

# The News - Journal

The Hoke County News- Established 1928

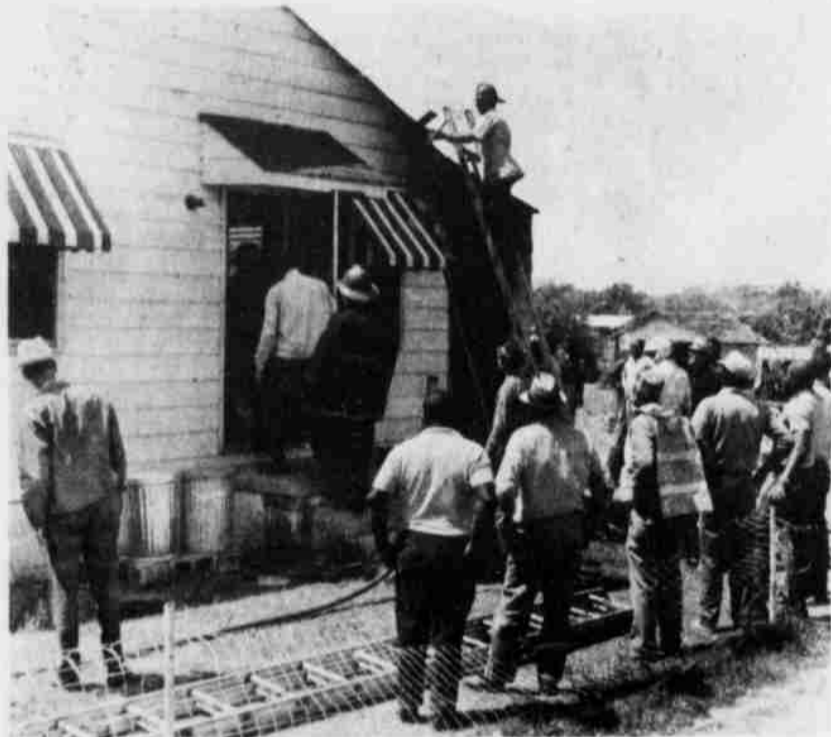
The Hoke County Journal - Established 1905

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RAEFORD, HOKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

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THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1968



HOUSE DAMAGED -- Raeford firemen were called Tuesday morning at about 11:30 to this residence at 801 Saunders Street, where fire damaged the rear rooms of the dwelling and destroyed furnishings. Here, Doc Ivey probes for unextinguished blaze under the roof as other firemen tackle the blaze inside. The home is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Al Braun. (N. J. Photo by Henry Blue)

## Hoke Has Hunger, But Is Being Fed

BY JIM TAYLOR

Are there really "hungry" people in Hoke County? Ask that question among the county's citizens, and you'll get a variety of answers ranging from an emphatic "no" to an equally positive "yes."

Somewhere between the two extremes lies the truth. It cannot be easily ascertained. The question--not a new one, by any means--was again brought to public attention last week when Hoke was included among 27 North Carolina counties in which, according to a national citizens board of inquiry, hunger and malnutrition exists.

The charge was made in a 100-page report "Hunger, U. S. A.," compiled by a 25-member commission organized last July by Citizens Crusade Against Poverty, a private group headed by Walter Reuther, United Auto Workers president.

The board of inquiry ferreted out 256 counties in the nation in which it said conditions of hunger and undernourishment exist "to a shameful degree."

Here, a great many people were willing to admit that undernourishment is perhaps prevalent among the low income segments of the population.

Most of the counties were in the South. Indeed, most were in the otherwise rich agricultural regions which have large percentages of non-white population.

Local Democrats are beating the bushes for support for

### Draft Calls 18 In Hoke

Hoke County draft board has been directed to deliver 18 young men for induction into the armed forces May 10, according to Mrs. Mary Donnellan, clerk.

Although 27 North Carolina counties were cited by the study, there was no evidence of even a superficial study of conditions in the individual counties.

Spirited contests are predicted in Hoke County when voters go to the polls Saturday to vote in the Democratic and Republican primaries.

Despite an apparent lack of usual interest, the largest vote in Hoke history for a primary election is forecast, primarily because of a hotly-contested race for county commissioner, the N.C. House of Representatives, and the gubernatorial primary.

For the most part, the battle will be between Democrats. Hoke County has only 245 registered Republicans in 13 precincts, while the new Democratic registration numbers 4,729.

To date, there has been a noticeable lack of enthusiasm for the primary election, but observers say that is no indication the vote will not be heavier than usual.

For one thing, there seven candidates for two seats on the board of county commissioners, with incumbents J.A. Webb, Ashley Heights farmer, and T.F. (Tom) McBryde Raeford businessman, heading the list.

Others in the race include Pete Sawyer, Ashley Heights store-service station operator; David Hendrix, Arabia farmer; Albert Saunders, Antioch store owner; R.L. (Lud) Hale, Raeford service station owner and used car dealer; and Elias Rogers, first Indian ever elected to office in Lumber River Electric Membership Corporation.

Rep. Neill L. McFadyen, who is seeking a fourth term in the N.C. House of Representatives.

McFadyen, a Raeford businessman-farmer, is the only candidate from Hoke County in a six-man race for four seats in the 24th House District, composed of Hoke, Robeson and Scotland counties.

Three other incumbent representatives are seeking reelection in the district. They are R.D. McMillan of Red Springs, an automobile and farm equipment dealer; Roger Kiser of Laurinburg, a retired school principal, and R.L. Campbell of Rowland, Robeson attorney.

Gus Spero, Maxton building contractor, has been conducting and extensive campaign throughout the district. Weldon Lowry of Pembroke also is making a bid for the office.

Considerable interest also is anticipated in the Democratic gubernatorial primary in Hoke County, primarily because of a vastly increased Negro registration and the presence of a Negro candidate on the ballot. Dr. Reginald Hawkins of Charlotte, a dentist-preacher, is the first Negro to seek the governorship since Reconstruction.

also is being heavily backed by many local Democrats.

Four other Democrats are seeking the top school post, including Wendell W. Smiley, Everette Miller, Craig Phillips and William D. Harrill.

Sneed High of Fayetteville, who served in the House of Representatives during the last session of the General Assembly, is seeking the nomination

for state treasurer against veteran Edwin Gill.

Robert Morgan of Lillington, a state senator and chairman of the board of trustees of East Carolina University, stepped out of the Senate to try his hand against Thomas Wade Bruton, N.C. attorney general.

H. Pat Taylor Jr., whose father served as lieutenant governor, also stepped aside after

several terms in the House to run for lieutenant governor in the Democratic primary. He is opposed by Mrs. James M. Harper Jr. of Southport, former president of North Carolina Council of Women's Clubs, and Frank M. Matlock.

On the Republican ballot, Rep. James C. (Jim) Gardner and John L. (Jack) Stickley are waging

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## Saturday Election

# Contests For Local Office May Boost Primary Vote

## Saturday's Primary Vote Potentially Hoke's Top

Hoke County voters will go to the polls Saturday to select Democrats and Republican nominees for state, local and national offices.

Based on a new county wide registration, the potential turnout is the largest ever in Hoke County, and there are widely varying estimates of how large the vote here will be. Basically, estimates range from 2,500 to 4,000.

The new registration produced an unofficial total of 5,072 voters in the county -- compared to a previous total of some 4,200. The latter figure included many registrants who have died or moved away and their names not removed from the books.

J. Scott Poole, chairman of

the board of elections in Hoke County, said an official total of new registration figures had not been computed Tuesday, with official canvasses in from only seven of the county's 13 precincts.

Unofficial totals show 4,729 Democrats and 245 Republicans on the books, with some 30 Independents.

Registration, in order of size, in the 13 precincts is as follows:

1. Raeford No. One, 753.
2. Raeford No. Five, 685.
3. Raeford No. Two, 608.
4. Raeford No. Four, 441.
5. Antioch, 419.
6. McCain, 401.
7. Stonewall, 399.
8. Blue Springs, 387.
9. Puppy Creek, 354.

10. Raeford No. Three, 256.
11. Buchan, 212.
12. Rockfish, 197.
13. Allendale, 180.

By race, there are unofficially 2,843 whites, 1,927 Negroes and 302 Indians on the books, with heaviest Negro registration in the county's new precinct, Raeford No. 5. There, a concerted registration drive produced 560 Negro registrants (and only five whites). There also are 560 registered Democrats in that precinct, which has only four registered Republicans and one Independent.

For the first time in many years, there will be a primary ballot for Republicans here. Polls will open at 8:30 a.m. and close at 6:30 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time.

## Horse Show Here Saturday

Raeford Woman's Club will stage its fourth annual horse show here Saturday, with a considerable revision in the format of the show.

Unlike previous events, the show this year will feature five performances in two rings on Saturday at Stanton Farms on Highway 401 Bypass.

In previous years, the show has covered a two-day period, with a Friday night performance preceding the Saturday championships.

The show will get under way at 10 a. m. Ring 1 will be used throughout the show for English classes and Ring 2 will be devoted to western classes.

Unlike previous shows here, there will be no cavalcade of hunters and jumpers, which formerly competed in a day-long showing in Ring 2. This year, western classes and games have been given the spotlight in the morning and afternoon performances in Ring 2.

The modification is expected to stimulate participation by local horsemen, most of whom ride "western" style.

The championship stakes will be staged in Ring 1, where eight classes will be conducted in the 10 a. m. show. Another seven classes will be conducted there beginning at 2 p. m. The evening performance will get under way at 7 o'clock and will include 13 classes, including the English stakes (classes in which prize money is awarded). Eighteen events will be reeled

off in Ring 2, beginning at 1 o'clock Saturday afternoon and lasting until late afternoon. The program includes an equal number of performance classes and games, which test the skill of both horse and rider.

Saturday night, 12 classes will be conducted in the western ring, where Phil Horton Jr. of Winston-Salem will be judge. Phil Diehl of Raeford will be ringmaster.

Final event on the western program is a horse race, in which both cash prizes and trophies and ribbons will be awarded.

On tap for the evening performance in Ring 1 will be stakes for three-gaited and five-gaited horses, Tennessee walking horses, pleasure ponies, fine harness horses, and a western pony championship stake.

Judge for English events will

be Jimmy Martin of Pell City, Ala. Ringmaster will be Jim Taylor of Raeford.

Frank Smith of High Point will be announcer for the English ring and Louis D. Day of Rocky Mount will announce the western show.

Post entries will be accepted, show officials said, meaning that a horse may be entered anytime before the class is called.

Concessions will be manned by members of the woman's club, who also will offer a "country store" booth of home-made wares and home cooking, Hamburgers, hotdogs, sandwiches, soft drinks and iced tea also will be purveyed.

Admission to each performance will be \$1.25 for adults and 50 cents for children.

### Election Party

The News-Journal will stage its customary "election party" Saturday night when returns from the day's voting in the Democratic and Republican primaries pour in from Hoke County's precincts.

An "election board" will be mounted at the front of the newspaper office, and precinct totals will be posted as they are reported to election officials. The tabulation will begin at 7 p. m.

## Old-Age Dream More A Nightmare

BY JIM TAYLOR

Lady Luck was quite generous to Loffie McPhatter the first 92 years of his life.

In his 93rd year, however, she knocked him down and stomped him.

Naturally, the unexpected turn of events left McPhatter bewildered. A bit confused, perhaps, but not pessimistic.

At an age when most people would live almost entirely in the past, he is looking toward the future.

But the tragedy of recent events, and despair about general conditions, have added wrinkles to an already furrowed brow.

McPhatter, a Hoke County native, dwelled until only recently in a four-room frame house near West Hoke School with his wife of some 70 years.

On the night of March 25, McPhatter awakened to discover a stuffed chair ablaze in his home. His wife, Belle, had been ill since morning and still had not come to bed.

McPhatter said he doused the fire, tried to help his wife to bed, but she refused. He returned to sleep.

Near dawn, he was again awakened by the smell of smoke. He made his way through the darkness to the home of a daughter, Mrs. Nora McLean, who lives some 100 yards away.

They hurried back to the McPhatter house, finding the dwelling engulfed in flames.

Later, they found the remains of McPhatter's wife in the ashes.

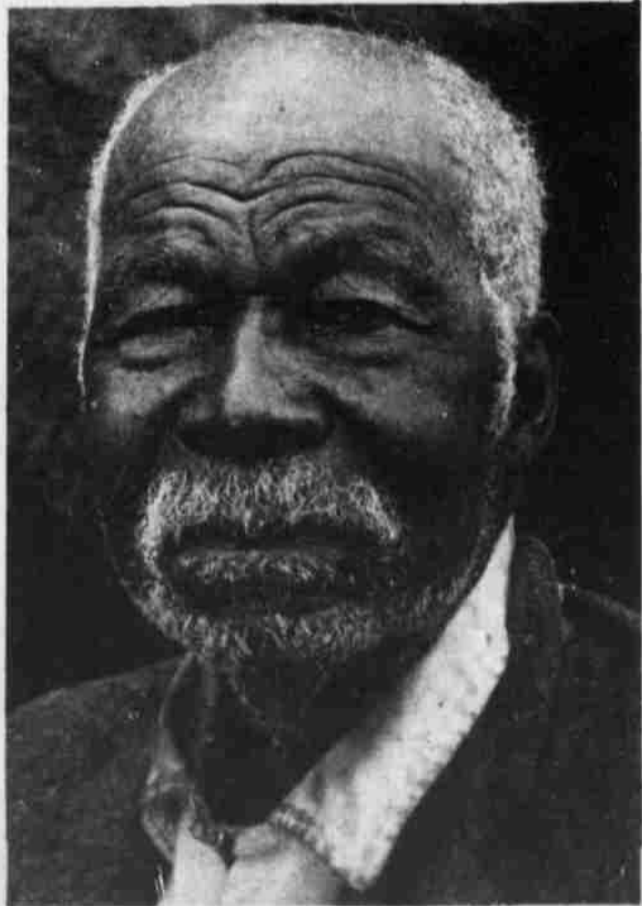
The terror of that morning still haunts McPhatter and his daughter, with whom he now resides. His troubles are compounded by the pressing problem of survival.

McPhatter was born near Wagram 93 years ago. About 50 years ago, he moved onto the eight-acre tract where his daughter's house and the burned chimneys of his former residence stand.

A "working man" all his years, McPhatter used to farm, dig ditches for other farmers, and says he once carried the mail from Bowmore to Lumberport, riding a mule on the star route for a "Mr. McLeod."

After the mule got frisky and threw him, his employer bought him a road cart, he said, and he continued the two-day-a-

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Loffie McPhatter

### Pre-School Signup Set

Pre-school registration for J.W. McLauchlin School students will be completed Tuesday, May 7, between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., according to James Bowles, principal.

"Parents will need to bring their children's birth certificates and immunization (shot) records at this time," Bowles said. "It will not be necessary for the children to be present."

"All parents who will have children in the McLauchlin first grade next fall, and who have not returned a pre-school information blank to the school, are asked to secure a blank from the school, complete it, and return it by Tuesday, Bowles said.

## Water-Sewer Plan Financed By Grant

An \$8,500 grant has been awarded to Hoke County by the federal government to plan efficient land use and determine water and sewer needs throughout the county.

The grant was made by Farmers Home Administration and announced here by Cecil R. Registrar, county FHA supervisor. The money will be used for a county wide plan for short and long term water-sewer development and present and future land use.

A contract has been awarded to Mayes, Sudderth and Ethredge, Inc., an engineering firm of Atlanta, Ga., by Hoke County Planning Board and Hoke county commissioners.

The firm will conduct the necessary surveys, draw the plans, and make recommendations as to present and future water-sewer development and land use.

The plans will provide information to avoid overlapping, duplication, underdesign, or overdesign of water and sewer facilities if and when they are developed in rural Hoke County.

The Hoke County grant is believed to be one of the first made for county-wide development of water-sewer facilities. It does not indicate that widespread development of these

facilities is imminent. There are indications, however, that a sizeable FHA loan may be forthcoming to Northwest Water Supply, Inc., a non-profit corporation recently chartered by the state to seek water-sewer service for the residential area north of Raeford.

That corporation was established by Negro leaders who have been working on the project for several months and now have plans far enough along to apply for a federal loan.

The county wide plan will project population growth, with provisions for not only water and sewer needs, but other development which is essential for the orderly growth of the county, FHA officials said.

"The comprehensive water and sewer plan will be developed in harmony with future plans for roads, schools, recreational facilities, private development of land, agriculture, commerce, and industrial use of land," the FHA announcement said.

Robert L. (Bobby) Gibson, chairman of Hoke Planning Board, said that by planning for orderly development of water and sewer systems, the entire Hoke County population stands to gain either direct or indirect benefits.