

The News - Journal

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GIFT TO CIVIC CENTER -- Posing with the new Civic Center piano is, left to right, Mrs. H. C. McLaughlin, Mrs. J. H. Austin and Mrs. Lewis Upchurch. They are members of a committee named by the Chamfrade Music Club which presented the new and important addition to the center. Finished in jet black, the instrument is made by Steinway and Sons.

Four Firms Set Pace

Local Textile Workers Will Get Pay Increase

Burlington Industries announced in Greensboro this week that wage increases will be made next month by most of its manufacturing divisions, including the two Pacific Mills plants in Raeford.

Four other textile manufacturers made similar announcements, indicating an industry-wide pay raise may be in the making, despite reports of decreased earnings.

The Burlington announcement came from Charles F. Myers Jr., president, but he did not specify the amount of the forthcoming increase.

Myers said amounts and effective dates of the increases will be established on a divisional basis. The company, largest textile manufacturer in the world, has 120 plants in 15 states.

Myers noted that several divisions of Burlington had made recent wage adjustments and will not be affected by the broad movement now developing. "Because of the diversified and decentralized nature of our operations, wage policy is established at the division level," he added. "However, for most of our divisions the increases will be the fifth in the past four years."

Erwin Sibley, division manager of the Raeford operation, said wage increases will become effective September 4

for employees of Raeford Worsted Plant and Pacific Mills Dyeing Plant here.

It is believed the pay increase will apply to some 1,600 production workers at the two local plants, which are housed under one roof.

Neither Myers nor Sibley revealed the amount of the pay increase, but other newspaper reports pegged the raises at about 5 percent.

Also involved in the pay increases are Collins and Alkman Corp., New York; Greenwood Mills, Greenwood, S. C.; Deering Milliken, Spartanburg, S. C., and Abney Mills of Greenwood.

"While the current level of textile business generally is well below that of the past several years, we are beginning to note improvement in a number of markets and feel that wage rate adjustments are warranted at this time," Myers said.

The Associated Press reported the national average wage for textile production is \$2.01 an hour, citing the American Textile Manufacturers Institute. It said a spokesman for ATMI reported most mills in the South pay the national average or more.

July Believed Coolest In Recent Hoke History

People who keep humming the recent folk-rock hit, "Where Have All The Flowers Gone," may well be wondering what happened to "The Good Old Summertime."

July, 1967, was believed to have been the "coolest" seventh-month in recent Hoke history.

Official weather records are not kept here, but at Fayette-

ville, about 20 miles away, the U. S. Weather Bureau keeps tabs on weather statistics.

It is reasonable to assume that weather conditions in Raeford would be similar to those in Fayetteville, except that amounts of precipitation might fluctuate between the two localities.

Last month was the coolest July in Fayetteville during the

past 20 years.

Average daily mean temperature was 77.1 degrees and the number of 90-degree days was only one-third of the long-range average. Long-term July mean temperature for Fayetteville is 80.3 degrees. In 1947, average daily mean temperature for July was 76.7 degrees.

Last month, there were only seven days in which the temperature was 90 degrees or more. In the average July, there are 21 such days.

Highest July readings were 92 degrees on the 11th and 12th and the lowest temperature was 57 degrees on the night of July 4. During the past 34 years, Fayetteville has had a maximum July temperature of 106 degrees in 1940 and a low of 51 in 1932.

Rainfall here was above average for July. Although official records were not kept, several rains of more than one inch--including one of 5 1/2 inches--were unofficially recorded by backyard rain gauges.

The July rainfall average for Fayetteville is 6.06 inches and the July, 1967, total was 8.32 inches.

It is estimated that some parts of Hoke County received upward of 10 inches of rainfall during the month.

Complaints of a "late spring" were abundant here as late as mid-May, when some residents still were using their furnaces to take the chill out of the air.

Two Hoke Sailors On Forrestal

At least two Raeford boys were on the aircraft carrier USS Forrestal when an explosion and fire occurred last Saturday off the coast of Vietnam, taking the lives of 139 officers and men.

Mrs. Lois Holley Peele said she has heard nothing from her husband, Marshall, since the explosion but that she is sitting by the television set and radio trying to glean what she can from commentators.

Marshall Peele was a baker on the night shift, Mrs. Peele said. She would have heard something if he were not all right, although she heard on one newscast that the cooks were trapped. She received two letters from him Monday but both were written before the accident.

Peele was at home during April, reporting to Norfolk on May 8. The ship set sail for Vietnam on June 6. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. V. Peele.

William Ernest Caulder, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Caulder, Robbins Heights, wired his wife, Mrs. Claudine Caulder, Monday night that he was all right. She was visiting in Raeford when she received the message. Upon her return to Norfolk, she reportedly was hospitalized from shock.

Caulder works in the engine room on the ship. It has been three months since he was home.



EXPLAIN PLAN -- W. T. Gibson Jr., center background, explains integration efforts of the Hoke County school board

to two members of a federal team, foreground, at Wednesday meeting of school board.

Town Board To Get Report On Sewage

Raeford Town Board will meet Monday afternoon in a rare day-time session to hear a long-awaited report on the town's sewage situation.

The report, compiled by three agencies several months ago, followed a seven-day study of sewage load and plant efficiency. It was ordered to determine how much, if any, improvement is needed at the local plant.

Richard Moore, consulting engineer, has in the past recommended a \$1.3 million improvement of facilities, without which, he declares, the town may expect trouble.

Daily reports from the treatment plant have indicated a B.O.D. (biological oxygen demand) of up to 8,000. The

plant's maximum B.O.D. capacity of 2,800.

Nonetheless, the plant has been functioning satisfactorily ever since initial difficulties were overcome after the plant was opened some four years ago.

Recommended improvements would include a major expansion of the sewage treatment plant, plus two additional outfall lines--one to Burlington Industries two plants and another on the south perimeter of town.

The survey on which Moore will report here Monday was conducted by town sewage plant operators, technicians from the State Health Department, and a private engineering and testing firm, Southern Laboratories, of Wilson.

Federal School Team Here

A six-man team of federal school officials arrived here yesterday to review Hoke County's integration efforts to determine if they comply with the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

There hinges on the team's findings Hoke's continued qualification for federal school funds, which can be denied to counties in which integration is termed insufficient.

The Hoke Board of Education immediately went into session and spent the morning explaining its policies and the entire school plan to two members of the team, Miss Ann Lassiter and William Hutchinson.

Four other members of the team were escorted by Hoke school principals and W. T. McAllister, director of ESEA (Elementary and Secondary

Education Act) activities in the county, to each of the county school plants.

Earlier this summer, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare notified the local school board that its integration efforts probably would not be enough for continued qualification for federal funds. HEW offered to send the team here to make recommendations

which would enable the school board to comply with provisions of the law.

W. T. Gibson Jr., superintendent of schools, did most of the talking for the school board Wednesday. All members of the board, plus its attorney, Bill Moses, attended the meeting.

The four members of the See FEDERAL, Page 9

Puppy Creek Firemen Are Fast On Getaway

BY LUCY GRAY PEEBLES

Wives hold the pants down Puppy Creek way and husbands jump in and run.

That's the way things are done in that part of Hoke County since the new fire department went into operation there.

It all started last winter when the Puppy Creek Fire Department got its first nighttime call.

Paul Johnson, first president of a club organized for promotion of a fire department explains it this way: No fire chief had yet been chosen. The five-horse siren hadn't arrived. In fact about all there was to the department was a truck and 25 volunteer firemen.

"The initial call came to my house," Johnson recalls. "My wife and I both bounced out of bed. I took the message and

as I threw my clothes on I asked her to call three key men. Priding myself in my swiftness I sped to the scene. But my leathers flopped when I arrived and saw the other two already there.

"There was no time to ask questions or even to think about it. Other things were demanding attention. But the incident weighed on my mind until the Monday night fireman's meeting. I demanded to know how the heck they beat me to the fire." He all but accused them of sleeping in their clothes. After all the three of them lived about the same distance away.

Then E. B. (Buddy) Newton told of the ingenious pants-holding scheme their wives had figured out. Now, the siren sounds off and Johnson's wife doesn't have to make subsequent calls, so she does like

the others. While he puts on his shirt she grabs his trousers, holds them just right and he jumps in. While the pants go on and the zipper goes up, she places the shoes ready to be stepped into. The cooperative procedure takes about 15 seconds and the Puppy Creek Fire Department hasn't lost a building yet.

The Puppy Creek folks are proud of what they have accomplished since last November, when the idea of setting up a fire department was first launched; and of what cooperation has done, not just between husbands and wives but between the residents of the community.

The climax to their effort came last week when they gratefully received their state-approved B-A rating.

Last year Hoke County commissioners became concerned See PUPPY CREEK, Page 9

