

## Some Hoke tobacco appears damaged

**By Ed Miller**  
About 40 acres of young tobacco plants in Hoke County have shown symptoms of suffering from contaminated fertilizers, County Extension Agent Willie Featherstone said last week.

Currently, there are three types of Gold Dollar Tobacco fertilizers made by the W.R. Grace Company that have been found to be contaminated by dicamba, a broad leaf herbicide, Featherstone said.

According to the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, tests are ongoing to determine whether other grades of fertilizers made by W.R. Grace are contaminated.

"There is not much (contamination) in proportion to the amount of tobacco we have in the county," Featherstone said.

There are about 1,300 total acres of tobacco in Hoke County.

The 40 apparently contaminated acres of the county are in the Quewhiffle area; however, Featherstone said that, although

the plants show the symptoms of contamination, soil samples have determined no dicamba content.

The two farmers whose plants show signs of contamination did use W.R. Grace fertilizer, said Featherstone.

It can be concluded that there may be a low concentration of dicamba in the soil that has not shown up in tests yet, Featherstone said.

The extension agent added that the tobacco, now thought to be contaminated, is still young and may recover to produce a good crop.

Dicamba stays in the soil about 60 days and is considered one of safest chemicals on the market because a grower can harvest a field that has been treated with the herbicide and replant a short season crop with little or no danger to the second crop's yield, said Featherstone.

He recommended that farmers

who find signs of damage document yields from past years and costs to determine if dicamba has had any effect on yields.

Featherstone also recommended that the grower notify the Department of Agriculture and save a bag of the fertilizer for analysis.

## Deaths & Funerals

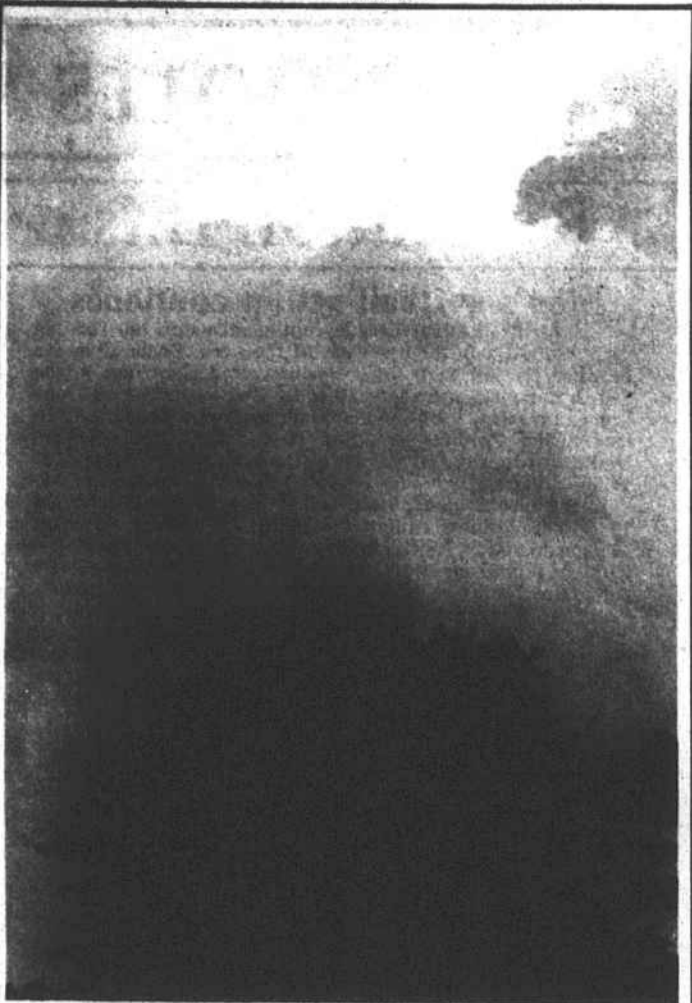
**James E. Thames**  
James Edward Thames, a grocery store operator, died Sunday in Moore Memorial Hospital in Pinehurst.

The Raeford resident was 78 at the time of his death.

Funeral services were held at 3 p.m. on Tuesday at the Evangelical Methodist Church in Raeford where Thames was a member. The services were conducted by Rev. David Walters and Rev. Tex Deaton. Burial was in the Raeford Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife Mrs. Bessie Sanders Thames of Raeford; two sons: James Marvin Thames of Pinebluff and William E. Thames of Raeford; two daughters: Mrs. Betty DePalmer of Hamstead, Maryland and Mrs. Mary Ann Parker of Raeford; one brother: Robert Thames of Laurinburg; a sister: Mrs. Lessie Davis of Raeford; 12 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Crumpler Funeral Home assisted the family.



**Breaking through**  
The afternoon sun breaks through a stormy sky over Hoke County where farming woes were eased by downpours during last weekend.

## CP&L wire stolen for fourth time

**By Ed Miller**

Carolina Power and Light (CP&L), for the fourth time this month, has reported wire stolen from poles.

A CP&L representative reported on June 9 that 1,000 feet of copper and 500 feet of aluminum wire was taken from poles on Highway 211, a Hoke County Sheriff's report shows.

Again, on June 12, the company reported another 1,500 feet of copper wire missing on Highway 211. Last week, there were two other reported wire thefts from the power company's poles.

CP&L reported the wire to be worth about \$55.

In another matter, the break-in of a Sunbeam Bread truck last Thursday was reported to Raeford Police.

Taken from the truck was about \$8 worth of cakes and pastry, Chief Leonard Wiggins said.

Police arrested Gene Dukes in connection with the alleged theft.

A spokesperson for the Sheriff's Department said that Dukes was not in the Hoke County Jail, but has been sent to Dorothea Dix Hospital for psychiatric evaluation.

Two cars, traveling down Highway 211, had wind shields broken out from rocks apparently thrown from the Highway 401 overpass, police reports say.

The destroyed wind shields were reportedly worth about \$500.

A breaking and entering was reported to police last week at Hoke County High School.

Jessey Josey, a teacher at the school, reported that she had gone to lunch and left her pocketbook in her classroom.

When she returned, her purse was missing, reports say.

The pocketbook and its contents were recovered later that day, reports say.

The matter is still under investigation, Wiggins said.

Rosa Cole, of East 5th Avenue in Raeford, reported the alleged theft of a cordless telephone.

Cole had taken the phone out in her yard to work but when she went into the house for a short time and came back out, the phone was missing, reports say.

The phone was reportedly worth \$169.

A breaking and entering into a car resulted in the loss of about \$70 to Charles Edward Ramsey last Thursday, police reports say.

Ramsey reported that he parked

his car at the Old Armory Ball Park and hid the keys near the car.

Upon his return, he found the keys gone, the door unlocked, and his wallet missing, reports say.

About \$70 was reported missing. Louise Ransom reported that her husband's check was stolen from their mailbox on June 5, sheriff's reports say.

The check was reportedly cashed at Home Food Market, reports say.

The Raeford resident reported the check to be made out in the amount of \$254.63.

On the past Saturday, Patricia McGregor, of Red Springs, reported that the battery from her car was allegedly stolen.

She parked her car on the street in front of her house Friday night and, upon going outside Saturday morning, she found the hood raised and the battery gone, reports say.

The battery was worth \$68, says the report.

An Aberdeen area resident was the victim of a crime that netted little for the alleged thief but caused some damage.

Jeff Leenker reported that he returned to his home last Friday to discover his back door open and a rear window partially raised.

Missing from within the house was about \$25 in change from a plastic bank, about \$.90 from his wife's purse, some candy, some grapes and some vitamins.

The case is under investigation with a neighborhood juvenile the only suspect, the report says.

Robert Riddle reported to sheriff's deputies that he found the frame of a motorcycle in the creek at Twin Bridges, reports say.

Checks run on the black frame revealed it to be that of a 1982 Suzuki that had been stolen from Cumberland County.

Shannon's Lowery's Grocery was the victim of an alleged larceny that netted thieves about \$65.

Two men came to the store to buy drinks and were let into the store by the owner, reports say.

When the men left, the owner locked the store and went about doing chores outside the building.

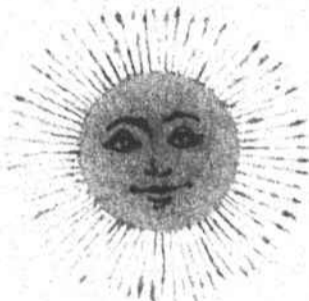
Witnesses saw one of the men beside the store while the other was apparently inside taking the money, according to reports.

The witness thought the other man was talking to the store owner as she worked in her garden, reports say.

## McGilvary arrives for German duty

Army Spec. 5 Myron G. McGilvary, brother of Hazie L. McGilvary of Rural Route 3, Raeford, has arrived for duty in Frankfurt, West Germany.

McGilvary, a vehicle driver with the 3rd Armored Division, was previously assigned to Fort Hood, Texas.



## Summer Is Here



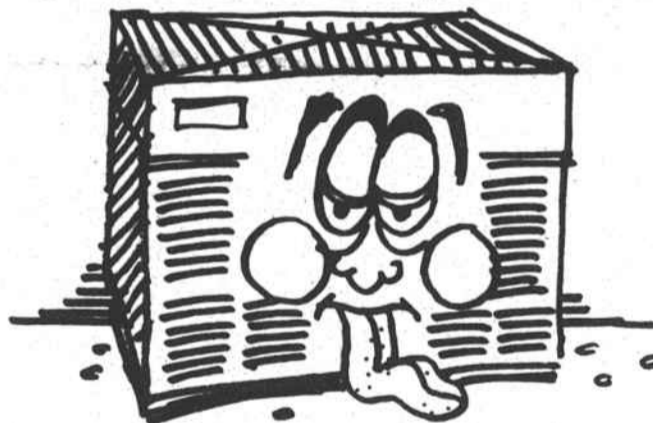
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