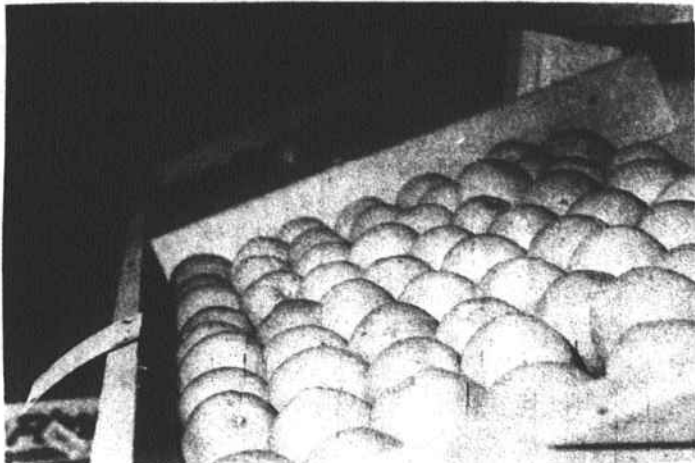




**BY-PASS ROUTE** - Grading of the 211 by-pass route which will link 211 traffic to U.S. 401 west of the city limits is well along on the stretch west of Thomasfield subdivision. Construction is funded under secondary roads allocation which was unused while the proposed link was in dispute.



**PRODUCE** - Sun ripened oranges and big, juicy grapefruits from Florida are in abundance now at local produce stands.



**CURIOUS** - Enjoying the warm sun and balmy temperatures last week, this steer interrupted grazing to peer with a curious look at a passing photographer, and scratch his ear.



**HOME LOST** - Fire, which began in the rear bedroom shown here, swept the home of Jim and Edith McBryde Saturday morning in the Gold Hill community.

**Area Incidents**

**Two Arrested On Stolen Check**

Two West Hoke men were arrested and charged with passing a stolen government check after clerks in a downtown store became suspicious and called police.

Police Chief Leonard Wiggins identified the pair as Ray Charles Baldwin, 19, of Rt. 3, Box 245 and Roger Herman Purcell, Rt. 3, Box 243-A. Both were charged with larceny and forgery to await a Feb. 13 hearing.

Wiggins said the men were in DeVane's Department Store Feb. 3 about 12:30 P.M. and attempted to cash a Social Security check, one of

two which was reported stolen from Emma W. Williams, also a West Hoke resident.

In other incidents, police are seeking the driver of a car which was reported stolen by the owner and was wrecked in the Hoke Concrete plant yard after leading police on a chase.

Wiggins said about 9:30 P.M. Monday Off. G.P. Brown began pursuit of a yellow Buick traveling at a high rate of speed north on Main Street.

The vehicle turned off on Campbell, then onto Stewart, and proceeded to Wilmouth Ave. where it struck a concrete wall. The vehicle left the scene and turned into the Hoke Concrete yard where the driver jumped out and ran, according to Wiggins.

Wiggins said the owner, Bobby Billinger, Rt. 2, Box 492, Raeford, notified police at 12:25 A.M. Tuesday that his car was stolen from a gas station on Central Ave.

Billinger told police he left the car at the station sometime after 8 P.M., rode to Fayetteville with a friend, and discovered the car gone when he returned at about 12:30 A.M.

Damage to Billinger's car was estimated at \$300 by police.

Phillip Newton, 509 W. Fifth St., complained to police a 12 volt battery was stolen out of his car while parked in his yard sometime

**Edwin Gill Urges Bond Issue Passage**

State Treasurer Edwin Gill urged passage of the bond issue for capital improvements in state-supported schools of higher learning, the constitutional amendment on the March 23 ballot.

"The State of North Carolina has a long tradition of conducting its affairs in a prudent, fiscally sound manner, and at the same time meeting the demonstrated needs of its citizens. The bond issue for capital improvements for the University fits the tradition, and, as State Treasurer, I commend it to all North Carolinians," he said.

"The State can afford the bonds, and the University needs these buildings. It has long been my position that we must meet the demand for broader and better educational opportunities for our youth. We must continue the

research so vital to North Carolina's economy. And, we must guarantee a continuation of the high level of public service to all of the people by the University that has undergirded much of our progress for so many years. It is my opinion that these construction projects will contribute to the realization of all of our goals, and therefore, I shall support the passage of the bond referendum next March 23rd," he said.

"I regard the University as the heart of our educational leadership in North Carolina. It's vigorous efforts on behalf of all phases of education are generally known; in my support of these bonds, I feel that I am making a valid contribution to the cause of education in North Carolina," he added.

**Deaths And Funerals**

**James Bethen**

Funeral services for James (Shorty) Bethen were conducted Sunday at 3 P.M. at Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. Charles McEachern. Burial was in the church cemetery. Bethen, 82, died Feb. 3.

**Mrs. Mildred R. Driskill**

Mrs. Mildred R. Driskill, 52, died Feb. 3 at Medical Care Center

in Lynchburg, Va. after a long illness.

Funeral services were held Feb. 4 in the chapel of Browning Funeral Home with interment at Ash Camp Cemetery in Keysville, Va.

Surviving are her husband, Ray P. Driskill of Keysville, Va.; a son, Michael Driskill of Pamplin, Va.; two daughters, Susan Hopchak of Lynchburg, Va. and Mrs. Richard Walker of Raeford; and four grandchildren.

**Leroy Watkins**

Leroy Watkins, 65, died Monday in Monticello, N.Y.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday at 2 P.M. from Silver Grove Missionary Baptist Church with Rev. J.S. Davis officiating. Burial will be in Silver Grove Cemetery.

Surviving are a daughter, Miss Deloris Watkins of New Jersey; two sons, Leroy Watkins of Brooklyn, N.Y. and Jasper Watkins of Miami, Fla.; a brother, Fred Watkins of McColl, S.C.; and a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth W. Allmond of Raeford.

The family will be at Buie Funeral Home from 7 to 8 P.M. Friday.

**Julius P. Barbour**

Funeral services for Julius Paul Barbour of Rt. 2, Raeford were conducted Saturday at 2 p.m. from Sandy Grove United Methodist Church. Rev. Gordon Ruggles officiated. Burial was in Parkton Cemetery.

Barbour, 83, died Thursday. Surviving are three sons, R.M. Barbour of Savannah, Ga. and B.R. and Gerald H. Barbour of Raeford; two daughters, Mrs. Pauline Kennedy of Fayetteville and Mrs. Irene Grant of Raeford; 11 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**Plan To Vote? Register Now**

Anyone who has not registered with the board of elections office must do so by Feb. 23 in order to vote in the Mar. 23 presidential preference primary.

The board of elections office is located in the new county office building. Office hours are Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays only from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

**Road Closed Two Weeks**

North Carolina Department of Transportation (DOT) officials closed to through traffic a road in Moore and Hoke Counties, according to an announcement last week.

The road, known as Johnson Farm Road, (secondary road 1102) in Moore County and Addall Road (SR 1230) in Hoke County, closed Feb. 9. The road will remain closed for approximately two weeks while DOT maintenance crews install a sewer main.

Traffic will be detoured over Sand Pit Road (SR1103), Moore County; Pine Bluff Cemetery Road (SR 1104), Moore County; Pine Bluff Lake Road (SR 1105), Moore County; US 15-501, Moore and Hoke Counties; and Ashmont Road (SR 1225) Hoke County.

**Mar. 23 presidential primary.**

"Of course, we can register them now to vote in the November general election," she said.

Registrars will be at the high school this week and Mrs. Sturgeon said school officials told her as many as 300 are expected to register.

"I'd say there was a good deal of interest since it has been in the newspapers and on the radio. I'm very well pleased," she added.

**Voter Registration Up**

Voter registration here since the beginning of the year is running higher than usual, according to elections board secretary Rose Sturgeon.

"We've had 150 to register, most of that in the last couple of weeks. That is more than since I have been with the board," Mrs. Sturgeon said.

Mrs. Sturgeon said a couple of seventeen year-olds tried to register before the ruling was made that they are not eligible to vote in the

**Know Lumber Bridge Past? Group Gathering Data Now**

Anyone wishing to help compile a history of Lumber Bridge is invited to attend a meeting at 8 P.M. Wednesday, Feb. 18, at the Lumber Bridge town hall, according to Mrs. Herbert Horton.

Mayor Glenn H. Clark will serve as honorary chairman of a citizens' committee hoping to publish a history of the township during the Bicentennial year.

Information -- facts or lore -- may be brought to the meeting or given to any of the following Lumber Bridge residents:

Colin Ammons, Mrs. Glenn H. Clark, Mrs. Herbert Horton, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Watson, Mrs. Hunter N. Forbis, Mrs. William Schell, Mrs. Henry Bullard, Miss Mildred Williford, and Miss Elizabeth Sumner.

Mrs. Herbert Horton  
Box 93  
Lumber Bridge, N.C. 28357  
Phone: 843-5970

**Repair List Rendered**

A list of repairs for the clerk's office was recommended by a committee of the Hoke County Grand Jury following the last term of Superior Court here.

The committee recommended that the floors of the clerk's office be tiled or carpeted, the telephone wires be brought through the floor,

the leak in the roof of the courthouse be fixed, and the clerks office be painted.

The committee checked the files in the clerk's office as recommended by Superior Court Judge James H. Pou Bailey, and found everything to be up to date and in order.

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