



The News-Journal



The Hoke County News

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RAEFORD, N. C.

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Addenda

By the Editor

Well, John McGoogan and N. H. G. Balfour are getting set to leave for Boston Saturday where the National Association of County Officials will have its annual convention from Sunday to Wednesday. They will be joined in Rocky Mount for the trip by Henry Vaughn, executive secretary of the N. C. association of commissioners and accountants. Balfour will appear on the program at the convention, and will make an address on the attempt the Army is making to annex 52,000 acres of Hoke and Cumberland Counties to the Fort Bragg reservation, and the effect this annexation would have on the people of this county, the county as a governmental unit, the Town of Raeford, and the State of North Carolina. The national association has shown considerable interest in the problem, and has already rendered valuable assistance to the committee fighting the annexation. The program committee asked that a representative of the county present the matter to the 1000 delegates at the convention. Balfour got his practice before the State Association in Asheville last month, and he is now ready to go on the national level . . . and don't think he can't do it right.

Reports persist that Fayetteville businessmen are increasing their activity to get this land added to Fort Bragg, and they must be true. Anything any of us can do to slow these people down, or to show them what we face, will be an effort well spent in our cause. I believe.

The weather also persists . . . I believe Tuesday night was the hottest night of the season. As many people remark, you can stand the days, as long as you can rest comfortably at night. Well, you couldn't do that Tuesday night. Along the line of weather, I saw a bit of doggerel the other day that might apply: Then there was this young thing: She wore her stockings inside out All through the summer heat, She said it always cooled her off To turn the hose upon her foot.

Spike Morris was showing a picture around town this week of a big fish that didn't get away. The fish was a jewfish weighing 369 pounds, and was caught by Spike's son Jerry, who is in the Navy and stationed on Kwajalein Island. A 3 1/2-foot shark was used for bait. The fish was seven feet long. According to Webster, the jewfish is a member of the group-family and frequents warm waters, the largest being found in the South Pacific, where they attain a length up to 12 feet. It says they are voracious but somewhat sluggish, and are highly prized by anglers. Believe if I caught one like that I'd quit fishing and just spend the rest of my time telling about that one.

The board of trustees of the Hoke County public library is up against a real problem, and it looks as if some drastic action is going to be needed to solve it. The problem is overdue books, and there are over 100 out. At its meeting Friday the board decided to take some action to get them back, and to get lost books paid for. The library is for everybody, and people who get books out and keep them hurt everyone who uses it. The books are county property secured at great expense, and it would seem that people with enough sense to read would have enough pride in the library as a public facility to return them. If it's you I'm talking to, how about taking that book back?

Roland Covington spent Monday in Charlotte and Huntersville. Mrs. Hurd Bradford and Elizabeth came home with him for the week.

Mrs. H. S. Willis Dies Thursday P. M.; Funeral Held Sunday

Mrs. Jeanette Pearce Willis, 62, wife of Dr. H. Stuart Willis, superintendent of the State's tuberculosis sanatoria, died at Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill last Thursday night. Mrs. Willis had been ill since she underwent an operation in February, and she had been near death several times in that period.

She was retiring president of the Alumnae Association of Greensboro College, and was chairman of the Conservation Division of the State Federation of Women's Clubs.

Born May 26, 1891, she spent her early life in her home town of Southport, and was graduated from Greensboro College in 1915.

She spent 17 years in Michigan where Dr. Willis was associated with the Detroit Department of Health, moving to McCain in 1947 when Dr. Willis came to head North Carolina's Tuberculosis institutions.

Funeral service was conducted in the Raeford Presbyterian Church at two o'clock Sunday afternoon by the pastor, the Rev. W. B. Heyward, assisted by the Rev. C. P. Womack, chaplain at the Sanatorium. Burial followed in Southport.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Willis is survived by two sons, Dr. H. S. Kendall Willis of the Air Force at Pope Air Force Base, and David Willis of Chapel Hill; and two grandchildren.

FARM ITEMS

County Agent

Boll weevils are still present in large numbers in untreated Hoke County cotton fields. In fields where a treating program has been followed, the amount of weevil damage has been greatly reduced.

Demonstration plots on three different farms that were checked on Monday, July 6, gave the following results: average punctures on treated fields were 10.05 per cent and on untreated fields it was 47.5 per cent.

Boll worms and red spiders were also found in the county. Hoke County farmers are advised to continue to check square damage and continue treating their fields as long as the damage remains high.

Reports have reached the County Agent's office of watermelons being damaged by Downy Mildew. Farmers are advised to watch for this on their crop and to dust with Copper Sulfate if it appears. If more information is needed on Downy Mildew on cantaloupes and watermelons, check by the County Agent's office.

Border Belt Tobacco Markets Open Aug. 3

Opening dates for five markets which auction bright leaf tobacco were set in Raleigh last week by the board of governors of the Bright Belt Warehouse Association.

By a vote of 19 to 6, the board adopted the belt opening dates for the five flue-cured states — North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Virginia, which comprise the association's membership. The dates are as follows:

Georgia - Florida, Thursday, July 6; North and South Carolina, Border Belt, Monday, August 3; Eastern, Thursday, August 20; Middle Belt, Tuesday, September 1; Old Belt, Monday, September 14.

The six votes against the opening dates adopted were centered in the Border Belt area. It is understood that most of the opposition was due to the fact that the Georgia-Florida openings are "so much earlier than last season. The Georgia-Florida market opened on July 21 last year. The season will open with daily sales times set at five and one-half.

Recorder Hears Usual Cases In Court Tuesday

About 20 cases, all misdemeanors and none of an unusual nature were disposed of in Hoke County recorder's court before Judge T. O. Moses Tuesday. Largest number of offenders were speeders, with a variety of other charges also being heard.

Speeders leaving \$25 bonds were J. A. Jessup, W. S. Taylor, A. R. Phelps, W. C. Newsom, R. E. Strassborough, C. E. Lutz, and Weston Earl Wade, all white. Others were M. J. Sullivan, white, called and failed, capias to issue; David K. Rice, white, costs; Alexander Lee, white, \$20 and costs.

L. C. Cunningham, colored, for passing on a hill and careless and reckless driving got 60 days to be suspended on payment of \$25 and costs. For speeding he got 30 days suspended on payment of costs.

John Will Roper, colored, for having no driver's license, James Isaac Melton, white, for careless and reckless driving, and Loffie Harley, colored, for having no driver's license and improper brakes, each failed to appear for trial and capias was to issue for each.

Marvin Jones, colored, was found not guilty on a charge of removing land markers.

Alex Alvin Gray, white, was found guilty of careless and reckless driving. Sentence was 60 days to be suspended on payment of costs and \$212.27 damages.

Andrew Moore, colored, got 30 days suspended on payment of \$10 and costs for being drunk and disorderly.

Daniel Ellerbe, colored, got 60 days suspended on payment of \$25, court costs and a \$7.50 doctor bill for assault with deadly weapon.

State dropped its case in which Sim Peterkin, colored, was charged with disposing of mortgaged property. Matthew Peterkin, however, pled guilty to this offense and got 30 days to be suspended on payment of costs and \$36.84 to M. and J. Motor Co.

Noble Miller, colored, also had to pay costs for disposing of mortgaged property, and pay the same motor company \$32.80.

State dropped case in which Arthur McPhaul, colored, was charged with assaulting his wife when she did not appear for trial.

Moore To Retain Air Force School

Southern Pines, July 6—The U. S. Air Force Air-Ground Operations school, which leased a local resort hotel as an "interim" measure in June 1951, this week signed a lease for another 12 months, ending considerable suspense in these parts.

The announcement was made by Stitzer Hotel Co., owners of the Highland Pines Inn, and the school, of which Brig. Gen. W. M. Gross is commandant. The lease runs from July 1 of this year to June 30, 1954, with option of renewal for another 12 months.

Delay in the signing by the Air Force at Washington, up until the eve of the expiration of the old lease, had aroused apprehension that proposed large cuts in the Air Force budget might cause the discontinuance or removal of the installation.

The school grew from a small class started at Pope AFB in September, 1950, for intensive briefing of officers of all services in new methods of air-ground coordination as they were being tested and proved in Korea. It was placed under the Tactical Air Command, expanded and moved to Southern Pines in charge of the 4425th School Squadron. The squadron is composed of more than 100 men—officers serving as administrators and instructors, most of them with experience in Korea, and airmen who perform many necessary services in connection with the school.

TOWN BOARD DECIDES TO GET BACK TAXES

At their regular monthly meeting Monday night the Raeford board of commissioners took care of several items of routine business. They did decide to take action on collection of back taxes due the town, enough of which are on the books to considerably relieve the town's financial situation. They authorized the clerk to publish advertising to the effect that "we are going to collect all back taxes right away."

Tobacco Support Is Set At 47.9 Average

Washington, July 6—Price supports on the 1953 crop of flue-cured tobacco will average 47.9 cents a pound, the Department of Agriculture announced today. The 1952 average was 50.6 cents per pound.

While the 47.9 cents per pound average loan rate is the minimum level announced by the department prior to the planting season, agriculture officials said the rate remains at this figure since it is higher than 90 per cent of parity as of July 1, the beginning of the 1953-54 marketing year.

Loans covering the 1953 crop will be made available by the Commodity Credit Corporation in accordance with the general program provisions announced by the department on March 25, 1953. The loans will be made on the basis of official standard grades at a specified rate for each grade, with a five cents per pound differential between "tied" and "untied" tobacco. Loan rates by grades range down to \$14 per 100 pounds for certain "non-descript" grades.

As in past year, growers will offer their tobacco at auction markets in the usual manner. At the grower's option, loans will be made available to eligible producers through the Flue-Cured Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation during the 1953-54 marketing season. A negligible producer is one for whom a "within-quota" marketing card has been issued under applicable marketing quota regulations.

During the period 1946-52 approximately 1,800 million pounds of various kinds of tobacco, valued at \$750,000,000, have been pledged by growers as collateral for CCC non-resource loans.

As of June 1, 1953, CCC loan stocks of tobacco (1946 through 1952 crops) totaled about 497 million pounds, redried weight basis, with a value of about \$219,000,000. These loan stocks consisted of about 215,000,000 pounds of flue-cured, 180,000,000 pounds of burley, 86,000,000 pounds of fire-cured and dark air-cured and 15,000,000 pounds of other types.

Farmers Warned To Watch Boll Weevil

Raleigh—Tar Heel cotton growers were warned this week not to be caught off guard in their battle against boll weevils.

George Jones, in charge of the Extension Service's entomology division, said there may seem to be a lull in weevil activity at present. But, he added, the weevils are now between the two peaks of adults emerging from hibernation and first generation weevils emerging from cotton squares.

"The insects are primarily in the larval and pupal stages," he explained, "Adults will emerge from the squares soon."

Jones said: "The next two weeks are the most important to North Carolina cotton farmers. The weevils are now emerging from squares in the state's southern areas and will emerge in the northern areas within the next 10 days."

He advised growers to keep a constant check on their fields and if infestation reaches 10 per 100 squares punctured to begin control treatments immediately.

Mr. and Mrs. Marton Gatlin and children are leaving tomorrow to spend two weeks at the H. L. Gatlin, Jr. cottage at Topsail Beach.

Cotton Men In Washington On Acreage Fight



T. B. UPCHURCH, JR.

T. B. Upchurch, Jr. and Agriculture Commissioner L. Y. Balfour headed a delegation from the North Carolina Cotton Promotion Committee which is in Washington this week to testify before a sub-committee of the House Agriculture Committee to oppose a move by Western cotton interests to change the basis of cotton allotments for next year in a way which would cost North Carolina Cotton Growers 90,000 acres of cotton.

Upchurch heads the delegation as president of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association and is chairman of the executive committee of the State Cotton Committee. This committee is made up of 100 men from all phases of the cotton business in the State and includes farmers, ginners, merchants, crushers, warehousemen, representatives from the Farm Bureau, the Farm Grange, the Cooperative Association and the North Carolina Bankers' association.

The Western interests, who have already been heard by the house sub-committee, have attempted to have allotments for cotton planting based on a three-year average instead of five as the law now provides. In view of the tremendous acreage increase in western planting in the past three years, experts agree that this would cost Tar Heel cotton farms at least 90,000 acres of their crop when allotments become effective.

Upchurch said this week that the North Carolina delegation feels highly optimistic about their chances of keeping the allotment rules the same, or on the five-year basis.

Western states making the move are primarily California, Arizona, New Mexico and parts of Texas.

Others in the delegation include Myres Tilghman, Dunn, president of the Carolinas Ginners' Association; State Senator Robert Morgan of Shelby; and Horace Godfrey, Raleigh, representing the North Carolina office of the Production and Marketing Administration.

In addition to Upchurch, Hoke County men on the committee are C. L. Thomas representing the warehousemen, and L. M. Upchurch representing the seed crushers.

HARRIS INFANT DIES IN HOSPITAL THURSDAY

William Lee Harris, nine-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. William Henry Harris of Lumber Bridge, route one, died Thursday morning in a local hospital.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by one sister, Shirley Ann, of the home; and three grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Smith of Lumber Bridge, and Mrs. D. O. Harris of Raeford.

Funeral services were held at four p. m. Friday at Ephesus Baptist Church, conducted by Rev. T. J. Fulk and Rev. E. C. Taylor. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Aberdeen Teams Take 4 Little League Games During Week

Their one-week vacation from baseball seems to have been more beneficial for the Aberdeen Cubs and Cards of the Raeford-Aberdeen Little League than it was for the Raeford Tigers and Indians, as the Aberdeen clubs got a clean sweep this week, winning two games in Aberdeen and two in Raeford at the expense of the Raeford boys.

On Monday afternoon in Raeford the Aberdeen Cubs started off in the top of the first inning with four runs and were never headed, going on to beat the Raeford Indians, 6-2, behind the four-hit pitching of Ritter, Jerry Williams, pitching to the Indians, allowed only five hits.

In Aberdeen on Monday Jimmy Veasey allowed only one safe hit while his teammates got eight blows off Pruett, as the Aberdeen Cards trounced the Raeford Tigers, 9-2.

In Raeford Wednesday Marvin Lewis of the Aberdeen Cards held the Raeford Tigers hitless and scoreless until Bill Hodgkin of the Tigers got a single in the sixth with one out for the Tigers only hit of the game. The Cards won the game, 10-0. Hodgkin, for the Tigers, allowed seven hits and struck out 11, but a dozen errors by his teammates and the tight pitching of Lewis proved too much for the Tigers.

In Aberdeen Wednesday the Cubs again beat the Raeford Indians, this time by a 5-0 score.

Purpose Oct. 3 As Date For Bond Vote

Raleigh—The State Board of Education Thursday suggested Saturday, Oct. 3, as the date for a vote on a 50-million-dollar bond issue to provide state aid for school construction.

The board acted after Lt. Gov. Luther Hodges said Gov. Umstead feels the bond election should be held without waiting until after the U. S. Supreme Court has ruled on the legality of segregation in the schools.

Hodges said Umstead, who will set the date for the bond election, wanted the board's recommendations. Hodges emphasized that the board's action included no decision on when the funds actually would be spent.

Under the law authorizing the bond vote the governor would have to call the election some time this year or else call a special session of the Legislature to decide whether the bond vote should be delayed.

The U. S. Supreme Court has before it five cases involving the legality of school segregation. A decision had been expected this spring, but the court delayed its opinion and called for new arguments on the issue this fall.

Hodges said the court action "poses a problem for the governor and the board." He said the governor feels he would prefer to call the election before the new arguments are heard by the court. Hodges stated Umstead feels the election should be held between the middle of September and the end of the first week in October. The Supreme Court will not hear arguments in the cases again before Oct. 11.

Hodges said the governor also thinks the spending of the bulk of the bond money should be delayed until after the court decision.

Dr. Charles F. Carroll, state superintendent of public instruction, said he agrees with the governor. "We know we have the need, and that's the paramount issue," he stated.

Dr. Harold Trigg, the board's Negro member, said that whatever the court decides, "The school system with the best facilities for all its children will have less difficulty making adjustments."

A. S. Brower of Durham suggested the Oct. 3 date, and the board unanimously agreed.

Board Thinks Tax Rate Will Remain Same This Year

While they did not finally approve the county budget for fiscal 1954 for Hoke County, the commissioners at their regular monthly meeting Monday did approve the school budget and give tentative approval to a county budget of \$77,000. At another meeting to be held July 21 final consideration is to be given to the budget and the tax rate set. It was the opinion of the board that the rate would remain at \$1.10 per \$100 valuation as it was last year.

School budget as approved came to a total of \$115,061.08, and will necessitate 52 cents of the levy being school tax instead of 50 as last year. The board expects to absorb the two cents increase in the school levy to keep the total county rate the same. Details of the budget will be published after final approval, and the school budget will be published in its entirety.

The board approved the establishment of two roads as public roads for state maintenance. They are .8 mile from Robbins Heights to the swimming hole on Rockfish Creek near Raeford, which is to be relocated and straightened, and the road from the Wire road to Freddie's Lake in Stone-well township, a half-mile.

The secretary was instructed to write the district engineer and ask improvement to three county highways. These are from the Marshall Newton residence to the June Johnson farm, from the F. A. Monroe place to the old Lindsay farm and from the Lee Maultsby store west to the paved road.

A petition was received asking that the road from 15-A south to the Raeford-Rockfish road by the old clubhouse pond be paved. The board filed this request until such time as funds are available.

The county home and farm agent and the veterans' service officer were reelected.

W. S. Thomas Buried In Rockingham Wed.

Judge W. S. Thomas, former resident of Raeford and brother of the late J. C. Thomas of Raeford, died in a Rockingham hospital Tuesday and funeral services were held in Rockingham on Wednesday afternoon. He would have been 79 next January.

Judge Thomas filled many offices in Richmond County—register of deeds, representative in the General Assembly, clerk of the court, postmaster, and judge of the county court. He practiced law here for about a year some 40 or more years ago.

He was a Mason, a Methodist and a charter member of the Civilian Club. On June 25 the club honored him with a life membership.

He is survived by his wife, one daughter, Mrs. Daniel B. Miller of Baltimore, Md., a granddaughter, and a sister, Miss Mary Thomas of Rockingham. Also surviving are three nephews, W. M. J. Benton, and Crawford L. Thomas of Raeford, and a niece Mrs. Ina T. Lentz of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Funeral service was held at the Rockingham Methodist Church at 4:00 o'clock Wednesday afternoon and burial was in Eastside cemetery.

PRESBYTERIANS HAVE EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR

Miss Betty Wardlaw began work as Director of Religious Education at the Raeford Presbyterian Church on July 1. She is a graduate of Belhaven College in Jackson, Mississippi and Assembly's Training School in Richmond, Va. She is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. O. W. Wardlaw of Magnolia, Miss.

Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Davis spent several days last week at Myrtle Beach.