

# Edenton, 111 Is No. 1 Ship Joins Service

By L. F. AMBURN, JR.

PORTSMOUTH, Va. — The good ship EDENTON, the third U. S. Navy vessel to bear this proud name, now sails as a part of the Atlantic Fleet. The only Tar Heel on the ship's roster of officers and enlisted men is Lt. Cmdr. Jack C. Furr of Concord, commander.

Commissioned here Saturday, the USS

EDENTON is the first of a new class of ship designed to provide the fleet with the most advanced and comprehensive capabilities for ship salvage, diving, emergency repairs, and long distance towing.

Additional Picture Coverage Section C, Pages Four, Five

Cmdr. Furr presided at impressive commissioning ceremonies alongside the ATS-1, docked at Norfolk Naval Shipyards on the Elizabeth River. Taking part in the ceremonies were top U. S. Navy brass as well as leaders from Chowan County and the Town of Edenton.

Rear Adm. Jamie Adair, commander of the shipyard, in welcoming remarks said the vessel is longer, faster and a stronger breed than any auxiliary salvage tug now at the Navy's disposal. Adm. Adair, commenting on rapid changes in Saturday's weather which switched from cold rain to a cloudless sky at commissioning time, said: "This service thrives on adversity and the weather is a good omen."

Mrs. William E. Ellis, the ship's sponsor, was recognized and gave the ship its first piece of silver. Edenton Mayor George Alma Byrum accepted a handsome commemorative plaque from Cmdr. Furr and presented five watercolor paintings of historic sites in Edenton to the ship. The paintings were done by Edenton artist, Mrs. Enola Smith.

Town Administrator W. B. Gardner was another platform guest who was recognized for his cooperation in the commissioning.

Rear Adm. R. R. Pratt, commander service force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, traced the history of the three "Edentons" in the U. S. Navy and said the latest vessel exemplified the cooperation of a proud community and a proud military service.

He called the EDENTON one of the largest, best towing vessels in existence. "This is the first ship to carry protected salvage operations 850 feet below the surface," he pointed out. (The depth limit was 300 feet).

Also, the vessel is the most comfortable living and has the best working conditions.

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## Public Parade

From Rumor Mill

State Sen. Skipper Bowles of Greensboro proposes that new congressional district lines be drawn by a computer. Reports out of Raleigh are to the effect that First District Rep. Walter B. Jones might be put into the same district with Rep. L. H. Fountain of Tarboro.

Such match-making appears to be via a 19th Century GOP calculator rather than a 20th Century computer.

We will, however, place faith in the 1971 General Assembly to use common sense when drawing new district boundaries. It takes much less than common sense to foresee a Jones-Fountain district in Eastern North Carolina. Such lines would almost guarantee the Republicans representatives in Washington from the mountains to the coast.

We'll Agree

"Weekly Newspaper in the Rough" is the work of Guidance Services Department of John A. Holmes High School of which Mrs. Lane Kinion is chief drummer.

The Chowan Herald appreciates recognition in the latest issue as follows:

TAKEN FOR GRANTED

Two important community resources who have contributed more than their share of time to the school system is The Chowan Herald and the radio station. If one attempted to add up the cost of free advertising and informational services rendered to the schools by The Chowan Herald and the radio station, it would be financially shocking. We should take time out every once in a while and tell these people thank you for their tremendous free services to the school system.

Thanks, Lane or whoever, for your thoughtfulness. We are quite familiar with the newspaper about which you speak and believe the radio station to be so honored uses the call letters WCDJ.

Let The People Speak

Gov. Bob Scott has proposed a workable solution to the financial problem faced in 25 Tar Heel counties.

Rep. Sam Johnson of Wake has packaged a bunch of bologna into what he calls "The Emergency Finance Act of 1971."

And our least favorite morning daily of general circulation in Northeastern North Carolina has again displayed utter disregard for the personal and political integrity of elected officials.

The State Supreme Court in a 4-3 decision has ruled the 1969 local option sales tax unconstitutional. The majority held it was a state imposed tax, not a local tax, since the vote in November, 1969, was state-wide. We are convinced, though, the real reason for such left-field thinking was because of the complicated formula for distributing the tax back to localities. The "pool" method gave many counties, of which Chowan is one, a chance to get back more money than is collected.

Gov. Scott, who isn't hot on the idea of a sales tax for local government but who is human, used the only logical approach to a solution. He suggested the General Assembly could re-instate the tax in those counties which approved it at the ballot box and not affect the other 74 counties.

Chowan County is one county which can't afford Rep. Johnson's unique finding of a phrase written into the State Constitution in 1868. It is apparent the genial, intelligent gentleman from Wake wants to be everyone's sweetheart with his harmless bill in one hand and a statement in opposition to this new revenue source for localities in the other.

The "Old Reliable" (?) is even further off base, in our opinion. They suspect everything. If elected officials, county

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Arrive For Commissioning — Mayor George Alma Byrum and Town Administrator W. B. Gardner, and their wives arrive at Norfolk Naval Shipyards in Portsmouth, Va., Saturday for the commissioning of the salvage tug, U. S. S. Edenton. They carry five paintings by Mrs. Enola Smith of Edenton, the town's gift to its namesake. About 300 people, many from Edenton, attended the special ceremonies.

## Edenton, County Caught In Money Bind

"We are going to be in a financial pinch if we don't get the quota of money they are holding in Raleigh," stated Town Administrator W. B. Gardner, when asked how has the ruling of the local one-cent sales tax being unconstitutional affected Edenton.

He also commented, "The half-cocked ideas they are proposing aren't helping us a bit. We need a source of long term revenue."

Gardner, Mayor George A. Byrum,

and County Commissioner Chairman J. Clarence Leary were asked how the new ruling for the local sales tax affected Edenton and Chowan County.

Leary stated, "We hope they will let the optional sales tax carry on as before in such a way that it is constitutional." He stated the county commissioners were meeting this week to discuss the decision. He commented, "We hope we can keep the tax but it is up to Raleigh."

Mayor Byrum remarked, "The ruling affects the town because we have budgeted some of the money this year and a portion of the money was to be used to pay off the bonds passed in the recent bond issue." He added: "If the legislature doesn't correct the ruling in some way, it will be necessary to raise property taxes, but we don't have any figures on how much they will be raised."

He commented he felt that Edenton was not in a dangerous state of finance but that if the tax was not reinstated that several projects that have been budgeted would have to be canceled until funds were available.

He remarked that he had much confidence in the legislature to reinstate

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## Computer Aids In Job Placement

By PATRICIA M. ARNOLD

The Employment Security Commission has made several changes statewide to better their service to the public. Also making changes was the Edenton branch of the ESC.

The biggest change was the Employment Security Automatic Recording System (ESARS), stated Neil Thagard, manager of the Edenton Branch. The computer enables automatic recording of daily activities at the office.

The information compiled is sent to the Raleigh office and is kept on file for easy access anywhere in the state. This new process can record a person applying for a job in Edenton and find this person a job anywhere in the state, if there

is an opening available, stated Thagard.

The local office fills out data sheets on the activities of the day which include persons filing for employment, persons referred to jobs, persons placed and the unemployed signing for unemployment insurance.

This system is of great value to the local offices because it takes little space to store the information and the information can be helpful to anyone in the state in a matter of minutes through a phone call or in a day or two by writing.

Another change for the local office is the organization of the new rural manpower service with Jasper Hassell heading the team. This team registers and sees to the employment needs of the people in the rural areas. The team also schedules testing for various jobs.

Some of the statistics and accomplishments for the Edenton branch include placing 934 persons with jobs out of 1,015 available. The office referred 1,587 persons for the jobs available and in most cases the jobs were filled by people sent from the employment office.

The office employees gave 375 aptitude tests during the year. The aptitude tests are required for some plants in this area. The employees also made 445 visits to the business men in Edenton and surrounding area and contacted 148 men by phone, and made 258 con-

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## Books Are Moved

Mrs. Pansy A. Elliott, county accountant, will register Chowan County applicants in her office on the second floor of the county office building on East King Street.

This announcement was made by Mrs. George C. Hoskins, chairman, Chowan County Board of Elections.

Mrs. Elliott replaces Mrs. Margaret Floars in this capacity. Mrs. Floars was named recently by Chowan County commissioners to register voters, but due to the nature of her office will not be able to serve, Mrs. Hoskins said.

Voters can register with Mrs. Elliott on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 A. M., to 1 P. M., or at other times by appointment.

## Meeting Changed

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education will meet Monday at 3 P. M., instead of the regular time Monday evening, according to Supt. Bill Britt.

Supt. Britt reported that board members will be touring campuses in the unit during Monday. The meeting is scheduled to begin at the conclusion of these tours.

## Jim Beatty DSA Banquet Speaker

The annual Jaycee Distinguished Service Award (DSA) banquet will be held Thursday night, February 4, at the American Legion Hut at 7:30.

Guest speaker for the occasion is Jim Beatty, internationally known track star and member of the U. S. Olympic Team

in 1960.

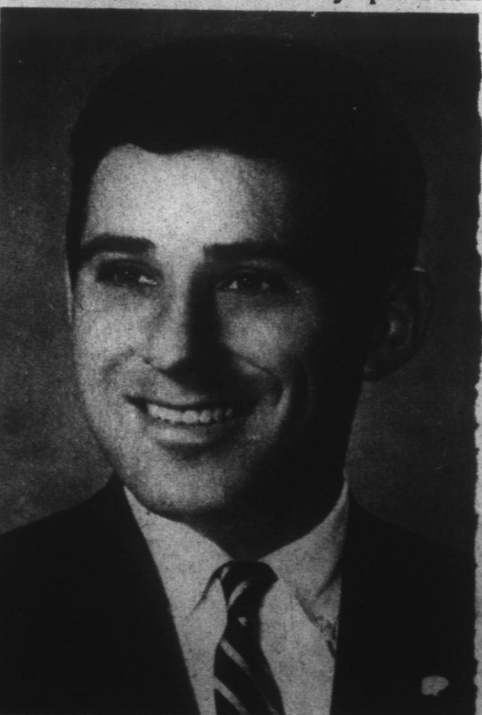
The award is given to the man, age 21 through 35, who is best all around and has done outstanding community service through the year.

Beatty is a graduate of the old Charlotte Central High School and attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he received his degree in English in 1957. While at the University, he captained the track and cross-country teams and served as president of the Junior Class.

Beatty was named in 1962 as one of America's 10 Outstanding Young Men of the Year by the U. S. Jaycees. That same year, he broke seven American track records and two world records and was the first man in history to break the four-minute mile indoors, and was voted the Sullivan Award as America's Amateur Athlete of the Year.

He is currently serving his third term as a member of the State House of Representatives. As a member of the Legislature, his main area of interest is education, both public and higher. He is chairman of the Enforcement Committee of the Legislative Commission studying the use of drugs in the state.

He is presently employed as vice president of Harmon Products Company in Gastonia.



Jim Beatty



AT ROTARY CLUB — A film recording of "Turned Out to Grass" as given by Leon F. (Monty) Montague before a large inter-city meeting in New York City will be the program today (Thursday) at Edenton Rotary Club. The program is designed to stimulate the thinking of people in preparation for retirement. Montague is a past officer of Rotary International and his travels are sponsored by O. M. Scott & Sons.

## Fayton Advances

CHAPEL HILL — Charles E. Fayton, 210 East Hicks Street, Edenton, is one of 60 finalists in competition for 1971 Morehead Awards to study at the University of North Carolina here. A total of 895 students were nominated for the awards.

Fayton, a senior at John A. Holmes High School, is among six finalists from District I, according to W. H. Hollowell, Jr., Chowan County Morehead chairman. Roy Armstrong, executive director of the John Motley Morehead Foundation said finalists will be interviewed here March 5-8.

Morehead Awards provide four-year, all-expenses-paid undergraduate educations at UNC. They are worth \$9,000 each to each Tar Heel student selected.

The awards were established in 1951 by John Motley Morehead, UNC graduate and native North Carolinian who resided in Rye, N. Y., until his death in 1965.

The Morehead Award at UNC has gained the reputation of being one of the most outstanding scholarships in the nation.

Fayton is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Linwood Fayton.

Other District I finalists are John Anthony Gillikin of Buxton; William Gray Daughtridge, Jr., and Peter Charles Thompson, both of Rocky Mount; Henry Alexander Allen of Stephen Cole Worsley, and...

