

CITY WILL REJECT RECREATION VOTE

Town Of Dunn Debt Highest In State For Town Its Size

At a time when one faction of Dunn's citizenship is asking for a special tax levy to finance recreation, the records show that already the Town of Dunn owes more money than any town its size in the entire State.

Dunn, with its 1950 population of 6,316, owes a total of \$759,000.

The largest amount owed by any other town, of less than 7,000 population is Oxford, with a population of 6,685 owing \$486,000.

Out of all the towns in the State in the 5-8,000 population range, only the Town of Lenoir, with a population of 7,888, owes more money. Its indebtedness is \$951,000.

Only two towns in the 8-10,000 population range, Tarboro and Washington, owe more money than the Town of Dunn.

Tarboro, with 8,120 population, owes \$920,000 and Washington, with 9,698 population owes \$1,608,000.

Several towns of over 10,000 population owe less money than the Town of Dunn.

TAX RATE IS HIGH

Dunn's present city tax rate is \$1.65 per hundred. In addition to this, Dunn citizens, along with other residents of Ayerboro, pay an extra 15 cents per hundred for the Dunn school district, and Dunn citizens also pay an extra tax on their water bill totaling 25 per cent or a minimum of 50 cents per month.

These figures were obtained from the North Carolina League of Municipalities, which has to approve all bond elections.

Dunn's bonded indebtedness is so high that officials point out it would be difficult for the town to get permission to hold a bond election even in the event of an extreme emergency.

Those favoring a city-financed recreation program are advocating that from 5 to 10 cents (the latter is the maximum) be added to finance the play program for white and colored citizens.

RUNNING UNDER DEFICIT

Even at the present tax rate, the Town of Dunn is operating currently under a deficit budget.

Dunn is in a much worse shape, financially, than any of its nearby neighbors.

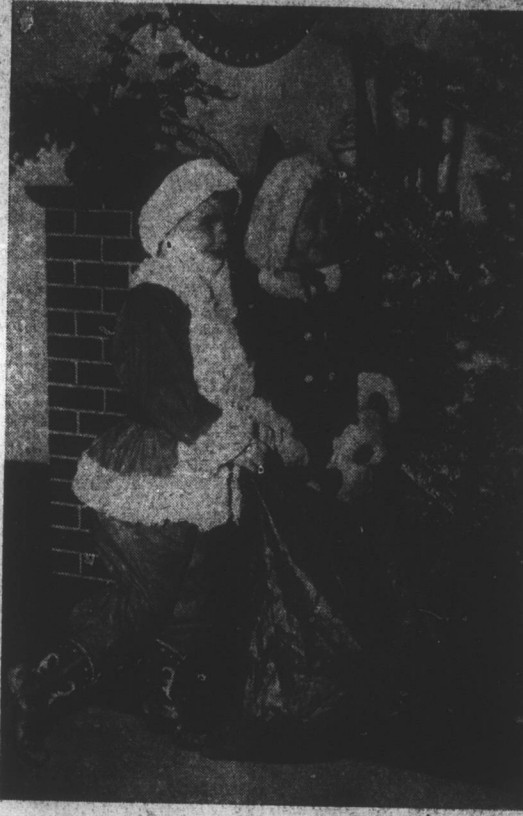
Clinton, with a population of 4,414, owes only \$140,500; Smithfield, with a population of 5,574, owes only \$447,000; Lenoir, with 9,186 population, owes only \$420,500; and Sanford, with a population of 10,013, owes only \$96,500.

Following is a break-down of the population and indebtedness of comparable North Carolina cities.

TOWNS OF FROM 5,000-8,000 POPULATION

Table with 3 columns: TOWN, POPULATION, INDEBTEDNESS. Lists towns like Belmont, Graham, Hamlet, Kings Mountain, Laurinburg, Lenoir, Lincolnton, Mt. Airy, Oxford, Smithfield.

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AT ERWIN TONIGHT - Santa Claus has to bring so many toys to the Mother Goose Kindergarten at Erwin tonight at the Erwin Methodist Education Building that he has to bring his wife, Sherry Ann Lambert, five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Lambert of Erwin. Both are second year kindergarten students at the school operated by Mrs. William Newsome of Dunn. The program tonight will begin at 8 o'clock. (Daily Record Photo by T. M. Stewart.)

Twenty Nominated For Chamber Posts

STATE NEWS BRIEFS

KITTY HAWK, N. C. - Flashing jets, silvery blimps and gravity-defying helicopters—all symbols of the modern air age—circled in his prescriptive tribute above a granite marker today, honoring the men who achieved the first heavier-than-air flight here 48 years ago.

STATESVILLE - A Southern Railway freight train crashed into a passenger car at a crossing at...

Twenty Dunn business men have been nominated for the three vacancies on the Board of Directors of the Dunn Chamber of Commerce and balloting is taking place this week by mail.

The nominations were revealed in a letter sent to all members by President E. W. Smith. Under rules of the organization, three members retire each year. Those retiring at the end of this year are: Al Wullenwaber, Otis Warren and Guyton Smith.

THREE TO RETIRE Members whose terms have not expired are: Earl Westbrook, Henry Tyler, Looker Muse, Gene Smith, Charles Skinner and Mayor Ralph E. Hanna. The mayor is an ex-officio member.

Voting, however, is not limited to those nominated. A member can vote on any three members of the...

Officials Say Dunn Tax Rate Too High Now

Dunn's city council tonight will reject a request that a special election be called to vote a special tax levy for recreation in the city.

Members of the council, polled by The Daily Record, are almost unanimous against any extra tax burden on the citizens and likewise are opposed to holding an election on the issue.

Thus, it was apparent this morning, that the proposal for adding five or ten cents per hundred dollar valuation will die a natural death tonight.

Under the law, the city cannot legally spend a cent of tax money for recreation without a vote of the people. Ten cents would be the maximum which could be voted for recreation, which means the town could spend up to \$4,000 a year for the purpose should the vote carry.

City Manager Oliver O. Manning will propose the election in an effort to settle the issue, which has been the subject of considerable discussion.

Members of the board interviewed by The Record, while expressing an interest in recreation and citing the need, were emphatic in being opposed to further taxation.

The present board gave citizens a five-cent reduction in taxes this year and are in no mood to add extra burden.

"TOO HIGH ALREADY" "Taxes are too high already," declared Mayor Protom R. G. Tart this morning. "I don't believe the people want or would approve any increase at this time." Mr. Tart is chairman of the finance committee of the town.

Officials point out that the Town of Dunn already owes more money for its size than any other town in the State. The city tax rate is \$1.65 and local citizens also pay...

DEAR SANTA:

Dear Santa, We are two little boys named Mike and Bobby Turner. Mike is four years old and wants a bicycle, doctor set, a drum and a cow boy suit. Bobby is three years old and he wants a trike, drum and a car.

Love, Mike and Bobby Turner, Lenoir, N. C.

Dear Santa Claus, I am writing you a letter. We are good little children. I have 3 sisters and 1 brother. I am nine years old. Jeannie is 4 and Sue is 2 and J. P. is 5 months old. I work at the saw mill and I want a big doll and my sister a little doll too and my little sister a little doll and my...



MRS. WHITE WINS CROSELY CONTEST - T. H. Sansom of Johnson Cotton Company is shown here as he presented a \$300 merchandise certificate to Mrs. Howard White of Dunn for her prize-winning entry in the Crosley American Way Contest. Second place winner was Mrs. J. W. Whitehead, shown with the Crosley clock radio presented her. Mrs. White designated that the Dunn Presbyterian Church receive the \$100 cash award, and the Rev. Richard Rhea Gammon, right, received it for the church. Standing behind are Marvin Godwin, left manager of the appliance department, and B. C. Fridden, right, manager of the furniture department. (Daily Record Photo by J. W. Temple, Jr.)

Three Accidents Are Reported

Postmaster Predicts Big Christmas Gains

Postmaster Ralph Wade, in a last appeal to citizens to get their Christmas cards and packages in the mail, predicted this morning that Christmas mail will be about 30 per cent greater in volume this year than last.

The Christmas rush is already underway here and this morning the Post Office was loaded down with letters, cards and parcel post.

OPEN ALL DAY SAT.

As a special service to citizens, the Post Office remained open all day Saturday and will also remain open all day next Saturday.

Extra employees are being added this week to handle the back-breaking volume of mail. Four of the extra employees were on duty this morning. They are: Dick Warren, Willie Pate, Carol Summerlin...

License Plates Are Going Fast

A total of 1,185 license plates have been sold at the Purdie Equipment Co., in the two weeks since license plates have been on sale there; it was reported today by J. W. Purdie, Jr.

Of this number, 1,340 have been purchased for private cars; five for motorcycles; 239 for private trailers; 48 for farm trucks; 216 for farm trailers; and seven for commercial trucks.

HOURS OBSERVED Plates are sold at Purdie Equipment (Continued on Page Two)

Mrs. White Winner In Crosley Contest

Mrs. Howard White of Dunn has been announced as winner of the Crosley American Way Contest by Johnson Cotton Company and will receive \$300 worth of merchandise as her award.

In addition, Mrs. White was given the privilege of selecting any church or organization to receive \$100 additional prize, and she directed that the money be given to the Dunn Presbyterian Church.

Marvin Godwin, manager of the appliance department at Johnson Cotton Company, said hundreds of entries were received in the contest. Judges were Raymond Cromartie, Eugene Smith and Mrs. H. C. Turlington.

MRS. WHITEHEAD SECOND The second best entry was submitted by Mrs. J. W. Whitehead of Dunn. Although no second prize was originally scheduled, the company presented Mrs. Whitehead a...

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Dunn Tourist Group Busy Raising Funds

A group of businessmen, members of the newly formed Dunn Tourist Bureau, met Friday afternoon at Johnson's Restaurant and raised the needed amount to pay dues in the Highway 301 Association, as the first step in raising \$1,540 to be used to attract tourist trade to Dunn.

The latter amount was decided upon as the minimum amount needed at once, at a meeting of the executive committee. The remainder of the money is to be apportioned, \$540 for highway signs and \$500 for folders.

It was decided to scale minimum memberships at ten dollars, with the businesses most intimately affected taking extra memberships on a voluntary basis. The advantage of the association...

In spite of clear, cold weather, good visibility, and dry roads, the usual accident causes, Patrolman Paul Albergine had three wrecks in widely separated parts of the county over the week-end.

Three cars were involved in the first accident at 8:30 Saturday night on North Carolina Highway 48 about two miles from Coats. The Willis jeep, driven by William Washington James, colored, crashed between two cars was overturned and nearly demolished.

James was attempting to make a left turn when a 1948 Plymouth, driven by Leroy Tart of Coats, directly behind him, cut to the left and nearly cleared the jeep, clipping the left front.

Melvin Grimes of Coats, driving a 1941 Ford behind Tart, cut wide to the right and collided with the rear of the jeep leaving 210 feet of skid marks in his wake, and overturning the jeep.

Occupants of all three vehicles suffered minor cuts and lacerations and were treated at Good Hope Hospital in Erwin.

Albergine's second accident investigation also involved three vehicles, a 7 Up bottling truck driven by Thomas Rosee Williams...

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GRAFT IN GOVERNMENT

Today, Drew Ferguson, who pioneered the first stories on tax frauds, begins a series of vital important columns on corruption in government. How it got started, who's responsible, what it's all about, and how to cure it. Read the first of these columns on the editorial page.

BULLETINS

WASHINGTON - The CIO, in a series of recommendations ranging from rent control to social security, has urged President Truman to increase the national minimum wage rate from 75 cents to \$1.25 an hour.

WASHINGTON - Moscow and the Daily Worker are having a propaganda clinic over the tax graft and corruption investigations in this country. The general idea of the Red comment is that the scandals prove communism's long arguments that capitalism and crime are bed-fellows.

PUSAN, Korea - South Korean Col. Oh Ik Kyung, blamed for the massacre of more than 200 villagers shot without trial by his troops last February, has been sentenced to life imprisonment, the government announced today.

SWANICK, England - Nine bellringers of St. Andrews Church were on strike today because the Rev. L. H. Roper, the vicar, said they must attend his services as well as do the bellringing.

MONTEVIDEO - Uruguayan voters have approved a Swiss-mid federal council to replace the national President, nearly complete election returns showed today.

5TH ARMY HQ, Korea - Fighting flared on the Korean front today after a day in which not a single American soldier was killed. The Communists claimed the recapture of two islands. (Continued on Page Two)

MARKETS

EGGS AND POULTRY RALEIGH - Today's egg and poultry markets: Central North Carolina live poultry: Fryers and broilers, about steady, supplies adequate to plentiful. Heavy hens about steady, supplies generally short. Prices paid producers FOB farm: Fryers and broilers 35, few 34; heavy hens 25-30, mostly 28-29.

Eggs steady, supplies barely adequate, demand fair. Prices paid producers and handlers FOB local trading stations: A large 65, A medium 55, B large 50, current col. (Continued on Page Two)

FRISCO'S STAFF HAS PARTY - Pictured here is the staff of Frisco's Department Store in Dunn, which held its Christmas party Saturday night at Johnson's Restaurant. The group enjoyed a turkey dinner, an entertaining program and exchanged gifts. Hugh W. Frisco, owner of the company, presided. (Daily Record Photo by J. W. Temple, Jr.)