

Around Town

By SAM C. MORRIS

The Rev. Jack Mansfield was telling me the other day about the Baptist preacher who had been asked by his congregation to pray for rain. According to Jack after the preacher had prayed that it rained for about a week. A member of the congregation told him the next Sunday morning that his crops had been drowned out and his field had washed away. The preacher told the man that the congregation had asked him to pray for rain.

The man replied, "But like everything else you do, you over did it!"

We don't know if the Rev. Mr. Mansfield is praying for rain but some parts of the county are getting a good soaking. We think that most farmers would say that it is about to be "over did."

Be sure to contact the tournament committee headed by Raz Autry if you want to play in the member - guest tournament. All entries must be in by August 1.

Earl Daniels who played softball with Bargain Motors before he broke a bone in his shoulder, was by the office this week and asked that we relate a few words of appreciation for him. While he was in the hospital he said that Hervey Jackson and Lud Hales took up a collection at the A&P and at a local restaurant that certainly did help him over the hump while out of work. He wishes to thank these two men and also anyone who contributed to this fund. As Clyde Upchurch stated after the Bloodmobile visit, the people of Raeford and Hoke County will come through when the chips are down.

A gentleman was by the office last week and said that he had been talking to his friend Dick Neeley. He said that Neeley was smiling and cheerful and didn't gripe about a thing while he talked with him. Now we couldn't find out what brought this change in Dick, but if he is still in the same frame of mind we wish he would come by and let us in on the secret.

Some members of the Class of 1961 at Hoke High School have been talking about a Class reunion. If any members of this class is interested in a reunion please contact:

Mrs. Irma McFadyen
Lillington, N.C. 27546

Next week we will be writing rested and refreshed, we hope, after a few days at the beach.

Man Arrested After Chase

A man in a pick - up truck, fleeing from Robeson County authorities, was arrested at a roadblock in Hoke County early Friday morning.

Hoke deputies Alex Norton and Robert Locklear used their patrol car to block the McNeill's lake road. They apprehended Lacy Ervin Collins and turned him over to Robeson County deputies.

An office safe with the door broken open was found in the back of the truck, Norton said.

Norton said he and Locklear received a call about 2 a.m. on the radio that Robeson County law enforcement officers were chasing the truck toward Hoke County from Red Springs to Duffy in connection with a safe - cracking in Red Springs.

There were four men in the truck then but one man jumped out at Greenbrier Estates and two fled in Antioch, Norton said the Robeson County policemen told him.

While the Hoke deputies blocked the road ahead, Robeson County officer cut off escape from the rear, Norton said. In addition to Norton and Locklear, there were officers from Red Springs, and Robeson County and two Civil Defense workers, who had alerted the Red Springs police.

The safe recovered from the truck belonged to James Cox or Red Springs. It was taken from a barber shop there, Norton said.

Three men are still being sought in connection with the robbery theft.

Sheriff Goes To Convention

Sheriff D.M. Barrington and Deputy Alex Norton attended the annual North Carolina Sheriff's Association convention this week in Wilmington.

Meeting were held from Sunday through Tuesday.

Blocked Alley Causes Concern

A wooden barricade blocking an alley that runs from Main Street to Magnolia Street across the A&R railroad is causing some concern around town.

City manager John Gaddy said he had received several complaints from residents and merchants here. Some city council members have also received complaints, he said.

The property is owned by the Aberdeen and Rockfish Railroad, which has a right - of - way extending on each side of the track, according to Palmer Willcox, city attorney.

However, the alley has been in common use for a number of years, perhaps fifty years or longer, and this gives it the status of a public thoroughfare, he said.

Willcox said in his opinion, the alley could not be blocked now if the public wanted to use it. The alley has never been dedicated to the city as a public street, however.

Gaddy said the matter would be discussed by the city council and that he would get an opinion on the legal courses open to the city.

The barricade was erected about two weeks ago. Gaddy said he did not know who had it placed in the alley.

John Nicholson, who lives on Magnolia Street next to the blocked thoroughway, said he had the barricade built after he went before the city council to ask that the road either be maintained or blocked.

The council told him that the city could not maintain the road because it was not owned by the city, Nicholson said.

"The place was a public nuisance," Nicholson said. "There was nothing but drunks and unnecessary persons driving through there."

"I know who goes through there. I've sat there and watched drunk after drunk drive through there. People who object to the closing ought to come down on Saturday afternoon and Saturday night and just see what goes on."

Nicholson said the police did not patrol the road but city policeman Leonard Wiggins said the area was patrolled.

Nicholson said the closing of the road would not affect any of the downtown businesses but Ed McNeill, owner of Home Food Market, and Walter McAllister, a taxi driver, disagreed. Both said they had made complaints on the closing to city hall.

McNeill said it was often difficult to reach his store and that the road from Magnolia into the large alley parking area behind the Main Street stores was the best way to reach his business. He has had complaints from customers since the alley was closed, he said.

"If you start closing streets around town," McNeill said, "We might all be closed down."

McAllister said he had also been to city hall to complain. "That street is a good outlet to Harris Avenue," he said. "We taxi drivers need it to get in and out to Harris. That street has been there ever since I was a little fellow and I guess since it's been a city. But it really needs working."

McAllister said that other cab drivers, Huland Sanders, James Gay, Marshall Cherry and Caleb Ross, had also complained to the city government.

One Raeford resident objected to the roadway being called an alley.

"It's not an alley," she said emphatically. "It's a street."

Willis Wins Cook Contest

Charles Willis placed first in the state poultry barbecue Tuesday night at 4-H Club Congress, making this the second straight year that a Hoke County cook has taken the top spot.

Last year, Lawrence Willis, Charles's older brother, won the poultry barbecue. Charles used a slightly different recipe this year and basted the chicken more, Mrs. Ellen Willis, county home extension agent, said.

Charles, who is attending club week on a scholarship won in the district contest, received a \$50 Savings Bond from the contest sponsor, Sears.

Theresa McCraney, another district

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Teal Studies Construction

Franklin Teal, Jr. attended a week - long school on construction designed for mortgage lenders at the University of Illinois at Champaign - Urbana.

Taught by staff members of the university, one of whom is the chairman of the Small Homes Council - Building Research Council, the course was designed to help lenders interpret plans and specifications and to evaluate houses under construction. New building techniques were included in the course.

While there, Teal made two field trips to watch a modular home factory construct multi - unit buildings and to inspect a co-op housing project for low and middle - income families.

He attended the course from July 19-24.

Late Harvest Delays School

Pupils Report

All Day Sept. 1

A late tobacco harvest will delay the opening of school for a week this fall, the Hoke County Board of Education decided Monday.

The first day of school will fall on Sept. 1 and will be a full day. Teachers will report on Aug. 30.

School was scheduled to begin Aug. 23 for teachers and registration for students was set Aug. 24. The first full day of school was planned Aug. 25.

Besides delaying school a week, the board also eliminated the registration day this year.

Tobacco harvesting is from a week to ten days behind schedule, Wendell Young, county extension chairman, said. The most important causes of the delay, he said, was the combination of the cool weather early in the season and the dry period in the county that lasted until a few weeks ago.

This combination caused the tobacco not to mature at a normal rate, he explained.

In addition, he said the recent rainy weather early in the season and the dry period in the county that lasted until a gree up again.

This could affect the quality of the leaf as well as the harvest, Young said.

There are about 2,000 acres of tobacco being grown this year in the county, Young said. Much of the harvest depends on youngsters ages 11 up.

Tobacco is a costly crop to produce in terms of labor, he said. Young estimated that from 15 to 20 workers are required for each barn of tobacco.

A number of farmers were asking that school be delayed this year, Young said.

The Board of Education met Monday night to decide the matter. No announcement has been made on how the delay will affect the remainder of the school calendar.

Teens Collect 100 Games

Teenagers collecting for Operation: Game Box last week brought in more than 100 games and toys for use by county groups who are supervising recreation.

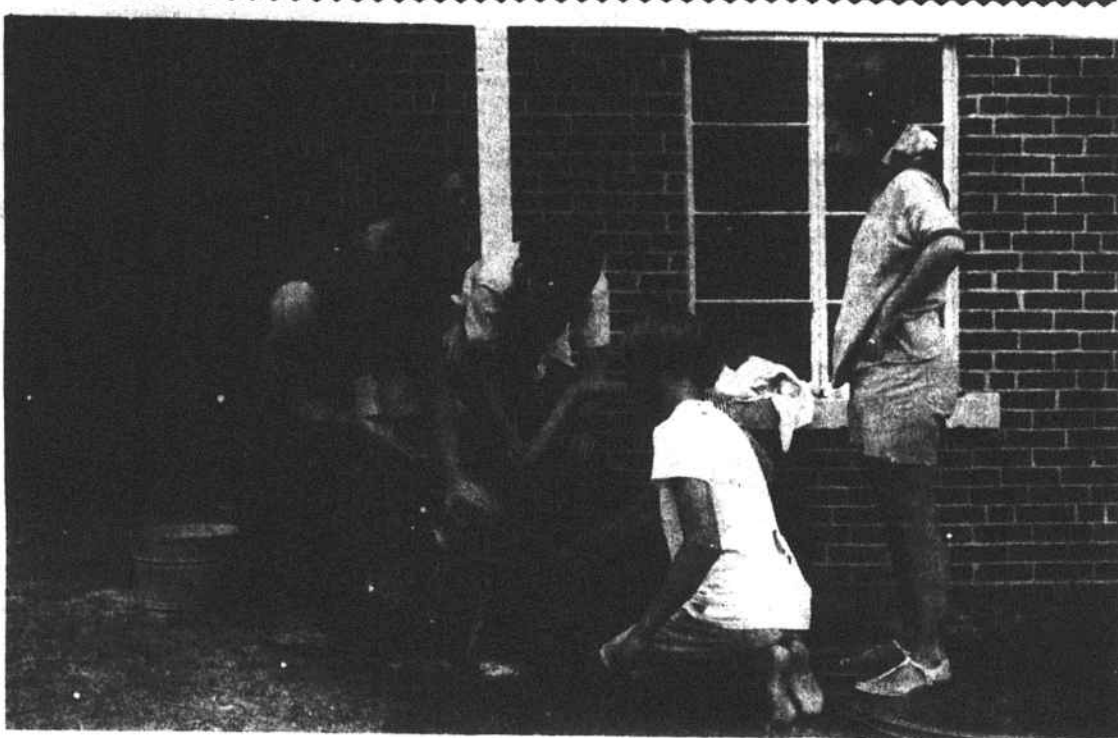
The Teenage Planning Council is establishing a collection of games and equipment. These may be checked out by community groups by the community's representative on the Council.

Collecting last week were Carolyn Stator, Miriam Ropp, Chuck Davis, Julia Barnwell, Debra Childers, Kristi Frahm, Kim Jordan and Reggie Frahm. Teenagers using their own cars the two collection days were Lee Gillis, Linda Kay Harrell, Mac McNeill and Betsy Postel.

Younger Sneed provided a truck for the group for the collection.

Persons with games or equipment to donate who were not at home during the collection days are asked to bring their items to City Hall.

The twelve planning council members will meet Aug. 11 at 5 p.m. at City Hall.



DOG DUNK - Meg, a golden retriever owned by Clyde Upchurch, is given a scrubbing by members of the Raeford United Methodist Church youth group at a dog wash held last week behind the church. The youngsters earned \$10.50 washing two pointers, a golden retriever, a dachshund, a poodle, a German shepherd and an Airdale. Washers from left to right are: John Clark, Linda Kay Teal, Julia Barnwell, Roy Avery, Mitchell Cox and Mrs. Billy Gilmore.

Hoke County Tick Bite Causes

Tabor City Child To Die Of Rocky Mountain Fever

A Tabor City child who died last week from Rocky Mountain spotted fever was bitten by a tick while she visited her grandparents in Raeford four weeks ago.

Jacqueline Lynne Blanton, 7, died July 17 in Babies Hospital in Wrightsville Beach, where she was taken after she became seriously ill.

The little girl and her sister, Suzanne, spent a week here about a month ago with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Vernie Blanton of Raeford. She was bitten by a tick during that time, Mrs. Blanton said.

The child became ill about two weeks

later, after she had returned home to Tabor City, Mrs. Blanton said. When the grandparents arrived at the hospital after being notified of Lynne's serious illness, Blanton told the doctor about the tick.

Mrs. Blanton said she didn't know at the time that the girl had been bitten, but that her husband knew about it. Lynne also visited her uncle's family, the Bobby Blantons, in Ashley Heights and Mrs. Blanton said she didn't know if the child got the tick in Raeford or in the county.

Dr. Riley Jordan, one of the county's two doctors in private practice, said that

there had been no cases of the disease in the county in the past few years.

"But I think there have been more ticks around than usual this year," he said.

According to a text book, "Communicable Diseases", supplied by Dr. Jordan, the disease is transmitted from infected animals to human by ticks. The wood tick is the most common carrier in the west or Rocky Mountain area, but in the south and eastern United States, the dog tick is the most common disease bearer.

The disease cannot be transmitted from person to person and is spread by the bite of a tick or by contact with tick material such as blood or feces on the unbroken skin.

Symptoms of Rocky Mountain spotted fever include acute onset of fever, severe headache, body aches and a rash. The incubation period varies, from two to five days in severe cases and up to three weeks or so in mild cases.

For prevention, the book recommends that tick - infested areas be avoided if possible and that persons inspect themselves carefully about twice a day after coming in from out - of - doors. Ticks should be removed carefully, avoiding contact with tick material.

During the past year, 30 cases of Rocky Mountain spotted fever were reported in North Carolina. There were 130 cases reported throughout the nation.

Man Seriously Hurt; Auto Is Undamaged

A man was seriously injured Saturday on N.C. 211 when he was thrown from his car before it overturned in a ditch near Scarborough's service station. The car was not damaged at all.

Carl Lee Monroe of Raeford was taken to Cape Fear Valley Hospital following the accident at 5:50 p.m. Saturday and was transferred to Chapel Hill with head injuries.

Highway patrolman K.W. Weston, who investigated the wreck, said Monroe was driving west on 211 in a convertible with the top down when he lost control of the vehicle. The car veered into a ditch and overturned, throwing Monroe from the vehicle.

There were no seat belts in the car, Weston said.

New Subdivision Planned To Include Lake, Park

Plans have been released by Thomas & Davis Corporation to develop the largest subdivision ever undertaken in Hoke County. The land is located West of Raeford adjacent to College Drive and Sunset Hills subdivisions. According to Crawford Thomas, Jr. and Carson Davis, Jr. the cooperation will begin with 28 lots and expanding to over 100 lots involving 82.5 acres.

Engineering by Moorman and Little, Inc. of Fayetteville, N.C. is now underway and development construction is expected to begin immediately. The corporation plans include the providing of underground utilities, paved streets, community park and lake facilities. The

subdivision is to be known as "Thomasfield". Considerable research of subdivisions located in the three states area of Virginia, North and South Carolina indicated a preference to be reflected through street names and the general layout of project.

The business of Thomas & Davis Corporation will be conducted at office facilities located at 501 Harris Ave. Additionally, housing construction and mortgage loans will be provided.

Tobacco Plots Were Toured

A tour of experimental tobacco plots, including one in Hoke County, was held last Friday.

Tobacco farmers in the area, extension agents and a Sandhills tobacco research specialist from N.C. State inspected plots on four farms.

Included was the S.L. Calloway farm in Hoke County. Other plots inspected were located in Lee and Moore counties.

LAST CHANCE SATURDAY

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