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The Hoke County News

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RAEFORD, N. C., THURSDAY, DEC. 26th, 1940.

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Halifax Appointed British Ambassador To United States

London, Dec. 23.—Viscount Halifax 59-year-old foreign secretary, well known as the "Christian gentleman in British politics," was named early today to succeed the late Marquess of Lothian as British ambassador to Washington.

War secretary Anthony Eden, who was succeeded as foreign secretary by Lord Halifax when Eden resigned in February, 1938, after a disagreement with the late Neville Chamberlain over appeasement of Germany and Italy, was named to return to the foreign secretaryship. Eden is 43.

Captain David Margesson, 50, for nine years the government's chief whip in the house of commons, was a "surprise" appointment as secretary of state for war to succeed Eden.

Halifax's appointment to Washington removed the last great figure in London's government who was associated closely with Chamberlain in his appeasement policies before the war.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill had never questioned Halifax's integrity and ability in those bitter years but had consistently attacked the policies of Chamberlain, as had Eden.

Halifax is known to Britons as a quiet, unassuming scholar and churchman, who rose from political obscurity in the early 1920s to become viceroy of India in 1926.

The British press reaction to his appointment perhaps was gauged by the Yorkshire Post which said, "it is no spellbinding orator we want (in Washington) but a man of absolute integrity whom Americans can unreservedly trust."

Eludes Trap Of G-Men In Extortion Plot

Santa Rosa, Calif., Dec. 20.—A man in a black overcoat, who attempted to extort money from the wealthy De Tristan family, recent victims of a kidnapping, snatched a faded payment from the hands of an FBI agent—then escaped from a police trap by crawling down the muddy rows of a cabbage patch.

Reliable sources told today how the Federal Bureau of Investigation frustrated an extortion threat against the parents of three-year-old Marc De Tristan, Jr., and how the extortionist made his dramatic escape from 22 officers who had surrounded him.

The trap was set Wednesday night in a cabbage patch near Santa Rosa. FBI agents had been working secretly for three weeks on a letter sent the Count and Countess Marc De Tristan through the Santa Rosa postoffice.

Under instructions of the extortioner, R. J. Bobbitt, assistant chief of the FBI in San Francisco, posing as an emissary of the De Tristans, stood in a cabbage patch with a cigar box supposedly containing an extortion payment. The amount was not disclosed.

One of the posse of FBI agents, police and highway patrolmen hidden around the patch, said a shadowy figure snatched the box from Bobbitt's hands and ran.

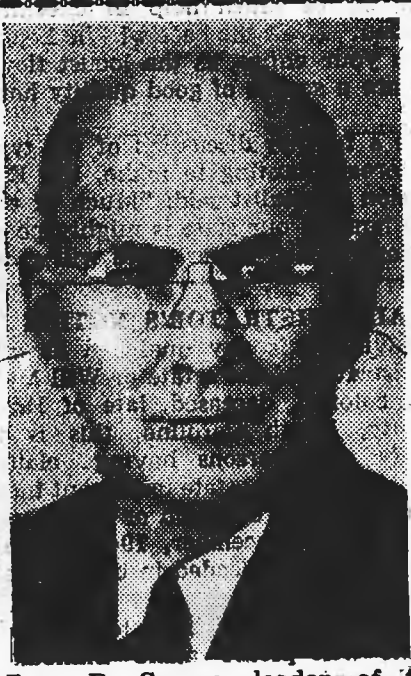
When the agent threatened to shoot, the extortioner dared him to "go ahead and shoot." The "trapped" man dropped to the ground and crawled through the mud. The heavy armed officers closed in. They were so confident of taking him alive and with the evidence they did not fire. While they chased him the little man disappeared—out of the cabbage patch and down a ravine into a rugged creek bottom.

In his crawling flight he abandoned the cigar box and the worthless paper strips with which it had been packed in place of currency.

In Hillsborough, where little Marc played as usual, unmindful of the threat, Police Chief C. M. Hirshey accused the FBI of "bungling" in not loading the box with black powder, set to explode.

He said: "The man's face would have been blackened. He might have been blinded. He'd have needed medical

To Speak Here



Zeno B. Spence, leader of the United Dry Forces, from Goldsboro, will speak at the Raeford Baptist church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

A mass meeting will be held Sunday night at the Hoke county courthouse at which time John A. Oates of Fayetteville will speak on temperance.

Mrs. L. A. Lentz Taken By Death

Mrs. L. A. Lentz, former resident of Raeford and St. Pauls, died Saturday at the home of her son, Jule C. Lentz in Durham, where she had lived since 1932. She had been in ill health for several months and critically ill for a week.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at 3:30 from the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. C. Thomas, in Raeford. Dr. H. C. Smith, pastor of Duke memorial church in Durham, officiated and was assisted by Rev. E. C. Crawford, pastor of the Raeford Methodist church, and Dr. M. T. Plyler, editor of the North Carolina Christian Advocate. Burial was in Raeford cemetery.

Williamsport To Train Here Again

Williamsport, Pa., baseball team is making plans to go into spring training in Raeford for the third time and present plans call for the group to arrive here Sunday, March 23rd.

The team will stay at the Hotel Raeford, according to Manager W. E. Street.

The Williamsport team has trained here for three years—1937, 1938 and 1940, having spent the '39 season in Tarboro. They will be here for approximately four weeks.

There will be about 28 or 30 men here this year, with 10 or 12 of them being boys who were here before.

Spencer Abbott is the new manager and Roy Clunk is business manager.

To Send Out Questionnaires

First Hoke county young men to be drafted under the selective service act will probably be called into service sometime in July, according to T. B. Lester, Sr., chairman of the Hoke county draft board.

Mr. Lester said today he has received word to send out questionnaires in March and April to about 10 per cent of the registrants.

attention and quickly, and he would not have gotten away." At least one officer involved in the case said the man had escaped, cleanly, leaving no clue as to his identity or whereabouts.

Sanatorium Plans Big Christmas

Sanatorium, Dec. 23.—The North Carolina Sanatorium, where 675 patients are now receiving treatment for tuberculosis, is often said to be one of the brightest spots in the state during the Christmas season.

The Sanatorium is now in festive array. Lights shine from the large living Christmas tree on the lawn and from the trees on the wards placed so that every patient can enjoy their multi-colored radiance. The trees and other decorations were arranged by ladies of the community.

Thirty-nine children, ranging in age from two and one-half to 17 years are patients at the Sanatorium. It is a matter of prime concern that Santa Claus find each stocking and leave behind delightful remembrances of his visits. These young people contributed in large measure to the season's entertainment with a costume play given in the auditorium Thursday evening.

As for the grown-ups, theirs will be more substantial gifts and here, too, no one will be forgotten. Welfare departments of the various counties are cooperating with Sanatorium friends in providing for the patients under their supervision.

Climaxing the pre-Christmas activities will be a religious service in the auditorium on Tuesday evening. Carol singing and the Christmas story read from the Bible will bring out the deeper meaning of the nativity celebration.

The joys of Christmas day with innumerable packages to open and visitors to entertain will culminate in the traditional turkey dinner. Patients able to be up will enjoy the feast at two banquet tables, lighted by red candles. Others will receive trays of the Yuletide delicacies.

Law Enforcement Retirement Fund Has 1,500 Members

Peace Officers Must Become Members Before January 1 To Receive Credit for Past Service.

Raleigh, Dec. 23.—Geo. Ross Pou, chairman of the law enforcement officers benefit and retirement fund announced today that approximately 1,500 peace officers from all parts of the state have become members of the retirement fund created by the 1937 General Assembly.

Membership is open to all North Carolina law enforcement officers. Regulations of the fund provide that officers must become members before January 1, 1941, and make contributions equal to 3 per cent of their earnings from July 1, 1940, in order to receive retirement credit for past service. Retirement income payments will begin July 1, 1945, to eligible officers having served 20 years. Officers who become members after January 1, 1941, are eligible for retirement upon the completion of 20 years service from date of membership.

Mr. Pou said that a supply of application blanks was furnished all Sheriffs and police chiefs some time ago. He urges all peace officers interested in the retirement program and who have not filed their applications, to do so before January 1, 1941, in order to receive full retirement credit for past service.

Membership applications or information with respect to the retirement program may be obtained from The Law Enforcement Officers Benefit and Retirement Fund, State Capitol, Raleigh.

REV. H. K. HOLLAND ACCEPTS CALL RAEFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Carolinas Are Becoming Great Military Center

Washington., Dec. 23.—The Carolinas are becoming the scene of one of the greatest concentrations of military manpower in the United States and Uncle Sam is spending millions of dollars to care for them.

With Fort Bragg in North Carolina and Fort Jackson in South Carolina, supplemented by a replacement center at Spartanburg, an anti-aircraft firing range at Holly Ridge, N. C., and an air base at Charlotte, the army expects to have approximately 138,500 soldiers on Carolina soil within a few months.

North Carolina also is bidding for a Marine firing range and the navy is looking over sites in this state for a lighter-than-air scouting base at Parris Island, S. C., which is being expanded, and the Charleston, S. C., Navy yard is alive with activity.

Army officials estimate that eventually \$55,000,000 will be spent on its facilities in the two states. Millions in contracts already have been awarded.

Here is the lineup of anticipated expenditures to house Uncle Sam's growing army: Fort Jackson, \$18,000,000 for barracks and other facilities to take care of 40,000 men.

Fort Bragg, \$18,000,000 for barracks and other facilities to take care of 40,000.

Holly Ridge, \$9,000,000 for 20,000 men; Spartanburg, \$8,000,000 for 16,500 men; and Charlotte, \$2,000,000 for 2,000 soldiers.

Fort Bragg is one of the army's permanent field artillery posts and Fort Jackson, where thousands of American boys trained in 1917 and 1918 for service overseas, appears destined to become a permanent army center.

The Charlotte air base probably will be in existence for a long time and Spartanburg and Holly Ridge appear to be planned for "the duration." — or until the United States feels it can ease up a bit in its military preparedness program.

Trainees chosen in the selective service draft will make up the bulk of the manpower, although there will be a good number of old-time soldiers.

The trainees will be trained as individual soldiers in recruit training detachments, the army explained, together with regular army and national guard recruits.

This phase of their training — which will be done in Carolina — will include instruction in first aid and military hygiene, military law, military courtesy and discipline, dismounted and possibly mounted drill, the care, employment and maintenance of clothing, equipment and weapons, marksmanship and the use of individual weapons, defense against gas and air attacks, physical training, marching, camping, bivouacs and other subjects.

The army describes the objective of this training as "the production of efficient, energetic, self-reliant and physically hardened soldiers."

High School Loses In Basketball

In two hard-fought basketball games played on the local court last Thursday night, the Hoke high school boys and girls teams went down to defeat to the teams from Massey Hill high school, Fayetteville. The games were the first of the season.

The boys lost their game by a score of 21 to 16 and the girls were defeated 24 to 9.

Pink Henigan, Colored, Dies

Pink Henigan, well known and respected colored man, died last Wednesday afternoon, December 18 and funeral services were held Sunday.

Charlotte Minister Expected To Come To Local Church Latter Part of January.

Rev. Harry K. Holland, for eight years pastor of the Plaza Presbyterian church in Charlotte, indicated Sunday his decision to accept a call extended him recently to the pastorate of the Presbyterian church at Raeford. Mr. Holland's resignation was offered to his congregation at the close of the morning service in a letter read by C. A. Kirkpatrick, clerk of the session of the Plaza church.

In the letter, Mr. Holland expressed his regret at severing so happy a connection; his appreciation of harmonious co-operation, and his conviction that he was guided of God in his decision. On next Sunday, it was stated, the congregation will take formal action on the matter, and in the event they concur with Mr. Holland in his request, his resignation will come before Mecklenburg Presbytery at its mid-winter session January 21st.

Rev. Holland is one of Charlotte's younger ministers, the Plaza being the second church he has served. He is a popular member of the Charlotte Ministerial association and of Mecklenburg Presbytery. Several years ago he served the latter organization as moderator and has worked on its strongest committees.

As chairman of the orphanage committee Mr. Holland did such outstanding work in the interest of Barium Springs home and its Thanksgiving offering that he was reappointed to the chairmanship.

Rev. Mr. Holland went to Charlotte from Conyers, Ga., his first charge. His education was received at Presbyterian College, Clinton, S. C., at Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Ga., then at Columbia, S. C. His wife was the former Miss Lawrence Wylie of Montreat, N. C. Mrs. Holland have two small daughters, Bettie and Nancy Holland.

Hull Backs Grew On Firm Stand In The Far East

Washington, Dec. 20.—Secretary of State Hull today supported Ambassador Grew's stand in Tokyo by asserting America's policy in regard to the status quo in the Far East still stands.

Hull called attention to the past declarations of policy which have not been changed. In a note to Japan December 31, 1938, which has never been answered, the government stated:

"This government reserves all rights of the United States as they exist and does not give assent to any impairment of those rights."

Hull said there had been no deviation from that position.

Hull's remarks followed a forthright speech yesterday by Grew in Tokyo was generally interpreted in Washington as a clear warning that the United States will call any German-inspired "campaign of bluff" in the part of Japan.

At the same time, it threw into sharper relief the axis alignment for Japan in the World War.

Japan's job is to build herself up by word, if not by deed, as a "peace" with the aim of causing American attention on the Far East, vitiating the program of aid to Great Britain, and holding as much of the U. S. fleet as possible in Pacific waters, it was said.

Newspaper Out Early This Week

The News-Journal is being delayed on Monday this week in order that Thursday in order that the paper may be able to get their Christmas messages out early and so the newspaper employees may be able to work in time to get off for Christmas.

The News-Journal office will be closed Wednesday and Thursday and will open again for business on Monday morning.