



# The News-Journal



The Hoke County News

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RAEFORD, N. C.

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## Addenda

By the Editor

There seems to be quite a few items to be commented on this week... Crawford Wright's publicity, The Army's land acquisition plans, the significance of the highway route through, or around, Raeford, the dreamed of Raeford Graded school addition, the postmaster situation, and the increase in highway fatalities in the county. Guess I'll have to take first things first and go as far as I have room for.

Taking Crawford Wright and the things that were said about him in Federal court last week... what the officers said about his reputation is undoubtedly true, as I have heard these things said myself, and a member of the present board of county commissioners told me this week that members of the board had heard these things when they discontinued the office of rural policeman several years ago, and that they had discontinued the office as the easiest way to get rid of an officer with that reputation. If, as it appears to me on reading the Greensboro "News" item, Crawford wrote in his letter that Brantley Allen was a man of good reputation, he did not tell the truth, unless you can say that a man with reputation for being a bootlegger has a good reputation. I can't believe that Crawford Wright has been asleep enough not to know that Brantley Allen had such a reputation.

Three people got arrested for traffic violations in connection with the fire on Magnolia street last Thursday night. There has been an ordinance about motorists interfering with the Fire Department on the town books for some time, and after last Thursday Fire Chief Lewis said the fire and police departments will try to get it enforced. It requires motorists to pull to the side of the street and remain stopped until the fire trucks have passed or gone the other way, and not to drive in the block where there is a fire. Firemen and policemen, he said, will report all violators in the future. Well, that seems right to me, only the law should have been enforced ever since it was passed. As he said, the firemen are volunteers who serve the community, and they have to get from their jobs to the fire house and from there to the fire when the alarm sounds, and they shouldn't have to risk getting run down by others going just for curiosity... Another one they ought to start enforcing is the one about turning around in the middle of blocks on Main street. We all ought to stop it—even the policemen and patrolmen except when they are in a legitimate hurry.

This is to put an end to the rumor that Charles Morrison is a Republican, for the benefit of whoever started it. I went to the registration books for Precinct No. 1 in Raeford and saw that he is registered as a Democrat.

As best I can tell, the article printed this week about the Army wanting land is the truth, and just about the whole truth. There are a lot of indefinite statements in it, and from all I could get out of the engineers and Congressman Deane the situation itself is just that indefinite. The Army wants some land, for sure, and what is described is what they are considering. When they make up their mind what land they want, it will still have to be approved by the Defense Department and the congressional committees before they can get it. I wish more information was available, but I don't believe there is any more definite information at this time... I wonder where Congressman C. B. Deane was when the \$49,000,000 appropriation bill was passed.

Last word on the Graded school building here is good. They tell me the architect and the Raleigh people are getting along well, and complete, approved plans for the building should not be too far off. Let's hope so.

## Legionnaires Oppose Bonus Referendum

At their monthly meeting last Friday night members of the Ellis Williamson post of the American Legion passed a resolution opposing a State referendum on the payment of a bonus by the State to veterans of the last two wars and the Korean War. After considerable discussion the vote against the referendum was unanimous.

Post Commander R. B. Lewis, discussing the matter, said "The local American Legion post urges all ex-service men to thoroughly study the proposed referendum before signing any petitions. Ask yourself if the State can afford to pay this money, and if so, can you afford to pay more taxes? Also, who is pushing this matter and why? We can always remember that we get nothing for nothing... someone has to pay it back. A meeting will be held in this county on December 16 to give veterans the favorable side of this proposition. Let's not be fooled."

He also called attention of veterans to the Legion's annual membership drive now going on and to the fact that all who have not joined since August should do so. "Let's make the Legion strong," he said, "look at its record. Veterans State referendum on the pay-it is doing and what it is trying to do."

## Hoke High Wins Three Out Of Four

The Hoke High Bucks and Does won three games last week and lost only one as they advanced further into their basketball schedule.

For the Bucks it was a matter of splitting two as they defeated Maxton 52-47 Tuesday night after dropping a 49-38 affair in Laurinburg Saturday night. Against Laurinburg they faced the same team that went to the state Class AA finals last spring. Leading the scoring for the Bucks was Joe Culbreth with 15 and runner-up was Lawrence McNeill with 11.

Tuesday night they played in Maxton and scored 20 points in the final quarter to come from behind and defeat Maxton 52-47. High scorer for the Bucks was Johnny McPhaul who sank 17 points with Lawrence McNeill getting 13 and Joe Culbreth and Palmer Willcox each scoring 8.

The Does won both their games as they outscored the Laurinburg Scotties in the last half and pulled away to win 37-25. A tight defense set up by the guards of the Does kept the Scotties from scoring a single point in the final quarter. Claudine Hodgins paced the local forwards as she accounted for 17 points followed by Jane Guin with 13.

Tuesday night it was virtually no contest for them as they won handily from the Maxton sextet 35-11. A case of excellent guarding on the part of Raeford and no defense on the part of Maxton led the way for plenty of reserves seeing action for Raeford during the second half. Hodgins was again high scorer for the Does with 16 points. Jane Guin had 9 points and Ina Scull scored 8.

Friday night the local teams journey to Rowland for the second meeting of the two clubs this year and Tuesday night they meet a strong Class AA Lumberton team in Lumberton. The pre-holiday schedule will close out on Dec. 19 as they engage Laurinburg on the local court.

## BANKS OF STATE TO BE CLOSED DEC. 25 AND 26

Members of the North Carolina Bankers Association will observe banking holidays on December 25 and 26, it was announced today.

A proclamation by Governor Kerr Scott directs that all banks, state and national, in the state, must be closed on Friday, December 26, under the banking laws of North Carolina.

The holiday was designated by the governor upon request by representatives of banking interests of the state.

## Witness Gives Hoke Deputy Bad Name In Court

From The Greensboro Daily News Greensboro, Dec. 6—A Hoke County deputy sheriff was accused of being in league with bootleggers by government agents testifying yesterday in Middle District Court here.

One witness termed the character of J. Crawford Wright as "very bad" and added that the officer had a reputation for protecting Hoke County bootleggers. Another witness said narcotics agents had received complaints against the deputy.

**Touched Off By Letter** The testimony was touched off by a letter from Wright vouching for the character of two Raeford men on trial for failing to possess federal stamps on whiskey they had sold.

In defending Brantley Allen and Daniel A. Peterson on the charge, Attorney Herbert Seawell, Jr., of Carthage, was cross-examining John L. West, Fayetteville ATTD agent.

Producing the deputy's letter, Seawell asked, "Do you know Mr. Wright?"

"Yes," West replied. "He is a man of high character." Seawell continued.

**Bombshell Reply** West's reply to the routine question was like a bombshell, "No sir, he is not," the ATTD man answered.

Taken aback, Seawell pressed, "You testify that Mr. J. Crawford Wright, who has been the chief deputy in Hoke County for 20 years, has a bad reputation."

"He does," West replied.

Seawell dropped the line of questioning, but Judge Johnson J. Hayes recalled West and another ATTD agent, Boyd L. Tickin, before giving Allen a year and a day suspended sentence and placing Peterson on probation, for two years.

It was Tickin who said Wright's character was "very bad."

"I wish you would elaborate," T. C. Bethea, assistant district attorney, stated.

"I've heard through some very reliable officers that he protects bootlegging in Hoke County, that he has run stills himself, a big steam still that was cut up there a few months ago, and I heard that he had half ownership in a big still."

**Never Saw Wright** Under cross-examination, Tickin admitted that he had never seen Wright and that he was repeating what he had been told.

In calling West back to the stand Judge Hayes remarked, "You said that the officer's character was bad. Do you desire to make any explanation in what respect it was bad?"

West's reply was: "Yes, I would. I would also like to point out that I answered that question as a result of a question by Mr. Seawell. I did not intend to bring it out in court. Mr. Seawell asked if he had a good reputation and I could not answer yes. I've known Mr. Wright for 12 years and known him personally for the past three or four years. Crawford has gained the reputation of covering up for bootleggers and as a matter of fact for both of these defendants. When I was with the Bureau of Narcotics, we received several letters concerning Crawford's drinking and use of narcotics."

**Attorney Shocked** At this point, Seawell interrupted. "Whenever a man has been prosecuting people for 20 years and a federal officer comes and says he is a man of bad character, it shocks my sensibilities." Judge Hayes answered, "I just wanted to find what was the occasion for this."

Earlier in the trial, West had testified that "numerous letters" had been received concerning the alleged liquor sales of Allen and his employee, Peterson. Allen is proprietor of the Allen Truck Terminal.

"The majority of these letters (Continued on Page 10)

## Credit Association Holds Annual Meet

The annual meeting of the Laurinburg Production Credit Association was held here yesterday and was attended by about 160 persons. The meeting was held in the courthouse and was a short and informative one.

N. H. G. Balfour, president of the association, gave a report and Reid Childress gave a report on the sale of stock.

H. L. Morgan made a short talk on the operations of the Credit Association and stated that the organization had loaned approximately \$10,000,000 since it had been organized 19 years ago.

Members of the board of directors are N. H. G. Balfour, pres.; F. C. McCormick, vice-president; Ed Wooley, Reid Childress and Arch McEachern, directors and H. L. Morgan, Secretary.

## Two Killed, Two Injured In Wreck

Two Negroes died and two more were carried to the hospital as a result of an automobile wreck early Monday morning on the Fayetteville highway, three miles within the county line.

Elder McRae died within a few minutes after the car in which he was riding swerved off the road and glanced off a pine tree. His small daughter, Eunice, died in a Fayetteville hospital Monday night from a severe head injury received. His wife, Mallie Mae, who was driving, and another passenger of the auto, Connie Maynor, were carried to the hospital and at last reports were still in serious condition.

The accident, which was investigated by State Highway Patrolman W. T. Herbin, was said to have been caused when a tire blew out and due to the speed of the car it went out of control.

The McRae's address was listed as Route 3, Fayetteville while Maynor's address is Raeford, Route 1. These 2 deaths bring the number of highway fatalities to eight for the year in Hoke County.

## Morrison Backed For Postmaster Job

The Hoke Democratic Executive Committee met last week for the purpose of recommending someone to fill the vacancy as Raeford postmaster caused by the recent death of Lacy Clark. The committee voted to recommend Charles E. Morrison to Congressman C. B. Deane for temporary appointment.

Up to this time no action has been taken by the post office department and Miss Lona Graham is still in charge of the post office, although Morrison's appointment as acting postmaster is expected shortly.

The committee also endorsed Forrest Lockey of Aberdeen for membership on the State Highway Commission from the Sixth Division.

## Milton Mann Initiated Into Phi Beta Kappa

Milton Bernard Mann of Raeford was one of 38 students at the University of North Carolina who were initiated into Phi Beta Kappa, honorary scholastic fraternity, at ceremonies in the Dialectic Senate hall at Chapel Hill last week. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Israel Mann of Raeford, and is a student in the medical school at the university. He completed the regular course for his bachelor of science degree last year, his third.

Undergraduate membership in Phi Beta Kappa is limited to students attaining an academic average of at least 92.5 in all their courses.

## CHAMBER MEET TONIGHT

The annual meeting of the members of the Raeford Chamber of Commerce will be held in the courthouse at 8:00 o'clock tonight. New directors will be elected and several matters of importance to the community will be discussed.

## Congressman Says Army Does Want Bragg-Mackall Corridor

### New Judge Has Full Day Tuesday

Judge T. O. Moses was sworn in Tuesday morning as judge of Hoke County recorder's court and went to work on a docket that kept him on the job until six that night.

R. E. Hilton and F. A. Yount, white men of Thomasville, were charged with hunting at night and killing a doe. They were found not guilty.

In a case that took most of the afternoon to hear, Archie Thomas Ferguson, white, was found guilty of non support. Judgment was postponed one week.

Luther E. Brock, white, offered no defense on a charge of driving drunk. He was sentenced to four months on the roads, suspended on payment of \$100 and the costs.

Edwin McPhatter, colored, got 60 days suspended on payment of \$25 and costs for carrying a concealed weapon.

Bud Jones, colored, got 30 days suspended on payment of \$10 and costs for disorderly conduct.

The State dropped its charge of having no driver's license against Leslie Lee McMillan. Delous Adon Graham, colored, got 30 days suspended on payment of \$10 and the costs and C. D. Kuzendorfer, white, forfeited a \$50 bond, both for the same offense.

For careless and reckless driving King Blue, colored, got 30 days suspended on payment of \$10 and costs; Levont Mack, colored, 60 days suspended on payment of \$25 and costs; John Wesley Oxendine, Indian, four to six months suspended on payment of \$100 and costs; James T. Barefoot, white, 60 days suspended on payment of \$25 and costs.

For being drunk and disorderly Edmund Johnson, colored, paid costs and Saul Dupree, colored, paid \$10 and costs. Each had a 30-day sentence suspended.

For having improper brakes John Archie McNeill and Leander Blackman, both colored, each paid \$10 and costs. For having several things wrong with his car Clyde Thomas, colored, got 30 days suspended on payment of \$20 and costs. Loffie Hardy, colored man charged with having no driver's license and improper brakes, failed to appear and capias was issued.

### BONUS DAY WINNERS

Mrs. M. L. Maxwell of Route 1 and R. F. Clark were the winners of the Bonus Day money last Saturday and they each won \$20, as a 20% token was drawn by Mr. Clark.

It was wrongly reported last week that Mrs. Ruby Conoly was one of the winners when in reality it was Mrs. Ruby Clark.

### M. Y. F. PAGEANT SUNDAY

The Intermediate Methodist Youth Fellowship will present a Christmas pageant, "The Day-Spring From on High," Sunday night, December 14, at 7:30 in the Methodist Church basement. The group will be assisted by the choirs of the church.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

### PRESBYTERIAN PAGEANT

The nativity pageant, "There Was One Who Gave a Lamb", will be given at the Presbyterian Church Sunday night at 7:30. The Carol, Chapel, Boys, and Pioneer choirs will participate in this program, which is being directed by Miss Martha Davenport. Mrs. Fred Culbreth and the Women of the Church are assisting with the direction, and Mrs. A. K. Stevens, Jr., accompanying at the organ. The "Joy Gift Offering" for retired ministers will be taken. The public is cordially invited.

### Gordon Gray Will Address Church Men



PRESIDENT GORDON GRAY

Gordon Gray, president of the Consolidated University of North Carolina, will be the speaker at the annual joint meeting and supper of the men's clubs of the Raeford, Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian churches, which will be held at the Methodist church at seven o'clock next Tuesday night.

The Presbyterian men are to be hosts at the meeting and are furnishing the program as well as the supper, as the clubs take turn doing this at their annual joint meetings. The meeting is being held at the Methodist church due to the better facilities there for handling the large group of men expected to attend.

Mr. Gray is former publisher of the Winston-Salem Sentinel and Journal, and is a former Secretary of the Army. This will be his first public appearance here.

## County Board Gives O. K. To 15-A Alternate

The Hoke County board of commissioners held a special session Monday to meet with representatives of the State Highway commission about a proposed "connecting county road" to make it easier for heavy traffic on U. S. Highway 15-A to get through Raeford.

Before meeting with the highway men the board voted to raise the salaries of the judge and solicitor of the Recorder's court from \$75 to \$100 per month. T. O. Moses, who was sworn in as judge and held his first court on Tuesday, appeared briefly before the board. The board also set aside an office in the courthouse for the use of judges of the recorder's and superior court, the key to be kept by the clerk.

After viewing the map and hearing it explained by the highway men, certain changes were made and the board voted unanimously to approve the construction of the road, together with an overpass over the A & R railroad and State Highway 211 in the west edge of Raeford. Town of Raeford mayor and commissioners were invited to the meeting to hear the discussion and make any comments they desired before the county board took action, but only A. V. Sanders and Marion Gatlin were able to attend.

The route of the proposed road changes starts where the "211 cutoff" now leaves 15-A about four miles east of Raeford. The highway there will be straightened into the cutoff. From there it will follow the cutoff to the Jess Dunlap corner at the Raeford-Vass road north of town. The new route will leave the cutoff a few feet west of this corner and will curve just east of Arch Sanders sawdust pile, crossing 211 and the A & R just a few feet from where they cross each other near the Raeford

### Engineers Also Expect To Survey Land North And East Of Raeford, U. S. 15-A

Congressman C. B. Deane informed The News-Journal and the Hoke County commissioners last week that the Army does have money to buy more land, that they are making surveys preparatory to buying more land and that they want to own a corridor between Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall. The exact land they want and whether or not they will get what they want will not be finally determined until after the surveys are completed and other steps are taken in Washington. His letter follows, in part.

"During the last session of Congress, an appropriation of \$49,000,000 was authorized to be used at Fort Bragg in connection with Maintenance, operation facilities, housing, training facilities and land acquisition. Under the same Congressional act, various army posts and camps throughout the continental United States were included in the same program.

"The Defense Establishment under Congressional Directive is now making surveys throughout the country adjoining various army posts that are involved. The surveys adjoining Fort Bragg are under the direction of the U. S. Corps of Engineers out of the Savannah District office.

"In my contact with the Defense Establishment, I was advised that it was the objective of the Army Department to establish a corridor between Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall in order to connect up these two reservations for the additional training and maneuvering facilities.

"After these surveys have been reduced to the blue print stage, they will be submitted to the Army Department, who will either approve or disapprove. If the Army Department approves of the acquisition of land in this corridor, the Army must submit its recommendation to the House and Senate Armed Services Committees and these committees, without any further action of Congress, will make recommendation to the Defense Establishment as to whether the Army Department would purchase the property out of the above described appropriation.

"I have requested the officials of the Army Department to advise with County officials who are involved in this program to the end that the rights of all citizens be protected and safe guarded.

"So far as I have been able to determine, the land within this corridor is located in Hoke, Scotland and Richmond Counties."

Engineers from the Savannah District Engineer office are now working in Cumberland County and expect to start working in this county within the next 60 days. When the Army will take land it decides to take is not exactly known, but engineers are leaving the general impression that they expect to be working on the project for from one to three years.

Land the engineers expect to survey as under consideration for Army acquisition includes that in Cumberland County west of the A & R railroad and the road from 15-A beyond the fish hatchery to Fort Bragg and north of Highway 15-A to the Hoke County line; north of a line west along 15-A to the N. C. 211 cutoff about four miles from Raeford; thence along this cutoff to N. C. 211, with churches, schools and populated sections such as the colored residential section north of Raeford being eliminated; thence along the road known as "Turnpike road" generally southwest to the Camp Mackall boundary. On the west side property expected to be surveyed for consideration does not include the State Sanatorium at McCain but generally is that land south of a line from the Fort

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