

Train Engineer Is Fined

Attempts by an engineer to keep local policemen from boarding his Southern Railroad train to apprehend a shoplifting suspect resulted in a fine Tuesday mor-

ning in Chowan County District Court. Leonce Q. Spruill of Elizabeth City was allowed to plead no contest to a charge of resisting a

public officer in the discharge of his duties, but Judge Grafton Beaman refused to go along with a defense attorney's plea for a prayer for judgment continued. Spruill paid a fine of \$50, plus court costs.

Hood Ellis, representing Spruill, told the judge it was "railroad gossip" that only federal marshals can board a train over the objection of the engineer. He said train engineers are somewhat like a ship's captain when it comes to having authority over their locomotive.

The attorney said Southern Railroad has, as a result of this incident, informed their personnel of the correct law. "This is an unfortunate incident," he said, "because the railroad and the Town of Edenton enjoy such excellent working relations."

The case developed May 24 when Patrolman Andy Maglione responded to a call from Zip Mart where a shoplifter was reported to have fled behind the building and boarded the train. The officer attempted to get on the train to apprehend the subject, later identified as Curtis D. Fulford, Jr. Spruill told him: "get your a.. off my train. Only federal marshals can board a train."

The officer called for assistance and instructed Spruill not to move the train until things were straightened out. The engineer did not obey. Spruill reportedly called a superior who also confirmed his notion that local officers could not board the train.

Officer Maglione said a female employee of the railroad later appeared on the scene and Fulford was taken into custody on charges of trespass, larceny of a 25-cent candy bar, and assault. Fulford entered a plea of guilty to trespass Tuesday and paid a fine of \$35, plus court costs.



TRUCK-CAR ACCIDENT — Three people were injured and property damage was extensive in a late night tractor-trailer and car mishap Thursday on Highway 32, some 18 miles north of Edenton. Chief Frank White, in light gear, of Center Hill-Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department, and squad members are shown inspecting the rig prior to attempts to move it. In the other picture, Deputy Sheriff Glenn Perry and Harry Lee Winslow look at the remains of a 1974 Ford Torino in which the injured were traveling at the time of the accident. (Staff Photos by Luke Amburn.)

Three Injured In Accident

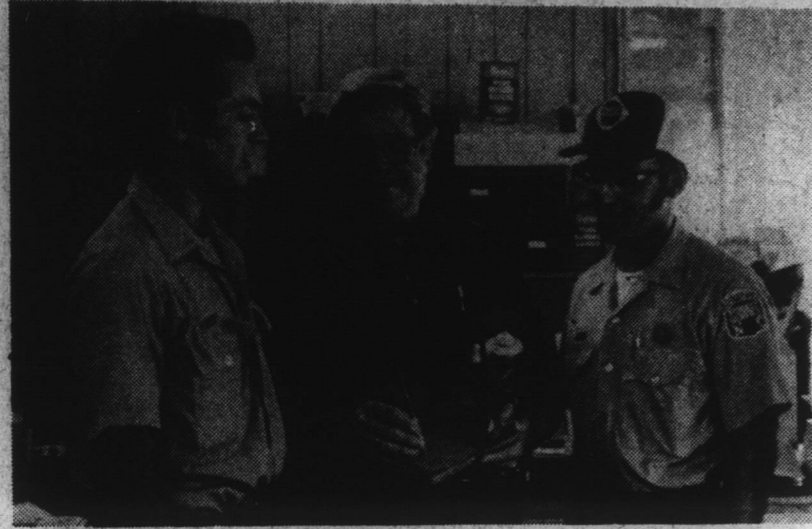
"A can opener wouldn't have done a neater job," stated a bystander as he looked at a 1974 Ford Torino with the top peeled back like an opened convertible.

The time was early morning, about 1 A.M. The scene was a tractor-trailer and automobile accident about 18 miles north of Edenton on Highway 32. The fortunate were the truck driver who escaped injury, and three passengers of the car who escaped death.

Injured were Julia Ann Riddick, Route 1, Tyner, and driver of the car; Linda Stallings, also of Tyner; and Marion Stallings of Hobbsville. All reportedly worked the second shift at George C. Moore Co.

Linda Stallings received a compound ankle fracture and was admitted to Chowan Hospital as was Miss Riddick. Stallings was

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PUBLISHER RECOGNIZED — The N. C. Forest Service this week presented its Smokey Bear Award to L. F. Amburn, Jr., publisher of The Chowan Herald. Roger Spivey, right, county forest ranger, and Gary Curcio of Elizabeth City made the presentation. See Public Parade. (Staff Photo by Luke Amburn.)

Public Parade

Ole Smokey

There are those along the Public Parade, and even more Down In Iredell, who will be surprised that we are the latest recipient of the Smokey Bear Award, presented by the N. C. Forest Service.

When we returned from the monthly meeting of Chowan County commissioners at mid-day Monday to be informed that Roger Spivey was looking for us, we were not too carried away with the program. We envisioned another hand-written release which was accompanied with a picture with everyone, except Roger, out of focus.

As we labored in our tidy domain, we were told Sir Roger was available. Gary Curcio of Elizabeth City was on hand to assist in the presentation of the Smokey Bear Award.

Naturally, we were surprised. Our past experience with fire included two burned out chimneys.

This, however, is not a spoof. We believe the N. C. Forest Service is a viable function of state government. Therefore, we will continue to promote the agency functions so long as they do not duplicate other activities.

There are those who would agree that to clear off our desk to the extent of providing a place for the Smokey Bear desk set would be a clear indication of our commitment to prevention as well as conservation.

These folks notwithstanding, thanks, Roger. We appreciate you!

Ambitious Program

The new chairman of the Chowan County Democratic Executive Committee has embarked on an ambitious program. N. J. George has asked fellow committee members to strive for 100 per cent registration of eligible voters within the county and at least a 50 per cent voter participation at the polls.

A news item about the committee's organizational meeting last week reports that the challenge was accepted. This is a strike at apathy which is rampant in this county.

Mr. George's challenge to the committee should spill over to the point of touching all those who should be registered but are not; and all those registered but who do not exercise their right of franchise at the polls.

Because of apathy, affairs along the Public Parade and pretty generally throughout the state and nation are run by a minority—those who accept their responsibility of citizenship. However, there is always a loud cry heard

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Office To Close

The Chowan Herald office will close at 4 P.M. today (Thursday) and remain closed until Monday. This special schedule is to compensate employees for working on July 4 so the newspaper could be distributed on the regular schedule.

High Acreage

North Carolina farmers planted a record high acreage of soybeans in 1979. Corn acreage is also showing an increase from a year earlier, while flue-cured tobacco acreage is down. These findings were based on a survey of North Carolina farmers conducted around June 1 by the N. C. Crop and Livestock Reporting Service.

Soybean acreage planted in the state is estimated at 1,900,000 acres, up 17 per cent from the 1,620,000 acres in 1978.

Acreage planted to corn is estimated at 1,850,000 acres, 5 per cent more than last year, but 8 per cent less than 1977.

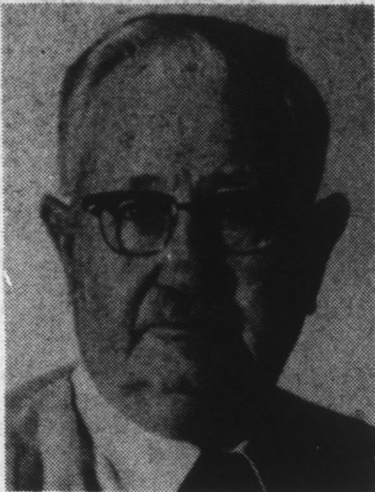
Peanut acreage is estimated at 168,000 acres, down one per cent from 1978.

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William Jordan Yates

Mr. Yates Dies

Retired Edenton Fire Chief William Jordan Yates died Tuesday night at Guardian Care of Elizabeth City. He was 84.

Chief Yates compiled 29 years of service with the local department before his retirement in July, 1971. He had retired as chief a year earlier but remained with the department. Since that time he has suffered an extended illness.

A retired Sinclair Oil distributor, he became associated with Edenton Fire Department in February, 1942, as a volunteer. Later that year he was named second assistant chief and in 1953 became assistant chief. He became fire chief in April, 1957. Chief Yates was a native of Bertie County, born November 15, 1894, son of the late James Miles and Marthenis Gregory Yates. He was the widower of Mrs. Frances Farless Yates.

Surviving are two sisters: Mrs. Leonard Harris and Mrs. Ernest H. Anderson, both of Elizabeth City; a niece and a nephew.

He was past commander of the Edward G. Bond Post No. 40, American Legion, and a member of Edenton Baptist Church.

Funeral services will be held at the church at 2 P.M. today (Thursday) with Rev. Percy Upchurch officiating. Burial will be in Beaver Hill Cemetery.

Willford-Barham Funeral Home has charge of arrangements.

Recycling May Hamper Clean-Up

The recycling of bottom sediments of nitrogen in the Chowan River is expected to hamper clean-up efforts now being geared up by the State Department of Natural Resources & Community Development.

Dr. Bob Holloman, who has been assigned head of clean-up operations here, told Chowan

County commissioners the study of any recycling "is very difficult but we feel it is significant." He predicted that the bottom sediments are going to be there for a while until they are used up.

Also, Dr. Holloman said the expanded study will include four agricultural and one forestry watershed in an effort to deter-

mine what non-point sources are contributing to the problem which results in extensive algae blooms.

He reported that United Piece Dye Works had voluntarily eliminated one type chemical in its process which has significantly cut the amount of nitrogen going into the river from that point source.

A recent meeting with CF Industries was discussed and further meetings with Union Camp Corp., in Franklin, Va., are being planned.

Dr. Holloman described the Chowan as "a beautiful river and I hate to see it in the shape it is now. I hope we can turn it around."

C. A. Phillips, board chairman, said the community is fortunate to have Dr. Holloman assigned to the project. "I believe we are on our way toward some successful completion of this project," he predicted.

In a surprise move, Tom Shepard was named to the Chowan County ABC Board. He replaces A. C. Hudson who was just recently

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Waff Bros. Given Contract

Waff Brothers, Inc., have been awarded a \$144,380 contract to construct a concrete bulkhead around Queen Anne Park on Edenton Bay. The local firm was one of several to bid on the project, which is expected to be completed by mid-1980.

W. B. Gardner, town administrator, said work on the bulkhead will begin early this fall. He pointed out that this is the most costly portion of the development plan, designed by Howard Capps & Associates of Elizabeth City.

"There were a large number of bidders and we are pleased that a local contractor got the job," Gardner stated.

The anticipated cost of the project is \$220,000 of which 80 per cent will come from a federal grant. The cost of the project is \$220,000 of which 80 per cent will come from a federal grant.

The Town Council held a public hearing on the 1979-80 budget Thursday night and adopted it without change.



DISTRICT WINNER — Maurice Jordan was one of six Chowan County 4-H'ers to win first place in demonstration contest at District Activity Day held last week in Elizabeth City. Maurice participated in the American Business System contest and will represent Northeastern District in the state contest at N. C. State University on July 24. In the above picture is Maurice and officials of the contest, including: Bob Usry, Department of Economics and Business, NCSU; Murray L. Goodwin, Chowan County 4-H coordinator; Dennis Forbes, Roanoke EMC; Charlotte Stallings, Hertford FCX; Larry Johnson, Albemarle EMC; and Earl Meiggs, Camden County businessman.

4-H'ers Compete At District Level

Six county 4-H'ers won district championship at District Activity Day held at Central School in Elizabeth City. David Jordan was elected district vice president. Elizabeth Hornthal and Sandra Coston won blue ribbons in talent competition.

There were 35 4-H'ers, leaders and parents from Chowan attending the district event.

The 4-H'ers who won first place were as follows: Eliot Atstupenas, wildlife; Leon Rouson, senior public speaking; Gene Baker, forestry; Anna Goodwin, pork cookery; Maurice Jordan, individual American Business System; and Joseph Goodwin, automotive skill driving.

Donalda Burum won second place in poultry barbecue. John Cox cooked his way to a red ribbon in the beef-char-grill contest. Amy Copeland won a white ribbon in food safety.

In winning her blue ribbon in talent, Elizabeth Hornthal sang "The Way We Were" accompanied by Mrs. Vendetta Sutton, public school music teacher for Swain and Walker schools. Sandra Coston sang "Bridge Over Troubled Water" for her blue ribbon number, and was accompanied by Steve

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DISTRICT 4-H WINNERS — Joseph Goodwin, Route 3, Edenton, left, and Johnny Gregory, of Elizabeth City, won the 15-county Northeastern District 4-H automotive skill driving contest recently. They received engraved trophies and sponsorship to attend N. C. 4-H Congress, July 23-27 in Raleigh where they will compete for state honors. Henry Revell, Jr., 4-H specialist with the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service, coordinated the contest and presented the awards. The contest is sponsored by the N. C. Motor Carriers Association.