

## Around Town

By Sam C. Morris

Hoke Texaco on W. Prospect Avenue was broken into Jan. 7 about 5 a.m. This was not like other breakins because the man that did the job called the Raeford Police Department and told them that he had broke into to get in out of the cold.

He was booked for breaking and entering and was found guilty in district court last Friday.

This is a new one on me.

I would like to take space in this column to say a big 'thanks' to the highway crew of Hoke County for the wonderful job they did in getting the primary roads of the county cleared of the snow and ice. Many people have stopped by the office and said that Hoke County was the best in this area.

Z. B. Toller head of the crews in Hoke and Scotland County was by the office Monday and said the praise should go to Bill Southern and his crew and also to James O. Miller, chief mechanic and his helper who kept the garage open day and night to keep the machinery in working condition.

I rode around with Bill Saturday afternoon and he was showing me many of the secondary roads that he wanted cleared by Monday so that all school buses could run. The crew worked Sunday and into Sunday night and schools opened on Monday.

D.D. Abernethy school superintendent said Tuesday that all trucks made it Monday so the job must have been successful.

The highway crew according to Toller worked "beyond the call of duty" and the people of Hoke County should be proud to have men working on the highways that are dedicated to their work.

Once again thanks, highway people.

The City of Raeford street department men under the direction of Dewey Inman did a fine job in the city. They did not have the material and equipment of the highway department but it was possible for most people to travel on the streets.

I think we all should tip our hats to these men also.

I received the following in the mail Tuesday and readers can come to their own conclusion.

"Mr. Morris: Enclosed find two checks one for two belated Xmas gift subscriptions to the Journal and the other one to Mr. Pete Young.

"I only know Mr. Young as a member of the Journal staff and know nothing of his financial situation but I do think his Raeford friends can extend their sympathy to him in the loss of his family, home and personal belongings with a gift - dollars and cents no matter how much he may have I'm sure he can use the little we send and will appreciate it.

"All we give in cases of this kind will be returned to us doubled. Hope you can send my small gift to him as I do not have his address.

Thank You, signed A fifty-eight year subscriber to the Raeford Paper"

Thank you very much and I will see that the check reaches Peter B. If anyone else feels as the lady does send your contributions to me and I will send them on.

I haven't heard this week about Peter B, but the newspaper at Summit did say they would call if anything happened to him.

A letter from Elaine Symanski included regards to all her friends in Hoke County. According to the letter she has a newspaper job and likes it very much. Elaine I don't write many letters but will take this opportunity to say hello, and glad to hear about the job. Keep up the goodwork.

## U.S. Delivers Less Money

The second federal revenue sharing checks for the city of Raeford and Hoke County arrived last week. The checks covering the final six months of 1972 were less than the ones received in December for the first half of the same year.

County Manager T.B. Lester said a letter with the check explained five percent was being withheld for adjustments which might have to be made in the future.

The county check was for \$125,037. This is \$4,070 less than the \$129,107 received in December.

The city received \$39,061 which is \$1,644 less than the \$40,705 which arrived in December.

# Another Policeman Quits Department Strength Stands At Three Plus Chief

## R.B. Lewis Will Retire

Robert Lewis, president of the Bank of Raeford for 15 years and an employee for more than 53 years, announced his retirement at a stockholders meeting last week.

J.L. McNeill, chairman of the bank's board of directors, said the 79-year-old Lewis will remain on the job for several months or until a successor is named.

Lewis who will remain a member of the board of directors after his retirement, joined the bank on April 19, 1919. He became cashier in Jan. 1920, executive vice president in Jan. 1946 and president in Jan. 1961.

The only break in his years of service at the bank came during his military service in World War II. Lewis entered the service on Sept. 15, 1940 and discharged in early 1946.

During his years in Raeford Lewis has been active in civic and church work including service with Kiwanis, Boy Scouts, Chamber of Commerce, Sunday school and the volunteer fire department.

## Superior Court Starts Next Week

The jury list and calendar for the regular criminal Superior Court session which begins Jan. 22 have been announced.

Presiding over the four-day session will be Chief Superior Court Judge E. Maurice Braswell. Twelfth Solicitorial District Solicitor Jack A. Thompson will be assisted by Edward W. Grannis Jr., Edwin Lynn Johnson, Philip Cheatwood, James Little and David Fox Jr.

### Grand Jury

The Hoke County Grand Jury is scheduled to examine 11 bills of indictment in a one-day session Jan. 22. Cases to be presented to the Grand Jury are: Tiffie Lee Bullard and Bobbie Locklear, both charged with shooting in occupied house; and Chester Bullard charged with discharging firearms in occupied house.

Annie Rachel Peguse, arson; T. B. Gainey charged with uttering, and passing forged check and forgery; Billy Ray Collins, larceny; Tommie Bowers, Amos Chandler and Roy Thornton, all charged with escape; and Clinton Barton charged with murder. Cases in which the Grand Jury returns true bills will be scheduled in the same criminal Superior Court session.

### Additional Cases

Additional cases scheduled to be heard in the criminal session include rape charges against Marilyn Locklear alias Hitler Locklear and Mavis Sturdivant alias Dick Sturdivant; murder charges against Sarah Marie Bullard alias Zelma Bullard; and

Betty Scott alias Betty McAm, murder; Bud Brown, worthless check; Silas Love, failure to comply with suspended sentence; Glen Locklear, robbery; Roy Lee Monroe Jr., assault with deadly weapon and malicious damage to personal property; and

Johnny Jones, breaking, entering and larceny and receiving stolen goods; Billy Ray Collins alias James Earl Collins, assault with a deadly weapon, larceny and robbery; Steve Locklear, robbery; Curtis Drake Sr., DUI, third offense; and

Willie J. Locklear, carnal knowledge; Calvin Foster McBryde, DUI, second offense; Donald Rav Hunt, larceny; John

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## Local Draft Board Closed

The local draft board will be closed Tuesday because there is an area conference scheduled in Raleigh.

## Make-Up Days Are Scheduled

At the County School Board Monday members approved a schedule for five snow make-up days.

The first day will be made up on Jan. 19. Students will attend school that day. The teacher work day originally planned for the nineteenth has been rescheduled for Saturday Jan. 27.

The additional four make-up days will be added to the end of the school year. Under the schedule approved Monday the final school day for students has been changed to June 1. The last day for teachers has been extended to June 6.

The board made no changes in the Easter vacation schedule. The first day of Easter vacation remains April 19. Classes are scheduled to resume April 25.



LAST WEEK THIS WAS SNOW AND ICE - Water from melted snow and ice sweeps litter down gutter of Raeford's Main Street early this week.

# Work Crews Clear Roads, All County Schools Reopen

Affects of the recent snow and sleet storm were fast fading from Hoke County this week. Most roads and all schools were reopened.

Wednesday morning the state Highway Commission reported all primary and secondary roads in Hoke County had been opened and cleared of ice patches. At press time the crews were working on dirt roads in the county.

Bill Southern, Hoke County crew

chief, reported work crews using four salt spreaders, eight snow plows and four motor graders worked throughout the week to clear roads.

He explained the plows are installed under trucks and the graders are heavier pieces of equipment which can cut through the ice layers on the roads.

To accomplish the clearing task the county was divided into four work

sections and crews worked from the outer corners of the county toward the center.

State Highway Superintendent for Hoke and Scotland Counties, Z. B. Toller, told The News Journal the crew chief in Scotland County was injured in a fall during the storm. As a result Toller spent most of the time in Scotland County and the clearing problems in Hoke were handled mainly by Southern and his crew.

Toller said this was the worst storm of his generation. The snow topped by sleet and combined with prolonged low temperatures turned roads into thick sheets of ice. Removal was hampered in areas even after temperatures rose removal was difficult in shaded areas.

Toller said the Hoke County crew put in long hours to clear the roads. He reported Southern worked straight through from 1:30 p.m. Jan. 7 to 7 p.m. Jan. 8.

Hoke County Schools reopened Monday morning after being closed for five days. All buses moved smoothly with no difficulties and no accidents were reported.

A schedule for make-up of snow days was approved by the School Board at their meetg Monday. The schedule appears elsewhere in today's paper.

Schools in surrounding counties also closed because of the storm. Reopening Monday were schools in Robeson, Scotland and Moore Counties. Cumberland County Schools did not reopen until Tuesday.

## Monthly Meeting Of City Council

At their regular monthly meeting Jan. 8 the City Council approved the revenue sharing trust fund resolution drawn by the state.

A scheduled discussion on Cablevision was temporarily tabled because of the absence of the company representative.

Councilmen had planned to study bids for a 1973 standard cab truck but since only one bid was received, it was rejected. The council called for re-advertising for sealed bids on the vehicle.

Patrolman Earl Wiggins Jr., resigned from the Raeford Police Department this week. He is the eighth man to leave the department during the past fifteen months.

J. C. Barrington Jr. joined the Hoke County Sheriff's Department effective Jan. 15. Barrington is the third former policeman to join the Sheriff's Department since last May.

Wiggins, whose resignation is effective Saturday said he resigned because the hours are too long. He reports his new job at Morgan Mills near Laurel Hill will pay "twice the money for half the hours."

The Scotland County native was emphatic when he said, "If something isn't done Raeford won't have a Police Department. The men on the Raeford force are a great bunch but you can't expect men to work 12 or more hours a day."

"It isn't fair to the people he is trying to protect nor is it safe for the policeman to be sent out on a beat for that many hours," continued Wiggins.

"They are getting all that fancy new equipment and won't have anybody left on the force to run it," said Wiggins.

When he asked if he was leaving because of statements made to himself and Patrolman William Harold Hooks in District Court on January 5, Wiggins answered, "No. If that were the only reason I would not have quit. It's the low pay and long hours."

There was speculation Wiggins quit because of Judge Dupree's statements after non-suit was granted in a case charging Wiggins and Hooks with assault on Eugene "Doc" Campbell.

Dupree told the defendants, "I do not know if you used more force than necessary but I've arrested Doc myself on other occasions and had no trouble. Both of you are new to Raeford and should keep in mind psychology is shorter than use of force. If you did use a little too much force, next time around be a little more careful."

Wiggins said, "I didn't like that statement. I didn't think it was right, but it is not why I left."

With Wiggins' departure Raeford is left with a four-man Police Department; the chief, two sergeants and one patrolman. Authorized strength of the department is five policemen and the chief, but the department has not been up to strength in a long time.

Of the seven other men who have left the department two were fired, one resigned on request and one resigned for health reasons. Some of the others were cautious about being quoted but did say wages, hours and personal or personality reasons were responsible.

One who said it was not the money, refused to discuss what the reasons were but said he was among those who had discussed the problem with City Manager John Gaddy.

John Gaddy, city manager, said he had talked with some of the men who resigned and could find no indication of internal problems in the department.

Chief James E. Lamont says anyone who stays on a police force today is either well paid or dedicated. "With the salary here the remaining policemen are

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## Two Injured On N.C. 211

The Hoke County Rescue Squad ambulance took an injured man and woman to Southeastern General Hospital in Lumberton Tuesday afternoon from a three-vehicle accident on highway 211 near the Robeson County line.

Hospital authorities reported Wednesday morning the man, Malory Lee Jones, 71, of Stonewall Township, was in satisfactory condition. They reported the woman, Margaret Swain Pait, 60, of Aberdeen, was not listed as a patient.

Rescue Squadmen Neil Smith and Ronnie Prince drove the rescue Squad ambulance when other ambulances were unavailable. Darryl DeVane, squadman, reports Jones suffered a cut on his head when it hit the windshield of his rancher and that Mrs. Pait complained of severe pain in the back of the head.

A vehicle driven by Samuel Gates, Rt. 1, Box 152, Raeford, was stopped at a routine check point being operated by Highway Patrolman Ken Weston. Mrs. Pait's vehicle was stopped behind Gates' car at the time of the accident, said Weston. Jones' car approached from the rear and struck Mrs. Pait's vehicle knocking it into Gates' car, reports the investigating officer.

First aid was administered to Jones by the injured Mrs. Pait and Ernestine Brewer, a witness, said Weston.

Estimated damage to the vehicles is Mrs. Pait's, \$1,500; Jones', \$600; and Gates', \$350.