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## Three Economic Development Units Embracing 25 Eastern Counties

Governor Dan Moore today announced the formal organization of three economic development commissions in 25 counties in Eastern North Carolina. The commissions have been established under the Public Works and Economic Development Act in order to promote economic growth activities on a multi-county basis.

"The first job of the newly-formed commissions will be to prepare multi-county overall economic development programs for submission to the Economic Development Administration in Washington," Governor Moore said. "When these programs are approved, public works projects in the EDA eligible areas will qualify for an additional 10 per cent Federal grant."

The program also calls for the selection of certain cities in each of the commissions to be called "economic development centers," he explained. These centers will become eligible for Federal loans and grants for economically desirable purposes, even though they may be located in counties which would not otherwise be able to qualify for assistance under the Economic De-

velopment Act. It is expected that Federal assistance will be available in future years to cover a large part of the cost of maintaining an office and employing a staff to assist the member counties and cities in carrying out economic and community development programs. At the present time, assistance is being given to the newly-formed commissions by the State Planning Task Force. The Task Force, which has received a grant from the Economic Development Administration to defray the cost of these activities, has employed the consulting firm of EBS Management Consultants to help organize the commissions and prepare the programs.

Each member county on a commission appoints three members to the commission. In addition, the counties will name 10 persons each to an Advisory Committee for each commission. The Advisory Committee will help commission members in the formulation of their programs. The officers of the newly formed commissions follow:

**Mid-East Economic Development Commission** (Beaufort,

## May Ends Eastern Carolina Drought

Kinston Weather Observer Douglas Rouse reported through 8 a.m. Wednesday that Kinston had enjoyed 4.02 inches of rain during the month of May.

This is .49 inch more rain than the long-term average for this area for May, but 1.43 inches less than the rainfall of May, 1966.

March and April were among the driest months ever recorded in this area, both falling far below long-term averages.

Bertie, Hyde, Martin, Pitt, and Washington counties)

Chairman — Carl V. Venters, Jr., Farmville; Vice-Chairman — Albert Hubers, Pantego; Secretary-Treasurer — C. M. Cobb, Williamston.

**Neuse River Economic Development Commission** (Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, and Wayne counties)

Chairman — A. C. Edwards, Hookerton; Vice-Chairman — Odell Merrill, Beaufort; Secretary-Treasurer — Edward C. Howard, New Bern.

**Southeastern Economic Development Commission** (Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Cumberland, Hoke, New Hanover, Pender, Robeson, Sampson, and Scotland counties)

Chairman — James R. Fout, Raeford; Vice-Chairman, Mason Hicks, Fayetteville; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. A. P. Henry, Winnabow.

## Technical Action Panel Asks Reply To Business Clinic Questionnaire

The Jones County Technical Action Panel met at Trenton on May 19. The committee voted to conduct a survey of retail firms in the county to determine their interest in holding an "In Business for Myself" clinic.

The questionnaire published on page eight of this issue should be returned to the Panel chairman, J. E. Mewborn, Jr., P. O. Box 340, Trenton, not later than Wednesday, June 7. If there is sufficient response, the Panel will then assist in arranging the clinic.

The Panel is to be composed of local businessmen who will give general information relating to important aspects in op-

erating a retail business.

The following items are expected to be presented: Records and their Importance; Taxes; Legal Factors; Financing; Management Counseling; and Insurance. About 15 minutes will be devoted to each topic with a question and answer period following.

TAP chairman Mewborn said that the panel was of the opinion that such a clinic could be helpful to some Jones County business operators. The panel, however, stresses the fact that the clinic being held at a date yet to be set during June will depend on the response shown by the returned questionnaire.

## Donald Murphy to Become Air Cop



Airman Donald R. Murphy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank O. Murphy of Rt. 1, Pollocksville, has been selected for technical training at Lackland AFB, Tex., as an Air Force air policeman.

The airman recently completed basic training at Lackland. His new school is part of the Air Training Command which conducts hundreds of specialized courses to provide technically trained personnel for the nation's aerospace force.

Airman Murphy is a 1966 graduate of Jones Central High School.

## Further Reflections With Domestic Import from Foreign Affairs Meet

By Jack Rider

Last week I reported at some length, largely on the external implications of the foreign affairs conference for editors held May 22nd and 23rd in Washington. This week I would like to apply to the local scene the implications one could logically draw from the facts and opinions expressed in this conference.

Food was repeatedly dwelt upon as the most pressing problem the world faces; and obviously, along with food the question of population control.

Since Eastern North Carolina is one of the major potential food producing areas of our nation anything that deals with the subject of food should have vital importance to all concerned with the future of the Eastern North Carolina economy.

And, secondarily, but closely akin to the food problem is the rapid expansion of the commercial fertilizer industry. Living here in the heart of Tobacco Land USA it has been easy for Eastern Carolinians to lose sight of the fact the rest of the world does not have access to this magic key of fertilization which can cause even the most barren soil to give off amazing quantities of food and fiber.

The importance of this expanding fertilizer business is brought closer to home with another as yet unrecognized fact of Eastern Carolina life: That under the estuaries of our rivers and beneath the floor of many of our coastal sounds there is one of the largest deposits of phosphate which is a basic ingredient in all commercial fertilizers.

So Eastern North Carolina stands on the very doorstep of an unbelievable exploitation of this great mineral resource. This has double importance to our area since it carries with it the double responsibility of making this resource available to a hungry world but at the same time protecting our area from being made into a wasteland as some sections of our nation have by various kinds of mining operations. But Eastern Carolinians may as well accept the cold fact of life: That with one of the three large reserves of this material we will not be permitted to "sit on it".

The intelligent exploitation of this mineral resource and the satellite industries that will spring up around it in the next 20 years will bring Eastern North Carolina a wave of new money, new people and new philosophies that will prove stimulating, and, of course, at times aggravating to many.

On the specific subject of food; Eastern North Carolina may also be on the doorstep of an unbelievable expansion. Not only as a quick source of supply to the mass of humanity that covers the earth from Norfolk to Boston but as a potential source of supply to Western Europe.

The completion of the Kennedy Round of negotiation on Tariff reductions between 55 nations will first be felt in this country in the expanded export of farm products to those countries participating in this agreement. It is expected that this will boost American agricultural exports by nearly 30 per cent in the immediate future, and no one is able to guess what the long range implications in this area may be.

This, of course, concerns food exports primarily, but not to be forgotten in this part of the world is that protective tariffs have been a major deterrent to the flow of American tobacco in World trade. The British have had an import duty of over \$1 per pound on American tobacco and the continental nations of Western Europe have also blocked importation of American tobacco with less high but stiff tariffs.

But tobacco is not all of the farm economy of Eastern North Carolina. Corn, soybeans, pork and poultry are major contributors to the cash income of this section.

The production of high quality pork and poultry when combined with improved methods of transportation may result in another boom in the broiler industry of all of North Carolina.

It is not likely that North Carolina will ever offer much competition in either the American or world markets with beef because North Carolina land is too valuable to be used for cattle grazing, but North Carolina can, and will compete very strongly for the pork market, domestically and internationally. We already have the base for this, and with the greatest stability we have ever had in the tobacco growing end of Eastern North Carolina farming, the ingenuity of our farmers and the fertility of our soil and climate will continue to turn sharply in the direction of the corn-hog economy, but now arriving.

And this takes no consideration of the potential of North Carolina's fishery, which may take a sudden turn in the direction of food for humans rather than for animals.

Of course, already a small percentage of the North Carolina fishery is consumed by humans, but by far the biggest part — the menhaden catch — goes into industrial and animal uses.

Recent developments in the processing of so-called "scrap fish" that have been approved for human consumption may open up an industry that is geared to production of foods for low-income areas of the world in which fish protein is a major part of diet.

All of this sounds very rosy; a lot of very high castles in very thin clouds, but it is a reasonable projection that is based more on the external than internal demands of our small part of the highly interdependent world that we live in today.

## Maysville School Commencement Held Thursday Morning; Hughes Speaker

Commencement Exercises were held at Maysville School Thursday, June 1, at 10:30 a.m. The speaker for the occasion was Charles R. Hughes, of Maysville, a member of the Jones County Board of Education.

Rev. R. N. Knight gave the invocation and William A. Taylor, Principal, awarded the diplomas.

The welcome was given by Larry Thompson, introduction of the speaker, Teresa Cumbo, Last Will and Testament, Janie Meadows, and the farewell was given by Bonnie Banks. The class sang three selections and the traditional processional was used.

Other members of the 8th grade class are: Bobby Bailey, Gregory Britt, Bobby Collins, Edward Collins, Dora Bell Dillahun, Alice Hansley, Linda Hansley, Pam Jenkins, Charles Jones, Darrell Jones, Michael

Jones, Deborah Meadows, Milton Meadows, Rodney Meadows, Milton Moore, Rose Philyaw and Jerry Wiggins.

Mrs. Ethel Strobel is class sponsor.

Seventh graders serving as marshals were: Jackie Taylor, chief; Mac Thompson, Judy Maides and Wanda Cannon.

## Chadwick Reunion

The descendants of the late Joshua and Frances Chadwick will gather at the Club House in Trenton on June 11 at 10 o'clock. Sunday school will be held at 11 o'clock with Stanley H. Armstrong of Grifton teaching class. Special music will be provided. Dinner will be spread at 1 o'clock. Friends of the family are invited.

## Social Security Paying Out \$681,000 Per Year in Jones; \$1,575,000 Collected

Jones County residents received \$681,216 in social security benefits last year. At the end of 1966, 1160 men, women, and children in Jones County were receiving benefits at a monthly rate of \$56,768.

Included in this total were 747 older people, receiving benefits as retired workers, the wives or husbands of retired workers, and

as the surviving widows or aged dependent parents of workers who died.

But social security is not just for older people, because 297 young widows and children in Jones County were receiving monthly benefits of \$11,822 at the end of December and 116 disabled workers and dependents were receiving benefits at a monthly rate of \$5,747.