



## Liquid Gold

The drought along the Public Parade, in Northeastern North Carolina and pretty much across Tar Heelia was broken last week. The much needed rain was called "liquid gold."

The drought was the most severe since 1945. And it couldn't have come at a worse time. Farmers are just coming off a real bad crop year and the prospects for the 1981 season were not good. The rain came in time to turn many bad situations into a brighter future.

There still remains a healthy balance between agriculture and business along the Public Parade. When one hurts the ache is felt by the other. It is a partnership that is respected.

It takes rain to produce bountiful crops so it is "liquid gold", coupled with hard work that makes the cash registers ring happy tunes.

## Minding The Store

Members of the N. C. General Assembly are beginning to react to some recent drafts of redistricting the House, Senate and U. S. Congress. Redistricting, like revaluation and other "res", are never painless but in many cases the hurt is self-inflicted.

There is one public servant who is minding the store. He is Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District. Rep. Jones is a veteran of elections and always tends to make good on whatever position in which he finds himself. His ability to be consistently consistent baffles those who try to penetrate his armor of superior qualities.

Shortly after Rep. Jones became chairman of one of 14 standing committees in the U. S. House of Representatives -- Merchant Marine and Fisheries -- he wore himself out and ended up in the hospital. Therefore, he has been somewhat slower in putting the Jones flavor into the committee staff. Like those who watch closely expected, he has been deliberate, patient and understanding.

Rep. Jones has moved recently to implement his plan. Edmund B. Welch of Greenville has served Rep. Jones well on the House Agriculture Committee staff. He had the assignment of injecting his boss' flavor into the new position. Now Mr. Welch moves into a big slot, that of chief counsel. The new appointee has worked closely with Lawrence J. O'Brien, Jr., who has been in the job several years. Mr. O'Brien will practice law in

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## Community Charters New Ruritan Club

The newly organized Advance Ruritan Club was presented its official charter, Tuesday night, during a meeting at the Advance Community Building and a slate of four officers and three directors was installed.

Ruritan National president Robert K. Davis of Newport, TN was welcomed by guest Ruritans from the Albemarle District as he presented the charter.

Presiding over the new civic

# Council Acts Against Owner Of Sunken Tug

Emmett H. Wiggins, 60, has been arrested on a charge of violation of a Town of Edenton code dealing with docking of certain size vessels. He vowed Tuesday night to fight the charge and the code in court.

Concerned citizens from Pembroke Circle and Queen Anne's were on hand to support the action being taken against the resident of the Lighthouse at the mouth of Filbert's Creek.

"I'll see you in court," Wiggins told Town Council. Earlier he said his intention is to fix the tug boat. "I think I have the grandfather clause to protect me some," he added.

Councilman J. P. Ricks, Jr., said the questions involved dealt with maritime law and he knew of no one locally capable of dealing with the matter. "To have it (Wiggins' action) continue would be a continued affront to the people of this town," he added.

"We should employ (a qualified attorney) or forget it," he said.

## Crime Specialist To Speak Here

A regular meeting of the Chowan Community Crime Watch is scheduled to be held on May 21, at 8 P. M. in the American Legion Building in Edenton.

Tony Young, the crime prevention specialist from the N. C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety will be there with the N. C. Mobile Crime Prevention Unit.

Chowan County Sheriff Troy Toppin and Police Chief J. D. Parrish Police Department will also be there.

Several community groups have met and ordered Crime Community Watch Signs for their individual communities.

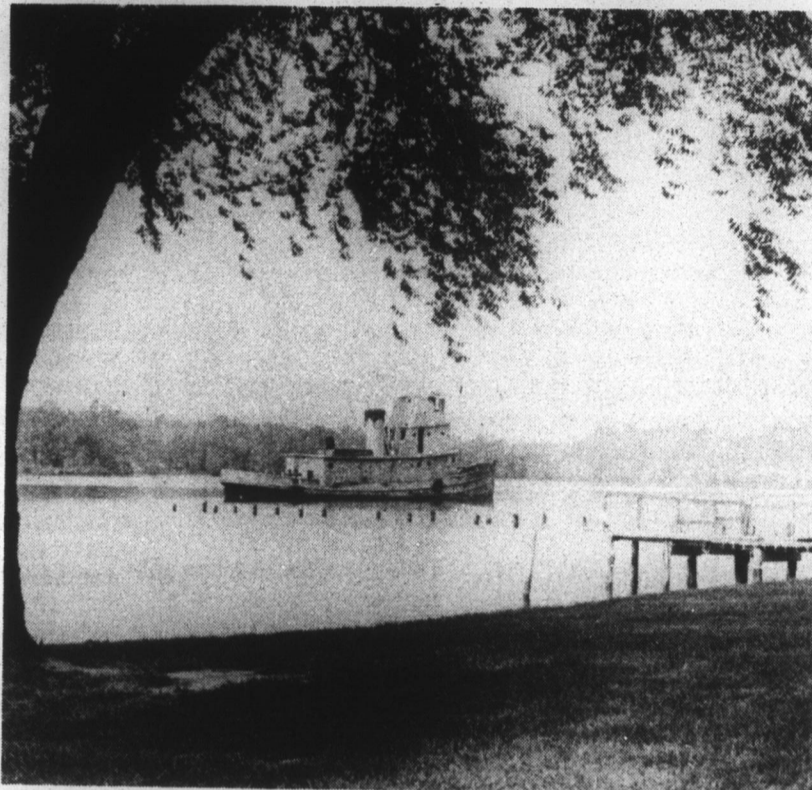
"Can your community or the area in which you live answer, yes to the next three questions!" It is pointed out.

1. Do you have a community crime watch program?
2. If a burglary took place in your home today, could you locate your possessions thru proper operation identification or "Proper usage numbers."
3. Do you know the North

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Wiggins said he had been notified that action would be taken at the council meeting. "I was arrested yesterday," he said. "Why jump the gun before we had a meeting to discuss the matter?"

Councilman Allen Hornthal said the intent of the council was to halt any movement of the tug or other vessels close to the shoreline.



**TUG INVOLVED IN DISPUTE** — Staffer Flynn Surratt, anticipating problems, recorded this picturesque scene of an old tug boat anchored in Edenton Bay near Queen Anne's Creek. Emmett H. Wiggins, owner of the tug, has been indicted for violation of a Town of Edenton ordinance dealing with large vessels of more than 30-feet in length. Wiggins, who lives in the Lighthouse, vows to fight the ordinance in court.

## O'Neal, Tynch Arraigned On Felony Counts

Two defendants face trials in Chowan County Superior Court after probable cause was found Tuesday in felony counts against William C. O'Neal and Carroll Edward Tynch.

Judge Richard Parker of Manteo, presiding in District Court, found probable cause in cases where O'Neal is charged with possession of stolen property and accessory after the fact. Tynch faces two morals charges.

Asst. Dist. Atty. H. P. Williams prosecuted the docket. The following other action was taken: David P. Ward, speeding, costs. William Ray Harrell, transporting liquor with the seal

broken, 20 days, suspended upon payment of \$40 fine and cost. Counts of drunk driving, reckless driving and carrying a concealed weapon were dismissed.

Barren Kyle Mack, traffic violation, called and failed. Dan Junior Bembery, improper equipment, dismissed.

Richard Welch, reckless driving after drinking, 60 days, suspended upon payment of \$100 fine and costs.

Richard Welch, failure to report accident, dismissed. Willie Athen Twine, Jr., drunk driving, not guilty.

Dannie Edward Pierce, drunk driving, dismissed. Robert Day Hutchison, larceny, seven to nine months, suspended and placed on probation for two years upon payment of \$200 fine

and costs. He was ordered to spend three weekends in jail. Notice of appeal was entered.

Low Reech Parker, exceeding safe speed, costs. David Granby, drunk driving, second offense, six months, suspended upon payment of \$360 fine and costs.

Kenneth M. Granby, reckless driving, 30 days, suspended upon payment of \$50 fine and costs. James A. Holley, speeding, called and failed.

Donald Lee Hayes, worthless check, called and failed. Gregory G. Parker, speeding, \$5 fine and costs.

James Kenley Leary, drunk driving, 60 days, suspended upon payment of \$150 fine and costs. Thomas Adolph Holley,

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guided by the same laws as other citizens.

Councilman Hampton said the Finance Committee had nothing to report with regards to obtaining a town attorney. This prompted a heated exchange between Mayor Pro Tem Hornthal and Mayor Roy L. Harrell.

Hornthal accused the mayor of misrepresentation of certain private conversations. "Three attorneys have declined to submit bids and another one's bid was in excess of what we are now paying," he said.

The councilman requested that a letter from Mrs. Lena M. Leary, Clerk of Superior Court, be placed in the minutes.

Mayor Harrell answered Hornthal, point-by-point, and added that the collection of delinquent taxes are part of Gardner's duties. "We have a very qualified administrator," he said of Gardner. "He is very capable of sending out notices, etc."

Hampton said he expected the Finance Committee would have a recommendation at the next meeting. The contract with Earnhardt & Busby runs until July 1.

Gardner injected the thought that while the collection of delinquent taxes is one thing, the town has a tight time frame established by law regarding the collection of assessments.

At the beginning of the session, Hampton asked that his comments at an earlier meeting be included in the minutes. He said the

statement dealt with the change of his vote regarding bids to purchase vehicles.

Hornthal questioned the need for such action. "It is very important or I wouldn't have said it," Hampton replied. Hampton then read into the minutes the earlier comments as taken from the tape.

Hornthal informed the council and citizens of problems being experienced at the playground at Freemason and Oakum streets. He said repeated damage to the property, including the theft of a basketball goal, threatened the park.

Council approved the purchase of property for an easement to allow work which is designed to improve the drainage problems near the Masonic Temple.

Mayor Harrell appointed Eric Byrum to the Recreation Committee, Terry Williams to the Planning Board, and Harold Babb of the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Council approved two zoning requests and approved the plat of Thomas Francis for property on Mexico Road.

Council approved a \$750 contribution to Operation Overcharge, but not before calling on Chowan County commissioners to reconsider last week's action to deny financial participation.



Mrs. Janice H. Faulkner

## Party Executive Is Guest Speaker

Janice H. Faulkner, executive director of the N. C. Democratic party, will be the principal speaker when the Democratic Women of the first Congressional District gather at Mrs. Boswell's Restaurant here Saturday for their annual meeting.

Also on the program will be Sen. J. J. Harrington of Lewiston, according to Lauretta Parker of Ahoskie, first District women's chair. Sen. Harrington, chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee, will speak on needs of the state Highway Fund.

Mrs. Faulkner, a native of Martin County, is on leave from East Carolina University while heading up state Democratic

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## Juveniles Arrested

Two juveniles were apprehended Tuesday afternoon as suspects in the theft of a billfold from a downtown drug store. The billfold and a portion of money was found.

Police Chief J. D. Parrish said the investigation would be continued by juvenile authorities.

James Blount of Hollowell & Blount Rexall was suspicious of two young men in the store. A visitor from Mt. Airy later reported that her billfold had been taken from a counter.

Blount called police. Capt. C. H. Williams and Cpl. Chuck Alexander responded. Within a few minutes the billfold had been found, along with some of the money.

Blount publicly commended the Edenton Police Department for swift action at the Town Council meeting Tuesday evening.

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**RURITAN CLUB CHARTERED** — The Advance Ruritan Club was presented its official charter, last Tuesday night, and a slate of officers was installed. Robert K. Davis, president of Ruritan International, is shown at left addressing, from the left, Carlton Perry, president, Carroll Smith, vice president, Ray Goodwin, secretary, Carroll Wood Jones, treasurer, and directors Lloyd Parrish, Mike McArthur and Willis Bond.