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TODAY

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SELMA, N. C., THURSDAY—JUNE 16, 1949.

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IRA THADDOUS RAINS

First White Child Born In Selma Oldest Native Father

The first white child born in Selma was I. T. Rains of Brevard street. The house he was born in still stands on South Webb street. At that time the street was known as the Smithfield Road. Mr. Rains went to work for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad June 1893. At that early date locomotives used sticks of wood two feet long for fuel.

Ira Thaddous Rains was born in Selma June 25, 1871. His father was the late Jack Rains, a farmer and merchant of Johnston County. His mother, before marriage was Frances Dianna Perry of Wayne County.

Mr. Rains' first school teacher was Ben Hatcher. He conducted a free school in a two story building that once stood in back of Eugene Parker's home on Webb street. The one-room school occupied the first floor, while the Masonic Lodge used the second story. According to Mr. Rains, Professor Hatcher had a teacher load of 150 students. Quite frequently he would make substitute teachers out of his more advanced pupils. The school ran from three to six months each year. Unruly students were made to stand in a corner with a newspaper pinned in front and in back. They had to turn around every five minutes. Most of the time it was Mr. Rains in the dunce corner.

Later Mr. Rains attended a parochial school in Selma conducted by Henry Lewis Smith. The school stood in a grove near where the American Legion building is now located on North Webb street. Miss Mollie Smith, the superintendent's sister, assisted in teaching the 11 grade school. She later married L. Richardson.

When a boy 15 years old, which was in 1885, Mr. Rains recalls the following business houses in Selma: Webb Tidwell & Co., Sam H. Hood, Winston & Rand and D. H. Graves. The last one mentioned was the largest. Mr. Graves was a captain in the Union Army and fought through this section during the War Between the States. He liked Selma so well that at the close of the war he came here to live and raised a large family.

In June of 1893, when 22 years old, Mr. Rains took a watchman's job with the Atlantic Coast Line. It was a night job and carried the responsibility of watching the freight depot, the yard and loaded freight cars. N. E. Edgerton was agent in Selma at that time. Mr. Rains' job paid \$25 a month. It was considered a good salary at that time. Meat and lard were selling for four cents a pound. A nice pair of shoes could be bought for \$1.00. For \$5 a man could buy a complete suit of clothes.

At that early date Selma proper was located on the south side of the Southern Railway. Where Selma Drug Co., now stands used to be a pond with water waist deep. One of the first business houses built on the north side of the railroad was a general store 30x100 feet, operated by Mose Winston. It was located about where Floyd C. Price & Sons now have their tractor business on Railroad street.

After serving as watchman, Mr. Rains was transferred to the Selma office as billing clerk,

Eighteen Attend Story Hour Here

The Story Hour sponsored by the Selma Woman's Club at the library got underway Thursday morning. There were eighteen children present to hear Mrs. Elizabeth T. Richardson read two stories. Mrs. Richardson dramatically entertained the youngsters with the story of "Little Black Sambo" and "Hansel and Gretel." The second story was for the older boys and girls, while the first story was especially entertaining to the younger children.

Mrs. Willie Wright, Bookmobile Librarian, was present and gave each school age child a book in which they are to keep a record of each book read during the summer. Each child who reads fifteen books will be given a certificate from the County Library and will also be asked to participate in the Farmers Day Parade this fall.

The children present were also given attractive book marks and were served Dixie Cups at the close of the meeting. Hostesses for the occasion were members of the Woman's Club Library Project Committee.

All children of grammar school age in this community are invited to attend the Story Hour which will meet every Tuesday and Thursday morning at ten o'clock in the Library. The next meeting will not be held until Tuesday, June 28th. The meetings have been planned so that they will not conflict with Bible School, therefore meetings have been postponed until the week after the close of Bible School.

The stories will be given on Tuesdays by local people and on Thursdays Miss Edith Stafford, summer helper from Johnston County Library, will be the leader.

Parents are urged to cooperate and encourage their children to read. Each meeting so that the youngsters may enjoy good books as well as the surprises and entertainment that is being planned for the summer Story Hour meetings.

Joe Crech Is Lion President

Joe Crech was elected president of the Selma Lion Club Friday night in bi-weekly supper session at the Woman's Club building. He has served the club as first vice-president during the past year. G. A. Eary is retiring president.

Crech presided at Friday's meeting in the absence of President Eary. Other officers elected to serve during the coming year are Joe Matthews, first vice-president; J. B. Langley, second vice-president; W. W. Brannan, third vice-president; Earl Worley, Jr., secretary; J. C. Morgan and C. W. Britton, directors; L. G. Barden, treasurer; Wilbert Eason, tailtwister; and Elmer Brown Lionamer.

The official convention call was issued by Secretary Brannan. He announced Wrightsville Beach as the place and June 19, 20 and 21 as the dates, with registration at 2 p. m. Sunday, June 19, and the official opening of the convention at 7 p. m. Sunday.

Crech appointed Glenwood Brown, Raymond Peadar and C. W. Britton as official delegates and Sam Brown, Stacy Canady and Carl Worley, Jr. as alternates.

Lion Pete Brown asked the club to subscribe money to buy a manually-operated switch to turn on the lights at the high school athletic field. He cited the inconvenience of securing a lineman each time to turn on the lights. The motion carried that the Lions Club pay the required \$50 to buy the manually-operated switch. The sum of \$40.50 was then donated by those present. Sam Brown was asked to buy and install the switch as soon as possible.

Program chairman W. G. Ricks, Jr. reported that at the last meeting his guest to present his program had been unable to come. He asked to have the program at the next meeting.

L. G. Barden was awarded the attendance prize.

The club was an enjoyable meal by the waiter either Church, with Mrs. James Oliver, Mrs. Tom Woolard and Mrs. Norwood Jackson in charge.

Woman's Club Hostesses Listed

Members of the Selma Woman's Club are being called on to serve as hostesses at the Library for the children who attend the Story Hour. The club is sponsoring this program for the summer and the members listed are asked to make arrangements with another member if you cannot serve on the date designated. Any changes should be made known to the committee chairman, Mrs. W. B. Warren by phoning 132-M, or another member of the committee.

June 28th—Mrs. W. H. Crech and Mrs. Alice Hood.

July 5th—Mrs. H. V. Gaskill and Mrs. B. C. DuBose.

July 12th—Mrs. W. B. Warren and Mrs. E. C. Kornegay.

July 19th—Mrs. E. C. Jernigan and Mrs. J. E. Nelms.

July 26th—Mrs. James McMillan and Mrs. L. O. Davis.

July 30th—Mrs. R. C. Mozingo and Mrs. J. C. Avery.

August 6th—Mrs. James Oliver and Mrs. Gladys Black.

August 13th—Mrs. Robert Ray and Mrs. J. T. Hughes and Miss Lenora Tudor.

August 20th—Mrs. W. H. Lassiter and Mrs. N. V. Smith.

August 27th—Mrs. H. E. Baum and Mrs. E. M. Gordy.

September 3rd—Mrs. Bradley Sasser and Mrs. R. R. Humphries.

September 10th—Mrs. W. L. Norton and Mrs. G. A. Eary.

September 17th—Miss Julia Grant and Mrs. S. R. Lee.

September 24th—Mrs. R. F. Suber and Mrs. G. D. Vick.

October 1st—Mrs. E. N. Booker and Mrs. W. B. Johnson.

October 8th—Mrs. R. D. Oliver and Mrs. J. V. Chambler.

October 15th—Mrs. J. C. Woodard and Mrs. E. G. Hobbs.

October 22nd—Mrs. Joe Crech and Mrs. Zeb Thompson.



LIEUT. ROY E. FOX

Fiance of Selma Girl Is Killed In Jet Plane Crash

With their wedding date set for July, Lieut. Roy E. Fox, fiance of Miss Myrtle Thompson of Selma, flew to his death in South Carolina Wednesday of last week. It is estimated the jet plane piloted by the lieutenant was traveling at a speed faster than that of sound when it crashed in the Moultrie area.

He spent the week end before his death in Selma visiting Mrs. Thompson, who is a licensed commercial pilot. Lieutenant Fox was a native of Boone, N. C. The couple had been engaged for almost two years. He had been in Selma numerous times since 1947.

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the Boone Methodist Church with interment in the Boone Cemetery.

Miss Thompson left Selma for Boone Thursday morning. Mrs. Zeb Thompson and O'Quinn Thompson left Saturday morning to attend the funeral. The party returned to Selma late Saturday night.

Five American Legion Posts were represented at the funeral to assist with military honors. His hometown school mates, all veterans, were pallbearers. Lt. Frank Ball, of Savannah, Ga., accompanied the body as honor guard. Military honors included the three-gun salute, bugle taps and a formation of F-84-D jet planes flew overhead with a missing plane in the formation to denote the absence of a squadron member.

Lieutenant Fox was born September 22, 1927 in Boone, he graduated from Appalachian High School in 1945 and immediately entered the Navy serving one year. Lt. Fox then enrolled in Cannon Flying School, Charlotte under the G. I. Bill of Rights and graduated the spring of 1947. He then applied for Air Force cadet training and after passing numerous preliminary examinations he was scheduled for the March class. He entered the Air Force February 18, 1948 and took basic flight training at Goodfellow Field, San Angelo, Texas, and advanced flight training where he was schooled in jet fighter planes, at Williams Field, Chandler, Arizona. He graduated there February 25, 1949 receiving his wings and commission. After a month's leave he was stationed at Shaw Field, S. C., in the 55th Squadron, Fighter, of the 20th Group.

Surviving are his fiancee, Miss Myrtle Thompson of Selma, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Fox, two brothers, Le Verne and Ray all of Boone and a sister, Mrs. Raymond Craig of Lenoir, a niece and nephew Romona and Johnny Craig of Lenoir.

The United Press carried the following account of the accident:

Moncks Corner, S. C.—An F-84 jet fighter plane crashed here Wednesday of last week, killing its 21-year-old Air Force pilot.

The body of Lieut. Roy E. Fox of Boone, N. C., was recovered by fishermen shortly after the Thunderbolt he was flying crashed about 400 yards offshore.

Witnesses said the plane flew low across the water just before it crashed. Examinations indicated the impact, rather than drowning, killed Fox. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Lena S. Fox, of Boone.

Rescuers were dispatched from Shaw Air Force base around noon

Lions Lost Two to the Independents

The Lions Soft Ball team opened its schedule by posting out the Lions Soft Ball team on last Friday night and on Tuesday night. The Independent team composed of recent high school stars had a easy time of it.

This Thursday night the team was out for the second time and the Lions were victorious.

The game was held at the Selma Community Center and the Lions won by a score of 10 to 2.

The Lions will play the Independents again on Friday night.

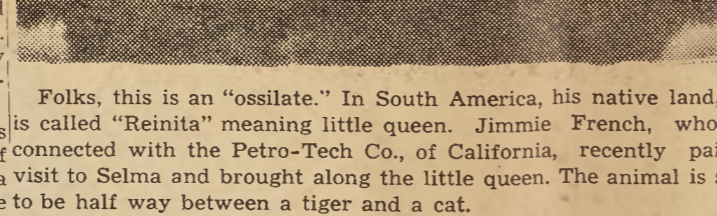
Attendance has been good and the whole family can enjoy these games. The admission price is very small.

George N. Siler Died Here Tuesday

George N. Siler, 53, died suddenly at his home here Tuesday at 11:15 a. m. He was agent for the Durham Life Insurance Co.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Anne Brown Siler; his mother, Mrs. Susan Thornton Siler of the home; four sisters, Mrs. A. L. Woodard, Princeton, Route 1, Mrs. J. M. Driver, Defand, Fla., Mrs. W. G. Strickland Selma. Funeral services will be held from the home Thursday (today) at 4 p. m. by the Rev. H. B. Baum, pastor Edgerton Memorial Methodist Church. Burial will be in Sunset Memorial Park, Smithfield.

South American Cat Visits Selma



Folks, this is an "ossilate." In South America, his native land, he is called "Reinita" meaning little queen. Jimmie French, who is connected with the Petro-Tech Co., of California, recently paid a visit to Selma and brought along the little queen. The animal is said to be half way between a tiger and a cat.

Revival To Start Monday June 27

The Reverend C. Arthur Burton, pastor of the Christian Disciple Church of Goldsboro, and former State Evangelist of Virginia, will conduct the revival series of meetings at the Wilson's Mills Christian Church. The worship services will begin June 27 on Monday evening at 8:00, and will close July 3. Mr. Burton, in addition to his record as a splendid preacher, is also an outstanding musician. A welcome to all churches is extended to attend these meetings.

Photograph of Selma Base Ball Team Made Fifty-Two Years Ago



The above photo of a Selma base ball team was made in 1897—that was 52 years ago. They are front row, from left to right: Clee Parker, J. Sam Mitchner, John Lee and S. R. Lee of Green street in Selma. Second row, from left to right: Mr. Shoemaker, who was a shoemaker in Selma, Will Brinkley, Hugh Mit-

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Last Rites Held for Charlie W. Crech

Charlie W. Crech, 61, of 837 Bainbridge Blvd., South Norfolk, Va., passed away suddenly Monday at 4:10 p. m., while visiting in Micro. He was a native of Johnston County and had been in the jewelry business in Norfolk for the past 25 years.

Funeral services were held from the Graham Funeral Home in South Norfolk Wednesday at 4 p. m. Burial was in Riverside Memorial Park.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Eva Browney Crech; one son, John J. Crech of Norfolk; two daughters, Mrs. Robert B. Stevens and Mrs. James T. Hare of South Norfolk; three sisters, Mrs. M. M. Gurkin of Selma, Mrs. Lennie Bunn of Middlesex and Mrs. Lillian Lee of Norfolk; four brothers, A. A. Crech of Selma, M. L. Crech of Durham; and J. W. Crech of Wilmington. Three grandchildren and several neices and nephews.

No Tax Increase Seen for Johnston

The county commissioners Monday got their first look at the proposed school budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

They were shown that the regular appropriations for projects and services heretofore financed by county funds would require no increase in the school tax levy, but that "extras" requested by the various district committees would necessitate an additional levy of \$1.29—an amount that would send the county-wide school levy soaring to \$2.23.

County Superintendent H. B. Marrow in presenting the budget requests to the commissioners explained that the regular appropriations recommended would finance a 10-room addition at the Princeton white school and up-to-date heating and toilet facilities at the Four Oaks and Short Journey Negro schools.

(See A Page Four)

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