

Getting Checks Since 1947

Property-Owning Welfare Client To Face Fraud Charges In Court

A Chapel Hill Negro woman who has used separate names to collect \$4,760 in welfare checks from Orange County since 1947 while owning property valued on the tax books at over \$7,200 will be indicted for fraud in the February term of Superior Court.

This was confirmed earlier this week by Solicitor William H. Murdock and Mrs. Jane Parker, county welfare superintendent, who uncovered the unusual case last July by checking signatures on welfare checks and other documents and comparing the writing with those on deeds and tax abstracts.

Mrs. Parker said the woman, in her 50's, used the name of Mabel McNear in obtaining the payment from the Welfare Department and property was listed in the name

of Peggy McNear, but the handwriting was unmistakably the same person's.

Mrs. Parker presented her findings to the Grand Jury at last month's term of Superior Court and a sealed presentment was made to the court, but no other action was taken. The Solicitor, when questioned, said the case would be presented for indictment at the next term.

The McNear woman was said by Mrs. Parker to have rental property and in addition pays the taxes on property in the name of Sank Mack, now dead. A widow, she got her first check from Orange County welfare for aid to dependent children in December 1947 when she listed four children. When her payments were terminated by Mrs. Parker last July upon discovery of the alleged fraud,

she was receiving the payments on the basis of two children, still minors. When questioned by Welfare workers under previous superintendents, the woman, according to Mrs. Parker, has consistently said that Peggy was her daughter and that it was she who owned all the property and resides in California. W. T. Mattox was welfare superintendent when the payments began.

The woman lives at 125 S. Graham St. in Chapel Hill and allegedly owns two other houses and a vacant lot besides. Mrs. Parker said she had received ADC payments in Roberson County prior to coming to Orange.

The S.B.I. was called into the case following its discovery and its detailed report was turned over to Solicitor Murdock.

Breeze Resigns School Post; Party Committee To Fill Job

Press Of Work Said Reason For Resigning

Harry P. Breeze of Eiland, a member of the Orange County Board of Education for the past five years, has submitted his resignation to the board, effective January 31.

He said the press of his regular work made it impossible for him to adequately serve in the capacity of board member for the remainder of his term, which extends to the Spring of next year.

A replacement for Breeze who will serve for the remainder of the term will be chosen by the County Democratic Executive Committee, headed by Chairman R. O. Forrest, who said a recommendation from the Board of Education would be considered by the Executive Committee in choosing a successor. No time has been announced for the meeting of the party executive committee.

Superintendent G. Paul Carr in announcing the receipt of Breeze's resignation, which had been anticipated for some months, commented as follows:

"Mr. Breeze has been an excellent board member. His judgment has been good, his decisions impartial. He has contributed much to the progress of education in Orange County during the past five years."

Breeze was nominated for the Board of Education in the Democratic Primary of 1950. He is employed as an industrial engineer with Western Electric at Burlington and formerly taught in the Hillsboro and Carrboro schools.

His letter of resignation read as follows:

"It is with regret that I respectfully submit my resignation as a member of the Orange County Board of Education effective January 31, 1956. Because of the press of my regular work, it has become impossible for me to adequately serve in this capacity. I am indebted to the people of Orange County for giving me the opportunity to assist in their school program and for the interest and support they have shown during the five years I have been a part of the Board of Education. I would like to express my appreciation for the many courtesies extended to me by the secretary and remaining members of the Board. I shall always be intensely interested in the schools of Orange County and will continue to work for their progress."

Farm Progress Report

Tobacco Crop Brought Million More Last Year Than In 1954

The Orange County tobacco crop brought about a million dollars more to farmers of the county in 1955 than in the previous year, according to a report issued by County Agents Don S. Matheson and Edwin P. Barnes.

This was one of the highlights of a general summary of the farm officials' annual narrative report prepared for the Extension Service and the County Commissioners.

The tobacco yield was estimated on the basis of average per acre production of 1,350 pounds, selling for 53.5c per pound.

The report presented figures from the five-year federal census indicating increased gross income in most of the commodities which make up the Orange County farm economy.

One interesting feature of the report is the figure on the extension of electricity to farms, which advises that 1,902 out of a total of 1,939 farms now have electricity, leaving only 37 in the entire county without.

The summary of the report as prepared by Matheson and Barnes is as follows:

REPORT

The 1955 tobacco crop will bring approximately \$3,133,000, or about one million dollars more than last year's. This estimate is based on an average production of 1350 lbs. per acre selling for 53.5 cents per pound.

Twenty tobacco farmers irrigated all or a part of their crop. Sixty farm ponds were built during the year, many of them for irrigation purposes next year.

Dairy farmers have increased their milk sales from \$630,000 to \$1,006,000 in a 5-year period.

The 5-year Federal Census figures indicate that farmers in the county have increased their gross income by more than one million dollars. However, increased costs of production during these five years have prevented the net or "take-home" income from going up.

Dairymen have a new artificial breeding technician, and the number of cows bred by this method to proven sires has almost doubled.

Poultry production has made faster gains than any other farm enterprise. In 1949 poultry farmers sold \$444,000 worth of poultry products. In 1954 their total sales were \$604,000. Several new poultry houses were built during the year.

Live-stock farmers increased their gross income in the five year period by \$108,000. At the Feeder

Calf Sale in Hillsboro 146 beef calves sold for \$19.08 per hundred pounds, which was the second highest sale in the state.

Twelve 4-H Clubs were active with an enrollment of 335 boys, 4-H members exhibited 32 steers and 76 hogs at the Durham Fat Stock Show. One member won the Grand Champion prize for the best hog.

Forty club members attended camp for a week at New Hope. A new swimming pool is being added

to this camp, and will be available next summer.

Good crops of grain were harvested. The acreage of oats was increased over last year by 1500 acres. The corn crop was good, but hurricane damage prevented machine harvesters from saving a lot of it.

Three hundred acres were planted to milo, the grain sorghum which some people are using instead of corn.

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Reid Roberts Apointed Grange Deputy For Orange And Durham

State Grange Master Harry Caldwell recently announced the appointment of Reid Roberts prominent poultry farmer of Route 1, Hillsboro, to serve as Grange Deputy for Durham and Orange counties.

For many years, he has been actively associated with Grange work, and is exceptionally well qualified to serve as Grange Deputy for the two counties. He is, at present time, Master of the Orange County Pomona Grange, and has been Past Master of the St. Marys Subordinate Grange.

Mr. Roberts has attended several of the State Grange Conventions and has served on the State Grange Committee for poultry and livestock, and has been Chairman of the Poultry Committee during the past year. He is also a member of the State Poultry Committee, and helped to secure the Egg Marketing Law enacted by the last Legislature.

Mr. Roberts will work in both counties to strengthen all the existing Granges and to help organize new Grange units in the area. He sincerely believes that there is a very definite need to secure and maintain strong farm organizations, and is quick to point out that the farm situation is becoming more critical, and that farm organization offers the best hope of getting the legislation necessary to improve the situation.

Mr. Roberts urges any group interested in establishing a Grange unit to get in touch with him.

Presbyterians Will Ordain New Deacon

Edwin J. Hamlin will be ordained to the office of deacon at the Hillsboro Presbyterian Church next Sunday morning at the eleven o'clock hour of worship.

Mr. Hamlin was elected by unanimous action of the membership at a recent congregational meeting. The Rev. C. H. Reckard, pastor, in announcing the ordination service said: "One of the highest honors bestowed by the Church, this office dates back to the earliest Christian fellowship in Jerusalem and was conceived out of love and concern for the needs of the first Christians. In subsequent years the deacons have become identified with the temporal program of the Church in addition to the historic assignment. Those selected for the office must be of the highest order of character and devotion to the work of the Church."

The public is invited to attend this service.

NO SLEEPING ALLOWED

Jesse Dority of West Hillsboro will have to find another sleeping place, it seems.

Twice in the past week he has been arrested for sleeping in the Belle Vue Manufacturing Co. plant and charged with trespass. He is under bond of \$50 for appearance in county court.

School Board Fills Advisory Committee

Donald R. McDade of Cedar Grove and Ashwell B. Harward of Carrboro have been appointed by the County Board of Education to fill out vacancies on the Advisory Committee on Education.

Both McDade and Harward have been active in school activities in their respective communities.

These appointments completes the formation of the advisory body which was set up to study and deal with the school segregation problem in the local communities. Meanwhile a clarification of the recent directive from the State Advisory Committee which called for cessation of local committee activities has been received from W. W. Taylor Jr., the executive secretary.

Mr. Taylor explained that the suspension of local activities was recommended as a temporary measure while advisory suggestions and recommendations are being drafted by the State body to implement the pupil assignment legislation passed by the last legislature to deal with the segregation problem.

The Taylor statement assured officials and the advisory committees that no recommendation was made that the local groups should disband but only to consider postponing activities until the state staff can get proposed suggestions to them.

School Leaders Meet Jointly To Plan Drive

The Orange County Board of Education and the Chapel Hill District board of trustees will meet in joint session at Chapel Hill tonight to draft plans for promoting interest in the forthcoming \$2,000,000 school bond issue election.

The election has been called for March 20.

To date no leader or steering committee has been named to direct the drive for support; although the county school superintendent and board members have appeared at a number of PTA meetings in the past few weeks to present information in connection with the election.

A letter urging action on the matter was presented from the Carrboro Citizens Committee at last week's meeting of the county board.

In Northern Orange Area

Patrolmen Nab 1,394 For Traffic Violations During Past Year

Three State Highway Patrolmen assigned to the Hillsboro and Northern Orange County area made 1,394 arrests, which produced fines and court costs totalling \$37,580.80 during the past year.

This information was contained in a report of patrol activities prepared by the local office this week, indicating a total of 127 accidents were investigated in the local area, in which 8 persons were killed, 57 injured and property damaged to the extent of \$62,535.

T. P. Smith, senior patrolman at the Hillsboro station, in releasing the report, expressed appreciation for the interest of civic and PTA groups in highway safety during the past year and appealed for continued cooperation with the patrol's work in 1956.

Other pertinent information included a breakdown of causes for the arrests and disposition of the cases:

Speeding, 877; driving drunk, 50; hit and run, 5; reckless driving, 66; stop sign violation, 54; public drunk, 33; following too close, 14; improper brakes, 7; improper lights, 51; passing on hill, 9; no operator's license, 67; driving after license revoked, 18; number-plate, 1329; not guilty or nol pros, 71; cases pending, 7; driving on wrong side of road, 6; prison sentences, 42 months.

Goodwin Says Not Too Late For TB Checks

J. G. Goodwin, chairman of the TB Christmas Seal Sale, yesterday issued the following statement in connection with the drive:

"The T.B. Committee extends to the many friends who have contributed to the current T.B. Drive, their heartfelt thanks. There is no way to measure the good that your contribution will do toward helping patients who are now afflicted, and furthering the research to prevent the spread of this dread disease."

"Some of you have overlooked sending on your contribution. I know it isn't that you are not interested; for this disease could easily strike in any of our families. It isn't too late to help stamp out this deadly killer. If you have mislaid the envelope, that came with your Christmas Seals, just drop your contribution in an envelope and mail it to Mrs. John Neighbors, P.O. Box 91, or hand it to J. G. Goodwin, chairman of the current drive, and you will be doing a service to yourself and mankind in general. Don't forget—these contributions are deductible from your income taxes.

"Just a big 'heave-ho' and Hillsboro will be over the top. Let's be a winner again this year."

TEACHER RESIGNS

Mrs. Marion L. Crawford, a teacher in the Murphree School, has resigned. She will move with her husband to Texas.

Judge Urges Two Special Court Terms

Judge Leo Carr has recommended that Orange County Commissioners ask the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to designate two special sessions of Superior Court in this county in the next six months to clear up a heavy backlog of criminal cases.

In a letter to Chairman R. J. M. Hobbs, the resident jurist said he had talked to the Chief Justice regarding the heavy docket of old cases here. He recommended that the county hire a special prosecutor from among Orange County attorneys to work during the two weeks because Solicitor Murdock would be tied up with his regular terms.

Tax Listing Speedier But Not Enough

Tax listing is proceeding at a somewhat faster pace this year than last. Tax Supervisor Sam Gattis said yesterday, but there will still be congestion and long waiting lines at many places in the last week of the month unless the pace picks up considerably.

"A 10% penalty will definitely be applied to the tax bill of every citizen who does not list during January," Gattis warned. This will be LISTING, Page 2.

If The Truck Won't Go—Kill It!

By ROLAND GIDUZ

Orange County law enforcement officers haven't figured this one out yet, but they'll be mighty careful with their culprit if they catch him.

Called to Charles W. Stanford's farm out in the Bethlehem community about 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon, Sheriff Odell Clayton was confronted by an extraordinary sequence of events, according to the following story by Mr. Stanford and his neighbors.

A short while before, they said, a blue jean-clad man drove a Cary-licensed pickup truck up into Charlie Teer's driveway, and got it stuck across the roadway with a blown-out tire while in the act of whipping around in a wide U-turn. Apparently infuriated when he couldn't free his vehicle he smashed all the glass in the instrument panel, windshield, and side windows, then buried an ax in the hood of the stalled truck, after bashing in the fenders.

Some hunters, noticing him from a distance, next saw the mysterious invader set a field afire, and head down the road to the Stanford property, where he set another fire.



DR. A. E. SHERRON

High Pointer Will Install Exchangeites

Dr. A. E. Sherron, vice president of State Exchange Club and member of the High Point club, will install the new Exchange Club officers tonight at its regular meeting in the Colonial Inn at 7:30 o'clock.

New officers to be installed: W. C. Mangum, president; H. G. Coleman Jr., vice president; Quentin Patterson, secretary; Ed Laws, treasurer.

New Board of Control members are: Joe Rosemond, Luke Brown and Norman Mauroner.

Baucom To Speak To Hillsboro PTA

H. S. Baucom, Safety Director of North Carolina Industrial Commission in Raleigh and former member of the Hillsboro School faculty, will be the guest speaker next Tuesday night to the Hillsboro Parents and Teachers Association when they meet in the school auditorium at 7:30 o'clock.



ONE PICK-UP TRUCK—MURDERED