

HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

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

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Vol. XXXII—No. 23

\$2.00 PER YEAR—5c A COPY

Lillington, N. C., Thursday, June 8, 1950

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

In and Out of Lillington

HOUSEBUILDERS NEED HOMES

Even the builders of houses sometimes are found seeking homes. It's not exactly a case of the shoemaker's family going barefooted, but it happens that builders often find themselves away from home.

The huge building program in progress at Fort Bragg, which is intended to house a thousand families, has brought almost daily inquiries for homes in Lillington.

It reminds us of the time when the war-building was going on at the Fort. A steady stream of inquiries came this way for living quarters.

Even now, however, with all the homes that have been built here since the end of the war, available living quarters for newcomers are at a premium.

This town is growing!

TOBACCO'S GROWING TOO

For some days now we have been feeling a bit uneasy about the tobacco situation in Harnett county, what with the lateness of the season when farmers finally transferred their plants from beds to fields, the lack of rain, and one thing and another.

But the picture has changed quite a good deal within the past several days. Our agent, Mrs. Hlanche Johnson, was in The News office one day last week and told us that folks had finished putting out tobacco plants and that the "bright leaves" were growing to beat the band.

That sounds good, and everything's all hunky-dory.

EXCUSE OUR PLAIN WORDS

Not so long ago The News had an editorial in which it was explained that as far as possible little, bittry, teeny words were used—not the big one that twisted the jaw or brought on a cough.

In other words, five-cent words (two for a nickel before the war) were our choicest.

The News' idea is that the plainest words will make a news story or an editorial more understandable to all readers—including such folks as ourselves, preachers, farmers, day laborers, and on up the line.

You can possibly imagine our chagrin, scant though it was, when we learned that a certain fellow who regarded himself as highly educated bemoaned that "some things should be written in a different way."

As Little Abner would say, "Bless his little heart!"

CRABGRASS

Enemy No. 1 just now, with farmers and gardeners, is crabgrass. More than one member of those two classifications has wondered time and again where all the stuff comes from.

Out our way, at lunchtime, friendly John Harris, the "Tarheel Gardener," was discussing crabgrass and stated that it could be gotten rid of by simply chopping it up before it goes to seed.

For once our good housewife begged to differ with him. She declared: "Why, that stuff seems to come from nowhere, and there's no end to the supply. It would grow on top of this house if the rats didn't keep the roof washed off."

ANOTHER VERSION

A local householder couldn't get a stand of "society grass" to cover his lawn, so he went to his favorite seed dealer and called for some crabgrass seed.

"That's one kind of seed I haven't got," he said, "but if you'll scatter some cotton seed in your yard you'll soon have a good stand of crabgrass."

LUCKIEST CANDIDATE

Robert Morgan considers himself the luckiest candidate of all in the 1950 Democratic tests.

When the primary campaign started off, Robert had opposition. But before voting time his rival, L. M. Chaffin, withdrew. That left Robert the Democratic nominee by unanimous acclamation.

"Nevertheless, I consider myself the luckiest because in fact I was a candidate, and if Mr. Chaffin hadn't withdrawn I would have faced a hard campaign."

Robert Morgan is one of Harnett county's finest young men.

TO CONDUCT REVIVAL

Rev. Reuben Jones, well known evangelist, will conduct a series of meetings in Wilson beginning Thursday night. Mr. Jones will be assisted by members of his choir.

Executives Have Unusually Quiet First Monday Meet

COMMISSIONERS APPROVE SEVEN ROAD REQUESTS

Also Vote To Pay Registrars \$1 Hour For Copying Names

At their regular first Monday meeting in June, the County Board of Commissioners received a minor flood of road petitions which kept them busy for a major part of the morning session. For the most part the petitions were given approval by the Board and then filed until the new road allotment for the county is set by the Highway Commission.

The Board approved seven road petitions, five of which were placed on file, and the other two returned to the persons submitting them.

To extend the road in Stewart's Creek township as it now runs from Buffalo out and to the Old Wire road and where it connects with the Joe Williams road.

To hard surface that road in Averasboro township from highway 310 to the forks of the road near Mingo Creek, a distance of 1 3/4 miles.

To grade and have maintained by the state that road in Duke township that runs from U. S. Highway 421 beginning at Bill's Place to the old Dunn-Erwin county road, a distance of 230 yards.

To improve with top soil and with asphalt that road in Averasboro township that runs from Highway 301 to the Jonesboro road, a distance of 1 mile.

To have put in traveling condition and have maintained by the state the road in Upper Little River that runs from Elmo Newton's tobacco barn to Arnold Nordan's home, and is known as Bayles and Nordan road, a distance of 3-4 miles.

To treat with an all-weather surface the road in Neill's Creek township that leads off of N. C. Highway 421 at H. C. Rogers' store and runs in a northerly direction to its intersection with N. C. Highway 210 near Neill's Creek Baptist church, a distance of approximately 4 miles.

To hard surface the road in Johnsonville township from road N. C. 27 at Johnsonville to Lee county line, known as the Olivia-Johnsonville road, a distance of 6.8 miles.

Several persons appeared before the board with other than road petitions. County School Supt. C. Reid Ross came before the Board and requested that a transfer of \$12500 be made from the Current Expense Code 652-1 to the Capital Outlay Budget. This request was granted by a close vote of 3 to 2.

Shug Avery and Francis Duncan appeared before the Board in the interest of establishing a Sanitary District from Black River to the Erwin Cotton Mills line for water and sewer.

(Continued on page eight)

Visitors to Courthouse Monday Got Smell of Fresh Paint

Fresh paint looks a lot better than it smells—that was the consensus of opinion of visitors to Harnett's courthouse Monday—though where new paint is as badly needed as it has been for a long time at the county's capitol building, little or no complaint is heard of the strong odor.

Painters began Monday morning on the job of carrying out the Grand Jury's recommendation that the courthouse be freshened up. The courtrooms in the lobby, and visitors habitually congregating there were seen to huddle at points where there was less likelihood of being "coated" themselves.

For sometime the Grand Jurors have been recommending that the courthouse be renovated and repainted, naming specifically certain points about the building that needed such attention.

The Jurors at the May term—last session until September—urged that the work be done before the next criminal term of court. No hint was given as to what might take place

Two Weeks Civil Term To Convene Monday

Two weeks civil term of Harnett Superior Court will convene next Monday morning with Judge Chester Morris of Currituck presiding. This will be last of the Spring Terms. The Fall Terms begin with the first week in September a one-week term for trial of criminal cases.

OFFICERS TAKE NINE STILLS DURING MAY

1,070 Gallons of Beer Captured in Liquor Still Raids

Nine stills in the county were taken during the month of May by deputies and constables along with 1,070 gallons of beer. Stewart's Creek lead the list with four stills. In Averasboro a haul of 400 gallons of beer was taken along with the capture of a single still.

The list of stills, and the arresting officers, includes:

Deputy K. C. Matthews, one still in Upper Little River, 60 gallons of beer.

Deputy E. L. Jackson, one still in Stewart's Creek, no beer.

Constable Wade Stewart one still in Lillington, 100 gallons of beer.

Constable C. C. McDonald, one still in Barbecue, 300 gallons of beer.

Constable Preston Porter, three stills in Stewart's Creek, 210 gallons of beer.

Constable R. H. Butler, two stills in Averasboro, 400 gallons of beer. During the month of April there were 17 stills captured in the county along with a large amount of beer and 28 gallons of whiskey. Averasboro, which headed the list for April with seven stills taken, only had two found there in May.

Cemetery Cleaning At Spring Hill

All members of Spring Hill Methodist Church and all others interested are asked to help in cleaning up the cemetery there tomorrow (Friday) beginning at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

Power Off

In order that new equipment may be installed, power service in the Coats, Bule's Creek and Lillington and rural areas will be interrupted from 4:00 to 7:00 o'clock in the morning next Sunday, June 11.

This announcement was made by H. M. Tyler, manager in the Dunn office of the Carolina Power and Light Co.

MONDAY, JUNE 12 SET AS PRE-TRIAL HEARINGS DAY

Last Spring Term Of Superior Court To Begin Monday

The June term of the Harnett Superior Court will begin on Monday, June 12, but there will be no jury trials on Monday due to the fact that that day has been set aside by presiding judge Chester Morris as Pre-Trial Hearings Day. This session of civil court will be the last of the Spring Terms and the next time Superior Court will meet will be the first Monday in September.

The Court Calendar was so fixed at the calendar meeting that the Pre-Trial Hearings Day was not set, but left up to the discretion of the presiding judge. The purpose of this day of court is for the court to take up all matters of motions, settling of issues, matters of reference, admissions of facts and of documents, matters of judicial notice, and all other matters which may aid in the disposition of any cases coming up in the court term. All attorneys who are on record as appearing in cases set for trial on the June calendar have been requested to appear in court on the Pre-Trial Hearings Day.

On Tuesday the court gets under way with the beginning of the jury trials. First on the docket come 11 uncontested divorce cases, and when they are dispensed with then all other types of civil cases.

There is only one disputed divorce case coming up on the calendar for the June term, and that is the case of Malcolm Hodges vs. Mankie W. Hodges, which would come into court about Wednesday.

There are five separate suits which will come up in court next week that all grow out of the same incident. They are suits by Avant Tart, Wayland Mitchell, V. M. Hodges, and Sam Norris, all against D. Archie Edwards et al. All of these suits against Edwards result from the same auto wreck.

All in all, there are 32 cases on the calendar for the first week of court, and 46 cases set to come up during the entire two-week term.

HEARING TO BE HELD ON ZONING ORDINANCE

Proposed Zoning Of Lillington Under Consideration

Notice is being given of a public hearing for the purpose of considering a tentative zoning ordinance and map for the town of Lillington.

The hearing is to be held in the Town Hall (Municipal Building) on June 27 at 8 p. m.

O. S. Atkins is chairman of the town's Zoning Commission, and the town authorities are calling the meeting sponsoring the hearing.

It is urgently requested that all who are now or may become interested in adopting a zoning ordinance be present at the meeting.

An expert on planning for the operation of town zoning will be present to explain the plan.

Members of the Zoning Commission are: O. S. Atkins, chairman; Caviness O'Quinn, secretary; S. G. Howell, Billy Byrd and Leon Kelly.

S. Leigh Wilson, field representative of the North Carolina Municipal League, with offices in Raleigh, has prepared a tentative map outlining a zone system. This, of course, is subject to any modifications or alterations which may be adopted at or following the public hearing.

Register of Deeds Submits May Report

Business was about as usual during the month of May in the Register of Deeds office, according to the monthly report turned in by Mrs. Inez Harrington to the Board of Commissioners. The greatest change came about in the decrease in the number of receipts recorded, and the 45 per cent increase in the number of marriage licenses issued over the month of April.

Mrs. Harrington's report showed: For recording receipts, \$834.55; for 16 marriage licenses, no report; for 7 discharges, no fees; total receipts, \$834.55.

The receipts for the marriage licenses are reported at the end of every quarter, the present quarter ending on June 30. No fees are charged by the Register of Deeds for recording servicemen's discharge papers.

Smith Gives Hint That He Will Call For Second Primary For Senatorship

It Looks Like a Run-off



SENATOR FRANK P. GRAHAM



CHALLENGER WILLIS SMITH

TELLS FRIENDS THAT HE MAY 'GO ALONG WITH THEM'

Crowd Gathers At Smith Home Urging Him to Run Again

Willis Smith, Raleigh lawyer whose total vote in the Democratic primary May 27 for the U. S. Senatorship fell 53,353 below that given Senator Frank P. Graham, is reported as having given his friends a definite hint late Tuesday night that he will demand a second primary.

Some 400 or 500 of Smith's friends gathered at his home and urged him to make a statement. Smith spoke to them, saying:

"I know you mean what you say when you say you want me to run again. I know you mean to go down the line all the way with me. Now you've almost convinced me I ought to do it."

Earlier it was stated from Smith's headquarters that a statement would be made Tuesday. The statement was not forthcoming, and excuse was given that the candidate was so busy with other important matters, including conferences with his supporters, that it was impossible to reach a decision.

At his home late Tuesday night, it was reported, Smith made a definite promise that he would issue a statement "sometime Wednesday."

In order that subscribers may read their paper on publication day (Thursday), The News goes to press on Wednesday. Because of the indefinite hour at which the Smith statement might come, The News did not wait through Wednesday to get it—thereby causing the paper to reach its readers a day late.

In order that readers may have a clear idea of the handicap which Smith faces in entering a second primary, the following official figures of the vote tabulation are given:

The State Board of Elections, after canvassing the returns, gives Graham 303,605, Smith 250,222, Reynolds 58,752, Boyd 5,900—making a total of 618,479 votes cast in the primary May 27.

This gives Graham a lead of 53,353 over Smith. However, of the total vote cast, Graham lacked 5,636 votes of receiving a majority which would have given him the nomination.

In the May 27 primary, Graham was the favorite in Harnett county, received 3529 votes to 2602 for Smith, 434 for Reynolds and 34 for Boyd. Political observers here predict that in the event of a second primary Senator Graham will receive an even larger proportion of the votes in this county.

It is generally believed here that Mr. Smith will call for a second primary. Many also believe, and have been heard to predict, that the second race will become "even tougher" than the first.

Decisions handed down by the United States Supreme Court Monday, dealing with segregation of the races, is thought to have made an impression on the Smith forces, and it is thought likely that the race issue will be brought into focus more emphatically in the second primary.

Citizens of Harnett county, however, who recall that the race issue has been dead since the turn of the century, are not of a mind to believe that its injection into a political campaign in 1950 will not prove beneficial to a candidate.

In the event of a second primary, there will be run-offs in the Third and Fourth Districts for County Commissioner and for Constable in Duke Township.

J. E. Womble will contest the nomination in the Fourth with Worth L. Byrd, who ran far ahead of him May 27. In the Third, Rufus L. Mangum will call for a run-off with C. G. Fields, who led him in the first primary.

In Duke Township a run-off for constable will be held. Preston Porter, who got 218 votes in the first primary, will run off with Butler, who received 262 votes in a four man race.

ROSS DECLINES TO CALL FOR A SECOND PRIMARY

Fell 115 Votes Short Of J. R. Young In Primary May 27

Charles Ross of Lillington, runner-up in the Democratic primary May 27 for the State Senate, has handed to The News a statement in which he does not desire to put his friends to the trouble and the county to the expense of holding a second primary to decide the final winner of the Senate seat.

Mr. Ross fell 115 votes short of Mr. Young, the tabulation showing: Young 2174, Ross 2059, Jernigan 2026.

Being the second highest in the vote count, Mr. Ross would have the right to call for a second primary to decide whether he or Mr. Young would be the Democratic nominee. The statement by Mr. Ross is as follows:

June 5th, 1950.

To The Democratic Voters Of Harnett County:

I wish to express my appreciation for the vote given me in the State Senatorial Primary. While I fell 115 votes short of Mr. Young, the leading candidate, I have the satisfaction of knowing that my vote was entirely voluntary, as I did practically no campaigning. I do not desire to put my friends to the trouble or the county to the expense of a second primary, and ask that all my friends join me in loyally supporting Mr. Young in the general election in November.

Again I thank you. Sincerely, CHARLES ROSS.

TAX COLLECTIONS DURING MAY TAKE SHARP DECREASE

Collector's Report Shows Only Half As Much As For April

The collection of taxes during the month of May took a sharp drop from the collections made in April, according to the May report turned in to the Board of Commissioners by Tax Collector D. P. Ray.

Total tax collections for May came to only \$6,258.78, as compared to the \$14,704.09 for April, a decrease of \$8,445.31. In other words, not even half as much came into the tax collector's office during May as did in April. Of the total \$6,258.78, this amount was divided with \$4,171.63 from delinquent taxes, \$2,087.15 from real estate sales.

Collection of 1949 taxes are still slightly below what they were at the same time last year. 1948 taxes collected through the month of May in 1949 was 90.10 per cent, while collections through May 1950 are 89.15 per cent, less than one per cent less. The balance of 1949 taxes still uncollected up to date comes to \$62,255.78, or 10.85 per cent of the total assessments.

The report turned in by Tax Collector Ray shows that other revenue for the county was accounted for in the following manner: General County Fund, \$6,597.20; County School Fund, \$6,636.42; Aid to Dependent Children, \$9,365.50; Old Age Assistance, \$14,678.25; Veteran Farmers Training Fund, \$14,506.36; and Child Feeding Program, \$10,166.42.

Angier Man Dies Leaving Unexpected Cash in Bank Box

An Angier man who was found dead on his kitchen porch on May 27 left behind him quite a tidy sum of money and bonds, officials discovered when they opened his safety deposit box the following Monday.

When Clerk of the Court L. M. Chaffin, bank officials of the First Citizens Bank and Trust Company, of Angier, and relatives of the deceased, J. N. Flowers of near Angier, opened the safety deposit box in the bank they found somewhat more than they had expected. There was \$320 in paper money in the box. There were also three bags, which, when opened, were revealed to contain \$542 all in fifty-cent pieces.

Also in the safety deposit box were found \$1,325 in United States War Bonds and \$2,000 in United States Postal Savings Bonds. All in all the total amount of currency and bonds found in Flowers' deposit box came in \$4,687.

The case first came to light when Flowers was found dead on the kitchen porch of his two-room house near Angier. He had been seen on Friday evening May 26, when he stopped plowing and went to the porch to lie down on a bench. The

next morning he was found dead on the bench in the same position that he was last seen the evening before.

Clerk Chaffin was called to Angier, and immediately upon arriving on the scene, he appointed Everett Barnes as collector for Flowers' property. Flowers had no close relatives, but there are one niece and four nephews who lived in and out of the state. The niece and nephews arrived later and it was discovered that Flowers had a safety deposit box in the Angier bank. Two trips out to the house were necessary before the key to the box was found, and Monday morning the box was opened in the presence of Clerk Chaffin, bank officials, the niece and nephews, and collector Barnes.

On Wednesday Mr. Barnes was appointed as administrator for the estate by Clerk Chaffin.

Clerk Chaffin said that Flowers had been in the habit of keeping his money at his house, but that he had been robbed a few times and so lately had been putting his savings in the bank instead. When an investigation was made \$85.12 was found on the premises. All the rest of Flowers' negotiable assets were in the safety deposit box in the bank in Angier.