

Mill Conversion Called Highly Profitable Venture

Recoup Funds

The N. C. Employment Security Commission recovered \$143,871.67 in unemployment insurance overpayments during June, according to figures released by the commission's anti-fraud unit.

The unit investigated 247 persons who have claimed or currently are claiming unemployment insurance benefits. Of that number, 177, or 72 per cent, were found to have been overpaid \$82,738.00. The commission classified 89 of those cases, representing \$64,663.00 as fraud and 88, representing \$18,075.00, as non-fraud.

A claimant must be proven to have knowingly made a false statement on a claim for resulting overpayments to be classified as fraud cases. Non-fraud overpayments generally result from non-intentional filing errors where fraudulent intent cannot be shown.

During June, 33 persons were tried in state courts for unemployment insurance fraud and 32 of them were convicted.

Of the overpayments recovered \$35,803.67 was recovered through refunds to the commission and \$108,068.00 was recovered by withholding new benefits to claimants who had been overpaid.

Footprints

The following item was handed to us recently by a friend along the Public Parade. It is extremely comforting to the Amburn family at this time, but it has something to say for everyone. Here it is:

FOOTPRINTS

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the LORD. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonging to him, and the other to the LORD.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he questioned the LORD about it. "LORD, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The LORD replied: "My precious, precious child. I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

Author unknown

Guest Editorial

Who's teaching our children to be socialists: parents, schools, the media?

That's hard to say. But they are being indoctrinated as revealed in a survey by the Opinion Research Institution at Princeton University. That group recently surveyed high school students about the American business system and profits.

Here are some of its findings. 67 per cent of the high school students do not believe in the need for profits.

82 per cent do not think there is competition in American business.

63 per cent favor government ownership of banks, railroads and steel companies.

61 per cent reject the profit incentive as necessary for the survival of the free enterprise system.

51 per cent think the federal government contributes most to national prosperity.

People who believe in our system are obviously failing to teach young people the benefits of the free enterprise system, that has brought this country the greatest prosperity in the world.

If this failure to teach the young continues, then some day soon, when today's high school students have become adults, don't be surprised if they vote free enterprise right out of existence.

Joel Lawhon
Capitol Broadcasting Co., Inc.

Interested in converting a five-story peanut mill in Edenton into apartments? It would be profitable, according to a recently completed market and architectural feasibility study of the historic Edenton Peanut Mill.

The study, conducted by a real estate appraiser indicates that Edenton has a strong market for middle-income apartments. Since the Edenton Peanut Mill is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, its owners would be able to take advantage of significant tax incentives for rehabilitating historic structures.

The Edenton Peanut Company's mill was built around 1909 to take advantage of the large peanut market in northeastern North Carolina. Locally owned and the first of its kind in Edenton, the company soon prospered. The mill produced 1,400 to 1,500 100-pound bags of peanuts per day at its height. The mill was originally powered by a steam engine fueled by peanut hulls and employed approximately 100 workers.

The tallest building in Edenton,

Cotton Growers Aid In Study

The Chowan County cotton growers and their county extension agent have been cooperating with the USDA and NCDA to develop better techniques for cotton insect control.

During 1978, when USDA was developing boll weevil eradication technology here, there were 380 acres of cotton. In 1981 with the boll weevil eradicated and two years of successful testing with biological materials there is now 4,600 acres of cotton spreading from Chowan County into neighboring Gates and Perquimans counties where the boll weevil eradicated cotton years before.

At the invitation of the newly formed Albemarle Cotton

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Sen. Harrington Is Reappointed

Lt. Gov. Jimmy Green today announced the re-appointment of Sen. J. J. (Monk) Harrington of Lewiston and Sen. R. P. (Bo) Thomas of Hendersonville to two-year terms on the Environmental Management Commission of the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.

The Lt. Gov. originally appointed them both in 1980 when the commission was expanded by the General Assembly.

The commission has the responsibility of promulgating rules and regulations to be followed in the protection, preservation, and enhancement of water and air resources in North Carolina.

Sen. Harrington, a Bertie County manufacturer, has served continuously in the Senate since 1963. During the 1981 Session of the General Assembly, he chaired the Senate Committee on Transportation. He served as vice-chairman of the Committee on Rules and Operation of the Senate.

He represents the first Senatorial District, which is comprised of Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington counties.



Sen. J. J. (Monk) Harrington

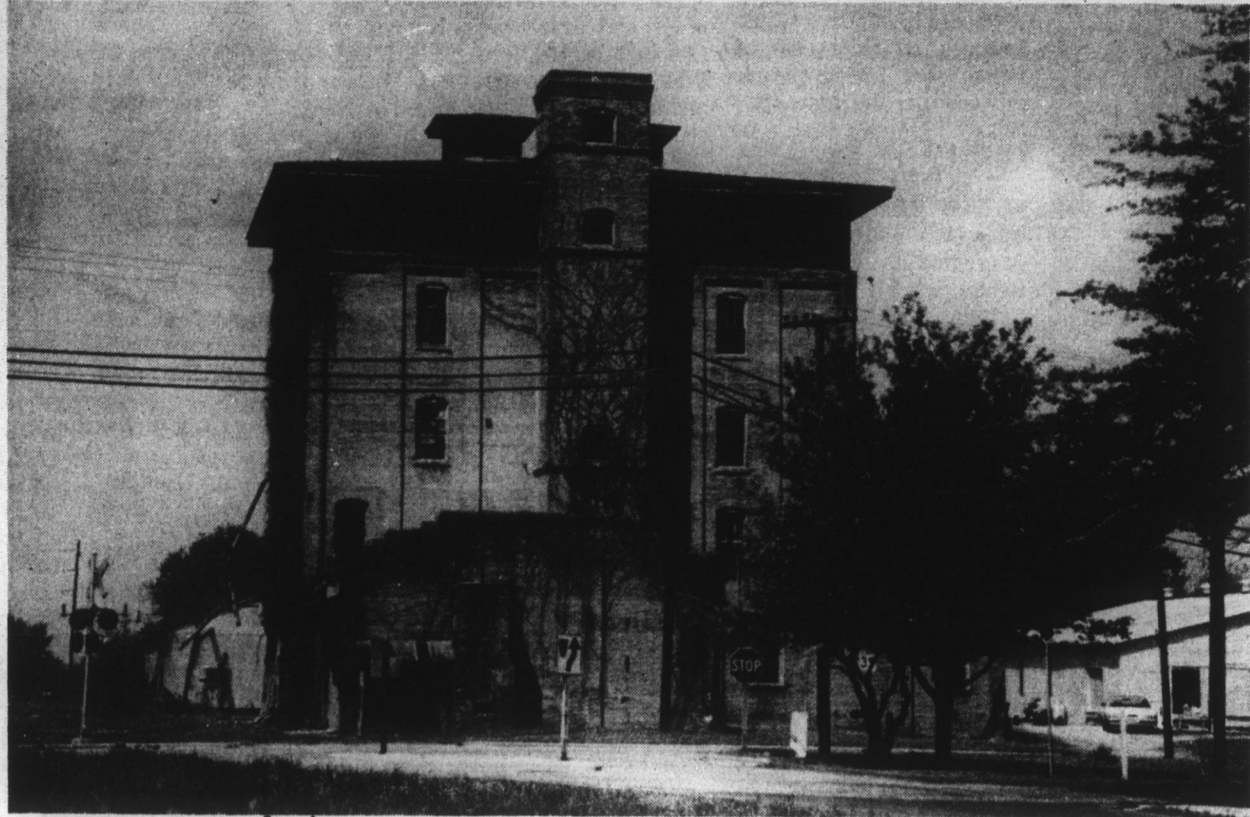
the mill is a strikingly handsome solid-brick building with arched windows. Brick pilasters rise between the windows and terminate in a cornice that sets off the fifth story from the lower levels. A brick elevator shaft rises at the center of the front facade,

extending beyond the roof line.

An Edenton landmark, the peanut mill is approximately four blocks from the Albemarle Sound. Between the mill and the waterfront is Edenton's beautiful historic district, which has been

featured in such publications as "Antiques Magazine" and "Southern Living".

The Edenton Peanut Mill is being offered for sale at \$17,000 by the Historic Preservation Fund of North Carolina. The building has



HISTORIC LANDMARK ON BLOCK — The Edenton Peanut Mill, a structure listed in the National Register of Historic Places, is being offered for sale by the Historic Preservation Fund of North Carolina. A feasibility study shows that the building can be profitably used for middle-income apartments, because of the tax incentives for rehabilitating historic structures.

been appraised at \$60,000.

The Historic Preservation Fund has optioned the building from its present owners, Jesse L. Harrell and Alton G. Elmore of Edenton Furniture Company. "Messrs. Harrell and Elmore have been very generous in working with the fund," said J. Myrick Howard, the fund's executive director.

"Our study of this property indicates that the recycling of historic buildings such as the Edenton Peanut Mill can be profitable as well as beneficial for the community," according to Howard.

The Historic Preservation Fund of North Carolina, Inc., is a private nonprofit statewide revolving fund for historic preservation. The first organization of its kind in the country, the Fund has bought and resold more than twenty historic properties in North Carolina. These properties have been sold under protective covenants and represent more than \$3-million in private investments.

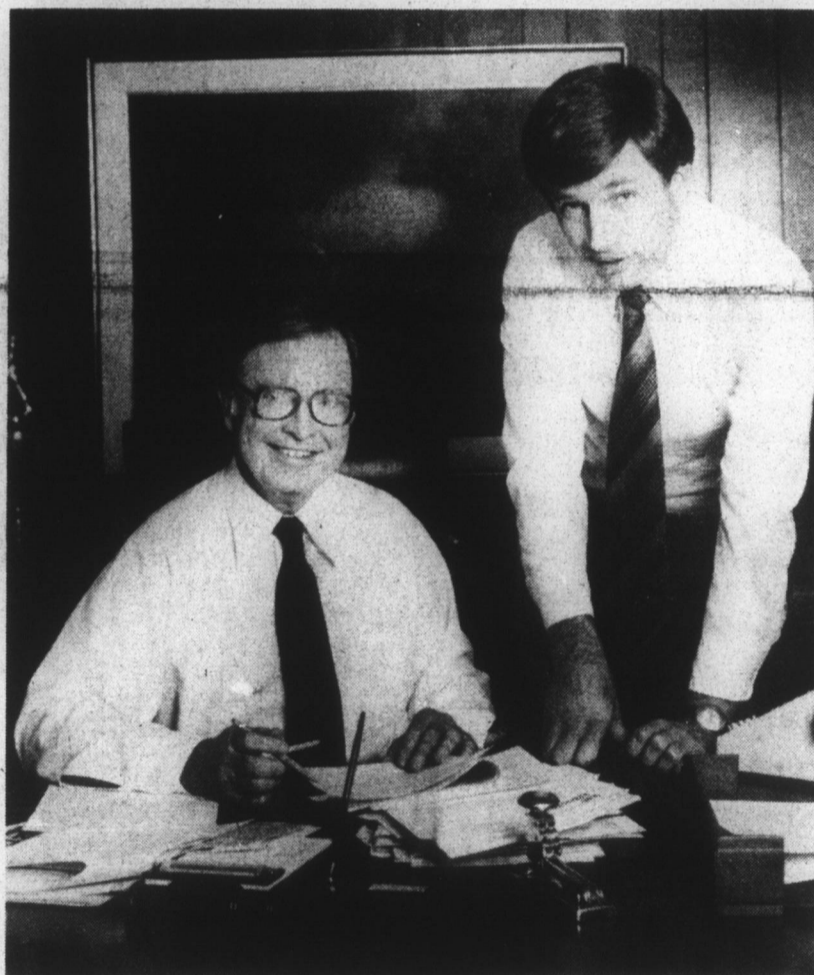
For more information about the Edenton Peanut Mill, interested parties should contact: J. Myrick Howard or A. Melanie Murphy, Historic Preservation Fund of North Carolina, P. O. Box 27632, Raleigh, N.C. 27611; telephone 919-832-3652.

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FOOD TOWN'S TOP MANAGEMENT — The power behind the throne of Food Town Stores, Inc., is Ralph W. Ketner, left, chairman of the board; and Tom Moore, president. Food Town opens its 116th store August 12 in Edenton Village Shopping Center on North Broad Street.

Foodtown Stores, Inc. Opens August 12

Food Town Stores, Inc., will open its 116th store August 12 in Edenton Village Shopping Center on North Broad Street. The store contains 21,000 square feet of space, employs 50 people and will be managed by Tim Melvin.

Food Town joins Cato's, Shoe Show, Revco Drugs, TG&Y and Tarheel Bank & Trust Company in the center. Figure Eight Development of Wilmington is owner of the project. Other facilities are being planned.

The Food Town chain, which advertises the lowest food prices in North and South Carolina and Virginia, is headquartered in Salisbury. The company has a 20-acre distribution center in Salisbury and has 900,000 square feet of space for grocery and perishable items under one roof.

Food Town employs approximately 5,000 people at the distribution center and in retail outlets. Sales in fiscal 1959 were near \$416-million. Sales figures were 39 per cent higher than the previous year and estimated sales for fiscal 1980 are \$520-million as

compared to \$22.4-million in 1970. "The company's operating policy is to sell merchandise at a low gross margin in order to increase volume without proportionate increases in operating expenses," a company spokesman pointed out.

Ketner, board chairman, has been described as competitive, resourceful, aggressive, enthusiastic, creative, energetic, and entrepreneurial. The 60-year-old board chairman is said to approach his job as head of the nation's fastest growing food chain with the evangelical zeal of a modern day Horatio Alger.

And he points with pride to the fact that Growth Stock Outlook, and investment advisory service, has called Food Town Stores "America's best managed food chain."

Peanut Program Benefits Noted

The peanut program as projected in the Helms Bill and the Rose Bill works for the benefit of peanut growers, shellers, processors, manufacturers and consumers. Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina and chairman, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry and Rep. Charles Rose of North Carolina, chairman, House Sub-Committee on Tobacco and Peanuts are taking the lead in defending present peanut legislation.

Both bills seek to provide the most optimum condition by which farmers may earn a fair profit in their efforts to supply ample quantities of the highest quality peanuts, at reasonable prices to the consuming public.

Like the tobacco program, peanut legislation has been a supply-management program that has worked well for over thirty years. A supply of high quality peanuts is produced by the farmer to meet a reasonable demand with a safe carryover, at little cost to the Federal Treasurer. The two-tier price system has worked well since its inception in 1977, as "quota" peanuts are produced for the domestic market and "additional" peanuts for the export market.

The present bills will provide a

Telephone Company Files Request For Rate Increase

TARBORO — Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company on July 24 notified the N. C. Utilities Commission that it will file a request by the end of August for increased rates.

T. P. Williamson, vice president for Carolina Telephone, said the company will request approximately \$47-million in increases in basic local service rates, installation and change charges, extended area service (EAS) rates, and other supplemental service and equipment rates and charges. No increases in telephone rental charges are planned. If in-state long distance rates are increased prior to a decision on the local rate request, which Williamson said is "probable," Carolina Telephone's local service rates would not need to be increased as much as requested.

State and federal taxes, at current rates, will take somewhat more than half of whatever additional revenues may be granted by the Utilities Commission as a result of the planned request. Any tax rate change made by Congress

this year could have the effect of helping hold telephone rates down.

In August, 1980, Carolina Telephone requested increases totaling \$25.5-million, a 13 per cent increase in its in-state operating revenues. It later reported that, by the time its case was heard in January, 1981, its new revenue needs had grown to \$36.2-million annually because of continuing high inflation, decreasing long distance revenues and rising operating costs. The Utilities Commission authorized an increase of \$18.4-million in April.

Williamson said, "Although we regret having to do so, there are several reasons why we have absolutely no choice but to file another rate request just a year after our previous filing.

"One of these reasons is that we received only 50 per cent of what we needed last year. That amount fell far short of giving us an opportunity to earn a return acceptable to investors upon whom we depend to supply our capital requirements. We need to invest about \$100-million in new capital each year to meet our customers'

needs and you can do that only if you can pay a fair return to those who supply that capital."

Another reason for the proposed case, according to Williamson, is that costs have continued to increase since last year, and an additional reason is that recent decisions of the Federal Communications Commission have increased expenses, reduced revenues, and forced changes in regulated operations.

"We don't expect our customers to be happy about this request," Williamson added, "any more than we are. We plan to bring our story to them, though, and by the time our case is heard by the Commission, we believe our customers will understand why this request is necessary and justified.

"Local Service rates have risen only twice, and have been reduced once, in recent years. In contrast, nearly everything else goes up every year, sometimes several times during the year. We are having to play catch-up and,

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