

HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

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"If It Concerns Harnett, It's in THE NEWS"

FARM, HOME AGENTS EXPECT LARGE GROUP TO MAKE COUNTY TOUR

VARIOUS TYPES DEMONSTRATIONS ARE SCHEDULED

SECOND ANNUAL CIRCUIT OF HARNETT STARTS FROM AGRICULTURAL BUILDING THIS MORNING AT 8 O'CLOCK

A tour of Harnett designed to familiarize farmers of each township with methods employed by fellow farmers in the other 12 townships will be conducted today (Thursday) by the county's three extension workers and members of the soil conservation unit stationed at Camp Avery, Lillington's CCC camp.

The initial farm tour, staged last summer, was limited to men but it was so successful that County Agent C. R. Ammons and his assistant, J. B. Gourlay, decided it would be self-interest to exclude the ladies. Miss Naomi Carr, home demonstration agent, was requested to assist in mapping the day's schedule and the ladies were invited to accompany their husbands on the second tour.

On the basis of acceptances received from those to whom letters containing information about the tour had been sent, sponsors of the farm tour believe that approximately 100 men and ladies will be included in the motortour. There were more than 75 in last year's group.

The swing around the county will get underway this morning shortly after 8 o'clock, the time set for the tourers to assemble at the Agricultural Building in Lillington. The trip is expected to be made in automobiles but if more automobile arrangements have been made for CCC trucks will be quickly called into use for transporting the farmers who will be "out" to see more of their home county.

For the farm men and women, 17 demonstrations have been arranged at various points of the journey. When the motortour leaves Lillington, it will proceed northward into Neill's Creek township for three or more demonstrations. The home water system, remodeling and electric fencing at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arch Johnson will be inspected by the travelers; an inspection will be made of Roger Sexton's work stock and dairy cows and a demonstration in refinishing home furniture will be viewed at the home of Mrs. Alton Johnson. From Neill's Creek section, the tour goes into the Kipling-Chalybeate Springs community. Mrs. John Cotton and Mrs. M. E. Veasey will present canning budgets for farm uses and a demonstration in home remodeling will be seen at the home of Mrs. Pou Bradley.

Swinging back toward the north-eastern section of the county, the travelers will see what a 4-H Club boy has accomplished with his swine project at the home of Lamos Denning, 4-H Club member. This demonstration was arranged by Mr. (Continued on page six)

START WORK ON DUNN BUILDING

Board of Education Orders Sanford Contractor To Proceed With Erection Of Trades Building

Assured by State school authorities the requested loans would be available, the Board of Education Monday ordered W. L. Jewel of Sanford to proceed with construction of the Agriculture and Industrial Education Building for Dunn high school.

Work was started the following day, Tuesday, and it is expected the building will be ready for occupancy within 60 days, as provided in the contract. The Dunn schools will open on September 16th and it may be the building will be completed by that time.

Upon submitting an offer to construct the building for \$5,497, Jewel was declared successful bidder but actual awarding of the contract was deferred until financial negotiations were completed. Fear was expressed that construction could not be started until September 1st.

The building Jewel is constructing will house the Dunn's school vocational departments as well as provide quarters for the new trades course which this year becomes a feature of the curriculum. It is the first department of its kind in Harnett county.

DELINQUENTS' PROPERTY TO BE SOLD FOR TAXES

TAX COLLECTOR BILL HARRINGTON ADVERTISING REAL ESTATE OF ALL WHO HAVE NOT SETTLED FOR 1937

To collect the \$81,000 still due Harnett's treasury from the 1937 levy or to clear the path for the county to foreclose and assume ownership of the property involved, Tax Collector W. D. (Bill) Harrington is this week advertising the list of real estate which he will sell on Monday, September 6th, unless taxes are paid before the sale date.

The original lists, prepared two weeks ago and presented to the Board of Commissioners at their meeting on Monday of last week, contained more than 2300 names but the total was reduced when several of those who postponed payment until threatened with advertisement settled with the collector.

While the lists published in the Dunn Dispatch and The News accounts for the big majority in the unpaid column, these lists do not represent the entire \$81,000—or 25 per cent of the total levy—still due. The insolvent list, which contains the names of those who own no real estate, represents several thousands of dollars yet unpaid.

Collector Harrington and other county officials, who have from year to year watched the sale of land for taxes, are still puzzled over why citizens will permit their property to be sold when sooner or later they will have to redeem it to remove any defects from the title.

Not only has interest accumulated at the rate of one per cent per month—which over a 12 month period amounts to the 12 per cent rate—but additional costs for advertising and selling the real estate will be charged if the lands are sold by the collector.

Breaking down the county's total between townships reveals that Hecctor's Creek has the smallest number of items advertised for non-payment of taxes. This township had only 38 items listed in the original copy and names might have been taken out before the list was approved for publication. Next, with 55, was Buckhorn, and Duke, township was in third place with 70 names.

Aversboro, the township which has the largest number of taxpayers, leads the list with 667. Upper Little River—another of the county's big townships—was second with 268 and Grove, with 243, was third. Others ranged from 104 in Neill's Creek to 212 in Lillington.

FATHER OF LILLINGTON SCHOOL TEACHER DIES

Persons throughout the Lillington school district will be grieved to learn of the passing, in Red Springs last Thursday of Robert Chapman, father of Miss Lida Lee Chapman, a member of the local faculty. Mr. Chapman, a prominent textile executive, succumbed from an illness that extended over several weeks.

In addition to Miss Chapman, he is survived by his widow, one daughter, Caroline Banks Chapman, and one son, Robert W. Chapman, Jr.

Representative



FRED S. THOMAS Occupying a seat in the House of Representatives for the fourth time since his election in 1935 is Fred S. Thomas of Erwin, who will move into the upper chamber in the 1939 session unless the Republicans spring an upset and defeat him.

SPECIAL SESSION ROLLS SMOOTHLY TO END ITS WORK

PASSAGE OF "GAG" RULE INSURANCE LEGISLATION WILL BE CONFINED TO BILLS RELATED TO PWA SPENDING

With passage of the "gag" rule insuring legislation will be limited to enactment of bills enabling North Carolina to participate in the PWA spending program. The General Assembly's special session, ordered last week by Governor Hoey, rolls smoothly toward adjournment.

Fred S. Thomas of Erwin, Harnett's member of the lower body for the past four years, again occupies his seat in the House of Representatives. The current session will, temporarily at least, end his career as a member of that group since he is slated to become Senator Thomas in the November election unless the Republicans upset the Democratic apple cart.

Meeting Monday at noon, the two houses considered the measure simultaneously to expedite final passage, which will require at least six days. Each measure must pass three readings on three separate days in each house.

The "gag" rule limits legislation to the purposes for which the session was called. It was invoked Monday, but by unanimous consent, members of the Legislature may present other messages. It is unlikely, however, that this will be done as Governor Hoey and administration leaders have expressed the desire for legislators to quickly disband and those who hold the lash over both Houses are also said to hold identical views.

Despite the "gag" rule, those campaigning for laws to repeal absentee balloting are said to be contemplating having this ban lifted so they can introduce their pet bills. Some local acts have been proposed but it is doubtful if unanimous consent will be obtained.

The revenue bond bill the solons are passing will authorize an issue of \$4,620,000. This is sufficient, if supplemented with 45 per cent grants from the PWA, to make possible of permanent improvements in State institutions costing about \$8,799,000. Members of the budget commission last week received requests from heads of the various institutions for needs costing nearly \$50,000,000. Foremost of these items was a request from the Highway Commission for nearly \$39,000,000 for road improvements. The commission applied the paring knife and brought the total more in line with what the State can afford at the present time.

The session will disband this week-end.

REV. ADAMS PREACHES

Rev. Cary Adams, former president of Presbyterian Junior College at Maxton, filled the pulpit of the local Presbyterian Church Sunday. He was accompanied here by Mrs. Adams.

In the absence of Mrs. Caviness Brown, Mr. Norman Matthews, talented musician of Lillington, acted as pianist for Sunday's service.

ADULT SCHOOLS CUT INTO RANKS OF ILLITERATES

WPA SUPERVISORS CONDUCT CLASSES TO REDUCE NUMBER OF HARNETT PERSONS UNABLE TO READ OR WRITE

Adult classes financed by the Works Progress Administration have made big gaps in Harnett's group of persons who can neither read nor write and plans now being formulated at a conference in Greenville indicate still further reductions will be made within the future 12 months.

An idea of the benefits derived from these classes can be gained from reports issued by Mrs. Novella Summerlin, Harnett supervisor, who is attending the conference of State and district officials. According to Mrs. Summerlin, all of the veterans enrolled at Camp Avery in Lillington now sign their pay roll vouchers, a condition that did not exist before classes for veterans were instituted nearly one year ago. Mrs. Summerlin says that since last October 14 enrollees have been taught to sign their names, completely erasing the list of those who formerly were forced to use the "X" and witnesses when endorsing their vouchers.

At present, there are two white and three Negro teachers conducting classes for adults in various sections of the county. Mrs. Summerlin, who taught at the CCC camp, holds similar classes in Erwin and Dunn. Mrs. G. C. Cameron of Olivier works in several Western Harnett communities, conducting general adult work. The three Negro teachers live in or around Lillington and work in surrounding communities.

Although plans for the coming year are incomplete, the chances are that the work will be considerably expanded and will place emphasis not only upon wiping out illiteracy among adults but on bettering the condition of those who are barely able to read and write.

One of the more important projects now under consideration is the establishment of classes in the County Home to enable many of the inmates to while away hours enjoying papers and magazines, which they are now barely able to read.

An incomplete census, conducted by WPA, estimates in Harnett county there are 1,000 illiterate adults. While this figure appears to be excessive for the number who are totally illiterate—that is, unable to sign their names—it does not over estimate the number of Harnett citizens who can be materially benefited by attending the classes.

BROOKS CLAN REUNION TODAY

The 48th annual reunion of the Brooks clan is being held today at Pine Knott farm, home of W. L. Brooks, two miles west of Jonesboro. The occasion will mark the 76th birthday of Mr. Brooks and will mark the 20th anniversary of the Brooks family in America.

Speeches, special music and a picnic supper will fill the day's program.

R. A. MEETING

The Junior Royal Ambassadors will meet at the Lillington Baptist Church Thursday night at 8 o'clock.

BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFERS THREE DATES FOR SCHOOLS TO OPEN

60 Per Cent

Harnett's consistent record of producing good cotton yields by staging brilliant come backs after poor stands and unfavorable weather during the early maturing season appears this year to be doomed.

Due to rains and cool weather which blanketed the entire South-eastern cotton growing belt during June and July, boll-woevil infestation is heavier than in many years. Some growers have expressed the opinion there are more weevils in this county now than at any time since they first invaded Harnett fields, some 15 years ago.

Since damage caused by weevils is so great and poor stands are prevalent throughout the county, prediction has been made in the farm agent's office this year's crop will be only 60 per cent normal.

COUNTY WARDEN REPORTS ON FIRE FIGHTING WORK

JEFF TURLINGTON'S SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES IN 1937-38 REVEALS \$850 APPROPRIATION IS GOOD INVESTMENT

In his report covering fire control activities on 264,131 acres of timberland during the fiscal year from July 1st, 1937 through June 30th, 1938, County Warden T. Jeff Turlington recently gave the Board of Commissioners definite proof that the \$850 annual appropriation for conservation and development is a good investment.

The county's appropriation for fire control work is supplemented by an equal amount from State and Federal funds, increasing to \$1700 the total available for forestry activities. Warden Turlington's report shows that only \$1523.86 of this sum was needed.

Expenditures included salary for Turlington and townsmen during February, March and April, tools and equipment, fire fighting and miscellaneous items.

Towers at Cameron Hill and Manners were manned by combination lookout towermen and smoke chasers. Exceptionally good results in detection and suppression of forest fires were obtained. Salary for the townsmen at Manners came from county funds while the observer in the Cameron Hill tower was paid from Overhills Protective Association funds.

During the year, 74 fires burned a total of 40,792 acres, with damage estimated at \$9,363.

One hundred and three citizens of Harnett volunteered services in fighting fires. Outside of the warden's organization, \$592.28 was paid to 542 men for assistance in stamping out fires.

Three prosecutions, with as many (Continued on page six)

LAFAYETTE AND ANGLIER PLAN TO START AUGUST 31

LILLINGTON, DUNN AND MOST OF OTHERS WILL COMMENCE FALL TERMS ON SEPT. 14; SEPT. 31 THIRD DATE

Convening in a session postponed from the preceding Monday, members of the Board of Education Monday offered principals three dates from which to select their opening for the 1938-39 term and approved a list of teachers who had been appointed by local committees.

Dates offered by the school authorities were August 31, September 14 and September 21. Each of these dates falls on Wednesday. Despite the fact that the first date is rather early for Harnett schools to open, Principals G. T. Proffitt of LaFayette and John O. Wood of Angier have indicated their schools will start the fall term the last day of this month.

Mid-September is the most popular time to commence new school years and it is quite probable the eight remaining white high schools and the associated elementary schools will open September 14th, two weeks later than LaFayette and Angier. Principals J. A. Walker of Lillington and E. G. Bourne of Dunn have stated this date will be selected by them.

As a general rule, Negro schools are the last to begin the fall semester and it is expected that these will this year open on September 21st or a special date for them to commence may be set by the Board.

With the opening dates determined, the school heads turned to the selection of the teachers and approved lists submitted by principals and local committees. For most of the schools, the list is complete but in several the appointments had not been officially made by the principal and committees. Two are omitted in the Angier list and two were left from the Coats list. The Lillington list, which contains two new names, is complete.

Following is the list approved Monday:

Anderson Creek School
Elementary: Mesdames Margaret R. Kendall and Nelle H. Shaw, Misses Elizabeth McCormick, Mary Emily Smith and Lillian R. Black; high school: H. L. Kendall, principal, Miss Jeanette McLaughlin.

Dunn School
High school: E. G. Bourne, principal, Oliver O. Manning, J. B. McArthur, Wm. H. Averette, M. M. Johnson, J. S. Bivens, C. G. Lampley, Misses Josephine Grant, Edith Carpenter, Blanche Grayham, Rachel M. Cliffor, Frances Gray, Mrs. Irene G. Dixon; elementary school: J. Yates Bailey, Misses Bessie Massengill, Jane Williams, Roselyn Adcock, Lillian M. Essell, Marie Owen, Lucile (Continued on page six)

PARKER RETURNS TO THIS COUNTY

Former Coats Policeman, Wanted For Murder In Texas, Freed On \$10,000 Bond; Brings Letters

Bringing letters from Texas authorities who expressed belief in Parker's self-defense plea, Lester Parker returned this week from San Augustine where he was wanted in connection with a murder committed six years ago. Released under \$10,000 bond, Parker will return in January to face trial unless the indictment against him is squashed.

All along, Parker has maintained the charges were brought before a Grand Jury and he was acquitted of the killing which he claims was committed to save his life. A letter from the clerk of court substantiates this statement, although the sheriff who came after Parker denied it.

At the time of his arrest, Parker was policeman in Coats. Mayor J. B. Williams has indicated the position will again be offered, the former officer if he is freed of the charges lodged against him.

Parker has expressed the opinion the case was resurrected for political purposes and he is reported to have brought back statements from ranking officers to corroborate him. Parker is confident the case will never be tried and that after the election he will again be absolved.

Drainage Supervisor Panama Canal Approves Local Project

Consisting of lining the ditch with cement slabs, a drainage project to control malaria by eliminating ideal sites for mosquitoes to breed is under construction in the stream and low area just east of Harnett's Agricultural Building. It is financed by the Works Progress Administration.

Members of the county's health department, WPA engineers and others interested in the control work have expressed favorable comment on the project and recently the expert who originated the idea inspected the work and stamped thereto his seal of approval. He was Colonel LePrince, senior sanitary engineer for U. S. Public Health Service, who passed through Harnett with several members of the State Board of Health to look at the experiment project, the second of its type in North Carolina.

Behind Colonel LePrince is a colorful career in the field of sanitary engineering. It was he who laid out and planned the drainage work which made possible the construction of the Panama Canal. Yellow fever and malaria were so

destructive in the Canal Zone it is doubtful if the white men could have survived without an efficient drainage program. Before the United States started to construct a canal across the Isthmus, the French Government was forced to abandon the project because so many of the men died from the diseases caused by mosquito bites.

During the World War he headed malaria control work in many of the training camps in this country. So effective was his work that less than 30 soldiers succumbed to this disease. Based estimates on previous statistics, Army officers estimated these deaths would number approximately 5,000.

H. C. Yelverton, supervising engineer, has also been praised for his work with the local project and many civic minded citizens are looking forward to converting the area into a municipal park and playground. It would make an ideal one.

Members of the State Board of Health who have also approved the work are C. M. White, malaria control engineer, and Don Ashton, entomologist.

Shut Off From Power, Town Resembles Its Early Period

Reminding us of the short space of time required for luxuries to develop into necessities, calendars in Lillington jumped back Friday night to the period of inferior street lights and few electrical appliances when power lines went on a three-hour blink, from 8 to 9 o'clock. While an emergency crew—"trouble shooters" worked frantically to correct the defects so juice could again be sent humming through the wires, the town was in total darkness.

A few years ago, before electricity superseded all methods of lighting and before appliances powered by electricity gained such extensive use, the three-hour suspension would have passed almost unnoticed. House-wives and owners of businesses which had installed electric lights would have devised little closets for recently discarded kerosene lamps and life would have continued at its normal tempo.

But electricity has been turned to so many other uses than lighting that an entirely different situation resulted Friday night. Lamps and

candles fitted in as emergency substitute for the power.

In many homes, the summer supper was lighter than usual, because electric stoves were only means of cooking and sandwiches formed the main item on the menu. Most of the filling station operators who were accustomed to electric pumps closed but others remained open, relying upon old style mechanical pumps to force gasoline from tanks in the event motorists drove into the station for fuel.

Down at the Lyric theatre, Owner A. G. Rogers was waiting for the current so he could immediately run his show, despite the late start. The Warwick Hotel Coffee Shoppe remained open to feed the bus load of passengers, who stop nightly for their suppers, and Sammie Rastom kept his Lillington Cafe open to accommodate his boarders.

Streets were dark but groups of men, who nightly assemble somewhere up town, congregated along the streets, laughing and enjoying the unusual picture of darkness.