

HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

CONSTRUCTIVE... Harnett's Only Countyseat Newspaper... PROGRESSIVE

Vol. XXIX—No. 19

\$2.00 PER YEAR—5c A COPY

Lillington, N. C., Thursday, May 8, 1947

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

Loving Wins In Race For Mayor

2 VETS AND 2 OLD MEMBERS ARE ELECTED

W. P. SUTTON, JOEL LAYTON, JR., FRANK LEWIS, RALPH DAVIS AND H. H. HAMILTON NEW TOWN COUNCILMEN

In an election that was marked for its unusual number of candidates, Lillington voters went to the polls Monday and selected Charlie Loving as their new Mayor, and chose W. P. Sutton, Joel Layton, Jr., Frank Lewis, Ralph Davis and H. H. Hamilton to serve as Town Commissioners.

In the Mayor's race were: Charlie Loving, S. G. Howell, C. S. Fowler, and C. E. Bass.

In the Councilmen race were: W. P. Sutton, Joel Layton, Jr., S. H. Wilborn, S. R. McKay, J. A. Senter, Frank Lewis, Clarence Mann, Ralph Davis, R. K. Footman, H. H. Hamilton, B. C. O'Quinn, Joe B. Gourlay, H. D. Carson, Sr., Talbert Stewart.

Tabulation of the 326 votes counted showed:

For Mayor: Loving 178, Howell 92, Fowler 49, Bass 7.

For Councilmen: Sutton 149, Layton 148, Wilborn 110, McKay 112, Senter 131, Lewis 150, Mann 126, Davis 132, Footman 85, Hamilton 140, O'Quinn 83, Gourlay 59, Carson 131, Stewart 15. One vote was cast for C. S. Fowler for Councilman.

A total of 338 votes were cast, but 12 of them had to be discarded because of irregularities in marking.

The so-called Veterans Ticket lost in the Mayor's race but won two members of the board—Lewis and Davis.

An agreement entered into at the mass meeting April 7 when the candidates were selected bound all candidates to "the high man rule." Therefore, although the five men receiving the highest number of votes Monday failed to secure a majority of the ballots cast, they are duly declared elected.

Retiring members of the board are: S. H. Wilborn, S. R. McKay and J. A. Senter, all of whom had been named as candidates. Retiring Mayor J. O. Sutton declined to serve again.

Two candidates named at the mass meeting, Mrs. Howard Watkins and Oscar Atkins, withdrew from the race a week or so ago.

The election was marked for its usual quietude and dignity, no intense campaigning being done on election day. The registrar, Mrs. Marjorie Taylor, and pollholders, N. S. Atkins and R. B. O'Quinn, held forth in the five engine room at Town Hall and greeted the balloters all day as if it were a picnic. Only a short time was required to count the votes after the polls closed.

The new officials were "sworn in" at the regular Council meeting Tuesday night.

VISITORS HERE FRIDAY
Mrs. Helen Seagraves and daughter, Mrs. Annie Lee Bialock, and Miss Charlotte Wilkerson of Angier were visitors here Friday.

Granting of Beer Licenses Big Item on Board's Docket

The Board of County Commissioners at their April meeting deferred action on granting beer licenses so that the new statute might be reviewed by County Attorney H. C. Strickland. It is about this time of year that petitions for beer licenses are renewed, and consequently a pile of them had accumulated when the Board met Monday for its May meeting.

Attorney Strickland, after looking into the new law, found that nothing of great consequence had been made to differ from the old statute insofar as beer licenses were concerned, but in the case of wine selling there is a provision for review of applications by the ABC state board.

The county executives then went ahead approving the applications of those who had filed. They found exactly 20 petitions, and every one of the applications was granted. They are:

Clayton Stewart, Coats R-1.
Robert Taylor, Coats R-1, beer and wine.
Gen. H. Earnshaw Jr., Erwin.
James M. Byrd, Erwin R-1.
Mrs. J. M. Bryant, Linden R-1, beer and wine.
Roy Adams, Angier, beer and wine.
Edward W. Stone, Lillington R-3.
Florence Rice Monds, Dunn.

Sunday Speaker



A special Baptist Hour program originating from the Southern Baptist Convention in session at St. Louis, Mo., and featuring Mother's Day, will be broadcast next Sunday, May 11. Dr. Louis D. Newton, President of the Convention, will bring the second of his two messages, dealing with the subject, "Our Mothers," as divulged in the announcement.

The Baptist Hour may be heard in this section over radio station WPTF, Raleigh.

MAKE CLOTHING DRIVE HERE TODAY FROM 3 TO 6

BOY AND GIRL SCOUT TROOPS WILL MAKE CANVASS TO COLLECT ALL GIFTS FOR OVERSEAS RELIEF

Members of the Boy and Girl Scout Troops of Lillington will conduct a drive here today (Thursday) from 3 to 6 o'clock p. m. for collecting gifts of clothing, bedding and shoes for overseas relief.

Under sponsorship of the Church World Service, the collection is being made and the intention is "to distribute overseas to the neediest."

The nationwide program of collecting clothing for the needy in foreign countries was scheduled for the period between April 20 and May 11. It is hoped that by the end of that period to make a generous showing for relief of the people in devastated countries.

Housewives are urged to contribute every article of clothing, bedding and shoes that they feel they will not need again. Now that the spring cleaning time has arrived, it is considered quite appropriate that all such articles that will not be of further use to the owners be given in this campaign to collect them for destitute persons elsewhere.

By giving now, the Church World Service, overseas relief agency for 26 Protestant denominations, can get the contributions from this state overseas by early summer.

Rev. W. A. Tow is county chairman for the drive.

MAKING UP NEW JURY LIST BIG JOB FOR SOMEBODY

TWO TASKS: SECURING NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ELIGIBLE PERSONS; AND PROVIDING FOR SEPARATE JURIES

By virtue of a statute enacted by the 1947 legislature, two big tasks face Harnett county. One is: Securing the names and addresses of all persons in the county who are eligible for jury duty. The other is: Providing necessary rooms in the courthouse for male and female persons, as well as white and colored, who serve on juries.

The job of securing the names and addresses of all who are subject to jury duty devolves upon Mrs. Inez Harrington, clerk to the Board of County Commissioners. The law stipulates that she must get these names and addresses and present them to the Commissioners, and from her lists jury men and women will be drawn from time to time.

To get these names and addresses the statute points out one source, but gives no hint as to where the other source or sources might be. First, as the statute says, she can draw on the tax books to get the names of persons 21 years old or over. That will provide probably ten or twelve thousand names, but there are over forty-five thousand people in the county, and it is estimated that around twenty thousand of them are eligible to serve on juries.

Best source, probably, for Mrs. Harrington to secure the other names is from the registration books in 21 voting precincts in the county. That is a big job in itself.

But the statute specifically says she must present all of the names and addresses of all persons in the county over 21 years of age (excepting those who have been convicted of crime and those who are judged to be non compos mentis).

The Commissioners Monday ordered Mrs. Harrington to proceed with preparing the names for the jury box, and County Attorney Strickland stated he would help her in the work.

Judge W. C. Harris, presiding at the May term of Harnett Superior Court, appeared before the board and instructed them that they should immediately start making plans to afford accommodations for men and women jurors, both white and colored.

County Attorney Strickland was instructed by the executives to contact contractors and get estimates of the cost of preparing separate accommodations for the sexes and races.

It is the intention of the Commissioners to get all the work done in preparing for the new jury lists and accommodations as early as possible because the new statute states that June is the month in which the new order is to be put into effect.

County Wants Its Cottage on the Square

For some time the Board of County Commissioners has been seeking to get possession of a cottage on the courthouse square owned by the county, but so far has been unsuccessful.

Monday the board ordered County Attorney H. C. Strickland to take legal steps to oust the family of Bonnie Matthews, now occupying the cottage.

The board wants to the cottage for a residence for L. B. McLean and family. Mr. McLean is Veterans Service Officer for the county.

The little building was for years used by the Lillington Woman's Club.

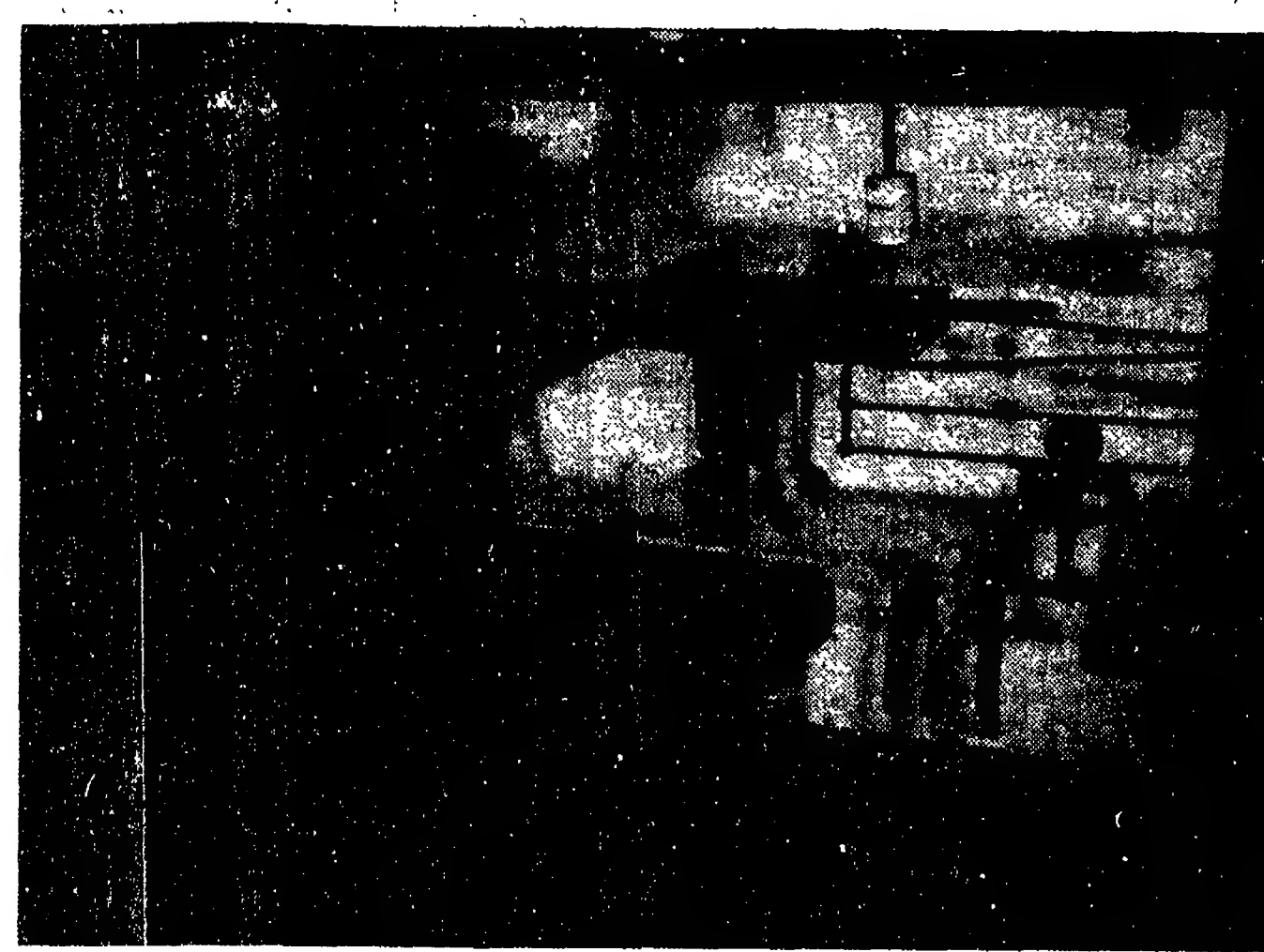
Second Order

Although practically everybody read about it, very few seem to have heeded it—the order passed by the Board of Commissioners several months ago to the effect that all county officials who want to make purchases must first submit a purchasing proposal to County Purchasing Agent R. L. Pate or his assistant, County Auditor Herbert Carson, and obtain authority for making such purchases—the County Executives decided at their session Monday to issue another order of the same tenor and to the exact same effect. The order reads:

"All county officials, before making purchases for and on behalf of the county, must first submit the purchasing proposal to County Purchasing Agent R. L. Pate or to County Auditor Carson."

While running through the bills Monday, preparatory to putting his official O. K. on them so they can be paid, Commissioner Pate threw up his hands in dismay as he ran into bills without any authorization at all.

Harnett Farmer Has Secured Patent On His Power-Driven Tobacco Looper



Pictured above is the power-driven tobacco looper invented and manufactured by Mr. Cyrus McNeill of Upper Little River Township. Although Mr. McNeill did not secure a patent on his new invention until December 12, he perfected it last summer and harvested his own and his neighbors' crops of tobacco with it. Those who have seen it work declare it the biggest boon to tobacco growers in all time. It eliminates three helpers in curing tobacco. Visitors have come from far and near to see the new invention, and among them, especially tobacco growers, are some who are highly enthusiastic in praise of both the machine and its inventor.

At left is a photo of Mr. McNeill. He is a farmer and to the manner born. Even when he is posing for his photograph, he keeps on his work clothes—which denotes more than words can speak that he is a real dirt farmer and a hardworking man.



LOOPED HIS OWN AND NEIGHBORS' CROP LAST YEAR

CYRUS McNEILL OF UPPER LITTLE RIVER IS A GENIUS NOT ONLY IN GROWING TOBACCO BUT IN MECHANICS

Proving that he not only knows a thing or two about growing bright leaf tobacco but also is a genius when it comes to making labor-saving machinery, Cyrus McNeill, middle-aged farmer of Upper Little River township, last summer demonstrated his brand new invention, a tobacco looper.

The big-hearted and community-minded farmer, when he had concluded in his mind the details of the new machine, went ahead and built it. Then he took it out to his tobacco barns and operated it till he had barned all of his own crop. Then he helped out his neighbors, who were also short of laborers, and "machined" their tobacco into their barns.

All this, too, without ever going to the trouble of first obtaining a patent on his machine. After all of his own and his neighbors' tobacco was safely swapped for dollars at the warehouse, Mr. McNeill turned his attention to protecting his new invention. He applied to the Patent Office in Washington for inventor's rights and on December 12, 1946, he secured his patent.

Now Mr. McNeill is planning to get mass production on his tobacco looper. He does not know exactly what the new machines will cost or what they will have to retail for. But as soon as his plans are perfected he will have at least a pretty good idea about how many he can turn out in a given time and what he will have to charge for them.

Thousands of tobacco farmers have already asked "Will it work?" "Action speaks louder than words" will be Mr. McNeill's answer as he points to the splendid accomplishment of his new machine last season. But that will not be all. Those who have not seen it work may still be among the Doubting Thomases. So, within a little more than sixty days the Upper Little River inventor will welcome all who are "from Missouri" to come out to his farm and see the looper in action.

Mr. McNeill's machine is powered by a small gasoline motor which sits on top of "the works." The operator stands beside the machine and "feeds it" as a couple of helpers pass the "hands" to him. It takes a couple, at least, to deliver the "hands" fast enough to keep the machine going. To the uninformed: "hands" means the bunches into which the leaves are tied for curing, and they are placed on sticks that way for hanging in the curing barn.

A spool of white cotton twine, called tobacco twine, is placed on a spindle atop of the looping arms of the machine, much after the fashion of spooled thread on an ordinary sewing machine.

When the "hands" are fed to the machine, it automatically loops the twine around the ends and binds the leaves securely so that none of them will slip from the sticks while in the curing process. This operation is very important in harvesting tobacco. Farmers will tell you that a looper can "make or break you" by the expertness or inefficiency of the looping job. Loopers, too, are the highest-priced labor in tobacco fields.

Mr. McNeill's machine, as at present constructed, will tie up as much tobacco as two hand loopers, and probably more. Besides, it is much more satisfactory than hand-work.

May Day At Campbell Monday

Robert Hamilton of Kipling and Ruth Wiggins of Raleigh were crowned King and Queen of May at Campbell College Monday afternoon by Robert Harbour of Raleigh and Mary Baily of Greensboro.

May Day festivities had to be postponed from Saturday to Monday on account of rain. Miss Imogene Riddick was in charge of the program, assisted by Misses Kathryn Willis and Ruby Williams and Mrs. Jack Ragland.

Program theme was "Highland Fantasy," a medley of Scotch songs and dances. Songs were led by Claud White. The dances included a ballet by Mabel Mackie, a tap dance by Charles Sasser, the Highland Schottische, the Highland Fling, and the Maypole Dance.

Postponed

Sale of the county's little piece of land northwest of the courthouse and running along the Norfolk Southern Railroad was postponed Monday so that a survey can be made.

County Attorney H. C. Strickland tried to have a survey made but the effort got tangled and the County Surveyor didn't finish the job. The land was scheduled to be sold at auction Monday at 12:00 o'clock noon.

The county does not know exactly how much land it has in the little tract, and those interested in buying it want to know how much they are asked to bid on.

Sale of the little tract has created much interest, and there are several parties wanting it.

The advertisement will be run again for sale of the property.

It is a small piece left over from the "courthouse site" which comprised originally 50 acres or more.

TRIMS UNPAID TAX AMOUNT TO 6.65 PC OF LEVY

AS HE COMES TO LAND SALE, COLLECTOR HARRINGTON'S UNPAID BALANCE FOR '46 ONLY \$29,546.27

As he came to cry off land upon which 1946 taxes had not been paid, Monday, County Tax Collector W. D. Harrington submitted his report to the Board of Commissioners showing he still had on his books the sum of \$29,546.27, or 6.65 per cent of the last year's levy remaining unpaid.

The collections on the same date last year amounted to 91.00 per cent. This year the percentage is 93.35.

Total receipts in the collector's office for April were \$30,184.17, derived from the following sources:

From current taxes \$7,347.76; delinquent taxes \$1,276.23, making a total of \$8,624.04.

Other revenue: General county fund \$2,712.83; school fund \$2,545.41; old age fund \$6,410.34; aid to dependent children fund \$2,830.50; child feeding program \$7,059.80; veteran farmers' training \$1,225, making a total of \$21,560.13.

The total levy for 1946 was \$444,174.60. Collections to the first of May were \$414,628.23.

The collector sold the delinquent property at the courthouse door Monday. The county, in order to protect its tax liens, was the principal bidder.

COURT GRANTS SIX DIVORCES

May Civil Term Adjourns After Half A Day's Work; Next Term, Criminal, Starts May 19

Harnett Superior Court, meeting for its May term to hear civil cases, adjourned sine die Monday after about half a day's work, during which it granted six divorces.

Decrees granted were: Malcolm Thompson from Lovonia Thompson, Claudia Lee Allen from Alfred H. Allen, Cora Bell Hudson from William L. Hudson, Doris Grey Holland from Earl G. Holland, Melvin Lee Morgan from Beatrice Sawyer Morgan, Lucille Higgins Browning from John L. Browning, Martha Taylor Rouse from Everett Croom Rouse.

Cases were scheduled for only two days of the week—Monday and Tuesday, and a very short calendar had been prepared.

The next term will convene May 19, for the trial of criminal cases.

GUITON TO GIVE FINALS SERMON

Local School Commencement Gets Underway May 18; Rev. R. E. Brown of Durham To Make Address

Lillington school's finals program starts Friday night, May 16, with the annual recitation and declamation contest, and will be followed Sunday, May 18, with the baccalaureate sermon by Rev. T. A. Guiton, pastor of the local Presbyterian church.

On Wednesday night the class day exercises will be held under the direction of Miss Belle Hockaday. Fred Holder is president of the senior class.

Rev. R. E. Brown of Durham will deliver the commencement address on Thursday night, at which time diplomas will be presented to the graduates.

Principal H. H. Hamilton has asked County Supt. C. Reid Ross to deliver the diplomas.

SUMMER SCHOOL AT CAMPBELL

Summer school at Campbell College is announced for June 9 to August 15. High school and refresher students will register June 9. College students will register June 16. Courses will be offered in English, Math, natural science, history, foreign languages and commercial work.

Jurors Drawn to Serve Two Weeks of June Civil Term

The following have been drawn to serve for the two weeks of June Civil Term of Harnett Superior Court, beginning June 9:

To serve for the first week, beginning June 9:
Averasboro: Dennis Strickland, M. F. Butler, F. N. McLamb, Troy Jackson, Clarence Lee Tart.

Barbecue: Johnny C. Thomas, A. G. Thomas, Wharton Swann, W. G. Johnson.

Black River: E. C. Reaves, Leo Johnson, Anderson Pittman.

Buckhorn: A. W. Baucum, J. H. Wells, W. J. Bialock, I. L. Powell. Duke: Richard D. Baker.

Grove: Roy Page, Herbert Gregory, David Avery, Johnnie Avery, H. S. McLeod.

Hector's Creek: J. H. Gardner, E. J. Smith, H. B. Ligon. Lillington: T. M. Stewart, W. J. Byrd, T. C. Eason, John I. Roberts, M. N. Whittington, Henry Temple. Neill's Creek: Herman Weaver. Stewart's Creek: Franklin Coleman Jr. Upper Little River: M. B. Dar-

roch, J. Carrol Thomas.

To serve for the second week, beginning June 16:
Averasboro: M. W. Smith, Monroe Coats, W. P. Adcock, T. A. Core, Ernest J. Holmes, C. H. Carr, John D. Hockaday, Thad Pope, W. O. Dixon, Dallas J. Reaves, George Joseph, W. M. Draughon, Hugh E. Black.

Anderson Creek: Jasper B. Fuller, Barbecue: L. L. Williams, G. T. Thomas.

Black River: J. L. Lewis, P. W. Pleasants, L. G. Carroll, D. W. Denning Jr.

Duke: J. Ehu Stewart, E. M. Post, Lacy A. Dawkins. Grove: Eddie L. Parrish, Jessie H. Parrish, H. T. Roberts, Carl Avery, Hector's Creek: E. W. Ballard, A. R. Bradley, J. O. Cotton.

Johnsonton: James H. Brown. Lillington: John A. Senter. Neill's Creek: Brooks Wenter. Stewart's Creek: J. B. Morgan, A. E. Morgan.

Upper Little River: Ernest W. Holder.