y, March 2, 1978

School.

time.

boxes.

## **Trial Test Guages Students' Math Skills**

Two hundred and fifteen students in Edenton-Chowan Schools joined 86,000 other 11th graders in 144 other school systems across the state this week as trial run participants in N.C. Competency Test Program. The **Competency** Testing Program was enacted into law by the 1977 N.C. General Assembly "to provide for the adoption and use of tests to assure that high 'school graduates possess skills and ability, the CAT is included knowledge necessary to function as responsible areas. citizens in society."

For approximately one hour and thirty-five minutes on Tuesday, and two hours and thirty-six minutes on the "devices that may be Wednesday, Chowan County's 11th Grade

students took the math portion only, of a battery of tests, the passing of which will be required of students in 1980 prior to receiving a high school diploma. Other students in the state are trial testing the reading battery of tests, while others, still, are taking both the reading and the math tests. The three trial tests, plus

the Ninth Grade California Achievement Test, (CAT), administered included: The Test of Proficiency in

## **Boat Heaters Contain Hazard**

three feet high. The children were very excited and enjoyed the trip very much. They heartily thanked their teachers for We also saw Indian taking them on such an interesting trip.

large logs, lanterns, an-chors, bikes, decoys, guns;

kitchen utencils such as the

iron, butter mold, butter

churn, bees wax candles and

molds, looms and weaving

materials for making cloth.

joyed the Christmas exhibit.

In it were dolls that had

been made in the early

1900's such as the Bilo doll.

There were dolls and other

toys carved from wood. The

ancient dollhouse was about

The children really en-

MUSEUM SCENE - This old kitchen display in the

Museum of the Albemarle in Elizabeth City was among the

things viewed by Second Grade pupils from D.F. Walker

**Pupils View Area Relics** 

On a lovely day, some equipment, old timey saws,

BOWER OF PROD

With Zola Levitt

**Edenton Baptist Church** 

Sunday, March 5 - 7:30 P.M.

Second Graders Tour Museum

Second Grade pupils and

their teachers at D.F.

Walker School took a field

trip to the Museum of the

Albemarle. We had a good

While at the museum we

saw many exhibits of things

that were used long ago.

Among them were lots of

dolls and toys, models of

Indian tools and homes, an ...

old general store, maps of

the Albemarle area, a

portrait of George Monck,

the Duke of the Albemarle,

old model cars, a large

music box, old fire engines,

and little ships in glass

spears, bow and arrows,

arrowheads, farming

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a potentially serious hazard to boaters who use any form of fuel burning heater to warm their boat's cabin during cold weather, according to the Coast Guard. Boaters can avoid this

hazard by insuring that the cabin spaces of their vessels are adequately ventilated when using fuel burning heaters. Carbon monoxide is

produced as a by-product when there is incomplete combustion of fuel in a closed compartment due to insufficient oxygen in the area. Normally carbon dioxide (CO2) and water are produced as by-products when fuels are burned with sufficient oxygen.

At least two vents, at opposite ends of the cabin, are needed to insure that there is sufficient air flow. This does not mean that every opening in the boat has to be kept wide open. Carbon monoxide is

especially dangerous because it is odorless and tasteless. Symptoms of CO

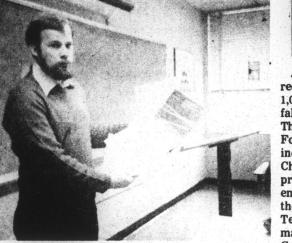
computational Skills (TOPICS), Everyday Skills Mathematics Test, and the N.C. Competency Pilot Program Mathematics Tests. Of these tests, the CAT and a portion of The Everyday Skills Mathematics Test had actual time limits. Because educators want to see how the results of the competency tests compare to a measure of Ninth Grade

in the reading and math These tests were selected by a 15-member Competency Test Commission and recommended to the State Board of Education as

used to measure students' skills and knowledge which will enable them as individuals to function independently and successfully as citizens."

The commission has determined that for the initial school year, beginning in the fall of 1978, the competences to be tested will be limited to functional reading and mathematics. Mrs. Mary Horton, Edenton-Chowan's director of pupil personnel services and member of the state commission, noted that "by 'functional' is meant the

ability to apply reading and mathematical skills to practical life situations." "It is possible that ad-



**DISPLAYS TESTS** — The three trial math competency tests and the 9th Grade math achievement test are shown by Mark Chilcoat, a John A. Holmes test administrator, to 11th Grade students as they prepare to take the tests.



NOBODY SAID IT WOULD BE EASY - Sample questions were given to students prior to actual test taking.

6 Relk Tyler

ditional competencies will be examined in subsequent years," she further stated.

All tests, reading and math, will be machine scored and returned to school systems in early June. Individual student scores will not be returned, but results will reflect class and school scores. The local test results, as well as the comparative state-wide competency test results, will be released to the public by July.

Students who were absent on scheduled testing days will be allowed to make up the tests on March 2-9.



AID AVAILABLE - Proctors and monitors are available to students during the testing to answer questions, give instructions and be helpful if necessary. Mrs. Gloria Bryant, standing, checks to be sure all students have necessary materials prior to testing.



A news tidbit read recently stated that over 1,000 tons of "Space Dust" fall on the earth every day. That's pretty heavy stuff!! For the past three weeks, including this article. Chalk's Dust has been pretty heavy also, with emphasis being placed on the N.C. Competency Testing Program, as mandated by the 1977 N.C. General Assembly.

The reason for so much discussion is that this is vitally important! It is an effort to try and give a clearer understanding as to the whys, and to prepare the way for some of the wherefores that, as of 1978-79. will affect every 11th Grade student striving to receive a high school diploma.

The comparative silence of squeaking chalk heard on boards in 11th Grade classrooms two days this week will be magnified 145 times around the state in July. For at this time the results from the experimental reading and math competency tests will have been completed and how all 11th Grade students performed state-wide will be published.

The results from the trial run of the math portion of the test will arrive in our system in early June. For these trial tests, data results will be returned to Chowan County in the form of class group and school scores, not individual scores. Once the actual battery of reading and math competency tests

grade students in the fall of 1978 and results are in, "individual student scores will not be considered as public record," according to legislation and Chapter 132-1 of the General Statutes. Parents, however, will have access to individual pupil scores.

The information received **Continued** On Page 6





are administered to 11th

