

WORKERS DEFEND WELFARE CHIEF



HAPPIEST NEW YEAR — Almost 70 Dunn youngsters of the sub-teen variety had one of their happiest New Years on Saturday night. All attended a big private party thrown by Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Coats and daughter Nina at the E and W, biggest of the two restaurants owned by the family. It was a turbulent evening for the Coats, especially for Wesley who just before midnight took skittery balance above the crowd, with one foot on the counter, and led the whole gang in song. That's Mrs. Coats below Wesley's elbow.

Polio Drive Opens Tuesday

The biggest and most intensive March of Dimes campaign conducted in Harnett in recent years will be launched Tuesday morning in every community in the county.

Harnett Chairman J. Harvey Williams of Erwin announced today that workers have been named and all other details of the drive completed.

"We firmly expect to raise the largest amount ever before realized from this most worthy campaign in Harnett," said Williams. He pointed out that the county has always received more funds from the National Foundation than it has contributed.

"We want to show our appreciation this year," he said, "by raising every dime possible because every dime is needed to carry on this great work."

KICK-OFF MEETING — A meeting to kick-off the drive was held Friday night in the Community Building in Lillington. Williams presided over the supper meeting, attended by representatives from every section of the county.

Principal speakers were: Bob Coulton of Raleigh, Central State Representative for the National Foundation; County Chapter Chairman Roy Cameron of Erwin; and Dr. W. B. Hunter, county health officer.

In his remarks, Dr. Hunter lamented the fact that citizens of the county have not availed themselves of the Salk vaccine as they should have. He told the group that all of those present should use their influence to persuade as many citizens as possible, particularly children, to take the shots before the polio season arrives next spring.

Chairman Williams announced that several special events will be conducted in connection with the general solicitation.

January 7th has been designated as Blue Crutch Day and the little blue crutch emblems will be sold by various groups in each community.

COFFEE AND POPCORN DAYS — January 16th has been set aside as Coffee Day and on that day all restaurants in the county will be requested to donate the profit from coffee sales to the foundation.

"Popcorn For Polio Day" will be held on January 20th, with theaters of the county giving proceeds from popcorn sales to the drive.

Saturday, January 21 has been designated as "Peanuts For Polio Day" and various groups will sell peanuts for benefit of the cause. Joe Burnett, of Dunn, vice president of the Tom Houston Peanut Company, is providing the peanuts.

The traditional "Mothers March for Polio" will be held throughout the county on Thursday night, January 26th.

LOCAL CHAIRMEN — Following is a list of the local chairmen appointed by County Chairman Williams: (Continued on Page Two)



READY TO BEGIN DRIVE — James V. Jerdigan left, Dunn chairman, and James Williams, right, of Erwin, Harnett chairman, are pictured here looking over plans worked out for the annual March of Dimes campaign which will get underway tomorrow morning in communities throughout the county. (Daily Record Photo.)

County Board Asked To Attend Ouster

By LOIS BYRD Record Staff Writer

Staff members in the county welfare department today lined up solidly in support of their superintendent, Miss Wilma Williams, who has been requested to resign from the position which she has held since 1942.

They asked and drew from the county board of commissioners a promise that the commissioners would be present as guests when the county welfare board meets in regular session Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock in the county welfare building.

Under the law, meetings of the county welfare board are closed to the public. Board members include J. E. Womble of Lillington, chairman, who is also a member of the county board of commissioners; Earl McD. Westbrook of Dunn and Ted Malone of Coats.

A letter requesting Miss Williams' resignation was sent to her last week by the welfare board and she was given until today to reply. (Continued on Page Two)



"I WON" — Pretty Patricia Anne Cowden, newly crowned 1956 Maid of Cotton, beams as she telephones her banker boss to tell him "I won," and he'd better get a new secretary. Pat, 21, of Raleigh, N.C., beat out 22 other contestants in the cotton-growing states in the finals held at Memphis, Tenn.

New Year's Biz Not Too Strong For Local Cops

Four or five minor arrests were made over the New Year's weekend, Dunn police reported today, but it was far from a raving-tearing holiday.

Though minor accidents were reported, there were no injuries and no arrests in any of these cases, it was stated at the police station.

Even the firecracker throwers were not too rambunctious—possibly having read about the boys who bounced a lighted cigarette into the back seat of their car with some dynamite.

"They were pretty light on us this time," reported the police.

Officials Hold Million

Members of the Harnett County Board of Commissioners had an experience which comes to few people today.

They took turns in holding over a million dollars in their hands.

It was in the form of a State check for slightly over a million dollars representing half of a two million dollar bond issue approved by Harnett voters last summer.

"We'll probably never see another one this big," joked Lofton A. Tart, president of a Dunn bank, and other members of the board.

The money will be put to work immediately providing new classroom facilities and other buildings at Harnett schools.

Hooper Is Named Aide To Hooks

Glenn L. Hooper, Jr., 28-year-old Dunn attorney, today was named as Harnett assistant to District Solicitor W. Jack Hooks and will aid Hooks in the preparation and trial of cases in Harnett Superior Court.

Solicitor Hooks personally appeared before the county board of commissioners Monday morning and recommended the prominent young Dunn attorney and the recommendation was approved unanimously by the board.

The appointment was made for a six-months period and at the end of that period the appointment will be on a yearly basis. Salary was set at \$150 per month.

Hooper is associated in the practice of law as a partner with Attorney McK. Salmon of Dunn and Lillington, one of the leading law firms of the county.

He will continue in this partnership. His new position, however, (Continued on Page Four)



GLENN HOOPER

EIGHT RECEIVE AWARDS

Foundation Honors Harnett Citizens

Eight Harnett citizens have been honored by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis for long and faithful service to the county chapter.

Therlo Mum At Hearing, Faces Trial

Therlo Barefoot had nothing to say in his own defense at the hearing on Friday where ATO officer C. S. Coats told of a liquor raid during which Therlo was reported. (Continued on Page Two)

TWO DIE IN HARNETT IN THREE DAYS

That Rotgut Stuff Just Invites Death

That highly-potent Harnett County moonshine will warm your insides on these cold days all right, but the stuff will also kill you if consumed in too large a quantity.

Sometimes, the stuff is referred to as "rotgut." Harnett Coroner Grover C. Henderson today reported the second death in less than three days as the result of acute alcoholism.

Latest victim was Dewey Brooks, 42-year-old Olivia sawmill worker. Coroner Henderson was called to the home of Brooks' sister, Gladys, Monday morning about 7 o'clock. He said the man had been dead about three hours.

The family said he had been partaking heavily of Harnett "joy juice."

There was no evidence of foul play and the coroner ruled no inquest was necessary. He marked it up as another case of acute alcoholism.

On Saturday night, Percy Hicks, 33, died about a mile north of Lillington as the result of the same ailment.

Coroner Henderson noted that deaths from acute alcoholism become more numerous in Harnett about this time each year when the thermometer drops and the imbibers resort to the bottle to warm 'em up. They end up lying out cold — cold dead.

These Little Things

By ROOVED ADAMS

STARTING THE NEW YEAR WITH A BUNCH OF NOTES

Mr. and Mrs. Mayloa Parker report that they had a wonderful time in Florida on their vacation, but Mr. Parker said he caught only one fish. Mrs. Parker pointed out that despite the high death toll on the highways, they didn't run across a single accident on the long trip. Highway 301 was really crowded this weekend. Many tourists were headed north after the holidays and others were headed South for the winter. Hundreds of Maryland cars passed through enroute to the Orange Bowl game. First baby born at the Dunn Hospital this year was a pretty little daughter to Mr. and Mrs. William C. Tart of Benson. She arrived at 8:25 last night. Billy Godwin got a pretty new Lincoln for Christmas. One of those \$6,000-plus jobs. It's real swanky. Willie Moff missed a Dixie Classics championship game for the first time in his life Saturday night. Pearl took him in tow and made him attend a local party instead. Willie was plenty unhappy about it, too. He and Nathan Cannady, who took in every single game until Saturday night, ducked out of the party to get the final score. "Oh, me," moaned Nathan, "now if I had just had that information about 2 o'clock this afternoon (in time to do (Continued on Page Two)

5 Children Burned To Death; 3 Hurt

NEW YORK (AP) Three children burned to death early today in a fire which swept through a Brooklyn tenement house.

Police said the fire burned through an apartment occupied by Arthur King, his wife, and 11 children. Three persons were injured in addition to those killed.

The dead were identified as Beverly King, 16; Yvonne King 8, and Phyllis King 6. The injured were the father, Gerald King, and Marvin Womack, 64, a resident of another apartment in the tenement. Police said Gerald and Womack suffered smoke poisoning. King cut his wrist.

Firemen said the blaze apparently started when sparks fell from a coal stove onto some bedding and linen. They said some blankets in the bedroom where the three children died apparently blocked their escape.

The bodies of the three victims were found huddled under a bed in the gutted apartment.

Two Children Die As Home Burns

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) — Fire which broke out early today in the home of Ben Fowler took the lives of his two children, Eleanor, 13, and Johnnie 8.

Fowler was critically burned in unsuccessful efforts to rescue the children from a bedroom on the second floor of the two-story brick house. He did manage to save his wife, Mrs. Eleanor Fowler, by throwing her from a bedroom window. She suffered shock and an injured ankle.

Little Theatre Group To Meet Tuesday

Some final casting problems will be worked out at a meeting of The Players, the Dunn Little Theatre group, tomorrow evening at the home of director-manager Lee Crall, 310 S. Magnolia.

Mrs. Crall said she has set some tentative dates for the rehearsal of "Born Yesterday," which is to be the group's first production. These will be discussed tomorrow night.

Members of the public who would like to join the group, as well as all present members, are urged to attend tomorrow night's meeting. It starts at 7:30.

Record Roundup

CIRCLE MEETING — The Ruth Gardner Circle of the First Baptist Church will meet Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 with Mrs. J. L. Hatcher.

NO. OF FIRMS UP — Dunn and Bradstreet shows listings in Harnett for 1955 this year 121 percent more than last year's 640. It wasn't the same everywhere. Sampson, too, is up in the listings — from 504 to 531 — but Johnston took a minor nosedive from 832 listings last to only 781 this year. (Continued on Page Four)

Pope Resigns From Local Police Force

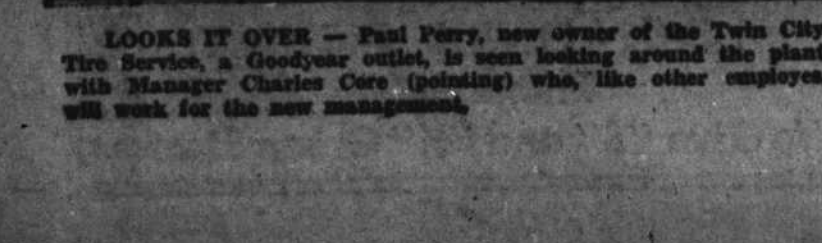
Police Chief Alton A. Cobb today announced the resignation of Nealy Pope from the Dunn police force, and said the resignation will become effective Thursday.

Mr. Pope, a veteran officer of many years experience, is resigning to enter private business. A former prison camp guard, Pope has served on the Dunn force off and on for years. He has served three years this time.

He said he had enjoyed his stay on the force and appreciated the opportunity to serve the town.

Chief Cobb likewise expressed regret at losing the services of Policeman Pope and pointed out that "he's a good officer and has made a splendid record on the force."

Chief Cobb said he hoped to name a successor at an early date.



LOOKS IT OVER — Paul Perry, new owner of the Twin City Tire Service, a Goodyear outlet, is seen looking around the plant with Manager Charles Core (standing) who, like other employees, will work for the new management.