



# Merry Christmas HARNETT COUNTY NEWS



CONSTRUCTIVE... Harnett's Only County Seat Newspaper... PROGRESSIVE

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Lillington, N. C., Thursday, December 18, 1947

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

## Steering Committee Ready For Action

### MEETING CALLED OF BUSINESSMEN FOR FRIDAY NIGHT

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STEERING COMMITTEE WANTS ALL BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE TO ATTEND

The Steering Committee, appointed at a recent meeting to make a survey of Lillington and adjacent territory under a plan to organize a Chamber of Commerce, is issuing a call for a meeting in the Courthouse Auditorium on Friday night of this week at 8 o'clock.

Urged to attend this meeting are all business and professional men and women within the town of Lillington and immediately adjoining territory.

The Steering Committee has made a thorough canvass and has been much encouraged by the spirit of cooperation manifested by both large and small businesses. A great many of these have shown such enthusiasm for the organization that the committee feels justified in calling this meeting for Friday night to make a report to the grouped business people of the community.

Purpose of the meeting Friday night, therefore, will be to place before the entire group the proposition of going ahead with the permanent organization. If that plan is decided upon, those attending the meeting will proceed to elect permanent officers and lay plans for the operation of the Chamber of Commerce.

In issuing the call for the meeting, Temporary President Malcolm Fowler said:

"It is urgently desired that every person interested in forming a Chamber of Commerce in Lillington to serve the town and its immediate territory be present at the meeting Friday night. We want not only those who have already committed themselves to support of the Chamber, but every person engaged in business or profession in this immediate territory, to attend the meeting."

Over \$5,000 has been pledged in support of the organization.

### W.S.C.S. To Sponsor Cake Sale Saturday

Members of the W.S.C.S. of the Methodist church will have a cake sale Saturday, December 20th at 10 o'clock at Kelly's Drug Store.

Cakes of all kinds, candies, pies and Christmas cookies will be on sale.

Proceeds from the sale will be used for the benefit of the church.

## Harnett County's Officials Are Wishing Merry Christmas

Officials of Harnett county are wishing for every person in the county a merry and happy Christmas.

County Commissioners are wishing for everyone and every group all the good roads possible to get from the highway commission; to bear license for everyone who should have it; for appropriations for every pet project the budget can stand; and for ability to pay all taxes the board may levy.

Sheriff Bill Salmon is wishing for all a jolly good Christmas, with the emphasis on "good"; if everyone is good, the sheriff will be happy too.

Clerk of Court Godwin is wishing for every plaintiff and defendant in proceedings in his court the very best that Santa Claus will allow them; and Justice, too, he is wishing a prevailing Christmas.

Register of Deeds Inez Harrington is wishing for everyone a joyous Christmas, and that all of their deeds may be worthy of record; even to late shoppers for marriage license she is wishing the best of luck (if they shop before her office closes for the holidays).

Auditor Herbert Carson is wishing the best Christmas ever for everybody, provided they lay off of him with their bills till after the holidays.

Tax Collector Bill Harrington wishes everybody a Jim-dandy Christmas for all who have paid up and who haven't (the latter to pay immediately after Christmas).

Tax Supervisor Berles Johnson wants all to know he is wishing

### Courthouse Closed

The County's Executives have granted permission for all of the offices in the courthouse and agriculture building to be closed for the Christmas holidays.

The offices will be closed Wednesday through Saturday.

Mrs. Inez Harrington, Register of Deeds, makes her annual plea to all who are nominally inclined, and who desire to get the knot tied during the holidays, to secure license before Wednesday, and she, together with all other county workers, wishes for everybody a very merry Christmas.

### JUDGE FRIZZELL TO PRESIDE AT JANUARY TERM

CLERK GODWIN HAS HEAVY DOCKET FOR ONE WEEK OF CRIMINAL TERM OPENING JANUARY 5

Barring exchange of judges that may affect this district, Judge Paul Frizzell of Snow Hill will preside at the January term of Harnett Superior Court. Judge Frizzell's health has not been so very good lately, however, and it may be that an exchange will be made before the term is to convene on January 5.

Clerk Howard Godwin told The News that he would prepare a calendar for the January term sometime the latter part of this week or early next week.

Names of jurors to serve for the term have already been published in The News.

There is a heavy docket for the one week of January term. It is a criminal term, and there were a number of cases continued from the last session in November.

Clerk Godwin said that it is not likely that the court can dispose of all the cases on the docket. Asked whether he had heard anything about a special criminal term, he replied that he had not.

Many of the cases on the docket for the January term are of a serious nature, and will probably consume much time.

### Christmas Music

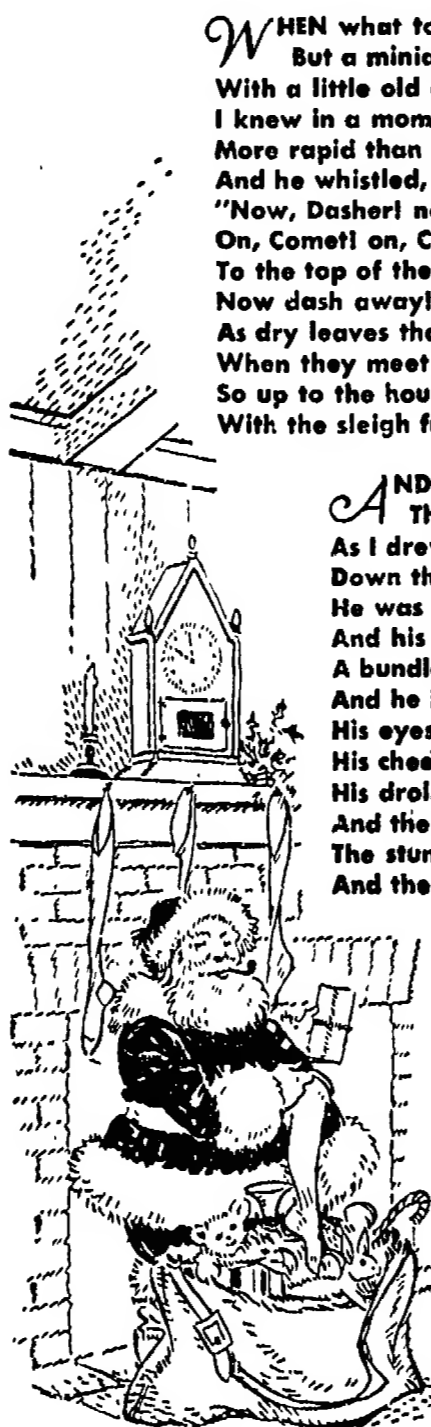
At 7:30 o'clock Sunday evening, Mr. Norman Matthews, public school music teacher in the LaFayette high school, will give a program of Christmas music in the Lillington Methodist Church. The public is most cordially invited to attend.

## A VISIT FROM St. Nicholas

IT WAS the night before Christmas, when all through the house,  
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;  
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,  
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;  
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,  
While visions of sugar-plums danced through their heads;  
And Mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,  
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap,  
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,  
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.  
Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.  
The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow  
Gave a lustre of mid-day to objects below...



WHEN what to my wondering eyes should appear,  
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer,  
With a little old driver so lively and quick,  
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.  
More rapid than eagles his courses they came,  
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name:  
"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen!  
On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Dunder and Blitzen!  
To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!  
Now dash away! dash away! dash away, all!"  
As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,  
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky;  
So up to the house-top the courses they flew,  
With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas too...



AND then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof  
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.  
As I drew in my head, and was turning around,  
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.  
He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,  
And his clothes were all furnished with ashes and soot;  
A bundle of toys he had slung on his back,  
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.  
His eyes-how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!  
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!  
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,  
And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow;  
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,  
And the smoke, it encircled his head like a wreath...

HE had a broad face and a little round belly  
That shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.  
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,  
And I laughed when I saw him in spite of myself.  
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head  
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread;  
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,  
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a flicker,  
And laying his finger aside of his nose,  
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose;  
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,  
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.  
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,  
"HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!"

By Dr. Clement C. Moore

## Contract Let For Gym at Lillington

### No Paper Next Week

In order that those who put Harnett county's favorite newspaper before its readers each week may have a breathing spell and a few days in which to enjoy the Christmas season, there will be no paper issued next week. The office will be closed Wednesday through Saturday.

While we "take in" Christmas, all of us are wishing for each of you the very best Christmas yet!

### EMPLOYEES GET RECOGNITION FOR LONG SERVICE

ERWIN MILLS COMPANY HOLDS ANNUAL BANQUET AND PRESENTS AWARDS TO MEMBERS OF 25-YEAR CLUB

The Erwin Cotton Mills Company at Erwin held its annual banquet last Thursday night, honoring members of its 25-Year Club. Each member of the club was given a gold pin featuring the insignia of the organization.

A special gift was presented to John B. Faircloth, whose work with the mills began in 1899.

Robert L. Stamper was given a gold watch for his 50 years of service. He has been retired for some years. He is the oldest member of the club from the standpoint of earliest date of employment.

A turkey dinner was served, following the invocation by R. S. Kelly, an honored member of the club.

Frank T. deVyver, vice president in charge of industrial relations of the company, presided.

William H. Ruffin, vice president and treasurer of the company, presented the awards to Faircloth and Stamper.

Carl R. Harris, vice president and assistant treasurer, voiced the appreciation of the company for the loyalty and faithfulness of employees.

"Blessed Be the Tie that Binds" was sung just before adjournment.

### BIDS OPENED AT EDUCATION BOARD MEETING

CONTRACT LET FOR LILLINGTON GYMNASIUM; BIDS FOR BULE'S CREEK SCHOOL TOOK TOO MUCH MONEY

At a meeting of the Board of Education Monday night a contract was let to O. W. Godwin of Dunn for construction of a gymnasium at Lillington school. Godwin was the low bidder at \$73,989.

Three projects were considered for Lillington school: the gymnasium, a lunchroom and a home economics building. The cost of the gymnasium, however, took all the money allotted for Lillington, and the other projects must wait till some future time.

Bids were opened for construction of the new school building at Bule's Creek, but all bids were beyond the range of the money allotment, and some sort of rearrangement will be worked out. Supt. Ross explained that not enough money was in the Bule's Creek allotment to construct a building at the cost arrived at in the bids offered Monday.

Cost of all of these projects will be borne out of the \$750,000 bond issue voted last year, \$231,000 of which has been issued.

### Eastern Star to Have Christmas Party

Members of the Lillington Eastern Star will sponsor a turkey dinner and Christmas party on Tuesday evening, December 23rd, at 7:30 o'clock at Hotel Lillington. This party will be given for members of the Lillington Eastern Star and their guests.

### Preaching at Cape Fear

There will be preaching services at Cape Fear Presbyterian Church Sunday, December 21, at 11:00 o'clock. Rev. E. D. McMahan of Fayetteville will preach at this time.

### INDIVIDUALS CAN GIVE BOOKS FOR EUROPEANS

SCHOOLS MAKING ROUND-UP OF ALL AVAILABLE BOOKS AND INDIVIDUALS ARE URGED TO COOPERATE

Supt. Reid Ross reports that all schools of the county are making round-ups of books that are not being used, and principals, teachers and students are meeting with a degree of success. Final report from the schools has not yet been made, however, and it is expected that their collection will be very good indeed.

An appeal is made to all individuals who have books they have read and for which they have no further use to turn them in either to the schools or to one of the civic clubs in the county.

The list of acceptable books for shipment to the American-occupied area of Germany has been published. It has been pointed out that the teachers in the German schools are now attempting to teach their students, of whom there are 3,000,000, without any semblance of books at all. It is felt that all Americans who have an interest in the training of these German children in the American way of life will want to participate in the book collection.

"It is one of the earliest ways to help prevent another war," stated one speaker at a recent meeting in (Continued on page two)

### Cotton Ginnings Running About Same

Robert L. Powell, special agent of the Department of Commerce Census Bureau, reports that there were 15,382 bales of cotton ginned in Harnett county from the crop of 1947 prior to December 1, as compared with 15,175 bales ginned to December 1, 1946.

### Harnett County Girl Graduates at ASTC

Miss Laura Lee Huffines of Route 2, Cameron, is a member of the class at Appalachian State Teachers College which is holding its graduating exercises on December 17. Miss Huffines, daughter of David Allen Huffines, is a graduate of Bauhaven high school and attended Mitchell college for one year. In high school she took part in debating, dramatics and athletics. At Appalachian she has been a member of the YWCA, the Association for Childhood Education, the Westminster Fellowship Council. She has majored in Primary Education.

### Coats PTA Has Christmas Program

The third meeting of Coats PTA was held last Tuesday night with the President, Mrs. W. E. Nichols, presiding. Reports were made by the various committees. Sixth and seventh grade students rendered a Christmas program. For having the largest number of parents present, awards went to the third, sixth and eleventh grades. (Continued on back page)

### APPRAISALS ARE ABOUT COMPLETE SAYS JOHNSON

ASSESSORS HAVE GONE OVER ALL PROPERTY VALUATIONS IN COUNTY WITH ONLY FEW EXCEPTIONS

Tax Supervisor Berles Johnson tells The News that the work of re-appraising property in Harnett county is almost complete, and that the appraisers have only a few scattering items left before finally closing the huge job of placing all holdings, both real and personal, on the books at as nearly equitable values as is humanly possible to make it.

Supervisor Johnson realized at the start that the appraisers were up against a big task. He has not been stinting in praise of them, either. He declares that the people who have done the job have not only been unbiased in their work but have taken great pains in piecing together the framework of what can be considered as the most equitable valuing of property that Harnett county has ever had.

The Supervisor will not say, however, that there will not be some grumbling when it is seen by some owners that their property has been raised in valuation. But he gives The News this bit of comforting information: Says Mr. Johnson: "The appraisers have gone about their work in such a thorough and unbiased (Continued on back page)

## David Henry Senter Died Last Friday



David Henry Senter, merchant, banker and farmer, and one of the most prominent citizens of Harnett county for over half a century, died at Rex Hospital at 8 o'clock last Friday night, after a lingering illness. He had for the past several years been in declining health. Mr. Senter was 78 years old.

In his early manhood Mr. Senter held the position of chief clerk to the late Dr. Cyrus Thompson, Secretary of State. He was prominent in politics ever since he became of age, and never lost his interest in government of his county, state and nation.

In 1929-30 he was purchasing agent for Harnett county. He also held many responsible positions in the county.

He served one term in the State House of Representatives from Harnett county. Mr. Senter was a man who could be termed "a gentleman of the old school," and although his ideas oftentimes clashed with those who were in the majority in an issue, he stoutly stood his ground in all dis-

cussions, and everyone conceded that he was a man of great thought and study in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his country and its people.

He was a religious leader, taking active part in all endeavors sponsored by the Baptist denomination.

He was until recent years president of the Bank of Lillington, with which bank he was connected till his death. He was also a director in the Bank of Fuquay.

Becoming a Baptist at the age of 11, Mr. Senter throughout his life took active interest in all of his denomination's work. He served as moderator of Little River Baptist Association. He strongly supported Campbell College, being one of the principal aids of the late J. A. Campbell in the establishment of Bule's Creek Academy, from which grew Campbell College. He was a Mason of high standing, and was awarded a medal by his lodge at Chalybeate Springs for 50 years of service.

Surviving are his wife, who before her marriage to Mr. Senter, was Miss Ida Jeffries of Clarksville, Va.; a daughter, Miss Virginia Senter of the home; four sons, John Aaron Senter of Lillington, Dr. Jeffries Senter of Atlanta, Ga., Grayson Senter of Fuquay Springs and Meredith Senter of the home; also a number of grandchildren.

The funeral was held Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Chalybeate Springs Baptist Church. The Rev. E. Norfleet Gardner, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Henderson, officiated, assisted by the Rev. G. Scott Turner, pastor of the Chalybeate church. Mr. Senter was a member of the Rawls Baptist Church. Members of the Masonic lodge had charge of the rites. Honorary pallbearers were trustees of Campbell College and directors of the Bank of Lillington and the Bank of Fuquay. Burial was in Harnett Memorial Park near Lillington.

## Greetings From News' Advertisers

Those who may think Christmas greetings are not worthwhile are in the hopeless minority. Evidence aplenty of the fact is afforded by the host of merchants and professional people who are using the Christmas edition of The News to wish happiness for their friends throughout Harnett county and adjoining territory.

In this issue, which will be the last before the holiday season begins, can be found greetings not only from Lillington business people but from Dunn, Angler, Coats, Fuquay Springs and other places.

These business people are extending the greetings of Christmas because they greatly appreciate the

patronage of Harnett folks—and really, too, deep down in their hearts, they are anxiously desiring that everybody, whether their patrons or not, be as happy as they are at this time when happiness should rule supreme everywhere.

The News sincerely appreciates this manifestation of the Christmas spirit by those who advertise in this paper. If they should fail to extend greetings and good wishes to the folks who have made them happy by their patronage, we would be forced to the conclusion that something had gone amiss.

In speaking for these business people, The News feels fully justified in pointing to the apparent fact that

they have been benefited by their advertising in this paper. Were it not so, their greetings would hardly appear in the paper today.

Besides being good, sound business practice, the sending of greetings helps to weld a friendship that is coveted by all enterprising business people.

And so, on behalf of its patrons, The News adds its sincere wish and hope that the friendships formed through contact between these merchants and their customers be ever-lastingly cordial.

The News and its advertisers wish for you and everybody the very best of old-fashioned happiness at this Christmastime!