



**Out for a stroll**  
This praying mantis makes his way along a wooden fence in the Hoke County area. The insect appears to be in search of something to eat.

but it could be out just for a pleasant fall stroll. Mantises eat other insects and for that reason are considered to be a friend of man. The

gray-green creatures are common this time of year. They often seem to be on the prowl or just hanging around praying for something to eat.

Photos by E.W. Miller, III

## ... Around Town continued

(Continued from page 1A)

Turlington School last Thursday night for local telephone subscribers was well attended. Approximately 300 or more people were in attendance and many questions pro and con were presented before the group.

The fuel commission for the State's Utilities will meet here on Tuesday, October 29 to hear both sides of the issue. Everyone in the county that has a telephone should be in attendance on that date. It is too late for comment after the horse has left the pasture.

A petition is now being cir-

culated for the extended service. If you are in favor of it, please sign the petition.

In my 67 years in Hoke County and Raeford I have been on many trips with men. Some have been to play golf, other times to go fishing and other things like the above. Last Saturday I had another trip with three gentlemen from Raeford, Dr. John Ropp, Jack Tucker, Raz Autry and I attended the Carolina-Wake Forest football game in Chapel Hill.

Last Wednesday I had the second cataract removed and I told

Dr. Ropp he would have to do the driving to the game. He consented and it turned out he can drive as well as he can preach. In other words, we were in good hands.

The reason for writing about this trip is that during the trip, Jack Tucker didn't say 50 words all day. I did interrupt a few times to see if my vocal chords were still in order. You would be amazed at the many subjects that John Ropp and Raz Autry can discuss and it seemed they knew what they were talking about during their conversation. But how they knew when to let the other one talk is a little beyond my imagination. They

didn't interrupt one another the first time.

Jack and I know more today than when we started off last Saturday. Of course we were happy that UNC won, Ropp is a Gamecock and Raz is from ECTC.

Last week while I was in the operating room getting a cataract removed from my right eye, Mary Alice was in the waiting room waiting to drive me home at the completion of the surgery.

A lady sitting next to her waiting for her husband told her a story

that I think is worth relating to the readers of this column. It is as follows.

Several months ago the lady brought her mother to the eye clinic to get cataracts removed. During her visits there with her mother, she told Dr. R.S. Martin about the condition of her husband. It was that her husband had been shot twice in one eye during the Korean or Vietnam war.

Dr. Martin asked her to bring her husband to see him. She told the doctor that he had been to see many doctors and they couldn't do anything for her husband. Anyway

she did tell her husband and he came to see the doctor. He was blind in the eye and his vision was failing in the other eye.

After talking to the doctor and seeing that he didn't have anything to lose, he consented to an operation. To make a story short, his vision in the eye that was shot is now 20/20 and he was getting his other eye worked on to improve a 20/40 vision.

We people in Hoke County should be thankful that we have a place like this clinic so near to us. I believe it is one of the best, if not the best, in the world.

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