

Elsewhere in The Herald this week is a story about what a fine job Chowan Hospital is doing in keeping the skyrocketing cost of hospitalization out of wide orbit.

Last week, with all the Baptist news, we are accused of scooping Marse Grant and his Biblical Recorder. Although we don't want this to appear as a hospital edition, there is a recent case in point along the Public Parade which proves in dollars and cents what the progressive program of care at Chowan Hospital can mean.

A patient was confined for 64 days at a total cost of \$2,492. While this might appear high, if she had been kept in a private room with private nurses, the cost could have been as much as \$3,356. And if it had been necessary for her to have been confined to Norfolk General Hospital the cost would have been something more like \$4,500.

Instead, this patient enjoyed the full gamut of what Chowan Hospital offers. A few days, something like 12, were spent in intensive care. She was then moved into a private room and later into the extended care unit across Granville Street.

The concept at Chowan Hospital is unique. So is the cost.

Noted And Passed

The N. C. State Highway Commission will get some \$25-million less for roads during the next fiscal year than Congress appropriated. The Nixon administration is releasing \$75.6-million of \$99-million appropriated by Congress.

Major impact of the cut will be in the interstate program, stated Highway Chairman Lauch Faircloth.

This shouldn't upset anyone along the Public Parade. If it ain't got no interstate nor any promise of getting one what difference does it make how much is cut?

Watch Revenue Sharing

Federal revenue sharing is popular election year bait for which Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District is not falling. He voted against the House measure which would have split up a \$29.5-billion pie.

According to figures released from Washington, county and municipal government along the Public Parade would have fared quite well under the House-passed version of the measure. Chowan County would get \$123,872 and the Town of Edenton, \$26,361 per year for a five-year period.

To some it would appear that Rep. Jones' "no" vote on the bill was not in the best interest of local governments. But, when one looks at the wide range of restrictions placed on how the money could be spent, it isn't difficult to understand his opposition.

Also, while revenue sharing is popular in many circles, mainly in the metropolitan areas, it is just another attempt to use federal monies to tell counties and municipalities how to run their business. This is not, however, the case where state government is concerned. Funds coming to the states would have no restrictions.

The liberals will argue that the federal government got into the public school business with the Brown decision of 1954. Such is not the case. It was the Vocational Education Act of 1939.

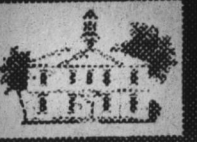
And maybe that is what is on Rep. Jones' mind.

Open House Scheduled

To celebrate its fifth anniversary, the Elizabeth City Social Security office will hold an open house on Monday from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M. The purpose of the open house is to afford the public an opportunity to become better acquainted with the services offered by the Social Security Administration.



Silent Reminders Of A Past Way of Life — An aged mule cart and barn tell their stories of better days and a different mode of living.



Chowan River Without Words



Hospital Costs Compared

If you get sick and must be confined to a hospital in North Carolina, the chances are your length of stay and overall cost will be less if you are admitted to Chowan Hospital.

Figures released this week by N. C. Blue Cross-Blue Shield show the average length of stay and charge per case at Chowan Hospital is lower than the state average. This includes private patients, those on Medicaid as well as Medicare. (Blue Cross covers private patients; Medicaid, those on Department of Social Service programs, and Medicare, those over 65 and eligible for Social Security Administration programs).

A breakdown of the average length of stay, charge per day and charge per case for Chowan Hospital and the state average is as follows with the state figures in brackets:

Blue Cross: Average length of stay 5.24 and (6.35); charge per day \$71.66 and \$71.68, and charge per case \$375.50 and (\$455.17).

Jones Opposes Bill

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Chowan County and the Town of Edenton would receive an annual payment totaling \$150,233 for five years under the \$29.5-billion revenue sharing bill passed by the House and awaiting Senate action.

According to information released by Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District, Chowan County's share would be \$123,872 where the Town of Edenton would receive \$26,361. He voted against the bill which passed the House by a 274-122 vote.

While there would be no restrictions on the manner in which state governments could spend the money, local governments must use their allocations for capital expenditures limited to sewage collection and treatment, refuse disposal systems or public transportation (such as transit systems and street construction).

Or local allocations could be used for maintenance and operating costs limited to public safety such as law enforcement, fire protection and building code enforcement, environmental protection, such as sewage disposal, sanitation and pollution abatement, or public transportation, such as transit and street maintenance.

Of the allocation for a single county, part would be given to the county government and part to municipalities within the county, based on such government's share of taxes raised within the county.

Medicaid: Average length of stay 9.43 days and (10.50 days); charge per day \$59.72 and (\$65.31), and charge per case \$563.16 and (\$685.75).

Medicare: Average length of stay 9.90 days and (11.21 days); charge per day \$61.00 and (58.53) and charge per case \$603.90 and (\$657.03).

At the same time Thomas M. Surratt, executive vice president, released figures for room and general services in non-metropolitan hospitals across the country. The average national private room rate in an acute unit is \$44.03 per day and \$38 at Chowan, while the semi-

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Gates Is Staying

GATESVILLE — Gates County Commissioners have decided to remain in the 10-county Albemarle Area, and have withdrawn an earlier request to be placed with five other counties in Region "Q," west of the Chowan River.

This action was taken at the regular board meeting on July 3, following much investigation and discussion.

In a letter to Dr. William L. Turner, director, Department of Administration, Tazewell D. Eure, clerk to the board, wrote that commissioners had "agreed that Gates County would perhaps be better served by remaining in Region "R" with counties nearer our size in population than to be transferred to another region."

Gates commissioners initiated action in February to be moved to the other region. Albemarle Area Development Association, of which Gates is a charter member, strongly objected and asked the commissioners to reconsider.

L. F. Amburn, Jr., AADA president, pointed out in a letter to Lamar Benton, county chairman, on June 29 that Gates ranks fourth in population in the 10-county Albemarle Area. "In Region 'Q' your county would be sixth among six counties with the nearest county (population wise) being nearly two and one-half times larger than Gates. Therefore, it would be logical to assume that your county would stand to benefit to a greater degree by remaining in Region 'R'."

Amburn also pointed out the tremendous contribution Gates had made to the Albemarle Area and that the counties have much in common. "... the outlook for future development appears to be nothing short of tremendous," he wrote.

Gates commissioners have been assured that the county will be allowed to continue operation of its health department as a joint Hertford-Gates project and participation in the Roanoke-Chowan Health Clinic will be unchanged.

It was reported that the board has received several letters and petitions from Gates County residents in the past month requesting that the county remain in its original region.

Farm Price List

ATLANTA, Ga. — Southeastern livestock and broiler prices advanced during the week ended July 7, reports the Agricultural Marketing Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Potatoes and green beans prices also trended upward.

Meanwhile, light hens brought lower prices, while heavy hens and egg prices held steady.

Peach prices weakened during the week, and squash and okra trended lower.

Prices for cotton, peanuts and watermelons remained generally unchanged during the week.

Board Lists School Need For Chowan

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education last week made drastic cuts in the proposed budget for fiscal 1972-73 in order to comply with a request from Chowan County commissioners that increases be limited to no more than 5 per cent.

However, the board authorized the following position statement:

"Cognizant that the quality of public education determines the future economic, aesthetic, occupational and intellectual growth of the county, the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education is extremely concerned that the 1972-73 school budget as approved by the county commissioners is less than the 1971-1972 budget. Particularly since the schools expended what was budgeted during 1971-72. However, projected revenues, did not reach anticipated levels.

"Because the 1972-73 school budget is less certain deletions had to be made from the original budget request made to the county commissioners. Those deletions reflect educational needs which will effect the total school program. These needs are:

Chowan High School

One teacher, one supplement, one teacher-aide, sand and refinish gym floor, 60 desks, convert old building and new building to oil, and surface play area.

Walker Junior High

Three teacher-aides, replace gym floor, improve grounds, 30 junior high desks, and 30 primary desks and chairs.

Swain Elementary School

Three teacher-aides, enlarge library, 30 desks, four library shelves, three library tables, and 18 chairs.

Holmes High School

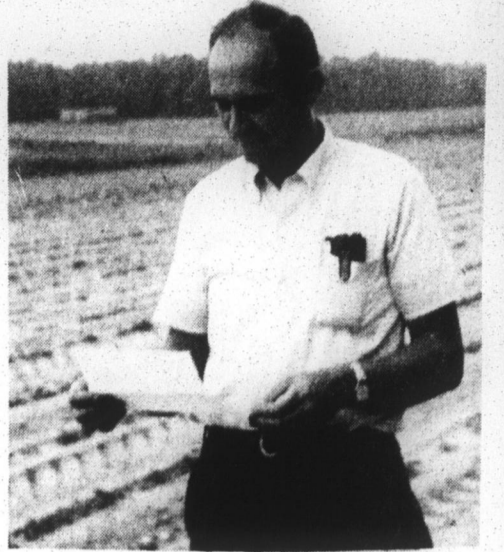
Two teachers, two supplements, half clerical assistance, two teacher-aides, carpet auditorium, 90 desks, activity bus and field house.

White Oak School

Thirty primary desks and chairs, two cafeteria tables and 16 cafeteria chairs.

Unit Wide

Vehicle replacement, matching retirement and matching social security.



R. M. (Pete) Thompson

Thompson Wins Area Peanut Prize

R. M. (Pete) Thompson, Chowan County Extension Chairman, lived up to his reputation as a "super dooper" county chairman, according to Joe S. Sugg, executive secretary of the N. C. Peanut Growers Association, when he was awarded \$25 from the association as being the most efficient county extension chairman in estimating his county's average peanut yield for the 1971 crop.

In order to get a line on the anticipated production, the association in early September offered the county chairman a \$25 award for the one who could estimate closest to the 1971 average yield for his county. Just as the final date for the estimating contest arrived, Hurricane Ginger came through, and the contest was re-opened in order that the chairmen might more efficiently apply their expertise as prognosticators. Thompson came through on his second estimate within 27 pounds of the actual county yield based on ASCS figures.

Notwithstanding Thompson's championship achievement, he was closely chased by Bill Register of Hertford County, who was eight pounds off of Thompson's record, and by Dan Brady of Martin County, who was nine pounds off.

According to Sugg, Chowan County is fortunate to have a chairman of Thompson's quality and the peanut counties of Eastern North Carolina are all fortunate in having extension chairmen who have promoted successful peanut programs which are the envy of the rest of the United States.



Summer Schoolers At Work—Mrs. Margaret Smithson lends a hand to several students enrolled in the individualized summer school program at Holmes High. Seated around Mrs. Smithson are Maurice Jordan, foreground, and left to right: Clifton Hugo, Connie Twine, and Cathy Bass.

Summer School Offered At Holmes

Summer school courses, under the direction of Mrs. Margaret Smithson of Chowan High School, are being conducted for the first time this summer at John A. Holmes High School.

The first session began on June 15 and continuance of the program throughout the summer will depend on the amount of response it receives from students.

Mrs. Smithson reported that it is an individual work program in which the students work on their own level and at their own speed.

Initially, each enrollee is given a pre-test in the selected subject area. The scores determine the starting level in the course. In order for credit to be earned, students must attend school a minimum of 60 hours and show a year's progress in the work. The courses include algebra, biology, physical science, general math and English. Cost of tuition per subject is \$30.

Mrs. Smithson registered dismay with the relatively light turnout. However, she explained that many students didn't except for English text material,

receive information concerning summer school until very late. She expressed hope that greater publicity would result in better enrollment in the next session.

Classroom responsibility is not placed solely on Mrs. Smithson. She receives assistance from two student co-workers, Patricia Fayton and Pattie Elliott.

Miss Fayton is in charge of test grading and has worked with summer school programs for two years. She stated that it is enjoyable work, and the students don't view her as an authoritarian figure. She is a rising junior at Holmes High.

Miss Elliott keeps time and attendance records. She became involved in the program through the Neighborhood Youth Corps. Although she had anticipated another type of job assignment, she said that she was enjoying the work, nevertheless. Pattie stated that she may be interested in teaching math or English.

which is provided by ESEA, all text is furnished by COA.