

The News - Journal

The Hoke County News- Established 1928

The Hoke County Journal - Established 1905

VOLUME LXI NUMBER 45

RAEFORD, HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

10¢ PER COPY

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1967

CAN'T MAKE APRIL 1 DEADLINE

Water-Sewer Bond Issue Will Wait

BY JIM TAYLOR

There will be no water-sewer bond election in Raeford for the time being, town officials indicated this week, and it may be another year before the bond issue is called.

Raeford town board had left open the path to a bond issue while seeking a solution to the town's pressing water-sewer problems in order that the town might qualify for 30 per cent federal participation. Deadline for making the state priority list for federal aid is April 1, however, and it would be im-

possible to have a bond issue set up by that time.

The time element was not the only reason the issue was delayed, apparently, because town commissioners insist they will continue to seek solutions requiring less than the \$1.32 million the proposed project would have cost.

They have directed Richard Moore, consulting engineer, to investigate all possible means of averting such an expensive project. Moore is expected to consult engineers of Burlington Industries and Raeford Turkey Farms, the town's two biggest

Industrial customers, about the feasibility of pre-treatment of industrial waste to lessen the burden on the town's sewage treatment plant.

If the necessity of improvement to the treatment plant can be avoided, cost of the proposed improvements would be reduced by about \$850,000.

An overburdened treatment plant is the primary problem, according to Moore. Designed to handle 2800 B.O.D. (biochemical oxygen demand) it is now operating at almost twice that level. Latest B.O.D. count was about 5,000, Town Manager

Ed Williams said.

"I must say that the plant has operated perfectly for the past 12 months," Williams said, "and although the B.O.D. count is up, we have experienced no visible problems."

The plant's hydraulic capacity is 1.5 million gallons a day, Williams said, and the average load is about a million gallons a day.

That would indicate that the plant is performing satisfactorily at twice the BOD capacity for which it was designed, while treating only two-thirds of its hydraulic capacity.

Williams said he assumes the problems one would expect to encounter by excessive B.O.D. would be incompletely treated sewage leaving the plant and going to Rockfish Creek. The State Stream Sanitation people keep a close watch on that, however, and Williams said he has received no complaint about the plant at present polluting the creek.

Proposed improvements to the system include an additional outfall line from Burlington Industries two plants here to the sewage treatment plant at a cost of \$200,000; a

new outfall south of town to serve the new elementary school being raised off Bethel Road and other residential customers in that section of town, cost \$270,000; and improvements to the treatment plant, increasing its capacity to 12,000 B.O.D., cost \$850,000.

That would total \$1,320,000, which, less a federal grant of \$396,000 for 30 per cent of the cost, would leave the town liable for \$924,000.

Town commissioners have been cool toward a bond issue in that amount for two reasons: 1. It would bring the town's

bonded indebtedness well above 8 per cent of assessed valuation of property inside the town limits; 2. they feel that Hoke County would benefit as much or more than the town for improvements affecting Burlington Industries, which is outside the town limits and pays only county ad valorem taxes, although it pays standard rate for water.

Town commissioners left the way open for a bond issue, however, while they explored other solutions to the problem. Now that the April 1 deadline for See BOND ISSUE, Page 11

Solicitor Asks Special Court Term

Solicitor Doran J. Berry has asked for a special term of Hoke Superior Court before the regular spring criminal term begins April 24 in order to bring to trial four young Negroes charged with the slaying of a 77-year-old man.

"The trial very likely will take the better part of a week," Berry said here yesterday, "and the four defendants have been in jail since the slaying occurred back in December."

The quartet is accused of slaying Neill Archie McCormick early one Sunday evening at his home near Duffie's Station, where he lived alone.

The accused men are Malcolm McCoy, 17, Landon Johnson, 18, Robert Lee Hollingsworth, 23, and King David Purcell, 19, all of the Duffie's Station community.

McCormick's badly beaten body was discovered some 24 hours after the slaying when his son, Fred McCormick, stopped to check when he passed after dark and saw no lights in the house.

Robbery was the motive for the slaying, according to Sheriff Dave Barrington, who said his investigation revealed McCormick had some \$79 on his person before the slaying.

The quartet was indicted by a Hoke County grand jury in January but the case did not come to trial at that time be-

cause two of the defendants, McCoy and Johnson, were at Dorothea Dix Hospital in Raleigh to have determined their mental competence to stand trial.

McCoy and Johnson are being defended by Palmer Wilcox and Bill Moses is attorney for Hollingsworth and Purcell. Both were appointed by the court when the four indicated they did not have the means to employ counsel.

McCoy and Johnson were observed at Dorothea Dix Hospital for some 60 days and declared competent to stand trial.

Berry said he originally requested Chief Justice R. Hunt Parker to set up a special term of Hoke Superior Court for this week.

"I have not heard from Justice Parker, so it is obvious that the special term, if granted, will have to come at some other time. There would be no real advantage to having a special term after the regular term, but I am hopeful that we can have an extra week of court sometime between now and April 24," Berry said.

Since four defendants are involved in the McCormick case, it probably will take up more time than the average case. The Herbin murder trial held here in December, 1965, took an entire week.



IT'S EASTER -- Cissy and Jim, hand in hand, strike a pretty, professional-like pose as they model their Easter togs, while their twin brothers, John, left, and Bob, being the carefree pair they are, prefer the hands-in-pocket casual stance. They are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Moses of Raeford.



CONCERNED--Is that thing taking my place? That is what Fluffie seems to be asking Jackie McMillan Jr. It could never be so, but right now, the little boy's prime interest is in his Easter bunny. Jackie lives on a peach farm near Raeford.

J.H. Irby Freedom Of Choice Is Stricken Policy Is Retained

Funeral services for James Henry Irby, 47, of 610 Bethel Rd., who died Monday night of a heart attack, were conducted Wednesday at 4 p. m. at Raeford Methodist Church by the Rev. R. E. L. Moser, pastor. Burial was in Raeford Cemetery.

Irby had been in semi-retirement since an attack several years ago. He had been in the exterminating business for about 20 years. He was a Mason, a Woodman, a Moose and a member of the American Legion and the V. F. W.

Surviving are his wife, Dorothy Irby of the home; a daughter, Mrs. Martha Ann Furnage of Hope Mills; and a sister, Mrs. Zelma Taylor of Charlotte.

Pre-School Clinic Set

A pre-school clinic will be held at Hoke County Health Center between now and the last of April with certain days being set aside for certain children.

W. T. Gibson Jr., superintendent of schools, said every child should have a complete physical examination before entering school. "It is best that this be done by your family physician, but if you are unable to do this, pre-school clinics will be held at the health center," he added.

Children who will be attending the pre-school clinic at the health center must be present for registration at 8 a. m. to permit adequate time for the pre-school physical work-up, Gibson said.

Children whose last names begin with A and B will go to the clinic on Wednesday, March 29; with C, D, E, F, G, H, Thursday, April 6; with I, J, K, Wednesday, April 12; with L, M, Mc, Thursday, April 13; with N, O, P, Q, R, Tuesday, April 18; with S, through Z, Wednesday April 26.

Hoke County parents and students have until April 13 to choose the school they wish the student to attend during the 1967-68 school year, according to W. T. Gibson Jr., superintendent of schools.

For the third year, students are being given complete "freedom of choice" in selecting the schools they wish to attend. To be assigned to any school, however, the student and/or his parents must return to the superintendent's office the application for enrollment mailed to the parents of every pupil in the county.

The several thousand letters were mailed well in advance of the 30-day choice period, which began March 16.

"Your school system's desegregation plan under the Civil Rights Act of 1964 is being continued this coming school year," Gibson wrote to parents. "The purpose of the plan is to eliminate the dual structure of separate schools for children of separate races."

The plan requires every student or his parent to choose the school the student will attend beginning in September. It does not matter which school the student is attending this year, or whether the 1967-68 school of his choice formerly was all-white, all-Negro or all-Indian.

This year, the freedom of choice plan resulted in more than 100 transfers from previously all-Negro or all Indian schools to predominantly white schools.

Body Of Woman, 84, Found By Searchers

The body of an 84-year-old Negro woman missing since March 15 in the Five Points community was found at noon Sunday some two miles from her residence.

Coroner Frank Crumpler ruled that Mrs. Carrey Page, who lived in the Jesse McNair home, died of exposure three or four days before her body was discovered.

The discovery was made at 12:10 p. m. by Archie Walters and Glenn Fulk, about a mile from the nearest road.

Ironically, the discovery was made while some 80 members of nine rescue squads in this area took a luncheon break after four hours of combing the underbrush.

Sheriff's officers and neighbors had searched for the missing woman daily since she was reported missing from the McNair home.

Hoke Rescue Squad was joined here Sunday morning by units from Vass, Red Springs, Maxton, Sanford, Pembroke, Lee, Carthage and Aberdeen. Sixteen other persons from rural fire departments and the woman's neighborhood joined in the search.

Tracks apparently made by the woman were found somewhat by accident by Bobby Conoly and Reuben Webb on the banks of Mountain Creek when they went into the woods there to check out a forest fire.

Tourism Nets \$\$ In County

Hoke County capitalized on the tourists trade to the tune of \$385,000 last year, according to a report made today by Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce.

Jim Fout, chamber manager, said out-of-state travelers spent that amount inside the boundaries of Hoke County.

Total sales to all local and traveling customers was \$2,469,000, Fout said, and sales to local and in-state travelers was put at \$2,084,000 -- or the difference between the out-of-state and total sales figures.

Parker Rites Are Conducted

Lacy Ollan Parker, 40, died Sunday. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday at 11 a. m. at Crumpler Funeral Chapel by the Rev. Cortez Cooper.

Burial was in Fairmont Cemetery. Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Loretta E. Parker; one daughter, Mrs. Gloria J. Bohan; three sons, Mitchell, Melvin and Donald Parker, all of Raeford; six sisters, Mrs. Grady Baxley and Mrs. Vester Hayes of Fairmont, Mrs. Bertha Walters, Mrs. A. C. Lewis and Mrs. Gertrude Hayes of Lumberton; his father, F. P. Parker of Lumberton.

PTA Elects Diehl

Phil Diehl, Raeford Attorney, was elected president of Raeford Parent-Teacher Association Monday night at a meeting at Raeford Elementary School.

Other newly elected officers, who will be installed in May are: Cortez A. Cooper, vice president, Mrs. Talmadge Baker, secretary, and Mrs. J. A. Niven, treasurer.

Few Special Easter Services Planned

Parker Methodist Church will be the only church in the area to hold sunrise services Easter morning, as far as has been revealed yesterday.

The church at Wayside has extended an invitation to all church-going people to attend its 8 a. m. service. The Rev. Clay Morgan, pastor, said that in case of cold or bad weather, the scripture reading and Easter music will take place indoors.

In town, Raeford Presbyterian Church will omit sunrise service for the first time in several years. It will, however, hold a Maundy Thursday communion service at 8 p. m. during which special Easter music will be rendered by the chancel choir and by Preston Phillips,

soloist. A special Easter worship service will be held at 11 a. m. Sunday. Easter music will be sung by a choir made up of youths and adults. Their sermon title will be, "The Power and The Glory of Easter," by the Rev. C. A. Cooper.

Antioch Presbyterian Church will not hold special Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services as usual, since it has just closed a series of meetings,

but will have special Easter services at 11 a. m. Sunday. The Rev. Ben Furgerson, pastor, will preach the sermon.

Pittman Grove Baptist Church will observe homecoming on Easter Sunday.

The Rev. R. L. Moser, pastor of Raeford Methodist Church said his church will hold its annual Maundy Thursday communion services from 7 to 9 p. m. Communicants may come and go at will. On Friday night, the Youth Fellowship will sponsor a sacrificial meal at 8:30 o'clock. Food to be served will consist of rice, crackers and water which will be partaken in silence. The table will be effectively decorated in the shape of a cross. The Senior High Youth Fellowship will give a program following the supper. On Sunday morning the pastor will preach on, "Piercing Death's Darkness," and the choir will render Easter music.

First Baptist Church held its special Easter services on Palm Sunday, with a combined choir of more than 60 voices. At the Easter Sunday morning worship service, children's choirs will present Easter songs. The pastor, the Rev. John Glenn, will use "Christ in Victory" for his sermon topic.

Galatia Presbyterian Church will have regular morning worship service with special music and an Easter sermon by the Rev. Dewey Herring.



THE COLD GOT THEM--Last Friday, before the week end freeze, peach trees were just about at the peak of bloom as shown at left. Sunday morning, they looked like those at right. The sad story is that there will be few, if any Elbertas this



summer. Growers say that peaches which bloom later in the spring may have a chance. The trees are in the Poole orchard about six miles west on the Aberdeen road.