

## Around Town

By SAM C. MORRIS

A card was received this week from Laurie Telfair, ex-reporter, and she and her family have arrived in Omaha. I know that she will be O.K. this summer, but I still think about how cold natured she is and wonder what will happen to Laurie this winter in the cold Nebraska weather. In case anyone would like to know, her address is: 5130 S. 121st St. Omaha, Nebraska 68137.

The News-Journal will be closed Tuesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day. I would like to request that advertisers and contributors of news get there copy in as soon as possible for next week's paper. We will be hard pressed to get out the paper on Wednesday unless we receive cooperation from everyone.

It seems that some members of other teams in the softball league want the same treatment by the press that was given the House of Raeford team in this column last week.

I would suggest that all teams look around for a player that has a brother who is sports editor of a daily newspaper. In this way they could invite him down for a game and request that he write about their team.

Of course I don't know if every team in the league is composed of characters like those who make up the House of Raeford team. Anytime you write you must have subjects that will make for good reading.

A column on some of the spectators would be for good reading. Then again we doubt if everything would be printable that could be said about them.

Robert Gatlin was by the office this week and was telling me that while surveying the late Starr McMillan property east of town that he came upon an old dam behind Jessie Jones' house on Peddler's Branch. Robert said that if anyone knew anything about the dam he would like for them to get in touch with him and give him the history of it. I would appreciate the same information to pass along to readers of this column.

Ann Webb, ad salesman for the News-Journal, said some businesses would be closed Tuesday and Wednesday of next week. When asked why, she replied: "For the fifth they had on the fourth."

The following letter is self-explanatory:

Dear Sam,  
Please change the reward offer made theft from \$500 to \$700. This is being made possible by a concerned Hoke County resident.

Not many of us are able to put up money to do something about the present situation in Hoke County - but if we really get involved enough we can change things around a bit. There are many more honest, upright citizens in Hoke County than there are thieves, arsonists and people bent on malicious vandalism. Are we going to let this situation continue until every family in our county has been victimized? It surely could come to that if the trend continues.

When we take the law into our own hands - only that we cooperate in every way possible. Get involved! If something looks suspicious - have it checked out. Look out for your neighbor. Don't withhold information that might help convict the law breaker. You might be his next victim anyway.

It's devastating to come home and find that everything of value has been taken while you were away or to look at the ashes of a house burned to provide "kicks" for some idiot "on a trip." It is heart-breaking to build a business with years of hard work and have it go to provide luxuries for someone who can boast in a public place that he averages \$500 a night take home "pay." Do we owe anyone that much? I think not.

They can be stopped - you can help now, or you can wait until you need help. Which will it be?

Sincerely,  
Anna W. Hendrix  
(Mrs. S. Brown Hendrix)

# Arson Continues In Hoke County

Another apparent case of arson was investigated by the Hoke Sheriff's Dept. last week.

On the night of June 21, a fire in a home under construction on Rt. 1, Aberdeen, was reported to the Aberdeen Fire Dept. by owner E. J. Smith.

Before firemen could work to extinguish flames, however, the fire blew out due to an explosion of a five gallon can of gasoline in the kitchen.

Sheriff D. M. Barrington said that a trail of gas had been ignited in the hallway of the house leading to the five gallon can in the kitchen. The intense

# Knit-Away Expands Raeford Plant

## Robber Still At Large

The Federal Bureau of Investigation still have no leads concerning the person responsible for the robbery of the Sunset Branch of the Bank of Raeford last Wednesday.

Road blocks set up in Hoke County and surrounding areas led to the apprehension of one suspect on the Ft. Bragg Military Reservation about 10:30 a.m. last Wednesday, but Bank of Raeford tellers Sarah Maxwell and Jean Long said he could not be identified as the person responsible for the hold up.

The amount of money stolen from the branch bank was reported to be \$5,999. During the incident, the armed black man held a gun on the two tellers and forced them to lie on the floor while he emptied their drawers of the cash. The hold up occurred about 9:10 a.m., just minutes after opening.

The robber is believed to have fled in a car with an out of state license. Mrs. Maxwell said she believed the man to be in his 20's.

The incident marked the eighteenth bank robbery in the state in 1972, but the first ever to occur in Hoke County.

## Man Murdered By His Wife

An Antioch man was shot to death by his wife early Sunday morning following what was believed to be a domestic quarrel.

Sarah Marie (Zelma) Bullard, 38, Rt. 1, Box 62 Aberdeen, phoned Sheriff D.M. Barrington at his home Sunday about 6 a.m. and told him she had killed her husband. The victim was 39-year-old Robert Bullard, who was shot in the face while he was asleep. The weapon used was a 20 gauge, double barrel shotgun.

Mrs. Bullard is being held without bond in Hoke County Jail on an open murder charge, pending preliminary hearing on July 7.

Four other persons were in the house at the time, but they were unharmed. Two young children of the Bullards were asleep at the time of the shooting. Also in the house were Curtis Rogers and Anthony Shaw Bullard, younger brother of Robert Bullard.

## Two Thefts Investigated

A 1966 Chevrolet belonging to Mrs. Grace Bullard Lee, of 211 Roberts St., was stolen from her driveway on the night of June 19.

Also on the 19th, an air conditioner was reported missing from the warehouse belonging to Harold Gillis, near the WSHB Radio station. The warehouse had apparently been broken into sometime during the night.

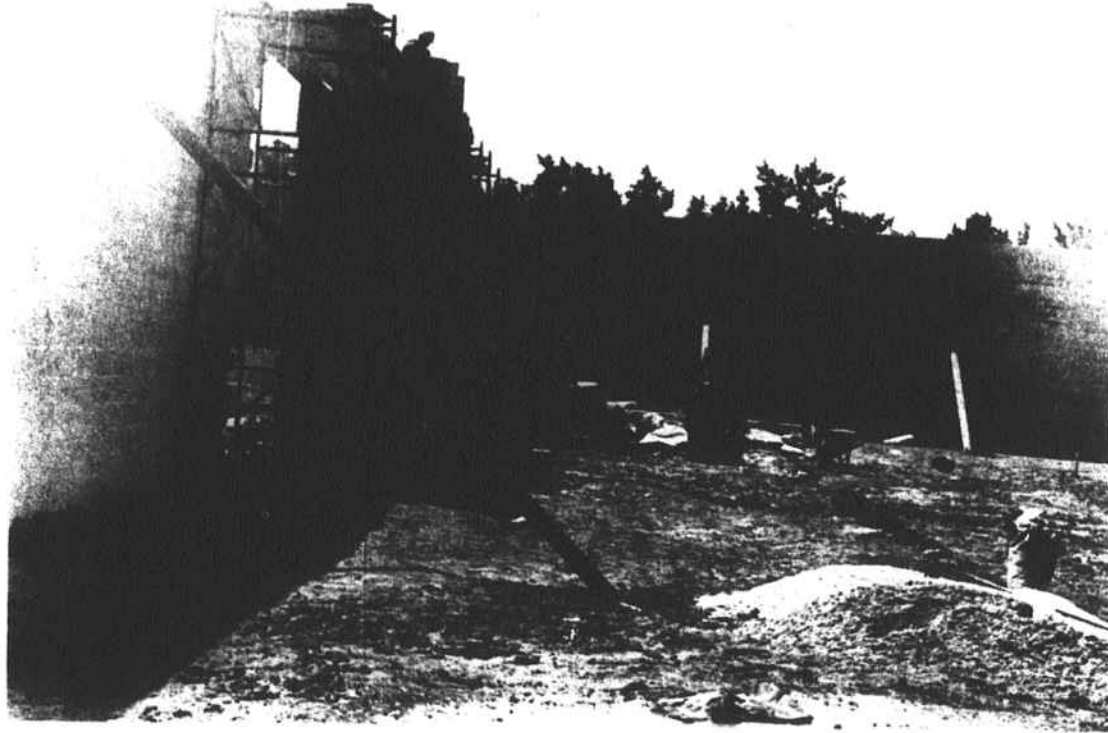
Raeford City Police are investigating both incidents.

## Offices Closed

In observance of the Fourth of July holiday next Tuesday, City Hall, the county office buildings, Post Office building and the Hoke County Court House will be closed. The offices will be open on Monday, July 3, and then will re-open on Wednesday, July 5.

Business and editorial offices of The News - Journal will also close on Tuesday.

All correspondence, social news and advertising should arrive at The News-Journal by Monday, July 3, for publication in Thursday's paper, due to the holiday.



CONSTRUCTION SITE - Workers from the Dickerson Construction Co. from Monroe work on the addition to the Knit-Away plant. Construction of the new area, which will add 61,000 square feet of space at a cost of \$850,000, is scheduled to be completed in October. Total cost of the expansion and new equipment will total \$3.5 million.

In their second major expansion since opening in Raeford in 1970, Knit-Away, Inc. will add approximately \$3.5 million in equipment and area to the existing facilities on the 30 acre plant site in Raeford. Richard P. Bruce Jr., president, disclosed this week.

Construction of the 61,000 square foot addition is expected to be completed in October. The new area will provide additional office and warehouse space to accommodate an expanding Men's Wear Division and Research and Development Division, which is now located in Southern Pines. The addition will bring the total plant space to nearly a quarter of a million square feet and a net worth of over \$12 million.

Bruce said between 150 and 200 new employees will be added in the remaining months of this year, 75 per cent of which will be employed at the Raeford plant.

Personnel manager Fred Williams said the Raeford facilities have more than doubled since work was first begun in February, 1971. Facilities were originally planned to employ 300-350 persons, but the present rolls show over 700 employees. About half of the employees come from Raeford and Hoke County, the rest from outlying areas.

The last major expansion in April, 1971, added a Men's Wear Division, Knit-Away For Men, to service the men's wear apparel market. The fabric produced in the Raeford plant is primarily used for suits, sport coats, and slacks. Fabric is supplied to such manufacturers of men's ready-to-wear clothes as Haggard, Levi-Strauss, Farah, J.C. Penny, Belk's, Sears and others.

In addition, the Knit-Away-Over-the-Counter Division is presently supplying fabric to leading chain stores and fabric specialty shops all over the United States for the home sewing trade. Fabrics for this market are knitted at the Knit-Away plant in Eden, N.C. and dyed, finished and distributed from the Raeford plant.

The Eden plant was acquired from Carroll Knits, Inc., in October, 1970. Facilities there cover 50,000 square feet of space and employ about 300 persons.

Both the Over-the-Counter and the Men's Wear Division have central divisions in Greensboro and New York City. Sales representative centers in Los Angeles, Dallas and New Orleans distribute fabrics to chain stores and fabric shops all over the country. In addition, Knit-Away maintains a retail outlet, The Fabric Stall, in Southern Pines.

Knit-Away presently has complete facilities for the manufacture and sale of double knits including knitting machines, double and fold process, dyeing and finishing facilities and distribution area. The only part of the process which Knit-Away does not do is manufacture the polyester and other yarns used in the knitting of fabrics. These are purchased from mills in North Carolina.

The more than 200 knitting machines in the Raeford plant and the 100 machines in Eden turn out a volume of about 650,000 yards per week. Each machine is capable of turning out about 10 yards per hour. Williams said the machines, which produce fabric in a continuous tubular piece, are worth about \$40,000 to \$50,000 each.

The Research and Development Division, which turns out between 1,000 and 1,200 new fabric designs per year, is headed by Dutch designer Walter Geurts, who learned the knitting profession in Holland, England and South Africa. He also worked for six years with DuPont before taking over as designer for Knit-Away.

Working under Geurts are five knitting technicians, who work with six types of machines. New designs for fabrics are drawn by design artists from New York and then transferred to a graph.

See KNIT-AWAY, Page 11

## Three More Arrests In April ABC Theft

Three more persons have been arrested in connection with the ABC Liquor Store robbery on April 22.

Being held in the Hoke County Jail on \$5,000 bond is Hillman Edens, Rt. 2, Raeford, on a charge of receiving stolen property. He allegedly received 43 cases of liquor stolen from the ABC store on the 22nd.

Warrants for Johnny Scott and Freddie Revels Jr. on charges of breaking, entering and larceny and safe cracking were issued on June 21 by Sheriff D.M. Barrington. Arrest was finally made in Scotland County on the morning of June 27, following a week long search for the two.

They had apparently been in Laurinburg to appear in court when they were apprehended by Scotland County Sheriff's Deputies. Bond was set for the two at \$10,000 each on the two charges.

This brings the total number of arrests in the case to five. Last week William C. Tanner Jr., Rt. 2, Raeford, was charged with receiving stolen property and possessing tax paid liquor for the purpose of sale. He is out of jail after posting \$5,000 bond.

Also arrested last week was Erastus Graham, of House Springs, Mo., who was charged with transporting liquor above the legal limit without a license.

Preliminary hearings in all cases are scheduled for June 30 in Hoke County District Court.

Liquor and cash totaling \$3,000 was stolen from the store on U.S. 401 on April 22. Entry was gained through the roof. The safe was pried open and \$450 in change was removed and 46 cases of liquor were carried out the back door.

Arrests were made following investigations by ABC Board officers J.K. Riley and Robert Yonts and the Hoke County Sheriff's Dept.

The incident on April 22 marked the second break-in of the store.

## Taxes Due

The city of Raeford will begin to advertise delinquent taxes in next week's issue of The News-Journal, according to city manager John Gaddy.

"If people want to keep their name out of the paper," Gaddy said, "they should pay their taxes this week." The City Council earlier this year approved a two per cent discount on taxes during the month of July and a one per cent discount for taxes paid in August. After Sept. 1, fines will be imposed, Gaddy said.

## Airport Project

### Approved By FAA

The City of Raeford received the green light from the Dept. of Transportation of the Federal Aviation Administration concerning improvements of the Raeford Airport, according to city manager John Gaddy.

The firm of Koonce, Noble and Assoc. from Lumberton are engineering the project, which is to include paving the runway and adding lights.

Approval of the project came in two letters to the city from David C. Kelley, Chief of the Airport District Office in Atlanta.

Bids for work on the project will be accepted beginning on July 11.

Gaddy said the work on the airport will "hopefully be completed by fall."

## No Projects For County

No bids for projects in Hoke County were received this week by the State Highway Commission at its regular monthly letting.

Bids totaling \$15,447,051.82 were received involving 26 projects in 25 counties, covering 443 miles of road improvements.

Low bids will be reviewed by the commission on June 29, at 9:30 a.m. in Raleigh.

## Senior Citizens

### Plan Bingo Party

A bingo party will highlight the July meeting of the Raeford Senior Citizens Friendship Club, on the 4th at 2:30 p.m. in the Raeford Methodist Church. Members are also reminded to bring papers for the monthly paper drive.

## July Meetings

The regular monthly meeting of the Hoke County Board of Education has been postponed for one week due to the Fourth of July holiday. The meeting will be held on the evening of July 10, at 8 p.m., in the board office.

The regular meeting of the County Commissioners will be held at 9 a.m. on July 3, in the Board of Education Office.

The City Council will also hold their scheduled meeting at 7:30 p.m. on July 3, in the Town Hall.

All meetings are opened to the public.

## 271 In College

A report from the State Board of Higher Education showed that a total of 271 Hoke County students were attending colleges and universities in the state in fall of 1971.

Of the total, 233 were enrolled in public institutions; 196 of those in senior colleges and 37 in junior colleges.

Of the remaining 38 enrolled in private institutions, 33 were enrolled in senior colleges and five in junior colleges.

## Money Recovered

A 13-year-old boy has been arrested in connection with a break-in at Jesse Parks Grocery on Rt. 2, Raeford, last Thursday.

Parks reported that he closes for lunch between 1 and 2 p.m. and upon returning found his cash box containing \$500 was missing from the store.

Investigations by Sheriff D. M. Barrington led to the arrest of the juvenile responsible for the theft. The money was recovered after the youth led the sheriff to a wooded area near the store where he had hidden the cash box.

The boy will appear before a juvenile court judge later this month on the larceny charge.

## Hoke Census

Average family income was \$6,844 in Hoke County in 1969, compared with \$7,774 for the State, according to a report on the 1970 census by the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. Per capita income for the county amounted to \$1,663, the report shows.

The 1970 census counted 16,436 residents in the county; 0.1 percent were foreign born and 0.4 percent native born with one or both parents of foreign birth. Among the county's 14,799 inhabitants age 5 and over in 1970, 1,674 were living in a different county within the State in 1965, and 334 in a different State.

In the population age 16 and over, 72 percent of the men and 49 percent of the women were in the labor force. Among the employed, 27 percent were holding white collar jobs, and 17 percent were government workers.

About 55 percent of the married women with husband present were in the labor force, and 50 percent of these wives had children under six.

There were 5,210 persons 3 to 34 years old enrolled in school. In the 25- and -older population, 29 percent of the men and 30 percent of the women were high school graduates.

Copies of the report, "General Social and Economic Characteristics, North Carolina" PC(1)-35C, are available for \$2.50 each from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, or from U.S. Department of Commerce field offices located in major cities.

## Hoke Boy Drowns

Funeral services for five-year-old William Anthony Baker of Raeford were held Sunday at 3 p.m. in the First Baptist Church by the Rev. Jack Mansfield. Burial was in the Raeford Cemetery.

The youth drowned in Rockfish Creek Friday night in an attempt to retrieve a pine cone from the water. He was at a fishing picnic with his parents when the accident occurred. Medical examiner Dr. R.M. Jordan said the youth was tossing pine cones with some friends when one of the cones fell into the creek. The child went in after the cone but the water was over his head. Rescue efforts by the boy's father and another man were unsuccessful.

The Hoke County Rescue Squad recovered the boy about 20 to 30 feet downstream, Jordan said.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Baker, a sister, Anita Baker of the home, a brother, Roger Allen Baker of the home, his paternal great grandmother, Mrs. Susan Baker of Raeford, his paternal great grandfather, D. Harthox of Monroe; his paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Baker of Raeford; his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Harrison of Raeford.



William Anthony Baker