

Toward Good Sense

School superintendents from across Tar Heelia met recently in Wilmington. A headline in Monday's edition of the Morning Star proclaimed: "Superintendents Are Managing More And Educating Less."

The headline might come as a shock to some, even along the Public Parade. But to those closely associated with public education — and there are more and more in this corner as volunteers are used heavily — there is growing concern over the old fashioned structure of the Ivory Tower.

In every county in North Carolina, the school budget takes the biggest bite of the tax levy. This is compounded because of the enormous contribution of funds from state and federal sources. Public education is the biggest business along the Public Parade, yet it is administered by people trained not in business, but education. This have proven beneficial in the County Health Departments.

One superintendent at the Wilmington conference observed that the time is drawing near when a superintendent will come from the ranks of a management specialist rather than education. "That sounds like heresy, but managing is a skill," Stanley County Supt. Jim Martin was quoted as saying.

State Supt. Craig Phillips looks upon the changing role as positive.

A good example of the lack of sound business management in public schools is what happened along the Public Parade last year. Expenditures were frozen and the county commissioners had to come up with additional funds when the school budget faced difficulty. This could have been avoided.

Any move toward better business management in public schools is a move toward good sense.

The New DA

This week marks a changing of the guard in judicial circles along the Public Parade and the other six counties of the First Judicial District in Northeastern North Carolina.

District Attorney Tom Watts moves up the bench Friday. He will take the oath as a Superior Court judge in Pasquotank County Court House. The ceremony will follow a flurry of action earlier in the week regarding his successor.

H.P. Williams of the Isle of Pasquotank went to the trough twice this week and was well fed. First, down in Manteo a special committee nominated him as candidate to succeed Mr. Watts. Then, only hours later, Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., up in Raleigh, chose Williams as interim prosecutor.

This procedure practically assures the nominee a four-year term as district attorney. Since he will replace Watts as the Democratic Party nominee on the ballot in November, it would take a mighty aggressive write-in campaign by the GOP to knock him off.

A lot of people along the Public Parade will find a newness to the name of H.P. Williams. He has prosecuted the docket in Chowan County District and Superior courts for about four years. From the time he went to work in the DA's Office he demonstrated the ability to fit into a team situation which Mr. Watts had developed.

Mr. Williams has not been a sensational prosecutor. He has proven to be a dedicated student of the law who is hard hitting rather than tough talking. This is the style he learned from Mr. Watts and the style which can be expected to continue for at least the next four years.

Mr. Williams has paid his dues as an assistant. He moves into the top spot with a reputation of being firm but fair. As long as he maintains such a balance he will enjoy the respect and cooperation of those who have business with the courts.

Tunnel In Order

Finishing touches are being put on the annex to the Legislative Building up in Raleigh. One touch

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NEW OFFICERS — New officers for the Chowan Arts Council were elected in June for the 1982-83 year. Tuesday night was their first official meeting since being elected. The waterfront picture includes: Bruce Wackelin, President; Mary Ann Morris, Vice President; Betty Bisette, Secretary; and Marie Pierce, Treasurer.

Chaffin Presides Over Chowan District Court

The following cases were heard in Chowan County District Court on July 20 by the presiding judge, John T. Chaffin.

Joan Carol Bembury, shoplifting, 90 days suspended 2 years,

Margaret Davis Taken In Death

Mrs. Margaret Smith Davis, 87, of 200 E. King St. in Edenton, died July 19 at Chowan Hospital. A former school teacher and wife of Junius (Doc) W. Davis, Sr., she was a member of Edenton United Methodist Church.

Other survivors include one son, Junius W. Davis, Jr., M.D., of New Bern; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held graveside July 21 at 11 A.M. by Rev. Clifford Shoaf at Beaver Hill Cemetery. Pall bearers were Herbert Hollowell, Jim Blount, Gilliam Wood, Joe Conger, Jr., Tom Shepherd and Bill Gardner. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorial contributions be made to the charity of choice. Williford-Barham Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

New Doctors Join Medical Center Staff

Two new doctors have been named to the staff at Chowan Medical Center. Drs. Joseph Ray Haskett, Jr. and John Christopher Perry have joined forces at the Medical Center at a time when extra efforts are being made to make Chowan County a regional medical center. Both doctors will

\$100 fine and cost of court, reimburse the court for state appointed attorney, ordered not to go on the premises of Macks for 2 years.

Ada Holley Leary, attempted larceny, 9 months suspended 2 years, \$50 fine and cost of court, ordered not to go on the premises of Food Town for 2 years, ordered to attend Albemarle Mental Health Clinic.

McCoy (NMN) Bazemore, communicate a threat, assault with a deadly weapon, and assault inflicting serious injury, consolidated for judgement, 18 months suspended 2 years, \$500 fine, cost of court in each count, ordered not to assault or go in the vicinity of Thelma L. Ford, Leo Parker, John Ferebee, Jr., Eric L. Jordan, Jr. or Thelma C. Ford for 2 years, ordered not to carry any knives, guns, or other weapons for 2 years, ordered to pay \$318.20 to Clerk's Office for benefit of Roy Rogers Ford and Chowan Hospital. Appealed. Two other counts against Bazemore, assault with a deadly weapon and assault by pointing a gun, were dismissed by the prosecutor.

John Ferebee, Jr., assault with a deadly weapon, dismissed.

Thelma Lue Ford, assault with a

deadly weapon, not guilty. Trespassing, dismissed.

Walter Earl Leary, failure to yield right of way and DUI, 90 days suspended 2 years, \$125 fine and cost of court, surrender operator's license.

Roy Rogers Ford, trespassing, 30 days suspended 2 years, \$100

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Gross Retail Sales Are Noted

Gross retail sales in the 10-county Albemarle Area of North-eastern North Carolina totaled nearly \$50-million in April, the latest figures available from the State Department of Revenue.

Chowan County sales during that month were recorded at \$5,295,563.

Total sales in the state were \$3.2 billion with \$195.2-million being in foreign sales.

Gross sales in the nine other counties in the Albemarle Area were:

Camden, \$936,824; Currituck, \$5,374,700; Dare, \$9,289,927; Hyde, \$1,533,603; Pasquotank, \$15,901,604; Perquimans, \$2,426,708; Tyrrell, \$1,138,282; and Washington, \$5,215,373.

Phillips Addresses Concerns On Albemarle Sound Bridge

Following is a copy of the statement delivered by Chowan County Board of Commissioners chairman Al Phillips, at the July 20, hearing of The North Carolina Department of Transportation in Ahsokie. The following delegation attended to call attention to the serious problem existing with the Albemarle Sound bridge on Rt. 32: County Board of Commissioners Chairman Al Phillips, County Sheriff Troy Toppin, County Manager Cliff Copeland, Edenton Town Administrator Sam Noble and Chamber of Commerce Executive Jerry Hendee.

Interested readers can write their concerns on this matter to Cliff Copeland, Chowan County Manager P.O. Box 583 Edenton 27932.

"Undoubtedly the greatest transportation need of Chowan County and perhaps this entire region is the replacement of the Albemarle Sound (Route 32) Bridge. I need not cite statistics about the deteriorated condition of the bridge. As members of the hearing panel are aware, the bridge simply needs replacing. At present the remaining life expectancy of the bridge is only two to three years.

I will emphasize the importance of the bridge to Chowan County and our region. The closure of the bridge would result in devastating financial losses to many of our businesses and industries. Our medical community would be severely impacted. Chowan Hospital, for example, employs

seventeen full-time employees who commute via the Sound Bridge. Twenty-three per cent of the patients admitted to the hospital during FY 82 were from Washington, Tyrrell, Hyde, and Beaufort Counties.

Mr. Marc Basnight, Mr. Atkins, Mr. Moore and the remaining staff of the North Carolina Department of Transportation — all appreciate the magnitude and severity of the problems. All are leading the fight to obtain financing for a replacement bridge. Given the present financial plight of the North Carolina Department of Transportation, 41 million dollars is going to be difficult to obtain. But we must persevere, we must obtain the needed monies. We ask for your continued support and we pledge our unwavering assistance.

Construction Grants Awarded

RALEIGH—Gov. James B. Hunt Jr., and Dr. Sarah T. Morrow, secretary of the Department of Human Resources, announced state grants totaling \$14-million have been made to 60 local governments in North Carolina for construction of water supply systems projects.

Chowan County received \$12,206.

This funding was allocated under the provisions of the North Carolina Clean Water Bond Act which authorizes grants of up to 25

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MERCHANT OF THE MONTH—John Mitchener, Jr., left, and son John Mitchener III stand in the doorway of their business, Mitchener's Pharmacy in downtown Edenton. They were selected as our Merchant of the Month for July.

Mitchener's Pharmacy Continues 68-Year Old Tradition Of Service

By Richard Williams
According to John Mitchener Jr. — the elder of the combination of the father-son ownership of Mitchener's Pharmacy in downtown Edenton — he, at 68, is the oldest merchant in the same location, operating the same business, under the same name in all of Chowan County.

In lieu of this outstanding feat and their accomplishments in the community, John Mitchener Jr. and John Mitchener III has been named the Chowan Herald Merchants of the Month.

John Mitchener Sr., now deceased, had the building constructed in 1913. In the year his first son, John Jr. was born, 1914, the pharmacy was opened for business.

Sixty-eight years and a lot of blood, sweat and prescriptions later, the pharmacy continues as a mecca for weary shoppers and a place where old-timers can enjoy a cup of freshly brewed coffee.

But over the years, from one generation to another, there have been advances in technology and in the field of medicine.

"Pharmacy today involves a lot more thinking and analyzing of

medical alternatives than it did several years ago," said Mitchener, who graduated from UNC—Chapel Hill with a degree in Pharmacy in 1963.

"Part of this, he said, "is because of the sheer develop in chemistry the past 50 years or so."

"A lot of people think that antibiotics have always been around but actually they've been around just the past 40 years or so," he added.

How long does a business with such tremendous longevity continue to attract a sizable market? According to Mitchener, a well-traveled man of vast experiences and expertise, the future of the business looms no doubt in his mind.

"I think we have got a good future; with the influx of nursing homes, people are having problems today that they didn't have 40 years ago because people are living longer. Frankly speaking, said Mitchener, "Our future is tied up with the future of Edenton."

John is married to the former Ginette Nhan whom he met while serving in Vietnam. They reside,

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NEW DOCTORS AT CHOWAN MEDICAL CENTER—Dr. Joseph Ray Haskett, Jr., left, and Dr. John Christopher Perry, right, have joined the staff at Chowan Medical Center. Dr. Haskett specializes in internal medicine. Dr. Perry's specialty is family practice. We welcome both to Chowan County.

When not working in his specialty of family practice, Dr. Perry likes carpentry, sailing and jogging. He and his wife reside at 106 W. Church St.