



Public Parade

The Morton Touch

On August 3, Hugh M. Morton of Wilmington and Linville meandered along the Public Parade. He was enroute to becoming a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor of North Carolina.

In the August 5 edition of The Chowan Herald, this writer declared Mr. Morton was a serious candidate who was obligated to carry through on his claim to visit all 100 counties in Tar Heelia before making a concrete decision. He has now inched closer to confirming our speculation. He said as much in a statement released Tuesday from Grandfather Mountain. But we'll get to that bit a little later.

Mr. Morton is one of this state's foremost promoters. His talent as a photographer has gained him national fame. Whether in the mountains or on the coast, he can snap a portrait of an ordinary scene.

On his visit to Chowan County, he couldn't resist the often-photographed scene of the Barker House, shooting across the cannons at the foot of the court house green. And then on his way across the Albemarle Sound, via helicopter, he turned his camera on the lengthy bridge span. We present them on this page for your enjoyment.

But back to Morton-the-politician. Here's how the candidate continued to be a would-be candidate:

"For several weeks I have said that by Labor Day I would report on a campaign by me for governor in 1972. The great amount of encouragement and support which I have received make me believe that I will soon be able to issue the favorable statement I want to make. I am now in the process of determining which dedicated friends can fill basic assignments within a campaign organizational framework.

"Most people recognize that other possible candidates have fallen heir to what is left of campaign machines of bygone days, and that in creating my own campaign group I must start anew. This gives me important advantages, but it takes time.

"Many people are doing their part to see that we will have the campaign team necessary, and they recognize that any appreciable delay in resolving these matters will work to my disadvantage. Every job I undertake I expect to do right, and conducting a campaign for the governorship is no exception. I will have additional information soon."

A Real 'Lead Agency'

There are two extremely important items on the agenda for tonight's monthly meeting of Albemarle Regional Planning and Development Commission. The board will decide whether the commission desires to become the "lead agency" for the 10-county region. Also, distribution of a \$118,412 grant to allow public agencies to beef up their forces will be discussed.

Several months ago, a ranking state planning official presented a program to ARPDC's parent agency—Albemarle Area Development Association—on establishing regional "clearing houses" for state and federal programs. It was proposed by Wesley Cullipher, then ARPDC's chairman, that this commission be so designated.

We opposed the proposal on grounds that ARPDC needed to be activated, funded, and staffed before such an important designation as a "clearing house" for all state and federal programs be attached. After all, Cullipher just minutes before had quite unofficially announced funding.

ARPDC is the logical choice for "clearing house" or "lead agency" designation. The commission has a dedicated board of proven leaders. ARPDC has a staff of equal talent.

Continued on Page 4

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THE CHOWAN HERALD



Solicitor Pressing Murder Charge Freeman Pleads Self Defense

Denny Junior Freeman, 27, of Elizabeth City, is on trial for murder in Chowan County Superior Court. Freeman is charged with the slaying of George Thomas Smith at Pickwick Billiards, 204 South Broad Street on the night of April 30.

Shortly before noon Wednesday, Freeman took the stand in his own behalf.

Among the other defense witnesses sworn in was the victim's estranged wife.

Pleading self defense, the defendant told a jury of nine women and five men (two alternates) that Smith had threatened him the evening of April 24. He further testified that Magistrate Tom Shepard refused to let him sign a war-

rant charging Smith with assault.

Freeman said the night of the shooting he went to the poolroom after being told Smith had a pistol. In response to a question from his attorney, W. H. Oakey of Hertford, the witness said he did not come to Edenton for the purpose of harming Smith.

Entering the poolroom, Freeman said he bought a beer and went into the back where he engaged in a conversation with Jimmy Bateman. He later asked Bateman about a man in the pool game and was told it was Smith. Freeman then consumed a second beer, he testified. Smith left. "I decided to talk with him and followed him outside," he stated.

Freeman told Smith he was the person who had been dating his wife. He also said he told the victim if he (Smith) was going to kill him (Freeman) the police would know who it was because he had attempted to get a warrant for him.

The defendant said Smith admitted threatening him and also threatening his (Smith's) wife and two children. "It was then that I struck him with my fist. I knocked him down. He got up and walked toward the poolroom door."

Continued on Page 4

Judge Critical Of Chowan Facility

A Superior Court judge Tuesday cited the need for Chowan County commissioners to begin making concrete plans for a new hall of justice, saying if a plan to air condition the present courtroom is an attempt to continue to use the facility for court, then "they are just wasting money".

Judge Walter W. Cahoon of Elizabeth City, resident judge in this district, echoed the remarks of every judge to hold Superior Court here in several years when he said the historic Chowan County Court House should be preserved as a museum. He made his remarks prior to dismissing those drawn for jury duty but not seated in a murder trial expected to take several days.

Judge Cahoon said he had learned that the county is planning to air condition the courtroom at a cost of about \$25,000. "That is alright if the purpose is to keep it as a museum," he noted. "And it should be kept for just such a purpose."

The jurist added that the Chowan County facility had served its usefulness. "To conduct business in this limited space means a jury has to climb steps every time they must leave the courtroom, or have got to trek down the street to the old hotel building, regardless of the weather," he stated.

"That's the way it is going to be year in and year out until some plans are developed." Judge Cahoon concluded by saying he hoped the taxpayers would think about it, talk about it and do something about it.

The grand jury made short order of

Continued on Page 4

Co-Op Visitors

Albemarle Cooperative Association will be visited September 14-16 by U. S. Department of Agriculture and Congressional officials. Gene Sutton, rural services specialist with the Farmer Cooperative Service on loan to ACA, has been notified that the Washington officials want to inspect what Farmers Cooperative Service, working in conjunction with N. C. Rural Fund for Development, and Small Business Administration, has done in the 11-county area.

"They want to observe and obtain the reactions of the total operation of ACA," Sutton noted. He also said the group will make field visits to learn first hand the progress being made in the feeder pig operation.

Marcus McClanahan, ACA executive director, and Roy Harrell, development specialist with NCRFD, said the cooperative welcomes this opportunity to share its progress report with these ranking USDA officials.

Among the group scheduled to visit in the area are:

Dr. Joe Savage, head of marketing services; Raymond Williams, senior cooperative development official; Dr. Alfred Edwards, deputy assistant secretary, USDA; Victor Vaughn, congressional liaison staff member of USDA; and a White House staff member who has not yet been named.

Public Hearing

Edenton Town Council will conduct a public hearing at 8 P. M., tonight (Thursday) in the Municipal Building relative to proposed downtown improvements.

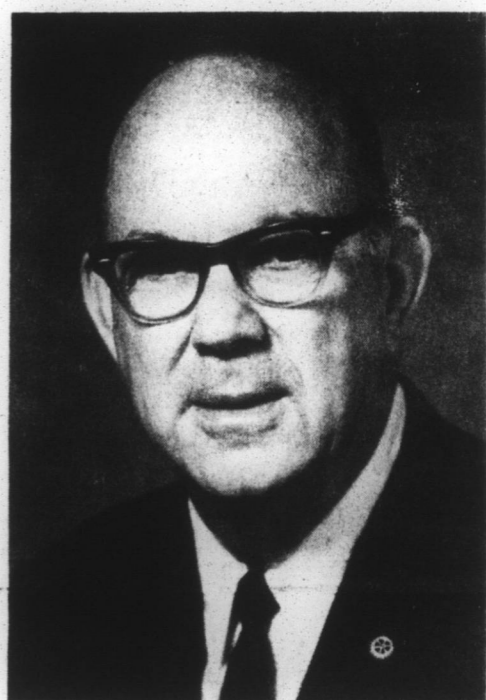
Council for several months has been discussing improvements to the downtown area, primarily new sidewalks. Earlier merchants on Broad Street petitioned the town to replace existing sidewalks, agreeing to pay an assessment for the work.

Since this time, however, the town has learned that a 50 per cent federal grant could be received if beautification is included in the improvements. An architect has drawn up a proposal, which includes brick sidewalks.

Anyone interested in downtown improvements is encouraged to attend the meeting.



HEAVY DAMAGE FROM FIRE — Fire of undetermined origin early Wednesday morning destroyed the office of Twiddy Mobile Homes on North Broad Street along with mobile homes parked on both sides. Fire Chief Luther Parks said the alarm was sounded by an employee of Seabrook Blanching Corp., located just across the street, at approximately 3:45 P. M.—some 25 minutes after Edenton police had checked the sales lot. The fire was fed to the mobile homes by bottled gas tanks located outside the office structure, he noted. Damages are expected to exceed \$20,000. Warren Twiddy, shown at left, said the damage was covered by insurance.



J. Frank Jarman

Jarman To Visit Local Rotary Club

J. Frank Jarman of Durham, governor of the Rotary district of this area, will address Edenton Rotary Club during his official visit here today (Thursday). The club meets at the Parish House at 1 P. M.

Edenton Rotary Club is one of 45 clubs in Jarman's district.

The district governor will confer with James P. Ricks, Jr., club president, and Charlie Overman, club secretary, on club administration and plans for future activities.

During his visit he will be given information on some of the local club's activities, including sponsorship of the Boy Scout troops and support of Boys' Home at Lake Waccamaw.

Rotary International is said to be the pioneer of the service clubs with more than 14,821 clubs with a combined membership of more than 701,000 business and professional men. Spread throughout 149 countries in all parts of the world, Rotary Clubs conduct activities to improve their communities, aid youth, elevate business standards, and further international friendships and understanding.

Job Grant Here

A \$118,422 public employee grant for the 10-county Albemarle Area has been awarded through Albemarle Regional Planning and Development Commission here. W. B. Gardner, chairman, said proposals from municipalities and county commissioners within the area were due Wednesday.

The grant was made through the N. C. and U. S. Departments of Labor under the Emergency Employment Act recently passed by Congress.

Gardner explained that the special grant may be used for public jobs by the cities and counties and the region. He said the grant would be administered locally by the board and the staff of ARPDC.

Wesley Cullipher, ARPDC executive director, explained that in submitting bids for any public positions to be funded, officials must describe the positions to be filled, along with a budget for the positions. This information is being gathered at the regional office on

Continued on Page 4