

HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

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Lillington, N. C., Thursday, June 29, 1950

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

In and Out of Lillington

PHOOEY ON THE LOT OF 'EM!

Never having harbored any but the very poorest sort of opinion of bankrobbers, there's nothing they could do to change our mind about them, except of course to right about face quit their meanness.

But even for that, it's not treating Harnett county's best newspaper with any consideration at all when a rascal stages a bankrobbery immediately after we go to press.

If he was just going to do it anyway, why couldn't he do it a little earlier so that we could record his escapades?

Phooey on him and the rest of 'em!

THE NEWS GETS AROUND

Mrs. Jim Shaw took a ride in the Bookmobile with Miss Jean McKay the other day, and Miss Jean introduced her guest rider to the folks at the various station stops.

When Mrs. Shaw was introduced to a young lady far out in the rural area, the young lady said:

"Oh yes, you are the lady who has the strawberries the birds love so well."

The News has told of the trying experiences Mrs. Shaw was having with the berry-eating birds.

'CREDIT OWNERSHIP'

The other day as the tree-manufacturing crew took a station in front of The News office to give the shade trees a going-over, a young man's car was standing in the way of the "tree truck" and the driver wanted it moved.

He said to the young man: "Is that your car?"

"No," said the young man, "it belongs to the credit company, I'm just driving it," as he moved it to a new parking place.

'REDBUGS'—PLAIN ENOUGH

While they were telling the Rotarians of the activities of the Girl Scouts in their Day Camp, one of the ladies wasn't so sure about the correct name of the little insects that were biting them so much.

Was it chiggers, or was it jiggers? Anyway, she'd heard somebody say both, so when she came to tell of her experience, she just said plain "redbugs," and everybody knew what she meant.

MADE UP LOST TIME

The weather and everything seemed to work against the tobacco farmers at the beginning of the present season, but tobacco is one farm product that makes up for lost time if it's given half a chance.

Mr. Gordon Long of Angier was here one 'zy last week, and when asked about the curing season in his neighborhood, he stated that some farmers would begin burning tobacco within a few days.

Reports from most sections of the county state that tobacco is "looking about as good as usual."

LET 'EM KNOW ABOUT IT

Bill Sharpe stopped in one day last week on his way to Lumberton. He said his company, the Carolina Power & Light, is placing a large billboard with a sign letting the public know what "it is."

Bill said so many people came by the CP&L's big new steam plant at Lumberton and wanted to know "what big factory is that?"

ANOTHER MYSTERY

It's just another mystery, and it's of no importance, but we'd just like to know why any automobile owner would want white sidewall tires on the newest makes which have steel curtains coming all the way down to near the bottom of the wheels, covering up the "extra-costing" tires.

FANCY NAME, PLAIN FOOD

Wheeler McMillan, editor of the Farm Journal, says that when he went over to Europe on the "He de France" he looked over the menu card before ordering his dinner, intending to try some fancy French food.

His eye caught "Cassoulet de Castelnaudary" and he ordered it.

He says: "If you run across that food on a menu, by all means order it. You'll like it—it's good—it's just (Continued on page two)"

EXECUTIVES GRANT AID TO SCHOOL BUILDING FUND

VOTE TO RAISE TAX RATE 8 CTS. FOR NEXT YEAR

School Board Needs \$63,863.55 More To Complete Buildings

At a joint meeting of the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Education, held Monday night in courthouse auditorium, the County Executives voted to provide \$63,863.55 to assure completion of school building projects which have been adopted by the Board of Education and approved by the State Board.

Plan for providing the fund is to raise the school tax levy from 60 cents, as outlined in the tentative budget for 1950-51, to 68 cents. This will provide between \$25,000 and \$30,000, and the balance of the needed sum is to be used from the treasury surplus.

County Auditor Herbert Carson states that he expects the surplus to run to probably \$75,000. Much of this was derived from receipts on delinquent taxes incident to foreclosure proceedings started by County Attorney W. A. Johnson.

Present at the meeting were all members of the Commission, and three of the School Board members. Motion to take action to provide the additional funds was made by Commissioner Fields and seconded by Commissioner Gregory. Commissioners Senter and Tysinger voted in the negative, and Chairman Tart broke the tie by voting in the affirmative. School Board members present were Chairman Thomas, Nichols and Baggett.

Before making his motion, Commissioner Fields asked Chairman Thomas if there would be more (Continued on page eight)

Old Acc't. Book Shows Prices, Wages Were Mighty Low

If you had to pay prices now that prevailed fifty years ago, you'd not be worrying over the high cost of living. But then again you might too if you were working today for the wages paid at that time.

An old account book has been handed to The News which gives an idea of the "good old days" as they are so often called now. The little book, a small affair put out by the Acme Fertilizer Company of Wilmington, is yellowed by age, and has been "silvered" through and through—by silverfish. But most of the memoranda kept in it are still legible.

Here's a sample: A man purchased 10 pounds of bacon at 8 cents, cost 80c. Then he was credited with 2 day's labor at 40c a day—which paid for his bacon.

But he was a high-priced laborer. Another worked a day and was paid 25c, with which he bought a chicken, price 15c.

Another customer bought a half bushel of peas and paid 32c. But his

family, along with others, evidently consumed a lot of bacon in those days. Six and a quarter pounds went along with his peas.

Still another customer bought: 15 pounds of bacon, \$1.21; one hog's head, 10c; half bushel of corn, 30c; 4 1-4 pounds of jaw meat, 20c. He worked a day and reduced his bill by 40c.

The little book records the price of corn as 40c per bushel; a plug of tobacco, 5c; syrup (sorghum), 20c a gallon; lard 10c a pound; flour, 3 1-2c a pound; and the merchant paid 15c a head for the chickens he sold for 20c.

In those days of close prices, the merchant used decimals up to four of five figures to get at the sum total paid in or out—one account had tagged on at the end 1-2c, but the settlement didn't show whether the vendor or the customers got the benefit of the fraction.

Accounts were started in the book in 1897 and were wound up by settlement during the early part of 1900.

WAR ON BOLL WEEVIL SHOWING GOOD RESULTS

Weevil Count Being Made In County Each Monday

"Results are being obtained in the cotton insect control program that is being followed by farmers throughout Harnett County," stated County Agent C. R. Ammons here today. The County Agent's office in cooperation with Mr. George D. Jones, Extension Entomologist and Eddie Clement of State College are making boll weevil counts each Monday in 10 fields throughout the county. Five of these are treated fields and five are untreated fields. These fields for last Monday were located in the following townships: Hector's Creek, Nell's Creek, Stewart's Creek and Averashoro.

The results of these counts are as follows: On the treated fields was 8.3 per cent and on the untreated fields the infestation was 31 per cent. In most cases the treated and untreated fields only have farm roads between them. Indications are now that 75 per cent of adult weevils over-wintering have now come out and are in the cotton fields and that 25 per cent of the over-wintering weevils are yet to emerge from hibernation. Information this year so far indicates that we have an all time high for the number of weevils to survive winter in this area. The state figures along this line including all the cotton counties show a comparison as follows: In untreated fields there is infestation ranging from 22.3 per cent to 70.7 per cent of the squares punctured and in treated fields there is an infestation on a state level of 3.5 per cent to 24 per cent. This covers fields which have had at least one application of (Continued on page eight)

WACKY HOLDUP BRINGS NO LOSS TO ANGIER BANK

All of \$52,500 Taken Recovered Within Few Minutes

A cap pistol, a tow sack and a handkerchief were the only arms and implements W. H. (Harry) Hamilton used to rob the First-Citizens Bank & Trust Company at Angier of \$52,500 Wednesday morning of last week.

Within a very few minutes after the would-be robber ran from the bank, he was in custody and the money was being put back in the bank vaults by Cashier Charlie Fields and his assistants, Mrs. Marie Roderick, Mrs. Rachel Salmon and Norman Smith.

Not having any way of knowing whether the holdup was genuine or wacky, the bank officials allowed Hamilton to take the money, put it in his sack, and leave the bank.

But quick thinking on the part of the officials brought ready response to their calls for aid. Henry C. Strickland, Jr., Angier insurance man, tripped Hamilton with his foot as the man ran along the street a few feet from the bank. Mr. Strickland's father, Attorney H. C. Strickland, was close at hand and went down with his son on top of the robber. Soon two other Angier citizens came up, Edward Matthews, filling station operator, and Norwood Dorman, jeweler, and they too helped to subdue Hamilton, holding him till Angier Police Chief Wade Adams arrived. Chief Adams relieved Hamilton of his toy pistol and turned him (Continued on page eight)

LOCAL FUTURE FARMERS ATTEND WHITE LAKE CAMP

Prof. J. H. Blackmon and Eighteen Chapter Members Enjoy Annual Encampment

The Lillington Chapter of Future Farmers accompanied by Prof. J. H. Blackmon attended their White Lake camp last week along with other FFA boys from all over the state. The Lillington group left for camp on Monday, June 19 and returned on Saturday, June 24.

Each day at camp was filled with recreational activities such as softball, volleyball, basketball, ping pong, shuffle board, and swimming. Denning Smith and John McLeod of the Lillington Chapter were declared the Champion shuffle board players of the entire camp.

The following members of the Lillington Chapter attended camp: Richard Byrd, Bunnlevel; Dewey Adams, Hill Murchison, and Jack Pagram, Bunnlevel R-1; M. B. Wade, and Benny Ballard, Lillington R-3; Billy Mason, John McLeod, Leo McDonald, Fitzhugh Johnson, Leo Kelley, Teddy Eason, Leighton Parker, and Denning Smith, Lillington R-2; Edward Manning and Jasper Temple, Erwin R-1; Wyatt Ausley and Bobby Passmore, Lillington.

SUPERIOR COURT ENDS JUNE TERM LAST WEDNESDAY

\$25,000 Damage Suit Case Appealed To Supreme Court

The June term of Harnett Superior Court came to a close last Wednesday afternoon after being in session for a week and a half, a rather long session for a civil term of court in the county.

The last case that was heard before presiding Judge Chester Morris was that of Avant Tart vs. D. Archie Edwards and James Ernest Johnson. This case, for \$25,000 damages resulting from an automobile wreck, took up practically all of the second week of the session. The case was temporarily ended Wednesday afternoon when the jury returned a judgment awarding Tart \$10,000. The defendants immediately gave notice of appeal to the State Supreme Court.

Four other cases growing out of the same automobile wreck are still pending the final outcome of the Tart case. It will be sometime this fall before the final decision is known.

The next session of the court will convene the first week in September. It will be a one-week criminal term.

Three New Members On Next Board County Commissioners

Harnett county's new Board of County Commissioners, which will be sworn into office on the first Monday of next December, will have two old and three new members.

Coming from the First District, embracing Averashoro township, will be the present chairman, L. A. Tart, of Dunn, who had no opposition in the primary. Mr. Tart will likely remain chairman of the new board, but that of course is left to the members when they meet to organize.

From the Second District, composed of Duke and Grove townships, Robert L. Fate, who formerly served on the board for several terms, comes back to serve again. He was unopposed in the primary. Carson Gregory of Grove, who holds the Second District memberships, was nominated for the House of Representatives.

In the Third District, Charlie G. Fields of Angier, who has served for the past two years, will be on the board again. He won out in the run-

Willis Smith Upsets Lead In First Primary With 30,000 Majority In The Second

North Carolina's Next Junior Senator



WILLIS SMITH

HARNETT DID 'ABOUT-FACE' IN RUN-OFF PRIMARY

Reverses Itself and Gives Smith Majority Of 275 Votes

Harnett voters did a complete about face in the run-off primary for United States Senator last Saturday. They also turned out in larger numbers than in many years. A total of 7,051 votes were cast in the Senatorial nomination.

Of the 7,051 votes counted, 3,988 were for Frank P. Graham and 3,063 were for Willis Smith.

This is a reversal of the results of the first primary of May 27th when Graham ran ahead of Smith by about 1,000 votes.

The upset was a complete surprise to Graham supporters in Harnett county, who felt confident that their favored candidate would win in the county by somewhere around the same margin as in the first primary.

Surprising to all, too, was the huge vote. Not until the returns were in did anyone venture an opinion that the total vote would be larger than in the first primary—around 6,500—but the popular belief was that it would fall anywhere from 10 to 25 per cent below the first vote.

Both the forces for Smith and for Graham were very active during the run-off campaign, and continued that activity throughout Saturday (Continued on page eight)

RALEIGH MAN THROWS SURPRISE IN RUN-OFF RACE

Total Vote Also Big Surprise, Running Beyond Expectations

Voters of North Carolina surprised everybody, including themselves, in last Saturday's run-off primary to decide between Frank Graham and Willis Smith as to which should be the State's next Junior Senator.

The total vote ran near 550,000, far greater than any estimate made previous to election day. That was one surprise. Another was the over-coming by Smith of a 53,000 lead by Graham in the May 27 primary, and scaling up the heights to around 30,000 majority over Graham in the run-off.

Heated argument and an intense drive for votes marked the short campaign between June 7—the date Smith called for a run-off—and June 24. But most participants in both camps have followed the lead of the contestants—the shaking of hands and extending congratulations.

MUCH SWITCHING

Notable in the run-off primary was the switching. Evidence in the total vote shows that many who voted for Graham in the first race turned to Smith in the second.

Observers who looked for an explanation of this turn-over saw in the recent U. S. Supreme Court decision a solar plexus blow to the Graham candidacy. Smith, thousands of voters reasoned, would be the best man to represent North Carolina since the race question was brought to the fore.

Of minor effect, it is thought by political observers within the Democratic Party, was the issue of "government spending."

Chinching the statewide popularity of Graham, however, was the fact that more than a quarter of a million voters stuck to him throughout the second primary.

HARNETT CHANGED OVER

Voters of Harnett county gave Graham a majority over Smith in the first primary of around 1,000. But in the run-off, Smith ran ahead of Graham by 275 votes.

By their switching, Harnett voters managed to get on the winning side in both primaries—something very unusual in this county, according to the oldest observers.

Harnett voters, too, flocked to the polls in even greater numbers in the second primary than in the first. On May 27 there were around 6,500 votes cast in the Senatorial race. Last Saturday there were over 7,000 votes registered.

Recognizing the ability of both contestants in the Senatorial race, staid Democrats of Harnett county were almost of one voice in the expression, "Glad it's over."

Campaign managers for both Graham and Smith in Harnett county have issued expressions of appreciation to their helpers in the campaign. Lamar Simmons of Lillington and V. C. Swanson of Erwin were the managers for Smith, and Attorney W. A. (Bill) Johnson of Lillington managed the Graham campaign.

Demonstrations Being Given On Tobacco Sucker Control

County Agent C. R. Ammons is starting this week on demonstrations in Harnett fields for control of suckers on tobacco. The methods have proven successful in tests, he said, and now the effort is being made to show its effectiveness in the fields.

Two treatments will be tried. One is with naphthaleneacetic acid tablets, the other with mineral oil.

The method for the tablets is: Top the plant by the time a third to a half of the flowers are open. Use a bluntly sharpened pencil to punch a depression in the pith at the top where the top is broken out. Lay one tablet in the depression and press it down with blunt end of pencil. Pull suckers.

With mineral oil: Top the plant before suckers grow, leaving a stub above tip leaf. Brush oil on stub on top and all sides.

The instructions from the Extension Tobacco Specialists state: "The naphthaleneacetic acid and mineral oil are not recommended for general use by farmers at this time. The influence on the chemical qualities and aroma and flavor have not been fully evaluated as yet. We would not like to see a large acreage of tobacco treated with these materials this year. If a grower is interested in trying the mineral oil, we suggest that he limit the treatment to 12 to 20 plants."

LOST COLONY TOP ATTRACTION OF DARE'S COAST

Paul Green's Symphonic Drama Opens At Manteo July 1st

(By Aycock Brown)

Since its premier in 1937, The Lost Colony, longest running outdoor production in America, has been the top attraction of the Dare Coast which has long been famous as one of America's most unusual vacation lands. Most of the persons who go to see Paul Green's symphonic drama, which opens this year on July 1, remain to spend a vacation or plan to return at a later date to enjoy the beaches, sportfishing, visit the historic spots or just to relax in the sun and surf.

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