



The News-Journal

The Hoke County News

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RAEFORD, N. C.

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Addenda - -

By The Editor

One way in which Hoke County is not worse than the others in this section of the State was pointed out by the Fayetteville Observer in an editorial recently which was called to my attention by Mrs. Ina P. Bethune, Hoke County librarian. The writer was deploring the fact that Cumberland County ranked 23rd among counties in the State in number of books circulated each year. He said that Cumberland County had less than two books circulated per person per year, and that 52 other counties had better records.

Also pointed out was the fact that other neighboring counties were even worse than Cumberland. Harnett, with less than one volume per person, and Robeson, with one volume to every four persons, and Sampson, with less than one volume per person, were named.

Bladen, with better than six books per year, and Hoke with better than three books per person per year, were pointed to as having the best reading records in this part of the State.

Idly, you might wonder what difference it makes whether people read or not, or how much they read. Well, it means a better market for stoves and refrigerators, cars and tractors, clothing and services - everything for sale on this Main Street - that's just what it means. The more people know about, the more they are going to want.

I was reading somewhere just the other day about the fellow with an industrial project in some backward area of this continent who employed native labor. After a few weeks they made enough to buy all they wanted, and quit, and production stopped. This fellow didn't know what to do, when the people didn't want his money to work for him. Then he ordered each family a catalog from a big mail order house, and in a short time they were all back at work.

Well, that's education, in a basic sort of way, and the more of it people get the greater is the same effect. That might be one reason the United States Chamber of Commerce puts a great part of its annual budget into study and support of better educational facilities in this country. It's just good business, that's all, aside from any consideration of giving your fellow man a chance.

After reading all the law that applies to the question of raising the salary of the county recorder as assembled for the commissioners by County Attorney A. D. Gore I was confused as to what the board could legally do, too, and I don't find it hard to understand why they left it for the Legislature to clarify with a bill just for this county. I do believe that if the board wanted to raise his pay they could do it and get away with it just as well as they get away with not publishing a statement of the county's financial condition at the end of each fiscal year, as the law requires them to do.

No doubt the county grand jury would choose not to take more public action on another case of disregard for law than they did for this last, which was pointed out for them in black and white in this column, with the law quoted. If the grand jury took action it was not in their report, nor has it caused the statement in question to be published.

Well, it's your county and your tax money that you can't see a blished accounting of, just as it's mine. I'm getting a all right, I guess, so I suppose I should be able to stand it just as well as the rest can. You elect the people that will not

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Criminal, Civil Cases Cause Court To Last Two Days

A total of 37 cases were on docket at Hoke County recorder's court this week, although only 15 of these were tried before Judge T. O. Moses. The other 22, all speeding charges, were cases of forfeited bonds. Court was held Tuesday and Wednesday, with extensive arguments in an assault case on Tuesday taking a large part of the day, and with a civil matter involving rates for picking cotton with sand in it being heard on Wednesday afternoon. Judge Moses was to write his judgment in the civil matter, which was appealed from the justice of the peace.

J. T. Farmer, colored, was charged with assault with a deadly weapon by cutting Cornell Ross. Farmer was found guilty and sentenced to 12 months on the roads, sentence to be suspended on payment of a total of \$215.50, including fine, costs, doctor, hospital, ambulance, and the like. He paid.

Colon Harris, colored, cut Kelly Stubbs, and was found guilty of assault with a deadly weapon inflicting painful injury. As the two had made up sentence was 90 days suspended on payment of \$25 and costs and \$85.50 for expenses incident to the cutting.

Mal Baker, colored, was found guilty of driving drunk. Sentence was 90 days in jail, to work under the sheriff, to be suspended on payment of \$100 and costs. He went to jail. For driving drunk and having no driver's license Thomas D. Walters, white, got three to four months suspended on payment of \$125 and costs. For driving drunk and speeding 70, Noman B. Cooley, white, got four months suspended on payment of \$115 and costs. For driving drunk James Lewis, white, got 90 days suspended on payment of \$100 and costs.

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Men's Meeting Well Attended, Enjoyed

Men of the Raeford Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian churches turned out in large numbers Tuesday night for their annual joint meeting and to enjoy a delicious turkey supper served by the ladies of the Baptist Church. The meeting was held in the fellowship room of the Presbyterian Church, with the Baptist as hosts.

A. W. Wood, Jr., president of the Baptist Men, presided, and recognized T. B. Lester, president of the Methodist men, and W. C. Phillips, president of the Presbyterian men. Speaker for the occasion was Dr. Marc H. Lovelace, professor of Archaeology at Southeastern Baptist Seminary at Wake Forest. He was well introduced by Dr. W. C. Strickland, professor of New Testament Interpretation at the seminary, who was supply pastor of the Baptist Church here last year.

Dr. Lovelace made a most inspiring talk full of interesting facts about the relation of archaeology, the excavation of past civilizations, to present-day religion. His remarks were convincing as well as interesting.

LICENSE HOURS 9 TO 4

Marvin Baumgartner, manager of the AAA branch office operated by the Chamber of Commerce here for the sale of State auto tags, asks for a correction of the statement last week that the office is to be open from 9 to 5 daily. The hours, he said, are from nine to four in this and most such offices, in order to allow time for preparing daily reports which must be sent to the State department of motor vehicles. Baumgartner again urged motorists to get their tags before the rush which is sure to come in late January, and mentioned that he is not allowed to take checks in payment for them.

District Supt. Dedicates Church In Bishop's Absence

The Rev. O. L. Hathaway, superintendent of the Fayetteville district, took the place of Bishop Paul N. Garber at the dedication of the Raeford Methodist Church and the parsonage here last Sunday when the bishop was unable to attend due to an attack of laryngitis. Mr. Hathaway's sermon of dedication at the morning worship service was to a church well filled with members, former members and friends.

Also present for the services were the Rev. P. O. Lee of Weldon and the Rev. E. C. Crawford of East Rockingham, both former ministers of the church here.

At the service of dedication the building was presented for dedication by R. B. Lewis, who was chairman of the finance committee for the building. The organ, paid for by the women of the church was presented for dedication by Miss Jessie Bright Ferguson, organist. The chimes were presented for dedication by C. L. Thomas. These were given to the church by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas in memory of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Thomas.

At the dedication service of the parsonage at 2:30 p. m. the building was presented for dedication by T. B. Upchurch for himself and brothers and sisters, who gave it in memory of their parents.

Mr. & Mrs. Davis Still In Hospital From Wreck Friday

John T. Davis and his wife, Mrs. Lessie Davis, are both still in a Fayetteville hospital where they have been since they were in a head-on collision on old Highway 15-A near Conolly's station at about 7:00 o'clock last Friday night. Mr. Davis suffered chest injuries, severe scalp lacerations, fractured ribs and compound fractured right knee. Although in serious condition, he has improved considerably in the past few days. Mrs. Davis suffered a fractured left knee and lacerations of the scalp and neck. She is also improving and is not in such a severe condition as her husband. Mrs. Lottie Stedman, who was admitted with leg and back injuries and lacerations, has been discharged from the hospital. Miss Lillian Davis and Marion Lee Wade, driver of the other car, were given first aid on Friday night and released.

According to Patrolman D. G. Surratt, investigating officer, the accident occurred when Wade, 17, drove his father's Chevrolet out into the highway in front of the car operated by Davis and crashed head-on. Wade has been charged with reckless driving. Damage to each car was estimated at \$500.

News-Journal To Be Early Next Week

In order to get better distribution before Christmas, The News-Journal will appear on Wednesday afternoon of next week, instead of the usual Thursday afternoon.

Correspondents and persons wishing items of any sort in the paper are urged to get them in not later than Tuesday. Advertisements must be in on Monday.

YATES LEAVES ROBBINS

M. D. Yates, who has been with Robbins' Mills since they came here six years ago, said this week he would be leaving his position as office manager at the mill here on January 1 to accept a position with the N. C. Employment Security Commission. He will work from the Raleigh office of the commission but will continue to reside in Raeford. Yates was for some years manager of Dundarrach Trading Company.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Greene spent last Friday in Raleigh.

County Board Meets, Tax Takers Named, Recorder Not Raised

The Hoke County board of commissioners held a continuation of its December 6 meeting at the courthouse on Monday night, December 13, with all members present and with Chairman J. Fulford McMillan presiding.

A. D. Gore was again employed as county attorney, as was Dr. R. L. Murray as county physician and G. B. Rowland as solicitor of the recorder's court.

Tax list takers for the townships of the county for 1955 were appointed as follows: Allendale, Willa McLaughlin; Antioch, Jean Hodgins; Blue Springs, C. J. McNeill; Little River, John Alex Smith; McLaughlin, Mrs. F. A. Monroe; Queshiffie, Mrs. W. L. McFadyen; Raeford, Alice Long; Stonewall, Carl McKenzie.

County Recorder's Court Judge T. O. Moses appeared before the board and petitioned it to raise his salary from the present \$1200 per year to \$2600 per year, citing salaries of judges in neighboring counties, the greatly increased work of the position in recent years, and the fact that a dollar is only worth some 40 percent of what it was 20 years ago as reasons justifying the increase. He also presented a petition signed by citizens of the county in which an increase commensurate with the duties was asked.

After considerable discussion of the matter and the reading of an interpretation of several laws bearing on it by County Attorney A. D. Gore, the board decided to defer action until a bill can be presented to the Legislature in January to clarify the law.

McNeill Farm In Last Week's Photo Is One Of Oldest

The home of Mrs. Hector McNeill seven miles south of Raeford on Highway 15-A, pictured in last week's paper, is one of the oldest in this section of the State, and its identity was quickly guessed by several readers. First to make correct identification was Mrs. Lucy Smith, followed by Mrs. Kate McPhaul, Oscar Scull, Isabel McFadyen, Helen Barrington, Mrs. Jim Warner, Mrs. Carl Morris, Mrs. Reid Childress and M. E. Walters.

The home is on a farm now consisting of three tracts containing 290 acres. It was settled by the Rev. Hector McNeill, who came from Scotland and built the home there around 1768 when he married Miss Mary Purcell. The McNeill family has been on the place since that time, and during the Civil War when Sherman came through this section his men made a bonfire of part of the old preacher's library. The remaining books are still in the home, along with many valuable items of antique furniture which have been in the same family for four generations.

Mrs. McNeill was Miss Doris Whyte Matheson, also of this county, before she was married to the late Mr. McNeill, who died October 6, 1953. Mr. McNeill was the son of Franklin McNeill and was born on the place. His brother, W. B. McNeill, lived there until his death, and Hector McNeill and his family moved there after their home, in the same section, burned. The family are members of Montpelier Presbyterian Church in Wagram.

Mrs. McNeill has four sons and three daughters, Hector B., Jr., lives in Fayetteville, Thomas is in the Army, and Bobby and Franklin live at home. The daughters are Mrs. Carolyn Roper of Hoke County, Mrs. Doris Johnson of Wagram, and Miss Flora Kate McNeill, now at college.

Of the farm, about 130 acres are cleared and about 160 are woodland. The usual row crops, grains, watermelons and the like are raised.

Hostetler Quits Insurance Job To Come Back Here

Commissioner of Insurance Charles F. Gold last week announced the resignation of his Chief Deputy, Charles A. Hostetler, effective January 15, 1955.

At the same time, Gold made an announcement of two promotions from within the Department. Charles W. Lewis, Company Operations Supervisor, is to take over Hostetler's post as Chief Deputy and C. C. Duncan, senior field investigator, of Goldsboro, is being brought to Raleigh to fill the job now held by Lewis.

Hostetler, who came to the Department as Chief Deputy in October 1952 from the private practice of law, is returning to his law practice in Raeford. He will be associated with his father-in-law, A. D. Gore, in the firm of Gore and Hostetler. He presently resides at E-3 Raleigh Apartments with his wife and small son.

Commissioner Gold commended Hostetler on the fine job he had done and expressed regret that the Department was losing his services, but he stated that he felt the Department was indeed fortunate in having available the services of two such capable men to fill the vacancies created.

Hostetler practiced law here from shortly after his graduation from Wake Forest Law School in 1949 until he took the insurance job. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hostetler of Raleigh and is married to the former Miss Anne Gore of Raeford. The new firm will open their office for the practice of law in their new building on Campus Avenue, across from Doctors Julius and Riley Jordan.

While here Hostetler was a deacon and Sunday School teacher in the Baptist Church, president of the Hoke County Young Democratic Club, director of the Chamber of Commerce and the Junior Chamber of Commerce, and chairman of the county Red Cross chapter.

Funeral Is Held For Miss Mary McFadyen At Ephesus Tuesday

Funeral service was conducted at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon at Ephesus Baptist Church for Miss Mary Blanche McFadyen who died on Sunday night at Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill. The service was conducted by the pastor, the Rev. E. C. Taylor, assisted by the Rev. Richard Bene. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Miss McFadyen was 51 years of age, and was a native of this county. She was the daughter of the late Hector A. McFadyen and Mary Livingston McFadyen.

Surviving are four sisters, Mrs. J. A. Jordan of Arabia, Mrs. H. C. Maxwell of Dundarrach, Mrs. Bessie Riddle of Fayetteville, and Mrs. Harold Chason of Lumber Bridge.

To Give Pageant At Presbyterian Church Next Sunday Night

The annual Joy Gift Service will be presented in the form of a pageant at the Raeford Presbyterian Church Sunday, December 19, at 7:00 p. m. The pageant, "The Story of Christmas" is a series of eight tableaux.

Deen White will read the scripture for each tableau, and the music will be furnished by the Chapel and Carol Choirs and a girls' octette. The Joy Gift offering for retired ministers will be taken at this service.

COVERED DISH SUPPER

The Cedar Grove Woodman Circle will have its annual Christmas party on Tuesday night, December 21, at the High School cafeteria. A covered dish supper will be served, and all members and their families are invited.

Farmers Vote Rigid Production Controls

In Hoke County and the Nation the farmers this week voted overwhelmingly for a rigid program of production controls for agriculture. In this county there were 654 votes cast, with 642 being for controls and only 12 against.

Preliminary returns from all of the 20 cotton producing states gave 313,673 for federal marketing quotas and 27,137 against. This was a majority of 92 percent.

The 1955 cotton program is designed to reduce planting about 13 percent from acreage allotments made under a similar program this year. These controls had been proposed by the agriculture department to prevent overproduction in the face of a large surplus from past big crops.

Funeral Today For Alfred Quick, 70, Who Died Tuesday

Funeral services are being conducted at the Raeford Baptist Church at 2:00 o'clock this afternoon for Alfred Quick, 70-year-old retired farmer of this county who died Tuesday at the home of his son, Homer Quick, on Route three.

The service is being conducted by the Rev. W. Ray Gosnell, pastor of the Ashley Heights Baptist Church, the Rev. J. W. Amory, pastor of Shiloh and Bethel Presbyterian Churches, and the Rev. James E. Baker, pastor of the Raeford Baptist Church. Burial is to follow in the family cemetery at Tatum, S. C.

Mr. Quick was a native of Marlboro County, South Carolina, son of Jim Quick and Hannah David Quick.

He is survived by his wife, the former Jennie Mae Liles; one daughter, Mrs. F. M. Carroll of Winston-Salem; two sons, David of Red Springs, Route two, and Homer of Raeford, Route three; two sisters, Mrs. D. P. McKellar of Errod and Mrs. D. C. Humphrey of Lake View, S. C.

Luther A. McInnis Dies Wednesday After Long Illness

Luther Alexander McInnis, 82-year-old Dundarrach man, died at 9:15 Wednesday night in the Scotland County hospital. He had been in bad health for several years and had been in the hospital for three weeks. He would have had his 82nd birthday today if he had lived, having been born December 16, 1872.

Mr. McInnis was a son of the late John Frank and Margaret McMillan McInnis, and was born in this county, then Robeson. He was a farmer until bad health forced his retirement. He lived in Dundarrach with his son Daniel in recent years, except for some time spent in Florida for his health. He was an elder in the Dundarrach Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by his wife, the former Annie McGilvary; six sons, Daniel M. and Robert of Dundarrach, John of Tokyo, Japan, Henry of Virginia, Minn., David of Pascagoula, Miss., and Lawrence of Miami, Fla.; three daughters, all of Miami, Mrs. Margaret Clanton, Mrs. Lucy Lewis, and Mrs. Grace Hall Smith; two brothers, N. A. of Dundarrach and Sandy of Pine Bluff; 13 grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete pending the arrival of his children.

DANCE NEXT TUESDAY

The Raeford Jaycees will sponsor a holiday dance at the Raeford Armory next Tuesday night, December 21. Music will be furnished by David Pugh and his orchestra, and a Motorola console model television set will be given as a door prize. The public is invited.

Cotton Crop Is Worse In Hoke Than Over State

Last Cotton Report

The 1954 North Carolina Cotton crop is now estimated at 360,000 bales, according to the December 1 Cotton Report released last week by the North Carolina Crop Reporting Service in the final report on the 1954 season. The 360,000 bales produced this year is 20 percent or 80,000 bales under the 1953 production and 29 percent or 146,000 bales below the 10-year (1943-52) average.

Department of Commerce ginning report shows that 7,834 bales of cotton were ginned in Hoke County from the crop of 1954 prior to December 1, as compared with 11,977 bales ginned for the crop of 1953. This is 4,143 bales, or 34 percent below the crop of 1953, a greater drop than the 20 percent of the State as a whole by 14 percent.

It is estimated that 545,000 acres of cotton were harvested this year - a reduction of 30 percent from 1953 and 23 percent under the 10-year average. North Carolina growers had 558,000 acres under cultivation on July 1, compared with 782,000 acres in 1953 and the average of 718,000 acres.

The State average yield of lint per acre is estimated at 316 lbs. - 38 pounds above the average yield from last year's crop but still under the average.

The 1954 crop in southern Piedmont and some southeastern counties, including Hoke, was reduced sharply by drought conditions. However, throughout most of the Coastal region, the crop turned out good.

It is estimated that cottonseed production from this year's crop will amount to 151,000 tons, compared with 185,000 tons last year and the average of 208,000 tons.

The United States cotton crop for 1954 is estimated at 13,569,000 bales - 18 percent less than production in 1953 but 9 percent above the 10-year average. Growers harvested 19,187,000 acres this year - 21 percent less than the average harvested a year ago and 12 percent under the 10-year average.

Hoke Man Heads Ruritan District

T. C. Jones, of the Stonewall Ruritan Club in Hoke County, was elected governor of the Cape Fear District of Ruritan National at the district convention in the Westarea community in Cumberland County last Friday, and the Hope Mills club was presented the top district award for community service.

The Cape Fear district consists of 49 Ruritan clubs of Ruritan National, one of the fastest growing civic organizations in the United States. The new district succeeds M. Douglas Davis of Hope Mills. Following his election, Governor Jones appointed Lieutenant governors for the district.

The convention opened on Friday afternoon at the Gardner's Chapel Methodist Church with Governor Davis presiding. Following the invocation by the Rev. L. B. McKeithan, highlights of community service reports were presented by Charles H. Patterson of Hope Mills, past district governor. William H. Brake, of Rocky Mount, president of Ruritan National, spoke to the afternoon session.

Convention banquet session was held at the Westarea community building Friday night with William Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer, as guest speaker. Mr. Poe told about his recent tour of the United States and of the progress in agriculture and rural living he had noted.