

## Counties Aid Energy Crisis

RALEIGH — All North Carolina counties have been asked to assist in early resolution of problems relative to fuel shortages. This announcement was made recently by John J. Tolson, III, chairman of the Governor's Energy Panel.

Tolson wrote to the chairman of the county commissioners asking that they designate a responsive and competent county employee to serve as the local contact for matters relative to the energy crisis.

The Chowan County commissioners named Murray D. Ashley, Civil Preparedness Coordinator as County Field Agent to act as coordinator for problems concerning energy. When problems cannot be solved locally, Ashley will serve as a clearing house for transmitting cases through Civil Preparedness channels to the State Civil Preparedness Coordinator for disposition by the Governor's Energy Panel. Ashley may be contacted at 482-3111.

The panel's office in Raleigh has already received many calls from those affected by the fuel shortage seeking assistance in resolving their problems. "Many of our problems relative to the fuel crisis could be resolved at the local level by a point of contact there," Tolson said.

The Governor's Energy Panel office will provide guidelines, terms of reference and implementing instructions for the county Civil Preparedness office. They will provide the necessary information required to assist the citizens and businesses of each county.

The Federal government has assigned a representative to North Carolina to manage that part of the energy crisis program which has been delegated to the state. The state's role under the allocation program is advisory in nature and is designed to assist in the resolution of severe hardship cases. Final disposition, however, rests with the Federal government.

The national energy crisis has

## Pate's Florist In New Space

Pate's Florist and Gift Shop has expanded their business to include a new location at 313 South Broad Street in addition to the located at 905 North Broad Street.

The new shop will feature permanent flower arrangements, various gifts, and related materials. The North Edenton location will continue to provide fresh flowers. Mrs. Hazel Sadler will be manager of the new store.

There will be a grand opening Thursday, Friday, and Saturday and store hours will be extended until 9 P.M. for the event. Shoppers may register for a door prize to be given away Saturday night.

Pate's Florist began in 1966 with Dick Pate's order for \$50 of rose bushes. His wife, Dolly, teased him saying that he should go into the flower business; so he took her up on the idea.

He received initial training at MacFarland's School of Floristry

causing an allocation of certain fuels will affect the citizenry and economy of all of North Carolina. Middle distillate fuels (kerosene, home heating fuel, range oil, stove oil, diesel fuel, gas-oil and jet fuel) all were placed under strict allocation along with liquid petroleum gases such as propane and butane.

"The governor's recent appeal to the citizens of North Carolina to conserve fuel, together with his guidelines in other areas which affect the use of fuels: car pools, reduced speeds on highways, etc., should set off a real effort by our citizens to practice good and sensible use of all critical fuels," Tolson said.

## Peanut Gross Big Increase

An increase of more than \$600,000 in the gross income from peanuts grown in Chowan County this year has been estimated by Pete Thompson, county extension chairman.

Thompson noted, though, that the net profit from the current crop would probably be less per acre because of increased costs. He said seed peanuts were higher as well as chemicals, fertilizer and drying.

The farm expert said the 1973 yield is about 3,300 pounds per acre, up some 500 pounds from the previous year. Also, there is a net price increase of \$17 per ton on grade.

H. O. West, executive director on the ASCS office, said the highest individual peanut marketing card thus far turned in showed a 4,938 pound average per acre. This was on a 14.2 acre tract.

Chowan County has approximately 6,000 acres of peanuts.

Thompson said while dry weather was helpful in the harvesting of peanuts and soybeans, it hurt the quality of the soybeans.



NEW LICENSE EXAMINER—C. T. Thomas, right, of Edenton has joined R. L. Mitchell, left, as a license examiner for Chowan, Perquimans, and Bertie counties. Thomas, who became an examiner after nearly six years with the State Highway Patrol, is a water skiing and fishing enthusiast. He and his wife, Robbie, have one child, Amanda Jean, who is one week old.

## Copeland Makes It Official

Judge J. William Copeland of Murfreesboro has filed as a candidate for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina. The candidate is a special Superior Court jurist who is seeking the seat vacated by Justice Susie Sharp, who has announced her plans to file for chief justice.

Judge Copeland is well known in the Albemarle Area, having held numerous sessions of court in the region since he was appointed by Gov. Terry Sandord in June, 1961. He has been reappointed by Govs. Dan K. Moore and Bob Scott.

A native of Woodland in Northampton County, Judge Copeland served four sessions in the General Assembly, and in 1961 served as legislative counsel to Gov. Sanford.

In 1968 he was named by the late Chief Justice R. Hunt Parker as one of three delegates to the National Conference of State Trial Judges, which is held at the time of the annual meeting of the American Bar Association. He was subsequently reappointed by Chief Justice William H. Bobbitt and is now a member of that conference.

Also in 1968, and again in 1972, he attended the National College of the State Judiciary at Reno, Nev. He has been selected as a faculty advisor for the college in 1974.

At the present time, he is vice president of the N. C. Bar Association and is president of the N. C. Superior Court Judges Conference. Since he has been a Superior Court judge he has served in 80 of the 100 counties of this state.

Upon filing for the Supreme Court post, Judge Copeland stated that the people of North Carolina know his record on the bench and in the General Assembly and that on the basis of that record he believes he is qualified to sit on the Supreme Court.



Judge J. W. Copeland

## Drunk Driving Charges Aired

Nine drunk driving cases were called in Chowan County District Court Tuesday. Eight of the defendants were convicted and the other had his case dismissed at the request of the arresting officer.

Judge Fentress Horner of Elizabeth City presided and Assistant Solicitor Keith Teague, also of Elizabeth City, prosecuted the docket.

Clyde William Boyce, Howard F. Maxwell, Major Drew, Joseph Columbo Privott, Charles Vernon Holt, Donald Elbridge Lane, Julian Winston Williams and Edward Lee Lawson were given

identical sentences of 90 days, suspended upon payment of \$125 fine and cost after being convicted of drunk driving. Privott and Williams gave notice of appeal.

A nol pros was taken in the case where Allen Ray Perry was charged with drunk driving.

In other cases called, the following action was taken:

Gordan Fonvielle Hunt, speeding, \$10 fine and costs. Notice of appeal entered.

Frankie Martin Shittlethorpe, speeding, improper passing and transporting alcoholic beverage, \$20 fine and costs in each case.

Calvin Monroe Harrell, driving while license suspended, not guilty.

Dennis Earl Layton, improper muffler, not guilty.

McKinley Conner, Jr., improper passing costs. Notice of appeal entered.

Benjamin McPherson, assault, 30 days, suspended upon payment of \$25 fine and costs.

James Drew, assault, six months, suspended upon payment of costs.

Samuel Miller, assault on a female, costs.

David Hatchett, damage to real property, costs and \$10 restitution. Ulysses C. Holley, larceny, not guilty.



TROOP LEADERS—Six members of Boy Scout Troop 164 in Edenton will be going up for the coveted Eagle Award early next year. Pictured here with Scoutmaster Errol Flynn are, from left: Grif Bond, David McCall, Joe Kenney, Flynn, Wynn Dale, Oscar White and Bruce Morgan. (See Public Parade.)

## Barge Project Gaining Steam

### Look At Mr. Watts

Politics above the county level are warming up. Candidates for judicial posts are either filing or "considering" in almost wholesale numbers.

There will be more interest than usual along the Public Parade next year because of the candidacy of Judge J. William Copeland of Murfreesboro. The popular Superior Court jurist is seeking a seat on the State Supreme Court.

Closer home, however, will be a vacancy on the District Court bench. Judge Fentress Horner of Elizabeth City will not be a candidate for re-election because of the mandatory retirement law. Judge Wilton Walker, Jr., of Currituck, is expected to be on the ballot.

A good running mate for Judge Walker would be Thomas Watts a young (34) but seasoned trial lawyer who is assistant solicitor in the First District. While Mr. Watts has not committed himself he has privately indicated that he would like to go on the bench.

Mr. Watts was engaged in the general practice of law in Elizabeth City for six years before becoming a prosecutor in 1970. As a prosecutor he has earned the reputation of being a hard worker; a man who prepares himself to do battle with the opposition in a fair manner but with his sights set on winning.

Outside the courtroom, Mr. Watts is best known for his Jaycee-related activities. His accomplishments are too numerous to enumerate here.

As we have observed courts it has been evident that some of the best judges have gotten to the bench via the prosecutor's post. Mr. Watts, then, would be the logical man to replace Judge Horner when he retires.

### Boys Need Leaders

Edenton and Chowan County have been recognized far and wide over the years as a mecca for strong leadership. However, at the present time one of the most important youth development programs along the Public Parade is about to fold because of lack of adult interest. Boys of Cub Scout age will be the victims if some

A barge floating gently along the streams and waterways of the state like the showboats of old, but carrying books, art and live theater to remote hamlets and thriving cities may one day ring bicentennial celebration bells in the state.

At the moment the barge is something, but not much more, than a gleam in the eye of a woman known variously as "the Gray Owl" (from a newspaper column she writes) and "the barge lady."

The woman is Nellie Sanders of Plymouth, a determined, grayhaired, blow-cut golfing grandmother. She is the regional librarian for Chowan, Tyrrell and Washington counties and the one-woman locomotion pushing the barge.

While her barge project has the blessing of various state and local political and business leaders, and practical aspects of her movable feast of the arts remain to be worked out before the target launching date of 1976 is reached. Of these, the foremost is money but Mrs. Sanders is not to be stopped by that consideration in her pursuit of a dream.

The N. C. Department of Cultural Resources has just given a grant of \$500 for a feasibility study to the Bicentennial Barge Foundation, Inc. Grace J. Rohrer, department secretary, has agreed to serve on the foundation board formed at her suggestion by Mrs. Sanders.

Lt. Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., recently endorsed the project to give the non-partisan touch Mrs. Sanders sought.

Mrs. Sanders' idea got to Cultural Resources by way of the State Library and the N. C. Bicentennial Committee, neither of which had any money at all for the barge.

"I originally suggested to the State Library that we have a floating library," Mrs. Sanders said. "There was federal grant money up for grabs for innovative programs for disadvantaged areas."

The federal money fell through, but in the meantime her ideas had expanded from a library with its meeting room to include a theater and an art museum.

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## Hunter To Be Banquet Feature

Jim (Catfish) Hunter, proclaimed by many sportswriters, newscasters, coaches, and players to be the best pitcher in baseball today, is scheduled to be the guest speaker at a banquet sponsored by Chowan Academy, Inc., at the Edenton Armory December 6, at 7:30 P.M.

Tickets for the banquet may be purchased from any student, faculty member, or parent associated with the Academy, (both drug stores) in Edenton, Byrum Hardware, or Hobbs Implement Co.

Hunter has done a lot in putting Northeastern North Carolina on the map with his perfect game in

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