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Town Seeks One-Third ABC Money

Raeftord's town board members passed a resolution Monday night to ask Rep. Neill McFadyen to introduce a local bill in the General Assembly to provide the town one-third of ABC revenue here.

The somewhat surprising motion came after a lengthy discussion of the town's financial plight with regard to sewer and water needs.

When the ABC board was established here in 1963, the town board wanted no part of the establishment. It was built on Highway 401 bypass largely because the town charter prohibits sale of liquor inside the town limits.

Now, however, the operation is a windfall for the county treasury, turning some \$60,000 a year.

Moreover, state rebate of beer and wine taxes for which both the town and county qualified when legal sale of those beverages was authorized here this past summer, will add an estimated \$20,000 in revenue.

The county also reaps a financial award by licensing all beer dealers. The town levies no such privilege fee, although a number of stores inside the town limits sell both beer and light wine and fortified wine.

Meanwhile, the town board took another look at its desperate water and sewer problems and came a step closer to calling for a bond issue.

A consulting engineer advised the board Monday night the town will have to raise an estimated \$650,000 from bond sales to bring local water and sewage treatment facilities to a satisfactory standard.

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CHARLES HOSTETLER

Hostetler And Son In Raleigh

Charles Hostetler, Raeftord attorney, will serve the 1967 General Assembly, although not as a senator or representative.

Hostetler, who represented Hoke County in the N. C. House before Neill McFadyen defeated him four terms ago, has been named chief enrolling clerk for the House.

The appointment was made several weeks ago by Secretary of State Thad Eure.

The chief enrolling clerk plays a major part in the scheduling of legislation. It is a full-time job.

More than that, Hostetler's son, Anderson, has been named a House page and has gone to Raleigh with his father. McFadyen made the appointment.

Hostetler, a member of the law firm of Hostetler, McNeill and Wilcox, said he is pleased with the idea of being back in Raleigh, where he once also worked as a deputy insurance commissioner.

"I think I will find the job enjoyable and rewarding," he said. "No, I do not plan to stay with my parents, who live in Raleigh. I will stay at the Sir See HOSTETLER, Page 11

Draft Calls Six In Hoke

Six Hoke County young men formerly classified I-Y will be inducted into the armed forces February 15, according to the local draft board clerk.

Reclassification of these and other registrants was made recently when induction requirements were revamped throughout the Selective Service system.

Food Handout Ok'd 12 Months

Hoke County commissioners reversed a long-standing policy Monday and authorized the distribution of free surplus food, 12 months a year.

For the past two or three years, impoverished families in the county have received certain staple food items -- furnished by the federal government and distributed at no cost to the county -- for four or five months a year.

In the face of sometimes harsh criticism, commissioners stuck by their guns in the past. They said farmers complained they could get no farm labor if workers were being fed. Grocery stores, to complain that sales were off during the months the free food was being distributed.

This year, the program was set up to operate through March. Monday, the welfare board asked commissioners to authorize year-round distribution of the some dozen items.

The welfare department, which certifies eligibility for the handouts, said 550 families -- or about 2,500 people -- currently are receiving the food. That number will be substantially reduced during the farming season, it was estimated, because some family incomes will increase beyond the maximum permitted under the free food program.

"We wish to appeal to farmers who have difficulty in finding hands during the growing season to report their difficulty to the welfare department," said Commissioner John Balfour. "If free food is the cause, the matter will be looked into."

Eligibility for the commodities is based upon family income, with the wages of all family members taken into consideration. A single welfare recipient, for instance, can have

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Drive Launched To Raise \$6,000 For Band Outfits

A campaign to raise \$6,000 for band uniforms at Hoke High School has been launched by a group of Raeftord mothers.

The drive will include solicitation of businesses, industry, professional people and individuals in an effort to provide 70 uniforms for the growing Hoke High School Band.

Starting almost from scratch three years ago, the band has developed into a first-rate high school company. It received special recognition and an excellent rating when it performed in Charlotte's Carrousel Parade in November.

While the band has more than 60 performers, it is without formal uniforms. Its makeshift attire consists of Mexican straw hats and "serapes" of a gaudy, inexpensive material.

Heading the fund campaign are Mrs. Edmund Murray, Mrs. Ralph Barnhart and Mrs. Carlton Niven.

Jimmy James, band director, met with the group Tuesday afternoon. At the group's suggestion, he had acquired cost estimates and had selected a uniform that pleased current members of the band.

Based on the internationally famous Buckingham Palace Guard uniform, the band attire will include a red jacket (military in style), black trousers, black shako, and white sash.

The uniforms will cost \$87.86, including tax. Total cost of 70 uniforms will be \$6,150.20.

"That price will prevail until March 1," James said. "At that time, prices will go up 6 per cent, which would be more than \$5 a uniform."

Contributions by check, if made to Hoke High School, will be tax deductible. Contributions by mail should be addressed to Band Fund, Box 274, Raeftord.

Initial stage of the campaign will be a

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APPROXIMATE BAND UNIFORM

PETITION PRESENTED

Town Board Delays Decision On Housing

Meeting To Be Set In Future

Raeftord town board took under advisement Monday night a petition calling for establishment of a housing authority to provide low-rent housing for impoverished families in the town and county.

After receiving the petition and hearing from several leaders in the move to secure up to 100 dwelling units through a federal government program, commissioners moved to defer consideration of the petition until their next meeting, whether regular or called.

Told by Attorney Harry D. Harrison, whose law firm represents the town, that a public hearing would be required before action could be taken to establish the authority, the board declined to set a date for the public hearing, although pressed to do so.

The board was petitioned to create a housing authority which would exist as a separate corporation with power to issue bonds to finance construction and operation of low-rent housing projects. The Federal Housing Authority would guarantee payment of the bonds, which would have a 40-year maturity date.

The housing would be designed, built, administered and paid for by the housing authority. The town government would have neither authority nor responsibility in the project beyond creating the authority and providing "normal" utilities and services.

The petition was prepared and circulated by the housing committee of the new Hoke County Planning and Development Commission. Phil Diehl and Gilbert Ray are members of the committee.

Led by the Rev. Cortez A. Cooper, Diehl, and Jim Fout, executive director of the planning and development commission, a group of 20 or 30 people appeared in support of the petition.

Told that Hoke County ranks 100th in the state (at the bottom) in the matter of overcrowded housing, town commissioners contended that the problem is predominant outside the town limits and ought to be taken care of by the county.

"Maybe I am dense," said the Rev. Mr. Cooper, "but it seems to me that if the town has an opportunity to do some-

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Crowd Gathers As Body Of Youngster Is Removed From Street

Widening Is Sought For NC 211

Hoke County commissioners have asked the State Highway Commission to improve N. C. 211 from the Robeson to Moore County lines, specifically to widen the road to 24 feet between Raeftord and the Moore line.

"If we don't get it done now, we'll never have it," said Jim Fout, director of Hoke Planning and Development Commission. "They are getting ready to pave the road, and if they put down a coat of asphalt without widening it, they can come back later and say they gave us pavement and cannot then widen it."

The road is heavily traveled all year. In addition to automobile traffic, it is used by many trucks who come southward on U. S. 1 and U. S. 220 and cut eastward on 211.

The road is being relocated at the State Sanatorium at McCain, straightening a series

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Auto Kills Child; Fire Claims Man

A two-year-old child was hit by a car and killed at McCain shortly before noon Saturday and a Shannon man died in a fire which burned his four-room tenement house late Sunday afternoon.

Vincent Elaine McNeill, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McNeill of McCain, was killed instantly when struck by an auto driven by Roosevelt Farmer, 22-year old Sanatorium employee, who lives just a few doors from the McNeills.

State Highway Patrolman J. D. Robinson said Farmer told him he was going home to lunch at about 11:30 a. m. when he saw several children playing in the street, slowed to about 25 miles per hour. The area is a 35-mile-per-hour zone.

Robinson said the children cleared the street, according to Farmer, but the McNeill child apparently ended up alone across the street from the older children. The child apparently then dashed to join the other

children and stepped into the path of Farmer's auto.

The child's body lay in the street directly in front of the McNeill home for more than an hour while officers waited for Coroner Frank Crumpler to arrive. Crumpler said he was not in Raeftord at the time of the accident and had to be rounded up.

He ruled the death accidental. Robinson said no charges have been filed against Farmer.

Crumpler also ruled the death of James Burnes, 54, accidental after volunteer firemen found his charred remains in the embers of the fire which destroyed his dwelling on Upchurch Farms near Shannon.

Hillcrest Volunteer firemen answered a call to the blaze about 6:30 p. m. Sunday. Burnes' body was not recovered until about 8:30.

Crumpler said it was not known that Burnes was in the dwelling until the building had

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Wilderness Yields Body Of Man, 78

The body of a 78-year-old Negro man, missing from his home since last Wednesday was found Tuesday morning on the Fort Bragg reservation about five miles north of Vance Station No. 1.

Sheriff Dave Barrington said the discovery of Frank Blue's body ended a search of several days, during which the missing man was traced to the wilderness of the vast military reservation.

At that point, the sheriff's jurisdiction ended and military authorities took over.

Blue's body was discovered some 40 yards from Old Flank Road, Barrington said. He apparently had died of exposure, the sheriff said military authorities reported from a medical

Hospital at Fort Bragg.

"We were extremely fortunate to find him," Barrington said. "He was in a remote area, and had his tracks on the reservation on the dirt road, it is likely we never would have found

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Legalized Liquor, Beer Cut Bootlegging

Only Six Stills Discovered In Hoke County For Entire 1966 Period

Legal sale of beer, wine and liquor in Hoke County has appreciably decreased bootlegging and moonshining activity in the county, according to Sheriff Dave Barrington.

In presenting his annual report to county commissioners here Monday, Barrington was asked what effect the recent legalization of beer and light wine sales has had on law enforcement.

"We are arresting more public drunks, the sheriff told commissioners, "but for the most part, they are the same old offenders. They just get drunk earlier on Saturday now and get in jail before midnight."

Going back to 1963, however, when ABC sale of hard liquor and fortified wine was approved by the voters, Barrington noted a sharp annual decrease in the number of illicit stills destroyed, and in bootlegging activity.

"Back in the 1950s, we used to cut up a hundred to a hundred

and fifty stills a year," he said. "In 1962, the year before the ABC store opened, we had 55 or 60. This year, we had only six, in spite of the fact that we have twice as many deputies as we used to have, plus a county ABC officer."

Barrington said his report did not include the activities of ABC Officer J. K. Riley. "He may have cut up several stills not on my report, although we usually work together on raids," the sheriff said.

Legal sale of beer and light wine has "cut down on the 50-cent a can beer bootlegging," according to Barrington. Illicit sale of beer is now confined to hours when the ABC store and beer dealers are closed.

"There probably is just as much white whisky passing through Hoke County as before, but it is not being manufactured and sold here like it once was," Barrington said.

Sale of white whisky (non-tax-paid) is limited almost exclusively to low-income people in various "joints," some of which pass as "night spots" and others in private residences.

The sheriff's annual report also showed an increase in arrests and other departmental activity. Part was due to a nation-wide increase in crime, but a primary factor was increased activity by the department after it secured additional officers.

In 1963, the sheriff's staff was composed of the sheriff and two deputies, one of whom served as jailer. In July 1964, two deputies were added to the force, and last July a fifth deputy was authorized.

Since getting the additional help in 1964, the sheriff's department has patrolled a day basis. The six deputies now rotate on eight-hour shifts, with two men on each shift and a third assigned to nighttime desk duty.

Consequently, the number of break-ins decreased from 143 in 1965 to 95 in 1966. Thirty break-ins were solved in 1966 and stolen property recovered amounted to \$8,611.60. The previous year, 91 breaking and entering cases were solved and stolen property valued at \$20,097 was recovered.

Arrests jumped from 867 in 1965 to 1,004 in 1966. The number of calls answered showed a corresponding increase -- from 849 in 1965 to 1,089 in 1966.

In addition to destroying six stills last year, the department seized 24 gallons of white non-taxpaid whisky, 42 12-ounce cans of beer, 13 16-ounce cans of beer, and destroyed 800 gallons of mash.

In 1965, the department's officers destroyed 17 stills, 110 gallons of white whisky, 110 16-ounce cans of beer and 13 12-ounce cans of beer.

Following is a complete comparison of activities, with 1965 figures in parentheses:

Arrests 1,004 (867); information given persons 3,192 (5,431); investigations made 351 (403); public gatherings worked 105 (64); value stolen property recovered, \$8,611.60 (\$20,097); witnesses summoned (criminal), 289 (72); search warrants served, 28 (72); capias, 60 (51); homicides, 3 (2); man hours in court, 776 (791); jury summons, 37 (22).

Witnesses summoned (civil), 32 (63); executed, 37 (34); civil summons, 410 (384); judgments, 4 (0); claims and delinquencies, 43 (24); apartment proceedings, 48 (35); parking notices, 4 (2); serving notices, 3 (1).

The department handles relatively few traffic cases, but it investigated six wrecks in 1964. Two persons were killed in the wrecks each year.

Deputies made only one arrest for careless and reckless driving, seven for drunk driving and nine for miscellaneous traffic offenses.