



# The News - Journal

The Hoke County Journal - Established 1905

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## Addenda .. N-J Cops Awards In State Contest

By Paul Dickson

Well, here is the column I promised you. It is from the book, "My Affair With a Weekly," by Weimar Jones, editor of The Franklin Press of Franklin, North Carolina. If you like it, you ought to get a copy and read the whole book. It's all just as good.

ONLY A WEEKLY!

Since it's only a weekly," Mrs. Jones said to me as we prepared to move to Franklin. "you can put the paper out on Wednesday or Thursday, and then go fishing the rest of the week."

"That's a fact," I agreed, enthusiastically. And honestly thought it might be like that.

Well, it isn't!

Anything can happen on a newspaper; on a country weekly, it usually does.

Here's about how a typical day goes:

You can get to the office by seven, so you can turn some of that mountain of notes on your desk into news stories before the day's rush begins or maybe write a couple of editorials.

You arrive to find a customer waiting for you to open. Before you've finished with him the phone rings. By that time, there's likely to be another caller. Along about seven-thirty, you sit down to the typewriter.

Let's try for an editorial. "Macon Co. . ."

Hello. Yes, this is The Press. A want ad? Yes, I'll take it over the phone. You don't know just how to word it? Well, suppose you tell me what you have in mind, and I'll be glad to write it. Yes, we'll be sure to get it in this week's paper.

"Macon Coun. . ."

Hello, Yes, this is Weimar Jones. You've decided to cancel that meeting you'd called for Thursday night? A conflict? I see. . . But Mr. Smith I can't leave it out of the paper, because it's already in the paper. . . Yes, I know this is only Tuesday but you see our newspaper

See ADDENDA Page 8

CHAPEL HILL -- The News-Journal has won two awards in the annual statewide competition of the N. C. Press Association, it was announced here this week.

The N-J captured a first place award for feature writing and a third place award for advertising. Governor Terry Sanford will present these awards to Editor Peter B. Young and General Manager Sam Morris at a program to be held in Chapel Hill on January 18.

N-J Publisher Paul Dickson, who will also attend the 37th Annual meeting of the Press Association comment-

## N. A. McKeithan Dies Thursday At Rockfish

Rockfish farmer Neill Archie McKeithan, 77, was buried Sunday following services conducted by the Rev. Roland Warnock of Wake Forest.

A retired postal employee, he was a native of Harnett County. Burial was at Raeford Cemetery. He died unexpectedly Thursday at his home.

McKeithan is survived by his wife, Mrs. Sallie Hart McKeithan; three sons, Wesley of Sharon, Pa., William of Fayetteville and Cecil of Raeford; six daughters, Mrs. R.B. Shockley and Mrs. Frank Stephens of Raeford, Rt. 2, Mrs. Lela McDowell of Apex, Mrs. W. M. Motley of Burkeville Va., Mrs. W. F. Wright of Fayetteville and Mrs. Jesse Key of Yuma, Arizona; two brothers, J. P. of Fayetteville Rt. 3 and B. T. of Hope Mills.

## STILL BLOWN

Hoke Lawmen dynamited a 600-gallon still in Antioch Township last week. The still was near Raft Swamp, a popular location for such illicit operations.

## Bert Bennett Proves Adept Politician In Raeford Visit

### Speaks To Kiwanians, Party Men

By PETER B. YOUNG

N. C. Demo Chairman and Winston-Salem businessman Bert Bennett visited Raeford last Thursday and put on display the kind of talent that has made him a widely-mentioned gubernatorial possibility for 1964.

In an intimate meeting with Party wheelhorses, the State Chairman minced no words in describing the impact of the bond election fiasco. He told the workers, "The really frightening thing is that we had no idea it was coming. This indicates that we've lost communication with our own people."

Later, addressing the Kiwanians, whose membership is reputed to include conservative Democrats as well as -- shhh, Republicans! -- the State Chairman indulged in some personal (and non-partisan) observations on the art of politics.

"Once", he told the Kiwanians, "the Governor and I were campaigning and a man handed the Governor a check during a handshake. Well, we were a little low on funds at the time, so we dashed back to the privacy of the car to see how much the check was for. The fellow had left the amount blank, but had written a note across the face of the check: 'Terry, if you get elected, please give me a job.'"

Bennett was the campaign manager for Sanford through two grueling primaries and the general election.

With the precinct workers, Bennett discussed the bread-and-butter facts of political life. Speaking of jobs, or "patronage" as the politicians call it, he said: "The Republicans are watching us closely, and the Democratic Party will be held responsible for the actions of those in office. Therefore, we will screen all job applicants with great care."

Asked how he evaluated potential candidates at any level, Bennett said: "The first question we want answered is whether he's electable, whether he can win. If the answer is no, we stop right there."

This brought on another Bennett story -- the one about the fellow who was asked to a poker session. "I can't come for several reasons," said the fellow. "but mainly because I don't have the money."

"You don't have to give me the other reasons," said the man who was doing the inviting. Bennett, an expert in political advertising, repeatedly used the term "image", both with the Kiwanians and



CHAIRMAN INTRODUCES CHAIRMAN -- Hoke Democratic Chairman Sam Morris takes a firm grip on the Kiwanis rostrum to introduce the State Democratic Chairman, Bert Bennett, who told the group that

"businessmen belong in politics". Earlier, Bennett had talked informally with a group of Democratic precinct workers in a meeting held at the School Office Building.

the precinct workers. "North Carolina has a good image with the nation and the national administration," he said. And for the precinct workers he added:

"And it looks very much as though that national administration is going to be in office until 1968." This pointed observation was not lost on the workers, nor was an earlier comment that, "Before coming down here I checked the figures from last year's elections, and you fellows really did a fine job."

Asked whether the bond election defeat had hurt the state's "image", the State Chairman said: "It sure didn't do us any good." The response was typical of the straight answers to tough questions that Bennett repeatedly put forth.

Introducing Bennett to the Kiwanians, County Democratic Chairman Sam Morris commented on this aspect of the way Bennett operates. Morris said:

"I think I appreciate more than anything else that when I call Bert Bennett with a problem, I'll get an answer. Now sometimes the answer is no, but there's none of this run-around or buck-passing."

Bennett, thoroughly briefed by Morris on the different political points of view in the Kiwanis membership, told the group that "businessmen belong in politics. The days of the 1930s, when business in politics was suspect, are over. Now, people look to responsible business leaders for

political advice." Defending his political colleagues from the usual "image" of corruption, Bennett told the Raeford businessmen:

"There's no question about it. I have found far more loyalty and straight-shooting among politicians than among businessmen."

He advised the businessmen to analyze candidates and issues, and then take "an early stand". He casually mentioned a North Carolina industry that didn't take an "early stand" last year, and when the Congress came out with a tax bill, it turned out that this particular industry was hard-hit.

"Now, I'm not saying there was any politics involved. It's just that when President Kennedy is trying to raise money, he has several choices about where he can raise it," Bennett said.

"We've got to get out of this old habit of referring to the national government as 'they'. Now it's 'we'. We have contact every day with Washington. So let's get in there and call a few of the signals," the State Chairman concluded.

About the only real criticism the State Chairman got was from Judge Harry Greene, who brought up the size of the national debt and some recent Sanford actions. Bennett conceded the existence of "problems", but said: "There's no reason for us to go around hanging our heads in shame. In fact, that's just what the Republicans want."

## James Warner Loses Battle To Cancer, 66

A long battle against cancer ended Saturday in Moore County Memorial Hospital for James Lynch Warner, 66, Raeford Township farmer.

Services for Warner were conducted Sunday at Raeford Methodist by the Rev. Kermit Wheeler and the Rev. W. B. Heyward, with burial following in Raeford Cemetery.

Active pall bearers were Bobby McNeill, Jim Williamson, Worth Warner, Tommy McNeill, Neil Senter and Harlee Johnston.

The Hoke native is survived by his wife, Mrs. Rurie Biggs Warner; one son, James L. of Raeford Rt. 3, one daughter, Mrs. Charles Little of Anderson S. C.; one brother W. E. Warner of Raleigh; two sisters, Mrs. John McLean and Mrs. T. A. Williams both of Raleigh; and five grandchildren.

## KID WINS PONY

A state-wide raffle conducted by all Johnson Cotton Company stores has resulted in three Raeford winners, local store officials announced this week.

Three-year-old Weaver Patterson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Patterson won a pony; David Holland, 12 won a bicycle; and Betty Mae McNeill, 9, garnered a radio.

## Quiet Christmas Is Enjoyed By Hoke Folks

Hoke folks enjoyed a safe and sane Christmas, area lawmen reported. For once, the old saw about "no news is good news" was true.

There were no major automobile accidents during the holidays. There were no major home accidents with new shotguns and the like.

There were no major fires due to defective tree wiring or other causes.

There were no episodes of violence that would have brought the law quickly to the scene.

About the most serious thing that happened was to a Raeford adult-who shall be nameless-- who played basketball on Christmas day while wearing a new pair of bedroom slippers. Playing with an enthusiastic group of youngsters, this "adult" suffered a mangled toe from which the nail was removed on Monday by a local physician.

Another "adult" reported a sprained finger while constructing an "Esso Energy Rocket", and still a third "adult" got a minor electrical shock while teaching his son how to operate a train set.



REMEMBER WHEN? -- Remember when all the men had beards like Alan McDonald, and all the women wore grandmaw's dresses like Mrs. Clifton Davenport? This week's N-J contains two full pages of memories from 1961. It's on the inside, pages 4 and 5, and we know you won't want to miss it.