

Peanut Yield Record; Gross Farm Income Off

The 1970 gross farm income for Chowan County was lower by \$29,784, than in 1969, however, the gross was again over \$10-million.

Pete Thompson, county extension chairman, stated the income was lower this year because less vegetables were planted, the corn blight, and government payments to farmers were less by \$140,000.

Tobacco, field corn, watermelon and canteloupe sales were down in 1970 but peanuts, cotton, sweet corn and soybean sales were up.

Yield per acre for peanuts was good this year with 3,064 pounds for a total of 18,748,506 pounds yielded bringing a total of sales to \$2,538,863.

There was 673,073 pounds of tobacco sold bringing a total to farmers of \$483,892.

The 448,000 bushels of soyb yielded brought sales of \$1,299,200 2,186,000 pounds of cotton brought income up by \$174,880.

The sale of watermelons was ve low in comparison to 1969. Only 961,000 watermelons were harvested with

By PATRICIA ARNOLD
the price of \$240,000 total.

Though the production of sweet corn was limited, the price of \$2 per crate, consisting of five dozen ears, brought sales up for the year. A total of 300,000 crates were sold bringing a price of \$600,000. This was a rise in price of 85 cents per crate over last year.

Livestock and livestock products netted \$2,278,344 with a breakdown showing: Hogs, \$2,110,000; beef, \$149,000; and sheep, \$1,200.

Other gross incomes included: Forestry, \$374,000; government payments, \$257,755; vegetable and fruits, \$1,382,050; and poultry and poultry products, \$522,375.

Thompson stated he was satisfied with the figures tabulated and feels they are the most accurate set of figures compiled to date.

He explained, "Sixty farmers from across the county attended a meeting called by the extension office and they were questioned on the yield of each product. From there we used figures

compiled on a statewide basis and figured the gross amount."

He stated, "All counties are using similar prices in order to bring all the 100 counties closer together so figures will be more meaningful in their use statewide."

When it was possible ASCS records on tobacco and peanuts were used.

Thompson commented that this year there is more uniformity in reports from each county than in years past.

He also stated that he hoped people did not believe that all the money made by the farmers they got to keep. He stated approximately 75 per cent went to expenses and only \$2.5-million was left for all the farmers in the county.

A comparison of prices netted in each category for 1970 and 1969 shows:

Field Crops	\$ 5,191,885	\$ 4,765,551
Livestock and Livestock Products	2,278,344	2,193,870
Forestry	374,000	484,534
Govt. Pay't.	257,755	397,518
Vegetables and Fruit	1,482,050	1,382,225
Poultry and Poultry Products	522,375	912,495
Total	\$10,106,409	\$10,136,193

ASCS Report

Chowan County farmers in 1970 may have posted the highest average peanut yield in North Carolina. The yield was 3,064 pounds per acre.

H. O. West, ASCS county executive director, said the Chowan yield appears to be some 300 pounds per acre more than any county reporting to this point. "I believe we have a state high yield," he stated Tuesday.

Chowan County ASCS this week released its annual report and the increase in peanut yields was of significant interest, according to West. In 1959 the peanut yield averaged 1,703 pounds per acre and has increased almost every year since. The county average has been in excess of 2,000 pounds every year since 1962.

The 1970 figure is the first time the county yield has gone above 3,000 pounds. In 1969 the record of 2,637 was established in Chowan.

Federal payments made through ASCS during the year in six programs ranged from a low of \$101 in wood to a high of \$122,909 in feed grain.

Other payments included: agricultural conservation, \$24,748; cotton, \$103,601; wheat, \$137; and cropland adjustment, \$6,216.

Hines Hospitalized

R. N. Hines, director of utilities in Edenton, is confined to Chowan Hospital after suffering a stroke at his home, 400 South Court Street, early Monday afternoon.

Hines was rushed to the hospital by Edenton-Chowan Rescue Squad where his condition was reported as being critical.

At press time Wednesday, reports were that the veteran municipal employee and community leader was making progress toward recovery. It is not known how long he will be hospitalized.

Meeting Is Held

Mrs. Joseph C. Mason of Winston-Salem has been named chairman of a nominating committee to select a new chairman of Edenton Historical Commission.

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Public Parade

Piedmont View

It has often been said that the way Dare County goes in an election is a pretty good sign of how the state as a whole will vote. But it is becoming increasingly more important to lend an ear to the Piedmont voices, especially in the legislative halls, since they have the vote to back up their conversations.

It is, then, interesting to note one Piedmont view on two topics of general interest to those who meander along the Public Parade and elsewhere.

When listening to the Piedmont, we had rather hitch our hat on the deductions of Jay Huskins in the Statesville Record and Landmark than anyone we know. Writing recently in his Down In Iredeell column he wrote:

LOCAL OPTION TAX—One of the most pressing matters before the General Assembly—and one likely to be disposed of at an early date—is the restoration, in some way, of the one-cent local sales tax.

The law under which 25 counties and municipalities within them had been collecting a one-cent additional sales tax was struck down by the State Supreme court as being unconstitutional and the collection ordered stopped.

That brought several hundred people from those areas to the State House Thursday afternoon for a hearing before then Joint Finance Committee on identical house and senate bills designed to restore the tax as a local option.

These bills, which would be statewide in effect, would provide that county commissioners may, on their own motion, or by a vote of the people, levy a local one-cent sales and use tax.

If the commissioners decided to do it by resolution, no election would be necessary; but an election could be called either on written request from the board of commissioners or on petition of 15 per cent of the qualified voters in the county.

In event the tax was levied, either by resolution or after an election, it would be limited to those items subject to the state's three-cent sales tax and the revenue could be used only "for necessary purposes".

A limit of \$10 is set as the maximum tax which could be collected on any one sale; and no tax could be collected on the sale of goods to be delivered in another county.

Spokesmen from the Association of County Commissioners, the League of Municipalities and individual cities and

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New Project Is Discussed

A group of about 70 people from the Albemarle, Pamlico and Gates Soil and Water Conservation Districts met at the Chowan Community Building Monday night, to discuss the development of a Resource Conservation and Development Project for this designated region "R".

This group consisted of Soil and Water Conservation district supervisors, county commissioners, members of county planning boards, and heads of various other county agencies from the 10-county area of Camden, Currituck, Chowan, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, Dare, Hyde, Washington and Gates.

Elmer Graham, assistant state conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service, explained how a RC&D Project can help solve many of our problems, in our urban, as well as our rural areas, such as the use and management of our soil and water resources, pollution, erosion, flooding, and development of our potentials. He stated that development of our historical potential would be magnificent in helping to bring people to this area. It was also brought out that a RC&D Project would be beneficial in helping to bring a major highway through Eastern North Carolina.

RC&D funds provide assistance in designated areas covering a wide spectrum of land and people. It is an effort to help people help themselves.

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Promotions Made By Peoples Bank

Three staff members of Peoples Bank & Trust Company in Edenton have been promoted. They are: Woody R. Copeland, Mrs. Betty S. Bunch, and Charlie Thomas Peele.

The announcement of the recent promotions was made by W. H. Stanley, president, following the bank's annual meeting of stockholders in Rocky Mount.

Copeland has been promoted from assistant cashier to cashier; Mrs. Bunch from note teller to assistant cashier; and Peele has been appointed assistant cashier of the bank's consumer credit office here.

George W. Lewis is executive vice president of the bank's Edenton operation which includes three offices. A new main branch for Peoples is now under construction at the corner of North Broad and Church streets.



Making Headway — Discussing plans for the Jaycee Memorial Day Air Festival with Commander Billups E. Lodge of the Fifth Naval District, Norfolk, Va., are, from left, Ray Midgett; Cmdr. Lodge; E. C. Toppin, chairman of the committee; Wallace Evans; and Wayne Conner. Cmdr. Lodge is to be the direct contact to all Armed Forces departments for the Department of Defense.

Squad Seeks Volunteers

A Red Cross course for re-certification of members in Edenton-Chowan Rescue Squad has been timed so new members as well as those joining the organization in Rocky Hock may take advantage of the expert training.

Murray Ashley, training officer for the rescue squad, said Mrs. Bernadette Johnson, a registered nurse, will teach the course at Edenton Municipal Building Tuesday and Thursday night of next week. The course is sponsored by College of the Albemarle and the N. C.

Department of Health and is for rescue squad members and those interested in joining the squad.

Classes will continue the following week at Rocky Hock Community Center in standard and advanced first aid. Ashley said this is a 24-hour course.

Both courses are required for rescue squad members.

Capt. Bob Roberson of Edenton-Chowan Rescue Squad issued a plea for more physical support for the Edenton unit. He pointed out that while membership in the squad is low here, some 32 men have shown an interest in forming a unit at Rocky Hock. He said more men are desperately needed for the local unit which will soon move into permanent headquarters on West Water Street.

"We are quite naturally proud of our accomplishments over the past years," Capt. Roberson said of the volunteer organization. "However, it continues to be graphically demonstrated to us that we are limited in what we can do by the number of trained volunteers on our active roll."

Capt. Roberson pointed out that Monday the squad received three calls during a 30-minute duration. "To do what has to be done, not to mention what we would like to do in the way of providing additional services, we must have more trained personnel," he said.

David Nixon has spearheaded the Rocky Hock unit. Plans are already underway to construct a headquarters

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Rescue Squad in Spotlight — Edenton-Chowan Rescue Squad is getting a new unit and the squad's latest piece of equipment was inspected Monday by U. S. Rep. Walter B. Jones of Farmville. Rep. Jones took time out Monday on a trip through Edenton to inspect the new ambulance Chowan County recently purchased for the rescue squad with federal matching funds. Murray Ashley, Civil Defense director and squad training officer, explained the fully equipped ambulance to the congress-



man who has assisted the area in many ways. In the picture at left, Capt. Bob Roberson of the squad is shown at left with David Nixon and Earl Smith as they discuss plans for a unit at Rocky Hock. Smith has agreed for the headquarters to be at his store. A call has been issued for more volunteers to staff the base unit in Edenton. Rep. Jones was highly complimentary of the fine service the volunteers are rendering in the area.