

Processing Plant Construction Begun

Good Stage Job

The Holmes Drama Club put the big pot in the little one along the Public Parade last week with their two performances of "The Solid Gold Cadillac", a comedy in two acts.

There was a more than satisfactory crowd at Holmes Auditorium for the Thursday night performance and before curtain time the following night hardly a seat was to be found. The word obviously spread rapidly concerning the excellence of the production.

Mrs. Sandra Boyce has turned out some winners at Holmes, but probably no one can argue successfully that this was not the best of the lot. Some have even hailed it as one the best high school productions to be staged anywhere.

Every aspect of the production was superior. The acting, costumes and make-up as well as lighting and set showed a touch of professionalism Mrs. Boyce has managed to convey to the participants. Casting was super and there was hardly a flaw in the works.

It brought back the memory of the now practically defunct Edenton Little Theater. In its prime it was considered to be one of the top amateur groups anywhere around. With the type talent being developed in the schools maybe the time is right to revive the little theater, thereby filling a void in the cultural life of the community.

The youngsters have shown their ability, and how! The adults could do well to "go to school" on this display of a good human resource.

A Big Change

If the federal courts have their way about it, residents of the Town of Edenton will no longer be able to vote for Chowan County Board of Commissioners.

It started with the schools down in Robeson County but in all probability the same rule will apply to other units of government at the county level.

The U. S. Fourth District Court of Appeals struck down the system of double voting in Lumberton and Robeson County school board elections.

The system allowed city residents to vote for members of the city board of education and also the county board of education. The county voters could vote only for the county board of education. Now the federal court said this was all wrong. The judges ruled that city residents could not vote for the county board, but just the city board.

The Robeson system was the same used along the Public Parade until the administrative units were merged.

Now if the recent decision isn't taxation without representation, we don't know of any. The citizens of Lumberton pay county taxes as well as city taxes. Now the federal, boys are taking away the right of the people of Lumberton

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Fisher Nut Company of St. Paul, Minn., a division of Beatrice Foods, has begun construction of a new processing plant in Edenton. The company recently purchased a 44-acre site on Peanut Drive between Southern Railroad and the new Edenton by-pass.

The site is adjacent to the Industrial Park.

While the firm has made a detailed announcement of plans for the Edenton plant, a new release circulated recently

mentioned "the new Fisher Branch in Edenton."

In that release, Harold L. Feder, executive vice president of Fisher Nut Company, announced the appointment of Marvin Shaw to the position of general manager, Southeastern operations. Until the new branch is completed, Shaw will be headquartered in the Albemarle Mill office in Edenton.

Shaw formerly was associated with Seabrook Blanching Corporation.

Edenton Construction Company has been named general contractor for the plant and construction is now underway. Also, the Town of Edenton is in the process of extending utilities to the site which has been annexed into the town at the request of Fisher Nut.

W. P. (Spec) Jones, chairman of the Industrial Committee of Edenton Chamber of Commerce, issued the following statement: "We feel that Edenton and

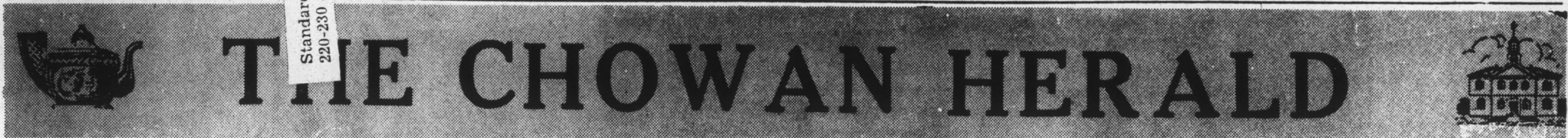
Chowan County is very fortunate that we were chosen as the location for Fisher's expansion in the East. Fisher Nut has been a very fine addition to our industrial community since they purchased the Albemarle Mill several years ago, which has been under the able management of Thurston Stallings.

"We congratulate them on choosing Marvin Shaw as their general manager for Southeastern Operations. Shaw is a very fine

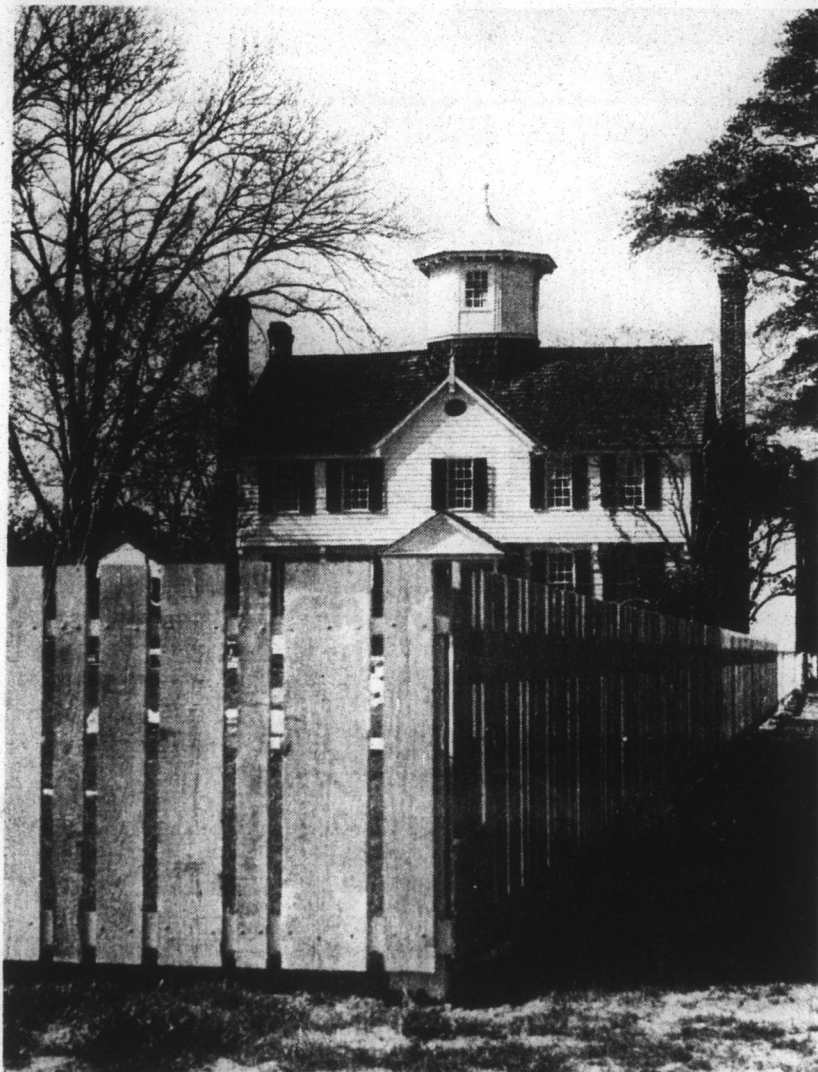
young man who has had a great deal of peanut experience.

"The addition of this plant is a Chowan County dream come true, as they will take our largest money crop from the farm and process it locally for consumer consumption."

Mayor Roy L. Harrell also expressed pleasure on the part of Edenton for Fisher's decision to construct a new processing plant here. "It will be a shot in the arm for our economy," the mayor said.



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FENCE PROJECT—The lower end of Broad Street is taking on a new appearance with progress being made on the fence around the Cupola House property. The fence is the topic of much conversation because of the various types of material being used. Edenton Construction Company has the contract to erect the fence.

Roads Cause Stormy Session

The first project approved by Chowan County commissioners under the newly enacted assessment law for paving secondary roads was sent to the State Department of Transportation this week.

This followed a somewhat stormy session of the commissioners Monday morning in which Rep. Vernon James had to defend the special legislation before the board which asked him to introduce it.

After some heated discussion, during which a resident of the Cape Colony section branded a commissioner as "negative", the board voted unanimously to accept the petition for Country Club Drive to be paved. The property owners will be assessed approximately \$24,504 with about \$11,500 coming from county set-aside funds.

It was the necessity to use state funds set aside for Chowan County's secondary road program

which brought criticism from Commissioner David Bateman. He said this was not the intent of the secondary road program and would eventually do violence to a program designed to pave rural roads, not streets in subdivisions which are on the state system.

He said while the county had an obligation to the Country Club Drive residents he felt no further consideration should be given to such projects. "The rug is about to be pulled out from under the people in the rural areas of Chowan County," he charged.

Rep. James said while Chowan County's secondary road allocation is just over \$43,000 it is wise to pave roads where participation by property owners can be obtained. "In this manner you are getting two miles of road paved for the price of one," he added.

Bateman contended that the county had "gotten into something that is dangerous", saying the commissioners had "opened up a

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Project Bids To Open Monday

Chowan County commissioners will open bids here Monday on a county-wide water system which might be divided into two regional systems because of a new highway regulations.

Rivers & Associates of Greenville, engineers on the huge project reported Thursday that a great deal of interest has been shown by contractors. However, because of design changes to include as many subscribers in various sections of the county as possible the bids are expected to exceed the \$3.2-million available for the system.

County, state and federal officials are already seeking out funds at aid in the possible costs

over-run.

C. A. Phillips, county board chairman, told delegation of state and federal highway officials at the meeting that some agencies provided grants on the basis that it would be a county-wide system. He said if utility easements are not allowed along a portion of the Edenton by-pass which is now under construction, then the county could not feasibly tie the north and southeast areas together. He said this would result in two regional systems and might put in jeopardy some additional funding.

The county learned little more than a month ago of new regulations prohibiting utilities on limited access highways, except where a hardship case is proven.

Bob Callan, area engineer with the Federal Highway Administration, and Warner Powell with the State Department of Transportation in Raleigh, both said it is difficult to establish a hardship for the purpose of encroachment on highway right-of-way.

The only other alternative, explained by commissioner and the engineers would be to go through the Town of Edenton. This was ruled out as not being economically feasible.

A quick reply to the county's request was asked because the fiscal year is nearing an end and there are some deadlines approaching for possible additional funds.

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Court Dismisses Murder Charge Against Woman

The murder charge against an Edenton woman was dismissed Tuesday morning in Chowan County District Court.

Judge John T. Chaffin found no probable cause at a hearing on the charges faced by Rosa Cunningham. She had been held without bond since arrested Thursday night following investigation of the death of Dennis L. Cunningham. They lived on West Albemarle Street.

An autopsy was performed and according to reports the findings did not support the charge.

Edenton Police, lead by Capt. C. H. Williams, and SBI Agent Bill Godley investigated the questionable death which apparently followed a domestic argument. They found the body on

the floor after being called to the site by the defendant.

In other matters called for trial by Asst. Dist. Atty. Dick Parker, the following action was taken:

James Edward Brickhouse, Jr., assault on a female, prosecuting witness refused to testify and was sentenced to two days in jail.

Percy Lee Leary, traffic violation, 10 days, \$10 fine and costs.

Junius Alexander Cofield, improper muffler, \$10 fine and costs; drunk driving, nol pros.

Raleigh Frank Hughes, Jr., reckless driving and driving while license revoked, six months, suspended upon payment of \$300 fine and costs.

Jerry Harrell Small, improper equipment, \$10 fine and costs.

Willie Foreland Copeland, speeding, \$10 fine and costs. Notice of appeal entered.

Charlie Edward Archer, allowing an unlicensed person to drive, and Brenda Norman, no operator's license, each 30 days, suspended upon payment of \$25 fine and costs.

Milton W. Flynn, assault on a female, six months, suspended upon payment of \$100 fine and costs. Notice of appeal entered.

John Foster Parrish, speeding, 30 days, suspended upon payment of \$100 fine and costs. Notice of appeal entered.

Judith Barnes Jacocks, speeding, \$20 fine and costs.

Alfonza Cooper, Tim McCoy Heckstall, Robert Holley, and Robert Lee Cooper, common law robbery, probable cause.

Richard Allen Williams, reckless driving, 60 days, suspended upon payment of \$75 fine and costs.

Jane Yount Britton, assault and battery, 10 days, suspended upon payment of \$10 fine and cost.

James Cook, III, assault and battery, 30 days, suspended upon payment of \$25 fine and costs.

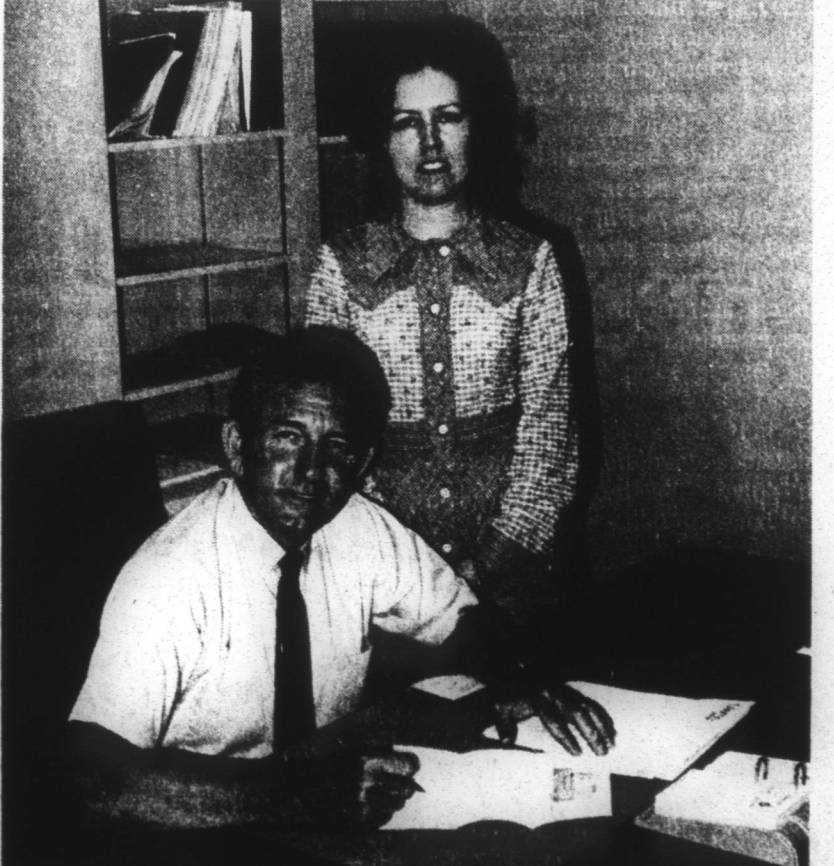
James Randall Howard, traffic violation, cost.

Science Fair

The Junior and Senior High Science Departments at Chowan High School will have a "Science Fair" on Friday, in the school gymnasium. The public is cordially invited to attend this exhibition from 7 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.

Exhibits from the junior-high division (grades 7-9) will feature projects in biological and physical science areas of study. Projects characterizing the field of biology, chemistry, and physics will be on exhibit from the senior high division (grades 10-12).

Judges will have awarded honors to outstanding exhibits prior to the public exhibition.



DESIGNATES OBSERVANCE—Mayor Roy L. Harrell is shown above signing a proclamation for the observance of National Hospital Week, May 11 - 17, as Mrs. Ann Dowdy, Chowan Hospital representative, observes. Theme for the observance is "A Constant Concern For A Healthy Community".



NEW SKI RAMP—Pembroke Water Ski Club has completed construction on a new and improved ski ramp, built at a cost of about \$650 by the club members. The ramp features side aprons for safety and a fiberglass surface. It was constructed from treated wood. On May 31 and June 1, the ramp will be put to use when the ski club sponsors a tournament which will include participants from North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, and Tennessee. A ski show will be held on July 4 as part of the annual celebration, it was reported.