

## Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

We received another letter from Mrs. Ed S. Lytch of Tucson, Arizona this week. She also was telling us about more Tar Heels that lived in Arizona. We also made a mistake in the doggerel we published but she stated that it could have been her writing and she was very understanding about newspapers making mistakes, as her husband was an editor at one time.

She closed the letter with this remark: "You really pleased this Senior Citizen by

granting my request." We were glad to have the opportunity of granting your request, Mrs. Lytch, and we thank you for your letters.

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We would like to take this opportunity to inform young men who are coming of age to register for the draft that the Hoke County Selective Service Office is open only two days a week. The office is open Monday and Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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We believe that the legislature enacted a bill that was suitable to most of the University people in the state. We think they did a fine job in ending the session in one week.

We also commend them for changing the primary day back to Saturday.

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We spent the weekend in the mountains of North Carolina and the color is something to behold. We visited with my brother, James, in Chimney Rock, and with him doing the driving we were able to enjoy the scenery. According to James, the color should hold out for a couple of more weeks around Chimney Rock. If you haven't been to the mountains in the fall of the year, you don't know what you have missed. So pack up the family in the next couple of weeks and spend a weekend in beautiful Western North Carolina.

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Back in my younger days we heard many a time that when the nut trees were loaded with nuts that you could look for a rough winter. We notice that pecan and hickory trees are loaded with nuts this year. We don't know about the rough winter because we still have summer weather here in Hoke County. We suspect that we will go straight from summer to winter, and it will hit all of us hard.

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W. P. Phillips was telling me Monday that the normal amount of rain for October is between 3 and 4 inches. He said that he heard on the radio that we had 11 inches of rain in October this year. November is starting off just like October with plenty of rain. What we would like to see is a good front and cooler weather.

## Commissioners Told:

# Hoke Eligible For Funds For Economic Growth

The county commissioners have been notified by the Southeastern Economic Development Commission that Hoke County has been designated as a Title IV area under the Economic Development Act.

T.B. Lester, county manager, read the letter to the commissioners at the board meeting Monday morning and explained the possible benefits to the county.

The county was designated an EDA area because of persistent unemployment, the commissioners were informed in the letter from SEDC.

As a Title IV county, Hoke will be eligible for public works grants and loans plus ten per cent bonus grants up to 80 per cent of the project costs.

Included under the act are grants and loans for industrial and commercial development, technical assistance, planning and administrative grants - in-aid, working capital loans, public works development loans up to 100 per cent and training program loans.

In order to qualify as an EDA county, the commissioners must pass a resolution requesting designation, after consulting with the city council and civic clubs. Lester said they must also prepare an overall economic development program for the county and appoint a development committee.

Lester told the commissioners that the Chamber of Commerce had already endorsed the move.

No action was taken on the resolution by the board.

The removal by the General Assembly of the \$14 a day nursing home limitation for Medicaid was discussed by the board. The measure will allow the federal government to pay for 73 per cent of the

## First In State

# Two Counties Share Director For Public Health Departments

## Burlington Seeks Wage Increases

Jack Bradford and Graham Pope of Burlington Worsted Raeford Plant and Dyeing Plant announced that the company was seeking permission from the government to grant wage increases.

"We have made application to the government for permission to grant our wage employees appropriate increases and we are hopeful that prompt action on the

request will be taken by the new Pay Board, which must approve any proposed wage increase," he said in statement Friday.

"We are still operating under the wage and price freeze orders of August 14 and thus will not be able to make wage adjustments until given specific permission to do so by the government."

## Rain Slows Harvests

With more than half of the cotton crop still to be picked, continued rain is posing a threat to the county's farmers, county agent Wendell Young told the commissioners at their monthly meeting Monday.

"Not too much damage has been done so far," he said, "but if this rainy weather continues, we're going to see some sprouting and other damage."

As of the first of November, only about 40 - 45 per cent of the cotton had been picked, he said.

Harvest in other crops also lagged behind schedule. Young told the commissioners and many farmers were late in planting small grains this fall.

"We've made a crop this year, but we can't get it out," Young said.

The rain has lowered the quality of the cotton somewhat, he said but there has not been too much damage otherwise.

Corn has suffered the most damage because it has been knocked down. Young said. He estimated that about 40 per cent of the corn crop remained to be harvested.

Soybeans have not been harmed too much as far he said, but continued wet weather is likely to cause increased damage.

## Santa Visits On Dec. 3

Santa Claus has scheduled a pre-Christmas visit to Raeford on Dec. 3 and the Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce is throwing a parade in his honor that afternoon.

Chamber manager Harold Gillis announced plans for the annual celebration to open the Christmas season. Professional floats will be used again this year, he said, and the Chamber hopes to have about a dozen to participate in the parade.

In addition, any civic organizations, club, band or other organization who would like to participate in the parade are asked to call the Chamber of Commerce at 875-2179. There is no entry fee for the parade.

## Fire Cause Is Disputed

A fire that damaged the interior of a home on East Donaldson last week began in the ceiling, according to the occupant, Mrs. John P. Smith.

The fire started in the wiring in the ceiling above the middle bedroom, Mrs. Smith said. Crawford Thomas, Jr., chief

of the city fire department, said the fire appeared to have started in the middle bedroom around the iron.

Mrs. Smith told The News-Journal that the iron had not been in use for several days before the fire.



HEALTH DIRECTOR - Gilbert Hettich looks over some papers on his first day in the county as director of the county health department. Hettich will also direct the Scotland County health department, dividing his time equally between the two counties. Hoke County has been without a health director for several years.

## Vocational Ed Expands

Two more teachers were hired Monday night by the school board as part of an expansion of the vocational education program now underway in the county schools as a result of two grants from the State Department of Public Instruction.

Noah Vaughn and Betsy Samford were approved by the board of education at the regular meeting Monday night. Vaughn will teach auto mechanics at Hoke High School under a grant to expand the vocational program there.

Ms. Samford will teach at Upchurch Junior High as part of a project to begin exploration of occupational education in the middle grades in areas of home economics, woodworking and business education.

The project is financed by a \$39,000 grant from the state and will complement an experimental program of open classrooms being tried this year at the junior high with children who have been identified as having special educational needs.

Part of the money will be spent to renovate the shop and set up teaching stations, D.D. Abernethy, superintendent of county schools, told the board. About \$1,500 of the grant will be used at the high school for the vocation department.

The board also approved the hiring of Mildred Mitchell, who will teach at

Raeford Elementary School.

J.D. Soles, transportation director, appeared before the board to discuss changes in the busing system designed to eliminate some of the nuisances in the system. Soles presented a plan to the board aimed at having cleaner buses, better schedules and safer drivers, Abernethy said.

Abernethy read a petition signed by a group of elementary school teachers in the county requesting changes in the bus system to shorten the school day for some elementary school children.

According to the petition, with the longer school day required and the present bus routes, some children may spend as much as ten hours a day either in school or enroute to school.

Abernethy told the board that he had requested the state already to allow some changes in the busing to establish a dual system in which high school and elementary school children would be transported on separate buses. The state must approve changes in bus routes, he told the board. Abernethy said he would reply to the teachers, explaining the moves he has taken to apply to the problem.

In other action, the board approved a fee list for South Hoke and Scotland schools to comply with the other schools

Gilbert Hettich, the county's new health department director, began work here this week in an innovative sharing arrangement with Scotland County.

The 37-year-old Kentucky native will serve as health director for both the Scotland County and Hoke County public health departments, dividing his time equally between the two.

Hettich was approved recently by both boards of health and both boards of county commissioners and started work in Scotland County on Nov. 1. He spent his first day in Hoke County on Tuesday, beginning an arrangement that has been discussed between the two counties since 1943.

"This is, to my knowledge, the first time in the state that a lay health administrator has been shared by two departments as director," Hettich said in an interview at the county health department Tuesday. "This has been done occasionally when a physician has been the health director."

Hettich said he read Monday minutes from the Scotland County Board of health meetings in 1943 in which the sharing of a health director with Hoke county was discussed.

This is not the first time he has been involved in health care innovations, however. In 1966, Hettich worked in Eastern Kentucky in an Office of Economic Opportunity program to develop comprehensive health planning for that economically depressed region. The project there served as a model for the Comprehensive Health Planning Act passed later by Congress.

Hettich served for four years in Kentucky as an administrative assistant in a mental health program and then spent two years in an OEO project in Appalachia studying mental health and mental retardation and developing a program to provide mental health services for the region. From there, he became interested in comprehensive health planning, and as a part of that project worked on such projects as helping organize a school of nursing at a community college. He also worked for two years in the public health department in St. Louis.

Hettich entered the University of North Carolina in 1968 as a doctoral student in the School of Public Health. He has completed studies for his doctorate and is now working on his dissertation.

Hettich has maintained his interest in comprehensive health planning - a movement that has gained importance in the state in the last two years.

"I hope that this department and the staff will be involved in the programs of the Region N Comprehensive Health Planning Council, of which Hoke County is a part," he said.

Hettich said he sees his role as a director here as one primarily in leadership. "Because the health department has been so long without a director, the staff has worked out the details of administration and it is a credit to them that they have kept the programs functioning," he said. "I foresee the health department's role as providing the leadership in health problems as they

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## Harpist To Play At Civic Center

Joel Andrews, acclaimed by critics as a master harpist, will perform Thursday night at the Civic Center at 8 p.m. in a public program sponsored by the Raeford Woman's Club.

Andrews, who holds three degrees and who studied under noted musicians Carlos Salzedo and Alice Chalifoux, has just completed two years as musician-in-residence at N.C. State.

His concerts there drew bigger audiences than the chamber music series with its top artists. Andrews has been one of the pioneers in breaking down the traditional barrier between performer and audience. He builds rapport by talking in the audience instead of printing program notes. He is noted for a warm, informal presentation, together with a richly varied

programming that always includes some of his own compositions.

Andrews founded the First Annual Harp Festival at the University of Texas, serving as composer, arranger, conductor and soloist. He organized the national Harp Festival in 1960 drawing 50 harpists and Carlos Salzedo. He has performed widely and has presented solo concerts as well as music for harp ensembles, dancers, poets, plays, exhibitions, radio and television. He teaches at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, was four years solo harpist with the Oakland Symphony and is now with the San Francisco Ballet and Opera.

At a recent concert in Town Hall, New York City, Andrews was praised by Allen Hughes of the New York Times as having "skill, musicianship and sensitivity."



MASTER HARPIST - Joel Andrews, acclaimed by critics as an exciting musician, will perform for the public at 8 p.m. at the Civic Center in a program sponsored by the Raeford Woman's Club.