

Group Protests New Designation Route 15-A

Durham Legislator Seeks Law Prohibiting "Alternate" Highway Routes.

Representing the local council for the Lafayette Highway which includes route U. S. 15-A, a group of Raeford citizens joined with similar groups from Raleigh, Fayetteville, Laurinburg, Lillington and Fuquay-Varina yesterday in protesting the Brooke's Bill which has been under consideration of the Senate and House committees on roads.

The bill, sponsored by Representative Brooke of Durham county, would eliminate "alternate" routings of state and federal highways within the state of North Carolina. Local citizens believe that it is aimed more or less directly at 15-A which brings a large number of tourists and much motor transport traffic through Raeford.

Some years ago this highway was designated as U. S. 401 and, with the juggling of route numbers and creation of new routes, highway officialdom abandoned that number for highway 15A, but other towns objected to the course the highway took through the state and secured a change of the designation to 15-alternate and had Route 15 go from Creedmoor to Laurinburg via Durham, Chapel Hill, Sanford and Aberdeen. Under the Brooke Bill it is believed that it is the purpose of the proposed legislation to again change the route number of the highway through here.

The Lafayette Highway Association spends a number of thousands of dollars each year in advertising this route in the Northern states, and the representatives from these towns protested the passage of the bill because a new route number would nullify the favorable effect which this advertising has created over a period of years.

Tom Cameron, local director of the Lafayette Association, stated Tuesday that Raeford had been contributing some \$200 annually and this year had raised even more for the purpose of advertising the route.

T. C. Crossland, of Bennettsville, S. C., is president, and J. J. Riley, of Sumter, S. C., is secretary, of the association. They reported on the activities of the group since its formation and both stated that it was their belief that a change in route numbers would operate to the disadvantage of towns along the Lafayette Highway.

Among those from here appearing before the committee in the interest of maintaining the present US-15-A designation were: John McGoogan, Neill A. McDonald, Crawford Thomas, W. E. Street, Arch Graham, Mrs. J. W. McLaughlin, C. E. Upchurch and N. H. G. Balfour.

A. E. Dixon, of Fayetteville, Mr. Dunbar, of Laurinburg, headed the delegations from those towns.

Senator Ryan McBryde and Representative Laurie McEachern told members of the Hoke county delegation yesterday that they were doing all that was in their power to prevent the passage of the bill, and that it was their intention to offer legislation regarding highway routing numbers that would prevent changes under bills that might be proposed in the future.

Mrs. Swain Thrower Dies At Wagram

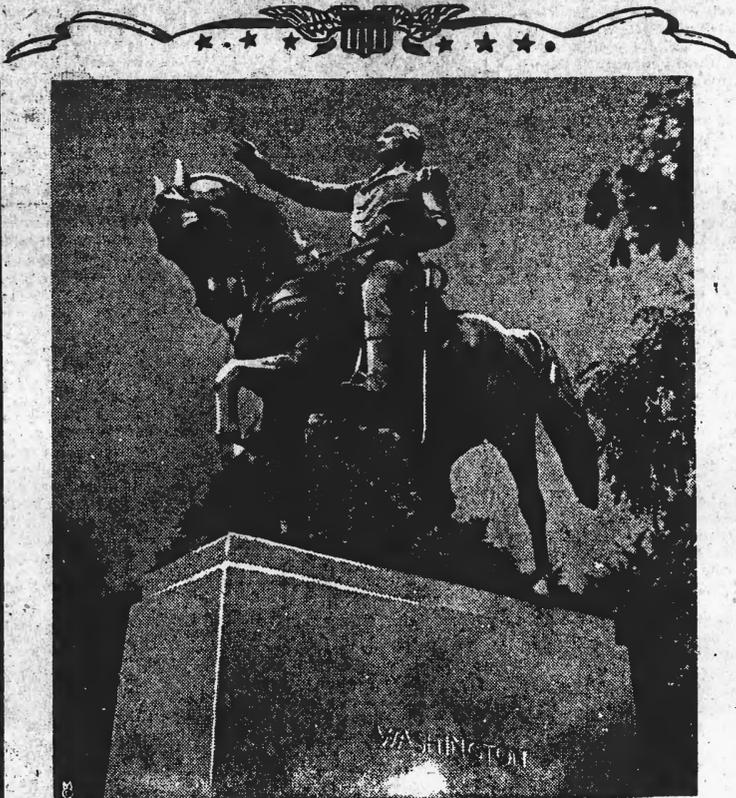
Sister of Mrs. W. M. Lindsay and Mother of Mrs. Lola T. Pope Buried Sunday.

Funeral services for Mrs. Swain T. Thrower, well-known and beloved woman of Wagram, were conducted Sunday afternoon at the Laurinburg Methodist church. Rev. H. K. King, pastor, and Rev. H. K. Holland, pastor of the Raeford Presbyterian church, conducted the services.

Mrs. Thrower, the former Miss Mary McQuage of South Carolina, was the widow of the late Swain T. Thrower of the Spring Hill section of Scotland county. She had been ill for some months and at the time of her death was a patient at a Charlotte hospital. She was 69 years of age.

Surviving are: one sister, Mrs. Will McQuage of Laurel Hill; a half-brother, M. J. Saunders of Laurinburg; a half-sister, Mrs. W. M. Lindsay of Raeford; two children, Mrs. Lola T. Pope of Raeford and Mrs. Mae McAlphine of Charlotte; four grandchildren, Mrs. Lonnie W. Gordon of Charlotte, Mrs. Donald Stubbs of White Lake, W. Claude Williams, Jr., of Charlotte, and Edward A. Williams of Fort Jackson, S. C. Also surviving are four great-grandchildren.

June Johnson has been ill again with his second attack of flu this season.



First in the Hearts of His "Countrymen"...even until today

Boy Scout Court Of Honor and Rally

The Boy Scout Court of Honor and Rally for the Western District will be held in the high school gymnasium at Red Springs next Thursday night, February 27th, at 7:30. Scout Executive David L. Liles will be in charge of the meeting. Mr. Edwin Morgan of Laurinburg will preside over the Court of Honor meeting. All Scout Troops in the district are asked to have their advancement lists in Mr. Lile's office three days before the meeting. A list of events for the rally has been sent to each Scoutmaster in the district. If any Scoutmaster failed to get a copy of this list of events, he is asked to get in touch with Mr. Liles at once. At the present time the Laurel Hill Troop holds the trophy, having won it last year at Raeford at the rally. A large attendance is expected at this meeting.

Henry B. Caldwell To Speak Rockfish February 28th

The Board of Agriculture will resume its monthly meetings out in the county on Friday, February 28. This time the meetings will be held out in the county on Friday, February 28. This time the meetings will be held at the Rockfish community house. The guest speaker will be Harry B. Caldwell, master of the State Grange. The meeting had previously been scheduled in January but due to epidemic of flu it was postponed to February 28.

Supper will be served by the Rockfish home demonstration club women at 6:30 p. m. and Mr. Caldwell will talk to a large group at 7:30 p. m. Those wishing to take supper should notify either the county or home agent. Previous meetings have been well attended and enjoyable. Everyone is invited to attend.

Hardware Department Remodeled

The interior of McLaughlin company's hardware department has been transformed and it is now one of the largest, best lighted and best equipped stores of the kind in this section. The walls and ceilings have been painted white with black trim. Fourteen lighting fixtures replacing the old light fixtures adds greatly to the interior beauty. The display counters and shelves have been rearranged and they are filled with gleaming kitchen utensils and household appliances of all kinds. In fact this store is in step with the inevitable line of progress now necessary for the town and county.

Prof. Turlington, Mrs. John Walker Will Instruct NYA

The State Department of Public Instruction has assumed the responsibility for the NYA Educational activities throughout the state. The educational program for the NYA youths of Hoke county began February 18th. The NYA youths are fortunate indeed in the instructors chosen for the related training for their particular projects, which is a part of the National Defense Program.

Mr. Turlington, of the Hoke high school will teach the boys connected with the wood-working shop located in the county office building. This is one of the best equipped shops in this state. The workmanship is not as good as some of the western shops, but most of the boys assigned to the shop have recently joined the NYA program, and are not as experienced as the boys that left for military service.

Mrs. John Walker, former home economics teacher in the Raeford high school will instruct the girls assigned to the sewing room. Mrs. Walker was a very efficient and popular teacher a few years ago, and with her practical experience as well, she will be able to have one of the best classes in practical home management. The young girls will be taught courses similar to the ones offered in coles by the National Defense Program which will include family finance, malnutrition, good grooming, home beautification and similar units. These classes will be conducted in the Raeford elementary school.

The NYA has recently opened a kitchen laboratory where the young girls prepare their lunches on their own time, and serve a number of guests each day. This demonstration kitchen is not completed, but the furnishings so far are the most modern. The NYA bought a complete set of Buckeye aluminum from McLaughlin company, a Westinghouse refrigerator installed by Raeford Furniture company. The cabinets, tables and benches were made in the boy's wood working shop. When this kitchen is completed it will be very modern and up-to-date. Many favorable comments have been heard about the attractive, wholesome lunches that are served. The youths of our county are receiving valuable working experiences. Guests are always welcome in the NYA lunch room. If you call and they do not have room for you that day, go back the next, and you will receive a hearty welcome.

Mr. and Mrs. Alton Cameron, and niece, Annie Shaw, spent the weekend in Club Colony, Charlotte, with the J. K. Wilson family.

Legionnaires To Register Friday

Full endorsement of the American Legion nationwide plan to register all Legionnaires and World War Veterans generally on a volunteer basis, for any possible future national defense service, was given today by Mayor G. W. Brown, of Raeford.

The local registration will be conducted by the Ellis Williamson Post No. 20, of the American Legion. National Commander Milo J. Warner has issued a proclamation designating Saturday, February 22, the 20th anniversary of the birth of George Washington, as the official American Legion national defense registration day.

Commander E. C. Crawford of the local post already has started the machinery for the local registration into motion. He has announced the appointment of D. H. Hodgins as chairman of a special national defense registration committee of the local post. Veterans may register at Hoke county court house, February 21st-22nd.

L. A. Rivenbark Injured In Truck Collision

L. A. Rivenbark, of Lumberton, who succeeded Charlie Bayes as school mechanic, was badly hurt Friday afternoon, February 14th, around 6:30 p. m. He was driving a truck, which collided with a car on highway 15A near the county line. He was struck on the head, sustaining a scalp wound, a fracture of the middle and lower left arm, and the right shoulder was broken. He was taken to Highsmith hospital for treatment and returned home Monday.

Barbecue and Fish Fry Friday Night At Armory

A barbecue and fish fry, prepared by Raeford's expert cooks, than whom there are no better, will be served Friday night, February 22, at the armory. This is being put on by the Woman's Auxiliary of the Presbyterian church and is for the benefit of the Barium Springs Orphanage. Supper will be served from 5 to 8 o'clock.

Square Dance

The Home Demonstration club of Elba Springs is sponsoring a square dance at Blue Springs community house Thursday night, February 13.

Billy McIntyre and Helen Patricia Stuart spent the weekend at Flora Macdonald college.

WILLIAMSPORT GRAYS SOON BE ARRIVING FOR SPRING TRAINING

Many Car Owners Caught In Drive By State Patrol

Twenty-two Pay Court Costs For Failure To Comply With Highway Laws.

In a drive led by Highway Patrolman Joe Murrill, assisted by two patrolmen from other towns, 22 car owners were found to be operating their cars in violation of the law, and paid court costs Tuesday.

The patrolmen examined all drivers Saturday on Fayetteville highway, testing and checking the car of each motorist. Many cars from other counties were found defective and the drivers were given tickets for appearance in the courts of their home counties. Those summoned to Hoke county court pleaded guilty and were sentenced to thirty days on the roads. The sentences were suspended upon payment of costs in all cases except that of Wade Jones, an Indian of Robeson county who was also found guilty of driving while under the influence of liquor. Jones received a three months suspended sentence on this count and was fined \$50 and costs. The others were: John McDuffie, Raeford, colored; Willard W. Jackson, white; Ollie Brown, colored; Alexander Williams, colored; Henry McNair, colored; William Henry Hammond, white, Laurinburg; Fred Loyd, Jr., colored; J. M. Parker, white; Joshua Brown, colored; John McPhatter, colored; Alton Beatty, colored; John W. Ellis, colored; Will Williams, colored; Charles Bennett, colored; Isaiah McNeill, colored; Leo McLaughlin, colored; Leo McLaughlin, colored; James Moore, colored; Mack Gamble, colored; Walter McNeill, white, of Antioch; C. E. Nicks, white.

Charlie L. Locklear, Indian of Allendale, charged with being drunk and disorderly; Pete Scarboro, white, of Raeford, drunk and disorderly; John Henry Willis and his wife, Estelle Willis, of Raeford, violation of prohibition laws; and Tony Thomas, colored, of Raeford, violation of prohibition laws, each pleaded guilty of charges and paid court costs in lieu of serving 30 days on the roads.

Meetings To Explain 1941 AAA Program Scheduled

A series of meetings have been arranged for each township in the county to explain the 1941 soil conservation program in detail to farmers, according to an announcement by A. S. Knowles, county agent.

It is necessary that farmers understand the changes in the 1941 program in order for them to get the most out of it. This year a farmer must earn the full soil building goal to get all of the cotton and tobacco benefit payments. A thorough discussion of this phase of the program will be made at the various meetings, reports the county agent.

Other parts of the program that will be discussed is the parity payment program and the cotton stamp program. Every farmer should understand the requirements before planting cotton. In addition to the discussion program there will be shown a 45-minute sound picture on the "Wise Land-Use of Soils." Everyone will enjoy this picture.

The schedule of meetings follows: Allendale township, at community house on Monday, February 24, at 2:30 p. m.; Antioch township, at community house on Monday, February 24, at 7:30 p. m.; Blue Springs township, at community house on Tuesday, February 25, at 2:30 p. m.; McLaughlin township at Rockfish community house, on Tuesday, February 25, at 7:30 p. m.; Little River township, at community house on Wednesday, February 26, at 7:30 p. m.; Raeford township at court house on Thursday, February 27, at 7:30 p. m.; Quewhiffle township, at Ashmont school, on Monday, March 3rd, at 7:30 p. m.; and Stonewall township on Tuesday, March 4th, at 7:30 p. m.

Buys Leach House

W. C. Lee, who operates the Sinclair service station out on the Laurinburg highway, has bought the house that David Smith lives in, which belonged to Grady Leach. David says that this hunting for a house was worse than it's cracked up to be. That he reckons he will just have to get two army tents and go to housekeeping.

Elmer Schupler Writes Interesting Story of the Gray's Home-town; Contributing Much To Defense Program.

BY ELMER L. SCHUYLER

Williamsport, Pa., Feb. 20.—Greetings to Raeford! Four weeks hence the Williamsport Grays will be converging upon your hospitable little city for the purpose of engaging in a month of spring training preliminary to the opening of the annual campaign for the championship of the Eastern League of Professional Baseball Clubs. The players will come from many sections of the country. Kenny Richardson, for instance, will drive in, accompanied by his wife, from California. Leon Kyle, who last summer claimed a young Raeford woman, Miss Mary Hicks, as his bride, will come from Marion, Louisiana. Irv Kolberg will blow in from Wisconsin—and so on.

It occurred to us that the people of Raeford might like to know more about the Grays' home town.

Williamsport, situated in Northern Central Pennsylvania, on the West Branch of the Susquehanna River, is a city of the third class with a population of 44,262 (1940 census), but Greater Williamsport has a population of 56,546, and within a 40-mile radius there are 164,467 inhabitants. There are sixty churches, a junior college, fifteen public and four parochial schools, a Y. W. C. A. and a Y. M. C. A. The latter, a \$500,000 institution, is preparing to celebrate its seventy-fifth anniversary, March 16 to 23, inclusive.

Williamsport has seven hundred retail and a half dozen wholesale establishments, and it has four railroads and more than one hundred industries, as compared with forty years ago, when the manufacture of lumber monopolized the city's productive activity and Williamsport was the chief lumber center of the United States.

In its interesting history Williamsport has hurdled several severe crises, one of which developed when, with the West Branch watershed practically denuded of timber, the lumber industry waned and the community faced the alternative of getting new industries or shutting up shop. It was then that the Board of Trade came to bat, put on an intensified campaign which brought in a number of diversified industries and not only kept the town on the map but gave it growing impetus.

Two disastrous floods, one in 1880 and the other in 1894, rather complicated matters, but here, too, the indomitable spirit which enabled the community to triumph over the threat of industrial extinction served a good purpose. The reverses were met in characteristic fashion and Williamsport continued to progress. Following the '89 freshest the problem of flood control came to the front and was intensified in '94, but as time passed and there was no recurrence of inundation the community was lulled into a sense of security—from which it was rudely jarred forty-two years later. On St. Patrick's day, 1936, the city had a flood bigger than any previous one. This brought flood control to the fore again—this time to stay, and now a \$6,000,000 system of dykes is under way, to safeguard the city from possible further ravages from high water.

In the meantime, the Board of Trade had become the Chamber of Commerce, and a Committee of One Hundred, which grew into a thousand, was formed for the purpose of raising industrial funds. Later this committee and the Chamber of Commerce consolidated, becoming the Community Trade Association, through the efforts of which the plant vacated by the rubber company has been filled with smaller industries employing 4,047 persons, and additional space for other enterprises is being sought.

Employment is now at its highest peak, surpassing even the boom days of former eras. In the past seven years new industries have added \$12,000,000 to Williamsport payrolls. For every dollar invested \$88 has been returned to the community.

Williamsport has a large, modern airport, with excellent service, and one of its principal industries, the Lycoming Division of the Aviation Corporation, has just completed an addition costing \$1,500,000 and is inspecting sites for a second plant.

It is estimated that by next June, with the impetus of national defense contracts totaling \$17,500,000, the rolls of the city's workers will pass the 14,000 mark. Like the aviation plant, the great Wire Rope Division of the Bethlehem Steel company, located here is running twenty-four hours a day.

Leon Galtis, III, is in with the flu.