

Commissioners Reject Bond Petition



MRS. L. F. AMBURN, SR.

On Returning Home

It was Tom Wolfe who made famous a discovery about going home again. He said he couldn't do. We tried it last weekend and it wasn't nearly as painful as we had expected.

We do not recall what it was that kept Cousin Tom from really going home again, but we will long remember our trek back to the red clay hills of Yadkin County. It was our Mother's 90th birthday celebration.

Her birthday was really yesterday but being that Wednesday is a difficult time to get a gang together it was decided to have it Sunday at Boonville United Methodist Church. Ten of her 11 children and their children gathered for the morning worship service with her at the church to which she has belonged for 66 years. And we about filled half of one side.

Then in the afternoon we had a reception in the church hut where more than 150 friends stopped in to help us celebrate.

Events such as this are usually full of surprises. This one was no exception. Like, among the first people we saw was a lady in the kitchen who worked in our house a day or two a week back when the children were growing up. It prompted an elder brother to remark that she knew so much about each of us that had he known Carrie Lizzie was going to be there he would have sent his regrets. Ditto.

Sister Mildred, who is familiar to readers along the Public Parade since she is our most inexpensive columnist, had not only a sitting problem but a standing problem as well. If she sat next to Mother some might mistake them for sisters. If she stood next to me some might mistake here for our Mother.

Being away for most of the past 27 years (gads!) didn't help the identity problem. The ones who caused the most discomfort were those who walked up and looked us straight in the eye and said: "I bet you don't know who I am." Ninety-nine per cent of the time they were absolutely correct.

One fond friend remarked that it was an especially delightful occasion since it was a happy affair which got us all together again. Usually, he said, it takes a death in the family to get everyone together.

It has heartening to find our Mother in such good health. It was equally as enjoyable to renew acquaintance with family members, some of who we have not seen for years because of distance. But the fun part came by being the baby at a family gathering. From this position we could chuckle about how everyone else had grown older, and the other things that go along with age.

Yes, we are unlike Tom Wolfe. We were able to go home again. But we'll admit that crossing the Yadkin on Saturday didn't provide the thrill experienced in crossing the Chowan in mid-afternoon Monday.

Yea "Baby Blue"!

The following "Rhapsody In Baby Blue" was found in our unattended typewriter recently. We pass it along, without prejudice, for the enjoyment of those who meander along the Public Parade.

Gather round me faithful of the
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The Edenton-Chowan Board of Education's move to push a \$4-million school bond referendum for construction of a new consolidated high school received a set-back Monday morning when the county commissioners returned the petition citing "ill-timing".

In returning the petition, they prevented inclusion of the referendum on May 6. Deadline for filing was Monday.

At the board of education

meeting Monday night, Eddie West said, "I was asked to recommend to the board of education, in response to the petition, that this board reconvene the bond referendum at time."

Though the commissioners not formally reject the petition, Dr. West said it was "a gentlemanly" way of saying no. He indicated a definite negative attitude toward the issue.

"If a vote had been taken then,"

he commented, "it would have been a 'no' vote."

He went on to say that the commissioners had sought advice from Atty. Gen. Rufus Edmisten who concurred with the board of education's decision to move ahead with the referendum. With that, the commissioners then sought opinions from the Institute of Government at UNC-Chapel Hill that agreed with their feeling that this was not the time for a school bond referendum; that the

county would not be able to handle the indebtedness.

Dr. West said the commissioners cited three main points in order of importance their reasons for denial - timing, finances, and educational need. Another reason seemed to be the cost of transporting students from the county to the new site.

Now the board is faced with selecting from three alternatives: withdrawing their request until a future date; renovation of present

facilities; or pressing the issue by seeking public support.

The board of education will meet Wednesday night to consider alternatives, decide if the present alternatives are indeed valid, and otherwise seek a course of action.

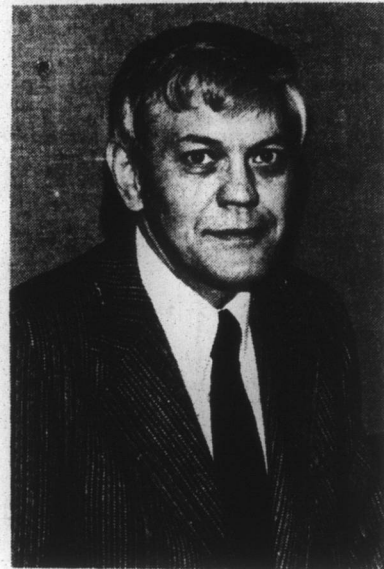
The board has expanded about \$5,000 in architect's fees preparing preliminary plans and a sketch of the proposed school. In addition, \$2,000 has been paid for an option on a site near Valhalla.

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VERNE E. CAYTON

Cayton New Bank Officer

RALEIGH—Verne E. Cayton has been promoted to vice president and transferred to the Edenton office of Bank of North Carolina, N.A., it was announced today by J. C. Saunders, Jr., senior vice president and head of the banking division.

Robert L. Hunt, regional vice president located in Farmville, will assume Cayton's former responsibilities as manager of the Farmville office, while continuing his overall supervision of the bank's 12 branches in the Northeastern Region.

Announcement of Cayton's promotion follows action by BNC's Central Board of Directors on Friday. Cayton has been in Edenton since February 24 replacing Jack Harris.

Cayton joined BNC in 1969 as an assistant vice president working with Hunt who was then manager of the Farmville office. Cayton was named manger in Farmville when Hunt was promoted to his regional post in the fall of 1972.

Cayton began his banking career in 1949 in New Bern with Branch Banking & Trust Co. He was associated with Waccamaw Bank & Trust Co., in Whiteville prior to joining BNC.

Originally from Aurora, he is a graduate of King's Business College and the N. C. School of Banking at UNC-Chapel Hill. In Farmville he was incoming president of the Rotary Club, treasurer of the Masonic Lodge, a deacon in the Presbyterian Church and an active supporter of the Midget League, Cancer Fund and United Fund.

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Duo Given Term For Felonies

Two teen-agers arrested by Edenton Police Department and charged with a series of break-ins entered pleas of guilty to four felony counts Monday in Chowan County Superior Court.

Tony Lynn Bunch and Frank Benjamin Miller, III, both 16, were given sentences of 36 months by Judge Robert A. Walker of Greensboro. Judge Walker ordered that the sentences be served at a youthful offender's camp.

Wednesday morning a jury was hearing the case in which Carl Bradford Williams is charged with drunk driving.

A jury Tuesday convicted Virginia Bryant Griffin Francis of second offense of drunk driving. She was given six months, suspended upon payment of \$400 fine and costs.

Asst. Dist. Atty. D. Keith Teague of Elizabeth City is prosecuting the docket. The following other action had been taken prior to press time:

Percy Lee Leary, assault on a female, withdrew his appeal. Shirley Wynne Miller, drunk driving, 90 days, suspended upon payment of \$100 fine and costs.

Donald Jean Johnson, drunk driving, second offense, six

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Members Sought

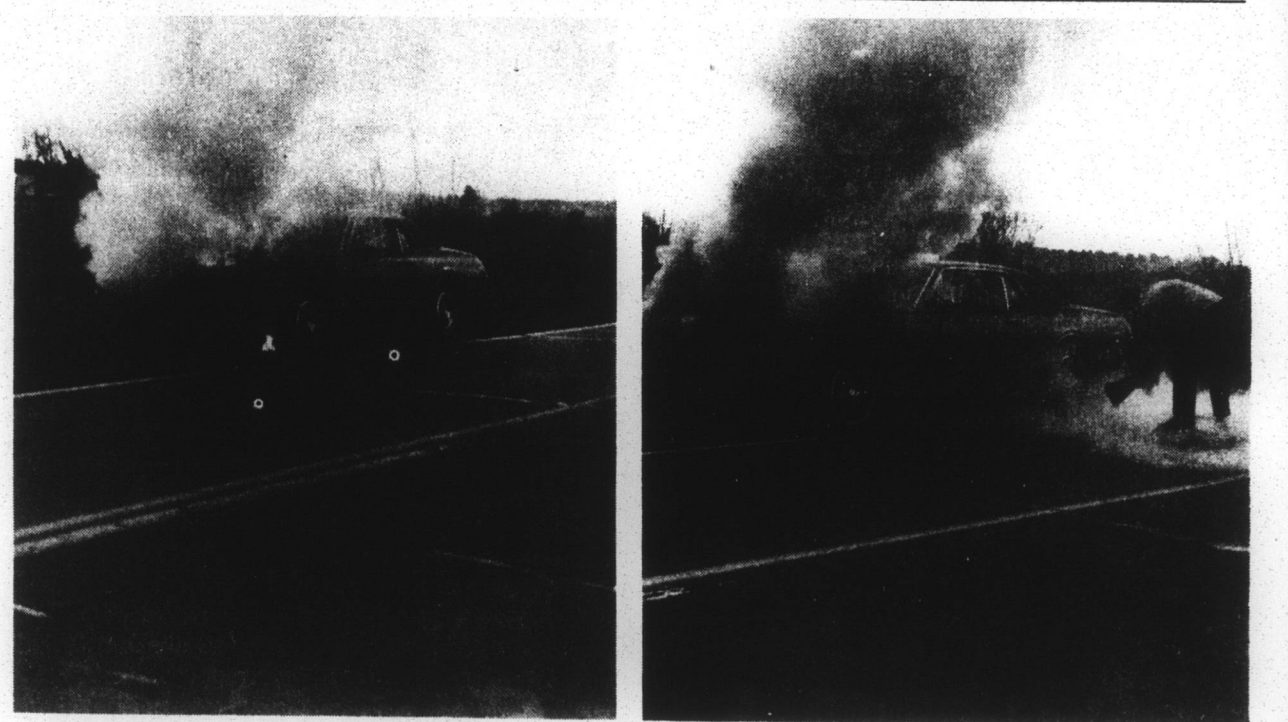
A membership meeting of Albemarle Wildlife Club has been set for Wednesday night, according to George Lewis, president. The meeting, which will feature an oyster roast, will begin at 7 P.M. at Edenton Tractor & Implement.

Lewis said a special invitation is being issued to people in the Hertford, Colerain and Windsor areas to join the local membership.

Auxillary Takes On Project

The Chowan Hospital Auxiliary has undertaken as a project the purchase of a piece of equipment for the Vaughan Respiratory Center at the hospital. The center is named for the late Dr. Roland Vaughan of Edenton.

Thomas M. Surratt, hospital



FIRE SCENE—This was the scene five miles north of Edenton last Thursday morning as a Mercury Cougar owned by Lonnie Williams of Virginia Beach, Va., caught on fire. Allan Asbell, staff member of The Chowan Herald, was on his way to work when he saw the fire and got these pictures. The car was only partially damaged thanks to quick assistance given by State Department of Transportation personnel who were passing by.

Agreement Sought Between Regional Agencies

A committee from Albemarle Regional Planning & Development Commission and Albemarle Human Resources Development

Positions Open

The U. S. Postal Service has announced examinations for clerk and carrier positions at the Edenton Post Office. Applications must be submitted by March 14, according to James M. Bond, Postmaster.

The required application form can be obtained at the post office.

Applications will be notified of the date, time and place of the examination and will be sent sample questions.

The purpose of the examination is to establish a register of eligible from which future clerk and carrier vacancies in the Edenton Post Office will be filled.

The starting salary for full-time employees in these positions is \$9,588 per year with increases to \$12,173.

System will be named by the chairmen of the respective organizations to attempt to reach agreement of program operation in the 10-county region.

AHRDS filed a civil suit in Chowan County Superior Court last week after ARPDC directors voted to assume control of the system which operates health related programs. The system was formed more than three years ago by ARPDC but operates with an autonomous board.

In January the AHRDS board voted to form a non-profit corporation, which was followed last month by the action by ARPDC.

At a meeting of the AHRDS board Thursday night at Mrs. Boswell's Restaurant meeting of the executive committees of the two groups prior to a March 11 hearing on the matter in Gatesville.

L. F. Amburn, Jr., a member of the AHRDS board pointed out that while a non-profit corporation is needed to obtain funds not generally available to government organizations any structure of the system needs sanctioning by elected officials. He said the needs of the citizens come first and that he support of local officials is absolutely necessary.

Bill Miller, Director of Social Services in Hyde County and a past chairman of the AHRDS board, said ARPDC as presently constituted was neither designed

nor effective in delivering services. He said that incorporation would have no effect on improving or degrading relationship with ARPDC.

Mrs. Mary Riddick, system

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Commissioners

Chowan County commissioners Monday adopted resolutions in opposition to any legislation which would erode the existing tax base. Bills have been introduced in the General Assembly to remove livestock from being subject to ad valorem taxes.

The commissioners said "piece meal" legislation will adversely effect the existing tax base.

The county has been notified that the Department of Transportation proposes to pave SR 1101 which connects US 17 and Highway 37, at a cost of \$12,000. The county had already approved spending \$38,000 to prepare the road for paving.

However, the county commissioners said since the road is important to the by-pass now under construction DOT will be asked to pay for the paving from state funds if they are available.

The landfill committee was authorized to negotiate for the purchase of additional equipment.

The commissioners will meet as a Board of Equalization and Review at 2 P.M. on April 2 in the office of the tax supervisor.

Copeland Seeks State Position



WOODY COPELAND

Woody Copeland, who is currently Northeast Regional Director of the Jaycees, is a candidate for vice president of the N. C. Jaycees.

He is a past president of the Edenton Jaycees and served as an area director in 1973-74. He was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award and was also selected as Outstanding Young Man in 1973.

The election will be held at the state convention at Asheville in May.

Copeland, who graduated from Atlantic Christian College, is employed by the Success Motivation Institute.

He is married to the former Phyllis Bunch and they have two children. They are members of the Edenton Baptist Church.



AUXILIARY PROJECT—Thomas M. Surratt, president of the Chowan Hospital, Inc., is shown pointing out plans for the Vaughan Respiratory Center to which the hospital auxiliary is contributing. The auxiliary has donated \$2,000 towards a \$5,200 ventilator for the hospital. Frank Cribb, respiratory therapist, is at right. Seated are: Mrs. W. T. Culpepper, III; Ronald Vaughan, son of the late physician for whom the center is named; and Mrs. Charles Creighton.