

On Advisory Board Recommendation

Dog Warden Decision Due Next Week



Retires Today



Sam C. Morris

Named Publisher



Louis H. Fogleman, Jr.

Year-end Changes At News-Journal

by Paul Dickson

Sam C. Morris To Retire On 31st

As he winds up 36 years with *The News-Journal* since World War II, Sam C. Morris officially retires from the paper and from Dickson Press, Inc. on today, December 31, 1981.

Sam's service with the paper actually started with my father, before his death in 1935, and until the war while my mother was publisher. He entered Federal service with the National Guard in 1940 and served over five years in this country, the Dutch West Indies and the Philippine Islands. He was separated as a first lieutenant and was later a captain in the National Guard.

He is a native of Raeford, oldest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Morris, and grandson of Sam Cameron, a member of Hoke County's first board of commissioners. He returned to *The News-Journal* in 1946 and has participated one way or another in almost all issues of the paper since. In that time he has performed about every job in newspaper and printing production, and has served for the past several years as general manager of *The News-Journal* and of the other activities of Dickson Press, Inc.

Morris has contributed to the growth and welfare of the community in many ways in these years.

He has served the Presbyterian church as deacon, elder and Sunday School teacher, and as president of the Men of the Church. He has served as director and president of the now ailing Hoke County United Fund and for many years kept it going as treasurer. Also, he served as director and president of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce, served several terms on the Raeford City Council, and was for many years chairman of the Hoke County Democratic Executive Committee. A longtime director of Raeford Savings & Loan Association, Morris now serves as chairman of the board of directors.

He received the Raeford Kiwanis Club's "Man of the Year" award in 1976.

Sam is married to the former Mary Alice Pernel of Franklin County and they have a daughter, Sarah, of Virginia Beach and a son, John, of Greenville, S.C.

Sam says he expects to continue to be associated with *The News-Journal* as a contributing editor and with Dickson Press as a consultant in production. He says he plans to continue to help with the things that are fun around the business, but to walk off on all responsibility and worry. That sounds like a nice retirement plan, doesn't it? He deserves it.

Fogleman To Be New Publisher

Effective January 1, 1982, Louis H. Fogleman, Jr., becomes publisher of *The News-Journal*. Louis is vice-president of Dickson Press, Inc. and lives in Fayetteville, where much of the company's business has been done for some years through *The Paraglide*, Fort Bragg's post newspaper which we have published since 1960; through *The Image Men*, a printing company started by Paul Dickson III in 1970 and managed by Robert A. Dickson since 1978; and through *The Spring Lake News*, a weekly newspaper we have published since 1979.

Louis Fogleman, whose wife is our daughter, the former Anne Dickson, is a native of Wadesboro and a graduate of Davidson College. He is also a graduate of the Law School of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and is a licensed attorney. He worked for First Union National Bank for several years, and served as regional trust officer in Greensboro before moving to Fayetteville to join Dickson Press, Inc. in 1979. He and Anne have two sons, Hal and Dickson.

Our son, Robert Dickson, graduated from UNC in Chapel Hill and received a B.S. in mechanical engineering from N.C. State University. He worked with Sweetheart Cup Co. in Chicago for about a year before coming to Fayetteville, and is involved in all production in Dickson Press. He is married to the former Victoria Green of Chapel Hill, and they have a daughter, Maggie.

Alvis B. Dickson, Jr., our nephew, whose mother lives in Raeford, also graduated from UNC, Chapel Hill, and worked at *The News-Journal* and Dickson Press from the time he was a youth until moving to Fayetteville several years ago, except while away in school. He now supervises sales of both advertising and printing. "Skip" is a captain in the N.C. National Guard, and is commander of Hq. Btry., 2nd Bn. 252d Armor, here in Raeford.

As most of our friends and associates already know, my wife Margaret and I have been quietly stealing away more and more for several years, and as Sam Morris steps out, the time has come to make it official that another generation is taking over.

Sales Tax

Collections of Hoke County's one percent sales tax amounted to \$21,557.80 in November, the State Revenue Department reported last week.

The collections in the previous month totaled \$50,672.82.

The November 1980 collections totaled \$28,300.34.

Hoke County Manager James Martin said Monday he probably would act "the first of next week" on a recommendation regarding the firing of William Hales as county dog warden.

Martin was expected to receive the recommendation from the County Advisory Personnel Board this week and would have three working days in which to make his decision.

The board under the county's grievance policy for county employees met on Hales' appeal from his November 23 firing in three sessions, the last of which was held December 23, but no witnesses were heard at the final meeting.

The reasons for Hales' firing have not been revealed by officials. A report published Thursday in the *Fayetteville Times* said Hales lost his job when he said he accepted small amounts of money given by people when they adopted dogs from the dog pound. State and county officials, unidentified by name, are quoted by the report as confirming December 23 this was the reason for the firing, explaining that state and county policy requires the warden to report money received.

The newspaper report quotes a source as saying the donations which Hales said he accepted amounted to \$1 and \$2 usually. The news story says Hales, as did the late Archie Clark, his uncle and dog catcher whom he succeeded, used the extra money to supplement regular county funds for buying dog food.

Martin, asked about the information contained in the article Monday, declined to confirm or deny it.

The county policy requires

him to decide within three working days after receiving in writing the recommendation and record of the hearing's proceedings and whether to uphold or nullify the firing of a county employee. Martin also must state the reason or reasons for his decision.

He said Monday, however, he will not be able to make public the recommendation after he receives it and will be able to say only that he received it.

The rest of the *Times* article contains the following.

State and county officials agreed that Hales did not gain personally from the transactions, that he even added from his \$9,921 annual salary money to buy additional dog food for the animals in the pound and to bait traps to catch dogs gone wild.

In a matter independent of the advisory board hearings, Hales was investigated by the State Bureau of Investigation for allegedly falsifying records -- reportedly stating he was buying cat food, when he was feeding dog food to cats in the pound because dog food is cheaper

than cat food. State officials have said no criminal prosecution is expected.

Assistant District Attorney Jean Powell, who requested the SBI probe, told *The News-Journal* Monday afternoon she expects to receive the report of the investigation some time in January.

The *Times* report also contains the following.

Cats often were fed dog food at the pound as a money-saving measure that also had dogs eating hog food mixed with dog food. During the hearings, witnesses told the advisory board Hales was using practices introduced by the former warden. They also corroborated the argument made by Phil Diehl, Hales's attorney, that no administrative dog policy or written regulation for the county dog warden to follow.

Officials said they had few dealings with the county's dog operation and weren't aware of problems in Hales's record -- keeping until they received a complaint in November. Then the investigation which resulted in Hales's firing was started.

On New Year's Day

Government Offices Closed

Hoke County and Raeford government employees have another short week this week, off Friday for the New Year's Day holiday.

January 1 also is a legal holiday for banks and savings and loan institutions.

Most downtown stores will be open for business, though some will have a "short" day, opening later than usual. *The News-Journal* will be closed all day Friday.

The Raeford Post Office will be on its holiday schedule Friday,

closed for business, but will be open Saturday.

Next week, the county and city official boards will hold their regular meetings on the standing dates -- the county commissioners Monday at 9 a.m.; the Raeford City Council Monday at 7 p.m.; and the County Board of Education Tuesday at 7 p.m.

The county schools will reopen Monday morning for business on their standard schedules.

Happy New Year



May each man and woman find peace in his or her heart at this holiday season... and may that peace extend throughout the world.