

... Around Town continued

(Continued from page 1)
 Week and the luncheon was given for the three textile plants in Hoke County. The invitation stated, "in order to express to you our appreciation for your support of the school system and our mutual concern for the future of the textile industry."

The luncheon was held in Mrs. Harriet Archer's room at Hoke High. Mrs. Archer is what we used to call a Home Ec. teacher. Maybe it is Future Homemakers now. She and her students provided an excellent lunch for the group in attendance.

Harold Gillis, Vocational Director, presided over the meeting that had representatives from Raeford Plant and the Dyeing Plant of Burlington and the JRA plant.

Dr. Bob Nelson, school superintendent and Dr. Linwood Simpson, Hoke High principal, also expressed appreciation to the plants for their aid to the school system in their textile program. Dr. Simpson also expressed thanks for material given by Burlington for new band uniforms. He also stated that they would accept a donation for someone to make the uniforms.

Allen Edwards, principal at Upchurch, expressed appreciation for a gift of \$18,000 to the school from Burlington to aid in their math program. It is computerized and he stated that since the system was installed the grade level on tests has increased by 12 months. That is average test scores for 8th grade students had jumped from 8.1 to 9.1 Burlington also received a state award for this gift to aid the school.

This luncheon showed me that there is a close working relationship between our school system and the local industrial plants. This is good for the economy of our county, because the students that can't go on to college are trained in high school to go into a job at one of our local plants. We need to keep our young people at home to work.

Harry Jones was by the office last week with a copy of the "Saturday Extra" of *The Fayetteville Observer-Times* of October 19, 1985. It had an old picture of the Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Department that was made on July 24, 1943. It was taken at a train wreck that happened that day in

Fayetteville. Harry and his brother were members of the department and it seems from the picture that Harry has aged somewhat.

We want to thank Harry and we welcome our readers to bring in old pictures.

The picture that appeared in last week's paper that was made in 1935 with Lawyer Hiram Kirkpatrick brought forward a guess as to who the man is in the picture.

Bill Niven came by and said it looked like John Walker. I will agree, but I will not say that is who the man is. It is hard to see his face. If you can make positive identification, let us hear from you.

The committee for the 75th Anniversary Celebration of Hoke County has been getting suggestions and would like to have yours. So contact Clyde Upchurch, John D. McAllister or this writer if you have something to offer.

Don't forget to vote in the City Election on Tuesday, November 5.

... SBI to conclude hanging probe

(Continued from page 1)
 Leonard Wiggins and Sheriff Barrington for their cooperation and Gov. Martin for ordering the SBI investigation.

Barrington has recommended that a committee of white, black and Indian citizens be formed "to sit at the conference table," Edwards said.

"Out of the death of Robert Chappelle maybe the community can be redeemed," Edwards said.

Chappelle's family and friends cannot accept the possibility he hanged himself because they don't understand how a 140 lb. man with a .27 blood alcohol level "could maneuver himself in such a manner and hang himself with his own socks," said Edwards.

The fear of being arrested is widespread in the black community as a result of Chappelle's death, Edwards said.

Although Edwards told the

crowd that SBI agents had assured him their investigation would not be "a whitewash," he said the Black Leadership Caucus would petition the President, the United Nations and "all legal channels" if necessary to make sure the Chappelle family's interests are fairly served.

"We don't know the answer. This is why we seek an outside investigation. We want you to keep your cool," and Edwards assured the people that "in this struggle we have cosmic companionship."

After a final singing of "We Shall Overcome," Edwards enjoined the crowd to disperse in a peaceful, orderly manner "as intelligent, rational beings should."

He later told reporters he is convinced the SBI will do a fair investigation. But he predicted that black Democrats in Hoke County would become Republicans.

Hoke County has a 57% to 62% black majority which only controls the churches, according to Edwards, adding he hopes that the Chappelle incident will unite the black community and the citizens of Hoke County.

When asked whether he was concerned that no whites other than the press members had attended the vigil, he answered that he was not surprised "because things could have possibly gotten out of hand."

The goal of the vigil had been attained by reassuring the Chappelle family and the black community that "law enforcement is with them, not against them."

The Black Leadership Caucus has planned another meeting for Saturday, November 2 at the Silver Grove Baptist Church to establish a Robert Lee Chappelle Memorial Fund.

... Elections

(Continued from page 1)
 served 14 years and will be asking voters to return him for his eighth term in office.

McLeod, who was appointed in 1971 to the board after the death of J.B. McMillian, is 49 years old. Both Vardell Hedgpeth and Bob Gentry have served eight years and will be seeking their fifth term. Hedgpeth is 42.

Joe Upchurch, will be hoping for his third term in office.

City voters in precinct Raeford 1 will have to vote at the city fire department because of the remodeling of the courthouse.

Other city precincts are in the same locations as previous elections.

In the other election, voters in Allendale Township and a small portion of the Blue Springs Township will be voting Tuesday on whether or not to increase taxes to create the Lilly's District Fire Department.

The area is currently without close fire service.

Only voters in Allendale and the affected portion of Blue Springs will cast ballots on the matter.

Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m.

Raeford resident named to NC group

A Raeford resident has been appointed by Gov. James G. Martin to serve on the Commission for Children with Special Needs.

Mrs. Harriett S. McDonald is to serve on the study commission for two years.

The task of the commission will be to examine the policy of allocating state funding for programs for exceptional school children.

Ceilings on the number of students who can participate in the programs have been a point of controversy with state lawmakers.

The state legislature appropriated \$152 million this year for exceptional children's programs.

Lawmakers fear that removing the ceilings might cause the costs to increase.

The commission met in October and will meet on a regular monthly basis.

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