

The News-Journal

The Hoke County News - Established 1928

The Hoke County Journal - Established 1905

VOLUME LXI NUMBER 35

\$4 PER YEAR

RAEFORD, HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

10¢ PER COPY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1967



BIG HOLLY, BY GOLLY -- This unbelievably large holly tree stands just east of Wagram in Hoke County alongside the Wagram-Antioch road. It measures 108 inches in circumference, which would give it a diameter of some 35 inches. The tree, which is covered with red berries, is some 40 to 50 feet tall and may well be the largest holly tree on record.

Negro Man Is Victim Of Hit-Run

Local law enforcement officers are still looking for a hit-run driver who struck down a Negro man on South Main Street here last Friday night.

Police Chief L. W. Stanton said Robert Rogers, 47, was badly cut on the lower part of his rear torso, apparently by an automobile. He was taken to Cape Fear Valley Hospital, where the 20-inch gash was sewn.

Stanton said a telephone call to the police department late Friday night sent Officer James West to the scene. West found Rogers lying in the street with his clothing around his head and bleeding profusely.

The chief said indications are that Rogers, whose father, Nick Rogers, lives on Raeford Rt. 2, was intoxicated. It is believed he staggered into the path of a car, Stanton said, since at least one motorist reported seeing a "drunken man" of Rogers' description staggering in the vicinity of the accident shortly before Rogers was struck down.

"We have absolutely no lead on the hit-run automobile," Chief Stanton said. He indicated that Rogers is responding to treatment and is expected to survive.

Savings - Loan Directors Named

Ten directors of Raeford Savings and Loan Association were re-elected Tuesday at the annual stockholders meeting of the organization.

The directors, holding a brief session after the main meeting, re-elected from their number H. L. Gatlin Jr., president; Younger Sneed Sr., vice president, and Franklin Teal, secretary-treasurer.

About 50 persons turned out in the rain for the meeting, held at the association's office on Campus Avenue. Many stockholders who did not attend voted by proxy.

Directors include the three officers, Fred Culbreth, Dr. Julius Jordan, Tom McBryde, J. D. McMillian, Graham Mon-

roe, Sam Morris and H. D. Harrison Jr.

Stockholders approved a resolution of respect and appreciation citing the outstanding service to the association and the community by Mrs. Irma Coble Poole. Before her death in December, Mrs. Poole served for 25 years as secretary-treasurer of the association, retiring about a year ago.

She took over routine operation of the business when her husband, Col. W. L. Poole, was called to active duty in 1940 with the Raeford National Guard unit.

Teal reported to stockholders that business was good during 1966 and that deposits in the association showed appreciable gain.

PTA Topic Is 'New Math'

Mrs. Agnes E. Page, supervisor of instruction for Hoke County Schools, and teachers from grades 1-12 will present the "New Math" at PTA on Monday night, January 16, at 7:45 o'clock in Raeford Elementary Auditorium.

Modern terminology, meth-

ods, and concepts will be presented in a sequential order.

"The new or updated Mathematics is not aimed at producing more mathematics for our better students, but at producing better mathematics for more of our students," Mrs. Page said.

TO NEW SCHOOL

Town Board In 'Tizzy' On Water, Sewer Lines

Project To Cost \$9,000

Raeford town officials were left in a somewhat of a tizzy this month when they learned that expensive sewer and water lines must be laid to the site of Hoke County's new elementary school on Bethel Road.

Construction already has begun on the school, which will be raised on a 30-acre tract across Bethel Road from Hoke High School. It will cost about \$600,000.

Ellis Construction Company of Sanford is the general contractor with a low bid of \$605,700. Preparations for digging the foundation for the modernistic complex of classrooms, designed by Hayes Howell and Associates architects, already have been made at the site.

"It never occurred to me that the town would have any difficulty or hesitancy whatsoever in providing water and sewer lines for the school," said W. T. Gibson, Jr., superintendent of schools.

Nonetheless, the town was caught in the middle of its fiscal year without the estimated \$9,000 the water and sewer facilities will cost.

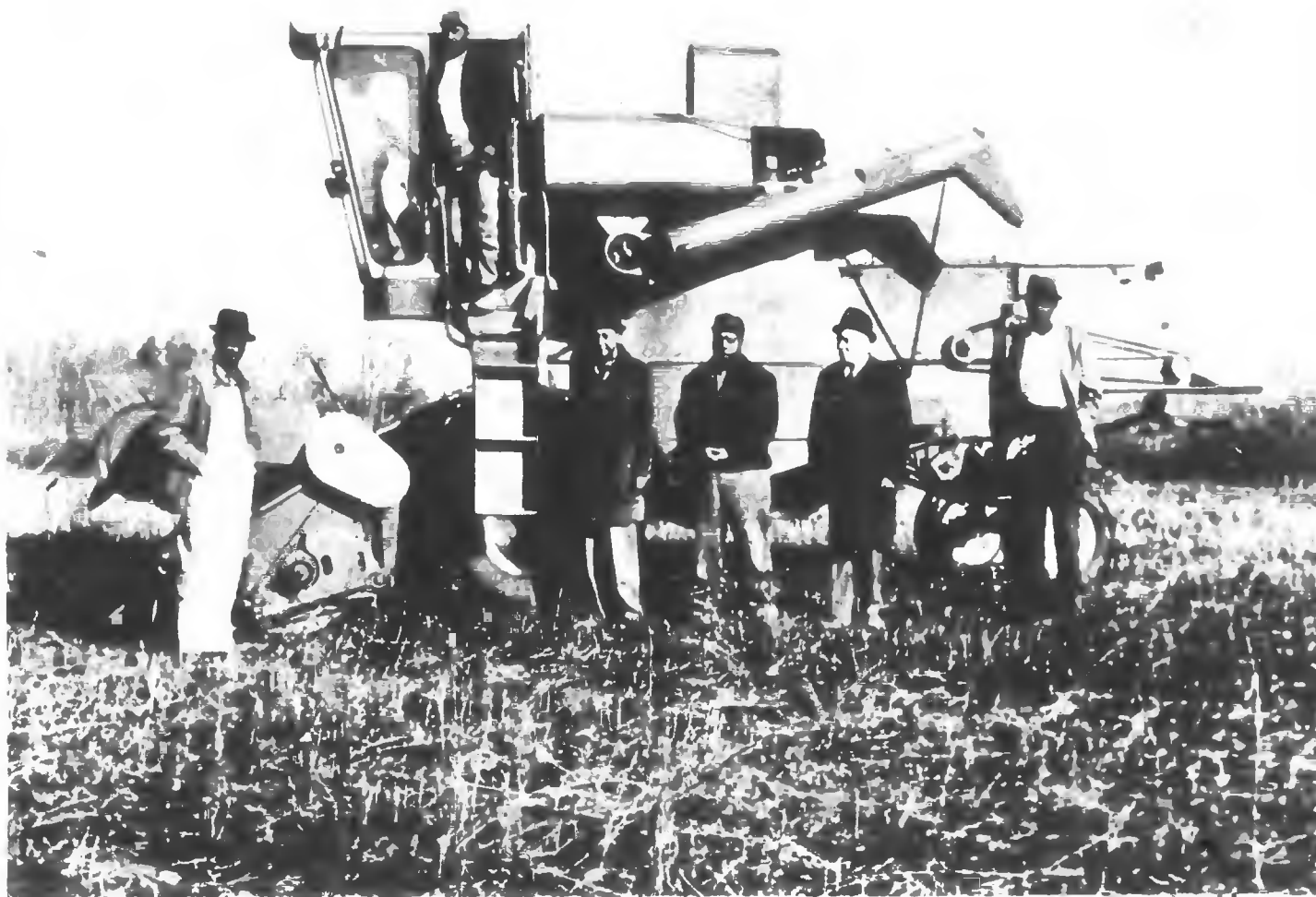
Monday night, town councilmen pored over the problem but at time for adjournment had come up with no satisfactory solution.

Ed Williams, town manager, said the town board was not approached about the sewer and water needs until a few days before all bids were in. At that time, he said, one or two bidders made inquiries about the lines and were told that no plans or requests had been submitted to the town board.

Williams said town councilmen will meet later with county commissioners to discuss a possible joint project to provide water and sewer facilities for the new school and tying the project with development of an industrial site in the same section which seems likely to be occupied in the near future by a new industry.

The project will entail extending water mains from the high school -- a distance of some 600 feet -- and a sewer line approaching from the east side

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CO-OP MEMBERS -- Five of 10 members of a small-farmer cooperative stand with James Pittman, FHA supervisor for Hoke County, in front of the expensive combine they bought with the help of a \$13,500 FHA "anti-poverty" loan. Such

loans are available for other purposes as well. Shown here are, left to right, Johnny Singletary, Mason McLauchlin, Roscoe Miles, Pittman, L. E. McLauchlin, and Fred McCormick, standing at the combine's air-conditioned cab.

Fire Fund Total Up To \$709

Contributions to Hoke County's "Fund For Five" fire victims rose this week to \$709, the campaign committee reported, a substantial increase over last week's \$390.

The drive was started by neighbors of five families in the Ashley Heights-Montrose neighborhood, each of which had a boy in a tragic November 19 camping fire that cost four of the 13-year-olds their lives.

Contributions to the fund may be made by mail to "Fund For Five," P. O. Box 299, Raeford.

Following are contributors not previously listed:

Mrs. Mumford Horr, Mrs. Mildred S. Parks, Sam Sneed, Mr. and Mrs. Grady Peeler Jr., Lottie L. Thomasson, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Jones, R. E. Neeley family, Mr. and Mrs.

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Mrs. Andrews Is Appointed

Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation's board of directors have named Mrs. J. M. Andrews of Hoke County to fill the unexpired term of her late husband, Judge Junius M. Andrews, who was president of the co-op at the time of his death in November.

Mrs. Andrews will sit on the board of directors until next November, when officers will be chosen at the annual meeting of the 960-member cooperative.

Meanwhile, E. L. Cooke of Fayetteville, R. 3 was elevated to the post of president. He was a vice president.

Wade Fowell, a former treasurer and member of the current board of directors, was promoted to vice president. Other officers are Nell A. Watson of Maxton, treasurer, and Cecil Dunn of Lumber Bridge, secretary.

The cooperative serves rural electric customers in Hoke, Robeson, Scotland and part of Cumberland county.

Farmers Form Co-Op; Buy Expensive Combine

Cooperative farming is nothing new. Twenty or so years ago, farmers "swapped work" in getting their corn husked, their wood cut, their barns raised, and their wheat threshed.

Today, however, it is comparatively rare to find a farmer and his neighbor in harness together.

Not so with 10 small Hoke

County farmers who have formed a cooperative and bought an expensive combine and other harvesting equipment, including two grain wagons and a farm truck.

They banded together to qualify for an "anti-poverty" loan from the Farmers Home Administration, a branch of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

James Pittman, manager of the Hoke FHA office, said the group qualified for a \$13,500 loan because nine of the 10 are in the low-income category. By federal definition, any family with less than \$3,000 a year income is poverty-stricken.

They saw the need for the combine, Pittman said, when

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Hawk Eye Principal Hails From 'Educated' Family

BY LUCY GRAY PEEBLES

Earl Hughes Oxendine is probably the only man who ever got into the United States Air Force with an artificial eye. At least, with a twinkle in his good right eye, he declares, "I'm the only man ever to get into the Air Force with just one eye."

The secret came to light a year after induction. During the year he went through eye tests before becoming a military policeman and before obtaining a military driver's license. After being sent home, he re-entered the classroom and is now principal of 670-pupil Hawk Eye High School.

Before he left his Gl buddies, he had seen service at Camp Gordon, Ga., and Fort Dix, N. J. As a lad of eight, Earl was hit in the eye when a playmate threw a stick to demonstrate the old "Indian method of killing a chicken," he said.

The young school man comes from a family that is full of educators, and the family comes from a town that is said (without verification) to be the residence of more teachers than any other town its size in the country. He was born and still lives just outside Pembroke, where he recently built a new home near the residence of his parents.

His family believes in education. There were eight children

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EARL OXENDINE



MASONIC OFFICERS -- Raeford's Masonic lodge installed officers in a special ceremony Tuesday night at the lodge hall, with J. Ed Williams, grand lecturer and past master of the Dunn lodge, serving as installing officer. Shown here are, left to right: Front row--Alfred Long Jr., senior deacon; Henry J. Fowler, senior warden; Bobby McBryde,

master; Glenn McInnis, junior warden; Paul Livingston, secretary. Back row--Joe Dupree, treasurer; William McPhail, junior steward; Henry T. McCoil, junior deacon; A. H. McPhaul, chaplain; Keith Hawks, outgoing master and new tyler; June Rodgers, senior steward; Ed Williams, installing officer.