

The News - Journal

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THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1969

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Last week we received a letter from Thomasville which follows:

"Dear Sir:
Enclosed find a check for \$15.00 which is to be used to purchase a seat in the new stadium in memory of Albert Akins who died in December of last year. He played football at Raeford and graduated in 1929. This is being given by his sister.

Yours truly
Mrs. J.C. Poole."

Thanks very much Mrs. Poole. Your check has been turned over to the committee.

Most of the old heads around Raeford will remember Albert. He played in the line for Raeford High School. This was before the days of any class and I believe he was on the team that lost to Wilmington for the Eastern Championship. I know Fred Culbreth and John Dunk McNeill played with him.

We don't run poems in the paper because when you start, it seems everyone wants to put one in and space doesn't permit. But because of my feelings for Lucy Gray Peebles, who left last Friday, I am running the poem written for her by Miss Maude Poole. This was read at the open meeting of the Raeford Woman's Club last week and a gift was presented to Lucy Gray also. So maybe the ladies of Raeford liked her too.

The poem follows:

LUCY GRAY PEEBLES

To the border of the Sandhills
On the shores of Puppy Creek,
Came a lady with her Leika
And a nose with news to seek.
Sat she down with her typewriter
At her front desk within sight;
Wrote she articles and items
In her manner erudite.
When the siren with its clams,
Interrupted working muse,
Out she hied with pad and pencil,
Gathering local news.
Busy with the things that natter -
Woman's Club her special pet -
Gave she inspiration always
With a verve we'll not forget.
Went she faithfully to meetings
With her camera in hand,
Seeking subjects photogenic -
Produced pictures on demand -
Goes she now up to the city
To the capitol of our state.
As she leaves, she makes us poorer,
But she leaves us to our fate,
Sad we are at her departure,
And in words we strive to say
How we feel - we dare not utter -
But we'll miss you, Lucy Gray!

By
Maude Poole

Benny McLeod returned last week from Mobile, Ala. where he represented Fayetteville Presbytery at the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church. It is an honor to be selected and we know that our Presbytery was well represented by Benny.

He and the Rev. Cortez Cooper, Jr. attended Presbytery Tuesday and Benny gave a report on his trip.

The United Fund lost another good worker from the Uniroyal plant recently when Otis Crowder resigned after 15 years at the plant. He had been a foreman for a number of years. He has accepted work with Burlington Industries and we wish him the best in his new job.

Judge Rules

Evidence Lacking;

Watson Freed

Two jury lists were exhausted last week before a jury for the James Willie Watson case was chosen. From early Tuesday morning until Wednesday evening 75 possible jurors were examined. Finally, late Wednesday the court wheels started to turn and the trial was under way.

Watson was accused of killing A.T. Bobbitt on April 13, 1968, during a robbery at Bobbitt's store. At approximately 6:30 a.m. on that day Watson allegedly entered the store, robbed Bobbitt and killed Bobbitt by shooting him twice in the head.

On Friday, May 2, 1969, the charge of murder was finally lifted from Watson's head. Judge Harry E. Canaday ruled that due to lack of State's evidence the charges against Watson be dropped.

Sidney Faress Is New Superintendent At Uniroyal

On April 14, Sidney Faress took over as superintendent of the Uniroyal plant in Raeford. Before coming here Faress was area superintendent of the Uniroyal elastic fibers covering plant in Gastonia. He has also worked in Winstboro, S.C. at the Uniroyal poly-propylene fiber plant. He has been with Uniroyal for three years.

Faress was reared in Charleston, S. C., and attended Presbyterian College in Clinton, S. C. He graduated in 1960 with a degree in chemistry and biology. After graduation he attended the College of Charleston for a year before he entered the Army.

He spent four and a half of his five and a half years in the Army stationed in Germany.

Faress succeeds Charles Stanford who has been with the Uniroyal plant in Raeford for 6 years before he accepted a position with Burlington Industries.

Presently, Faress and his wife are living at 303 West Edinborough. They



SIDNEY FARESS have two sons, John who is three years old and Patrick who is one year old.

Court Orders Grand Jury Recommendations Be Checked

During the April 28, 1969, term of Superior Court of Hoke County it was ordered by the Court that a written report of the conditions found in need of attention by the Grand Jury be made to

the Clerk of Superior Court. The written report will be submitted by the Clerk to the presiding Judge at the August 1969 term of Superior Court to show that the recommendations of the Grand Jury have been complied with or to show cause why compliance has not been made.

Board Delays

Action On Sewer Motor Change

The Town Board decided to delay decision on a change in motor design in the new sewage plant until at least 60 per cent of the job is completed. The new type of motor would cost an additional \$12,000.

Payment of \$2,271 for fees and costs in connection with the road improvements on Prospect Avenue was authorized by the Board on Monday night. Due to the absence of more funds from the State, further improvements in this area will have to wait until more State funds are made available.

The Board also authorized payment of \$73,586.62 to the Republic Contracting Corporation for their work on the Sewer plant.

Unavoidable Accident Ruled At Inquest

Inquest was held Tuesday night at County Courthouse to rule in the death of Russel Cagle who was struck as he stood or lay in the road on highway 401 Friday night by a car operated by M. K. Sessoms Jr. of the 401 cutoff.

The jury ruled that the incident was an unavoidable accident and that no probable cause was found to bring charges against Sessoms.

McNeill Wins Mayor's Race

449 Ballots Cast

Teal, Clark, McMillian, Thomas, Garrison Elected

Citizens of Raeford cast 449 ballots in the May 6 town elections.

Incumbent candidate for mayor, H. R. McLean was defeated by J. K. McNeill, Jr. 198 votes to 252 votes. McLean had served four terms of office as mayor. The new mayor, McNeill has served 8 terms as Town Commissioner.

In the race for Town Commissioners two incumbents were re-elected. Franklin

Teal will be serving his third term on the commission and J. D. McMillian is going into his seventh term on the commission. Newcomers to the board will be Graham Clark and Crawford Thomas. Hestel Garrison, who ran for this position four years ago, will be the other new member.

The Town Commissioners results are the following: Franklin Teal, 419 votes;

Graham Clark 402; J. D. McMillian, 390; C. L. Thomas, 310; Hestel Garrison, 181; Joe Davis, 172; Horace Davis, 158; Ralph Pandure, 102.

Chamber Of Commerce

Annual Meeting Tuesday Night

The annual meeting of the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce will be held on May 13 at 7 p. m. in the W. T. Gibson Cafeteria.

Guest speaker for the annual event will be Roy G. Sowers, Jr., Director of the Department of Conservation and Development.

New officers to be installed at the meeting are Younger Snead, President, Homer McGuinn, vice president, Ashwell Harward, vice president, and Harold Gillis, secretary-treasurer.

The new directors to be installed are John Balfour, Jack Bray, Walter Coley, J. D. McMillian, and R. Palmer Wilcox.

Tickets for the dinner can be obtained from the chamber office.

Civic Center Mortgage Burned Thursday Night

By Lucy Gray Peebles

The Raeford Woman's Club held a mortgage burning ceremony, Thursday night following a final payment on the debt against the Civic Center.

Mrs. Sam Homewood, president, gave the honor of lighting the fire to the six-year-old paper to Mrs. Robert Gatlin. Mrs. Gatlin was president of the club back in the early years when the club first began work to raise funds for a community building.

The final payment was made with funds realized from the recent horse show.

During the annual business meeting of the Raeford Woman's Club in 1947, Mrs. A.L. O'Brian, president, suggested that the club launch a club house fund and set the club's 25th anniversary in 1949 as a date to have the building completed and ready for the celebration.

Enthusiastically, members accepted the challenge and began a nest egg by pledging themselves to raise \$10 each as a nest egg. They baked and bartered, and sewed and sold and a bank account was finally opened.

The anniversary date came and went, however, and the club house was still not in existence. The bite seemed to be too big for the women so it became a community project. Charles A. Hostetler, chairman of the Civic Center committee, presented plans for an appropriate community building which were readily accepted.

Funds came in briskly for awhile but slacked off at about \$16,500. R.B. Lewis, chairman of the project's finance committee, said, "We must have at least \$20,000 before we break ground." The Woman's Club had contributed \$10,000 to the project and were still working. Harold Gillis and Robert Gatlin became co-chairmen of the building committee.

As has been the case many times in community projects, Burlington Industries, Inc., brought up the slack and bricks began to fall into place. The club has made annual payments on the \$1,900 mortgage until it was paid out a few days ago.

Others coming in to help included, the Kiwanis Club, the Lions Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, and other local firms, private citizens, and the county Home Demonstration Clubs.

On August 1, 1963, sixteen years after the Raeford Woman's Club launched the project, the dream came true. A ribbon cutting ceremony with Mrs. Gatlin and Mrs. O'Brian serving in the position of honor, was held. Doors were later opened to all Hoke County citizens who wished to attend. The building now stands as a permanent reminder of combined community effort, is, to the town and county, a thing of beauty. It has been available for use by private citizens, civic, educational, business and social gatherings.

Ground-Breaking Ceremonies Start Queenmore Water Project



CHECK FOR WATER SUPPLY is handed to the Rev. Robert E. Fisher, president of the Northwest Water Supply Co., Inc. by Jake D. Vinson on behalf of the FHA. The loan of \$221,700 will provide water mains for the Queenmore Housing Project and the Silver City area. Also seated in the front row are Arthur P. Kemp, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mary T. Morrison, Secretary of the Northwest Water Supply. In the back row standing are Robert W. Fleetwood, FHA District Supervisor, Kelly Batson, Manager Water and Sewer Division, Bryan Electric, Charles A. Hostetler, Association Attorney, Frank B. Hicks, Association Engineer.

Ground-breaking ceremonies were held Monday night at the intersection of Main Street and Highway 401 to officially launch construction of water mains for the Queenmore Housing Project and Silver City.

Plans for the project began over a year and a half ago and have progressed at the hands of the Northwest Water Supply Company Inc., to Hoke Community Action Program, and the Farmers' Home Administration.

The Rev. Robert E. Fisher, president of the Northwest Water Supply Co. said that the project was made possible through a loan of \$221,700 from the FHA.

On Monday Jake D. Vinson of the FHA presented Fisher with a check to cover the project's beginnings. Loans for individual water lines will be available through a grant of the OEO. The grant was designated for a four county area and was the force that made the Queenmore Housing Project possible.

The water project is being handled by the Bryant Electrical Construction Co. of Asheboro and is marked for completion by June 1.

According to Fisher a grant will soon be sought for the construction of sewer lines in the area.

Special Term Of Big Court

Due to the back log on the court docket a special term of Superior Court is planned for the week of May 19th. Judge Fate J. Beal will preside.