

## Out of the 'Blue'

It had been almost two decades since a life sentence was imposed in Chowan County Superior Court for murder. It is coincidental that the last such trial was also during the September Term. Court records show it was September 16, 1953, that a man was sentenced by Judge Chester Morris to two life sentences for the first degree murder of his wife and another man.

It is also coincidental that Judge Walter W. Cahoon of Elizabeth City was then District Solicitor and prosecuted the case. Judge Cahoon wore the robe in Thursday's sentencing.

What isn't coincidental is the superior investigation by Edenton Police Department which turned up an abundance of evidence against Denny Junior Freeman. Solicitor Herbert Small has a great deal of respect for the law enforcement officers along the Public Parade and throughout Northeastern North Carolina. He was extremely free with his commendations following last week's exhausting trial.

"They did a splendid job," the popular solicitor noted. "Why, they even turned up more evidence and witnesses than was needed for a conviction."

In all, Solicitor Small had listed 21 states' witnesses. He used only 13 of them—some unwilling while not hostile. The work of Capt. Harvey Williams and Patrolman G. W. Mizelle, who were almost eye-witnesses to the crime, is indicative of the hard work Edenton's "finest" turn in, day after day.

To paraphrase a familiar slogan: "You can sleep well tonight because Edenton policemen are wide awake", is a good way to express the valuable service these men contribute to our community.

## Lots Of Tootin'

Well, we spent the first couple of days this week meandering in the great (?) state of Mecklenburg participating in a Uniform Relocation Seminar. Some 150 housing and redevelopment officials from the two Carolinas were in attendance.

Ed Waddell, a former educator who got smart and became a relocation expert in Charlotte, had put together the first such seminar. The topic was a new relocation act which feeds every federally assisted project from the same spoon.

Everything was run, run, run except the moonlight cruise on Lake Norman (without moonlight) on Buck Teague's Outrigger. However, we did have a few minutes to glimpse at The Charlotte Observer. A casual glimpse at this voice of liberalism is about all a country journalist should be exposed to.

In Monday's edition they had three stories, including a "News Analysis" on activities in Ayden. Now for those meandering along the Public Parade who aren't too familiar with a "News Analysis," it is where a reporter is allowed to editorialize in his story—a new baby of the gliberal press.

Featured was the black agitator who sometimes uses Edenton's zip code. For, only he could be childish enough to demonstrate in Ayden when the incident occurred in Grifton and the State Highway Patrol office is in Greenville. But with the help of a few innocent children he will do these unreasonable things anywhere, anytime and for any reason.

But back to the seminar. We were invited to participate because of the successful efforts of Edenton Housing Authority to use housing development funds to purchase mobile homes as temporary relocation resources. The fact that the local authority, within which we are active, managed to save some \$75,000 not to mention get a 100-unit project off dead center, had caught

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## Council Seeking Beautification Grant

## Financial Group Turns Back On Waff Property Proposal

## County Jail Work Topic At Meeting

Improving Chowan County's historic jail to meet state requirements took another important step forward Monday morning when Chowan County Commissioners authorized Atwood Skinner Associates to proceed with preparation of specifications and advertise for bids to complete the proposed new addition. Mr. Skinner attended Monday's meeting and rehearsed what his firm had done thus far. He informed the Commissioners that it was decided to erect the new addition to adjoin the present jail to the north rather than on the east as at first suggested. This, he said, would be far more convenient and practical for several reasons.

The cost of the proposed addition is estimated to be \$29,700, of which \$19,000 would be for the new addition, \$8,000 for equipment and \$2,700 for architect's fees. The building is expected to occupy 950 square feet and will meet the requirements of state authorities. The goal is to have the project completed by the first of the year, but Mr. Skinner expressed the opinion that it may be a little later.

## AADA Supports Agency For Role

The annual meeting of Albemarle Area Development Association will be held in Elizabeth City this fall. Loyal Phillips, co-publisher of The Daily Advance, will serve as banquet chairman. Phillips was appointed to head the planning group Thursday night at the monthly AADA board meeting at Edenton Restaurant after Elizabeth City was designated as the site.

At the same time, Charles Harrell of Hertford, named Eric Hasté, Jr., also of Hertford and a past AADA president, to head the nominating committee for a new slate of officers.

Tom Hobgood, N. C. State University community development specialist, reported that area judging will take place November 8-10. Also, Hobgood reported 50 active organized communities in the 10-county Albemarle Area.

L. F. Amburn, Jr., asked for AADA support to the designation of Albemarle Regional Planning & Development Commission as the lead agency for state and federal programs in the region. His motion was seconded by Dr. Bruce Pettyway of College of the Albemarle and passed unanimously.

The directors called on each county

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## Chowan Fair Opens Here Tuesday

Chowan County Fairgrounds will be the center of activity in the Albemarle Area next week with the opening of the annual agricultural fair. W. A. Perry, president, Chowan County Fair Association, said there is evidence that this can be the most successful fair (weather permitting) in the more than

Chowan without words



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Edenton, Chowan County, North Carolina, Thursday, September 16, 1971

## Freeman Convicted; Gets Life Term

A Chowan County Superior Court Jury has convicted Denny Junior Freeman of murder in the first degree in the April 30 slaying of George Thomas Smith at Pickwick Billiards on South Broad Street. The jury deliberated only 25 minutes and returned the ver-

dict with a recommendation for mercy.

Judge Walter W. Cahoon sentenced Freeman to life imprisonment. In an almost automatic move, Defense Attorney Walter Oakey of Hertford gave notice of appeal to the State Supreme Court. Freeman was ordered held in Central Prison in Raleigh awaiting outcome of the appeal.

Freeman stood erect, with no sign of emotion, as Judge Cahoon pronounced the mandatory life sentence. The only comment by the presiding jurist came moments later when Freeman asked Oakey to request credit for time held in jail pending trial. Judge Cahoon nodded to the defendant saying, "That is now automatic."

The jury of eight women and four men apparently reached their decision on the first ballot. Each answered in the affirmative when polled by Mrs. Lena M. Leary, clerk of court, at the request of Oakey.

Freeman, pleading self-defense, testified that he didn't mean to shoot Smith after they argued about the defendant dating Mrs. Smith. The Smiths were separated. "I just wanted to keep him in the poolroom," Freeman stated from the witness stand.

Among those to testify for the defense was Mrs. Virginia Smith, widow of George Thomas Smith. She related an incident April 24 at the apartment house in which she, her mother and

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## Practice Date Set

Albemarle Choral Society starts weekly rehearsals Monday at 7:45 P. M., at St. Paul's Parish House. At the first session there will be a read-through of the Christmas portion of Handel's "Messiah" to be given in December with a string accompaniment.

For the eighth year the choral group will be under the direction of Dr. Clifford Bair. Mrs. Bair will accompany the choral group.

All interested high school students and adults are invited to participate in this area activity which is made possible by the College of The Albemarle.

## 20-year history.

Joseph Byrum is fair manager and R. E. Leary is secretary-treasurer. The fair association is connected with Edward G. Bond Post No. 40, American Legion.

Formal opening of the week-long run will be 3 P. M. Tuesday. The fair will officially close at 12 midnight Saturday.

The David B. Endy Shows will be on the midway with some 15 thrill rides, concessions, shows and free acts. There will be plenty of entertainment for every member of the family, a spokesman stated.

The Carol Jones Show will be featured nightly, at no charge. Also, a talent show for individuals, duets and trios—but no band groups—will be held. Those in the community interested in participating in the talent contest should contact any member of the Legion post.

Student Days will be Tuesday and Wednesday. A free bicycle will be awarded on each of the days. Another special feature will be a special purchase price for tickets for rides.

Exhibits, educational, community and industrial, will be judged for premiums, as well as agricultural entries. Nearly \$3,000 in premiums will be given at the fair.

Applications for exhibit entries can be secured at the fair office up until 4 P. M. Monday. All exhibits must be in place and fully installed by 6 P. M. Monday and judging starts at 9 A. M. Tuesday.

Byrum noted that judging in the various departments will be in two divisions, adult and juniors.

Center Hill Extension Homemaker's Club will again operate the concession stand which is an annual project at the county fair. As in past years on sale will be the goodies from Center Hill.

Edenton Town Council will seek a federal grant for downtown beautification, including new sidewalks, possibly brick. However, council has rezoned the Waff property on Edenton Bay rather than purchase it as a continuing part of waterfront improvement.

These decisions were made Tuesday night during a lengthy session at the Municipal Building.

Council action on the downtown project followed Thursday night's public hearing where sentiment favored an extensive beautification program. But in an unexpected move, councilmen voted to have merchants participate in the project only to the tune of one-half the cost of sidewalk construction.

A request will be made for a 50 per cent grant to cover the entire project. The town would pick up the tab for all over the property owner's assessment.

W. B. Gardner, town administrator, said there should not be much change from original cost estimates. This would mean the \$5.50 per front foot merchant assessment could stand, if, as Gardner put it, "the prices hold up."

Council instructed the administrator to secure additional engineering information to support the request for federal assistance in the project.

The decision to re-zone the Waff property on the waterfront from resi-

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## National Honor For Mrs. White

Mrs. Gladys White, home economics extension agent in Chowan County for the past two years, will receive the coveted Distinguished Service Award at the National Association Extension Home Economics meeting in Miami, Fla. October 1.

Mrs. White has distinguished herself as an outstanding home economics extension agent, developing an excellent home economics program in housing, arts, and crafts. Using her skill, she has taught numerous workshops in re-upholstering, drapery making, mattress making, and interior decorating.

Mrs. White was instrumental in conducting a house furnishings workshop for a four-county area attended by over 200 people.

Leadership to 4-H and Extension Homemakers has been provided by Mrs. White in a very unselfish and untiring manner. As a result of her efforts 490 Extension Homemakers in 27 clubs and 1,000 4-H members in 17 clubs in both Chowan and Pamlico counties have been helped to have a better way of life.

Mrs. White is particularly skilled in making those she works with feel successful. She shares enthusiastically her time and talents with her client.

Mrs. White has a B. S. degree and has completed post-graduate work at N. C. State University and UNC at Greensboro. She actively participates in National and North Carolina Associations of Extension Home Economics serving on many state committees. She is also affiliated with American and North Carolina Home Economics Associations. She is a member of Epsilon Sigma Phi and the Adult Education Association. She is past vice president of Delta Kappa Gamma Sorority.

Mrs. White and the four other North Carolina Extension Home Economics to receive the Distinguished Service Award will be in Miami September 25-October 1 for the national meeting.



Visitors From Brazil—"Agricultural Cooperative: Policy, Management & Development" is the topic of an extensive study tour the U. S. Department of Agriculture and cooperating agencies are currently sponsoring for a group from Brazil. The group visited Edenton Thursday to view the work of Albemarle Cooperative Association. Miss Maria Magalhaes, an attorney with the government in Brazil, is shown with Guy Whitfield, left, Washington County extension chairman; Jack Parker, area livestock specialist; Marcus McClanahan, ACA executive director; and Melvin Howell, Farmers Home Administration executive in this area.



Mrs. Gladys White

Pete Thompson