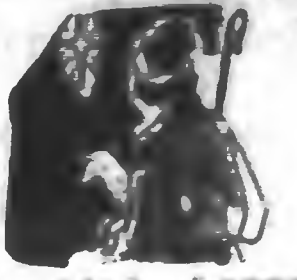




The News - Journal



The Hoke County Journal - Established 1905

The Hoke County News - Established 1928

VOLUME LVI: NUMBER 31 RAEFORD, HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA 20 PAGES 10¢ PER COPY \$4 PER YEAR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1961

Addenda ..

By Paul Dickson

A fellow whom I think I could safely refer to as one of this town's "leading citizens" commended me one day this week for my comments here several weeks ago about the Chamber of Commerce and other things, adding that he thought they may have had a good effect overall. He then went on to wonder out loud "if there isn't a great deal more you could do?"

My answer was that there is no doubt about that, and he followed with the question, "If people don't know enough of what their Chamber of Commerce could do, and ought to do, to support it financially and verbally so it can do these things, whose fault is it?"

Without ever implying that we are not doing a fair job on the paper, he went further into this idea of more that we could do.

I came back on the Chamber of Commerce question with a flat denial, which I repeat here, that this newspaper has ever given the Raeford Chamber of Commerce less than full and complete coverage, and that we have quite often given it more than many readers thought was its share of our space. For the first dozen years of its life I served the Chamber in several capacities--secretary, director, president, and I pushed it hard, because I know it can and should be the greatest single organized force for development in all areas of our community life.

When we got a Chamber professional several years ago and I left the board of directors, the News-Journal didn't go anywhere or change its attitude. The Chamber just quit using it, and started operating quietly, so to speak. The man's right. The Chamber ought to be getting publicity, but I refuse to take the blame on this one.

He then said he knew the county commissioners were good men, and that they think Dr. Davenport does enough for the county to earn \$6,000 a year, but that he personally wanted to know for himself what he does for this money, and that many other people in the county must feel the same way. He said that people in the county ought to know how much time the health officer puts in, what the health dro-

(See ADDENDA, Page 8)

REPLACES LAMONT

Lester Assumes Command Of National Guard Unit

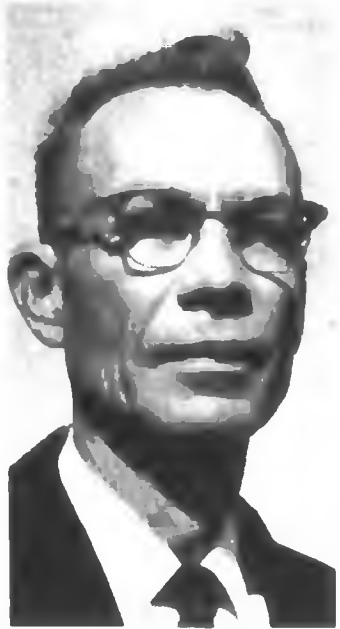
Raeford's 2d Medium Tank Battalion, possessed of a 40-year National Guard tradition and wartime service in several overseas theaters, has a new commander.

He is Lt. Col. T. B. Lester, Jr., who took over as acting Commander in late April when Lt. Col. William Lamont, Jr. was forced to the sidelines with a serious illness.

For reasons of medical disability, Lamont has now been transferred to the inactive reserve. Lester's promotion to Lt. Col. was effective last



WILLIAM LAMONT, JR.
Inactive Reserve



T. B. LESTER, JR.
Guard Commander

Friday.

Col. Lamont began his military career with the Guard in 1930. He was commissioned in 1939, and went on active duty in 1940 when the local unit was federalized. He served in the Pacific Theater during World War II, and took over command of the local Guard in 1949 from Lt. Col. Younger Snead.

The senior Lt. Col. in the North Carolina National Guard, Lamont presided over the difficult transition from anti-aircraft to armor which

the 2d Bn has now successfully accomplished. He is a graduate of the Army's prestigious Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Reminiscing at his home, Col. Lamont said: "I guess I'll miss the encampments most of all". Asked about the biggest headache of the command position, he said, "Getting everybody packed on the trucks and off to encampment."

Lt. Col. Lester, the new commander, joined the Guard in 1932 and went on active duty in 1940 shortly after being commissioned. He was an instructor in Army anti-aircraft schools and served in the European Theater. Like Lamont, Col. Lester is a graduate of the Armor School at Fort Knox.

Prior to taking command of the 2d Bn., Col. Lester had been the unit's executive officer since its formation in 1947.

"We'll miss Bill," said Col. Lester, "but this is a job I've looked forward to for a long time."

In civilian life, Col. Lester is County Auditor.



Last-Minute Christmas Plans Near Completion

Peace on Earth and Happiness to Men of Good Will, is the sincere wish of

The News-Journal

Churches Offer Programs

Last-minute Christmas preparations went forward this week as shoppers continued their purchases of gifts, schools closed, and churches prepared special holiday programs.

The youngsters came out of school for the holidays Tuesday afternoon; they will be underfoot around the house until January 2, according to School Superintendent W. T. Gibson.

Among the church notices received by the N-J at press time are the following:

--Raeford Presbyterian will present a Christmas Pageant, "Let There Be Light," on Sunday, Christmas eve, at 5:30 p.m. Young people of the church and various youth choirs will participate in this program.

--St. Elizabeth's of Hungary Catholic Church announces a midnight Mass for Sunday night.

--Ephesus Baptist Church is presenting a play, "Because of Christ's Birthday," Sunday night.

--Shady Grove Methodist Church is having a special Christmas program and party Friday night at 7.

Both town and county governmental offices will close Friday evening at 5, with the town offices reopening Tuesday morning and the county back in business the following day, Wednesday. Though offices will be closed emergency services will be available, officials said.

As for the Main Street merchants, groggy by the avalanche of shoppers, they will stay open through Saturday evening to take care of last-minute needs. But the vast majority will be closed for a well-deserved rest on Monday and Tuesday. Only the A&P has announced plans to be open on Tuesday.

The wheels of industry will also grind to a complete stop for the holidays.

--Burlington's big Pacific Mill will close at the conclusion of the third shift Saturday and will reopen Tuesday morning.

--Priebe Poultry will be closed Monday.

--US Rubber will close at 12 p. m. Friday night and begin again at 7 a. m. Tuesday.

--Hoke Oil and Fertilizer will lock the doors Friday evening and open again Wednesday morning.

--Raeford Lumber will be closed Saturday through Tuesday.

Only one group is looking forward to Christmas with

(See PLANS, Page 8)

Sewage Systems Discussed

The vexing problem of Raeford's sewage system was taken to the State Stream Sanitation Committee last week in Raleigh. Making the trip was a delegation led by Mayor H. R. (Hooch) McLean. Town Commissioners Fred Culbreth and W. L. Alexander, Town Clerk Charles Morrison and Town Attorney, Harry Harrison.

The group was joined in Raleigh by their consulting engineer, R. H. Moore, of Asheboro.

Moore told the State committee that recent studies have shown an increased output of wastes, and that a larger system

(See SEWAGE, Page 8)

Commissioners Hear CD Leader; Vote For Talking With People

By PETER B. YOUNG

"A bomb dropped on Fort Bragg would not cause fallout in Hoke County for at least an hour."

That's what Col. Wallace Dawson of the State Civil Defense Headquarters told the County Commissioners and interested citizens in a special meeting Tuesday night.

Dawson met with the Commissioners to provide information on federal matching funds that are available for full-time salaries CD Personnel at the County level. Among the area counties that have moved away from volunteer direction of the CD program are Bladen, Brunswick, Harnett, Robeson and Columbus.

In order to be eligible for federal matching funds a county must have one full-time CD employee -- usually

an office secretary -- who is under the Merit System, Dawson said. Then, the Commissioners could appoint either a full-time or part-time CD Director with both salaries "matched" by federal funds. "I control the federal Civil Defense funds coming into this State," said Col. Dawson, pointedly.

In response to a question from the floor, Col. Dawson said the "minimum price tag" for getting into such a program would be about \$5,000 of town and county funds that would be matched by \$5,000 of federal money.

The Commissioners -- caught in the usual squeeze play between a good program and the voters' desire for economy -- listened attentively, asked many questions, and then voted "to discuss the question again at first Monday in January after we talk to our people."

At that point, CD Director Alfred Cole, whose resignation is pending, commented:

"Oh, the people will be for a decent program. But, of course, they won't want to pay for it."

Cole fully endorsed the point of view of Col. Dawson and that of another recent CD visitor, Col. Victor Harris, that the program was not much too big for volunteer direction. "It's just possible to handle on a volunteer basis," said the man who for eight years has been the Hoke CD Director.

The meeting was enlivened by a dispute between Raeford CD Director Carson Davis, Jr. and Col. Dawson. Davis said that he had requested an engineer from State CD Headquarters to survey public buildings in Raeford for possible use as fallout shelters. "He never got here," said Davis.

"Oh yes he did," replied Dawson. "He came down here but couldn't find anybody."

"That's a mighty poor excuse and we've been getting mighty poor cooperation from the State," Davis shot back. Considerable feeling was expressed by the Commissioners and others than the Civil Defense program was marked

(See DEFENSE, Page 8)

Library Board Asks Same Funds

The Library Board of Trustees, meeting Friday, received a detailed report on future services, following which the Board voted to request town and county governments to continue with financial assistance at the same level as this year.

The Board also recommended to the town and county commissioners that bookmobile service be slightly reduced so that the various stops will be covered once every four weeks instead of once every three weeks as at present.

The money thus saved by this proposal would be used for needed book purchases.

The detailed report on the future of the library, made perilous by the narrow defeat of a tax authorization last month, was presented by a committee consisting of Mrs. J. M. Andrews, W. L. Alexander, R. A. Smoak, and John W. McPhaul.

The trustees noted that money has already been appropriated for Fiscal Year 1962, which concludes next June 30, and there is no need to operate on a reduced budget at this time. The proposal to slightly curtail bookmobile service would save an estimated \$900 annually, with this money then used for additional book purchases.

It had been thought possible to completely eliminate bookmobile service, but State Librarian Miss Frances Gish told the committee that one of the requirements for state funds (now running at \$4,000 per year) was bookmobile service. Another requirement that a properly certified librarian supervise the institution, was met a few months ago with the hiring of Mrs. Sallie McDowell of Fayetteville on a part-time basis.

Miss Peggy Kinlaw of Meredith College and Miss Betty Kinlaw of Wake Forest are home for the holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Kinlaw.

Midnight Christmas Shoppers Receive Court Jail Sentences

Don't do your Christmas "shopping" at midnight. Seven youths found out in Recorder's Court Tuesday that the law frowns on entering business establishments at that hour, especially by aid of a crowbar!

Three Pennsylvania Teenagers, arrested last Thursday for a break-in at Teal Oil Company were ordered held for further investigation by Judge Harry Greene after they pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor breaking and entering charge.

Mike Maroff, 16, James W. Emigh, Jr., 17, and Joe Gobrish, 16 will be held in the Hoke jail pending final disposition of their cases. Court-house officials explained that one of the youths may be under 16, and there is the further possibility that federal authorities will take them for trial on interstate auto theft charges.

The second group of midnight Christmas "shoppers" was composed of four Fayetteville young men, three of whom are troopers in the famed 82d Airborne Division. These young men were charged in connection with the break-in early Monday morning of Huffman's Service station.

Found in the station by Raeford officers, Harvey Young and Robert Jones was James F. Biter of the 82d Airborne. He got a stiff two-year sentence from Judge Greene and promptly announced his intention to appeal to Superior Court.

Picked up later in connection with the Huffman break-in were Darrel L. Carter, Oskar H. Schwemmer and Sherman K. Howard. These young men drew 18 months on the roads from Judge Greene for aiding, abetting and assisting in a break-in and they also announced intention of appeal.

Bond for all four was set by the Judge at \$1,000.

The pattern of the arrests in both cases was the same and revealed alert work by

the lawmen of both county and town.

In each instance, Raeford P. D. Officers Harvey Young and Robert Jones made the initial arrest of one "shopper" at the scene. Accomplices fled Young and Jones then called for help, and while other officers cruised the area, a bloodhound from the State Sanatorium was put on the trail.

Again in each instance, the remaining culprits were picked up by Raeford Chief L.W. Stanton and special deputy Vance Wiggins when the youths were "flushed" out to US 401.

Also engaged in the patrol to find the fleeing youths were Sheriff's deputies Dave Barrington and Jesse Lee. One observer commented that officers Young and Jones were the bird dogs, while Stanton and Wiggins were the successful hunters.

The Pennsylvania teenagers were arrested with a quantity of loot in their possession from previous "shopping" expeditions. Since this loot was apparently obtained in another state, an FBI agent from Fayetteville placed it in a box and sealed it.

Presumably, this box will be opened in a Federal Court.

Mrs. Dan Jennings, Sr. of Boulder, Colorado is visiting Lt. Col. and Mrs. Dan Jennings and family.

Lt. Tom Harris will arrive tomorrow from Laredo AFB, Texas to spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Harris. The family will spend Christmas week end with relatives in Roxboro.

Week end guests of Mr. and Mrs. M. V. Peele were Marshall Peele of Newport News, Va. and Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Kersey of Laurel Hill.

Mrs. Mamie Fultz of Jacksonville, Florida and Charles Tomblin of Ayden will arrive today to spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Martin Webb and sons.



SHOPPING EXPEDITION -- James Keith McVickers was one of several children taken on a Christmas shopping trip this week by the Jaycees. Don't let his expression fool you, it's just that James Keith was understandably annoyed when the N-J photographer interrupted his shopping to take the picture. For pictures of other Hoke youngsters enjoying the spirit of Christmas, see page 1 of Section III.