



J. Edwin Bufflap

Happy Birthday, "Buff"

This issue of The Chowan Herald is dedicated to James Edwin Bufflap on the occasion of his 80th birthday. We exercise the publisher's prerogative in by-passing the editor to wish him a happy birthday.

"Buff," as he is affectionately known by thousands, including many who have never met him personally but are acquainted with him through his "Heard and Seen" column, is no ordinary man. He is an institution along the Public Parade and has always contributed more than he has received.

It was 20 years ago at the N. C. Press Institute that we met "Buff". He was unwinding from the pressures of getting the weekly miracle to bed. This writer was a journalism student at UNC and sat at the feet of his elders with eyes, ears and even mouth wide open.

In mid-1964 we began negotiations with "Buff" and Hec Lupton for the purchase of the newspaper they had founded three decades earlier. Coming from the cruel, demanding hotel-restaurant business, it was refreshing to associate with gentlemen.

And in the more than seven years of changes in format, policies, etc., they have been consorts. They possessed the vision to understand our intent was the same as they expressed in Vol. 1, No. 1, on August 30, 1934, that being to publish an interesting and informative newspaper.

"Buff" is the epiphany of fairness. The word "hate" is not in his vocabulary, let alone his heart. He works hard. He fishes with an equal amount of zeal but the results of the first are easier to establish than the latter.

He is the only editor to our knowledge to serve 30 years in an elective position. Editors worth their salt are usually so controversial they can't win the first time, let alone repeatedly. His tenure on Edenton Town Council is but one of many things which testify to the high esteem in which his fellow citizens hold him.

We have fond memories of our association with "Buff". Among them is a story we wrote shortly after coming to meander along the Public Parade. He was setting the story and after a few paragraphs, turned from his machine, lit his pipe, and said quite frankly: "Bud, you are going to catch the devil for this." The story ran as written and he was absolutely right.

This time he will probably give us the devil for making such a fuss over him. But if you can't say something nice about a guy on his 80th birthday, when can you?

It is our fervent hope that the author of "Heard and Seen" is just getting his second wind.

Fire Service Lauded

Over the years, Edenton Cotton Mills has had a steady influence on the industrial community along the Public Parade.

Drummond's Pictorial Atlas of North Carolina, published in 1924, reported 15 industries here—"all successfully operated entirely by local capital." Only two of them remain.

Edenton Cotton Mills has earned the reputation of being a people-oriented industry. In the trade, the local manufacturer has an almost unequalled reputation of quality and service.

Executives of the company exhibited further evidence of their good citizen doctrine Monday night when firemen from Edenton and Center Hill-Cross Roads were feted. The banquet at the American Legion hut was short on speech making; the long suit being good food and fellowship.

Although Phillip McMullan, president, was present, C. A. Phillips, vice president and secretary, was spokesman for the hosts. Phillips, also chairman

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Law Change On Election Is Explained

Those who desire to register to vote in the May 6 primary election have until 1 P. M., Friday, April 7, to do so. Registration and several other changes were made in the election law and will be followed for the first time in May.

Chowan operates under the modified full-time registration system with people able to get their names on the poll books on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between the hours of 9 A. M., and 1 P. M., in the office of the county accountant, Mrs. Pansy A. Elliott. Mrs. Elliott's office is on the second floor of the County Office Building on East King Street.

Also, people can register at the election office adjoining the tax supervisor. Registration by appointment with the precinct registrars is also allowed. The registrars will be at the polling places in the county three Saturdays prior to the election, as in the past.

The new polling time is from 6:30 A. M., to 7:30 P. M.

This is the first year that registered voters have been allowed to vote absentee in a primary. Application, in writing, must be made to the elections board no later than 6 P. M., on May 2 nor before March 20.

These regulations do not apply to Military Absentee Voting. They may apply at any time on forms secured from their base or at the election board. Deadline for receiving their ballots is May 6.

Also being allowed for the first time is curbside voting. This will be on election day between the hours of 9 A. M., and 5 P. M.

Independents and those with No Party Affiliation may affiliate with a party of their choice before 1 P. M., April 7.

Persons who will be 18 years old by the day of the General Election, November 7, may register and vote in the primary.

Mrs. George Hoskins, chairman of the board of elections, said changes in the law were made by the 1971 General Assembly.

Teenager Freed

Sixteen-year-old Donnell Perry, 211 East Freemason Street, was released from custody on Tuesday when Judge Winton F. Walker found no probable cause in the murder of Willie Lee Harris of the same address.

Mrs. Mable Perry, mother of the boy, testified during Chowan County District Court that when she arrived home on Monday afternoon Harris was waiting for her in the street in front of their home and struck her on the head because he could not find her during the day.

Mrs. Perry stated the man had tried to date her but she would not date him because he was too young for her and he drank too much.

After Harris allegedly struck her, she told her younger son to call Donnell Perry, so he could take her to her father's home.

When the child tried to use the telephone Harris, according to testimony, stated he was going to kill Mrs. Perry and her children.

When the defendant came home, Harris made an attempt to get him and once again remarked he was going to kill them, she stated.

Perry ran from the room into the

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Retail Sales Good

RALEIGH — Gross retail sales on which the 1 per cent local option sales tax is levied amounted to nearly \$12-million in January in the eight Albemarle Area counties where the tax is collected.

In Chowan County, net collections last month were \$18,382.69. This means that sales on which the tax is collected amounted to \$1,838,269.

Sales in this category in the other area counties were:

Camden, \$193,288; Currituck, \$474,483; Dare, \$1,004,987; Pasquotank, \$5,466,351; Perquimans, \$782,426; Tyrrell, \$341,963; and Washington, \$1,682,057.

Gates and Hyde counties do not collect the extra penny tax.

Net collections in Chowan County for the quarter ending December 31, 1971 were \$42,314.37. After the cost of collection was deducted, the county received \$32,184.02 with the remaining \$9,692.40 going to the Town of Edenton.

The sales tax collections are distributed by the N. C. Department of Revenue and reports are issued by Commissioner G. A. Jones, Jr.



Vernon James Mrs. Iris Ethridge Mrs. Frances Inglis

Second Contest Develops

A second race for elective office in Chowan County in the May 6 Democratic primary developed Monday morning when Mrs. Frances Inglis of Somerset Farm, Route 2, Edenton, filed as a candidate for Edenton-Chowan Board of Education.

However, the biggest surprise of the current political season has to be the decision of Rep. W. T. Culpepper, Jr., of Elizabeth City, to again change his mind and seek a third term in the General Assembly from the First House District. Pasquotank County fielded a second candidate Monday in the person of Vernon G. James, Route 1, Elizabeth City.

Benefits Planned For Heart Fund

Heart Month is drawing to a close and the goal of over \$3,000 has not yet been met.

For those who want to contribute there are several ways it can be done.

Saturday morning and afternoon school children will be selling heart balloons and tags. These balloons can be purchased anywhere in the downtown area or at Northside Shopping Center.

Saturday evening a benefit spaghetti supper will be held at the Edenton Jaycee Community Building. All tickets for the supper have been sold.

Also on Saturday a door-to-door campaign will be held with Mrs. Thomas Shepard in charge.

On March 4, the local National Guard Unit will sponsor a pork barbecue dinner at the armory for the heart campaign. Plates will be on sale from 11 A. M., until 6 P. M. You can eat there or take the food home.

Scott Harrell is in charge of downtown business solicitation.

In charge of balloon sales are Mrs. James C. Dail, Mrs. Frances Wilkins and Mrs. Paul Twiddy.

Everyone is urged to help support the local campaign in the fight against heart disease.

Mrs. Scott Harrell is president and Mrs. James Darnell is funds chairman.

BPW Honors Mrs. Smithson; Speaker Pushes Politics

By Patricia M. Arnold

Mrs. Margaret Lane Smithson, librarian at Chowan High School and District 15 Teacher of the Year, was named Woman of the Year on Thursday night at the annual BPW Bosses' Night Banquet.

She was unanimously selected by every member of the Business and Professional Women's Club for outstanding achievements.

Mrs. Clara Boswell, club officer, made the announcement and did a presentation of "This Is Your Life, Margaret Smithson".

Mrs. Boswell told of Mrs. Smithson's beginning in the field of education and how she worked to be able to complete college. Her accomplishments as a teacher and person were vividly illustrated by persons holding special meaning to her being present for the honor.

Keynoter for the occasion was Mrs. Hargrove Bowles of Greensboro.

Mrs. Bowles spoke about how much being involved in politics has meant to her and her life style.

She remarked: "I wish every woman could be jolted out of her routine by some sort of involvement in the political world at some point in her life for the width and depth it will give her mind and the knowledge it will give her of her state and its people."

She further commented, "I was appalled to find how ignorant I was of the needs of North Carolina; and some of the experiences and shocks I have received have hurt, but I wouldn't go back to my pre-political phase for anything."

Mrs. Bowles talked about the traditional interests of women as, making

and beautifying of a happy home, the raising of children, the selection and preparation of food and the cleansing of your environment. She commented that usually all women want out of life is a safe and peaceful place to live, a happy relationship with our fellow man, security in which to enjoy our healthy years, aid when we need strength and education that will fit ourselves and our children for the most satisfying role in life.

She asked her listeners if their desires are being fulfilled or needs being met.

Mrs. Bowles urged her listeners to register and vote.

She stated in closing, "I do believe that any intelligent woman has a duty to her family, her state, and the nation to see that the values she believes in, whether traditional or otherwise, are intelligently enacted towards a better tomorrow."



Woman of the Year—Mrs. Margaret Lane Smithson, second from left, was named Woman of the Year at the annual BPW Bosses' Night Banquet held last Thursday evening. Congratulating Mrs. Smithson are, from left, Miss Edna Snell, president of the club, Mrs. Clara Boswell, club officer, and Mrs. Hargrove Bowles, the guest speaker.

Local Farm Income Dip Not Severe

Chowan County farmers received \$287,681 less for their crops in 1971 than they did the previous year, according to estimates compiled by Pete Thompson, extension chairman.

Hard work, coupled with mechanization kept the loss from being even greater following Hurricane Ginger, Thompson said. Also, it was an expensive year to farm with much more of the \$9,494,670 received from crops going for seed and chemicals than in other years.

"Everyone thought the loss would be much greater," the chairman said. "For certain farmers it was a tragic loss due to soil conditions."

Price, over which the producer has no control, was blamed for high losses in hog production. The cost of corn to the swine producer in general cut all the profit out of raising hogs, he noted. Sales were off \$500,000 — from \$2,110,000 to \$1,610,000.

Although the unit price received for peanuts was higher than in 1970, the crop brought in an estimated \$2,125,000 — or \$400,000 less than the previous year. Some 300 acres were not harvested due to the weather conditions and the yield per acre fell from 3.064 in 1970 to 2.512 in 1971.

Soybean producers also felt the pinch caused by soil conditions. Sales were \$1,155,000 as compared with \$1,299,200 in 1970. Thompson said the wet weather caused a lot of damage to soybeans that knocked the price down considerably.

Thompson pointed out that about the only bright spot was a big increase in cash received from sweet corn. Sales were \$600,000 in 1970 and rose last year to \$875,000.

Thompson said the estimate of cash farm income was compiled from data received from 50 farmers throughout the county and ASCS records. He said that he is confident the estimate accurately reflects the farm income picture in the county during 1971.

Families Aided

ATLANTA, Ga. — There were 9,502 low-income Albemarle Area people on the U. S. Department of Agriculture's family food assistance program in December as compared to 9,621 the previous month.

This represents nearly 10 per cent of the population in the 10-county area.

In Chowan County food stamps aided 716 people. There were 661 receiving food stamps in November.

Chowan is one of 52 Tar Heel counties participating in the food stamp program. In the state, more than \$4.4-million in food coupons were issued. Of this amount, close to \$3-million was in free or bonus stamps.

The number of people in the area receiving USDA family food assistance in December are:

Camden, 169; Chowan, 716; Currituck, 384; Dare, 306; Gates, 899; Hyde, 1,467; Pasquotank, 1,699; Perquimans, 880; Tyrrell, 775; and Washington, 2,207.