

HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

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Lillington, N. C., Thursday, August 19, 1948

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

School Openings Likely To Be Postponed On Account Of Polio

HEALTH AND SCHOOL BOARDS TO MEET FRIDAY

DR. HUNTER WILL RECOMMEND POSTPONEMENT OF OPENINGS IN ORDER TO ALLAY FEAR IN PUBLIC MIND

When the County Board of Health and the County Board of Education meet in joint session Friday night of this week to consider the advisability of opening the county's schools on September 1st in face of the constant spread of poliomyelitis, Dr. W. B. Hunter, County Health Officer, will recommend that the openings be postponed for a while in order to determine how prevalent the disease may be expected to become during the onset period which heretofore has ended about the middle of November.

Dr. Hunter told The News that while he didn't credit public gatherings with spread of polio, he thinks it wise to let the schools be a little late in opening in order to allay fear in the public mind, mostly for the benefit of parents of children of school age.

Angler school is scheduled to open August 24. Other schools have set opening date as September 1st.

Just how long the delayed openings may be fixed, Dr. Hunter would not say. He thinks, however, that within a couple of weeks after September 1st it may be determined with reasonable safety what the polio situation may be expected to become for the remainder of the onset period.

Dr. Hunter pointed out that it is now impossible to determine whether the spread of the disease is subsiding, or even if it has reached its peak.

He pointed to a chart which he keeps up-to-date from day to day, and which shows the point from which each case of polio in Harnett county has been reported up to the present time.

As of Monday of this week, the total number of cases reported in the county was 10—3 in the southeast section, 3 in the north, 2 in the central, and 2 in the southwest.

"By that," said Dr. Hunter, "you can see that polio has been reported from the strictly rural sections as well as from the more thickly populated areas. The nature of the disease makes it impossible to predict where the next case is likely to be reported from."

Asked whether he credited public gatherings with spread of polio, Dr. Hunter gave an emphatic No. He explained by pointing out that cases have been reported from families who had observed every precaution that had been advised for families where no case had developed. In his opinion, polio must be controlled by other means than banning public gatherings, which are alright when taken as one precautionary measure alone.

If school openings are postponed as recommended by Dr. Hunter, all school personnel as well as parents will be advised immediately.

The last case of polio reported in Harnett last year occurred November 12. There were seven cases reported in 1947 in the county.

ALL-STAR GAME IN DUNN PARK

Cape Fear League Stages Big Event In Which Stars Are Drawn From Nine Towns

Interest of baseball fans, especially those concentrating on the Cape Fear League, was centered on a big event staged for the Dunn Ball Park on Wednesday night of this week.

A team composed of players from Pule's Creek, Lillington, Coats, Lincen, and Cleveland, was scheduled to battle a team composed of players from Fes Ridge, Boone Trail, Godwin and Pleasant Grove.

Those "in the know" were able to tell others that this was one of the season stellar games.

Admission 55c and 35c.

Watch The Water!

For the next few weeks while the streets are being paved in Lillington, it may be necessary to shut off your water supply from time to time. You see they can't go over those pipes without jarring them a little. Chief Frank Hockaday suggests that you be on the alert, fill up a few buckets every day, and be patient at all times until the pavement is down for good.

Favors Postponement



DR. W. B. HUNTER

Dr. Hunter tells The News that he will recommend postponement of the opening of Harnett's school at the joint meeting of the Board of Health and the Board of Education Friday night.

SS DECLARES HARNETT FOLKS LOSING MONEY

SAYS THAT IN APRIL, MAY AND JUNE THEY LOST THROUGH LATE APPLICATION FILING

More than \$3,600 in Social Security insurance payments were lost by residents of Harnett, Hoke, Robeson, Sampson and Cumberland counties during April, May and June of this year, according to a survey made by the Fayetteville field office of the Social Security Administration. Widows and children lost a total of 179 monthly payments, and retired workers lost a total of 76 monthly benefits.

These old-age and survivors insurance monthly payments were lost because insured workers or the survivors of insured workers were late in filing applications for benefits.

Miss Margaret H. Lowder, field representative of the Fayetteville Social Security office, pointed out that claims should be filed when an insured worker retires at 65 or older, or upon the death of a wage-earner who has worked under Social Security. If applications are filed late, back payments can be made for not more than three months.

Miss Lowder stated that a representative of the Social Security Administration office in Fayetteville is in Dunn at the post office at 11:00 o'clock the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Retired workers who have worked in positions covered by the Social Security Act, or the survivors of insured workers should see the Social Security representative as promptly as possible after they are eligible for payments, or should write or visit the Social Security Administration field office at Fayetteville. Only in this way can loss of benefit payments be avoided.

Major Stewart Atkins left Saturday for Camp Lee, Va., where he will be stationed. Major Atkins has been visiting relatives and friends here for a month.

Sale Of Edwards Plant Holds Interest For Harnett People

Sale of Sanford's largest industrial plant, the Edwards Company, announced last week, holds more than casual interest for Harnett people. It is, in fact, entwined with the development of a great portion of Upper Harnett.

It was the Edwards Company's product, the motorized cars on the Atlantic & Western Railroad running from Sanford to Lillington, that really put that railway on the "go."

For indeed Harry F. Edwards, head of the Edwards Company, was interested in making traffic on the A & W move faster and in larger volume. He manufactured the motor cars and demonstrated that a "short line" could be as effectively efficient as the great trunk lines. His efforts made it possible for both shippers and passengers to secure quicker service not only between Sanford and Lillington on a local basis, but in connection with outgoing and incoming traffic facilities with the bigger railroads.

The sale of the Edwards plant was made to the Saco-Lowell Shops, Inc., of Middleboro, Maine. The same personnel will be retained. During World War II the significant manufacturing operation in North Carolina, of high precision airplane parts won for the Edwards Company the coveted Army and Navy "E" Award five times. The company employed 800 at the peak of its activities and since the war has had about 200 employees.

ERWIN MILLS AGAIN FACING WAGE SNARL

WORKERS REJECT PROFFERED 8 PER CENT INCREASE IN PAY; UNION AND COMPANY ISSUE STATEMENTS

Rejecting an offer of an 8 per cent increase in pay because, they say, "it has strings attached to it," the textile workers of the Erwin Cotton Mills Company, through their manager, Howard E. Parker, are conducting negotiations with Erwin Company officials at the headquarters in Durham.

The Erwin Company has two large mills at the Harnett county town, and others at Durham, Cooleemee, Neuse, and other lately acquired plants.

The union claims that when the Erwin Company offered the 8 per cent pay boost on August 4, it stipulated that an arbitration case pending must be dropped.

In its statement the union says: "This proposal was brought to the membership of the three local unions at Erwin, Durham and Cooleemee. Each local turned the proposal down. The workers wanted the increase, but they didn't want the strings attached."

Union Manager Parker said: "We are willing to bargain; we are willing to arbitrate; we only ask for our contract guarantees. The workers want their wage increase."

William H. Ruffin, president of the Erwin Company, has written to Manager Parker stating that his company is willing to pay the 8 per cent increase in pay, but cannot afford to abide by the union's interpretation of the arbitration award. Mr. Ruffin says the union's interpretation is 6 1/2 minutes-out of every 8 hours work must be provided as "sit-down" time and that the company must provide extra workers to carry on while the regular workers are thus idle.

"No other company is making such provision," he says, expressing belief that such practice would bring bankruptcy.

Mr. Ruffin further declares that he does not believe his company's employees desire to thus jeopardize the interests of the company and its employees as well.

Stating further that the Erwin Company is paying as high wages as any other textile company and providing equally as good working and living conditions, Mr. Ruffin calls on Union Manager Parker to "give this matter your serious consideration."

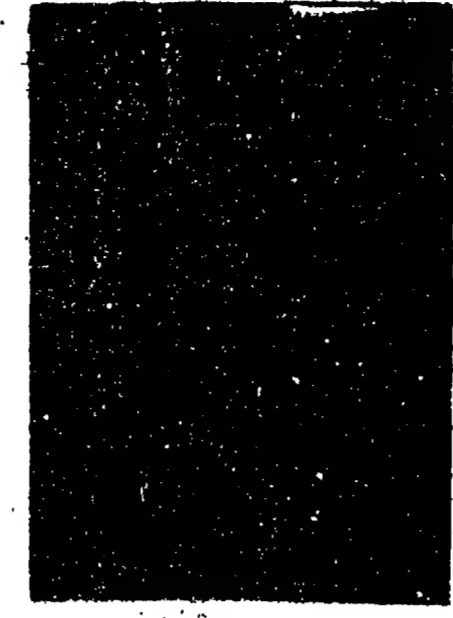
So far as can be learned, there is no immediate threat of a strike at the Erwin Mills.

Union Manager Parker is the Democratic nominee for member of the House of Representatives from Harnett county in the 1949 General Assembly.

RETURN TO INDIANA

Mrs. Frank H. Zahrt and son, Frankie, have returned to Bloomington, Indiana where Mr. Zahrt is in medical school. They have been spending the summer with Mrs. Zahrt's parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Upchurch, on Lillington R-1.

To Preside



JUDGE W. H. S. BURGWYN Judge Burgwyn will preside at the one week of criminal term of Harnett Superior Court beginning September 4. He will replace Judge Clawson Williams who will be presiding in his home town of Sanford.

CHERRY ISSUES CALL TO YOUTHS TO REGISTER

ALL MEN BETWEEN AGES 18-35 MUST REGISTER FOR MILITARY SERVICE; REGISTRATIONS START AUGUST 30

The peacetime call for military service has gone forth, and Monday Governor Gregg Cherry, in response to a call by President Harry Truman, issued a proclamation calling upon all men between the ages of 18 and 26 years to report to their respective draft boards for registration.

Following are the dates upon which young men of various age groups must register:

1. Persons born in the year 1922 after August 30, 1922, shall be registered on Monday, August 30.
2. Persons born in the year 1923 shall be registered on Tuesday, August 31, or Wednesday, September 1.
3. Persons born in the year 1924 shall be registered on Thursday, September 2, or Friday, September 3.
4. Persons born in the year 1925 shall be registered on Saturday, September 4, or Tuesday, September 7.
5. Persons born in the year 1926 shall be registered on Wednesday, September 8 or Thursday, September 9.
6. Persons born in the year 1927 shall be registered on Friday, September 10 or Saturday, September 11.
7. Persons born in the year 1928 shall be registered on Monday, September 13, or Tuesday, September 14.
8. Persons born in the year 1929 shall be registered on Wednesday, September 15, or Thursday, September 16.
9. Persons born in the year 1930 before September 19, 1930, shall be registered on Friday, September 17, or Saturday, September 18.
10. Persons who were born on or before September 19, 1930, shall be registered on the day they become 18 or within five days thereafter.

While all veterans of World War II in the peacetime draft age must register, none of them with service records of as much as three months before V-J Day will be called into service again.

Those young men already in the armed service will not be required to register.

Draft boards set up in all of the 100 counties in the State will again handle the registrations and calls for service as was done in the late war.

It has not yet been definitely announced when the first draft call will be issued. Reports from recruiting stations state that young men are enlisting in armed branches at a more rapid rate than ever. If it should so happen that the required quotas for both army and navy are filled by volunteers, it may be some months before draft boards begin calling up young men in the peacetime service.

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Long Hoped For Market In County Is At Last Realized

PUBLIC SHOULD BE AROUSED ON HEALTH GUARDS

DR. HUNTER, HEALTH OFFICER, THINKS PEOPLE SHOULD EXHIBIT MORE INTEREST IN DEADLY DISEASES

While keeping close watch on the polio situation, and doing everything possible to hold it in check, Dr. W. B. Hunter, County Health Officer, still thinks it rather peculiar that the public becomes aroused over the occurrence of a comparative few polio cases each summer, when death is stalking the homes, the highways and practically everywhere, taking lives each year numbering into the thousands.

For instance, Dr. Hunter pointed out to The News from records in his office, that in 1946, latest year from which records have been compiled, there were in North Carolina—1,104 deaths from tuberculosis; 46 from diphtheria; suicides 286; homicides by firearms 340; motor vehicles accidents 1,008, mostly children; burns 190, mostly children; drowning 116; accidents by firearms 103.

All of these deaths, and others, could have been prevented, too, Dr. Hunter emphasized, stating that immunization measures in the case of contagious diseases are free. Even in TB, treatment is free to all who cannot afford to pay, and others are treated in public hospitals at the low fee of \$1.50 per day.

"It would be fine if the public would become aroused over the number of deaths occurring each year from preventable causes," said Dr. Hunter, who at the same time gave his commendation to the people of Harnett county for their cooperation in aiding to combat polio.

Assistant Home Agent Assumes Post

Miss Lela Flax Huntley of Morrow R-1, who was recently elected by the Board of County Commissioners as assistant home demonstration agent in Harnett county, has arrived and assumed her duties. She is making her home with Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Johnson.

Miss Huntley attended Brevard College and received her degree in home economics at Flora MacDonald College.

More Elbow Room

Erection of the Board of Education building and the moving into that quarter by Supt. Ross and his office force afforded relief to another of the county's departments.

When Supt. Ross and his secretaries, Miss Adelaide Shaw and Mrs. Beulah Dale, moved up their records, etc., and packed into the new building, Dr. W. B. Hunter and his health department forces took over the vacated quarters and relieved the congestion in their cramped office space across the hall in the Agriculture Building.

Now, both departments have more elbow room, and the records can be more conveniently kept. That the records have been accurately kept heretofore in such crowded quarters can be credited to the efficiency of the personnel of both departments.

Harnett Farmers Think 5 Per Cent Increase Not Enough

Announcement by Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan that a 5 per cent increase in national marketing quota for flue-cured tobacco in 1949 will be granted, has failed to bring any enthusiasm to Harnett farmers.

"The proposed increase is not enough. In view of the \$7.52 per cent cut taken in the 1948 crop, along with the tremendous increase in consumption and constantly growing demand for flue-cured tobacco, farmers here are of the opinion that the law of supply and demand will more completely harmonize if the \$7.52 per cent cut is restored in full.

But, falling in that, they feel that a much larger increase should be allowed for next year's crop.

There is another phase of it, too. During the planting, growing and harvesting seasons, the 1948 crop has been marketed at a profit by growers. Some prominent farmers told The News that their tobacco crop this year has been cut in half

Sales Supervisor



JOE McCULLERS

Mr. McCullers is Supervisor of Sales of the Dunn Tobacco Market which opens today. Mr. McCullers is also the Secretary of the Dunn Chamber of Commerce promoters of Harnett county's only tobacco market.

HARNETT'S GOP TO GET ACTIVE SEPTEMBER 1

CHAIRMAN J. O. WEST OF DUNN TO SET UP HEADQUARTERS THERE; "WE MEAN BUSINESS," HE SAYS

Declaring that "this is a Republican year for victory," Chairman J. O. West of the Harnett County Republican Committee announces that his county organization will be perfected and headquarters set up in Dunn on September 1 in the First Citizens Bank building.

"We mean business this year," Chairman West declares, "and we're going after every office for which we gave offered candidates. We're not worried about the Presidential election—It's just a matter of counting the votes in the nation; but we want Harnett county to be on the winning side."

He added: "We have better than an even chance of carrying North Carolina this fall."

A few dissatisfied Democrats will vote with the Dixiecrats, thinks Chairman West, but most of them will vote for Tom Dewey "because they know he's as good as elected."

Taking on such renewed activity in this election year, it is apparent that the GOP hopes and expects to repeat their 1928 performance when they went over the top with the nation in electing Herbert Hoover as President, carried all offices in Harnett except Clerk of Court which was not elective in that year, but failed to carry North Carolina as Chairman West declares "we have better than an even chance" to do this year.

Chairman West promised to make further announcements as soon as his organization is formed and his headquarters in Dunn is set in going order.

ON TRIP TO ILLINOIS

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Chenault of Bule's Creek expect to leave today for a visit to Mr. Chenault's old home, Benton, Illinois. They will make the trip by automobile and will be away for a week, combining both business and pleasure.

SECRETARY JOE McCULLERS LOOKS FOR GOOD SEASON

BUCK CURRIN, SEASONED TOBACCO CONIST TO BE IN CHARGE OF MARKET, WHICH OPENS WITH EASTERN BELT

Dunn's great hope for a tobacco market—a hope that has extended over a long period of years—is to be realized today (Thursday) when the chant of the auctioneer is heard as he goes from pile to pile of good Harnett-grown leaf seeking the highest dollar for the best bright leaf tobacco throughout the world.

Along with Dunn, the farmers throughout Harnett county will celebrate the achievement of the goal which they have also looked forward to and hoped for—a tobacco market within the borders of their own county.

Our farmers have already manifested their interest in the Dunn market. When they were asked to go to the polls on June 26, the date of the second political primary, and register their approval of the Dunn market, they responded to that appeal with enthusiasm that stamped the movement as one in which they had direct interest.

To go back to the start of the activity that has resulted in establishing a tobacco market in Harnett county, it should again be recorded that the Dunn Chamber of Commerce, with its capable secretary, Joe McCullers, took the job in hand as something that not only should but must be accomplished and without delay.

Last spring the Dunn Chamber got busy on the project. And McCullers never turned loose or let up in the least till enterprising citizens had grouped their interest and means in the building of two large warehouses to be ready for tobacco sales come the 1948 selling season.

Buck Currin of Angler, tobaccoist of long experience, who took his primary course in the tobacco fields, was contacted and became the manager of Dunn's tobacco market. Buck is a veteran at the business. He has never for even a little while relinquished his interest and activity in the tobacco business. He has been connected with some of the biggest markets, and he knows tobacco from the seedbed to the hamper. Farmers need have no cause to feel dubious about Currin's ability to "know tobacco best."

Secretary McCullers tells The News that company buyers and government graders have been assured, and that ample floor space will be available. Also, it is stated, other warehouses will be built to expand the Dunn market's facilities.

The warehouses ready for receiving tobacco now were built by C. L. Tart and Emmett C. Edgerton, Dunn business men. They have over 100,000 square feet of floor space.

Harnett county farmers produced over 30,000,000 pounds of tobacco last year. Important, too, is the fact that Harnett tobacco ranks highest grades and brings higher prices wherever it is sold.

The chant of the auctioneer at Dunn will be sweet music to the ears of more than the farmers who produce tobacco. It will be a glorious melody to every citizen in the county.

BURGWIN HERE FOR SEPT. TERM

Judge Clawson Williams To Be Here For Remainder Of Fall Term; New Cases Added To Calendar

Because of the fact that the September term of Harnett and Lee counties fall on the same date, Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn will preside over the one week of criminal term here beginning September 4.

The opening date of court falls on a national holiday—Labor Day—and it is not known now whether court will convene on that day or postpone the opening till Tuesday, the 7th.

Judge Clawson Williams of Sanford, resident judge, is to preside over the fall term of Harnett court, and he will be here for the remainder of the term—a civil term falling in October.

Clerk of Court Howard Godwin has not made up the calendar of criminal cases to be heard during the first week in September, but it is rather doubtful if the docket can be cleared because some cases were left over after the special term recently held, and some new cases have been added since that time.