



The News-Journal



The Hoke County News

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Addenda -

By The Editor

Went to some trouble today talking to Harry Cooper in New York and U. S. Rubber people here to get the story on their getting the Para plant here early enough to get in the paper this afternoon. Then we ran into enough of one and another kind of the difficulty little plants run into to keep us from getting the paper out with it this afternoon. Once in a lifetime in a weekly will a story break so that we can get to run it before our friends of the radio and daily press have it. This was it, and we dropped the ball. That's just the way it goes. Here it's five o'clock and I'm just around to this, when the readers ought to have it in hand by now. There'll not be many "addenda" this time. It's been too long a day.

About the meeting tomorrow... and I trust you'll have your paper by then. The printers of the Carolinas have an active and effective association which brings experts on some phase of the business to the region every now and then. The News-Journal has been represented at every one of these for the past several years, and not once have we come home without learning something about our own business that we felt we could convert to dollars and cents. I believe every one of these meetings has made us money, and we are going to keep attending them.

Now we in North Carolina have one of the greatest arrays of agricultural talent in the Nation at State College in Raleigh, finding new, money-making facts about farming every day. This array of talent is being well represented at the meeting at the High School today, and it seems to me that any man who makes his living farming and doesn't go there to hear what is said is missing a wonderful chance to improve his money-making ability in his business. Farming is a business, and like any other businessman a farmer that isn't going forward is going backward. Afraid of being bored, some will say. Well, no man that knows what he is talking about can bore me talking printing. It might bore me some, but you can never convince me that any expert talking farming can ever bore a farmer with any sense.

Letter from Houston, Texas, this week will be of interest to relatives of the Rev. D. A. McNeill and to some of the oldtimers (Continued on page 4)

Variety Show of Woman's Club Is Given Thursday

The variety and talent show sponsored by the Raeford Woman's Club for its building fund and given at the high school last Thursday night was attended by a large and appreciative audience. Jane Bennett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Bennett, Jr., was crowned queen and Eugene Monroe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Graham Monroe, was crowned king in the baby contest. In the tiny tot contest Emily Jane Parks, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Parks, was crowned queen, and Garland Young, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harvie Young, was crowned king.

Mrs. Clyde Upchurch, Jr., Woman's Club president, presented first prize in the talent show to Virginia, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. McNeill for her piano solo, and second prize to Helen Rose, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rose, for her vocal solo.

A feature of the show was the sword dance and bagpipe playing of Miss Vivian Morrison, of Baddeck, Nova Scotia, a student at Flora Macdonald College. Miss Morrison appeared in her full and regalia with the 79 measures has won in sword dance bagpipe competition.

A fashion show was presented by a group of girls from the J. W. McLaughlin School, and the closing number was a bagpipe minstrel with W. E. Willis as inter-locutor.

Committee arranging the affair consisted of Thomas Ripley, Bill Lancaster, Mrs. Thomas Wood and Mrs. Retha Ash.

Chamber Of Commerce Sponsors 2nd Spring Farm Program Here Friday



JOHN L. REITZEL

Chamber Plans Big Meet Next Tuesday

With the theme "Building a Better Community," President Jake Austin and the directors of the Raeford Chamber of Commerce this week made plans for a supper meeting at the Raeford Presbyterian Church next Tuesday night to which every person with any interest in improving Raeford is invited. Directors of the Chamber will have tickets for the meeting on sale Friday through Monday to pay for the food.

In a letter being mailed to business people of the community today Austin wonders how many times most people have said or heard "Somebody ought to do so and so." He asks all who are interested in the community to get together with him and the Chamber directors Tuesday night and discuss all these things "Mr. Somebody" is expected to do, and to find out who this somebody is. The discussion is to be informal and on the subject of community needs, patterned after a highly successful similar discussion the local delegation heard at the Chamber workshop in Rocky Mount recently. If the turnout is as good as Chamber leaders hope it will be, they expect the meeting to result in a real program of new ideas for community improvement for all the civic clubs and the individuals as well as the Chamber of Commerce.

In his letter Austin suggests that those who are unable to get to the meeting keep quiet in the future about what "Somebody" ought to do.

Hoke High Beaten Two Games Tuesday; Play Here Friday

The Hoke High boys and girls basketball teams lost two games to Red Springs High School here Tuesday night, while the junior varsity won their encounter with the visitors. The Hoke girls seemed to be without their usual accuracy, and this was the difference as they lost by one point, 52-51. Claudine Hodgkin scored 24 points, Janet Guin 22, and Faye Dark five. The boys lost by nine points, 64-55.

The Hoke teams will play the teams from Hamlet in the local gym Friday night in the last games of the regular schedule. Next Thursday the Hoke girls will play Sanford in the first round of the Fayetteville Invitational Tournament. The game will be at 7:30.

Local Man's Father Dies In Dunn Sunday

Norfleet F. Martin, 79, died Sunday night at the home of his daughter, Mrs. A. W. Taylor, in Dunn. He was also the father of Eldon A. Martin, manager of the Johnson Cotton Company of Raeford. He was a native of Northampton County and a member of Bothany Methodist Church.

In addition to his son here he is survived by his wife, three daughters, one brother, two sisters, eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

WAGRAM PTA DANCE

The Wagram PTA will sponsor a square dance Friday night of this week in the Wagram school gymnasium. Proceeds will go to the fund to provide a first aid room at the school.

Reitzel Heads Experts List; \$35 In Door Prizes; Expect Many At Hoke High At 2:00

John L. Reitzel, assistant commissioner of agriculture of North Carolina, will be the feature speaker in the second annual Farm Day program at Hoke County High School at 2:00 o'clock Friday afternoon, to which all farmers and farm families in the county are invited. The program is being sponsored this year by the Raeford Chamber of Commerce in recognition of the benefits derived by local farmers from the meeting last year at which a team of experts in several phases of farming appeared, and in the belief that the things farmers learn from these experts is converted directly into better methods and more money in the economy of the whole county.

The meeting was well attended last year, and business and farm leaders of the county hope for and expect an even larger turnout tomorrow, as farmers realize more and more the financial advantages to them from a greater knowledge of the facts learned at State College and in its farm-research centers. The program will be opened with a devotional service in recognition of the World Day of Prayer being observed tomorrow.

Reitzel, who will discuss the general farm outlook in North Carolina, is considered an outstanding man in his field and is in demand over the State as a speaker. He has wide experience in his business. A native of Catawba County, he graduated at State in 1934, following which he was a teacher of vocational agriculture for a year. He served as assistant farm agent in Cleveland County for three years and was for five years assistant in Haywood County. In Europe as a major in the Army he served as agricultural officer for First and Third Armies in France, Belgium and Germany. He has been farm management specialist at State College, and Wake County Farm Agent. He returned to Germany in 1950 as special agricultural consultant for the State Department. He studied agricultural economics at Harvard University and has been in his present position since September, 1953.

Dr. Collins Returning

Popular member of the team on last year's program who is returning for tomorrow's session is Dr. E. R. Collins, generally recognized as the leading authority in this section of the United States on fertilizer. Head of the State College Extension Agronomy Department, he will discuss fertilizer problems in general and how farmers will get the maximum benefit from their fertilizer dollars. He will also answer questions on fertilizer issues.

Weed Control Specialist

In response to many inquiries by farmers of Hoke County the subject of weed and grass control, W. G. Westmoreland, extension weed control specialist, has been invited to discuss this subject of great interest to all farmers at tomorrow's meeting. He is generally considered to be the best qualified man in the State on the subject, and will tell of the results of many recent tests of chemicals and other methods. He will also answer questions on the subject.

Social Security Man

Since farmers have only been under the coverage and effect of the Social Security law since the first of this year, the explanation of the details of this law as it affects farmers by Malcolm George, manager of the Fayetteville Social Security branch office, is expected to be of considerable interest. His remarks will have a direct and immediate effect on the finances of all farm families.

To Present Cotton Growers

Final event on the program, will be the recognition of the outstanding cotton producers in Hoke County in 1954.

The program has been arranged by W. C. Willford, county farm agent, with the cooperation and promotion of the Chamber of Commerce agriculture committee under the leadership of Graham Monroe.

1954 Jaycee DSA Is Presented To James E. Tillman



JIM TILLMAN

The first annual "Distinguished Service Award" was made by the Raeford Junior Chamber of Commerce at the J. W. McLaughlin School Tuesday night to James E. Tillman for the year 1954. The award is made to the young man, between the ages of 21 and 36, inclusive, for outstanding service to community, State and Nation. The award was made to Tillman by M. J. Weeks of Fayetteville, State DSA chairman, who was presented by Jim McDonald of Red Springs, district chairman.

The occasion of the presentation was the annual Jaycees "Bosses Night," at which Jaycees have as their guests the men under whom they work. The meeting was presided over by President Peter McLean, and a Preacher Bethel supper was enjoyed. Guests were recognized, including pastors of the Raeford Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches, bosses and others.

Angus Currie presented Principal G. A. Page of Upchurch School, who brought with him a male quartet and accompanying pianist. This group entertained the gathering with several well-arranged and sung numbers. In presenting the award to Tillman Weeks cited his service to his community in several fields. He pointed to his work in the Jaycees as charter member, past president, and now as State director, to his activity in the Methodist Church, where he has been a Sunday School teacher and is a member of the junior board of stewards and Sunday School Superintendent. Tillman is a director and charter member of the Hoke High Boosters club, and is a member of the State College Alumni club and the Raeford Volunteer Fire Department. He was severely injured last year in giving his services at a fire.

Born in Wadesboro, Tillman attended grammar and high school there and was graduated from N. C. State College in 1940 with a degree in textiles and dyeing. He served in the Army in Europe, entering as a second lieutenant and being separated a major.

He was employed by West Knitting Mill in Wadesboro before coming here as production manager of Para Thread Company in September, 1948. Since 1950 he has been superintendent of the Para Thread plant here. He is to continue this connection with the United States Rubber company as foreman.

He is married to the former Helen Marie Rock of Pennsylvania, and they have three children, Helen Jean, 9, Jim, seven, and Rosemary, five. They live in the home they built last year on Fulton Street.

Mrs. Laura L. Ray Buried At Parker's

Mrs. Laura Lunsford Ray, 48, died Friday after a long illness. She was the daughter of the late Harris Lunsford and Bessie Price Lunsford of Hoke County.

Funeral services were conducted at Parker's Methodist Church Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock by the Rev. N. P. Edens. Burial was in the church cemetery.

She is survived by her husband, Claude Ray; four sisters, Mrs. George Hales and Mrs. Archie Clark, Route 2, Raeford; Theima Lunsford and Mrs. Blackman Cook of Fayetteville; four brothers, Jack, Wilson, Brown and Marshall Lunsford, all of this county.

U. S. Rubber Company Buys Para Thread Co. Plant Here

Recorder Severe With Admitted Liquor Maker

In a session of Hoke County Recorder's court that was about average except for the fact that there were only four or five cases involving speeding, Judge T. O. Moses gave a somewhat discouraging notice to those who might be considering entering the liquor manufacturing business in Hoke County.

At the regular weekly session of the court Tuesday Jack McGirt, Indian, entered a plea of guilty of owning and operating a still. McGirt has a record of several previous violations of the liquor laws and is at present on Federal parole. Judge Moses sentenced McGirt to 18 months on the roads, to be suspended on payment of \$1000 fine and court costs. McGirt appealed to Superior Court and was released under a \$1000 bond. He was apprehended at the still by County Officers Jones and Meeks, accompanied by Raeford officers Wiggins and Pittman. Another man at the still in Allendale township was able to get away as the officers approached. McGirt's home is in Robeson County.

Sim Ratley, white, was charged with having two liquor stills and was found guilty. It was his first such offense and sentence was six months, suspended on payment of \$200 and court costs and two years good behavior. He was taken by Sheriff Hodgkin, with Officers Jones and Meeks.

John D. Graham, colored, and Harold Baker, 15-year-old colored boy, were charged in three cases with breaking and entering and larceny. They were charged with entering Bethel Presbyterian Church recently and stealing a gas heater, and with entering the Bray and Riley cabin on two occasions. Defendant Graham waived preliminary hearing and was held for Superior Court under \$1000 bond. Baker was released in the custody of an adult to report at Superior Court.

Richard A. Bolton, white soldier, pled guilty of speeding and driving after his license had been revoked. Sentence of 60 days was suspended on payment of \$200 and costs.

Duck McGougan, colored, was charged with assaulting Roy Lester Leak with a deadly weapon with intent to kill him, inflicting serious and painful injury, shooting him. Probably cause was found and McGougan posted \$1000 bond for his appearance in Superior Court. (Continued on Page 4)

PTA Has Monthly Meeting Monday

The Hoke-Raeford Parent-Teacher Association held its regular monthly meeting Monday night at the McLaughlin school with President J. W. Canaday presiding. A larger-than-usual crowd was present.

Mrs. Gower Crosswell made an interesting talk to the group on "What Music Means In The Home." A group of boys and girls from the McLaughlin school under the direction of Mrs. Jean Wood, music teacher, presented a musical program. The rhythm band played two selections, two folk dances were presented.

Mrs. John Flannery's sixth grade won the prize for having the most parents present at the meeting for the third consecutive time.

Home Furniture Co. Has New Manager

Elmer Parnell of Maxton has recently assumed his duties as manager of the Home Furniture Company here, replacing Elmore Stanton, who has been moved to Red Springs to manage the Home Furniture Company there. Living in Maxton now, Mr. Parnell is married to the former Virginia Livingston of this county, and they have one daughter. They plan to move here at the end of the school year.

Judge Susie Sharp To Be Here Mon.

Judge Susie Sharp of Reidsville, North Carolina's first and only woman Superior Court judge, will be in Raeford next week for a special term of civil court which is to start Monday and continue through as much of the week as is necessary. This will be Judge Sharp's first appearance on the bench in Hoke County.

The term was requested to clear the docket of many civil cases which have been continued from mixed terms of court. At mixed criminal and civil terms the court has been unable to determine in advance just when it would finish criminal cases and get to civil ones which has resulted in inability of lawyers to get principals and witnesses in court at the right time.

Miss Lizzie Niven Passes Saturday, Is Buried Monday

Miss Sarah Elizabeth Niven, widely and affectionately known as "Miss Lizzie," died in Pinehurst Convalescent Home at 10:18 o'clock last Saturday morning. Miss Niven had been ill for several years.

A native of Anson County, she was the daughter of the late J. A. and Mittie Williams Niven, with whom she moved to this community in 1906. She was a member of the Raeford Methodist Church and the United Daughters of the Confederacy. She owned and operated the Ladies Shop here for 25 years, being the only woman to actively head a business for most of that time.

The funeral service was conducted on Monday afternoon at three o'clock at the Methodist Church by the Rev. J. Herbert Miller, pastor, and the Rev. P. O. Lee of Weldon, former pastor. Burial followed in the Raeford Cemetery. Pallbearers were Martin Webb, J. A. Niven, Carlton E. Niven, Chester Wade, Robert Weaver and Jess N. Gulleck.

Miss Niven is survived by four brothers, L. A. Niven of Memphis, Tenn., T. Reese Niven, St. Petersburg, Fla., Percy D. Niven and W. Dwight Niven of Dunedin, Fla., and numerous nieces and nephews.

Attending the funeral from out of town were S/Sgt. and Mrs. D. M. Baker of Camp Lejeune, Mr. and Mrs. A. Wenzel of St. Pauls, Miss Hannah Covington and Frank Covington of Rennett, Mrs. William Shelton of Townsend's Inlet, N. J., Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Niven of Charlotte, T. Reese Niven of St. Petersburg, Fla., Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Niven of Dunedin, Fla., J. C. Webb of St. Pauls, Mrs. Milton Capps and Miss Dayne Capps of Fayetteville, Miss Margie Campbell of Laurinburg, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Odom and Joyce of Lumberton, and Mrs. Lacy Johns of Red Springs.

CANTATA PRACTICE

Mrs. Kerr Stevens, director, has announced that practice for the "Crucifixion" Easter Cantata, will be held each Sunday in March at 4:00 p. m. She said there was still time for any who wished to sing in the cantata to join the community chorus this week.

MOORE HOSPITAL GETS GIFT FROM ROBBINS

The Moore County Hospital fund will receive a gift of \$1000 from Robbins Mills, Inc., according to an announcement this week by Mrs. John E. Dixon, director, and Frank Roberts, vice-president of Robbins Mills.

CUB PACK TO MEET

There will be a Cub Scout pack meeting at the McLaughlin school cafeteria on Friday night at 7:30. Parents and cubs are urged to attend.

Control Assumed Today; Plan Increased Payroll

The Footwear and General Products Division of the United States Rubber Company today acquired the production facilities here of the Para Thread Company of N. C., Inc., according to an announcement released this afternoon by H. E. Cooper, manager of Lastex yarns and rubber thread of the Footwear and General Products Division.

Mr. Cooper said United States Rubber Company would immediately take over operation of the plant occupied here by Para Thread Co. He said the additional productive facilities were needed to meet the expanded demand for Lastex yarns.

The plant's new superintendent will be John C. Markham, Jr., manager of the Burlington, N. C. factory of the United States Rubber Company. Mr. Markham expects to divide his time between the two locations. A Navy lieutenant during World War II, he is a graduate of Wake Forest College and the University of North Carolina.

Assistant superintendent of the plant will be Robert L. Cheatham, Jr. He is a graduate of Clemson College and saw war service as an Army lieutenant. Mr. Cheatham expects to make his home in Raeford.

James E. Tillman will continue as foreman. In his announcement Mr. Cooper said the present work force of 80 will be increased as the plant capacity is fully utilized.

The plant is a single story structure with 23,000 square feet of manufacturing and warehouse space. It was built in 1948 when American Wringer Company, of Woonsocket, R. I., after negotiations with the Raeford Chamber of Commerce decided to form the Para Thread Company and locate it here. The building was constructed and is still owned by the Hoke County Development Corporation, a corporation sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and financed by local people to build the building. It is situated on an eight-acre tract of land on the north side of Bethel Road, along the main line of the Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad. Maintenance facilities are housed in a service annex.

It has been unofficially known here for some time that United States Rubber Co. was looking over the local property, and that the acquisition which was consummated today and announced by Mr. Cooper was a possibility. In Raeford several months ago Mr. Cooper expressed himself as pleased at what he saw of the community and what he was able to hear of the reputation of fine labor and community relations of the Para company.

Widespread public approval has been expressed here in the past few days since unofficial word of the imminent transfer was heard. Businessmen know of the record of the new owners of the plant and feel that in their coming here the community is gaining a permanent industrial employer of the highest type.

Community Plans To Join With World In Day Of Prayer

Tomorrow afternoon, February 25, people of this community, along with millions of people all over the world, will observe World Day of Prayer. The observance here will be at the Raeford Presbyterian Church at 2:00 o'clock, and business houses have been asked to close for one hour starting at that time.

The service here will be conducted this year by members of the Raeford Baptist Church, and men and women of the community are asked to come straight from their occupations to the service in their work clothing.

The Raeford churches sponsor this service each year as a means whereby local people join with millions of other people in the 92 countries observing this day.