industries located in Chowan County between the period of January, 1965, and December, 1968. The Carter's Ink Company built a new plant on Highway 32, just east of Edenton, and Chris-Craft Corporation

erected a modern boat building facility. Other industries in Edenton and Chowan County expanded. Chowan led Halifax, Northampton, Martin, Bertie, Washington, Tyrrell, Hyde, Dare, Currituck, Camden, Pasquotank, Perquimans and Gates counties in new jobs and expanded payrolls during the period.

passed the half billion dollar mark for capital investments in 491 new and expanded manufacturing facilities during 1968. W. B. Gardner, chairman of the industrial committee of Edenton Chamber of Commerce, said this area can be proud of success in industrial development.

"Because of the dedicated and unselfish work of numerous citizens, we have been successful in getting some of the finest names in industry to build plants here," he said. "At the same time, we are just as proud of the fact that existing industries have expressed confidence in the area by expanding."

Industrial payrolls in Chowan County have begun to rival the farm income for the first time in history. Gardner said this area is rapidly gaining a healthy balance between industry and farming. "Our economy is becoming more stable," he pointed out.

He also hailed the fine spirit of cooperation between the Chamber of Commerce, Edenton Town Council and Chowan County Board of Commissioners. The three groups have worked out many problems in past years to allow industry to locate and expand here.

It is said that industry in Chowan County is drawing employees from a 30-mile radius.

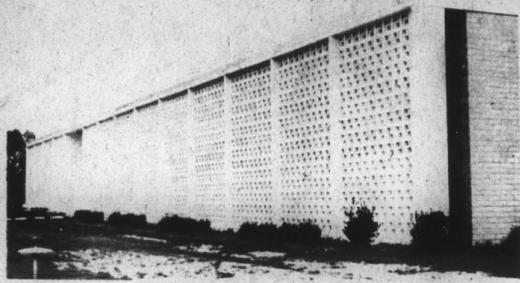
Employment Security Commission of North Carolina reports there is still an adequate labor force for new industry here, especially those who employ primarily women.

'Fish' To Organize

An organizational meeting to introduce "Fish" to our town and county is called for, Tuesday, February 4 at 8 P. M., in the Parish House, Gale Street.

Anyone from any organization, civic club, church, hospital auxiliary, rescue squad, civil defense, or similar group is especially urged to represent his group.

The meeting will begin promptly at 8 and adjourn promptly at 8:45 P. M.



The Carter's Ink Co.



Chris-Craft Corporation

THE CHOWAN HERALD

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The Public Parade

The Last Round

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education finds itself squarely between good educational principles and the federal courts over the question of total integration of local schools. Only the compassion of Judge John D. Larkins can keep education from being further retarded here. Judge Larkins caused the board to rush into total elementary mixing last fall. Every sign points to results just short of disaster. At the same time he gave the board until this month to produce a high school plan for 1969-70.

Everything hinged on construction. If additional classrooms, vocational shops and a library could be added to John A. Holmes High School it was believed by the majority that the high schools could be integrated without educationally depriving the student. At the time of the judge's order this addition, as well as plans for a new cafeteria at D. F. Walker High School, was on the drawing board.

When the bids came in, however, they exceeded by nearly \$55,000 the amount of money available for construction. The board showed further good faith when priority was given the Holmes portion of the project although students start eating lunch at Walker at 10:35 A. M., because of existing conditions.

New bids are being sought for the Holmes project and it will be impossible to have the work finished by September, maybe not even by January, 1970.

Administratively it would be possible to accomplish the intent of the court order. Educationally it would be tragic.

Judge Larkins has granted the board 30 more days in which to present its case. At the forthcoming hearing more concern needs to be given what is best educationally for the students of Chowan County, not just what is administratively possible. This may be the last round.

Helping The Hurt

Annexation and taxes are two subjects sure to send most elected officials running for cover. Edenton is no exception to this general rule.

Both topics have been evaded for such an extended period of time that the very ones who have ducked the issues for so long now find themselves backed into a corner. A graceful recovery will be difficult, at the very best.

Annexation of large parcels is costly to a municipality. One requirement under North Carolina law is for utilities and other services to be provided within 12 months.

Municipals have had little other avenue to travel for the capital outlay other than an increase in property tax. This hasn't been too painful in some areas because of big increases in assessed valuation.

However, while Chowan County has enjoyed increases of as much as \$2-million per year, the Town of Edenton has barely moved. With a valuation of \$10-million, it takes a healthy boost in property tax to fatten the kitty.

There is much discussion nowadays about how best to aid local government. We support a statewide sales tax increase of 1 per cent with all of it coming back to local governments. Why?

In the case of Chowan County, the Department of Tax Research estimates such a tax would bring in \$152,000 annually. A local option tax, if it could be

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Dr. Craig Phillips

Dr. Craig Phillips To Speak In Area

Dr. Craig Phillips, state superintendent of public instruction, on February 12 will make his first official appearance in Northeastern North Carolina since taking office.

Dr. Phillips will be principal speaker at the annual meeting of District One School Boards Association set for Elizabeth City High School. Theme for the meeting will be "Next Steps Forward for Education".

The meeting begins at 6 P. M., and representatives of Edenton - Chowan Board of Education will be in attendance.

Dr. Bond To Post

Dr. Edward G. Bond has been appointed to the Medical Advisory Committee of the District Health Department. There are three members on the committee.

Dr. Bond, local internist, was chosen by the Chowan-Perquimans Medical Society. Serving with him on the advisory committee are W. Fletcher Harrell of Elizabeth City and Dr. William K. Wassink of Camden.

Drs. Harrell and Wassink represent the Pasquotank, Camden, Currituck, Dare Medical Society.

The primary duties of this committee will be to serve as medical advisors to William D. Nash, district health director. Nash, who is not a physician, said in addition to serving as consultants in the event of medical emergencies, they will be asked to evaluate all existing standing orders and medical policies of the district health department.

Peanut Event Set

The top 50 peanut producers in Chowan County will be honored at a banquet February 10. The annual fete is sponsored by Edenton Chamber of Commerce.

During the meeting a plaque will be presented to the farmer with the highest yield while certificates will be given all who qualify for the top 50 group.

Astor Perry, extension peanut specialist at N. C. State University, will be the speaker.

The banquet will be held at Oak Grove Community Building.

Bids Sought For Hospital

Bids on the new 61-bed Chowan Hospital will be opened here March 6 at 2 P. M., according to Thomas M. Surratt, hospital administrator.

Surratt said official word has been received from Medical Care Commission that the Department of Health, Education and Welfare has released the project for bidding. Federal approval came

Plans For '69 Fair Well Underway

Planning for the 1969 Chowan County Fair has been in progress since before the curtain rang down on the 1968 edition. This planning reached a high point last weekend in Durham at the N. C. Association of Agricultural Fairs' annual meeting.

W. A. Perry, head of the Chowan County Fair Association, a branch of Edward G. Bond Post No. 40, American Legion, said 10 members of the local fair committee attended the meeting.

While in Durham, local officials booked the same midway as last year—the Dave Endy Shows. This midway was well received in 1968 and the two free acts added to the fair.

Perry said also that plans were made to increase the fireworks display for the fair which runs the week of September 15.

While fair officials were being told "old style" fairs are a thing of the past, they could rest a bit easier since the Chowan County group has already taken steps to modernize. Each year changes in exhibit area, etc., have been made to keep pace with changes in the community. Among these changes was an expanded crafts and art area which Perry says will be even larger this year.

Neil Bolton, manager of the Dixie Classic Fair in Winston-Salem and one of the country's biggest names in fair management, said the county fair of today must offer something for everybody. It must include not only exhibits of mom's homebaked cherry pie but exhibits of industry and the arts.

This was echoed by James Graham, state agriculture committee.

Gardner Named Outstanding Young Man In Chowan

W. B. Gardner, Edenton's youthful civic dynamo, Thursday had another feather added to his headdress when he was named recipient of the 1968 Distinguished Service Award. The DSA was presented by Edenton Jaycees during their annual Bosses' and Ladies' Night banquet.

Mayor John A. Mitchener, Jr., made the presentation.

Gardner, appearing somewhat embarrassed by the eloquent presentation, said: "What we do for Edenton and Chowan County is only half enough for we live in the finest place on earth."

The DSA winner is town administrator in Edenton. He is president of Historic Edenton, Inc., a group presenting a united front for promoting Edenton's historic attractions to tourists. He is past president of Edenton Chamber of Commerce and now serves as chairman of that group's prestigious Industrial

about a week ahead of an earlier estimate and Surratt said the project is moving about on a long-range schedule.

Also, Chowan County commissioners have been given approval by Local Government Commission to sell \$100,000 in bond anticipation notes. These notes will be sold to pay expenses of the project up to the time the county sells hospital bonds.

Chowan voters approved a \$1-million hospital bond issue and the Local Government Commission has advised local authorities the bonds could not be sold until bids had been received on the project.

The federal government has approved a \$600,000 grant and the state is adding \$108,000.

A spokesman for Atwood Skinner & Associates of Wilson, architect of the hospital, have expressed the belief that the new hospital can be built with money available. If the bids on March 6 prove satisfactory actual construction is expected to begin sometime in April with completion some 18 months in the future.



W. B. Gardner

Mayor John Mitchener

Committee.

Gardner, a Jaycee, is chairman of the March of Dimes campaign this month and works on many other committees within the community. He also is a director of Peoples Bank & Trust Company and is an Episcopalian.

He is active in Chowan Golf & Country Club and serves on the board of Chowan Academy, Inc. He is married and the father of three children.

Irvin Aldridge, assistant administrator of the Department of Administration in Raleigh and past state Jaycee president, delivered an inspirational keynote address. He cited work the local Jaycees are doing in Edenton and the contribution they have made on the state level.

Speaking to the bosses present, Aldridge said he hopes Jaycees return a better man.

He said the organization gives young

men a chance to have a voice in the community. "Develop better young men and you develop a better community," he asserted.

Aldridge said one of the foremost contributions Jayceism offers young men is an opportunity to exchange ideas. Also, the movement develops leaders who have vision, faith, courage and action, he added.

The speaker was critical of in-action by people in the community. "Everyone needs to find his place and play that role to the best of his ability," Aldridge said.

He said while those who reside in Edenton live in a community that is alive, "don't stop now".

The speaker was introduced by C. Dail.

Wallace Evans, Jaycee president, past DSA winner, presided at the

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