

Presbyterian 'Baby' Unit

The First Presbyterian Church of Edenton, was organized on May 16, 1908, making us more or less the baby of the religious community here in Edenton. The Reverend Mr. G. W. Belk, a Presbyterian Evangelist, held a week long revival service. At the end of that week, nineteen persons decided to unite together to form a Presbyterian Church. Of those nineteen charter members, we are very fortunate today in having one still alive: Frank O. Muth, who has faithfully served this

church for many years as both an Elder and a Trustee. With the church being organized in 1909, the Sunday School was officially organized under R. H. Bachman on January 7, 1912, and the Missionary Society, later the Women of the Church, was organized in March, 1913. During its short history the church has had eleven ministers—the first being The Reverend Mr. J. B. Black who served from March, 1911 through April, 1916. The

Congregation originally met in a building belonging to the Methodist Protestant Church from 1909 through June, 1912. In November of the same year the Presbyterian Church took over the Chapel in the Mill Village. In November, 1918, the original building was purchased from the Methodist Protestant Church, and was used until 1943. In August of 1943, the Congregation concluded that their building was no longer safe for use and began plans

for building a new church. From 1943 to 1946 several places in town co-operated in allowing the church to meet while money was being secured and a new building constructed. On Easter Sunday, April 26, 1946, the Congregation moved into its new building on the corners of W. Queen and Mosley Streets and has remained there until this date. The church was originally named the Presbyterian Church of Edenton. In 1918

that name was changed to the Mitchener Memorial Presbyterian Church and remained that until 1928. In 1928, at the request of the Mitchener family, the name was again changed to its present name, First Presbyterian Church, Edenton, N. C. The church, in its short history has had many up and down periods. Being a small church it has been difficult to maintain a totally consistent supply of ministers. And

its history that it has gone for longer than a year without a minister. There are several highlights though that people remember. After five years without a minister, the Reverend Mr. D. C. Crawford, accepted the call of the Congregation and became its minister in April of 1942. Under his enthusiasm and leadership, a small group of Presbyterians were able to raise the necessary funds to build its new church building. The high point in church membership came while the Reverend Mr. James MacKenzie was minister, from September, 1952 through November 1960. Mr.

MacKenzie carried out an active ministry to youth in the community and through his built the membership of the church up, having 60 percent of the congregation under 16 years of age. Under the direction and leadership of the Reverend Mr. Hugh S. Evans, the congregation undertook the remodeling of her sanctuary in 1963-1964. The end result is the very simple and beautiful chapel that is still used for worship. Under her present minister, the Reverend Mr. W. G. Nance, the church has taken several good steps toward self support, strengthened by her lay leadership, involved

herself in several matters of social concern and continued the foundation laid by the women many years ago of ecumenical sharing with our sister churches in this community. First Presbyterian Church is a small fellowship of Christians adhering to the Reformed Tradition in the faith, offering a simplicity of worship and a representative form of government. As in the past, so in the present and the future, we look forward to the opportunity of serving together with our sister churches in witnessing to the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ in this community.

Edenton Hosts Tercentenary Event With Postmaster Day In Attendance

It was on a Saturday; a beautiful, warm April morning of 1963. The United States Postmaster General's plane from Washington eased down to a landing at the Edenton airport and taxied up on the apron.

As Postmaster J. Edward Day descended from the plane a welcoming committee of town officials with Mayor Mitchener in the lead, stepped forward. A crowd of several hundred milled behind them. After a round of handshaking organized plans began to shape up. The Postmaster General found himself seated in a gayly decorated convertible. He tilted his head back and squinted at the sun. "Beautiful weather," he observed to the Mayor. "Our flight took less than one hour so we circled the town a couple of times before coming in. Perfect location you have here."

Shortly the official car followed by an entourage of a score or more, arrived at the Edenton postoffice. As they passed the Iredell House on East Church Street which had been decorated with flags and red, white and blue bunting, the Postmaster threw up his

arm in a salute. The postoffice also had been trimmed with flags and bunting as well as the downtown business section on Broad St. Also the Swain Elementary School and the Masonic Temple building where programmed events were to take place. A professional decorating concern from Norfolk had been hired by the town fathers for the occasion, and the occasion was unique. Edenton had been chosen to accept an honor for the state of North Carolina. Here was to be unveiled and first issued by a U. S. postoffice, a special stamp commemorating the Tercentenary anniversary of the Carolina Charter of 1663 granted by Charles II.

Francis E. Winslow of Rocky Mount, chairman of the Carolina Charter Tercentenary Commission stated that it had been an unanimous vote that here in the Albemarle is where the ceremony should be held.

Edenton postmaster J. L. Chestnut had found demand for the Carolina Charter stamp so great that a total of 35 additional employees had been hired to fill orders for stamps and 'covers.' "From all parts of the world... we have had more than 200,000 requests for this stamp," he said.

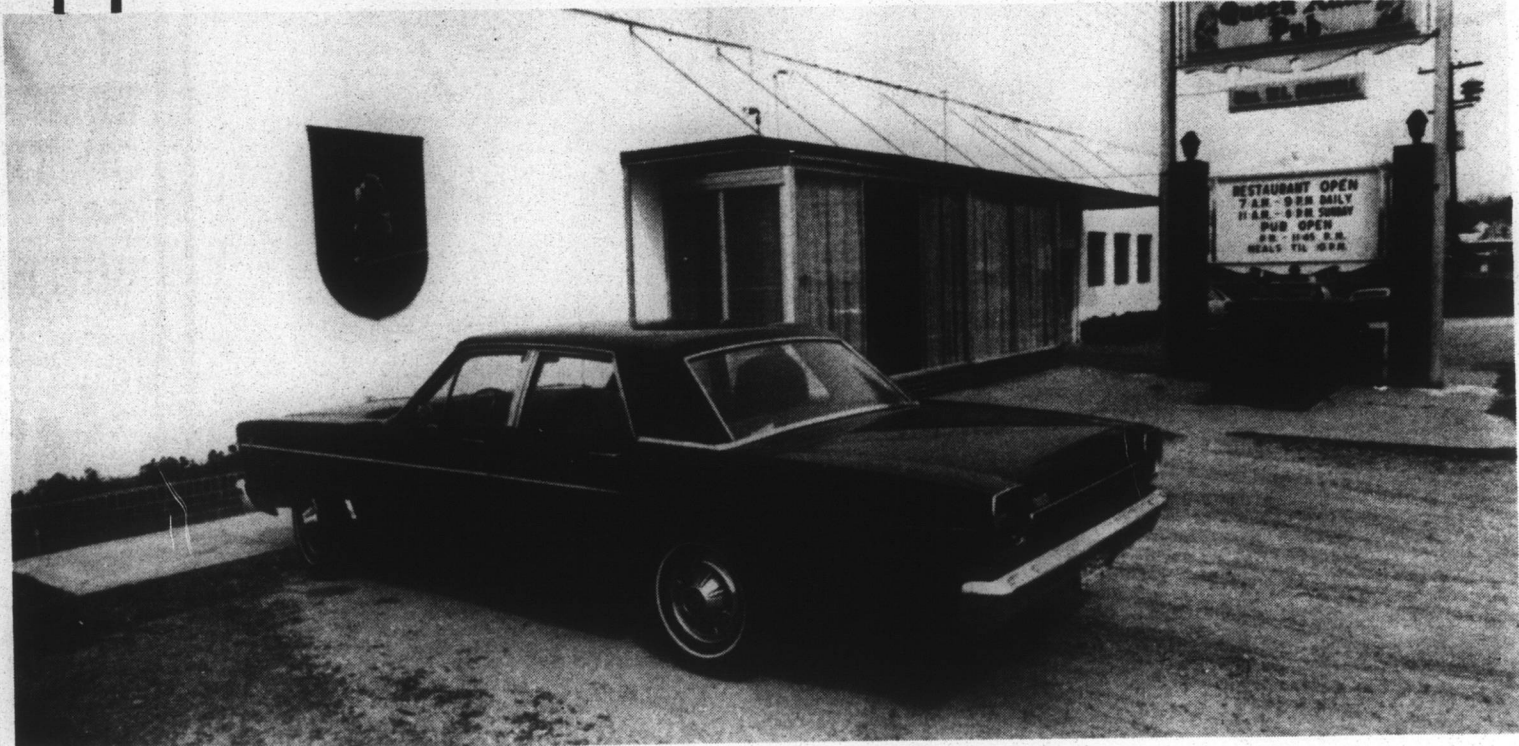
Official unveiling of the Tercentenary stamp by Postmaster-General Day took place at the Elementary School auditorium. A number of guest speakers were on the program and later attended a dinner held at the Masonic Temple building and served by members of the Eastern Star. The welcoming address was made by Gilliam Wood, First District Highway Commission pinch-hitting for the Governor who could not attend. At the dinner Mitchener was master of ceremonies. Among the guests were both of North Carolina's Senators: Sam J. Ervin, Jr. and B. Everett Jordan. Also the late U. S. Congressman from the First District, Herbert C. Bonner.

Following the dinner many of the visitors were taken on a tour of some of Edenton's historical shrines. An additional dividend, it has been pointed out, grew from the honor of unveiling the Tercentenary commemorative stamp. In the summer of 1963 work was begun on a federal contract, to improve and modernize the Edenton facility. The contract involved air-conditioning the building, extending te drainage and parking areas; installing new lights and painting the building inside and out. Total cost approximately \$240,000.

There were 120 million Carolina Charter stamps printed for distribution. The stamp itself is a beautifully designed red-bordered stamp with a white scroll, centered. At the top of the scroll is a likeness of King Charles II and at the lower right a feather quill. In the left lower side are the dates 1663-1963. It is of five-cent denomination. The millions of these stamps would have made a gross of \$6,000,000 from their sale. For all, a happy birthday... the 300th.

During the official unveiling of the Carolina Charter stamp, the proceedings were continuously telecast by WITN-TV, Washington, N. C. and WTAR-TV, Norfolk. Additionally, tapes were supplied to WOSC, Charlotte; WSGS, Winston-Salem; WETC, Wilmington; WTYD, Durham and WUNC, Chapel Hill, N. C. for later broadcast throughout the state.

J. M. R.



For
Twenty
Five
Years
In Edenton

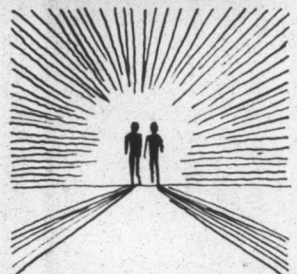
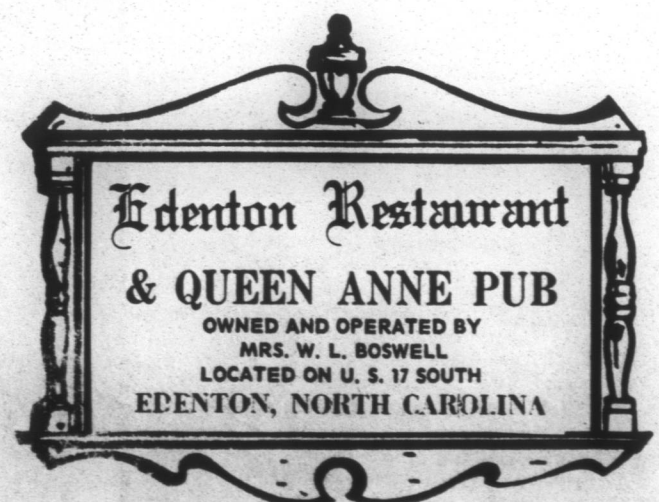


Mrs. W. L. Boswell

... serving food in a manner which the wonderful people of Edenton, Chowan County and surrounding area desire - prepared carefully for the most discriminate - served by pleasant personnel, assuring all the occasion of eating at the EDENTON RESTAURANT a delightful experience.

And to the many visitors to our community during Edenton's 250th birthday celebration, we extend a cordial welcome. We are very proud of our 25th year of service to Edenton.

WE ARE VERY PROUD TO BE AN IMPORTANT PART OF EDENTON'S RECENT HISTORY.



The Bible reminds us "He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed."



Famed theologian Dr. Oswald Hoffmann of radio's "The Lutheran Hour" notes in a sermon called "Living With Yourself" that "the trouble with many people today is that they blame others for their troubles. St. John implies that it is not so bad to find ourselves condemned in our own hearts, if thereby we find the great heart of God where we are not condemned."

For a booklet on how to get more out of life, send 25 cents to: Room 220, Booklet Distributors of America, Inc., 220 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036.

Auto Crash Survival Safeguards Studied

New ways to build cars that would enable a restrained motorist to survive a 60 miles-per-hour head-on crash against a solid object are being researched by the Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory.

Financed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the research will help determine safety standards for future production-line cars.

A major phase of the research program, CAL said, will be the design and development of a prototype of an actual on-the-road car. It will incorporate the most promising crashworthiness features conceived by CAL to help motorists survive severe collisions. Cost estimates of the new crashworthiness features will be made.