

Harold Babb Named Officer Of The Year

Harold Babb was presented the Officer-of-the-Year Award last Thursday night at the Ninth Annual Appreciation Banquet for Law Enforcement Officers. Babb is an officer of the License & Theft Division of the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Babb has been stationed in Edenton since 1967.

The banquet is sponsored by Edward G. Bond Post No. 40, American Legion, and Commander E. C. Toppin made the presentation. Among some 400 people present was J. G. Wilson of Raleigh, division director, and Ray Smith of Benson, state commander of The American Legion.

In his keynote address, Sec. Burley B. Mitchell of the Department of Crime Control & Public Safety, assured officers at the local level his administration would have "no big I and little you", but all should work together for programs which can impact on crime.

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OFFICER HONORED — Harold Babb, left, was named Law Enforcement Officer-of-the-Year last Thursday night at a banquet sponsored by Edward G. Bond Post No. 40, American Legion. Shown making the presentation is Post Commander E. C. Toppin. (Another picture on Page 8-A.)

River Action Plan Unveiled

State officials, speaking in the strongest language to date, Tuesday unveiled a plan of action to restore the quality of the Chowan River water to acceptable levels. Cautioning that it won't happen over night, Sec. Howard N. Lee of the Department of Natural Resources & Community Development said with full cooperation of polluters the campaign will be successful.

At a public meeting at Chowan County courthouse, the focus was again on CF Industries at Tunis and Union Camp Corp. at Franklin, Va. Sec. Lee said CF Industries had volunteered to cooperate and the fact that Union Camp had a representative present was a clear indication of that firm's interest in assisting in the program.

"Everyone who is part of the problem is going to be a part of the solution," he told an audience which overflowed the courtroom. "If nothing else works let there be no mistake about it, I'll use all the power I possess to get the job done."

J. Gilliam Wood of Edenton, chairman of the State Board of Natural Resources & Community Development, called the condition of the river "Criminal" and urged people to aid the state in their efforts. "The state has spoken too softly for too long," he added. "They should come down hard on all of us who are offenders."

Wood said everyone has a responsibility to deliver the river and Albemarle Sound to the next generation in a better condition than what now exists. "Allowing industry to operate should not be at the expense of the people," he said.

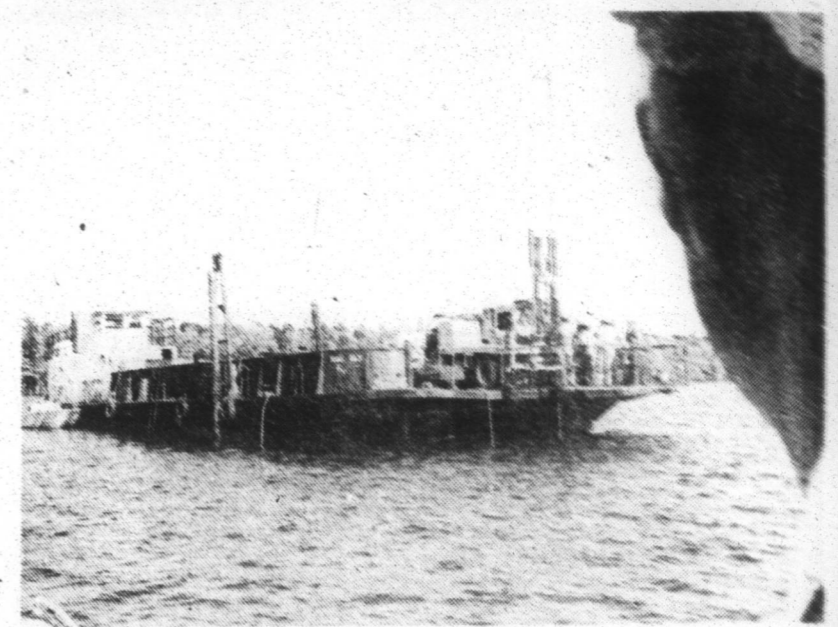
Also, Wood asked for unity. "Rally around the department at this time and raise hell if it doesn't come through as the secretary said it would," he continued. "And I'll help you!"

Sec. Lee addressed five problem areas. They are:

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BARGE PUT INTO SERVICE — The State Department of Natural Resources & Community Development this week anchored a barge in the Chowan River in front of CF Industries at Tunis and began taking bottom samples. Sec. Howard N. Lee answers questions about the operation while J. Gilliam Wood, facing, and W. B. Gardner, both of Edenton, discuss the situation.



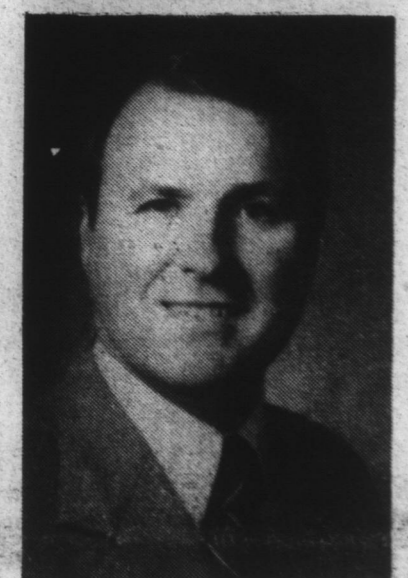
TAKING SAMPLES — The barge Rose Bay is shown here anchored in the Chowan River where bottom samples are being taken to determine the degree of sediment present. In the foreground is Paul Council, Jr., of Franklin, Va., a member of the Virginia House of Delegates.



STUDYING FINDINGS — Robert Van Tilburg of the Division of Environmental Management, foreground, explains the sampling procedure. Left to right are: Sec. Lee, Deputy Sec. Neil Grigg, J. Gilliam Wood, C. A. Phillips and Rep. Vernon James.

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Carl Stewart

Speaker Is Named

N. C. Speaker of the House Carl Stewart will be the guest speaker at the 24th Annual Northeastern Area Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors on November 13, it was announced today by Fernie C. Laughinghouse, area chairman.

The Chowan Soil and Water Conservation Committee will be host for this meeting to be held at the American Legion Building in Edenton. The meeting will get underway at 6:30 P.M.

Lloyd C. Bunch, chairman of the Chowan Committee, estimates that around 400 conservationists and guests will gather to hear Stewart speak. He urges the public to attend for an evening of

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Public Parade

Choice Is Clear

We want to be among the first along the Public Parade and throughout Northeastern North Carolina to say "bravo!" to Sec. Howard N. Lee of the State Department of Natural Resources & Community Development. At a public meeting here Tuesday night he flat out told polluters of the Chowan River the choice is clear—clean up or close up.

After 15 months of bureaucratic rhetoric, Sec. Lee laid it all in the shade at Chowan County Courthouse. It now behooves those in local leadership roles to hold his feet to the fire.

The meeting came some three months later than scheduled, but what was said was well worth waiting to hear. At the meeting the "action plan" called for by Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., was outlined. Contrary to past gatherings, there appeared to be an air of cooperation rather than condemnation. Much can be accomplished in such an atmosphere.

Nonetheless, C. A. Phillips, chairman of Chowan County commissioners, must move with dispatch to regroup his counterparts in the 10 other counties in the Albemarle Sound Basin. This political punch got Gov. Hunt's

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State Law Says Candidate Is Ineligible

Postmaster James M. Bond withdrew Tuesday as a candidate for treasurer in the November 6 Municipal Election. Bond said he took the action reluctantly after learning that state law made him ineligible.

Chowan County Board of Elections notified Bond that it was the opinion of the Attorney General's office that while he is entitled to run, if elected he would not be able to serve.

Bond, who served as Edenton's treasurer for approximately seven years after being named postmaster, said he had been informed by counsel that if there was a conflict with state law it would be a violation of the Postal Service Code of Ethics for him to hold an elective office.

"I have to withdraw because state law makes me ineligible to serve," he said.

He added: "I appreciate all the encouragement and support offered by my friends. My main interest in running was to help the local government."

Joe Lee, another candidate for treasurer, earlier complained to the elections board about Bond's candidacy. With Bond out of the race Lee is virtually assured to be elected.



FALL HARVEST — The harvesting of what is expected to be one of the area's best cotton crops started this week. Chowan County has been the focal point of pilot research and management programs dealing with cotton and Paul Ober is



among those farmers who believe they have been aided. Ober is shown at right as he runs a cotton picker through a field at Rocky Hock. R. M. (Pete) Thompson, county extension chairman, examines some of the cotton in the other picture.

Cases Are Heard

The regular weekly session of Chowan County District Court was held Tuesday with Judge Grafton G. Beaman officiating. Asst. Dist. Atty. Mike Johnson prosecuted the docket.

The following action was taken: John Willie Jackson, driving while license revoked, called and failed.

Calvin Lynn Garrett, two counts of damage to real property, six months, suspended upon payment of \$200 fine and costs and make restitution. Notice of appeal entered.

Percy Judson Britton, improper equipment, costs. Notice of appeal entered.

Steven Gerard Landreth, no operator's license and speeding, called and failed.

Jimmy Bateman, littering, \$10 fine and costs. Notice of appeal entered.

George William Thompson, driving while license revoked, 90 days, suspended upon payment of \$200 fine and costs. Notice of appeal entered.

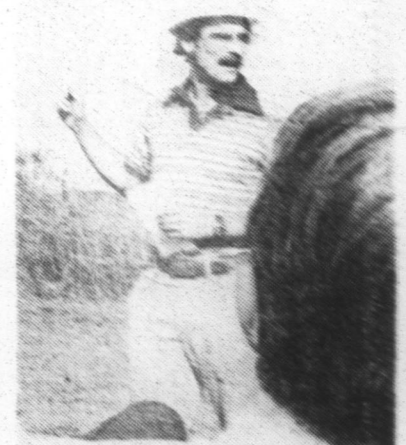
Patricia Halsey Toler, speeding, \$15 fine and costs.

Ruth Horton, carrying a concealed weapon, 90 days, suspended upon payment of \$40 fine and costs. The weapon was confiscated.

Thelma Roberta Blount, unsafe move, called and failed.

Wallace Lee Hobbs, aid and abet

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GIVES OVERVIEW — Dr. Bob Holman of Edenton, a state researcher assigned to the Chowan River project, was among those who briefed people attending a meeting at CF Industries.

Production Up

RALEIGH — All hogs and pigs on North Carolina farms September 1, totaled 2,700,000 head, an increase of 26 per cent from a year earlier and 14 per cent for June 1 of this year, according to the N. C. Crop and Livestock Reporting Service.

The September 1 inventory consisted of 400,000 head being kept for breeding purposes, 30 per cent above last year, and 2,300,000 head of market hogs up 27 per cent.

Sows farrowed during June-August at 150,000 were 25 per cent above the same period last year.