



Scene of Recent PRA Convention on West Coast

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Schools Still Seek Funds For Budget

By Patricia M. Arnold

The Edenton-Chowan Board of Education will request another meeting with the Chowan County commissioners to discuss the school budget.

Carlton Goodwin made a motion, at a special meeting called Monday night, that a committee of two along with the board chairman, Eugene Jordan, meet with the commissioners and try to iron out the matter of the remaining \$37,000 needed but without funds.

Thomas Paul Griffin and Morris Small were appointed to be on the committee.

The budget as it stands to date is \$433,270.42 but the revenue budget is only \$396,000 which leaves the \$37,000 deficit.

The board of education feels they cannot cut the \$37,000 without endangering the academic program and it is their hope that some portion of the 15-cent local school tax can be put into force to help the situation.

The board received a letter from the commissioners on June 17 which stated: "The Board of County Commissioners have received your letter dated June 11, requesting additional tax for schools.

"The Board held a meeting Wednesday P. M. After consideration and discussion the Board determined that the levy of additional taxes in the amount requested was not feasible at this time.

"It is the feeling of the Board that the present tax levy is as high as property owners can reasonably be expected to raise."

The board of education had requested that the commissioners adopt what portion of the 15-cent that would cover the \$37,000. The amount would have been between 11c and 12c of the 15-cent optional school tax.

According to the law, if the board of education and county commissioners

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Popcorn In Chowan—Chowan County Extension Chairman Pete Thompson and Astor Perry, N. C. State University peanut specialist, are shown inspecting a field of popcorn. Twelve Chowan farmers, working under a contract with Jimbo's Jumbos of Edenton, have planted nearly 100 acres of popcorn. NCSU crop specialists have high hopes for the future of popcorn as a field crop in North-eastern North Carolina.

Chowan Farmers Watching Popcorn

A new field crop is appearing on about 12 farms scattered throughout Chowan County this year. It is popcorn and specialists have expressed

the opinion that a good stand has been realized.

Nearly 100 acres have been devoted to this experiment supported by N. C. State University and through a contract with Jimbo's Jumbos of Edenton.

Pete Thompson, extension chairman in Chowan County, said Jimbo's Jumbos is anticipating 400,000 pounds of popcorn from the crop. He added that farmers hope to yield 80 bushels per acre.

"With the combination we have (good soil for popcorn, farmers willing to try something new, specialist supplying expert advice, and an industry with a market) this could be a big boost to agriculture in this area in the coming years," Thompson stated.

Dr. Bill Fike, a member of the crop science department at NCSU, is given a great deal of credit with the development of popcorn for sale commercially in Northeastern North Carolina. John Bunch, Jr., is Jimbo's Jumbos supervisor who is doing field work on the crop.

Astor Perry, peanut specialist, went with Thompson on a swing through the county to look at crops in general. Looking at a handsome stand of corn in the field of Fahey and Carroll Byrum, Perry commented: "We have got to have something to go along with peanuts."

Perry was impressed with the stand of peanuts throughout the county. He commented that they were especially green and clean.

Thompson, speaking about crops in general, said rains in the past week had aided crops tremendously. "The rains have actually saved a lot of sweet corn."

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Ray Is Promoted

ATLANTA, Ga. — Robert H. Ray of Edenton has been named manager of the McKinney Lake National Fish Hatchery, near Hoffman. This announcement was made recently by C. Edward Carlson, regional director of the Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife's Southeast Region.

Ray replaces Glenn F. Adams, who retired after 28 years of service with the Bureau.

Ray came to the Federal fish hatchery program as assistant manager at Cohutta National Fish Hatchery, Ga. After completing the 11-month training course at the Bureau's National Fish Hatchery In-Service Training School in Marion, Ala., he was assigned to the Mammoth Spring National Fish Hatchery, Ark., as assistant hatchery manager.

Ray was later promoted to Fishery Management Biologist and transferred to the Edenton National Fish Hatchery, where he has remained until his present assignment.

A native of Lyerly, Ga., Ray attended Reinhardt College at Waleska, Ga., and Jacksonville State College, Jacksonville, Ala. His major fields of study included biology, parasitology, and embryology.

As administrator of the McKinney Lake National Fish Hatchery, Ray will be responsible for the complete operation of the hatchery. The McKinney Lake Hatchery plays a large part in stocking channel catfish for the Urban Fishing Program in Washington, D. C.

Public Parade

System In Danger

The question of restructuring higher education in North Carolina will not be considered during the regular session of the General Assembly. Therefore, it is apparent that Speaker Phil Godwin's adjournment target date of July 9th can be met.

The foes of the Warren Commission report are already claiming victory. When Gov. Bob Scott broke the deadlock Tuesday afternoon by agreeing to the issue being resolved in a special session later this year, the power structure around the Old Well in Chapel Hill began to applaud.

However, Gov. Scott did not compromise his position. He has promised an even stronger plan than the Warren Commission when the legislature meets to consider higher education.

What has been comprised, apparently, are citizen-legislators and biennial sessions of the General Assembly. Time was the question and time will be the lever proponents of salaried legislators and annual sessions will use in the future.

Gov. Scott said there was sufficient time to act on the higher education matter. There was little new which could be said in committee since higher education has about been studied to death. In fact, the Warren Commission was the 11th such study.

Speaker Godwin disagreed with Gov. Scott. He contended the issue should be given time to cool; time should be given for the air to clear. Lt. Gov. Pat Taylor tended to agree.

Then came Sen. John Burney of New Hanover with his "cocktail" to stop the "blitzkrieg". Gov. Scott had the votes in the House and Sen. Burney had the votes in the Senate. Only a special session proposal would head off a stalemate.

The alma mater tears will really flow between now and the special session. For this reason there won't be an abundance of time for cooling off or for the air to clear.

What is happening is that North Carolina is on the move toward salaried legislators and annual sessions. There doesn't appear to be enough time for citizen-legislators to devote to the state's business in biennial sessions of six or seven months.

Why? The legislators get restless after the appropriations bill is passed. The supply of "green stamps" has been exhausted.

Legislators are playing into the hands of those who want to spend half of each and every dollar in Raleigh and who want the postman to drop a check from the State Treasurer on their desk each and every month when important legislation such as the higher education matter is shuffled off into a special session because there isn't enough time to consider it.

Members of the General Assembly take such time as is necessary to force auto manufacturers to place little containers in new cars being sold in North Carolina. In our opinion, they could have found the time between now and adjournment to establish laws which require all state supported institutions of higher learning not only to be fed from the same spoon, but fed the same diet.

On Going To Pot

The following little verse was found in our unattended typewriter. We understand credit is due High Point Merchants Association Bulletin, via Nick George.

We'll give it to you just as it came to us:

We've Come A Long Way, Baby!
Remember when hippie
Meant big in the hips,
And a trip involved travel
In cars, planes and ships?
When fix was a verb
That meant mend or repair.
And be-in meant supply
Existing somewhere?

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Brock Makes Big Flight In Copter

The Ninth Annual Professional Rotorcraft Association convention at Edenton Municipal Airport this weekend will be anti-climatic for at least one gyrocopter enthusiast. He is Ken Brock of Anaheim, Calif., who this week completed the first coast-to-coast flight in a putt-putt aircraft.

Brock set out from California on June 11 with his sights set on Kitty Hawk, the birthplace of aviation. "Doing his thing" to Brock was a reversal of the flight from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans. After a short delay in Edenton Sunday, he was successful in getting to the Outer Banks Monday about noon.

Brock, Southern California representative for Bensen Aircraft Corporation of Raleigh, experienced difficulty with the Bensen chopper in mid-afternoon Sunday while crossing the Albemarle Sound. He landed safely at the spacious Edenton Municipal Airport and after some parts of the "bug" were dried and he had an enjoyable night at a local motel, he was off on the last leg of his flight.

The pilot will be back in Edenton for the three-day PRA convention, being hosted on the East Coast for the first time by Edenton Jaycees. Competition is scheduled for Saturday and thousands of spectators from throughout the area are expected to be on hand.

Dr. Igor Benson of Raleigh, gyrocopter inventor and head of PRA, will have to perform some fancy maneuvers in order to recapture the spotlight from his Southern California representative. Brock, 38, flew the cockpitless craft without instruments on this journey mainly because "it hadn't been done before."

The gyrocopter has the gas tank built into the seat, carries less than 10 gallons of gasoline that can cover about

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County Tax Set

Chowan County commissioners tentatively agreed Friday night to a tax rate of \$1.60 per \$100 valuation for the coming fiscal year. The special fire tax rate was set at eight cents.

The rates came out of a lengthy budget session. There were no motions recorded and the definite amount of the budget was not determined. However, it was generally agreed among commissioners that the amount of local tax money to support the budget they were considering would require a five-cent increase.

Commissioners, who have been at odds with Edenton-Chowan Board of Education over the school budget, included a levy of 86 cents for schools in their proposal. Since the levy will be on an additional \$1-million, the schools will automatically get a \$8,600 increase over the current fiscal year.

Mrs. Pansy Elliott, county accountant, left Saturday on a family vacation to Florida so details of the proposed budget were not available to the press.

Shepard Chosen

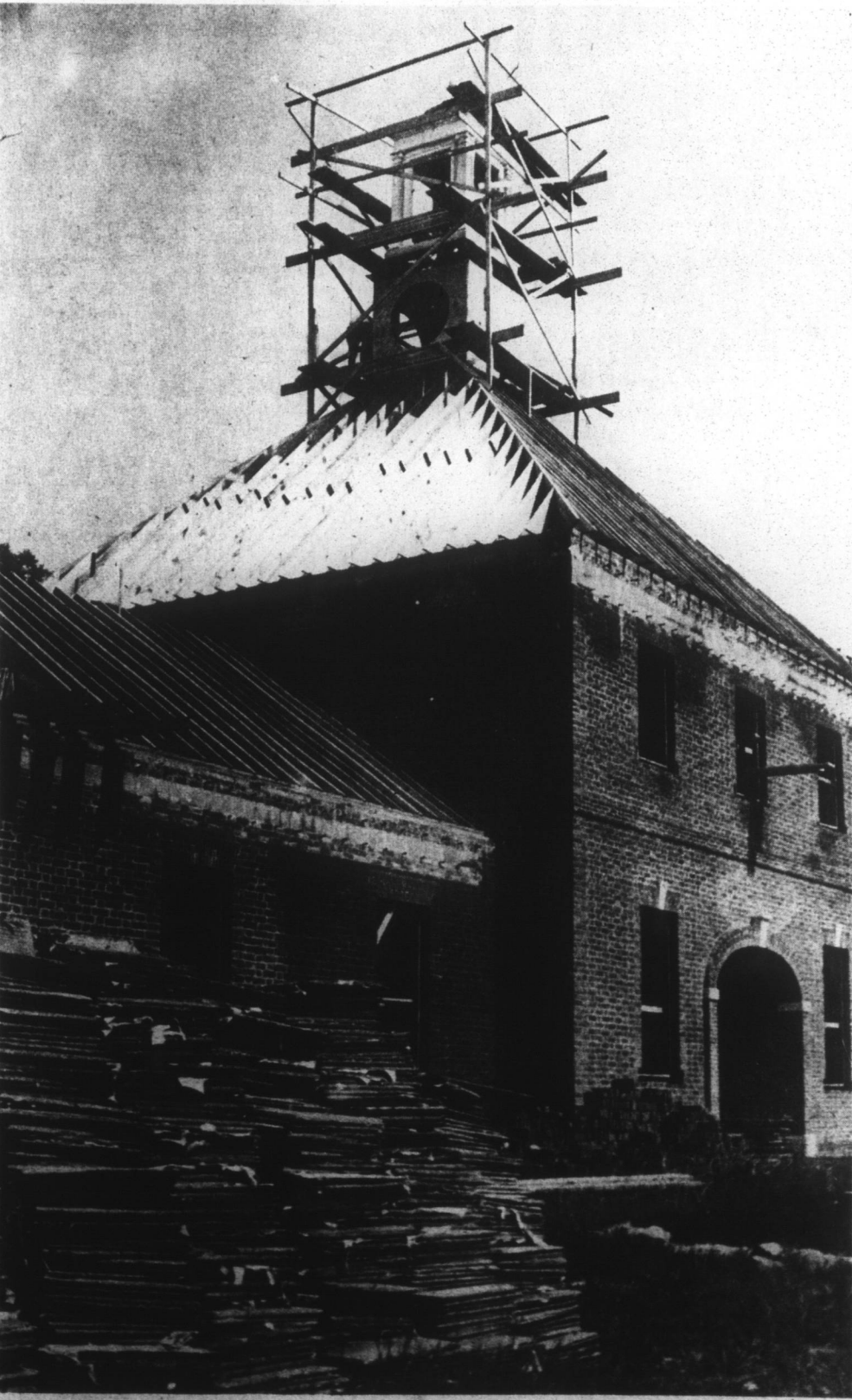
Blount Shepard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Shepard, Pembroke Circle, Edenton, has qualified for the National Junior Olympic Games to be held in Athens, Ga., on July 17.

Shepard is a 3-sport letterman at Holmes and is the recipient of the football sportsmanship award.

He was also a starter in basketball and is fourth in the state in the sophomore and junior division in the two-mile run.

Shepard qualified for the National Olympics by winning the preliminary State Olympics that were held in Jacksonville.

Shepard is a rising senior at Holmes High School.



Progress Made On New Structure—Workmen continue to make progress on the new home of Peoples Bank & Trust Company at the corner of Broad and Church streets. Rafters have been put into place as has the tower. Slate shingles, in foreground, await craftsmen who will install them. No completion date has been set for the building which has been under construction for several months.