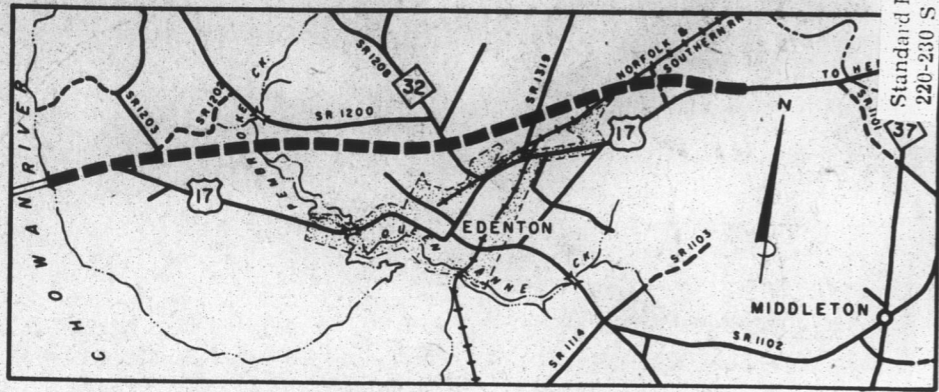
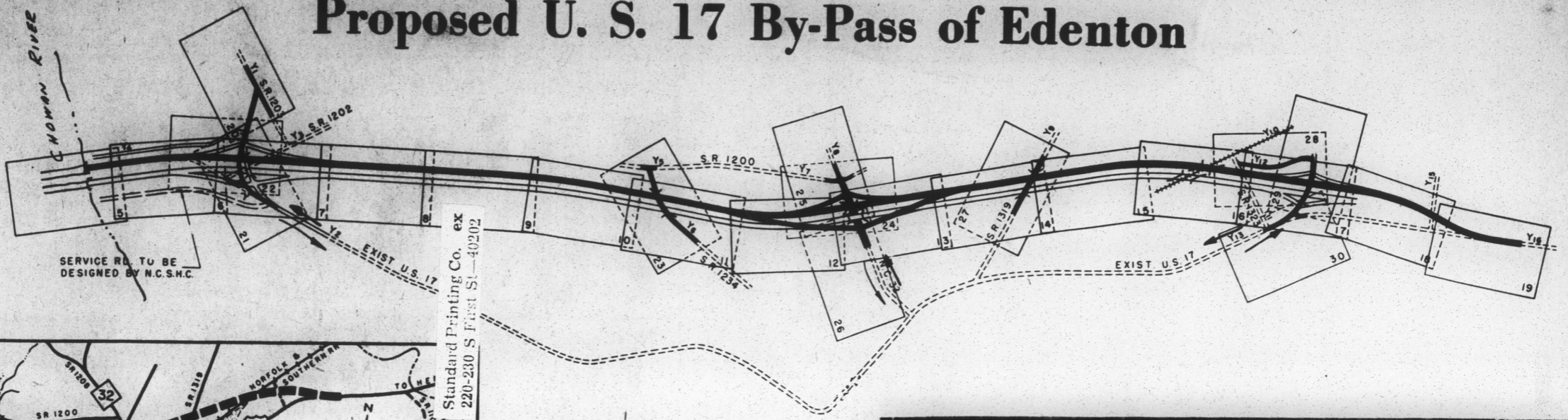


Proposed U. S. 17 By-Pass of Edenton



VICINITY MAP

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THE CHOWAN HERALD

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Edenton, Chowan County, North Carolina, Thursday, February 25, 1971

Man Dies In Home Fire



Where Man Died

A fire last Thursday night at 7:45 P. M., at the home of Roy Newsome, 705 Johnston Street, resulted in the death of Ethelbert (Bert) Spruill. He was 68 years old and lived on West Queen Street.

According to Capt. Harvey Williams, investigating officer, Spruill was sitting in a chair, fell asleep and dropped the cigarette he had in his hand, igniting the fire.

Capt. Williams was told that when the fire was discovered that Newsome wrapped Spruill in a blanket to put out the flaming clothes.

Someone across the street saw the fire and called the fire department.

When the firemen and rescue squad members arrived they extinguished the fire and took Spruill to Chowan Hospital and later transferred him to Norfolk General.

According to the police report, he suffered third degree burns over 90 per cent of his body.

Spruill died at Norfolk General at 5:30 A. M., Friday.

He was a retired farmer and the son of the late Lena Dowe Dunbar and Henry Spruill.

He is survived by a sister, Mrs. Laura Cahoon of Edenton and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was conducted at the Williford Memorial Chapel at 4 P. M., Sunday by Rev. E. C. Alexander. Burial followed at Beaver Hill Cemetery.

Williford Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Project Gets Aid

Soil Conservation Service has been authorized to provide planning assistance for the Bear Swamp Watershed in Chowan and Perquimans counties, according to F. A. McGoogan, district conservationist.

McGoogan announced from his office in Hertford that Charles W. Bartlett, state conservationist, has notified him of approval of request for assistance. Approval was authorized on January 25.

"Planning assistance will be scheduled to the sponsoring local organizations in the very near future," according to Bartlett's letter to McGoogan.

The Bear Swamp Watershed covers 20,410 acres in the two Northeastern North Carolina counties.

Sales Tax Action Aid For Counties

The 1971 General Assembly has cleared one of two important hurdles necessary to distribute \$4.1-million collected in the fourth quarter of 1970. Another \$2.5-million collected prior to the court decision is being retained by the department to cover applications for funds.

Legislation has been approved directing the State Department of Revenue to distribute \$4.1-million collected in the fourth quarter of 1970. Another \$2.5-million collected prior to the court decision is being retained by the department to cover applications for funds.

Tuesday, the State Senate gave tentative approval to a measure which would empower county commissioners to levy a local 1 per cent sales tax with or without a vote of the people. The vote was an impressive 42-3.

The measure, given priority by the Senate and House finance groups, is also expected to pass in the House next week.

Chowan County and the Town of Edenton received a total of \$39,219.59 from the fourth quarter collections—nearly \$3,000 more than the \$36,885.39 collected here for the quarter. Chowan County's share was \$29,520.73 while the town received \$9,698.86.

Continued on Page 4

County Opposes Union Camp Work

Chowan County commissioners, following the recommendation of the county planning board, has opposed an application by Union Camp Corporation to add dolphins and fences at their barge loading site on Albemarle Sound.

The action was taken February 11 during a meeting where commissioners were continuing their study of county government.

The planning board, headed by George W. Lewis, had conducted a study of the application by Union Camp. They received letters from property owners in the area and were advised that others had communicated directly with the U. S. Corps of Engineers.

The board's motion read: "Due to the opposition expressed by various property owners in the immediate area

and the far reaching potential hazard of water usage which would be in the opposite direction of the long range plans adopted by this planning board and the past Edenton-Chowan County Planning Board for Chowan County, we recommend to the Chowan County Board of Commissioners that they oppose to the Corps of Engineers the dolphin expansion project as outlined by Union Camp Corporation."

There was no mention of the fencing phase of the application.

Commissioners have also agreed to purchase an ad in the magazine being published by Edenton Jaycees in conjunction with the Memorial Day Air Festival at Edenton Municipal Airport.

The commissioners will meet in regular session at 9 A. M., Monday.

Public Parade

Cost Of Living

The wheels of justice routinely grind out little humor. However, Mrs. Lena M. Leary, clerk of Chowan County Superior Court, received a note recently which tickles the funny bone.

Attached to a payment was:

"Find \$5.00 for super (supper) babes." Not an inexpensive meal, we'd say.

Reputation Of Long Standing

A delegation from along the Public Parade was in the outer office of State Highway Commission Chairman Lauch Faircloth Monday morning, awaiting an audience with the man who wears Brooks Brothers suits and chews Beechnut tobacco.

J. Gilliam Wood, a former highway commissioner, knew most of the employees who shuffled in and out of the office.

George Willoughby, highway administrator, approached. After being introduced around Willoughby got straight to the point. "What you doing here, Gilliam; want a bridge or a ferry?"

"Just want the ferry put back across Albemarle Sound to Mackeys," was the reply.

Willoughby departed posthaste, having obviously gotten the message that this area isn't at all satisfied with the highway situation.

On Going Underground

The public's right to know how elected officials reach decisions suffered a blow along the Public Parade last week. Edenton-Chowan Board of Education went into "executive session" to discuss public business.

And it was the second such meeting on the same question. The other was an unannounced "informal" briefing of school board members by Supt. Bill Britt.

From the information we have been able to obtain the board of education made the right decision in dismissing the teacher involved. But we question the necessity for going behind closed doors to hear evidence leading up to the decision.

Right or wrong, when representatives of the public (i.e. the press) are excluded from meetings there immediately springs up the question of what the public body has to hide. In most cases it really doesn't amount to a hill of beans, yet it casts a reflection not only on those involved but the question being discussed.

It would be more convenient for the newspaper, not to mention less expensive.

Continued on Page 4

Sen. Harrington On 'Power' List

State Sen. J. J. (Monk) Harrington of Lewiston has been labeled one of the 12 "most powerful" men in the N. C. General Assembly. John Kilgo, writing from Raleigh for KQ Syndicate last week released the results of a poll of 30 Tar Heel legislators.



Sen. J. J. Harrington



Discuss Highway Needs — A delegation from Chowan County Monday called on Lauch Faircloth, seated, chairman of the State Highway Commission to discuss the U. S. 17 by-pass of Edenton. Left to right are: Edenton Mayor George Alma Byrum, Town Administrator W. B. Gardner; Highway Commissioner Joe Nowell of Winfall; and J. Gilliam Wood, a former highway commissioner from Chowan.

Highway Project Slow

Work Advances

State Highway Commission is moving ahead with plans for the U. S. 17 by-pass of Edenton but officials said Monday it may be as much as two years before actual construction can begin.

Chairman Lauch Faircloth called in Billy Rose, assistant highway administrator, and other assistants to discuss

Teacher Dismissed

The Edenton-Chowan Board of Education held an executive session last Wednesday night to hear statements on the suspension of a science teacher, Eddie Richards, from Chowan High School.

After the executive session was over, the board resumed regular session and the board members passed a motion that Richards be released effective January 8 on the grounds of incompetence.

The motion was made by Dr. J. H. Horton and seconded by Mrs. L. F. Amburn, Jr.

The executive session was called because the "discussion dealt with personalities".

Attorney for the board, W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., and attorney for Richards, Frank Ballance of Windsor, were present at the session.

the project with a delegation from Chowan County.

Highway Commissioner Joe Nowell of Winfall arranged the conference which was attended by Edenton Mayor George Alma Byrum, Town Administrator W. B. Gardner, L. F. Amburn, Jr., chairman of the highway committee of Edenton Chamber of Commerce, and J. Gilliam Wood, a former highway commissioner.

Faircloth said the proposed by-pass definitely will be built. He said funds for the \$3-million project have already been designated. "You came up here asking for a by-pass and we're going to give you one," the chairman said.

He also noted that to his knowledge this is the first request for a by-pass to have the endorsement of the county commissioners, town council and chamber of commerce. "However, more of

Continued on Page 4

Lights For Ramp

The Edenhouse Fishing and Boating Access Area, located on the Chowan River at the east end of U. S. 17 bridge, is being lighted, according to Lindsay E. Everette of Edenton, Law Enforcement Supervisor of Wildlife District I, which covers the 13 northeastern counties of North Carolina.

The lighting is being provided for the safety and convenience of those using the facility. Installation and electric current will be purchased from the Town of Edenton.

Everette states that he would solicit the support of all persons using these facilities in helping to keep the area clean and attractive.

The area provides safe and convenient access to the Chowan River, for hundreds of water sport enthusiasts and is one of more than 100 operated by the wildlife commission.

Missionary Killed

Mrs. Betty Anne Harrell Head, 32, died Friday in Brazil in an auto accident. She was a Baptist Missionary.

She is survived by her parents, Elisha and Dixie Bunch Harrell of Edenton; her husband, Richard L. Head of Brazil; one son, Linwood Head of the home; eight brothers: Marcus L., David, Percy L., Roland and Robert Harrell, all of Edenton; Linsey Harrell of Brazil; Willie P., of Colerain; and E. C. Harrell of Portsmouth, Va.; two sisters, Mrs. Sally Marie Copeland and Mrs. Emma Lou Evans, both of Edenton.

A memorial service was held on Sunday at 2:30 P. M., at Immanuel Baptist Church by Rev. Russell Rice.