

More Work Is Scheduled At Hospital

An enclosed passageway will be constructed between Unit "B" and "C" of Chowan Hospital. The executive committee of the board of trustees has awarded the contract to Edenton Construction Co., Inc.

Thomas M. Surratt, hospital administrator, said the contract price is \$20,806. The contract also calls for cutting a fire exit out of the old operating room at the north end of Unit "B".

At the same time, the hospital maintenance crew will do related work as the contractor progresses.

Surratt said the cost of construction will be paid through regular operating funds of the hospital and is being financed through Bank of North Carolina, N. A.

He described the work as Phase II of an extensive renovation plan developed by Atwood Skinner of Wilson in August, 1970. Skinner designed the new hospital. The Phase I work, consisting of new lighting, new ceiling tile, a hair care center, a physical therapy department and painting, was done by hospital employees. The administrator said the hospital saved some \$15,000 by being able to do the work with its own crew.

Annual Meeting Slated By ARPDC

The first annual meeting of Albemarle Regional Planning & Development Commission will be held March 9 in Elizabeth City. The meeting begins at 10 A. M., at Holiday Inn.

W. B. Gardner of Edenton will conduct the meeting.

Wesley B. Cullipher, executive director, has announced that among officials who will participate on the program is Elmer G. Cleveland of Atlanta, Ga., representing the Environmental Protection Agency.

Cleveland is regional director, Solid Waste Management Program. He directs an eight-state program in the southeast.

Cullipher said solid waste disposal is an item of great interest to the counties and municipalities within the 10-county Albemarle Area and ARPDC is fortunate to get a person of Cleveland's knowledge and experience to appear at the meeting.

A native of Oklahoma, Cleveland's solid waste experience has been in special studies involving collection, storage, disposal, planning and waste utilization. He has had experience in special types of waste, such as medical and hazardous waste. He has also provided technical assistance to state and local governments, private organizations and individuals.



Discuss Campaign—Ed Cox of Elizabeth City, left, area coordinator for Roy Sowers is shown here talking with the candidate for lieutenant governor during Monday's visit to Edenton.

'Think North Carolina', Says Sowers

Roy Sowers is a puzzle worker. He wants to put North Carolina together. He wants to see the struggle between sections and regions discontinued. He wants to see state government and the citizens of the state "think North Carolina".

And he wants to work toward putting the pieces of the Tar Heel puzzle together as lieutenant governor.

In his first campaign swing into Northeast North Carolina Monday, he said in an interview here that his desire for total development of the state was not a recent discovery. As head of the Department of Conservation and Development he proposed and inaugurated

Public Parade

New Gentleman From Dare

Down in Manteo last Friday, W. Stanford White took his oath as interim representative in the First House District. We want to be among the first along the Public Parade to not only congratulate Rep. White, but welcome Dare County to this district.

It is doubtful that Rep. White will have an opportunity to serve the district between now and the May primary election, nor before the general election in November. Therefore, his appointment by Gov. Bob Scott is more of a ritual than anything else.

Although acting on the recommendation of the Dare County Democratic Executive Committee, the good governor could have paid greater tribute to the late Rep. Archie Burrus of Manteo. By appointing Mrs. Lina Burrus interim representative he would have spotlighted her husband's loyalty and dedicated work in the General Assembly and the Democratic Party.

But this was not done. Now with the oath signed, sealed and delivered, Rep. White is running in a four-man race for two seats as an incumbent—sans experience.

The new Gentleman From Dare pointed to his experience as chairman of the county commissioners as adequate qualifications to serve the First House District. He said he would "not be a stranger to Raleigh and Raleigh will certainly not be a stranger" to him. We agree.

"Our district has never been in a more critical stage of development," he said later. "It has never had a greater need for a dynamic and knowledgeable spokesman with local, state and federal government." Again, we agree.

John A. Mitchener, Jr., of Edenton, not only meets but exceeds the criteria of the statement. It is for this reason that we enthusiastically support his candidacy. We hope the people agree.

Clean Campaigning

The three First Senatorial District candidates this week issued a joint release asking supporters not to clutter up the roadside with political posters. In addition to being a gesture of clean campaigning, it implies their intention to reduce the cost of getting to the General Assembly.

Monk Harrington of Lewiston, Ashley Futrell of Washington, and Phil Godwin of Gatesville in the statement agreed "we shall discourage our supporters from tacking up political posters on telephone poles, trees, and fences along the roadside. We consider that the general public feels such posters contribute to a sort of pollution which is against the public interest. If such signs do appear along roadsides, they will be there without our knowledge or consent."

The three candidates in the 14-county district went one step further. They called upon other candidates to refrain from cluttering up the landscape with political posters. We hope the word gets around.

And if the three gentlemen, only two of which will be elected, never agree

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Columbia May Be Doomed



Crisis In Columbia — Deterioration of the sewerage system in the Town of Columbia has caused streets to cave in, shut-down of the treatment plant, a threat to the water distribution system, as well as threatened closing of the hospital and schools. Julian L. Poston, town manager, is shown here with Miss June Myers of Albemarle Regional Planning & Development Commission in one of the holes caused by the problem. ARPDC is assisting in securing federal assistance for the town. (More pictures on Page 1-B).

Editorial Correspondence

By L. F. Amburn, Jr.

COLUMBIA — "As Tyrrell's county seat and only town, Columbia must be all things to the surrounding population."

This quote is from the late Bill Sharpe's "A New Geography of North Carolina". In another place in Vol. IV, published in 1965, Sharpe wrote: "Still isolated . . . Columbia has to get things done for itself or do without."

Tyrrell is about to lose its county seat.

The Town of Columbia is at a point where it cannot do for itself and certainly cannot do without.

The town has experienced a major disaster with the almost total breakdown of its sewerage system. Streets have caved in and are blocked off to traffic; there is the danger that the county hospital and private medical center, as well as the schools, may be forced to close; erosion caused by the broken sewer pipe could cause water pipes to snap; and the Scuppernon River is being polluted with raw sewage.

A health hazard exists. The weather is becoming warmer and the problems will be compounded. The threat of an epidemic, which could spread throughout the area, is frightening.

The Columbia situation is more than alarming and should be of concern to everyone in Northeastern North Carolina. This is a crisis which cannot be overcome without outside assistance.

"Without some outside financial help we are doomed."

Those are the words of Julian L. Poston, town manager, who has worked himself into a recent heart attack attempting to keep things tolerable while awaiting word on a federal Emergency Impact Assistance grant.

Mr. Poston has improvised to the point that it is frightening. But with the use of a small gasoline pump and two and one-half inch fire hose, is pumping the waste from one manhole to another so the hospital can remain open.

Columbia's sewerage system was installed in the early 1930's and should have been improved in 1969 when a \$126,000 wastewater treatment plant was constructed. But it wasn't. Now the relatively new treatment plant has been shut down because of extensive damage done by sand and debris which gets into the lines at the 10-odd breaks. Therefore, an estimated 50,000 gallons of raw sewage daily flows into the otherwise clean Scuppernon River.

Hurricane Ginger, followed by excessive rains in October, 1971, crippled the already ailing system, constituting the present crisis.

Columbia's ability to help itself can best be illustrated by the fact that the two veteran town office employees recently quit. They had access to the financial records. They saw the handwriting on the wall and sought employment with more job security.

Economic Development Administration of the Department of Commerce was given a priority list of five projects by Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District. Last month the number five priority, the Town of Hertford's water expansion program, was funded for \$211,000—a 100% grant.

The Columbia project has been given number one priority by Rep. Jones. It is for an 80% grant of \$260,000. (The Local Government Commission has given the town permission to borrow the

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Board Will Meet

The regular monthly meeting of Chowan County Board of Commissioners will be held at 9 A. M., Monday. The meeting will be held in Edenton Municipal Building. Chairman C. A. Phillips will conduct the meeting.

THE CHOWAN HERALD

Volume XXXVIII—No. 9 Single Copy 10 Cents
Edenton, Chowan County, North Carolina, Thursday, March 2, 1972

Statements Made By White, Bonner

W. Stanford White of Manns Harbor was sworn in to fill the unexpired term of State Rep. Archie Burrus last Friday and the week before, J. Jordan Bonner of Hertford announced as a GOP candidate for the U. S. Congress.

White, for the past 10 years chairman of Dare County Board of Commissioners, was administered the oath by Superior Court Judge Walter Cahoon in the courthouse at Manteo. He was appointed by Gov. Bob Scott following recommendation by the county Democratic executive committee.

He had already filed as a candidate for a full two-year term in the revamped First House District. Rep. W. T. Culpepper, Jr., of Elizabeth City, Vernon James of Pasquotank County and John A. Mitchener, Jr., of Edenton, are also running. The district has two seats.

In his prepared remarks, White said he has had a life-long interest in the welfare of the region and the state and that he has been in direct contact with state and federal governments. "I will not be a stranger in Raleigh and Raleigh will certainly not be a stranger to me," he stated. He added that with eight counties now in the district the office is going to demand a lot of work.

"Our district has never been in a more critical stage of development—it has never had a greater need for a dynamic and knowledgeable spokesman with local, state and federal governments," he said.

On February 18, Bonner filed and

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W. Stanford White

Jones Gets Post

RALEIGH — Gov. Bob Scott has announced the appointment of two new members to the Board of Directors of the Governor Morehead School. They are Earl Jones, 109 North Oakum Street, Edenton, and Major S. High of Greensboro. Jones' term expires May 1, 1975.

Jones is a human resources developer with the Economic Improvement Council, Inc., the anti-poverty agency in the 10-county Albemarle Area. He is active in community development projects which have been highly successful in Chowan County.

The Governor Morehead School in Raleigh is a state institution for the blind and the deaf.

Beards Are Vogue

Beards will be in style for the Town of Edenton's 250th anniversary.

This decision has been made by a steering committee working on plans for the celebration, June 11-18. Alton Elmore is chairman.

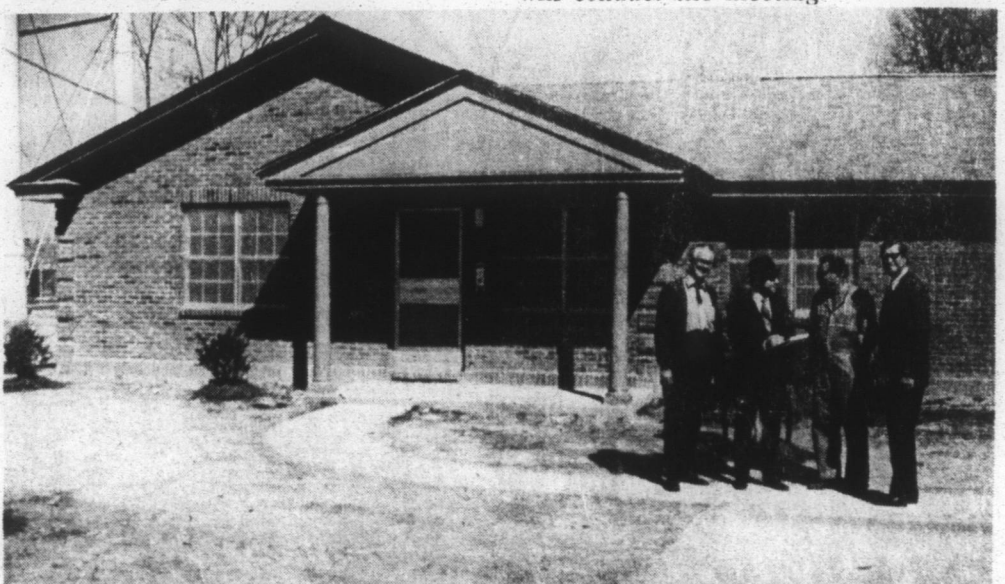
Elmore said he hopes men in town will participate in the anniversary beard-growing event "in the spirit of good fun". But there will also be a contest during the week and prizes will be awarded.

In order to promote the week-long celebration and explain the purpose behind the anti-shaving movement, Elmore said anniversary pins will be sold. And for those who can convince the officials it will be detrimental to his health and happiness to grow a beard, shaving permits will be sold.

Edenton Chamber of Commerce will have the two type pins available.

Elmore said he is pleased with progress being made on firming up plans for the celebration.

The Chowan Herald is already working on a progress edition to be published in conjunction with the anniversary. And the Merchants Committee of Edenton Chamber of Commerce hope to kick-off the event with the biggest sale event ever held here, June 8-10.



Housing Units Completed—Thirty-four units of low-rent public housing were inspected and accepted for occupancy Tuesday by Edenton Housing Authority. Shown at a site on West Gale Street is Jack Habit, second from left, authority chairman, as he discusses the project with, from left, Ed Hardister of Sheetz & Bradfield Architects, Inc.; Habit; Frank Bradshaw, HUD inspector; and Elmer Hobbs, project superintendent for Kirkpatrick & Associates, Inc., general contractor. Applications are now being taken at EIC Resource Center on North Oakum Street and tenants are expected to start moving during the month.