

Uncollected Funds May Aid Schools

There is the possibility that the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education may be financially better off than realized.

Preambling his statements Monday night with, "I may have glad tidings," board attorney Chris Bean made a spirit-lifting report on his initial findings for collecting Chowan County's outstanding bond forfeitures and fines, which by law are considered revenues for school systems.

According to Bean's research, over the years a figure roughly in excess of \$1-million in bond forfeitures, court costs, attorney fees, and fines remain uncollected. Bean estimated, however, that probably not more than 30,000 dollars may be collectable.

As an administrative procedure, Dr. John Dunn, at a later time, explained his request that Bean, as board attorney, explore the procedure for collecting and encouraging the collection of bonds, past and future.

Supt. Dunn has requested that Bean, after conducting a more complete research to determine a more realistic figure of collectable funds, report back to the board in April. In view of the board's present local financial freeze, anticipated national education cuts and the possibility of less than a \$10,000 fund balance for next year, Dunn sees it his duty to pursue every avenue of collecting due revenues.

A draft copy for a policy on Reduction In Force (personnel) was given to each board member to study and to make any recommendation at the regular April meeting. Chairman Eugene Jordan reasoned that faced with a possible decline in school population, the board has needed a procedural policy of this nature. The board was also requested to study a rough draft copy of the 1981-82 school calendar and be prepared to make recommendations at the next meeting. Jerry Hendee, executive

secretary of Edenton-Chamber of Commerce, sought and gained board approval for possibly using the parking lot at Holmes High School as a Farmer's Market. A joint effort of the chamber and County Extension department, the Farmer's Market is envisioned as a vehicle for marketing home grown produce and crafts on Friday evenings and Saturdays.

On personnel, the resignations of Connie Smart, GT teacher at White Oak and Chowan, and Martha Spaulding, LD teacher at Swain, were approved. Barbara Holman was approved, effective February 20, to replace Mrs. Smart for the remainder of the year. Mrs. Spaulding will finish the school year.

Two resolutions endorsed by the board found this body in support of a \$600-million Statewide School Bond Referendum which the State Board of Education is proposing for next fall and in favor of the National School Board association's stance against

proposed federal legislation which would give financial assistance to private and parochial elementary and secondary schools through tuition tax credits. Chairman Jordan was quick to point out that endorsement of the resolution did not mean that the board is "against private schools, but against tuition tax credits."

Business pertaining to school buses included approval of additional students and adults as drivers and permission for the annual School Bus Road-go to be held in May at Holmes High School. The board also authorized, effective March 1 the minimum payment of \$3.50 per hour to bus drivers, in accordance with a state salary schedule approved by the State Board of Education, as soon as the financial adjustments to the allotment for salaries is received from the state controller's office. Present allocations do not allow the system to pay these wages. As of July 1 all bus drivers must be

Continued On Page 4

Strictly Personal

Six years ago this week we shared with those who meander along the Public Parade the account of a family gathering. As the years ticked along there was always a question: "How long will it last?"

Well, it came to an end Saturday. After nearly 96 full years, with only a few months of illness, Mrs. L. F. Amburn, Sr., died as she had lived - peacefully.

The March 6, 1975, article says a lot about her and her family. Today would have been her birthday so we are repeating it as a tribute since she thought it was one of our better columns.

On Returning Home

It was Tom Wolfe who made famous a discovery about going home again. He said he couldn't do it. We tried it last weekend and it wasn't nearly as painful as we had expected.

We do not recall what it was that kept Cousin Tom from really going home again, but we will long remember our trek back to the red clay hills of Yadkin County. It was our Mother's 90th birthday celebration.

Her birthday was really yesterday but being that Wednesday is a difficult time to get a gang together it was decided to have it Sunday at Boonville United Methodist Church. Ten of her 11 children and their children gathered for the morning worship service with her at the church to which she has belonged for 66 years. And we about filled half of one side.

Then in the afternoon we had a reception in the church hut where more than 150 friends stopped in to help us celebrate.

Events such as this are usually full of surprises. This one was no exception. Like among the first people we saw was a lady in the kitchen who worked in our house a day or two a week back when the children were growing up. It prompted an elder brother to remark that she knew so much about each of us that had he known Carrie Lizzie was going to be there he would have sent his regrets. Ditto.

Sister Mildred, who is familiar to readers along the Public Parade since she is our most inexpensive columnist, had not only a sitting problem but a standing problem as well. If she sat next to Mother some might mistake them for sisters. If she stood next to me some might mistake her for my mother.

Being away for most of the past 27 years (gads!) didn't help the identity problem. The ones who caused the most discomfort were those who walked up and looked us straight in the eye and said: "I bet you don't know who I am." Ninety-nine per cent of the time they were absolutely correct.

One fond friend remarked that it was an especially delightful occasion since it was a happy affair which got us all together again. Usually, he said, it takes a death in the family to get everyone together.

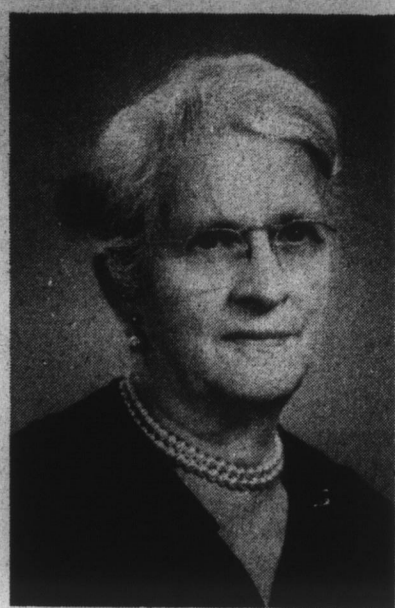
It was heartening to find our Mother in such good health. It was equally as enjoyable to renew acquaintance with family members, some of who we have not seen for years because of distance. But the fun part came by being the baby at a family gathering. From this position we could chuckle about how everyone else had grown older, and the other things that go along with age.

Yes, we are unlike Tom Wolfe. We were able to go home again. But we'll admit that crossing the Yadkin on Saturday didn't provide the thrill experienced in crossing the Chowan in mid-afternoon Monday.

Another Opinion

The following letter was left in our unattended typewriter. It is yet another opinion of life along the Public Parade, as others see it. Dear Editor:

Continued On Page 4



Mrs. L. F. Amburn, Sr.

Mrs. Amburn, 95 Buried Monday In Boonville

ELKIN — Mrs. Martha Oakley Amburn, 345 South Street, died Saturday afternoon in Hugh Chatham Nursing Center here. Mrs. Amburn, 95, was the mother of L. F. Amburn, Jr., of Edenton.

Funeral services were held at 2 P.M. Monday in Boonville United Methodist Church where she was a member for 72 years. Revs. Keith Bingham and Joseph M. Reeves officiated. Burial was in Boonville Cemetery.

Mrs. Amburn was born in Surry County on March 5, 1885, daughter of the late Jesse Allen and Sarah Ann Richards Oakley. She was the widow of Luther Franklin Amburn, Sr.

In addition to Mr. Amburn, surviving are four other sons: James F. and Bill O. Amburn, both of Elkin; John L. Amburn of Orlando, Fla.; and Jesse Allen Amburn of Columbia, S.C.; six daughters: Mrs. Mildred A. Huskins of Statesville; Mrs. Elizabeth A. Edwards of Fayetteville; Mrs. Nancy A. Brooks of Amelia Island, Fla.; Mrs. Jenny A. Martin of Arlington; Mrs. Patty A. Brendle of Elkin; and Mrs. Sarah O. Brown of Boonville.

Also surviving are two sisters: Mrs. Myrtle O. Hall of Halifax, Va.; and Mrs. Edith O. Burrus of Mt. Airy; 25 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers and honorary pallbearers were her grandsons and great-grandsons.

Notices Filed By Facilities

Two Edenton health care facilities have filed notice of intent to incur capital expenditure. They are Chowan Hospital and Colonial HealthCare, Inc.

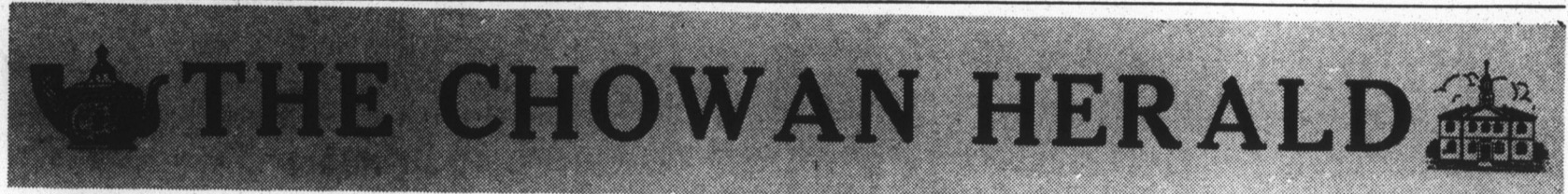
David L. Henson, hospital director, filed the notice for a proposed 10-bed addition to Chowan Hospital. The addition would house medical - surgical beds. The cost is placed at \$962,870.

Colonial HealthCare, Inc., proposes to add 64 beds to ElderLodge of Edenton. The addition would cost \$544,279. ElderLodge, located on Paradise Road, currently has 96 skilled and intermediate care nursing beds. The facility opened in February, 1977.

The project proposals have been submitted to the Certificate of Need Section, Division of Facility Services, N. C. Department of Human Resources, for review by planning agencies under provisions of the Social Security Amendments of 1972 and Chapter 131, Article 18, of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

The planning agencies, in examining the proposal, will seek to determine whether the project is needed, if it can be adequately staffed and operated, whether it is economically feasible within prevailing rate structures, and if it proposes specific cost-containment features.

A copy of the proposal has been referred to the Eastern Carolina Health Systems Agency, Inc. for review as required by federal and state law.



Vol. XLVII - No. 10

Edenton, North Carolina, Thursday, March 5, 1980

Single Copies 20 Cents.

DOT Board Member Talks About Plight Of Highways

The plight of North Carolina's highway system was addressed here Thursday afternoon by Marc Basnight of Dare County, a member of the State Department of Transportation. The nation's greatest state maintained system is said to be falling close to a national disgrace and without immediate cash injection the system can very well gain such standing.

Basnight said no new projects had been added to the highway plan in the past three years. He added, though, that the plan is to continue to maintain the same program on U.S. 17 north of Elizabeth City to the Virginia line. Basnight, traveling with F. W. Adkins, Jr., division engineer, and Earl Moore, district engineer, discussed the serious situation at a sparsely attended meeting in the Municipal Building.

The DOT board member said the Tar Heel State is losing one of its greatest resources -- the transportation system. While highways are foremost in official's minds at this time, the transportation system includes rail roads, ferries, airports, bridges, etc.

Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., appointed a Blue Ribbon Highway Committee headed by former Gov. Dan K. Moore. The panel has reported and the report has been combined in a slide-tape presentation which was shown at the local meeting.

Basnight said the big question is how the state got into such a crunch. The threefold problem includes increase in population and travel; natural disasters; and 20 per cent inflation. Motorists racked up 42-billion miles on North Carolina highways in 1980.

Also, between 1967 and 1980, the cost of asphalt increased 246 per cent; cement, 227 per cent; steel, 300 per cent; and gravel 130 per cent. All the time, Basnight said, gas tax revenue has been leveling off. The tax was \$19-million less in 1980 than the previous year.

Basnight said it is impossible to maintain the 75,000-mile system with declining revenues and galloping inflation.

"We need an accelerated resurfacing program for the next several years, and one-half of the bridges are posted for less weight

Continued On Page 4



SHOW AND TELL — State Department of Transportation officials were in Edenton last Thursday to discuss the plight of Tar Heel highways. Mayor Roy L. Harrell, left, welcomed Marc Basnight of Dare County, right, a member of the transportation board, and F. W. Adkins, Jr., division engineer, to the afternoon meeting.

CF Industries Sees Both Sides Of River Water Quality Issue

CF Industries is currently seeing two sides of the Chowan River pollution issue. While installation of a \$100,000 pipeline from their freshwater pond to the plant site is underway, company officials are defending themselves against charges by the Division of Environmental that CF Industries is violating standards against nitrogen input into the Chowan River.

Large amounts of sludge

Holley Receives Active Sentence

A motorist convicted of drunk driving and no operator's license was given an active prison sentence Tuesday in Chowan County District Court. Laverne Holley was sentenced to six months by Judge John T. Chaffin.

The defendant gave notice of appeal. State Trooper C. H. Mims was the arresting officer.

Asst. Dist. Atty. H. P. Williams prosecuted the docket. Other action taken included:

Robert Lee Hollowell, show cause order, dismissed.

Kenneth Harris, three counts of worthless checks, dismissed.

James Dillard, speeding, 30 days, suspended upon payment of \$500 fine and costs. Notice of appeal entered.

Blair Bratton McGuinness, allowing an unlicensed person to drive and aid and abet in operation of motor vehicle with improper registration, 90 days, suspended

Continued On Page 4

discharged from Union Camp in Franklin, Va. has rendered the water unsuitable for industrial use, forcing the plant to tap another source.

According to the Division of Environmental Management, discharge from Union Camp normally takes 30 days to reach the Albemarle Sound. So far, it has taken the discharge nearly twice as long to reach south of Colerain.

Union Camp's permit allows the company to discharge from December 1 through March 31. Release this year did not begin until December 24 because of an exceptionally low river flow and winds coming up from the south have increased the flushing time.

CF Industries is not the only industry being effected by the discharge. According to A. M. Howard of the Chowan Regional Task Force, United Piece Dye Works has been forced to buy county water rather than use river water in its manufacturing processes.

Howard asked the question, "Why is one company permitted to deny industry, commercial and sports fishermen the use of 65 miles of public trust waterway?"

"We can't seem to convince state officials in Virginia that there is a problem," he commented.

In Raleigh this week attorneys for the state appeared before a hearing panel asking that CF Industries be required to monitor plant site runoff and air emissions.

The state is asking that the

Continued On Page 4

Shop In Edenton Every Friday Night 'til 9 o'clock