

## Tommie Upchurch Gets Patent On New Rail Cushion

A United States patent was issued recently to Tommie Upchurch on a rail cushion, designed to decrease wear on railroad cross ties where they meet the rail.

The patent is expected to be of great value to the cotton industry as the manufacture of the cushion involves use of a considerable amount of cotton.

Mr. Upchurch declared that the use of cotton was his main desire in inventing the device.

A number of the cushions have been tested on the A. and R. about three miles out of Raeford and it is reported to decrease considerably wear on the ties.

## Blue Clan Meets For Its Reunion

By Ben Dixon MacNeill  
Lakeview, Sept. 15.—Home from nine states today came half a thousand descendants of Duncan and Margaret Campbell Blue to unveil a home-made monument to their tribal ancestor, to eat a gargantuan picnic, and to explore the roots and the branches of their lusty and wide-spreading family tree.

Here upon a bit of earth that has belonged to nobody but the Blues since George III decided it to them 170 years ago, beside a pleasant lake made by Duncan Blue not long after he had settled himself upon the hill above it, the descendants gathered, unveiled their monument with a minimum of ceremony, ate and set out upon their explorations of their own tree. Almost any antiquarian might have offered them more for the be-ribboned deed than they could get for the 50 acres of land that it describes. The deed was exhibited before the wondering eyes of scores of off-yonder cousins who were, many of them, in North Carolina for the first time. Oldest among the home-comers was Daniel Jackson Blue, aged 87 and very hearty, indeed, who came up from Georgia to look at his kin and the place of his origin.

After the tremendous dinner, which was in itself monumental, the Blues sort of organized themselves and planned next year's meeting. Sheriff Blue was named president, Neill Blue of Carthage, vice president, and Miss Pauline Blue, secretary and treasurer. Clifton Blue, who got himself into the newspaper business at Aberdeen, was named chairman of a committee on memorials.

## Better Prices In Middle Belt

Average prices were "considerably higher" on the middle flue-cured belt Tuesday—opening day—than on last year's first day, the U. S. agricultural marketing service and the state department of agriculture reported.

Increases were from \$2.75 to \$7.50 a hundred, the agencies said, with greatest gains occurring in fair to fine qualities of lugs and primings and low quality leaf.

The bulk of sales ranged from \$12 to \$27, it was said, though prices ranging from \$28 to \$32 were "fairly numerous."

"Growers were satisfied and rejections were negligible," the report stated. "The offerings contained less of the common and low quality grades of leaf than opening day last year and were considered of better quality. The tobacco sold consisted principally of low to fair quality primings and fair to fine lugs. Primings composed about 60 per cent of the sale. A fair volume of common to fair quality leaf was also offered. Sales were heavy in volume with some markets blocking."

Official figures were not available at Sanford, but it was estimated that around 250,000 pounds were sold at an average of approximately 19 cents a pound. Much of the offerings was of low grade, and about 100,000 pounds was on the floors when sales stopped.

Aberdeen reported an average ranging from \$17.50 to \$18.50 on the 200,000 pounds sold there. Farmers were generally pleased.

## Kiwanians To Give Supper Thursday

A supper in honor of the 231 Raeford members of the 252nd Coast Artillery who will soon go to camp will be given Thursday night at the armory.

The supper is being given by the Raeford Kiwanis club and Adjutant General J. Van B. Metts and Brigadier General Francis W. Honeycutt, commander of Post Bragg, are expected to attend.

## Agent's Office To Furnish Grass

Information has just reached the county agent's office announcing the availability of vetch and Italian rye grass as a grant of aid under the AAA program. Hoke county farmers may now make application at the county agent's office for these seeds, says A. S. Knowles, county agent.

The seeding of Austrian winter peas will count one unit per acre, and the seeding of Italian rye grass will count 1/2 unit per acre toward the soil building goal. Materials which will be furnished as grants of aid are Austrian winter peas and agricultural limestone, as well as vetch and Italian rye grass.

Hoke county farmers have already ordered 23,000 pounds of Austrian winter peas to plant this fall. Orders for limestone can be received at once, if any farmers are interested in applying this material to their land this fall. Orders for all materials should be made within the next few days, so that they can be used on the farm before October 31 which is the closing date for the 1940 Soil Conservation Program.

## Raeford Man's Brother Dies

Theodore G. Sexton, 66, brother of F. B. Sexton of Raeford, died at his home in Durham Thursday morning, September 12th, after a short illness.

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon at 3:30 at the home and burial was in Mount Sylvian cemetery near Durham. There were many beautiful floral offerings.

Mr. Sexton had been working for the Norfolk and Western railroad for 40 years.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Martha Sexton, 88, of Denton; his wife, Mrs. Sudie Sexton of Durham; one son, Giles, of Colesbee; one daughter, Mrs. J. H. Long of Charlotte; four brothers, A. L. Sexton of Denton, F. B. Sexton of Raeford, J. D. Sexton of McBee, S. C., and J. W. Sexton of Macon, Ga.; and one sister, Mrs. M. W. Way, of Nashville, Tenn.

Active pallbearers were Dennis Pope, Sam Flinton, J. M. Flinton, I. B. McKay, W. I. Smith and Dave Andrews.

Honorary pallbearers were employees of the Norfolk and Western, Fred Sweeney, W. H. Pritchard, F. E. Souterland, John Hutchins, A. H. Crabtree, E. E. King, B. C. McDuffie, F. E. Dickerson, Fred Markham, Fletcher Thompson and W. C. Grady.

## ROBESON ARSON CASE RESULTS IN MISTRIAL

Lumberton, Sept. 17.—A mistrial was ordered today in the case of Ben G. Floyd, former assistant to the Robeson county superintendent of education, and Andrew Smith, former school carpenter, who were charged with the burning of the Liberty school building in July.

After deliberating five days, the jurors reported to Judge J. Paul Frizzelle that they had made no progress toward an agreement, and he withdrew a juror as a preliminary to declaring the case a mistrial.

A member of the jury said the final ballot was the same as the first ballot taken last Friday when the jurors found themselves evenly divided.

## Four Cases In Recorder's Court

Four cases were heard Tuesday in a small session of recorder's court. Judge W. B. McQueen presided and McNair Smith prosecuted at the request of the judge, since no one has been appointed yet to take the place of Solicitor George Dickson who has been called to service with the National Guard.

Cases tried were: Freeman McDuffie, negro, of McLauchlin township, who was charged with assault with deadly weapon. He entered a plea of guilty of simple assault and was given a sentence of 30 days on the roads, sentence suspended on payment of the costs.

Charlie Raleigh, another negro from McLauchlin township, was found not guilty on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon.

Charlie Caulk, Raeford white man, pleaded guilty to a charge of being drunk and disorderly and was given 30 days on the roads, sentence to be suspended on payment of costs.

George Murchison, negro, of Blue Springs township, was charged with larceny but the case was dismissed and the prosecuting witness was taxed with the costs.

Miss Lona Graham is back at her work in the post office after being out for two weeks due to illness.

## Murphy Howell Dies Suddenly

Murphy Howell, 37, for the past 12 years a member of the Raeford police force, died suddenly Sunday morning of a heart attack. Mr. Howell had complained of feeling badly Saturday but seemed to be recovering at the time of the attack.

Surviving are his wife, who was a Miss Johnson of St. Pauls; one small son, his mother, Mrs. J. C. Howell of Lumberton; four sisters, Mrs. Milton Campbell and Mrs. John Buoyer of Raeford, Mrs. Richard Powers and Miss Blennie Howell of Lumberton; six brothers, F. C. and John Howell of Charlotte, J. W., Ford and Arch Howell of Lumberton and J. D. Howell of Raeford.

Funeral services were conducted from the home Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock and were attended by a large number of friends and relatives of the deceased. Rev. E. C. Crawford and Rev. J. R. Miller officiated and burial was in Raeford cemetery.

Active pallbearers were Carl Morris, H. L. Gatlin, Jr., Joe Merrill, Eldridge Chisholm, Dave Hodgins, Lawrence Stanton, Arch Sanders and Joe Gullede.

## Ninth Division Is Organized

The new Ninth Division, organized six or seven weeks ago at Fort Bragg, is rapidly becoming a well-functioning military unit and the task of developing thousands of recruits into soldiers is progressing rapidly.

What two months ago was a densely wooded section is now a tented city, covered with roads, electric light lines, water mains, telephone lines, messhalls and other utilities.

Groups of experienced non-commissioned officers and specialists have been arriving at the camp for some time and they are to be the nuclei of the Division. They come from army posts in Kentucky, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Wyoming, Texas, Minnesota, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Maryland and New York.

There are 329 commissioned officers and 3,940 enlisted men in the Ninth Division. When the Division is completely organized it will contain 603 officers and 14,234 enlisted men.

The recruits now on hand have come from the following states: Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Alabama, Nebraska, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. A number also are being recruited at Washington, D. C.

## British Drive Off German Raiders

London.—A 100-mile-an-hour hurricane joined forces with British fighters above the Kentish countryside Tuesday night to disperse waves of more than 200 German warplanes, but the Nazi bombers returned in a heavy rain on Wednesday to maintain their "death patrol" over London's rooftops.

At least 12 of the Germans were shot down and three British planes were lost, the air ministry announced.

Incendiary and high explosive bombs showered down on the west end district which had been hit in Tuesday afternoon's raids, and on east London.

Casualties were reported in the west end.

The Germans seemed to be using a silent, gliding strategy in this, their 11th consecutive overnight raid on London.

In an effort to surprise the repeatedly following anti-aircraft guns the Germans stole in low, with motors idle, dropped their bombs and then climbed with roaring motors.

Lighter craft were being used for this mode of attack.

## Rev. J. M. Alexander To Preach Here

Rev. J. M. Alexander, D.D., pastor of the First Presbyterian church in Fayetteville, will preach at the morning service of the Raeford Presbyterian church Sunday, September 22.

## Small Fire On Gin Co. Platform

Lacy McNeill was slightly burned Saturday afternoon by a fire of unknown origin on the back platform of the Raeford Gin company. The blaze was quickly extinguished with a bucket of water.

## Plan Meet For Co-Op Members

Letters have been sent to Hoke county REA co-op members by A. S. Knowles, county agent, and Miss Josephine Hall, home agent, telling them of a series of meetings to be held throughout the county at which time will be explained the use of electricity on the farm and in the home.

A copy of the letter follows: "D. E. Jones, extension rural electrification specialist, from Raleigh will be in Hoke county on Tuesday, September 24th, and Wednesday, September 25, Mr. Jones is coming to the county to conduct some wiring schools and to discuss the uses of electricity on the farm and in the home.

"Of course, the first sale of electricity to a new customer is for lighting. The next sales are for the electric iron, refrigerator, radio, washing machine, and other household electric 'servants.'

"Before the customer can use these various appliances, his home must be adequately wired. We feel that many of you would like all the information you can get on the subject and also on how much electricity you will need for operating the appliances you want to use. For this reason we have secured Mr. Jones to help us and have planned the following meetings:

"September 24th, 10:30 A. M.—Wayside community building.

"September 24, 2:30 P. M.—Blue Springs school building.

"September 24, 7:30 P. M.—Rockfish school building.

"September 25, 10:30 A. M.—Ashley Heights community building.

"September 25, 7:30 P. M.—Little River community building.

"It has been suggested that those of you living near the county lines might invite your neighbors in the other counties to the nearest meeting place so that they may have access to the information also."

## N. C. Expected To Have Record Cotton Crop This Year

North Carolina's cotton yield is now estimated at 370 pounds per acre, 28 pounds above the previous record crop harvested in 1911. The 1940 record per acre yield, according to the Crop Reporting Board of the Department of Agriculture, is 25 per cent above last year's harvest and 33 per cent in excess of the previous ten year average.

September prospects point to a crop of 630,000 bales compared with 457,000 bales last year and a ten year (1929-38) average production of 658,000. The report shows an increase in the North Carolina crop of 42,000 bales above August prospects and 173,000 bales, or 38 per cent, above last year's production.

Heavy rainfall during August restored nearly depleted soil moisture in central and eastern counties and caused some wet weather shedding. Shedding, however, was not excessive in view of the heavy load of fruit on plants at that time.

In eastern Carolina cotton is balled to the top of the plants for the first time since weevils became a menace to the crop. Many countries now anticipate nearly a bale to the acre. Western counties report prospects either equal to or slightly under last year's record yield for that area. Flood damage along the Roanoke and Meherrin rivers in Halifax, Northampton, and Bertie counties caused considerable loss of cotton acreage.

Although the number of weevils increased following the heavy August rain, the crop was too far advanced to be damaged appreciably. Unusual weather and extensive mopping where weevils were present, held crop damage from this source to a minimum this year.

## Premium List On Pages 6 and 7

Premium list for the Hoke County Agricultural Exhibit is being printed on pages six and seven of today's News-Journal.

The exhibit will be held in the armory on October 31st and November 1st and 2nd.

The committee encourages the people of the county to begin selecting their commodities to be exhibited as early as possible.

## MacDONALDS BUY McNEILL HOUSE

Mr. and Mrs. K. A. MacDonald have bought Miss "Critt" McNeill's house on the Fayetteville road and plan to move there after remodeling the place.

## LOCAL GUARDSMEN GO INTO SERVICE OF U. S. GOVERNMENT

### SCHOOL BRIEFS

By K. A. MacDONALD

#### SCHOOLS OPEN

Schools opened for the 1940-41 session on Monday morning with all teachers in place. Reports from the various schools indicate that it was one of the best openings we have ever had. Neutral observers say there was a minimum of friction and the opening day was more like a day during the middle of the term than any they had ever known. The only disappointment was opening day enrollment. The enrollment was off slightly from last year, caused largely by the good weather for cotton picking and the large amount of cotton to pick. The enrollment in schools was as follows: Antioch 60, Ashmont 116, Hoke high 325, Milledousson 69, Raeford graded 365, Rockfish 106.

#### BIBLE TEACHER

The Ashmont community has raised money enough to employ Mrs. Elbert McLeod as Bible teacher for the year. This is a splendid step and the school and community is to be congratulated.

#### LOSE FRIEND

The pupils, teachers and patrons of the Raeford graded school have lost a loyal friend and protector in the untimely death of Officer A. M. Howell. Time and again the writer has watched the little tots going to and from school, stand on the curb waiting for the beckoning wave from Mr. Howell and then see them troglally across the street, conscious that their friend was there to protect them. Often they would wait on the curb until he could go for them and, placing their little hands in his, go safely across. To our mind the finest tribute that can be paid to anyone is that paid through the love and trust of little children. Mr. Howell has his monument already erected, standing stately and fine within the hearts of the children of Raeford.

#### ROCKFISH OPENS

Rockfish reported a good opening day attendance of parents. Rev. F. M. Bain, pastor of Galatia church, conducted the devotional exercises and talked to the assembled parents and pupils on "The Three Attitudes of Life."

#### COMMITTEE MEETS

There was a meeting of the Milledousson school committee held at Dundarrach last night at 8 o'clock.

#### SHORT SCHEDULE

All schools go on a short day schedule today until further notice. This is being done at the request of many farmers. It is hoped that all patrons will cooperate and keep their children in school every day. And if not in school get them in at the first possible moment.

#### PTA MEETING

There will be an open meeting of all the PTAs in the county this afternoon at 3 p. m. at the high school. Mrs. Howell, state representative of the PTA, will be present and will speak. Also, Mrs. Fesperman of Salisbury, our district president, will be present. All parents and patrons, whether members of the PTA or not, are invited and urged to attend. Mrs. Howell and Mrs. Fesperman were honored by a luncheon at noon which was served by the Home Economics department of the high school on behalf of the county council of the PTA.

## Large Crowd Attends Reaves Open House

Several hundred people swamped the Reaves Drug store last Friday afternoon to enjoy ice cream and other refreshments as the store held "open house" and played hosts to the people of Raeford and Hoke county. The occasion was the formal opening of their completely remodeled drug store, and the complete transformation of the old store into one of the most modern in the state drew many compliments.

A highlight of the afternoon was a broadcast over Radio Station WFNC, Fayetteville, directly from the new store. It was interesting to listen to some of the county's most prominent people as they were interviewed by the radio announcer and to see others run as they developed "mike scare."

The last livestock census of Thailand, formerly Siam, showed 10,000 elephants and 5,500,000 buffaloes.

## Members of Coast Artillery Stationed At Armory for Present.

Hoke county members of the National Guard, along with 60,000 guardsmen over the United States, were mustered into the service of the federal government for a one year period at midnight Sunday, September 15th.

All the troops are remaining at their home stations for a two-week period to allow for various preparations to active duty.

Members of the Thirtieth Division will go from their home stations to Fort Jackson, S. C., for their year of duty. Members of the 252nd Coast Artillery, to which the local guardsmen belong, will go to stations at Fort Moultrie, S. C., and Fort Screven, Ga.

Washington.—With some vanguard detachments already at training centers and other advance units of the first 60,000 on their way, an additional 35,000 National Guardsmen received mobilization orders Tuesday for October 15th.

General George C. Marshall, army chief of staff, disclosed the war department's plans for summoning the second guard contingent in the progressive mobilization that is expected to bring the guard's full strength of 240,000 men into active service by the year's end.

## Game Protector Explains Laws

The following review and explanation of game laws has been prepared for the News-Journal by H. R. McLean, Hoke county game protector:

Hunting Season and Bag Limits

Deer (male) Oct. 1-Jan. 1. Limit one per day, three per season.

Squirrel (except fox), Oct. 1-Jan. 15. Limit 10 per day.

Opossum and coon (dogs only), Oct. 1-Feb. 15. No limit.

Rabbit, Nov. 28-Feb. 15. No limit.

Quail; Nov. 28-Feb. 15. Ten per day, 150 per season.

Turkey, Nov. 28-Feb. 15. One per day, three per season.

Fox (Hoke county), Sept. 1-Mar. 2. No limit.

Dove (federal law), Sept. 15-Nov. 30. Limit 12 per day. Possession limit 12.

Woodcock, no open season.

Duck, Nov. 2-Dec. 31. Ten per day. Possession limit 20.

Geese, Nov. 2-Dec. 31. Three per day. Possession limit six.

Jacksnipe, Nov. 2-Dec. 31. Fifteen per day. Possession limit 15.

Licenses may be purchased at the Raeford Hardware Co., Ashley Heights, Rockfish, Dundarrach, and Antioch. Daniel McGill, Little River; W. W. McLean, on the Fayetteville road; and W. S. Culbreth at McNeill's Mill are also in a position to supply needs of hunters. Graham's service station will supply the needs of those wishing to purchase licenses during the night.

A county license protects the hunter in his own county. However, he is liable to get into trouble along county lines.

State licenses entitle the hunter the right to roam the state. Combination licenses cover hunting and fishing in the state.

Non-resident licenses are required of all persons from without the state who have not resided here at least six months.

Guide's licenses are required of all clubs and individuals who make charges or accept anything valuable for hunting.

It is a violation to take game fish and game animals before sunrise or after sunset. It is a violation to cut down trees. Buying and selling quail carries a fine of not less than \$50 and costs.

The ownership of a hunting license in no way gives a hunter the right to hunt upon posted lands. A good sport always asks permission and is seldom refused—while he who takes things in his own hands usually gets chased off. Be a good sport.

## New Editor With The News-Journal

Billy Whitted of Fayetteville, began work with the News-Journal as editor this week, taking the place of Paul Dickson, Jr., who will be serving with the National Guard for a year.

American farm income, in 1939, including government payments, was 200 to 300 million dollars higher than in 1938.