

# Telephones Played Big Part In Progress

The history of the development of telephone communications in Harnett County dates back to shortly after the turn of the century. Since that time telephone communications have played a vital and important part, contributing in no small way to the progress Harnett County has made in the last half century.

In 1921 Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company replaced the manual exchange at Lillington with one of the first automatic dial exchanges in North Carolina. A few years later, about 1923, a common battery exchange was placed in service in Dunn. Earliest records do not show the number of subscribers served through either of these exchanges when they were placed in service.

However, in 1926 there were 664 telephones served through the Dunn exchange while an even 100 were being served through the ex-

change at Lillington at that time. Telephone growth in these two exchanges has been steady and consistent in the years since with one exception. During the depths of the depression, 1930-1933, there was a slight drop in the number of telephones in both exchanges.

Following World War II the increase in telephone demand and subsequent telephone growth in Harnett County broke all previous records. Such growth and demand also has been true in most other sections of the 41-county territory now served by Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Near the outbreak of World War II or at the end of December 1941, there were 207 telephones served by the Lillington exchange and 959 telephones served by the Dunn exchange. At that time the Company had an investment of some \$175,000 in the Lillington and Dunn exchanges.

During World War II a small increase in the number of telephones in the two exchanges continued despite war-time controls, restrictions, and material shortages.

But it was at the end of World War II that a pent-up demand for telephone service, such as the Carolina Company had never before experienced, made itself known. The Company set about meeting this demand.

In 1948 the exchange building in Dunn was remodeled and enlarged



PRINCESS AND HER MOTHER—Formally gowned and wearing tiaras, Queen Mother Elizabeth, left, and Princess Margaret, center, Lambeth Palace, residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, for dinner. Also invited were Queen Elizabeth II and all the bishops of the Church of England. The Archbishop of Canterbury is considered the leading Church of England foe to any plans the Princess may have for marrying the divorced Peter Townsend.

and the telephone system was converted to dial. New and enlarged long distance facilities were installed in the renovated building to meet the increasing demand for this service.

At Lillington in 1949 a new dial office was installed in the exchange building which provided this office with a greater capacity, enabling it to serve the ever-increasing demand for service in its area.

By the end of 1950 the pre-war total of 207 telephones for Lillington had been increased 2 1/2 times. In Dunn it was the same story with the telephone company having over twice as many telephones in service there as they had had at the outbreak of World War II. During the five years since 1950 there has been no sign of letup in the demand for telephone service in Harnett County. Central office capacities have been enlarged, outside exchange lines and cables have been extended and long distance operators to dial any telephone in the USA which is now part of the nation-wide operator long distance dialing network.

In mid-summer of 1955, the Lillington exchange had a total of over 950 telephones while the Dunn exchange had a total of well over 3,000 telephones. On August 30, 1955, Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company had a total investment of nearly \$1,400,000 in the telephone facilities that served Harnett County.

Particular emphasis has been placed upon development of telephone communications to rural areas. At the end of 1945, there were some 91 rural telephones in the Dunn exchange and approximately 40 rural telephones in the Lillington exchange.

Today over 312 rural telephones are served through the Lillington exchange while more than 424 rural telephones are served through the exchange at Dunn.

In addition to subscribers in Dunn proper, the telephone exchange at Dunn serves subscribers in Coats, Erwin, and Linden. The Lillington exchange serves Harnett County towns and communities of Buies Creek, Bunn Level, and Namers.

Other towns and communities in Harnett County are served by the United Telephone Company of the Carolinas.

# They Are Designing Little Girls' Clothes

NEW YORK (AP)—A child shortly will be able to toddle up to a girl companion in the nursery, arch tiny eyebrows and ask, "Whose rompers are those?"

"Claire McCardell did these," the companion can say, modestly, removing her thumb briefly from her mouth.

The designing world has "discovered" children.

By the age of three a girl can wear snow suits by Olge Cassini and sports clothes by Brigrance. Until this winter, Mama had a corner on these labels.

"How come?" we asked each of the three newcomers in the children's clothes field.

Their answers varied from an easy going, "They asked me to do it," from Miss McCardell to a stinging criticism of clothes habits currently popular with the younger generation from Thomas Brigrance.

**Consistent Award Winner**  
Brigrance, a consistent award winner for his adult fashions, said emphatically that he had been eager to design little girls' clothes for several years. He will do fashions for girls from three years old through early teens for Touraine

well and made outstanding records at the colleges of the state. Many of its graduates have become leaders in business and the professions. Many of the principals of Harnett County Schools are graduates of Lafayette.

There are enrolled 167 students in high school and 343 in the grades at Lafayette and 130 at Buckhorn making a total school population in the district of 640.

### SMITH IS CHAIRMAN

Mr. Hoke Smith is chairman of the local district committee and Mrs. Clara Spence McWhirter is secretary. The other members of the local committee are T. H. Gardner, R. E. Austin, and T. L. Caviness.

Co., Inc., beginning with a summary collection to be previewed next January.

"Those are the formative years," he said. "It is in those years that we are now forming a lack of feminine taste and color sense."

"In the first place," the designer said, settling back with the air of a man who has wanted to get this off his chest for some time, "I want to take little girls out of dungarees and ugly pullover shirts."

"The whole psychology of women

in this country is that they must be competitive with men. But at least when a girl is little we should not encourage her to compete with boys in the way she dresses. I want to put her in gay pants and feminine shirts." He also will design shirts and dresses.

**Family As Models**  
Cassini said he was prepared for his entry into the kiddies' field by designing he had done for his own two young daughters. When he got the offer from the snow suits manufacturer, he simply used his own family as models.

"Anyway, this is the age of the designer," Cassini added. "People want good design in everything. I am ready to do little girls' dresses if I get the right opportunity."

To end on a light-hearted note,

there are those "Baby McCardells" for girls up to 18 months old. The complete line of 12 outfits for Fawn, Inc., won't be completed for a few weeks, but Miss McCardell is having a wonderful time experimenting with tab collars, dolman sleeves and contrasting stitching.

"I even have a strapless pink party dress," she laughed. "But they tell me I'll have to put straps on it."

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## LaFayette School Started From Smaller Ones

LaFayette Union School was opened in the fall of 1924. Before the opening of LaFayette School there had been many small community schools in the district which is composed of Buckhorn and Hector's Creek townships. Some of these community schools were Olive Branch, Chalybeate, Harnett Chapel, Rawls, Christian Light, and Buckhorn.

In 1924 Olive Branch and Chalybeate schools were consolidated into LaFayette School. This was the beginning of the consolidation program which saw the smaller schools gradually unite with LaFayette to form a larger school. At the present time there are two schools in the district. Buckhorn elementary school with five teachers has seven grades. LaFayette has eight high school and eleven elementary teachers and has twelve grades. All students in grades eight to twelve attend LaFayette school.

### SCHNEIDER FIRST PRINCIPAL

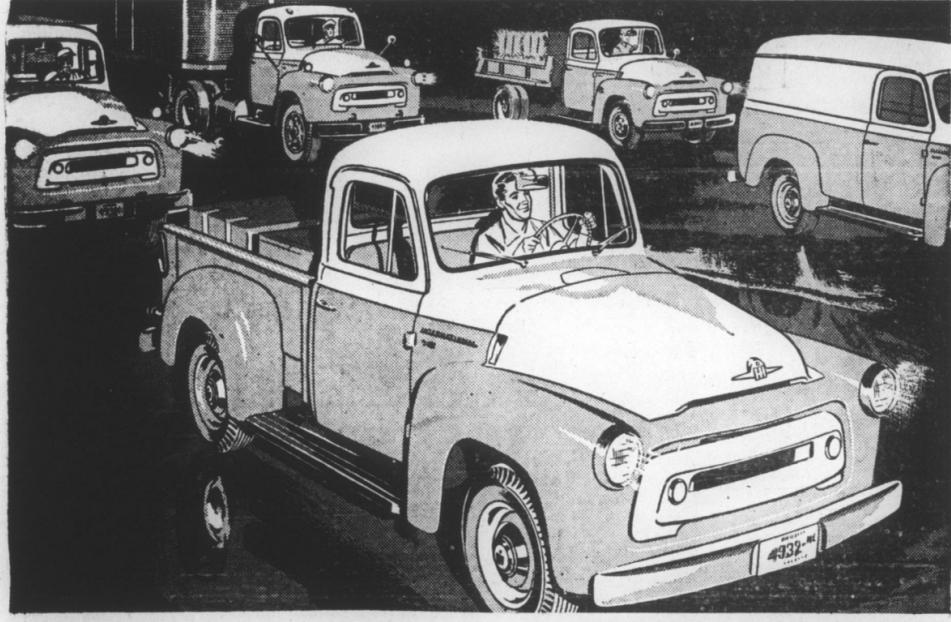
When LaFayette School opened in 1924 Mr. John S. Schneider was principal with three high school teachers. Others who have served as principal were Mr. William Lovelace, Mr. B. F. Kendall, Mr. G. T. Proffit, now superintendent of Harnett County Schools, Mr. F. H. Hunter, and Mr. L. A. Bruton. The present principal is Guy Daves who is starting his eleventh year as principal of the school.

During the life of LaFayette School scholarship has been stressed as the prize purpose of the school. Its graduates have done

**Announcing SCHEDULE CHANGES**  
ATLANTIC COAST LINE RAILROAD  
Nos. 77 and 78  
Effective with the departure of No. 77 southbound from New York October 30, 1955, and departure of No. 78 northbound from Savannah October 29, 1955 the PALMETTO trains 77 and 78 will operate on the following schedule:  
NUMBER 77  
1:45 A. M. Leave Dunn  
NUMBER 78  
11:15 P. M. Leave Dunn

LITTLE MISS MUFFET SAT ON A TUFFET DRINKING MILK JUST AS SHE SHOULD. SAID THE JOLLY OLD SPIDER WHO SAT DOWN BESIDE HER "AH! PINE STATE MILK. SHE KNOWS WHAT'S GOOD!"

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