

*Addenda - -*  
By the Editor

I don't seem to have been around here much in the past week. . . not enough to write a very local column. If it does turn out to be that, it will be mostly about what has been done here and elsewhere in the effort to save Hoke County from the loss of land to the Army. That's about all a lot of people around here, myself included, have had time to think about since Monday of last week, when we began work on the matter. Self preservation is truly the first law of nature, and that is why we have and expect to have a united country in fighting the taking of this land. The effect would be bad on the people losing their homes and farms, and on the county government, and on the remaining taxpayers of the county, but it would be mighty bad on the business future of our town, too.

Business in Raeford being the source of my living and being able to support my family, I think it only natural that that should be what is foremost in my mind. Regardless of why we are in it however, we are in it, and all in it, and we must all do any and everything we can, at least until we are thoroughly and completely convinced that the land is really vital to our national defense effort. Short of being convinced of this, we must fight to the bitter end, and we must WIN.

Harry Greene and I went to New York last Thursday to talk with General Kenneth Royall, we turned out to be far from the city slickers we both thought we were. Our determination and intense interest, however, made us talk well enough to get him interested in the county's case, and to take it, and that is what we went for.

What with leaving here in time to leave Raleigh at 7:30 that morning, and seeing the General most of the afternoon, it was about six o'clock before we got anything to eat. Not being city slickers, as I said before, we were pretty well whipped with the day's activities by this time, so seven o'clock found us both in bed. This I never intended to do on the one night in several years I have been to New York, as much as there is to see and do there. I guess the hotel people wondered why we were up, shaved and dressed, loafing around the lobby, before five o'clock. We were highly elated, though, with the fact that General Royall, one of the world's great lawyers, had accepted the case, and we couldn't wait to get back home to tell our people. He taking the case was the brightest ray of hope we had, and win or lose, I am satisfied that we couldn't have better representation in the matter. He is a great American, and we feel that unless the land is vital to the defense effort, he will in some way stop the Army from getting it. If it is vitally necessary, and they do take it, we know he will see that the government treats all concerned fairly, considering fully everything that is being taken.

Greene and I are now on the way to Washington where we are to go with General Royall to see the people in the government who have final authority in the matter, and by the time this appears in print we should be back. It's possible, though, that details of our talks will not be printed, as Lawrence McNeill, who is directing the activities of this committee in close cooperation with the county commissioners and the town board, may not see fit to tell the whole story publicly until it gets along a little further. If no information is printed, you can rest assured that it's for the best interest of the county's case, in the judgment of the county board and the committee, and that all that can be done is being

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## Bucks Down Laurinburg 54 - 53 Friday

The Hoke High Bucks gained revenge for a loss earlier this season as they defeated the high flying Scotties from Laurinburg in a thriller, 54-53 last Friday night in the local gym.

The Bucks came from behind an eight point deficit at the half time and slowly chopped the Laurinburg lead down and tied the score with less than three minutes to play. Laurinburg had a seemingly safe lead of 30-22 at the halftime and looked as though they had the Bucks outclassed but lost several of their first string starters early in the second half to pave the way for their defeat.

Lawrence McNeill led the scoring for both teams as he dropped in a total of 21 points, thirteen of which came from the free throw line. The game was definitely won for the Bucks from the foul line as they made a total of 36 free throws and only 9 field goals. Other than McNeill's high mark the scoring for the rest of the team remained grouped with four members tying for second with six points.

Raeford tied the score with about three minutes to play as Bobby Williams hit on two free throws to let the Bucks go ahead by one point. After that it was only a matter of keeping ahead of the visitors as they became rattled and fouled excessively in the final minutes. Laurinburg was forced to play the final quarter with substitutes as all their regulars fouled out and lost the ball time and time again as the Bucks applied a full court press.

In the opening game the Hoke High Does made it two straight over the lassies from Laurinburg as they won easily 52-47. Claudine Hodgkin with 26 points led the way for both teams.

The Bucks are idle until January 2 when they journey to Rockingham to meet their third Class AA team. So far the boys and the girls teams have held their own against their larger opponents as they have played three games with Class AA schools, the boys have won two out of three and the girls have won all three of theirs. Season records so far for the Does is six straight and for the Bucks theirs is a 5-1 affair.

## Auto Burns Thursday South Of Raeford

The fire department answered a call last Thursday shortly after noon and found an auto burning near the city limits on 15-A south. In addition to the car burning it had also started a small grass fire.

The inside of the car was completely burned, but the motor and the tires were not damaged. Best reports have it that Louis Cunningham, colored, owner of the car, was being towed into Raeford when he discovered that the car was burning. After much difficulty he succeeded in stopping the other car and they turned the alarm in. No report as to the amount of the damage was available.

## 4-H Achievement Program Planned

Hoke County 4-H Club members will have their annual Achievement Day program on Tuesday evening, December 30, at 7:30 at the Hoke High School Gymnasium. A report of the year's work will be heard, medals and awards presented and recreation consisting of movies and square dancing will be participated in. All 4-H Club members and their parents are urged to be present at the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Moon and Sandra and Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Bethea and children of Dillon, S. C. are here for the holidays with Mrs. W. E. Blue.

## O, come, let us adore Him...



## County Plans Farm Census For Next Year

The purpose of the Farm Census is to obtain reliable information on land use, crop acreages, and selected livestock numbers. Information of this type is needed currently in order to plan and carry out the most practical agricultural programs for North Carolina. Changes in the production of crops brought about by the National Emergency must be based on current and reliable information in order to use our farm resources efficiently and to protect the welfare of Tar Heel farmers.

Provisions for the North Carolina farm census was made by the North Carolina Legislature in the Act "Relating to Cooperation Between the State Department of Agriculture, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners of the various counties of the State in the taking of Farm Census Surveys." Last year all but three counties in the State participated in and completed a Farm Census of their county. The Farm Census Survey for Hoke County will start in January 1953.

Through the cooperation of the Hoke County Commissioners, the tax listers have been designated as the ones to assist with helping obtain the necessary information. This will require some time and effort on the part of tax listers and they will need the cooperation of every farmer and land owner in Hoke County. How reliable the Census will be, will depend upon the accuracy of the information given to the tax listers by the farmers.

The information given is strictly confidential and is not connected in any way with your personal and property taxes. Every farmer in Hoke County is being mailed a 1953 Farm Census Survey blank. This form has been prepared to help you make your report on land use and crops harvested during 1952. These same questions will make up the North Carolina 1953 Farm Census. The use of this form will permit you to study and answer

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## T. N. McKeithan Buried Last Thursday

Thomas N. McKeithan, 73, died at his home here in Raeford last Wednesday afternoon after an illness of about three months. Funeral services were conducted at the home Thursday afternoon.

He was the son of Daniel and Lydia Blue McKeithan and was born in what is now the Fort Bragg reservation. He spent several years as a young man in the Deep South in the turpentine business, later returning to Raeford where he had farming interests.

Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. W. B. Heyward and interment followed in the Raeford cemetery.

He is survived by four brothers, John A. McKeithan, M. L. McKeithan, Martin and Herbert, all of Raeford; four sisters, Miss Eliza McKeithan and Miss Mayme McKeithan of the home, Mrs. Christian Davis and Mrs. J. S. Poole of Raeford.

## Rockfish Club Has Its Christmas Party

Rockfish Home Demonstration Club had their annual Christmas party at the school cafeteria last Tuesday evening. There were 15 present and all brought a gift and a small amount of fruit, nuts or candy for refreshments.

After a Christmas song, Bible story by Mrs. S. N. McColl, and prayer by Mrs. Harold Tillman there was a short business session, to decide on some worthy project for the Club's Christmas activities. The decision was that each member help some needy person or persons during the holidays.

The group was then led in some very interesting games and contests by Mrs. Herman Koonce. A reading "Christmas Times" by R. T. Vann, a former president of Meredith College, was given by Mrs. Mary McInnis. The hostesses for the evening, Mrs. Hermon Koonce, Mrs. A. W. Wood, and Mrs. N. J. Ritter, served hot drinks and cookies. This was voted one of the best parties the club had ever had.

Mrs. Aganora Andrews left Tuesday for Florida where she will spend the next two weeks visiting relatives in Jacksonville and Miami.

## Take All Day In Court Tuesday

Due to the approaching holidays several cases were continued in recorder's court Tuesday morning and several more were tried and verdicts rendered. Due to an early press time this week the cases tried in the afternoon session will be included in next week's court news.

Bonnie Richardson, colored, in the first of two cases was found guilty of driving drunk and received a four month road sentence suspended upon a fine of \$100 and costs. In another case he pled guilty of careless and reckless driving and speeding and received a 60-day suspended sentence and a fine of \$50 and costs.

George Cunningham, white, received a 30-day suspended sentence and a fine of \$25 and costs for careless and reckless driving. James Anderson Haly and Walter Hubert Feit, both tourists, forfeited \$25 bonds for speeding.

Sam Spencer and Buddy Creek were charged with violating the liquor laws and the case was not prosecuted.

Diane Scott Kline, white soldier, paid \$10 and costs for speeding.

Burnice Faircloth, white, paid \$10 and costs for illegal possession of whiskey.

Boyd David Matthews, white, paid the costs for careless and reckless driving.

Napoleon Lilly, colored, was charged with violating the liquor laws. He received a 60-day suspended sentence and a fine of \$25 and costs.

Napoleon Lilly and Sam Brown, both colored, were found guilty of larceny of cotton. They each received a 30-day suspended sentence and a fine of \$10 and were ordered to settle the matter with the landlord.

## ATTEND CONFERENCE

Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Murray attended the Sixth Annual Public Relations Conference of the Medical Society of North Carolina in the Sir Walter Hotel, Raleigh, Wednesday, December 17.

## ARMY REPRESENTATIVE SAYS IT PLANS TO RESTUDY LAND ISSUE

### Conference Held In Washington Monday; Crowd Attends Meeting Here Saturday

A representative of the Army agreed at a conference in Washington Monday with Hoke County representatives that the Army would "restudy" its plan to take some 50,000 acres of land from the county to establish a corridor between Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall.

General Kenneth Royall, former Secretary of the Army who now practices law in New York and Washington, said in a statement released to North Carolina daily papers Monday that he, along with Paul Dickson and Harry Greene of Hoke County, had conferred that day with Thomas A. Young, special assistant to the secretary of the Army, and that "it was agreed that further investigation of certain features of the Army proposal would be restudied by the Army."

No further details were given by General Royall, who spoke to the press for the Hoke delegation, but he did point out that it was not the desire of Hoke County citizens to in any way impede the national defense effort.

A conference had been arranged for Monday afternoon with Army Undersecretary Earl Johnson, but this was cancelled after the conference with Young.

Contrary to the impression left by some daily papers of the State, no comment in any form was made to any reporter by Dickson and Greene while they were in Washington representing the county, as it was agreed with General Royall that he, as counsel, would do all the talking to the press.

**Crowd Attends Meeting**  
Over 1000 persons attended the mass meeting, braving a pouring rain to come to the courthouse last Saturday night to meet with the county commissioners and members of the county committee working on the matter, and to hear just how things stood at that time.

The meeting was opened by Fulford McMillan, chairman of the Hoke County board of commissioners, who explained the purpose of the meeting and the vital importance of the matter to every person in the county, and to the county government as well. McMillan then recognized Lawrence McNeill, chairman of the committee. McNeill explained the activities of the committee in the short week since it began work with the county board.

Paul Dickson then told of the meeting of the committee with Congressman C. B. Deane in Rockingham on Tuesday, and of Mr. Deane's meeting with Army Undersecretary Earl Johnson Monday. He outlined on a map the territory the Army was considering, and explained the hard work done by the congressman in getting full details on the matter and in finding out the procedure the Army would follow if it gets the land.

N. H. G. Balfour then related

## Local Mills Observe Christmas Holidays

Both Para Thread and Robbins Mills will observe the holidays by closing their plants during the Christmas season.

Robbins closed down last Friday night at midnight and will not reopen until Sunday, the 28th, at 12:00 midnight. Para Thread shut down Tuesday night at 12:00 and will not reopen until Monday morning.

John Lang, secretary to Congressman C. B. Deane, dropped in the office Tuesday to wish all a Merry Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Carney and Lucy Ann of Wilmington will arrive Friday to spend the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Lester.

to the meeting details of a trip he, McNeill and C. L. Thomas made to Fort Bragg on Friday. He said that they conferred there with Major General Thomas F. Hickey, post commander, and the taking of the property to better enable him to carry out the Army's training program at Fort Bragg with the troops under his command. Balfour said that General Hickey was most courteous to the delegation, but that he simply was working toward a different objective and held a totally different view of the matter from that held by citizens of this county.

Harry Greene then told the crowd about the trip he and Dickson made to New York last week for the initial conference with General Royall, last Secretary of War and now a New York and Washington attorney. He told of telling General Royall of the patriotism of the people of Hoke County and of their desire not to obstruct the defense effort out to hold onto Hoke land unless this really would impede the defense effort. He related General Royall's favorable reaction after hearing the facts and said that he had agreed to help the county in the matter. He also said that appointments had been made with Thomas A. Young, special assistant to the secretary of the army, and with Undersecretary of the Army Earl Johnson for Monday in Washington.

Robert Gatlin, member of the committee and chairman of the county school board, then explained the effect of the loss of the land on the school system of the county. He further urged people in the area under consideration to stick together in the matter and not to begin individually "giving up" the case as hopeless. Under any circumstances he said, they would fare better by acting in a unified way.

J. M. Williams, Raleigh certified public accountant who has audited the books of Hoke County for a quarter of a century, then spoke briefly to the group on the financial effect the loss of the land would have. He also mentioned the fact that financial contributions would have to be made by citizens if the movement to save the land was to be successful.

McNeill closed the meeting by answering questions from the audience, and by getting residents of the affected areas to meet and name several of their number to committees to work with the county committee.

## Bonus Winners Get \$20 Each Saturday

Mrs. Roy Cottingham and Mrs. D. P. McDiarmid each received a \$20 Christmas present last Saturday as their names were the ones that were called out at the Bonus Day Drawing. Mrs. Cottingham was not present and Mrs. McDiarmid's name was drawn and she then drew a 20% token giving each one \$20.

The drawing will be held next Saturday afternoon as usual at 2:30 on Main street.

## LIBRARY HOLIDAYS

The Hoke County Public Library will observe a holiday schedule this week as they will close Wednesday through Saturday, December 24-27. They will reopen Monday, the 29th, and observe their regular hours.