

The News - Journal

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CLUBWOMEN HELP--Home Demonstration Club women of Hoke County have been playing Santa Claus in July. Shown here are three children who are attending Headstart school. The little girls are already wearing the garments given to them and they watch while the other five-year-old chooses a shirt to wear with boxer shorts. Mrs. Donald Abernethy distributes the clothes to children who need them.

Tennis Court Lights Sought

Raeform tennis enthusiasts and players are being asked to contribute \$800 for lights at the school system's two brand new tennis courts at Hoke High School.

Tennis never was "big" here, but in recent years, a lot of newcomers who play tennis have been clamoring for courts.

The new courts -- excellently constructed to AAU specifications -- were contracted by the school system.

"I promised at the time that we'd raise the money downtown to put in lights," said Bill Howell, a member of the board of education and a former tennis player.

Downtown merchants are being most generous Howell said, but it will take considerable support from individuals to reach the quota.

"We especially invite adults who play tennis, or parents whose children will be using the courts, to help us pay for the lights," Howell said.

The new courts are said to be as good as can be constructed. They were built by specialists and employ a durable, all-weather surface which is supposed to be far superior to regular asphalt.

The only other courts in the county are at Arabia Golf Club.

Tennis is a game played internationally, with both professional and amateur competition between individuals and teams of most all nations. With the possible exception of track and field, it is perhaps the most widely played sport in the world.

In pre-World War II days, there were several clay courts in Raeform. At one time or another, there were public courts on Main Street where Mark's Supermarket now stands and another on Edinborough Avenue at the present site of City Cleaners.

Several Raeformites went on to play intercollegiate tennis, but after World War II, the sport was not revived until only very recently.

"There must be a great many people at Raeform Worsted and Pacific Mills Dyeing plants who have played, or are interested in learning to play the game," Howell said. "We welcome their participation in the fund drive."

Contributions can be made in person or by mail to Howell at Howell Drug Company.

State Law Will Be Enforced

Mayor H. R. McLean promised a crackdown on careless bike riding and got the backing of the town board this week.

The mayor, an outspoken foe on sidewalk cycling, suggested to the board that it adopt an ordinance authorizing officers to impound bicycles for up to 10 days when a youth is found guilty of improperly riding or parking his bike.

Commissioners instead called for officers to search the state statutes for laws which already govern the operation of bicycles, and if adequate to control the local situation, to strictly enforce them.

Members of the board were uncertain as to which motor vehicle laws also are applicable to bikes, horsedrawn vehicles, and other conveyances not classified as "motor" vehicles.

Specifically, though, what they intend to stop immediately is the widespread practice of riding bikes on sidewalks and parking them flat on the sidewalk in front of business establishments in the downtown area.

"We urge parents to cooperate fully in our efforts to get our young people to ride their bicycles in a safe and courteous manner," Mayor McLean said. "Particularly dangerous is the practice of riding bikes without lights at night."

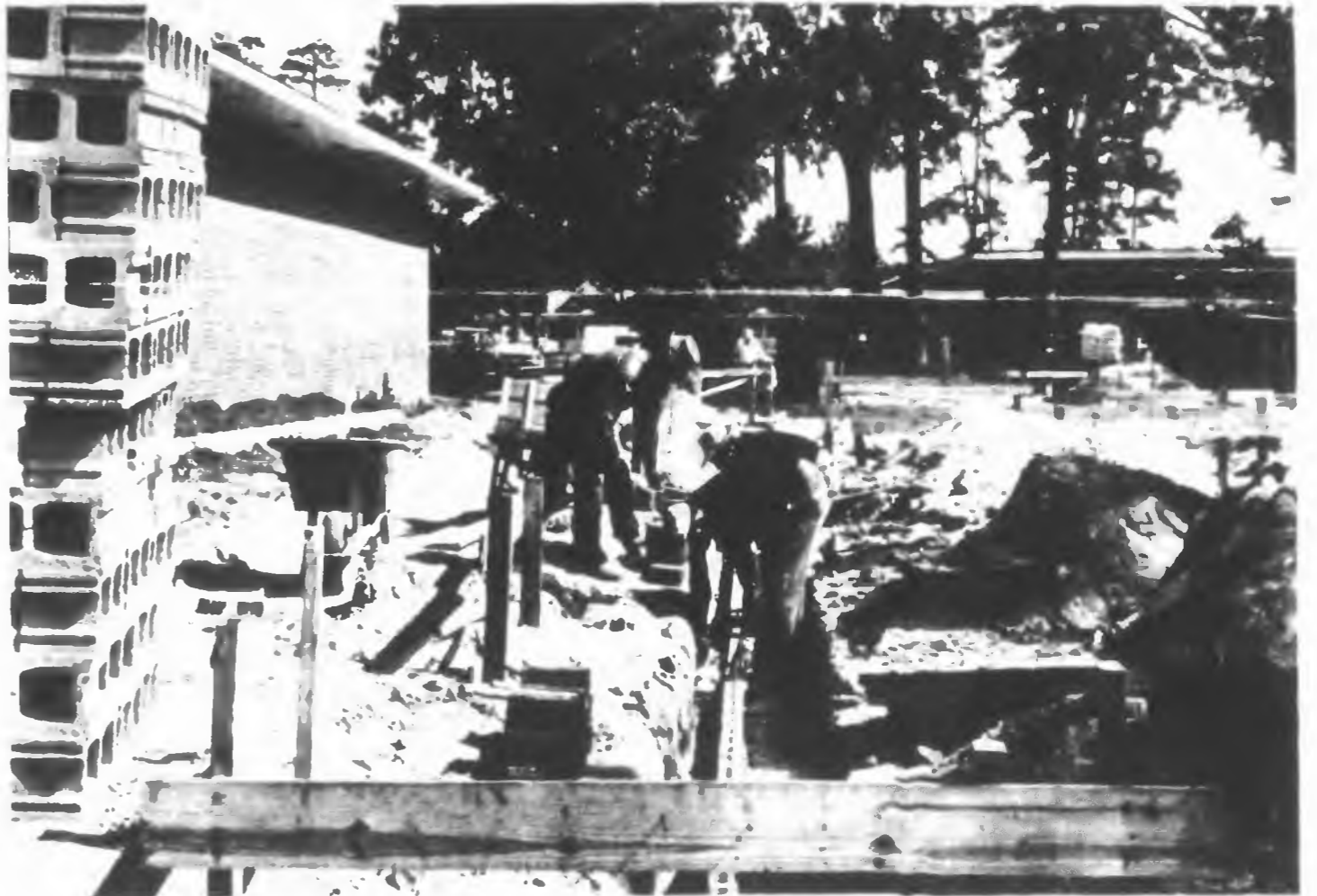
That, commissioners were uncertain, is against state law. "We do not wish to be unreasonable, but the youngsters themselves are being unreasonable," Mayor McLean said. "I have warned dozens, and dozens of them and they pay little or no attention to me."

The only solution, he said, is to turn the matter over to policemen, who have full authority to bring the situation under control and the town board's instructions to do so.

The town has provided a bike See CRACKDOWN, Page 9

LOOK OUT, KIDS!

Board Backs McLean On Bike Crackdown



LAYING FOUNDATION--Masonry began at the site of the new Hoke County jail this week. Brick have been chosen

to correspond in color with that used in the present Education Building, which is only a few feet away.

Dye Plant To Expand

The Pacific Mills Division of Burlington Industries, Inc., has announced plans to construct a 30,000 square foot addition to its Pacific Mills Dyeing plant in Raeform.

George Wilcox, plant manager, said he hopes construction can begin within the next month.

"Most of the space will be used to relieve our congested warehousing problem," Wilcox said. "Some relocation of manufacturing equipment will be involved to improve production flow."

The dyeing plant is one of two Pacific Mills operations in Raeform. Raeform Worsted Plant, world's largest worsted operation, and the dyeing plant are under one roof.

Jones Turns In His Badge For Forest Service Post

Robert Jones, Hoke County deputy sheriff, has resigned from the sheriff's department to take a job as county forest ranger, a state job.

Jones, 32, joined the sheriff's force in July, 1964. As forest ranger, he will succeed Clyde Leach, who resigned several months ago to take another job.

Meanwhile, Sheriff Dave Barrington disclosed that Frank Brock, night police radio operator for the Raeform police department, has been employed as a desk officer for the sheriff's department.

Brock, 37, will work the night shift at the sheriff's office, handling radio communications and other duties.

A replacement for Jones will

not be hired immediately, Barrington said.

"Actually, with Brock working the office night shift, we will have the same force on patrol, because one of the deputies heretofore had to be left at the office at night. The five deputies rotated on the desk job," Barrington said.

Two men would have had to be detailed to the jail so as to provide a man at the jail 24 hours a day, had the old jail been kept in operation.

County commissioners decided last week to tear down the old jail and house prisoners in Scotland County Jail while a new jail is being built here. The new jail is under construction.

to provide 24-hour watch at the jail. And while construction workers were digging footing for the new jail, they encountered sewer lines which would have had to be moved.

Commissioners decided it would be more practical to close the jail than to provide improvements which would have been used for only a few months.

They had no choice but to provide the improvements or close the jail, since the state inspector told them they had only 15 days to make the alterations or the state would close the jail.

"It will not be terribly expensive to maintain prisoners at the Scotland jail," Barrington said. "We worked out an agreement to pay \$150 a month, which amounts to only \$1,950 a year."

It will be inconvenient for officers to transport the prisoners 20 miles to and from the jail, Barrington said, and added transportation costs will be incurred by his department.

So far as depriving the county of officers on patrol while they are en route to and from the jail at Laurinburg, the short time they are out of the county will be negligible, Barrington said. The county line near Wagram, en route to Laurinburg, is only some 10 miles from Laurinburg.

Several weeks ago, he advised county authorities several improvements were necessary before the jail would meet standards set forth in a recently enacted law concerning North Carolina jails. First, new mattresses, kitchen improved food services, painting, and interior work would have been required. Then, too, an extra man would have had to be hired

to provide 24-hour watch at the jail. And while construction workers were digging footing for the new jail, they encountered sewer lines which would have had to be moved.

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Town Gets More Mail

An additional arrival and departure of mail began at the Raeform and McCain post offices in Hoke County this week, returning them to two incoming and two outgoing dispatches daily.

In Raeform, the Southern Pines-Fayetteville star route will bring incoming mail at 2:45 p.m. The additional dispatch of outgoing mail will be made at 10 a.m.

Since July 1, 1965, the town had only a 5:15 a.m. arrival and a 6:40 departure. That schedule will be retained, according to Postmaster Charlie Morrison.

At McCain, incoming mail will arrive at 5:55 a.m. and 3 p.m. and outgoing mail will be dispatched at 10:10 a.m. and 7:10 p.m. Mail must be in the post office or outside box by 10 a.m. and 4:15 p.m., respectively, for the dispatches.

Morrison said the additional incoming mail will be put up in post office boxes as soon as possible after it arrives. Carrier delivery, however, will not be affected.

Welfare Boost Is Explained

The increase in the local public assistance budget granted last week by county commissioners was requested by the state welfare department and not the local welfare office, according to Mabel McDonald, welfare superintendent.

Welfare budgets are approved by the state, she said, and a revision of the Hoke welfare budget was made in Raleigh. In turn, she said, the state welfare department asked Hoke commissioners to allot to the local welfare budget the county's share of the additional amount.

Commissioners approved a transfer of \$689,46 from the contingency fund to cover the increase in the county's share of minor additions to the local aid to dependent children and old age assistance programs.

The county pays only about one third of the cost of the welfare program here, including administration. The remainder is paid by the state and federal governments.

Break-Ins Net Arrests

Two men have been charged with two of three break-ins in Hoke County with in a week's time recently.

Eddie Arnold Scott, 20, and Charlie Herried, alias, Charlie Locklear, 17, Indians of Cumberland County, are being held on charges of breaking and entering Breeden's Store at Davis Bridge the night of July 5 and taking some \$300 worth of merchandise. The stolen items have been returned to the store by county deputies, Harvey Young and Jesse Lee, according to

See BREAK-INS, Page 9

Harrison Mentioned As Judge Candidate

A Raeform attorney's name was being mentioned in legal circles today as a possible appointee to a District Court judgeship to fill a vacancy today.

Harry D. Harrison of Raeform, a campaign official in the two gubernatorial tries of I. Beverly Lake, was one of four attorneys said to be making a bid for the post.

The vacancy was created when Gov. Dan K. Moore appointed Coy Brewer, chief judge of the Hoke-Cumberland judicial district, to the superior court bench.

Brewer will be sworn in today in Fayetteville by resident judge E. Maurice Braswell. (See Page 3).

It was conceded to be a certainty that Judge Derh S. Carter, one of the three remaining district judges, will be elevated

to the post left vacant by Brewer.

That would leave one of the three remaining judgeships vacant. The other two are held by Judge Joe Dupree of Raeform and Judge D. B. Herring of Fayetteville.

Along with Harrison, aspirants for the post were listed as George Suhli, chief solicitor of the two-county district court; and attorneys Lacy Hair and Elizabeth Fox of Fayetteville.

Sol Cherry, who ran fifth in the Democratic primary to select the four candidates who eventually won the judgeships, was said to be not interested in the appointment.

The selection will be made, for all practical purposes, when the Cumberland-Hoke Bar Association meets later today in

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PROMISES, PROMISES

Town Board, Citizens Tired Of Waiting For Stoplights

The Town of Raeform appealed this week to its state legislators to spur the State Highway Department into providing traffic lights for the town.

After several months of "hemming and hawing" by highway officials, the town still is without two critically needed stoplights in the downtown area.

The two lights were lost when a truck damaged a light at Main Street and Edinborough Avenue, one of the town's busiest intersections, more than three months ago. The same accident knocked out the light at Main Street and Prospect Avenue.

Both Main Street and Prospect Avenue are part of N. C. 211 and are state-maintained.

When the lights were knocked out, the town petitioned the State Highway Department to replace or repair them.

The lights were beyond repair and the state had no new ones, or rebuilt ones. Inventory, town officials were told.

Furthermore, they got the old "budget" dodge. No funds were available to purchase new lights until after the 1967 General Assembly passed the biennium budget.

"Somewhere in North Carolina, there must be a couple of traffic signal lights that could have been installed here temporarily," a member of the town board said.

Meanwhile, citizens began "raising Cain" about the lack of traffic control at the two intersections, which have heavy pedestrian traffic by elementary school students during the school year.

At Main and Edinborough, the town prohibited parking near the courthouse intersection to improve visibility of motor vehicles entering Main Street.

"It was like trying to get on the Los Angeles expressways," a disgruntled motorist said.

The Main-Prospect intersection is just as bad during peak traffic -- 7 to 8 a. m. and 4 to 5:30 p. m. Fortunately, there have been no serious accidents at either intersection.

"That's because peak traffic is composed of local workers who know the lights are out," a town commissioner said. "They have been remarkably patient, because the delays in getting to and from work have been aggravating, to say the least."

Several weeks ago, the State Highway Department promised to revamp the entire spotlight system on state-maintained thoroughfares here.

"A half-hearted survey was conducted, but we haven't heard anything since," the commissioner said.

This week, the town board voted to solicit the aid of State Senators John T. Henley and N. H. McGeachy of the Hoke-Cumberland senatorial district. They also petitioned representatives Neill McFadyen, R. D. McMillan and Roger Nisler, members of the Hoke-Robeson-Scotland delegation, to see if they can get some action.

"Promises are sufficient for a reasonable length of time," a town board member said. "Then parents who are concerned about their children walking to and from school, and their older youngsters driving on the streets, demand action. You can't hold them off for too long, and in this case, we've passed the limit."