

## Step Right Up

Elsewhere in today's paper is a story about the forthcoming municipal election in Edenton. And while there has been some behind the scenes maneuvering, no clear-cut lines are drawn by prospective candidates.

Voters will have two really big shoes to fill on May 6th. When veteran public servants like Mayor John A. Mitchener, Jr., and Councilman Luther C. Parks bow out, voters have an awesome responsibility to fill the vacuum.

Elections should never be taken lightly. However, when the ship is being steered on a steady course there isn't reason for too much concern.

Edenton's municipal vessel has enjoyed pretty smooth sailing during the past several years. Predictions for the next decade indicate rougher seas. This makes the job of seeing that the best talents in the community are to work for the common good.

There are citizens in the wings who can make a real contribution. They must, however, be willing to take the ballot box test.

So, step right up folks. It's about time to roll out the soap box and talk sense. There promises to be more headaches than orchids but nothing really worthwhile comes easy.

**Bulletin**

The sun is shining! We've already acquired Spring fever. Well, got that little hole filled.

**Soothing The Hurt**

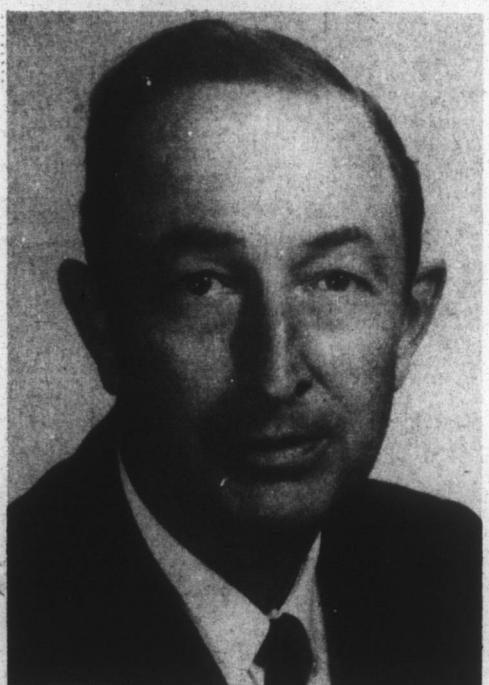
We're indebted to Bill Hensley for a bit of disappointing, while not surprising, information. It relates how we are faring along The Public Parade with regards to tourism.

It has been our opinion for many years that for a community with as much to offer the traveling public as Edenton and Chowan County, not nearly enough of the "smokeless dollars" are being corralled. Hensley, state travel director, has circulated a survey for 1968 which bears this out.

The annual income of North Carolina's travel industry nearly doubled during the past decade. During the same period the local take increased only 20 per cent.

In 1968, according to the survey, the local economy received \$1,036,000—the first time the figure went over \$1-million. This isn't anything to sneeze at; neither is it much to crow about when the figure was \$862,000 back 10 years

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J. D. Elliott

## Elliott Chairman

J. D. Elliott, 112 West Gale Street, has been named chairman of the annual Easter Seal fund appeal for Chowan County, which began March 1. The appeal runs through April 6.

Working with the Edenton Lions Club, sponsors for the drive, Elliott will be coordinating Easter Seal efforts to provide help for crippled children and adults through direct services in the county.

Active in the Lions Club for many years, Elliott is an insurance executive and serves on Edenton Town Council. The appeal for funds is being conducted by state and local affiliates of the National Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults throughout the U. S., and last year provided rehabilitation and direct services to more than 250,000 people.

In North Carolina, Easter Seals have given assistance to over 3,000 handicapped persons, with the concentration of its efforts being in equipment loan pools, offering wheelchairs, braces, crutches, and walkers to the physically disabled.

Some 200 children and adults also attend Camp Easter-in-the-Pines, the N. C. Easter Seal Camp, where activities are geared toward their abilities.



## Election Season For Officers Here May 6

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Citizens of the Town of Edenton will go to the polls May 6 and elect a new mayor—something that hasn't been done here in more than a decade.

Mayor John A. Mitchener, Jr., veteran political figure, has announced that he will not be a candidate. He has been connected with municipal government here since 1951.

In addition to the mayor, who is elected every two years, voters will elect three councilmen for four-year terms. Also, a treasurer will be elected for two years.

Two seats on the Board of Public Works also come up in the forthcoming election.

In addition to the mayor, there is certain to be at least one other new face behind the big council table. Mayor Pro Tem Luther C. Parks of Fourth Ward said recently that he would not be a candidate for re-election.

The other council seats up in the election are for councilman-at-large, and Third Ward. Henry G. Quinn serves in the at-large post now and David G. White represents the Third Ward.

James P. Ricks, Jr., and W. J. P. Earnhardt are the two members of the Board of Public Works who are rounding out four-year terms.

Mrs. George Hoskins, chairman, Chowan County Board of Elections, has announced that filing for the municipal election will begin March 28. The board, which also conducts municipal elections, has already set into motion machinery for the balloting.

A special act of the General Assembly is being secured to allow voters to cast their ballots in two locations—the Municipal Building and Chowan County Court House.

## Road Bids Asked

Resurfacing of a portion of U. S. 17 in Chowan County is among projects being advertised for bids by the State Highway Commission.

The project includes 48.72 miles of sand asphalt base and surface, bituminous concrete surface and guardrail on U. S. 17-13, Highway 45, 350 and 308

## Answer To Hospital Question Today

Will Chowan County be able to build a new, 61-bed hospital?

The answer to this question will be

## Jaycees In Book

Three members of Edenton Jaycees and a former member have been selected for inclusion in the 1969 edition of Outstanding Young Men of America. These men were nominated earlier this year by the Jaycee chapter and have been selected for the publication.

Heading the list is Jaycee President Wallace B. Evans. Other local Jaycees included are Sanford Byrum and Louis Craddock.

Jim Jenkins, executive director of North Carolina Jaycees, will also be included in the publication. Jenkins was nominated while a member of the Edenton chapter.



**LESS THAN PICTURESQUE**—What is commonly referred to as the "county dock" could more recently be christened the "city dump." Here is what visitors see when they head down South Broad Street to look out over beautiful Edenton Bay. This is hardly the place for such a sight; furthermore, since Historic Edenton's visitor center-museum is just to the left. Neither is it the impression the chamber of commerce would like to leave with visitors. Someone call the harbor master!

## Attendance Zone Plan Is Approved

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education has approved a desegregation plan for 1969-70 which establishes two attendance zones within the unit. It also sets up a senior and junior high school in Edenton.

The plan proposed by Supt. Bill Britt last week was approved without alterations. The vote was 7-1.

Following a called board meeting Friday night, the plan was mailed to Federal Judge John D. Larkins, Jr., of Trenton, who had ordered that a plan be submitted which abolished the dual school system. The Britt Plan is expected to meet the requirements of his order.

(The full text of Judge Larkins' order is found on Page 2-B).

The plan calls for the following make-up of Edenton-Chowan Schools for the

next school term:

White Oak Consolidated: Grades one through four.

Chowan High School: Grades five through 12.

D. F. Walker: Grades one through three; grades seven through nine.

Swain Elementary: Grades four through six.

John A. Holmes: Grades 10 through 12.

It also allows students that were enrolled in the first half of a two-year vocational program to have an option to attend either Holmes or Chowan schools.

There is no mention in the plan of abolishing the top three grades at Chowan school after next year.

Although the desegregation plan was discussed by the board earlier in the week, no action was taken pending a hearing last Thursday night at Holmes school. It was estimated that about 90 people, including some student leaders, were on hand.

Invited to participate were leaders of the Parent-Teacher groups, Student Council, principals and teacher representatives. The general feeling, according to one report was "What else can be done?" in the face of the federal court order.

Supt. Britt was quoted as saying it was "possible" that some teachers would be lost in the new plan and "probable" that more interest would be shown in private schools.

## Chowan Academy Plans Eight Grades

Chowan Academy at Rocky Hock will have eight grades for the 1969-70 school term. And a funds campaign to secure at least \$35,000 for capital improvements is being well received.

The added popularity of the private institution has been brought about by recent federal court orders concerning

## Bypass Gets Board Vote At Meeting

Chowan County commissioners Monday reaffirmed their support of a U. S. 17 bypass of Edenton.

Similar action is expected soon from the Edenton Town Council and Edenton Chamber of Commerce.

All three groups have previously endorsed such a highway. The current resolutions are being obtained for the Scott Administration.

Also, the bypass has been given a high priority by the Albemarle Highway Association.

Commissioner C. A. Phillips said he feels such a highway could be more suitably located if the community is of one accord.

Commissioner J. Clarence Leary made the motion for a resolution favoring the bypass and it was unanimously adopted.

In another highway matter, Chairman W. E. Bond read a letter from the State Highway Commission stating that an access could be provided the new Chowan Hospital from Highway 32. However, any extension of West Hicks Street into the site would be the county's responsibility.

A commission spokesman said at the time access was made to the Carter's Inn Company it was understood that the hospital would be located in that area.

The board adopted a resolution relative to investing hospital bond money, naming County Treasurer George Hoskins as agent. Chairman Bond and Phillips will serve as a finance committee from the board to assist the treasurer.

Phillips said the committee should also look into the matter of all county finances.

Chairman Bond said all available

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## Russell To Speak

"Marketing the key to farmer's net income—through the Farm Bureau".

This subject will be discussed at an open meeting of Chowan County Farm Bureau Tuesday night at the Advance Community Building. The meeting begins at 7:30 o'clock.

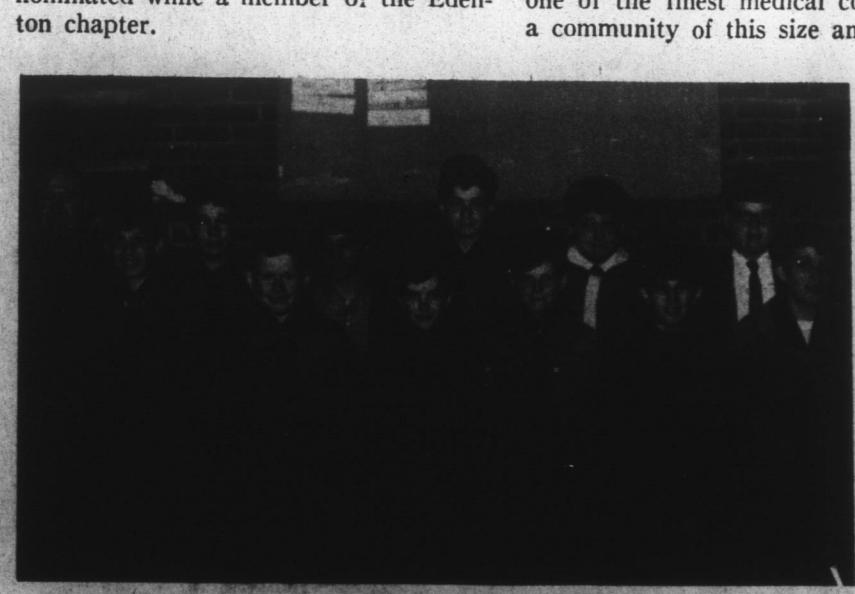


Charles Russell of the N. C. Farm Bureau, will be guest speaker. He is administrative assistant of the organization and has been with them since 1961.

Russell has worked directly with several of the bureau's marketing programs on the state and national level.

The N. C. Farm Bureau Marketing Association is presently engaged in four programs—apples, broilers, dairy, and hogs. Several other commodity marketing programs are currently under study.

All farm bureau members and other interested citizens are invited to attend Tuesday's meeting.



**BOY SCOUTS KEEP ACTIVE**—There was a great deal of activity Monday night at the Boy Scout Cabin on North Broad Street, where a court of honor was held. Pictured here are many of the boys who participated. In the picture at left, Murray Byrum, assistant scoutmaster, is shown with a group of Tenderfoot Scouts. Left to right, they are: Rod Cross, Mike Fry, Mark Burroughs, David Shackleton, David Twiddy, Tony Habit, James Briley, Tim Overman, Douglas Shackelford, Russell Wheeler and John Woolard. Scoutmaster Robert Ray, second from right in picture at right, goes over the program with Robert Neal Basnight, Haywood Phinizig and Joe Bunch. Sixteen merit badge awards were given.

integration of Edenton-Chowan Schools, a spokesman said.

Just prior to an open house Friday night, academy directors held a special meeting and decided to add an eighth grade. Plans had already been announced to include seven grades. The school, operating in its first year, now has grades one through four.

Several hundred interested citizens visited the academy during open house. They viewed the classrooms and talked with faculty members and members of the board of directors. Applications were handed out and registration begins March 15.

It is estimated that the school will have a minimum of 250 students in the eight grades. Classes are limited to 25 students.

E. L. Hollowell, chairman of the finance committee, said several cash contributions have been received along with commitments. "We are gratified by the early reception of our campaign," he added.

Plans call for construction of a 5,000-square-foot permanent building which has six classrooms, bathroom facilities and central heat. The heating plant is designed to accommodate the four existing classrooms.