



Here's one who was surprised Thursday of last week. It was necessary to go to Portsmouth to let Doc William Dodson poke some needles in my jaw to get some relief from severe pain. At the time Edenton looked like a wonderland with trees, shrubs, streets and everything covered with a blanket of snow, so that in making an appointment the previous day I mentioned the fact that if driving was too hazardous the appointment would have to be cancelled. However, after leaving Chowan County, the closer to Portsmouth Bill Goodwin (he was driving) and I came, the less snow was in evidence and the highway was as clear as on a mid-summer day. So apparently Edenton got the most snow in the neck of the woods. And then we got another snow scare Tuesday afternoon of this week when enough snow fell to cover tops of automobiles and house tops, but as of this writing Wednesday morning practically all of the snow had disappeared. The trip to Portsmouth resulted in a nice birthday present for Friday was my birthday and no pain was felt the entire day and up to this writing the relief has been very gratifying. And incidentally, here's extending thanks for the birthday cards, messages and to top it off, a box of the best brand of cigars on the market and a box of my favorite candy.

Birthdays and first Saturdays in the month arrive very rapidly, so that Saturday being the first Saturday in March, members of the Methodist Men's Club will put on another pickled herring breakfast. It will be in progress from 7 to 9 o'clock at the church and it is hopeful that a big crowd will turn out for the meal.

And another surprised person lately is Bill Harris. Bill and the Missus slipped off to Florida in the hope of enjoying nice warm weather while we were having a spell of real cold weather. But Bill says, all the time they were in Florida it rained and was cold so that most of the time was spent indoors. However, Bill did manage to bundle up and go fishing twice and, so he says, he caught quite a few fish. And proof that he was in Florida is that a bag of oranges and grapefruit was put in my car Monday night. Thanks, Bill!

Tonight (Thursday Unanimity Lodge will observe past masters' night, an event observed once a year. At this time all past masters of the lodge will fill the stations and places so that it's doubtful if the "has beens" will remember enough of the work to get the lodge closed. At any rate, George Midgett, present master of the lodge, is hopeful that all past masters will be present, as well as a large number of members.

William (Buster) Spruill was among those who renewed his subscription to The Herald this week. Buster lives way out in Camarillo, California, and in a letter had this in part to say: "Can't let my subscription to The Herald drop, for although since leaving Edenton 51 years ago a lot of names and places are unfamiliar to me. I still read the paper from the first to the last page and many memories come back and that's the beauty of it. Occasionally a familiar name does occur in print and that, too, brightens up the memories of the past." Then Buster referred to our

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## The Chowan Herald

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## Public Parade

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which he said he never "considered the change orders extra costs to the county."

The blame is being laid at the feet of the architect. Although we don't know the role of the architect in the construction phase of the project, we would bet local interests are attempting to make him a scapegoat.

A change order on a construction contract is either a plus or a minus. And it doesn't take a genius to determine the difference.

This is mentioned here because Chowan County commissioners are now deeply involved in a construction project which means a great deal to the county and has a great affect on the citizens.

There's a difference. Because of a \$1.8-million federal grant the commissioners did not have to put it to a vote of the people. They set the course and collectively are responsible for the outcome.

However, unlike their counterparts down in Brunswick, they have wisely taken steps to insure that the county's interests are adequately represented and protected. It is in the nature of a third-party representing the county at all levels of decision making to insure that months down the road they experience no surprises.

Chowan County commissioners have taken more than a fair amount of heat over the courthouse-detention facility project—primarily with regards to the site. They knew they could not gamble with a "plus" or a "minus" during construction and the community can appreciate the safeguard written into the program, at no cost to the county.

It is hoped that the same foresight and safeguard is used in the selection of a county manager, now under consideration because there's a difference. Today's plus could prove to be tomorrow's minus. At this point in time this can be ill afforded.

### Guest Editorial

**WHY NOT LOCAL OPTION?**—Considerable discussion is going on down in Raleigh and elsewhere in the state about what form the proposed inventory tax relief should take.

Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., is proposing limited relief to new and some existing industries to total now more than \$5.7 million a year and to become effective in 1981.

Lt. Gov. Jim Green favors the gradual elimination of all manufacturing inventory taxes through credits against state income taxes.

And Speaker Carl Stewart takes a position somewhere in between, saying the Governor's proposal is a good beginning but does not go far enough.

But all three of these men have one thing in common—they would let the state pick up the tab for any tax relief granted on manufacturers' inventories.

We do not agree with that approach.

We feel it would be better to make the levying of an inventory tax optional with the boards of commissioners in the 100 counties, just as was the 1 per cent sales tax.

Thus, counties which already have an adequate industrial base would be slow to repeal their inventory tax unless to do so would attract enough high-wage, high inventory manufacturing plants to bringing enough additional ad valorem revenue to offset the loss of the inventory levy.

But poor, developing counties, which at present realize very little from inventory taxes, would more likely be willing to forego taxing inventories in order to attract new industry and build up their ad

valorem base. This would have an additional advantage—it would tend further to disperse industrial development across the state, rather than continuing to concentrate in already highly-developed counties. That, we believe, should be a conscious end in all state planning. As things now stand, the counties are the sole beneficiaries of the inventory tax. It produces a large portion of their operating income year after year, and they are loath to lose it.

But, on the other had, to offset inventory levies with state income tax credits could eventually cost the state from \$150 to \$200 million in revenue, a loss which it would have no immediate means of recouping since it does not levy a property tax.

## District Court: Third Offense DUI Means Term In Jail

Samuel R. Williams, Route 2, Windsor, was given an active prison sentence of 12 months Tuesday morning in Chowan County District Court.

Williams, arrested by Edenton Police Department, entered pleas of guilty to drunk driving, third offense, and driving while license

revoked. A no operator's license count was dismissed.

The defendant gave notice of appeal.

Judge John T. Chaffin presided over the regular session of court with Asst. Dist. Atty. Larry Overton prosecuting. The following other action was taken:

Steven Harry Davenport, speeding, \$10 fine and costs.

Annie Smith Hughes, speeding, \$10 fine and costs.

Roy Evans, speeding, called and failed.

James Calvin Jordan, reckless driving and improper equipment, 60 days, suspended upon payment of \$75 fine and costs.

Thomas Isaac Jones, improper passing, \$10 fine and costs.

Norma Jean Taylor, no operator's license and driving wrong way on one way street, \$75 fine and costs. Notice of appeal entered.

Charles P. Leary, simple assault, seven months, suspended upon payment of \$100 fine and costs. Notice of appeal entered.

Carlos Coello, speeding, called and failed.

Milton Leroy Elliott, speeding, \$10 fine and costs.

Lenton Calvin Holley, speeding, \$20 fine and costs.

Zack White Mabine, hit and run, nine months, suspended upon payment of \$200 fine and costs.

Willard Jean Rosenboro, speeding, called and failed.

Johnnie R. Ferguson, non-support of child, six months, suspended upon payment of costs and make support payments.

Steinar Jarl Kulseng-Hansen, judgment absolute on bond.

Donald Wayne Winslow, drunk driving, dismissed.

Scott Michael Freese, driving while license revoked, dismissed.

Mariner Gibbs, worthless check, 30 days, suspended upon payment of \$25 fine and costs and make restitution.

## Wozny Heads

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Wozny holds degrees from Wayne State University at Detroit, the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and currently is involved in graduate work at N.C. State University.

He and his wife, Sandra, have two children.

John Edward Britton, carrying a concealed weapon and traffic violation, 90 days, suspended upon payment of \$175 fine and costs. Notice of appeal entered.

Robert McCleese Holley, traffic violation and failure to report an accident, 60 days, suspended upon payment of \$100 fine and costs.

William Henry Holley and

Preston King, assault, identical judgments of nine months, suspended upon payment of \$100 fine and costs.

Delvin Eugene Lamb, reckless driving, improper equipment and failure to report an accident, six months, suspended upon payment of \$200 fine and costs.

## Hospital Gets Duke Funds

Chowan Hospital has received \$3,297 from the Duke Endowment to be used to assist in operating expenses.

Assistance from the Endowment toward operating expenses amounts to \$1 a patient day for each day of free care reported by qualified hospitals for the fiscal year which ended September 30, 1977.

Chowan Hospital was one of 187 hospitals and 43 child care institutions to share in \$2,103,808 distributed, according to Billy G. McCall, executive director of the hospital and child care sections of Duke Endowment.

Duke Endowment was established in 1924. By the end of 1977, total financial assistance to beneficiaries totaled \$466-million.

## Community Calendar

Thursday, March 2, 1978

Rotary Club - 1:00 P.M. St. Paul's Parrish House.

Chowan High School PTA - 7:30 P.M. High School cafeteria.


Sunday, March 5, 1978

Attend the Sunday School and Church of Your Choice.

Monday, March 6, 1978

Lion's Club - 7:30 P.M. Boswell's Restaurant.

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