



## Too Much Taken For Granted

The critical need for an Emergency Service Communication System in the 10-county Albemarle Area is gaining the attention of people in rather lofty places and the prospects are the best ever of obtaining tangible assistance for hundreds of dedicated volunteers who provide protection of life and property.

Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District, has pledged his support in getting something more than lip service. While there is no mention of such a plan among the more than 1,300 federal domestic assistance programs, Rep. Jones said here last Thursday he entertains the idea of new legislation.

The lack of recognition and support of the emergency services, such as is provided by fire departments and rescue squads, borders on the ridiculous. After the smoke settles or the patient is successfully delivered to the hospital, the well-trained and skilled men who performed the duties are too soon forgotten.

While other agencies have only to fill out a requisition form, these volunteers in emergency services have had to sell tickets and cook themselves almost to death to obtain equipment and supplies. They are a proud bunch, and thank God for it.

But it borders on the criminal to sit back and take them for granted. Take the communication phase as an example. There are some 32 fire departments in Northeastern North Carolina and six rescue squads. They have mutual aid agreements which are only as good as a plan to notify each other of the need for aid.

Recently a small fire occurred in the middle of the night near the Gates-Chowan-Perquimans border. Three different departments were alerted when only the services of one was required. The problem—no adequate means of communications.

Also, a big lumber plant was destroyed in Tyrrell County not long ago because by the time the various departments were notified via telephone, it was too late.

Albemarle Firemen's Association is among the strongest and most active in the entire state. Yet it is required to operate without a budget and without any professional direction. By contrast, the Albemarle Law & Order Association has a director, training office and secretary. Is this hardly equitable.

It takes a particular breed of man to be a fireman or rescue squad attendant. Not everyone is willing to sacrifice so much time and effort for the protection of his fellow man. Nevertheless, this does not relieve the great responsibility of the community to do more than buy an underpriced ticket for a plate of barbecued chicken. Stop and think about it. More than likely you will become somewhat embarrassed that so much is received and so little given. It is time to begin to balance the ledger.

## GUEST EDITORIAL:

## An Advancing State

Governor Scott did not make a year-end report to the people this year as he did in 1970, but a variety of reports and messages during 1971 tells quite well the story of his administration thus far.

It was a year which saw the longest legislative session in history, plus an extra session in the fall, but Governor Scott could point to obtaining 30 of 32 program requests from the General Assembly. That's an extraordinarily high batting average even for the beginning of an administration and is almost unheard of in the second part of a Governor's term.

Governor Scott is most proud perhaps of the advance in one year of North

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## DSA Banquet Set; Hunt Will Speak

Jim Hunt of Wilson, a Democratic candidate for the post of lieutenant governor in North Carolina, has accepted an invitation to keynote the annual



Jim Hunt

Distinguished Service Award banquet of Edenton Jaycees.

The banquet will be held at 7:30 P. M., Thursday, January 27, in the new Jaycee Community Building on Base Road. Wallace Evans is banquet chairman.

Evans said nomination forms have been widely distributed. Others are available and should be completed by Monday. Any male citizen of Chowan County between the ages of 21 and 35 is eligible for consideration. Evans pointed out the candidate does not have to be a Jaycee.

Robert Ray, who was connected with the National Fish Hatchery here, is immediate past DSA winner.

Hunt, 34, was presented the DSA by Wilson Jaycees in 1969. He is a past state president of Young Democratic Clubs and immediate past president of Coastal Plains/Development Association. He has been active in the Democratic party all of his adult life and was named by Gov. Bob Scott to head the party reorganization panel.

Hunt is a graduate of N. C. State University and earned his law degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

## Farm Income Expected To Keep Pace



**Program Outlined** — C. A. Phillips, right, chairman, Chowan County commissioners, receives a copy of "Impact '76" from David T. Bateman, chairman of the county extension advisory committee and a fellow commissioner. In the center is Pete Thompson, extension chairman.

## Highway, Bridge Voted Support

The Albemarle Regional Planning and Development Commission Board of Directors have unanimously endorsed the four laning of US 17 through Northeastern North Carolina.

The resolution was passed by the directors at their regular January board meeting last Thursday in Edenton.

The members did not specify a preference for any of the three proposed corridors from the Elizabeth City area to the Virginia line made by the State

## Fire Loss Light

No extensive damage was reported from the early morning fire Tuesday that hit the Edenton Cotton Mill.

The Edenton Fire Department received a fire call from the mill at 4:08 A. M., on Tuesday and they then alerted the Center Hill-Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department.

Three trucks were on the scene to fight the blaze that was limited to the crawl space between the floor and the ground. The fire ignited on the north end of the mill adjacent to the main office, known at the mill as the Carding Area.

Luther Parks, fire chief, stated that manholes were cut into the floor to get the fire under control. He remarked that the fire was brought under control in approximately 30 minutes.

Men from the Edenton and Crossroads Departments were at the mill until 8:45 A. M., watching to make sure the fire was completely extinguished.

Clean-up operations are underway now and the mill was back in production at 7 A. M., the same morning, according to C. A. Phillips, vice president of the mill.

Phillips commended the work of both fire departments and stated he was very impressed by the efficient work they did. He remarked they did a marvelous job and he could not praise them enough.

## Highway Commission.

Concern was expressed by a board member, Macon Johnson, who is chairman of the Camden County commissioners, that the Inland Waterway Bridge at South Mills could eventually be closed, as all of the proposed routes by-pass South Mills. He said, the reduction in traffic on the existing US 17 bridge, which is midway the town limits, could eventually lead to its elimination by the U. S. Corps of Engineers.

"If eliminated, it would be necessary for the residents to travel nine miles distance just to cross to the other side of town," Johnson said.

A resolution was passed favoring the retaining of the bridge over the Inland Waterway at South Mills. William B. Gardner, chairman of the board of directors, noted: "It is important that the ten counties of the region stand together in support of each other."

Earlier in the day Gardner, L. F. Amburn, Jr., president, Albemarle Area Development Association; and E. N. (Pete) Manning, president and E. L. Hollowell, Highway Committee Chairman, Edenton Chamber of Commerce, attended a corridor hearing in Camden Court House.

Gardner said Edenton Town Council has endorsed the proposed highway and that it is greatly needed.

"The need for such a highway to open

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A people designed five-year program to provide a better life for people was presented in Chowan County last Friday. "Impact '76" is the theme of the program drawn by Chowan County Extension Advisory Board, in cooperation with local extension personnel.

One of the most significant parts of the program is to increase agricultural income from nearly \$10-million in 1970 to more than \$12½-million by 1976. Pete Thompson, extension chairman,

told his audience that this is realistic.

"We have a stable economy here, balanced between industry and agriculture," he said. "We enjoy a growing economy."

The extension chairman described plans to improve agriculture and keep farm income on par with industrial dollars.

A breakdown shows: Field crops: \$2,788,666 in 1960; \$4,224,306 in 1965; \$5,251,585 in 1970 and a prediction of \$6,601,446 in 1976.

Vegetables: \$989,563 in 1960; \$1,119,366 in 1965; \$1,492,500 in 1970; and a prediction of \$2,524,000 in 1976.

Livestock: \$1,034,385 in 1960; \$883,832 in 1965; \$2,278,344 in 1970; and a prediction of \$2,411,350 in 1976.

Other: \$707,540 in 1960; \$779,931 in 1965; \$921,675 in 1970; and a prediction of \$986,675 in 1976.

Totals: \$5,520,154 in 1960; \$7,007,435 in 1965; \$9,944,104 in 1970; and a prediction of \$12,523,471 in 1976.

David T. Bateman, Chowan County commissioner-farmer and chairman of the advisory committee, emphasized that because this is a "peoples program it will take all people and all agencies to make it successful."

He described Chowan County as being small enough to get everyone involved and large enough to get something done.

Bateman was generous in his praise of local extension personnel. He claimed that no other county in the state is fortunate enough to have the caliber staff as has been accumulated in Chowan.

Thompson earlier told his audience: "We know changes will occur in spite of us and we feel we should have a say so in these changes." He also described how extension has been transformed from a rural agency to one working for all the people. "Everyone can find a place to help meet the needs of the people," he said as he introduced his co-workers who described their activities:

Mrs. Fran Ward, family living; Mrs. Daisy Bembry, clothing and home management; Mrs. Glady White, housing and house furnishings; Murray Goodwin, youth and agriculture; and Wayland Spivey, community resource development.

## Hog Sale Planned

The North Carolina Yorkshire winter show and sale will be held January 26 at the livestock arena in Plymouth. The show starts at 11 A. M., and the sale at 1 P. M.

Bred gilts, open gilts and boars will be offered for sale by Yorkshire Breeders from throughout North Carolina.

According to Jack Parker, area livestock specialist, this will be an opportunity for pork producers from throughout the area to buy top quality breeding animals to go into their herds.

## Rep. Jones Recognizes Need For Area Radio System

Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District has pledged his support in the establishment of an Emergency Communications System within the 10-county Albemarle Area. Rep. Jones said there are more than 1,300 federal assistance programs but none to cover a program as vital to this area.

Speaking here last Thursday night at the first monthly meeting of 1972 of Albemarle Area Development Association, he said: "I plan, upon my return to Congress, to explore further possibilities for legislation which might remedy this situation and, hopefully, the federal government will see the necessity to the

end that financial assistance can be obtained to establish this much-needed system to be used, of course, for the preservation of lives and property."

Rep. Jones said he is aware of the isolation that exists in the region due to water and geographical disasters which actually could render this entire area helpless under certain conditions. Such a network could also make more effective the mutual aid agreement between fire departments, it was noted.

The speaker also commended AADA for formation of a Governmental Affairs Committee to present the area's needs to elected state and federal office holders; the strong display of unity which kept the 10 counties in one region when the state established multi-county areas; and made a strong plea for continued unity saying: "In spite of county pride, we have reached the point where no county could go it alone in order to reach total development."

Rep. Jones presented L. F. Amburn, Jr., AADA president, a volume containing federal domestic assistance program. "Look it over, see what you can find and call me," he said.

The speaker was introduced by W. B. Gardner, Edenton town administrator, and chairman of Albemarle Planning and Development Commission.

Amburn, in preliminary remarks, said the first priority programs for 1972

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**Volume Given AADA** — L. F. Amburn, Jr., left, president of Albemarle Area Development Association, is shown receiving a copy of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs from Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District. Rep. Jones was speaker at the AADA monthly meeting held last Thursday at Edenton Restaurant.

## Schedule Altered

Supt. Bill Britt announces a change in the Edenton-Chowan School calendar.

The first semester of school will end on Friday, January 21. A pupil holiday will be Monday, January 24, which will be a teachers' workday.