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NCAE Plans New Award

Educators from across the state are now being screened at the local level for the first Human Relations Award. The award, to be presented by the North Carolina Association of Educators, will be given April 13 at the NCAE convention in Greensboro. Nominees are being selected by NCAE local units now and will compete next at the district level. Local association president Mrs. Cohlra Lyons announced the award in Hoke County. To be eligible for nomination, an educator must have "engendered a climate of compatibility, positive feelings and actions and humanness" in his school.

Police Report Few Incidents

City police investigated several minor skirmishes at the Hoke-Pinecrest basketball game Friday night, but no arrests were made. Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins said one Pinecrest fan reported he had been cut but would not swear out a warrant charging the offense. Wiggins said he did not see any injury and that the man indicated it was a scratch. Police arrested Bertha Lee McLean Saturday and charged her with shoplifting at the A&P.



The LOBSTER INN

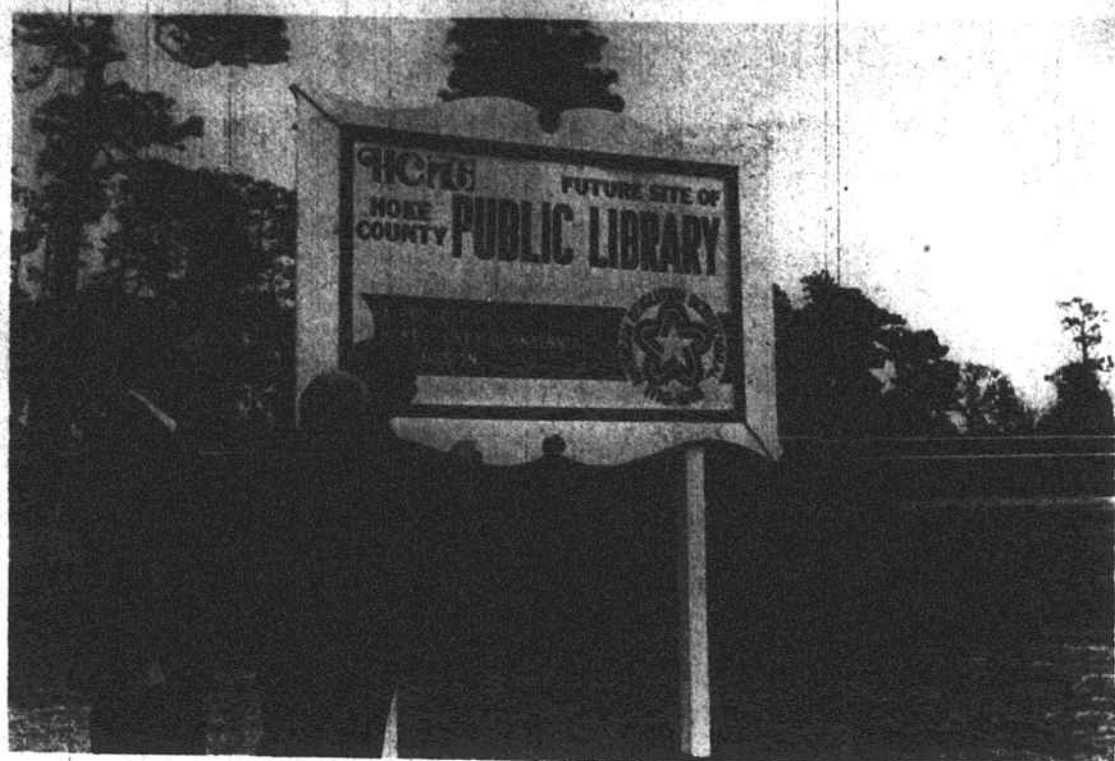
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PLANS - Fund raising chairman for the proposed library, R.B. Lewis points out the site to Dr. Larry Wheeler, state Bicentennial chairman of community projects, and county co-chairman Carson Davis Jr. (left). Dr. Wheeler met with the Bicentennial steering committee last week.

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Kiwanis Hear Contrasts Of Raeford Old And New

A project to tape record recollections of the county's past got underway Thursday as Robert Gatlin spoke to the Kiwanis Club.

The recordings are to be placed in the Heritage room of the Bicentennial library.

Gatlin and his brother, H.L. Gatlin, are leading the Heritage portion of the Bicentennial celebration.

Gatlin used early maps of Raeford and Hoke County to illustrate his talk. Using "Raeford Old and New" as his theme, Gatlin contrasted many of the changes over the years.

"We have a modern jailhouse now," Gatlin said. "But I remember the calaboose or the old guard house."

The small building stood near the railroad tracks approximately where one of the entrances to the shopping center parking lot is now, he said. This was where constables Lindsey and Oats might have locked someone up, Gatlin recalled.

Oats was shot to death about 1910 on Main Street as he tried to arrest someone for public disorder, Gatlin said.

One of Gatlin's most vivid memories was of the fire in 1925 that destroyed a half block of Main Street.

It was December 30, 1925, Gatlin recalled. The fire was discovered about 9:30 and was not extinguished until after 1 a.m.

Main Street in 1925 was somewhat different from today, Gatlin explained. Hoke Drug was in the building the barber and beauty shops now occupy. The jewelry shop was in its present location and the lobby of the hotel occupied the present site of Hoke Drugs.

Several merchant stores also were located in that block.

The fire began around a potbellied stove in one of the two stores located in the present Sugar's building, Gatlin said.

Someone noticed the fire and sounded the alarm, located on the wall of the tallest building in town, the Farmer's Furnishing Building.

"Well, if you wanted to take a census of Raeford, just turn in a fire alarm," Gatlin said. "Every one came."

The city fire department consisted then of a Republic hose wagon with a chemical tank on it, which was stored in someone's garage.

The hose wagon was brought and hooked to a hydrant, Gatlin remembers, and the stream of water spouted only about 15-20 feet.

"About that time, the whole front of Hoke Merchantile blew out, exploded," Gatlin recalled. The explosion broke windows across the street and one woman suffered a broken arm from the blast. The fire spread.

"We began to call in other towns. Fayetteville came and hooked up at the flour mill, Gatlin said. Red Springs fire department, as well as fire fighters from Pinehurst and other surrounding towns came to help fight the fire that was sweeping through downtown Raeford.

"We had six lines of water going for two hours and fifteen or twenty minutes and we never gave out of water," Gatlin recalls.

He went with his father into Farmers Furnishing store to place papers in the fireproof vault.

"I got one rack of clothes and turned old Henry, that was the dray horse, out of his stall. That was all that was saved," Gatlin said.

He estimated that the fire loss totaled \$75-80,000 in 1925. Only the grocery store; now Devanes, was left unburned on that portion of Main Street.

In the earlier part of his talk, Gatlin noted that Raeford was laid out by Hector Smith and J.W. McLaughlin with portions of the town in two counties - Cumberland and Robeson. The Robeson county line ran through the present Hoke site, down Maxwell Street, through Hoke Oil and Concrete and down past McLaughlin's Chapel.

The line divided the Blue and McLaughlin land from that of the McLeans, Gatlin said. He said he did not know why the town limits included two counties.

On the map, Gatlin pointed out the new loop that is being built to connect the two sections of NC 211 and bypass the city. Gatlin said the new road is expected to be completed by next summer.

College News

Miriam E. Ropp has been named to the dean's honor list at the University of South Carolina.

Students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale to

earn a place on the list.

Miss Ropp, a student in the college of education, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Ropp of Raeford.

Four Hoke County students earned spots on the dean's list recently at Meredith College.

They are Mary Lynn Currie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James L. Currie, 840 E. Prospect Ave.; Julie Ann Kicklighter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Kicklighter of Raeford; Linda Kaye Teal, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Teal, 312 Jackson St.; and Ann Swindell Upchurch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Upchurch, 711 N. Main St.

For a student to be named to the dean's list at Meredith, she must have a semester grade average of at least 3.2 out of a possible 4.0 and must have completed a minimum of 12 semester hours and passed all courses.

Martha C. Staton, a math major, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Earl Staton, 715 E. Donaldson Ave., one of 249 students at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro who made all A's on courses completed during the first semester.

Altogether, one other UNC-G student from Hoke County attained the dean's list during the first semester. She is Evelyn M. Brown, a health education and child development major, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon W. Brown, Jr., 813 N. Main St., Raeford.

To make the dean's list at UNC-G, students must earn a grade point ratio of 3.5 or better. They also must be taking at least 12 semester hours of graded coursework, excluding physical education activity courses.

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