



The News-Journal



The Hoke County News

The Hoke County Journal

VOLUME XLVIII; NUMBER 31

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1953

RAEFORD, N. C.

10c PER COPY

\$3.00 PER YEAR

Addenda

By The Editor

Attendance figures given by K. A. MacDonald in his column this week are nothing less than shocking, and indicate that it's high time parents along with all other taxpayers took an interest in the situation and tried to do something about it. He said there were 6358 absences in the county schools during the third month, or an average of 317 per day. He also says that the third month is supposed to be one of the best. First, this could result in a loss of teachers and reduced educational standards in some schools if allowed to continue. Second, we're wasting our money in running the schools and paying the teachers if the children aren't there. It takes 10 teachers to teach 317 pupils, so we wasted that much teacher time, or our money, every day during the third month. It doesn't have to be that way, and Rockfish is a case to prove it. That community has had to fight for its teachers and intends to keep them. Attendance there was 96.3 for the third month and has been excellent all year. If they can keep the pupils there the others can, and it's in the interest of us all to see that it's done. If we'll just keep each absence in mind and try to avoid it, a lot will be accomplished.

Letter received last week by the sheriff seems interesting enough to print, so here goes.

Dear Sheriff:

I know you are busy, but I wish you would have some of your brave boys casually to investigate the stray dog situation out here in this neighborhood. I am heartily in favor of Romance (with a big R) for man and beast; but when stray dogs congregate and make nights hideous and wakeful for peaceable citizens, yapping at cows in the field, and giving some evidence that they are mad, at least temporarily, I'm ready to grab my shotgun, and have done so nightly. The disturbance could be quelled if authorities followed the time-honored French police maxim—"Cherchez la femme"—locate the female and make the owner keep her confined. I have not yet found her, but a number of dog owners hereabouts let their dogs run everywhere.

"I hope something can be done, for this is not one little incident, but something occurring at too frequent intervals.

"Anyway, Goodwill for the holidays and after.

Arnold A. McKay
Raeford, Route 2"

Sheriff Hodgkin didn't say what steps he took, but did report that the disturbance had been quelled.

The death of former Sheriff Edgar Hall last week marked the passing of the last of the full time county officials appointed by Governor Kitchen when this county was formed in the spring of 1911. John Hector Smith was register of deeds, W. B. McQueen was clerk of court and W. J. McCraney was treasurer. The first board of county commissioners consisted of J. W. Johnson, S. J. Cameron and J. A. McPhaul. Hugh Archie Cameron was deputy sheriff. The first board of education consisted of J. A. Hodgkin, still living at Antioch, N. A. McDonald and Neill McKinnon, and J. A. McGoogan, now county accountant, was superintendent of schools. Other part-time officials were County Physician J. W. Currie, County Physician Dr. G. W. Brown, County Coroner Dr. A. P. Dickson. Dr. Dickson was succeeded in 1912 by Duncan McDuffie as coroner. John Hector Smith resigned as register of deeds effective November 6, 1911, and was succeeded by John M. McNair. Thomas McBryde represented Hoke County in the General Assembly of 1912.

The courthouse was built in (Continued on back page)

Dates On Hunting Given By Warden

District Game Protector H. R. McLean this week called the attention of hunters to the fact that open season for some animals closes on January first and most of the others within the next few weeks. He urged hunters to pay attention to these dates and avoid the severe penalties for game law violations.

The deer and squirrel season ends on January 1, 1954.

The dove season which is now open will close on January 10.

The duck season will close on January 9.

The open season on quail, rabbit and turkey will close on January 30, and the season for hunting raccoon and opossum will close on February 15.

YOUR SCHOOL NEWS

By K. A. MacDonald

Total enrollment, membership, and percentage in attendance for all schools for the third month is as follows: Hoke High 281, 270, 92.1; Hoke High 8th grade 116, 107, 92.2; J. W. McLaughlin Elementary 680, 648, 92.1; Ashmont 141, 119, 91; Rockfish 124, 112, 90.3; Mildouson 97, 89, 93.1; Hoke County Indian 207, 207, 78.9.

Upchurch High 395, 387, 95.4; Upchurch Elementary 776, 773, 91.9; Bowmore 153, 141, 85.5; New Hope 71, 69, 96.9; Buffalo 85, 85, 77.4; Rockfish Colored 45, 44, 77.3; White Oak 92, 90, 91.3; Laurel Hill 172, 170, 96.7; Freedom 79, 76, 92.1; Frye's Mission 38, 38, 98; Friendship 49, 46, 92.9; Shady Grove 51, 51, 97; Burlington 368, 368, 95.6.

Frye's Mission led the county in percentage of attendance with 98%. They had only 15 absences, 10 of which were accounted for by sickness.

Rockfish led the white schools with a percentage of 96.3. They have had excellent attendance all year. Of course the Hoke County Indian School had no competition. Friendship was runner-up among the colored schools with 97.7%.

Despite this wonderful attendance in some of the schools there is a tragedy going on among us, for in all the schools in the county, there were during the third month a total of 6358 absences. The third month is supposed to be one of the best months for attendance. We do not expect too high a rate of attendance during the first two months on account of crop gathering. But the third, fourth, fifth and sixth months are supposed to be our best.

We beg of the parents to take note of this condition and do everything in their power to keep the children in school. We beg the teachers to do everything they can to get the children to come to school. Divide 6358 by the 20 days of schools and you get 317, the average number of pupils absent every day. If all these pupils were out of one school, ten teachers would sit there all day with not a soul in their classrooms. It's tragic.

Happy New Year.

PERSONALS

Dr. Horace Andrews of Chicago spent Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Andrews. He left on Sunday for Washington, D. C., where he is representing Swift & Co. at the annual meeting of the American Statistical Association and returned to Chicago on Wednesday to resume his duties at the Research Laboratories.

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Covington returned home from Huntersville after spending Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Hurd Bradford and family.

Mrs. Frank McLean spent Saturday at Barium Springs with her children.

Payroll Deductions For Social Security Increase Tomorrow

The increased social security tax rate will first be noticed in wages received by workers after the first of the year, according to a joint statement of Internal Revenue Service and Social Security Service officials. Employees in jobs covered by the law will have 2 percent instead of the present 1½ percent taken out of their pay up to earnings of \$3,600 a year.

The tax increase is in accordance with the 1950 amendments to the social security law, and was enacted by Congress toward meeting future obligations of the old-age and survivors insurance program.

The statement pointed out, however, that while the social security tax for the self-employed is scheduled to go from 2¼ to 3 percent beginning with 1954, the increase will not be noticed by most self-employed persons until they file their income tax return in 1955. This is because the increase applies to 1954 earnings.

Somewhat as a hopeful caution to the self-employed, the local offices emphasized the necessity for proper completion of self-employment returns to assure that correct social security credits are given. In this connection, two important suggestions were offered:

1. In cases involving multiple businesses, one or more of which is not subject to the self-employment tax, show on the self-employment return only that business which is covered by the law.

2. The self-employed individual must show his social security account number on his self-employment return every where it is called for.

Information about the self-employment provisions of the social security law, or about the social security tax increase, may be secured from the office of the Internal Revenue Service or the Social Security Administration.

1953 Cotton Acreage Allotments Explained

North Carolina's share of the national cotton acreage allotment for 1954 has been set at 528,632 acres.

W. C. Willford, Hoke County farm agent for the State College Extension Service, explains that the North Carolina allotment is based on acreage and production history of cotton in the state. The formula for dividing the national allotment among the various cotton-producing states was established by Congress in the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, and its amendments.

Cotton farmers in Hoke have already received their 1954 allotments.

The national cotton acreage allotment is based on the amount of land required to produce a "normal supply" of cotton, according to the county agent. In the case of the 1954 crop, the required production amounts to around 8.6 million bales. Congress stipulated, however, that the national marketing quota for 1954 should not be less than 10 million bales. At average yields, to produce a 1954 crop of 10 million bales would require 17,910,448 acres. North Carolina's share of this, using Congress' formula based on past production history, is 528,632 acres. This has resulted in many Tar Heel cotton farmers' allotment being cut 50 percent or more.

County acreage allotments have been divided among cotton farms. Individual farm allotments will serve as a basis for determining price support eligibility in 1954. The individual farm allotment is also the basis for the farm marketing quota.

Friends of Starr McMillan, Jr. of Wilmington will regret to learn that he is a patient at James Walker Hospital, where he is suffering from a re-attack following a tetanus inoculation.

Edgar Hall, 85, First Sheriff, Dies Wednesday



EDGAR HALL

Funeral Is Held Thursday

Edgar Hall, the first sheriff of this county and an official of the county for 39 years, died at his home here shortly after three o'clock last Wednesday afternoon, December 23, at the age of 85. He had been in declining health for some time and his condition had been worse since an attack of pneumonia several months ago. He was confined about 10 days in his final illness.

Born on a farm near Hope Mills on June 4, 1868, Mr. Hall was a son of the late Nathan and Josephine Fort Hall. The family later moved to the vicinity of Lumber Bridge where he attended school. In 1896 he settled at Dundarrach, at that time a part of Robeson County. There he entered the mercantile business in addition to farming, having founded the Dundarrach Trading Company. He was also for several years proprietor of a lumber yard and mill at Dundarrach.

When the movement for forming Hoke County began he was one of its early supporters. When the county was formed in 1911, Governor W. W. Kitchen named him sheriff of the new county. He retained this office for 18 years and later served as clerk of the superior court of the county for 12 years. Shortly after his appointment as sheriff he established his home in Raeford.

He was a member of the N. C. National Guard for several years, achieving the rank of captain. He was first lieutenant of Co. F, 2nd North Carolina Infantry, during the Spanish American war, and was captain of a company of the 2nd Infantry organized here later. This company went into service on the Mexican border in 1916.

He was an elder in the Raeford Presbyterian Church and was for many years teacher of the John W. McLaughlin Bible class. He was a Mason and held many high offices in this order. He was a district trustee and charter member of the Raeford Kiwanis club.

Mr. Hall was married twice. His first wife was the former Miss Ada McMillan. One son, Raymond L. Hall of Fayetteville, survives this marriage. His second wife, also deceased, having passed away two years ago, was the former Miss Katie McMillan of Robeson County. Surviving this union are three daughters, Miss Josephine Hall and Mrs. Archie M. Byrne of Raeford and Mrs. J. B. Eubanks of Wingate, and one granddaughter, Anne Murphy Byrne. Also surviving Mr. Hall is one sister, Mrs. Lawrence Currie of Shannon.

Funeral services were conducted at the Raeford Presbyterian Church at 3:00 o'clock Thursday afternoon by the pastor, the Rev. W. B. Heyward, and burial was in Raeford Cemetery. Pallbearers were E. B. Campbell, F. M. Culbreth, Robert Williams, Clarence Brown, D. H. Hodgkin and L. W. Stanton. Honorary pallbearers were elders and deacons of the church.

Banker To Explain Big Change Contest At Student Meeting

Students at Hoke County High School will hear an explanation next week of a Statewide oratorical contest offering in excess of \$6,000 in prize money for the winning students.

R. B. Lewis, Exec. Vice Pres. of The Bank of Raeford, will discuss "The Big Change" contest, sponsored by the North Carolina Bankers' Association, at the high school on next Wednesday, January 6.

State finals in the contest will be held in Raleigh on March 31. Prior to that time, eliminations will be held in three divisions, ten groups and every county of the State on successive Wednesdays.

The contest is designed to focus attention on the progress made in North Carolina during the past half-century, and to cause high school students to devote some thought as to how continued progress can be achieved in the coming years.

Several Schools Are Available To Farmers

W. C. Willford, county farm agent, this week invited the attention of farmers of the county to the fact that several schools on various matters of interest to them will take place in the next few weeks. The schools are listed below and complete information may be obtained on them at the county agent's office.

Jan. 5-7, Farm Income Tax Short Course at Asheville.

Jan. 6 and 7, Seedmen's Short Course, Charlotte.

Jan. 4-15, Market Milk Short Course, State College, Raleigh.

Jan. 12-14, Nurserymen's Short Course, State College.

Jan. 19-20, Pesticide School, State College.

Jan. 29, Annual meeting of N. C. Crop Improvement Association, State College.

Holiday guests of the Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Heyward were Mrs. Heyward's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Ramsaur, her grandmother, Mrs. I. T. Hamilton and her great-aunt, Miss Carrie Taylor, all of Lincolnton.

BOTH MEN INJURED IN WRECK LAST WEDNESDAY NIGHT DIE

Hoke High Teams Here Next Week

After resting since they took a doubleheader from 71st High School on the night of December 18, the Hoke High school boys and girls basketball teams will return to action on the home court next Tuesday night when they meet the teams from Wadesboro. They will also play home games on Friday night when the teams from Lumberton come here.

The Hoke girls team has a perfect record in five games so far this season, having defeated Laurinburg twice, Hamlet twice and Seventy-First one time.

The boys have a record of three victories and two defeats. They have beaten Hamlet two times and Seventy-First once, but lost both engagements to Laurinburg. Junior varsity games will start at 6:30 on both Tuesday and Friday night with the varsity girls games being set for 7:30 and being followed immediately by the varsity boys.

Local Man's Brother Buried In Lee County

Funeral services were held at the Buckhorn Methodist Church at Corinth, in Lee County, on Wednesday afternoon for James L. Stephens who died at his home there on Monday. He was 68 years of age and was a brother of C. L. Stephens of Raeford.

The service was conducted by the pastor, the Rev. S. C. Dobson, Jr., and burial was in the church cemetery. Mr. Stephens was a member of the board of stewards of the Buckhorn church and had been church school superintendent for a number of years.

He is survived by his wife; his step-mother, Mrs. A. J. Stephens of Raleigh; one daughter, three sons; a foster son; six sisters including Mrs. Cora Sessoms of Fayetteville; two brothers including C. L. Stephens of Raeford; and six grandchildren.

Traffic Death Toll Now 15

The number of deaths from automobile wrecks doubled that of any previous year in this county as Albert Rufus Sanders, 27-year-old Navy man, and James Sanders, 20-year-old lumber worker, both died from injuries they received in a wreck on the Turnpike about three miles west of Raeford on Wednesday night, December 23. Their deaths brought the total number of deaths due to wrecks in the county to 18 for the year, as compared to the previous high of nine in 1952.

According to the official report prepared by State Highway Patrolman W. T. Herbin, who investigated the accident, the two men were in the front seat of a 1947 Chevrolet belonging to Alfred Chavis, Indian, who was in the back seat. According to Chavis, the only survivor, the patrolman said that James Sanders was driving the car west on the Turnpike road at about 9:30 a. m. when it left the road on a curve about a half-mile west of the old W. J. McDiarmid homeplace. Herbin said that the car went off on the right, then returned to the pavement turned over, which it did for a space of 120 feet.

Both James and Albert Sanders were thrown from the car and suffered head injuries which turned out to be fatal to both. Chavis stayed in the car until it came to rest, and was practically unhurt. The Sanders men were taken to Moore County Hospital shortly after 10:00 o'clock where Albert passed away at about 4:00 o'clock Thursday afternoon and where James died at about 8:00 o'clock Monday night.

Albert Sanders was a nephew of James Sanders, as Albert was the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Sanders and James was the younger half-brother of W. R. Sanders.

Double Funeral Wednesday

A double funeral service for Albert Rufus Sanders and James Sanders was held in the Raeford Methodist Church at 2:30 on Wednesday afternoon, and burial followed in the Raeford cemetery. The service was conducted by the Rev. J. Herbert Miller, pastor, assisted by the Rev. E. E. Miller of Autryville.

Albert Sanders, who was in the U. S. Navy, was the son of William R. and Annie Roberts Holt Sanders of Raeford. He is survived by his wife, the former Hazel Ruth Caddell of Raeford; three brothers, John Howard of Wisconsin, Paul Winfred of Fayetteville and Luke Sanders of Raeford; six sisters, Mrs. Bertha Faye Phillips of France, Mrs. Esther Kate Garvin of Seattle, Wash., Mrs. Maud Frank of Texas, Margaret Sanders, Mrs. Ginger Manness and Mrs. Frances Walters, all of Raeford.

James Sanders was the son of Archie Daniels Sanders and the late Marybelle Campbell Sanders. His survivors include, in addition to his father, six brothers, W. R. A. V. and D. C. Sanders, all of Raeford, J. L. Sanders of Newton, J. C. Sanders of Laurel Hill and K. D. Sanders of Greensboro; eight sisters, Mrs. L. J. Campbell, Mrs. W. C. Deaton and Mrs. James Thames, all of Raeford, Mrs. Flossie Furr of West End, Mrs. Scott Campbell of Graham, Mrs. George Walker of Newport News Va., Mrs. Margaret Keene of Fayetteville, and Mrs. Tom Campbell of Greensboro.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McPhaul had as their guests for the week end, Mrs. McPhaul's mother, Mrs. Eunice Rouse, and her sisters and brothers, Bruce, Anne, Gerald and Talmadge Rouse, all of La Grange and Mr. and Mrs. Vernard Stancil and daughters of Warsaw.

A
New Year's WISH

Health enough to make work a pleasure,
Wealth enough to support your needs,
Strength enough to battle with difficulties and overcome them;
Grace enough to confess your sins and forsake them,
Patience enough to toil until good is accomplished,
Charity enough to see some good in your neighbor,
Love enough to move you to be useful and helpful to others,
Faith enough to make real the things of God,
Hope enough to remove all anxious fears concerning the future.

—Goethe