

NUMBER ONE

It is disturbing when people question if the United States is slipping in vital areas, as the editors of a national news magazine did recently in an article headlined, "Is The U.S. Really No. 2?"

While that question dealt with U.S. military strength as compared to the Soviet Union, other critics suggest that our political and legal systems are unworkable, that our corporations habitually place profits ahead of people, that only the rich can afford health care, that our industries are outmoded — with non-existent quality control reflected in a continuously declining U.S. productivity.

It is time to call a halt to this foolish denial of American greatness.

Dislike the phone company? Try it in China. Unhappy with mail service? Consider Uruguay where tons of undelivered mail have been routinely burned. Try naming the country with a better judicial system (Iran? Poland? South Africa?). Concerned about money value and national financial stability? Look across our borders in either direction...or to 100 per cent inflation in Brazil, higher in Argentina.

We are not saying we should be happy to live with American inflation, unemployment or other problems. What we are saying is that our political system has produced a national stability second to none. If you dislike two-party politics, consider Italy with more than two dozen parties and almost a monthly change in administrations. Compare U.S. health care services and opportunities with the socialized programs of Great Britain and Sweden. One good American supermarket contains more food and consumer goods than the total found in many foreign capital cities — and at a fraction of the price.

Unfortunately, there is just enough truth in most negative statements about the United States to convince many people that they represent whole truths, rather than a glimpse of truth surrounded by a very complex issue or abstract problem.

Perhaps a letter-to-the-editor by a Soviet immigrant provides the perspective we need.

He wrote: "If Americans knew what it is like to search for a piece of meat and never find it; how it is not to be able to buy a refrigerator unless you stay on a waiting list for ten years; what it is like, by mandatory registration, to be committed forever to living in one place; how easily people are put in jail for complaining about it; what it is like to live in constant fear and to struggle for survival every day in a country where courts are designed to protect the government and justice is formulated in one simple concept of guilty unless you can prove otherwise..."

"If they knew all this... they would whisper, as I do: 'God bless this land and its people'."

We ARE number one. Never forget it.

NOTED AND PASSED

Where did you pick up the talent and inclination to open your own business?

Two Purdue University professors asked that question of nearly 2,000 entrepreneurs who manage their own companies. The predominant answer was: working at other small companies in the same line.

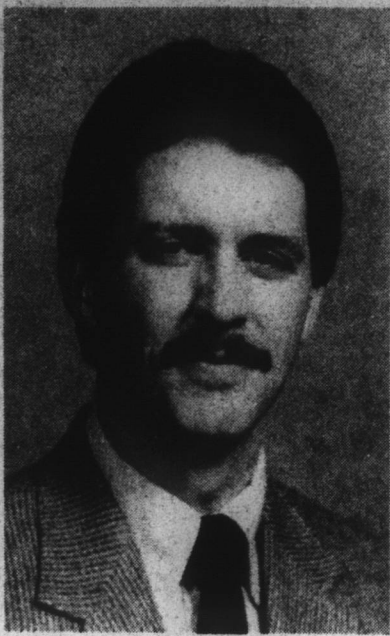
If you are a typical owner-manager, the professors found, you are under 40, educated, still live near where you always did and have parents who started their own businesses too.

Sellers Named To Local Commission

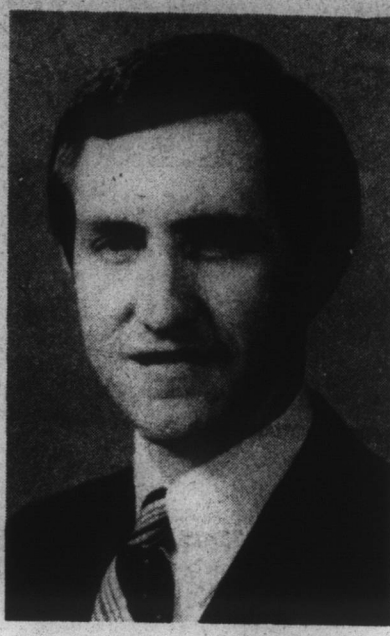
Gov. Jim Hunt has named Franklin O. Sellers of Edenton to the Historical Commission. He will serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

Sellers is operations manager of the Avoca Division of RJR Technical Co. He is chairman of the 1983 Edenton Peanut Festival and president of the Chowan Junior High PTA.

Continued On Page 4



Frank E. Cox



S. Bruce Gillikin

Major Promotions Announced By Officials Of Peoples Bank & Trust

A major promotion and new assignment of key personnel at Peoples Bank & Trust Company in Edenton has been announced from officials at the Rocky Mount headquarters.

S. Bruce Gillikin has recently been promoted to senior vice president in the bank's Edenton offices. As city executive in Edenton, he is accountable for directing efficient operations and profitable growth in those branches, it was stated.

Frank E. Cox, assistant vice president with Peoples Bank and Trust Company has assumed new responsibilities in the Commercial Loan Department of the bank's Edenton office.

An Edenton native, he is a graduate of John A. Holmes High School and attended Elizabeth City State University. He has completed several AIB courses and graduated from the North Carolina School of Banking at University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill. He recently completed a Management Development course.

Cox has been associated with Peoples Bank since 1973, having worked in the Consumer Credit Departments of the Edenton, Scotland Neck and, most recently, the Elizabeth City branch.

A community and civic-minded individual, he served as President of the Elizabeth City Downtown Business Association, Residential Chairman of the Pasquotank County Cancer Society and volunteer

with Pasquotank County United Way. He is currently serving as a Director of the Elizabeth City Boys Club and a member of the Adopt-A-School Program, and Edenton Baptist Church.

He is married to the former Toni Smith of Edenton, North Carolina and they have two daughters, Tara, age 11, and Bonnie, age 8.

A Bettie native, Gillikin is a 1972 graduate of UNC - Chapel Hill. He holds a B.S. Degree in Business. In 1979, he joined Peoples Bank in the Raleigh Offices as assistant city executive and vice president. He was transferred to Edenton and promoted to city executive in January of 1982.

He has completed several banking courses including Mid-Management and Advanced Management at the UNC School of Banking and receiving a diploma from the National Commercial Lending Graduate School at the University of Oklahoma.

Active in many civic and community affairs, he is presently serving on the Board of Directors of the Edenton Chamber of Commerce, President of the Chowan County Heart Association and is a member of the Edenton Rotary Club and the First Presbyterian Church.

Gillikin is married to the former Rose Marie Pittman of Davis, North Carolina and they have two daughters, Elizabeth, 2½, and Carolyn, age 1.

Chowan County District Court Session

The Criminal Calendar of Chowan County District Court was heard on March 15 by the Honorable J. Richard Parker.

W. W. Kilgore received a voluntary dismissal on the charge of false pretense.

Ronald Alfonza Armstead received a prayer for judgement continued for having improper lights. He had to pay cost of court.

Leo William Hermans was found guilty of failure to report an accident. He was sentenced to 60 days with one year suspended, fined \$50 and cost of court.

Timothy Cornelious Hughes was found guilty of shoplifting. He was sentenced to 60 days with one year suspended, fined \$50, had to pay \$35 cost of court and is not to go upon Food Lion.

Darrell Alexander Gibbs was

found guilty of trespassing. He was sentenced to 30 days with one year suspended, fined \$35, \$39 cost of court, is to stay off Edenton Recreation Department Property, and is on supervised probation.

Otis McCurtis was found guilty of assault on a female and resisting arrest. He was sentenced to six months with 2 years suspended, fined \$100, cost of court and is not to assault the prosecuting witness for two years. He has appealed.

Ellis (NMN) Bonner received a voluntary dismissal on the charge of false pretense.

Joseph Lee Beasley, Jr., was found guilty of assault on a female. He was sentenced to 90 days with two years suspended, fined \$75, cost of court and is not to assault the prosecuting witness for two years.

Continued On Page 4



TREE CITY AWARD PRESENTED—On Tuesday, March 8th, the Town of Edenton was presented the Tree City Award at Town Council's regularly scheduled meeting. Pictured above is North Carolina State University Forester, Herman Terry (right) presenting the award and Chuck Sopher (left), Chairman of the Tree Committee. The Tree Committee would like to remind residents that Friday is National Arbor Day and the Town will plant a live oak tree across from the Barker house to celebrate.

Town Makes Improvements On Carteret St.

The Town of Edenton has been doing a lot of improvements to West Carteret Street over the past several weeks. These improvements may be causing a slight inconvenience at the present time; but, when they are completed, around April 1, they will improve drainage, offer greater fire protection and make West Carteret Street more attractive.

The improvements to West Carteret Street will cost the Town around \$70,000. \$11,000 of which is to replace the water main, from the present 2" main, to a 6" main. The increased size of the water main will increase water pressure in that part of town giving residents better water service and offering increased fire fighting capabilities. The Town is also widening the street to accommodate traffic. Other improvements include curbing and guttering.

The Town is making these improvements in response to a petition presented to Town Council by the people who live on West

Carteret.

The Town is also working on several other projects at the present time. One project will be the installation of sewer lines on Coke

Avenue and Old Heruord Road.

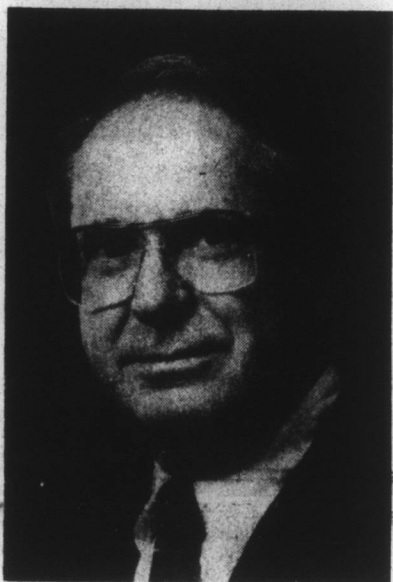
The Town has also announced that the sewage line to McDonalds has been installed and the water line will be in place soon.



CONSTRUCTION ON WEST CARTERET CONTINUES — The Town of Edenton continues the work along West Carteret Street for the improvement of drainage.

State Secretary Of Commerce Will Be Keynote Speaker

ELIZABETH CITY—D.M. (Lauch) Faircloth, State Secretary of Commerce, will provide the keynote address at the banquet held



D.M. (Lauch) Faircloth

during the Northeastern North Carolina Tomorrow Annual Meeting on April 21. Faircloth was appointed secretary in 1977 by Gov. Jim Hunt and was reappointed in 1981.

As Secretary of Commerce, Faircloth oversees a variety of programs, including industrial development, tourism, state ports, energy, banking, international trade, savings and loans, the industrial commission and the employment security commission. He has been a strong supporter for regional economic development and has advocated groups such as Northeastern North Carolina Tomorrow and Western North Carolina Tomorrow.

"Sec. Faircloth has been involved with us from the start," Joe M.

Parker, NNCT chairman said. "Our future is bright because he and others in Raleigh support our efforts."

Faircloth's business interests include farming, construction, farm equipment, automobiles, milling and commercial real estate. He is married to the former Nancy Bryan of Greensboro and has one daughter. He is a native of Clinton.

The NNCT annual meeting will be held during the afternoon of April 21 at the Graduate and Continuing Education Center at Elizabeth City State University. Registration materials will be sent to everyone currently on the mailing list. Anyone interested in attending the meeting should write to: NNCT, ECSU Box 5-S, Elizabeth City, N.C. 27909 or call 335-3491.

The NCNB National Bank Merger Completion Results In New Signs

Edenton and several other towns in eastern North Carolina have a new bank in town this week — NCNB National.

The merger with the Bank of North Carolina was completed during the weekend of March 12 with the changing of the signs on branch offices from Bank of North Carolina to NCNB.

"While our merger with Bank of North Carolina has resulted in new signs and other similar changes, former BNC customers will continue to receive the same kind of personal services they've grown accustomed to from the same people they are used to doing business with," said Sidney Warner, coastal area executive for NCNB.

The merger, the largest bank merger in the state of North Carolina's history, was phased in over the last three months. The first phase affected Bank of North Carolina offices west of Raleigh. The second phase included Edenton along with Benson, Burgaw, Dunn, Elizabethtown, Farmville, Havelock, Hertford, Hobbysville, Holly Ridge, Jacksonville, Kenansville, Lillington, Maysville,

Mount Olive, Richlands, Seaboard, Shallotte, Swansboro and Wallace.

The last phase of the merger, the sale of Bank of North Carolina offices in Wilmington and NCNB offices in Jacksonville to Peoples Bank of Rocky Mount, should be completed later this month.

Jim Ball, local bank manager, is very excited about the merger because it brings to the people of Edenton the vast resources of a large 11.5-billion dollar bank on which to draw.

These resources will mean that local customers will have several new services that they formally did not have. Services include more specialized lending, better customer service and the first bank in the area that has an international department.

The Edenton NCNB as Mr. Ball puts it, "... is now on line with the central operational computer which gives us immediate information on customer accounts. This cuts out the delay time in getting information to the customer." In this manner the customer is served better.

Continued On Page 4



NEW BANK IN TOWN—W.P. Jones, business development consultant and member of the NCNB local bank's Board of Directors, and George A. Byrum, also a member of the Board, take a moment to pose in front of the NCNB sign outside the Edenton main office.

Continued On Page 4