

Public Parade

Double Standards?

Population is more and more becoming a way of life. On every turn we face the impact "folks" are having on everything. One thing we haven't been blessed(?) with along the Public Parade is over population. So sez the Census Bureau.

But take the area of highway construction. When a plea is made for more and better roads in this neck of the woods so we can not only better get our goods to market, but open our tourist market for others to enjoy, we are reminded that roads and people go hand in hand. (It is the old saw about which came first the chicken or the egg). So the asphalt and concrete strips in Tar Heelia begin at Wilson. That apparently is where the people begin.

Yet, Monday we went over to Ahoskie in the western most edge of the First Highway Division to the dedication of a handsome new headquarters building. Instead of putting the administrative ram next to the maintenance shop at Winfall where adequate land was already available, the state purchased nine acres in Hertford County to insure adequate space for expansion.

Hertford County is neither where the people are or the best geographical site in the 14-county division. Isn't this bordering on double standards within the highway department?

George S. Willoughby, Jr., administrator, State Highway Commission, said in his mini dedicatory remarks the \$250,000 project cannot be dedicated to any individual but to the citizens of the division.

The administrator said also the State Highway Commission has but one goal and that is to construct and maintain the best highway system in the United States.

Commissioner Joe Nowell of Winfall adequately summed up the situation when he said: "It's a nice building in the wrong location."

Joe, folks are just that way.

Tale Of A City

Now that we are between the biennial Pilgrimage of Colonial Edenton and Countryside and the Jaycee Memorial Day Air Festival weekend, Edenton has little time to catch a breath. Yet we want to tell you the story of a man who lived by the side of the road.

The story is not original with us, but the moral is applicable to this community and we want to pass it on to everybody along the Public Parade.

So, upon a time once, there lived a man by the side of the road and he sold hot dogs.

He was hard of hearing, so he had no radio.

He had trouble with his eyes, so he had no newspaper or television set.

But he sold good hot dogs.

He put up a sign on the highway, telling how good they were.

He stood by the side of the road and cried out to passersby, "Buy a hot dog, mister."

And people bought.

He increased his meat and bun orders and he bought a bigger grill to take care of his trade.

Finally, he brought his son home from college to help him. But then something happened.

His son said, "Father, haven't you been listening to the radio? There's a big depression on. The international

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At Dedication—The First Highway Division Headquarters building in Ahoskie was dedicated Monday morning. State Sen. J. J. (Monk) Harrington, center, is flanked by Edenton Mayor George Alma Byrum, left, and Highway Commissioner Joe Nowell of Winfall. (See Public Parade).

County Rejects Budget For Schools

By PATRICIA M. ARNOLD

Chowan County commissioners turned down the proposed budget of the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education and suggested funds some \$131,000 less on Monday night during a joint meeting.

The commissioners stated they felt

Edenton-Chowan Schools could run on per child, based on average daily attendance, instead of the \$166 budget-

J. George, commissioner, said that the two school systems merged they promised the people of the county a reduction in cost of operations.

Eugene Jordan, School Board Chair-

man, stated that much time and consideration had been put into the proposed budget by every member of the board of education and he stated he just would not know where to begin to cut it anymore.

Jordan also pointed out that this year each principal of the schools in the county made an appearance before

the budget committee and told of his needs. The committee took the needs and budgeted the ones that needed immediate attention and held out on the others.

The commissioners approved a budget last year of some \$386,000. This year they will approve a budget of no more than \$343,680; a cut of approximately \$43,000 over this year's budget.

Mrs. Emily G. Amburn told the commissioners most of the additional money in the budget was for the maintenance of schools; to make the buildings more presentable and safe for the children, with just a little added in new programs.

George replied that the money had been in the budget over the past years for maintenance but he did not know how the board of education had spent it.

Earlier in the year, the fire marshal and Edenton building inspector took a tour of the schools and stated certain upgrading that had to be made along with the grand jury of Chowan County.

C. A. Phillips, Commissioner, made the comment that the commissioners wanted the best schools the county could afford. He remarked that everyone in the county wanted higher projected budgets but no more money was

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Mayor Asks Hard Work Of Council

Mayor George Alma Byrum started a new term Tuesday with a new innovation in town organization, along with a call to Town Council for greater emphasis on projects and programs to benefit present and future generations.

The new organization wrinkle came when Byrum split the council into two divisions. He named Leo Katkaveck to chair a three-member committee to handle the Law and Finance division. W. Herbert Hollowell and J. C. (Pete) Dail will serve with Katkaveck.

David White was named chairman of the Public Works division, heading a committee which includes Clyde Hollowell and Roy L. Harrell.

Each division will handle matters which fall in their respective categories. This is a departure from past tradition in council organization.

In a brief address, Byrum called attention to "our great heritage" and for the need for this administration to offer even better government for the future. He commended past town officials for their efforts on behalf of the town, and declared "we are all proud of the condition we find in our community today."

Byrum said he knew of no other town of Edenton's size that can boast as proudly of its buildings, equipment and personnel. He lauded Town Administrator W. B. Gardner as a man of "ability and energy" and said all town departments are led by qualified men.

He called on council to give attention to some "present and future needs that can be accomplished with proper planning . . . and with present and future financing."

He encouraged each councilman to make a greater effort to close the remaining open ditches abutting streets in Edenton, to encourage the building of sidewalks and the building and improving of streets under "our present policy."

Byrum told council it is "our responsibility to furnish the leadership to improve and beautify our town" and

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The James Iredell House

Iredell House Nominated For Listing

RALEIGH—The James Iredell House in Edenton has been nominated for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, the nation's official list of significant historic properties.

Recently the Chowan County Court-house and the Cupola House were included in the National Register.

In submitting the nomination to the Department of the Interior, Dr. H. G. Jones, director of the State Department of Archives and History, noted that the Iredell House now includes two major sections, the first being a two-story

frame structure built about 1776 and the second a two-story frame addition built perpendicular to the first about 1816. It is thought that another section of the house built as early as 1759 was removed before the 1816 section was added.

James Iredell was born in Sussex County, England, in 1751, and came to America at seventeen as deputy controller of customs for Edenton. He was a member of the Provincial Congress, a justice of the court of law, attorney general for the state of North Carolina, and a vocal participant in the fight for approval of the constitution at Hillsborough in 1788.

While he was urging approval, the legislature named the newly formed Iredell County in his honor. In February, 1790, George Washington appointed Iredell to the U. S. Supreme Court, where he served until his death in 1799.

The house is now owned by the state of North Carolina, and its nomination was made in connection with the State Department of Archives and History's long-range program of documenting the authenticity of historic places in North Carolina.

Godwin Interview

CHAPEL HILL — House Speaker Phil Godwin will be interviewed on "North Carolina People" on the UNC-TV educational network at 8:30 P. M., May 27.

Dr. William Friday, president of the University of North Carolina, will interview Godwin, who currently is serving his sixth term as representative from Gates County.

The telecast may be seen on WUND-TV, Channel 2, Columbia. The Godwin interview will be shown a second time at 6:30 P. M., May 30.

Godwin will talk about the 1971 General Assembly, and express his views on a number of the public issues of the day.

Church Destroyed

The Chowan County Sheriff Department had to reroute traffic on Highway 32 Sunday night for about two hours as the Center Hill-Crossroads, Edenton and Hertford Fire Departments tried to extinguish a fire that destroyed Welch's Chapel Baptist Church.

The church was 106 years old and Rev. W. H. Davis was its pastor.

According to Frank White, Jr., chief of the Center Hill-Crossroads Volunteer Department, the fire call was sounded at 8:30 P. M. They then notified the Hertford and Edenton departments. The Gliden Unit of Edenton-Chowan Rescue Squad also responded to the call in case of any emergencies.

Chief White commented that his department had the fire under control when the water gave out and he thinks if they had had 500 more gallons of water at the time they could have saved the church.

By the time the other two departments arrived at the fire, the building was completely engulfed in flames.

The fire was ignited in the zenith of an electrical storm that hit the area that night. It is assumed the fire was caused from lightning.

Chief White expressed the department's appreciation for all the cooperation and assistance given them by various departments.

Bill Would Allow Vote On Question Of Town Boards

A measure introduced in the General Assembly Tuesday would give citizens in the Town of Edenton a second chance to vote on the question of abolishing the Board of Public Works. A vote on the question four years ago saw the utilities board retained by a 101-vote margin.

Under the bill put into the hopper by Rep. W. T. Culpepper of Elizabeth City, the vote would be held in May, 1972. If voters approve its abolition, a town council committee would take over the board's duties in May, 1973.

Mayor George Alma Byrum and Town

Council have tried unsuccessfully to obtain agreement from the utilities board on the abolition. After a joint meeting failed to bring about agreement, the council voted to seek authorization for a second referendum.

Mayor Byrum asked Jesse L. Harrell, chairman of the utilities board, to appoint a committee to work with a council committee on the terms to be included in the referendum. Harrell asked for volunteers and when all members refused the council moved ahead on its own.

The Board of Public Works is a separate, elected body of five men who are

charged with the responsibilities of operating the utilities department.

In another local bill introduced by Rep. Culpepper, Pasquotank County would be authorized to contract with other boards of county commissioners for the purpose of supporting the College of the Albemarle in Elizabeth City. COA is a two-year community college serving seven counties but gets tax support only from Pasquotank.

A recent move by COA to establish a community college district failed when Chowan County commissioners refused to adopt a resolution pledging financial support.

Postal Rate Hike Effective Sunday

Postmaster James Bond said today that increases in most postage rates will take effect Sunday as the new U. S. Postal Service begins its task of achieving self sufficiency as required by the Postal Reorganization Act.

Bond noted that general postage rates have not been increased since 1967 when Congress passed what was to become its final legislative act in this respect.

He pointed out that, earlier, requests for rate increases were proposed to Congress in 1969 by both President Johnson and President Nixon. In addition, President Nixon proposed an increase again in 1970, although none of the proposed increases was acted upon by Congress.

Bond explained that the new increases — authorized on a temporary basis until the newly created Postal Rate Commission can make recommendations —

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On Commission

RALEIGH — Gov. Bob Scott has recently appointed two Edentonians to the Edenton Historical Commission. They are: Mrs. Wood Privott and John A. Mitchener, Jr.

Mitchener, former Edenton mayor, has served on the commission in an ex officio capacity for many years.

Mrs. Privott is a member of the board of directors of Historic Edenton, Inc., having served on the steering committee and helped to start the committee functioning. She is also a charter member of the Edenton Tea Party Chapter, Daughters of American Revolution.

Mrs. Privott is president of the James Iredell Association, Inc., one of five historic sites which make up Historic Edenton, Inc.

Mitchener has been a leader in civic and business affairs in the Albemarle Area for many years. He was active in the N. C. League of Municipalities while a member of the town council and as mayor. He is a past president of the league.

Mitchener headed the planning committee of Albemarle Area Development Association during the period when a comprehensive study was conducted of the 10 AADA counties. He was Chowan County's representative on the AADA board for several years.