

# The News - Journal

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## WILL PETITION TOWN BOARD

# Low-Rent Housing Sought For Raeford

A group of Raeford citizens will petition the town board Monday night to establish a housing authority to provide low-rent dwellings for impoverished families.

The petition, signed by 123 property owners, cites the substandard condition of dwellings occupied by low-income families.

It "represents and states that unsanitary and unsafe dwelling accommodations exist in the Town of Raeford, . . . and there is a lack of safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations" here.

The housing authority, if established, would consist of sev-

eral commissioners appointed by the town board, it would be a separate entity, however, and its function would be to provide low-rent housing.

That would be accomplished with federal cooperation, according to Phil Diehl, who with Gilbert Ray initiated the petition in behalf of Hoke Planning and Development Commission.

"The federal government would make available through the Federal Housing Authority funds for construction of a specified number of units. Actually, the housing authority would borrow the money on a 40-year repayment plan and the

FHA would guarantee payment," Diehl said.

The planning and development commission is thinking in terms of 100 units, Diehl said.

The need for housing here was determined in part by surveys made by Hoke Community Action Program, headed by James Attaway.

According to those surveys and others, Hoke County ranks at the bottom of the list among North Carolina's 100 counties in housing needs. An estimated 60 per cent of the housing in the county is substandard.

"Out of 1,000 houses served by Lumbee River Electric Mem-

bership Corporation, only 300 had running water and only 201 had inside toilets," Diehl said.

The petition has the endorsement of Don Prince, president of Raeford Improvement Council (the local community development organization).

If the housing authority is formed, it would be empowered to issue bonds to finance certain housing projects. An executive director would be hired to supervise the rental operation and would be paid at the rate of \$4 per month per housing unit, Diehl said.

The units would be available only to persons who do

not now have adequate housing and are in the "poverty" group. That, as defined by the federal government, is any family with less than a \$3,000 per year income.

Tenants would pay according to their ability, Diehl said.

That is, a certain percentage of their income would be assessed as rent. The lower the income, then, the lower the rent.

"In lieu of taxes, the housing authority would pay 10 per cent of the annual rental income," Diehl said. "The town would have to provide normal services, including water, sewer, garbage collection and police

and fire protection."

To qualify for FHA endorsement of housing authority bonds, the municipality in which the housing authority is situated must have "standard," or FHA approved building and zoning codes.

Raeford presumably would qualify under that stipulation, since it does have a planning and zoning board, a zoning ordinance, and a building code.

Any housing built by the authority would have to meet FHA requirements, of course.

Diehl said Laurinburg has a very successfully operated housing authority and Wagram

has gained FHA approval of a housing project.

"We have reason to believe the FHA would go along with 100 units in Raeford," Diehl said. "They would not all be built at the same place, but probably at three or four locations."

The dwellings would be designed and constructed to last at least 40 years, or until maturity of the bonds, Diehl said.

The town board in July, 1964, rejected a proposal to establish a housing authority here. Then, however, the proposal did not have the weight of petitioners and bona fide development organizations in support of it.



Col. W. L. Poole (seated) and R. B. Lewis

## Col. W. L. 'Rube' Poole Is Kiwanis 'Man Of Year'

Col. W. L. Poole has been named "Man of the Year" by Raeford Kiwanis Club on the basis of his contribution over the years to the young people of Raeford and Hoke County.

Colonel Poole, an avid sports fan and on-time baseball coach of high school, American Legion and semi-professional baseball teams here, is now retired. He is confined to a wheel chair because of an

operation which included amputation of one of his legs.

Presentation of the award was made Thursday night at Chris's Steak House in Fayetteville, where Kiwanians and their wives gathered for the annual "out-of-town" affair.

The award was made by R. B. Lewis, long-time associate of Colonel Poole. Lewis is president of The Bank of Raeford and served with Poole in the National Guard and on active duty with the Army during World War II.

"I have known Lawrence Poole since the latter part of 1919, when we both returned here from serving in World War I," Lewis said. "He has always been for the betterment of our young people, and anything that wasn't good for them, he op-

posed. With respect to his contributions to the young people of Hoke County, he is second to none."

Colonel Poole was a special guest at the banquet, along with his son, John Scott Poole, and Mrs. Poole.

As head of the W. L. Poole Agency, Colonel Poole for many years operated an insurance and real estate business here. He also had an appliance business.

His wife, the late Mrs. Irma Poole, worked with him and was secretary-treasurer and manager of Raeford Savings and Loan Association for 25 years before her retirement last year. She died several months ago. In the days before coaches were required to be faculty

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## Drug Addict, Partner Get Terms In 'Caper'

### Superior Court Term Ends

Two South Carolinians who foiled a local doctor into administering injection of narcotics to one while the other rifled the doctor's office for other drugs were handed prison terms here last week in Hoke Superior Court.

Judge William Copeland gave John Wesley Lloyd two to three years and directed that he receive immediate medical treatment and passed out a three-to-five year sentence to James Carl Gibson.

Lloyd was convicted of using false pretense (feigned illness) in getting Dr. R. M. Jordan to administer a shot of a narcotic drug to him at Raeford Medical Group, where Dr. Jordan practices.

Gibson rifled other sections of the offices, which are occupied during business hours by two other doctors, of a quantity of other narcotics.

The court defined Lloyd as a narcotics addict. It specified that he be examined immediately to determine the need for medical treatment.

Both men had received similar sentences for another offense in Scotland County. The sentences imposed here are to run concurrently with those given in Scotland Superior Court.

Meanwhile, the trial of four young Negroes charged with the brutal slaying of a 77-year-old Hoke County Negro awaits the return of two of the defendants from Dorothea Dix Hospital, where they have been under observation for about 60 days.

The Hoke grand jury last week returned true bills of indictment against Malcolm McCoy, 17, Landon Johnson, 18, Robert Lee Hollingsworth, 23, and King Duffie Purcell, 20, all of the Duffie's Station section of Hoke County.

They are accused of the De-

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### McFadyen Views Upcoming Issues

Rep. Neill McFadyen will be going to Raleigh next week to commence his fourth term as Hoke County's delegate to the House of Representatives.

McFadyen, who is one of four solons who represent the Hoke-Robeson-Scotland district, gave his assessment of several major issues certain to come before the General Assembly soon after it convenes February 8.

One is the issue of "brown-bagging" -- or taking liquor into restaurants and clubs to be consumed there. Long a practice among imbibers, "brown-bagging" several months ago was declared illegal after a test case was brought by a Charlotte restaurant operator.

"Our liquor laws need to be brought up to date," McFadyen said in response to questioning. "The Turlington Act, which established state laws regarding the manufacture, possession and use of liquor, was passed to implement the Volstead Act, which was the federal prohibition statute under which the entire nation was bone dry, from a legal standpoint.

"The Volstead Act was repealed in 1933 and federal prohibition was abolished. But the Turlington Act has remained on the books," McFadyen declared.

"As for liquor by the drink," I am willing to let the people of the state decide the question for themselves in local-option elections, since it is the will of the people, by and large, that the Legislature theoretically seeks to serve."

McFadyen would favor only a small tax cut.

"That the state is in good financial condition is evidenced by a \$200 million sur-

plus during the current biennium. The surplus was accrued, however, not by overtaxation, but by prosperity," he said.

"I am not in favor of independent university status for East Carolina College, or any other college in the state system of higher education," he said. "As for ECC's bid to become a university, I would rather support a sound overall program which would upgrade all the state's institutions of higher learning.

"Nonetheless, I will pay a good bit of attention to the recommendations of the State Board of Higher Education, which will be heard from when a special commission now studying East Carolina's readiness for university status reports to the board," he said.

"Still, I will reserve the right to make up my own mind on the matter," he added.

Redistricting of the state's Congressional districts will occupy a good deal of legislators' time.

McFadyen said he is strongly in favor of Hoke County remaining in the Seventh District. The county several years ago was transferred from the eighth to the seventh district.

"I am pleased, of course, that my friend and colleague, Rep. David Britt of Robeson County, will be speaker of the House," McFadyen said. "It will add considerable prestige and perhaps some advantages to the Hoke-Robeson-Scotland delegation, and therefore to the district."

In addition to McFadyen and Britt, the district will be represented in the House by Rep. R. D. McMillan Jr. of Red Springs and Rep. Roger Kiser of Laurinburg.



REP. NEILL MCFADYEN

## Scott 'Race' Case Postponed Again

The trial of Johnny Scott, 20, of Shannon on multiple charges growing out of an accident with a state highway patrolman on the night of January 2 was continued again this week.

The state reportedly asked for continuance until February 22. Scott is charged with careless and reckless driving, assault on an officer, resisting arrest, and other offenses. He is alleged to have led State Highway Patrolman J. D. Robinson on a wild chase through the south sections of Raeford, then attempting to force Robinson's patrol car off the street when Robinson pulled alongside.

Scott is alleged to have jumped from his car and fled on foot, tripping over a hedge. Robinson contends that when he reached Scott, the young man came up swinging. Robinson said he slugged Scott with a blackjack until he brought him under control.

Meanwhile, a Hoke County Negro charged with shooting another Negro man last week at the Hawaiian Eye night spot is free on bond pending the outcome of the shooting.

He is Roderick Graham, 19, who is charged with shooting James Peguese with a .22 pistol.

Sheriff Dave Barrington said Graham made a statement admitting to the shooting, but claimed self defense.

Peguese was taken first to Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville for treatment of a gunshot wound in the neck. It was determined that the small-caliber bullet had ranged downward into his chest cavity, lodging in the spine.

Barrington said Peguese was then transferred to North Carolina Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill, and although he is paralyzed from the neck down is described by hospital officials as in satisfactory condition.

Graham at first was ordered held without bond, but when it appeared that Peguese was in no immediate danger of death, bond was reduced by Judge William Copeland, who was here last week for a term of Superior Court.

In another traffic case, a Hoke County grand jury returned a true bill of indictment against Charles Elmore Newton, 19, on a charge of manslaughter in the death of three persons November 5.

Newton allegedly was driver of a car which went out of control on a curve on Rockfish Road four miles east of Raeford. Killed instantly were two of Newton's companions, Jerry Allen West and Larry E. Pittman, both Raeford teenagers.

A third victim, Roosevelt Malloy died several hours later.

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## Raeford Merchants Protest Chamber Plans

Want Meeting Of Entire Membership To Air Views About New Office

Raeford merchants have lodged a strong protest against Chamber of Commerce plans to build an office on Harris Avenue near the southwest town limits.

Meeting last Friday night, some 15 members of the merchants division of the chamber voted to ask chamber directors to call a meeting of the full chamber membership before proceeding with plans to build the new office.

It was announced only last week that the board of directors of the chamber had purchased a lot on the north side of Harris Avenue between the 401 bypass intersection and Quality Motors.

The board revealed plans to erect an office building on the property to house the chamber, Hoke Planning and Development Commission, and the auto license bureau.

Jim Fout is manager of the chamber, executive director of the new planning and development commission. State auto license tags are sold by the chamber at its present office on Main Street. Present chamber headquarters includes a "front office," which serves as a reception room, office space for stenographer-receptionist, and houses the license bureau. Fout

has an inner office, which is barely large enough for a desk and a conference table.

Last week's announcement said preliminary plans are for the chamber to build an office containing 900 to 1200 square feet of floor space.

Fout told merchants Friday night he would explain their sentiments to chamber directors, at least one of whom also is a member of the merchants group.

"I work for you just as much as I work for them," Fout said, "since you are members of the chamber of commerce."

A major reason for planning the new office appeared to be the recent combining of Fout's job as chamber manager with that of director of the planning and development commission.

That organization was established by the board of county commissioners after prodding by the chamber of commerce, where the idea originated. It will be devoted to "total development" of Raeford and Hoke County, with emphasis on attracting new industry.

Some merchants Friday night expressed fear that moving the license bureau off Main Street would take traffic (and business)

away from the downtown area. The vast majority of motor vehicle owners in Hoke County buy their license plates here.

"I am not trying to persuade you, but merely explaining the thinking behind the board of directors' action in buying the lot and planning the building," Fout told merchants, "I work for you as much as anybody else, since you, too, are members of the chamber of commerce."

Merchants asked that the general meeting be called within 30 to 60 days to give them and other members opportunity to express themselves to the board of directors.