



The News-Journal

The Hoke County News

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RAEFORD, N. C.

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YOUR SCHOOL NEWS

By K. A. MacDonald

We are sorry to report that Principal T. C. Jones of the Rockfish school is in the Moore County hospital at Pinehurst. He is getting along as well as could be expected and we hope will be out before too long. Mrs. Isabella Ray Ritter is teaching for him during his absence.

On Monday afternoon a general county-wide meeting of principals and lunchroom managers was held in the courtroom with Jay P. Davis, head of the surplus commodity division of the State Department of Agriculture and two area supervisors of the State Lunch Program in charge.

Conditions in the various lunchrooms were checked and suggestions were made as to more efficient operation, some additional surplus commodities were promised, and an effort made to establish some sort of feeding program in the schools that do not now have lunchrooms.

It was promised that the two area supervisors (colored and white) would spend next week in the county assisting the lunchroom managers in working out their problems.

The white schools of the county will close at 2:00 on Monday the 13th to enable all teachers to come in to Raeford Graded school to see Jimmie Gerow teach a demonstration lesson and hear him discuss new methods of teaching.

A bus load of teachers is leaving Saturday morning to go to Greensboro to observe for the day in the Currie School, which is one of the outstanding schools in the state.

Miss Celeste A. Hayden, Physiotherapist with the State Board of Health, will be in Hoke County on Thursday, February 16, to talk to the colored teachers at 3:30 and the white teachers at 8:00 P. M. Miss Hayden is a noted authority in her field and we feel that we are very fortunate in being able to secure her.

COLORED NEWS

We regret to report that the wife of Principal A. S. Gaston of the Upchurch school is very ill at the home of her daughter in Wilson. We hope that she will soon be (Continued on Page 10)

County Board Hears Road Petition Mon.

Among other business the Hoke county board of commissioners at their monthly meeting Monday heard a group of 15 or 20 citizens from McLauchlin township who want a road surface treated there. The road is from R. W. Turner's old residence on the Raeford-Rockfish road to the Fayetteville road at Marshall Newton's store. The board promised the delegation that this would be the next road requested from the State Highway commission for McLauchlin township.

The board also decided to request surface treatment of a one-half mile stretch of road in Antioch township in order to straighten a school bus route.

The health and welfare departments were allowed to cut their working week from five and one-half days to five days.

The amounts paid to blind cases being aided were increased in all cases recommended by welfare department case workers. The amounts paid these cases by the state and federal governments will also be increased as the county's amount increases.

The board was entertained at lunch in the Lion's den by the Wayside Home Demonstration club.

THE COMMUNITY IS INDEBTED TO THESE THREE MEN



EDITORIAL—The three men shown above are those who are primarily responsible for the removal of many obstacles in the way of the final consummation of the sale of the White-Tex property here to Robbins Cloth Mills, Inc., and the acquisition by that company of additional property necessary for them to decide to locate a mill operation here. We want to take this opportunity to thank them, all three of them, on behalf of the community, for their efforts. They are, left to right, Crawford Thomas and Lawrence McNeill of the Raeford Chamber of Commerce and Forrest Lockey of the Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad company, mayor of Aberdeen.

Their efforts actually began at



the foreclosure sale of the White-Tex property here last October, prior to which time the Robbins officials had shown only a slight interest in the property. After that sale at which the RFC and the Commercial National Bank of Charlotte bought the property as holders of the mortgage, Lockey, through his acquaintance with the company officials, arranged for the three men to contact the RFC and the bank and try to arrange terms for a private sale. After many weeks and trips to Charlotte by the three, the Chamber of Commerce arranged to make the additional 30 acres available and it is believed that this gesture on the part of Raeford convinced the Robbins officials that this town really wanted them here.



The price being agreed on, it was learned that a clear title could not be given because of a Federal tax lien on the property. It took several telephone calls to Greensboro and Washington and several trips to Greensboro by Thomas and McNeill to finally get this lien released. Finally on Monday of last week all obstacles were out of the way and the stage was set for the trade in Carthage. We are proud of the way the town has been united in doing what was necessary to bring this to pass and in the way the people here have received the news of its consummation. We know that the welcome from all of us is genuine, as is our gratitude to the three men above who did so much for us.

Board Decides Public Library Will Stay Put

County Board Of Education Withdraws Offer Of Space In New Building At School

Following decision recently by the Public Library board to accept an offer of the County Board of Education of space in a new building on the High school campus there has been considerable expressed opposition to movement of the library from the county office where it now is. The following letter to the editor was received this week and is self-explanatory:

In reference to the moving of the Hoke County Public Library I would like to say that the school authorities in offering the facilities of a new building had no thought of inconveniencing general public, or of "copping" the Public Library for the schools or of working any one out of a job. Consequently the Board of Education has passed the following, which I believe will settle the matter to the satisfaction of all protesting citizens.

"The Hoke County Board of Education realizing the long felt need for additional and better space for the Hoke County Public Library (Continued on Page 10)

J. B. Barefoot Buried Monday

Funeral services were conducted at three o'clock Monday afternoon at Galatia Presbyterian church for James Braddy Barefoot, 55, who died Sunday afternoon at his home on Fayetteville, Route five. Service was conducted by the pastor, the Rev. B. O. Shannon and burial was in Wood's cemetery at Rockfish.

He is survived by his wife; two sons, James B. Barefoot, Jr., and Alfred Barefoot; two sisters, Mrs. Paul Bruton and Mrs. J. T. Bunce, both of Fayetteville; three brothers, Marshall Barefoot and Alex Barefoot of Fayetteville and Neill W. Barefoot of Doletown, Pa.

Pallbearers were Frank Warwick, C. L. Cook, W. M. Gillis, Milton Capps, Robert Riddle, J. P. Riddle and J. Mack Gillis.

MARCH OF DIMES FIGURES GIVEN; QUOTA EXCEEDED

Lewis Upchurch, county chairman for the March of Dimes, released the following figures of the drive in the county yesterday. He promised to give a final windup story of the drive next week, as the drive will not end until February 15.

Chairman's name is also shown in each community. Ashley Heights, Mrs. T. C. Sinclair, \$106.20; Raeford, Robert Gatlin, \$870; Rockfish, E. T. Brock, \$305; Sanatorium, E. B. Satterwhite, \$110; Timberland, Mrs. Leon Cameron, (Est.) \$100; Dundarrach and Mildowson, J. W. Canaday, \$445; Antioch, F. C. McPhaul, \$361.50; Blue Springs, E. C. Smith, Jr., \$117; Alendale, W. L. Roper, \$135; Negro Schools of county, A. S. Gaston, (Est.) \$50; Advance gifts, Younger Snead, \$622; Little River, D. E. Cameron, (Est.) \$100.

This is a total of \$3321.70 and Hoke county's quota was \$3000.

Soldiers Tear Up Car Sunday A. M.

At about 12:30 a. m. last Sunday a 1946 Ford with four Fort Bragg soldiers in it, moving north on high way 15-A about two miles south of Raeford left the highway to their left at the head of Covington's pond. The car jumped the creek, hit the opposite bank and turned over one or two times. The men were carried to a Fort Bragg hospital by the Lentz mortuary where the full extent of their injuries was not announced, although none were thought to have been critically hurt.

The one three of them said was driving suffered a broken jaw, so officers were unable to earn if another car was involved in the accident or just how it happened. The car was demolished. The accident was investigated by Patrolman D. G. Surratt and Deputy Sheriff H. E. Dees. No charges have been preferred.

Friends of Edgar Hall will be sorry to hear that he is sick and has been confined to his bed for the past week.

Paving Of Road Raeford To Vass Falls Through

Congressman Deane Says Army Will 'Improve' Road In 2 Bad Places, However

A letter from Congressman C. B. Deane of this district advises that he had been working with the Department of the Army since December in an effort to have the road from Raeford to Vass through the Fort Bragg reservation put in "No. 1 condition" and that on the last day of January he conferred with Secretary of the Army Gordon Gray about the project. Hoke county citizens had been hopeful that the Army might surface treat the entire stretch of road, as it connects Little River township with the rest of the county. Mr. Deane said he got the following from Secretary Gray:

"It seems that there are two sections in the road where drainage conditions should be improved and it is proposed to place culverts and raise the roadbed in these places at a nearly date. The Department of the Army is of the opinion that when these improvements are completed, the road will be adequate to serve the needs of the residents in Little River township traveling to Raeford and will be satisfactory to the Board (Continued on page 4)

Chamber To Meet Next Thursday

R. B. Lewis, president of the Raeford Chamber of Commerce, announced this week that the annual meeting of the members of the Chamber would be held in the courthouse at eight o'clock next Thursday night, February 16.

He urged all members to be present and said that five new members of the board of directors would be elected. It is the custom of the Chamber to elect three members of the board each year, but there have been two losses other than by expiration of terms during the past year. They were M. C. Dew, who was killed, and J. I. Hubbard, who moved away from Raeford last week.

The new board of directors will elect the new president of the organization.

Citizens of Raeford Welcome Robbins Mill

Mayor Poole Says Robbins Mill Biggest Event Here In 45 Years

Mayor William L. Poole, who with the town commissioners has engineered many improvements in Raeford since he took office, was enthusiastic in his comment this week on the decision of the Robbins Cloth Mills to buy the plant site here. He also called on all citizens of the town to do their part to make the Robbins firm glad they decided to come to Raeford. His statement follows.

"In the 45 years since we moved to Raeford, I don't believe anything has added as much to the satisfaction of our citizens as the fact that Robbins Cloth Mills has decided to place one of their plants here. Everyone has a feeling of optimism.

"Now the ones of us who have lived here for years and those who have not lived here so long have a duty to perform. New faces, new citizens and other new enterprises will come here, and it behooves all of us to do what we can to make these newcomers feel at home and to extend to each one of them a most cordial welcome.



MAYOR W. L. POOLE

come.

"As far as the town government is concerned, we will do our utmost to extend to them the very best of town services, and I hope that anyone who comes here will feel free to ask any member of the town government for anything he thinks the town can stand."

Opinion Is General That Town Has Made A Fine Connection

Such is the reputation of Robbins Cloth Mills, Inc. in this section that citizens and businessmen of all descriptions all over Raeford and Hoke county this week hailed the news of their recent purchase of a mill site here with elation and much hope for the future of the town and county.

It was learned this week that the firm has acquired a total of about 112 acres in the old White-Tex mill section of Raeford and beyond the city limits. Of this about 70 went with the old mill property, 30 was obtained for the firm by the Raeford Chamber of Commerce and several acres adjoining the property were purchased from other owners.

William P. Saunders, president, and other officials of the company were in Raeford on Monday, looking their property over and apparently making plans, although they said that plans had not progressed to the extent that they could be made public.

Reason for the warm welcome locally for the Robbins Cloth Mills is the excellent relationship known to exist between the management of the company's various plants and its labor as well as the progressive community spirit exhibited by W. P. Saunders, president, and other officials in communities where their mills are located. This has brought them widespread recognition as being among the nation's most progressive industrialists.

Most striking example of this progress near here is in Red Springs, only 12 miles away, where less than a dozen years ago just such a typical run-down mill property as we have here existed. In 1933 the property was purchased by the Robbins Mills and today one of the most modern rayon plants in the country is on the same location, surrounded by attractive homes and recreation facilities.

R. B. Lewis Extends Greetings And Says Mill Will Be Of Great Benefit

R. B. Lewis, president of the Raeford Chamber of Commerce, Inc., said this week that the addition of the Robbins Cloth Mills to the number of industrial and manufacturing concerns of Hoke County would be one of the greatest boosts the county could have in the nature of heavier payrolls.

"This mill will mean much to this community in that it will bring industry and agriculture more into balance. This increase in weekly payrolls will be of untold benefit to our merchants throughout the county. This means that we are getting away from just being an agricultural community where we have money only one period in a year.

"The Raeford Chamber of Commerce extends to the Robbins



R. B. LEWIS

Cloth Mills a warm greeting and we are very proud to have you in our town."

Usual Cases In Recorder's Court

In Hoke county recorder's court Tuesday morning Manuel McAlister, colored, was charged with assault and failing to stop and give aid by a woman he had backed into. Damage was not great and evidence for the state was not too convincing, so Judge McDiarmid let McAlister go free on payment of the court costs.

N. E. Townsend, white, and Mitchell Brown, colored, each paid the costs for driving with improper brakes.

Murray Sloven, Carmen Vincent, J. A. Byars and Hugh McBeth Gates, all white, and John Henry Butcher, Jr., colored, each left a \$25 bond on a speeding charge. John C. Norris, and Wade F. Fowler, both white, and Thomas Holmes, colored, each paid \$10 and the costs for speeding.

Rufus Locklear, Indian, got seven months suspended on payment of \$50 and the costs for violating the prohibition laws by having a still and accessories.

Jim Jordan, white, was charged by L. R. Irion with using profane and indecent language in a public place in the presence of two or more people. He was found guilty and taxed with the costs.

Woods Not Essential To 'Possum Hunting

A possum hunt was under way in daylight and far from the woods, here Tuesday morning. Police Chief H. M. Meeks was Master of the Hunt, although he was not master of the hounds, as there were no hounds present. Meeks said all local hounds were either sleeping off their hunts of Monday night or making their morning round turning over garbage cans.

The opossum, center of all the to-do, and this was considerable, located himself up a telephone or power pole over the sidewalk between the Raeford hotel and Graham's service station. Citizens who inhabit that neck of these woods were of the opinion that he should be removed and the discussion as to just how to do it was something to hear, from all reports.

In the final windup Ben Hurley, of the Carolina Power and Light company, provided a pair of climbers and one Willie Smith went up the pole to get the possum. He left the ground barehanded but proximity to the animal made discretion get the better part of valor, so Mr. Hurley furnished him with a pike and he knocked the possum off. He was caught in a jacket and carried off by the tail-to-a rendezvous with some some sweet potatoes in a pot, no doubt.

Hubbard Leaves; New Manager At Collins Store Here

J. Irving Hubbard, manager of the Collins Department store here since 1946, left last week to take over the management of the Collins store in Lake City, S. C. Mr. Hubbard made many friends during his stay in Raeford and participated in many improvements to the local Collins store and to the town. He was a director of the Raeford Chamber of Commerce.

New manager of the store here is Thad Lowder, who has been with the Collins store in Aberdeen since 1940, except for four years he spent in the Army. Mr. Lowder is married and has one son. He is adjutant of the Aberdeen American Legion post. He says he doesn't know just how long he will be here, and that while he likes Raeford he has a new home just about ready to move into in Aberdeen. He is a native of Aberdeen.

FEDERAL TAX MAN TO COME MARCH 1

J. H. Tadlock, deputy collector of internal revenue, announced this week that a deputy collector would be at the courthouse on March 1, 2, 3, 9, and 10 to give any help needed in preparation of Federal income tax returns for 1949. He will give any advice or assistance needed and his services will be free.