

The News of Orange County

CHAPEL HILL, AND HILLSBORO, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 1958

For Quick, proven results, call, buy, rent or get a job by using the classified ads on Page 7 of THE NEWS of Orange County.

EIGHT PAGES THIS ISSUE

Carrboro Mills Closure Shocks Area; 380 Workers, \$900,000 Payroll Out

The Carrboro area, and the whole of Orange County for that matter, began to recoil from the shock yesterday.

The shock of being told with complete finality that the community's only industry with 380 active workers and an annual payroll of over \$900,000 will be shut down in a matter of weeks.

The full impact is even yet to be realized.

Carrboro Mills will cease operations some time within the next two

to three months, according to announcement made Tuesday by Plant Manager Thomas B. Murray.

The Pacific Mills plant, which has been operating in Carrboro since 1945, is faced with an "impossible" business situation, Mr. Murray stated.

"It is with very deep regret that our management has made the decision that the plant cannot continue to operate," he said. "Every possible effort has been made to find ways and means to avoid closing down, but in the face of continuing heavy losses we were forced to do it."

could not be worked out, we are trying to sell the properties for use by a suitable industry, and if this is successful, we feel that most of you could count on future employment here.

"We will try in every possible way to help you." (See CARRBORO, Page 8)

Mayor Todd's Statement

In connection with the announced closing of the Carrboro Mills, Carrboro Mayor R. B. Todd has issued the following statement:

"The announcement that Carrboro Mills will be forced to close is bad news. The mills have been our principal industry, and of course have been a big help to our economy.

"I would like to thank officials of Pacific Mills, and Mr. Murray, the local plant manager, for their open and frank approach in telling employees and townspeople just what is happening. They indicated to me that every effort will be made to sell the property, and to assist in finding a new industry which can help fill the gap which will be left when the mills finally shut down.

"We have been assured that the closing has been brought about by purely economic conditions in the particular field in which Carrboro Mills has been operating for the past 13 years. Mr. Murray states that employees have always given their cooperation and have done good work, and he has expressed appreciation for the support given by the communities of Carrboro and Chapel Hill.

"I would like to suggest that all of us join in efforts to secure a new industry to occupy the mill buildings. Pacific has spent huge sums of money in renovating and modernizing the properties, and the physical facilities are well-suited to many different types of manufacturing operations.

"We appreciate what Carrboro Mills, its management personnel and employees have meant to us over the years, and it is with deep regret that we learn that operations will cease within the next two to three months."

He added that generally poor business conditions in the extremely competitive woolen industry have been aggravated by greatly increased imports of foreign goods.

E. H. Hines, Jr., Executive Vice President of Pacific Mills, came to Carrboro early Tuesday to make the announcement to employees and supervisory personnel. Later in the day Mr. Hines, Mr. Murray and other officials of the Company and plant met with Carrboro and Chapel Hill officials and civic leaders to make the announcement.

Mr. Hines said all employees were notified as quickly as possible after the decision was reached, although the plant will operate through July and August to permit an orderly run-out, and to give employees time to find other jobs. Approximately 380 employees will be affected by the closing, which will proceed on a gradual basis.

To Seek New Industry

"We want to emphasize that in addition to assisting employees in finding other work, we are also actively seeking a buyer for the two mill units in Carrboro," Mr. Hines said. "We will cooperate fully in seeking another industry to take its place. We will work with Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Orange County, and State of North Carolina officials in seeking an industry which can use the plant buildings and provide jobs for those displaced."

The plant will be shut down for vacations next week, and employees will be paid their vacation bonuses today. One reason for making the announcement this week was to alert employees of the serious situation which would be facing them, and to permit them to begin thinking of their personal plans while away from work next week.

In talking to employees, Messrs. Hines and Murray made the following statements: "Decision to close the plant was made only after long and careful study, and only after every other possible solution was considered. As you well know we have had curtailed work schedules and short time here off and on during the past two or three years. The plant has continued to lose a considerable amount of money during this period. You all know business in the woolen industry has been very bad, and has particularly affected our operations here. The situation has been aggravated by greatly increased imports of woolen goods from foreign countries."

"Forced To Close"

"For a long time we have tried to overcome these conditions but now are forced to close the plant because there is no other solution. During the last few years plant after plant in the woolen industry has been shut down because of business conditions. We have delayed taking this action, perhaps longer than we should have, hoping that there would be a turn for the better, and we could continue to keep you at work here at the mill.

"We would like to point out and emphasize that this move is not being made due to any lack of co-operation and interest on the part of our employees—neither is it due to a lack of cooperation from the people of the community and county.

In answer to a specific question at the meeting with community leaders, Mr. Hines said, "The recent school merger vote had no bearing on this move. There were all kinds of rumors in connection with the school election, but believe me, this in no way affected the decision to cease operation at Carrboro."

"We had hoped another type of Burlington operation could be moved here. However, this could not be worked out because as in woolens, the textile industry generally has been experiencing poor business and there is general curtailment rather than expansion. Since this

Revenue Drop Clouds County Budget Picture

The Board of County Commissioners will probably conclude its series of preliminary meetings Friday night incident to the adoption of the new fiscal year budget.

Throughout the past three weeks, the commissioners have been meeting about twice weekly for interviews with the various department heads of the county government for explanations of their budget requests and for discussion of the proposed spending document.

Formal adoption of the tentative budget and tax rate will come at the first Monday in July meeting with final adoption 20 days later.

On the basis of preliminary observations, prospects for decreased revenue from some non-tax sources, notably the courts, appears certain and the likelihood of any large increase in taxable property valuation likewise appears slim.

Offset against this income picture are increased requests from most departments, including schools, health and welfare. Salary increases have been asked outright for some employees, while Sheriff G. H. Clayton requested increased travel allowances for all members of his department.

Lions Install Odell Clayton As President

Odell H. Clayton was installed as the new president of the Hillsboro Lions Club Tuesday night by Lions District Governor G. Paul Carr.

He succeeds Ira A. Ward. Other officers also inducted included Sam Gattis, first vice president; Dr. Robert Murphy, second vice president; Fred Clayton, third vice president; Frank Linec, Secretary; F. E. Joyner, tall twister; Dr. H. W. Moore, lion tamer; Oliver Clayton, assistant secretary; and Ben Johnston, Ted Shoaf, Marion Clark and Charles Crawford Sr., directors.

School Application Deadline Moved Forward To June 30

The new deadline for making application for the admittance of Carrboro and White Cross pupils to the Chapel Hill schools on a tuition basis has been moved forward to June 30, it was announced Monday by incoming school superintendent Joseph Johnston.

The former deadline of June 14 was changed to give parents in these two areas more time to file applications for their children, Mr. Johnston said.

Most parents whose children were affected by the agreement of the Orange County and Chapel Hill Boards of Education have sent a letter explaining the agreement and an application form. Thirty dollars' tuition is required under the agreement for each pupil who will be enrolled from the Carrboro and White Cross areas in local schools, \$15 with the application and the remainder on or before the first day of school—September 8.

Any parent who has not received an application may get one at the Chapel Hill Schools

Discussion among the commissioners generally appears to indicate strong hold the line tendencies, however, when the final decisions are made and a strong probability that the same tax rate will be continued for another year.



L. Y. BALLENTINE

PEMCO To Hold Annual Meet In Roxboro

The Board of Directors of the Piedmont Electric Membership Corporation this year selected Roxboro as the location for the 19th Annual Members Meeting to be held Saturday, starting at 1:00 p.m.

The official notice has been mailed the more than 5,400 member consumers of the electric cooperative. Headquarters and meeting will be held in the Roxboro High School and large groups are expected from the six county area served.

Hon. L. Y. Ballentine, Commissioner of Agriculture for North Carolina will be the principal speaker. General Manager F. E. Joyner stated the program should prove most interesting to all members and would include reports from the President, Secretary, Treasurer and General Manager. Nine directors will be elected, from a slate of 18 members nominated. Those nominated are: S. C. Wilson and Marvin L. Poythress from Chapel Hill.

(See PEMCO, Page 8)



PRINCESS SANDRA KAY WRENN up the ladder... now Area 5 Dairy Princess.

Orange Dairy Princess Goes To State Finals

Miss Sandra Kay Wrenn of Cedar Grove last week was chosen the 1958 Area 5 Dairy Princess.

She advanced to the Area finals after having been chosen the Dairy Princess for Orange County in competition here.

Efland Feud Over Land Is In Court

An intra-family feud over the ownership of land has brought former county commissioner Simpson L. Efland into court on charges of trespassing.

Miss Wrenn is a senior at her school and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hassel Wrenn. She was selected from among the seven County Dairy Princesses representing Area 5. On June 26 and 27 she will compete for the State title in Charlotte.

Charges were brought in a warrant sworn out by John L. Efland Sr., uncle of the defendant, and the case was continued in Orange County Recorder's Court Monday until July 14 at the request of attorneys.

The Area Contest was held June 12 in Greensboro under the sponsorship of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce.

The elder Mr. Efland charged that his nephew trespassed on land in his possession and belonging to him after having been forbidden to do so and was attempting to erect a fence on the property. Both men are well known throughout the area and are prominent in the business and civic life of the Efland community where the families have resided for generations.

Wards Will Attend Savings, Loan Event

Ira A. Ward, Executive Vice President and Secretary of the Hillsboro Savings and Loan Association, and Mrs. Ward plan to attend the 55th Annual Convention of the North Carolina Savings and Loan League which opens Sunday at the Battery Park Hotel in Asheville.

Governor Luther H. Hodges will be the featured speaker delivering the concluding address Tuesday morning.

\$100,700 Predicted... New Carrboro Budget Before Committee Now

A preliminary budget of \$100,700 has been tentatively set for the coming year by the Finance Committee of the Board of Commissioners for the Town of Carrboro.

This figure represents a reduction of \$8,300 as compared to the budget for the current year, which is \$109,000.

"We are able to aim at a lower figure for the next fiscal year, because we won't have the large capital outlay which was included in this year's figure," said

Mayor R. B. Todd. Construction on the sewer treatment and pumping plant increased capital outlay funds in this year's budget more than usual, he noted. The finance committee, composed of Mayor Todd, Bill Hardee, Wilson Lackey and Winslow Williams, will meet again tonight for further discussion, and the tentative budget will be presented to the Town Commissioners tomorrow night.

Churches Plan Joint Picnic At New Hope

Members of the Hillsboro Presbyterian and Hillsboro Methodist Churches will come together for an afternoon of swimming and a picnic at Camp New Hope this Saturday.

Swimming begins at 3:00 o'clock and the picnic tables will be spread at 6:00 o'clock.

The two churches completed their joint Vacation Bible School last Friday and certificates of attendance will be presented at this Saturday function to the pupils.

The current tax rate of \$93 per \$100 valuation is expected to be retained, the Mayor said, as well as the present sewer and water line rentals and dog tax.

Present rental fees on the sewer lines are set at \$12 per toilet, and the out-of-town water rate is \$.87 per 1,000 gallons, with a \$2.00 monthly minimum.

"We believe administrative costs, for town salaries, police, and so forth, will be up slightly in the next year," Mayor Todd said. However, he stated, the lowered capital outlay funds will enable the reduction in the budget figure at no loss to the town.



CARRBORO LIONS OFFICERS—Newly-elected officers of the Carrboro Lions Club for the coming year assumed their duties at installation ceremonies Thursday evening. They are (seated, left to right) President Tom Murray, First Vice-President J. S. Gibson, Second Vice-President Wilbur Partin, Third Vice-President John

Boone, Secretary Ashwell Harward, Assistant Secretary Howard Hearn, Lion Tamer Skeeter Graham, (standing) Projects Treasurer Norris Ray, Director J. Alvin Williams, Administrative Treasurer Tommy Hoenig, and Directors Mack Williams, James Blake, and Bernard Whitfield. Roland Giduz Photo

Orange County up with the news over the county by THE NEWS of Orange County.

NO. 23

KIDD BREWER'S Raleigh Roundup

Since he was a Duke Law School graduate as partners.

the direct approach, at directly to the University they wanted the receiving his law degree young man became as with Willis Smith. He married Willis Smith's

he was named president of the N. C. Bar Association is Jim Dorsett, from Salisbury, and for years now a member of Smith, Leach, Anderson, et.

THE MERCHANTS

on good authority last retail merchants of the soon have in their own firm of Smith, Leach, and Dorsett.

the incorporators of the Chamber of Commerce Smith Jr., whose good behalf of merchants in General Assembly is exhibiting in the 7500-member Merchants Association. A client for the law published by his father.

Several men in the 1957 Legislature face runoffs in their return to Raleigh. Of interest probably is the one in the Senate where Spencer Bell and House Jack Love are having the Senate seat. For looks like Bell, but Love is strong — although the most controversial figure in the 1957 Legislature. The money is being spent in Charlotte than in

U. S. Senate Jim Vogler, veteran who ran third in the runoff, describes the doing as "terrific."

runoffs on Griggs of Currituck, of Halifax, Thursday of Polk. Veteran of former House Speaker all sorts of trouble under YDC Leader Bed. They each received

We are betting on Bedford Good John Jordan Jr., has a with Tom Ellis in Wake State Senate. Jordan is a president of the State and long a party stalwart

In big, sprawling County—where you have little cities like White-Cross City, Chadbourn, and the runoff is between Stephens and Ed Williams both are from the community, you can what this particular going to that village. Take Stephens and all the Williams and their family content of Columbus County wouldn't have enough to corner calf.

In describes "luck" around Raleigh say he must have been a horseshoe around his of the good fortune he himself.

he is pulling hard for of Onslow County to Speaker of the House. It now, it does look as if seems to be pulling a little of Add Hewlett of New the other candidate.

ask why the Governor so interested in having friend as Speaker. Mainly the Speaker names all nominees in the House and made or killed in these cases. Now if the Governor close to the Lieutenant Governor, who names the Senate, he can tie these with the natural presence of office and come pretty calling the shots?

these three sources comes the Governor's strength in Legislature—when his days are history, some popularity has passed, and appointive positions have

ROUNDUP, Page 2)