

## Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

The sun is shining as this column is being written Tuesday morning. I don't know how many inches it has rained, but it has been raining all weekend and also all day Monday. The temperature was hovering just above freezing and this made for a miserable day.

The forecast is for warmer weather, but the chance of rain is going to be with us as the week moves toward the weekend.

Anyway Gatlin will have some markings on his rain chart for January.

While on the subject of weather, I was in the mountains over the weekend and started home Sunday afternoon, arriving early Sunday night. As we were driving along I-40 between Morganton and Statesville ice started forming on the car and the grass along the side of the road was a sight of frozen rain. The rain was freezing on the trees and they were bending over. The road never did ice over, but it was an uncomfortable feeling being about 175 miles from home.

Of course the traffic was moving at the same rate of speed as usual, but I think the folks were like we were, wanting to get to the east and south and drive out of it. We finally left it around Asheboro but it rained all the way home.

I don't like icy roads.

Don't forget that the deadline for purchasing the 1980 auto license plates is down to 30 days and there is not a line at the license office. So give yourself a break and the people at the office by buying your tags before the final week.

Also you can list your taxes without waiting if you do so this week. It is only two weeks before the listing period closes.

The political season is here and we have two district candidates' announcements in the paper this week; Senator Sam Noble and Representative David Parnell of Robeson County.

Senator Noble was by the office Monday and left his announcement with us and as most office seekers, including this writer, was not wanting any opposition. He has mentioned to me several times that he represented Hoke County and would appreciate people of the county letting him know their wishes. So if Noble is elected, be sure to get in touch with him concerning legislation you need.

An article that appeared in *The News-Journal* in December is worth giving a little more credit to the person involved, Arthur Kemp who attends Greensboro's North Carolina A&T University was nominated for a Rhodes Scholarship. Usually you will mention nominations to different things and make a big write up when the winners are announced.

This young man must have already accomplished many honors just to be nominated for the highly sought after scholarship. He is to be congratulated for being nominated and we hope that he will win the coveted award.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kemp of this county.

Josephine Hall, Senior Citizen Co-ordinator, reports that the Monsanto Company office in Fayetteville sent a check from funds given by their employees to the Cumberland County United Fund. Their employees requested that the money be given for senior citizens' needs and activities in this county.

Miss Hall states that it is greatly appreciated. Others that live in Hoke County and work elsewhere should also request that their United Fund money be returned to Hoke County.

The following letter is self-explanatory.

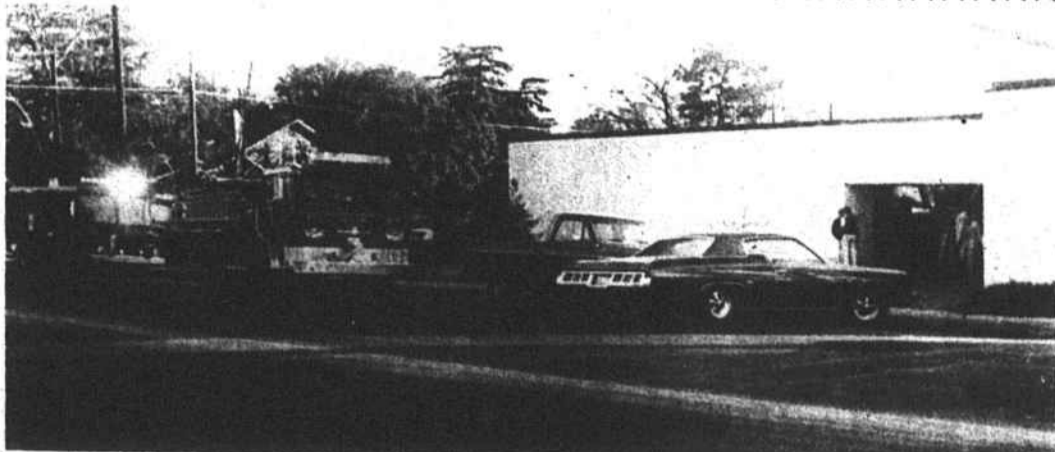
Dear Sam,

Thanks for the publicity given to large donors to the Civic Center project in last week's *News-Journal*.

(See AROUND TOWN, page 11)

## State Study Projects Growth For 5 Townships

# Hoke Population Seen 23,400 In 1990



**SMOKING LIBRARY** -- The Raeford Fire Department trucks are shown Tuesday morning at the Hoke County Library on North Main Street, Raeford, but what they found was smoke, no fire. Assistant Fire Chief Robert Jackson reported the smoke started coming from a motor in a heating unit in a room on the library's main floor when a short-circuit occurred in the motor. He said the damage was minor. Two members of the staff found the smoke in the building when they arrived for work a few minutes before 8 a.m., and the fire department was called immediately. (Staff photo by Henry Blue).

Hoke County will have 23,400 people by 1990, about 4,000 more than the projected population of 1980, according to the projections made by a state agency and published in the past several weeks.

The figures are drawn from a report of a study made by Demographic Research, Research and Planning Services, State Division of State Budget and Management, based in Raleigh. The report does not state reasons for the population changes anticipated.

The county's population projected for 10 years from now would be 65 percent increase in 50 years. The 1940 population was 14,122. It also would be a 42 percent increase since 1970, the year the most recent U.S. Census was made.

The report says the county's population in 1950 was 14,937 in 1950, advanced to 16,356 by 1960, and went to 16,436 in the next 10 years.

The population was estimated to have been 18,500 in 1977.

The population of Raeford Township will have grown to 12,430 from this new year's 9,640 in the next 10 years, according to the projections.

The 1990 figure would be an increase of 68 percent over the 1970 count.

The Raeford Township population figures for other years were: 1940 -- 4,216; in 1950 -- 4,912; in 1960 -- 6,692; in 1970 -- 7,409; and estimated for 1977 -- 8,410.

Official census figures for 1977 aren't available because the census is taken every 10 years. The next is scheduled for this year.

All but two of Hoke's seven townships will increase in population, according to the projections. The townships forecast for losses are Allendale, to decline to 420 in 1990 from a 1980 projection of 470; and Blue Springs, from 1,020 to 940.

Allendale has been losing population every decade since 1940 when the count was 971. Blue Springs has been losing since 1950 except for an increase to an estimated 1,250 in 1977 from an official count of 1,113 in 1970.

The following shows the population figures for each township other than Raeford. The figures for 1977 are estimated, and those for 1980 and 1990 are projections. Dashes mean figures were unavailable.

	1940	1950	1960	1970	1977	1980	1990
Allendale	971	898	711	537	590	470	420
Antioch	1,639	1,697	1,665	1,514	1,700	1,620	1,770
Blue Springs	--	1,734	1,474	1,113	1,250	1,020	940
McLauchlin	1,791	1,778	1,804	1,938	2,130	2,240	2,710
Quewhiffle	--	2,508	2,645	2,607	2,920	3,010	3,550
Stonewall	1,649	1,410	1,365	1,318	1,460	1,430	1,600

## Raz Autry In Hospital

It was learned at press time that Superintendent of Schools Raz Autry was admitted to the Intensive Care

Unit at Moore Memorial Hospital Tuesday night. No further details were available.

## To 21st District House Seat

# Parnell Files For Reelection

Rep. David Parnell of Parkton filed Jan. 7 with the Robeson County Board of Elections for re-election to the N.C. House of Representatives from the 21st Legislative District which is composed of Hoke, Robeson and Scotland Counties.

Parnell will be seeking election to his fourth term. He was elected to his first in 1974.

During the 1979 session of the Legislature, Parnell was vice chairman of House Committee on Agriculture and of the Committee on Rules and Operation of the House. During the 1977 and 1979 sessions, he has served as a member of the Appropriations Committee and has been active in drafting of the appropriation bills.

Parnell said the experience and seniority gained during his three

terms in the Legislature would serve to increase his effectiveness as a legislator and thereby enable him to be of greater benefit to his constituency of the 21st District.

He also stated that if elected, he would conduct himself responsibly in all matters before the General Assembly and would represent all of the people of Hoke, Robeson and Scotland counties to the best of his ability.

Parnell, a Baptist, has been active in his church and denomination. He has served as a Sunday school teacher, and deacon

and in various other offices in Parkton Baptist Church. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Meredith College and is serving on its Executive Committee. He is also serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the N.C. Association of Private Colleges and Universities.

Parnell is a Robeson County businessman and farmer. He is president of J.O. Parnell, Inc., and Parnell Oil Co., Inc. of Parkton, and of Tobacco Land Warehouse, Inc., of Fairmont.

## Locklear Files

On Thursday, state Rep. Horace Locklear filed with the Robeson County Board of Elections for his bid for re-election to the North Carolina House of Representatives.

Locklear has represented the 21st District for the past four years. The district consists of Hoke, Scotland and Robeson Counties.

Locklear is presently serving as vice chairman of the Judiciary III and the University Board of Governors committees. In addition to these, he is serving on the Agriculture, Corporations, Finance and Wildlife Committees.

In October, Locklear was appointed by Gov. James B. Hunt and Speaker of the House Carl Stewart to serve as chairman to the Public School Facilities Needs Committee, which is to recommend to the general assembly and the citizens of North Carolina Whether a \$600-\$800 million statewide bond issue is

needed for the public schools. Locklear is a practicing attorney, with his office located in Lumberton, and also is involved in the textile industry.



Horace Locklear



Rep. David Parnell

# Noble Announces For Reelection

State Sen. Sam R. Noble said today that he will seek election to the 12th District seat that he has held since July 1978, when he was appointed to complete the term of the late Sen. Luther Britt.

During the 1979 legislative session Noble was appointed to nine Senate Committees, chief among them the Education, Appropriations to Education, Wildlife, and Courts and Judicial Districts. He was appointed vice chairman of the Local Governments Committee.

Recent appointments by the governor and lieutenant governor place him on the Governor's Crime Commission, Study Commission on School Finance, Study Commission for the Retirement Plans for Rescue Squads, and the Governor's Advocacy Council.

"I am fortunate to have had the chance to combine my past experience with local government with the new experience of the General Assembly; therefore, I feel that I am in an excellent position to bridge the gap between Raleigh and our district."

A past president of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, Noble considers the industrial and economic growth of the 12th District a major concern.

"I worked hard as a commissioner to enlarge industrial growth so that the job opportunities would



State Sen. Sam Noble

be increased and help reduce personal property tax; while at the same time continued to support agriculture which is still our leading industry. As a state senator I've continued that effort for the entire district. With a possible recession in sight, this growth becomes even more important. Any time we can help one person get a job, we're helping all of us."

"I've always been available to the citizens of the 12th District and that will continue. My office doors in both Lumberton and Raleigh will always be open," he said.

# Students' Letter Raps Heat Practice At School

A letter signed by 69 Hoke County High School students says the school's heating system "isn't turned on until the temperature falls to about 60 degrees," that conservation is important but not at the expense of the students and teachers becoming sick."

The letter was addressed to the editor of *The News-Journal* and was brought to the newspaper's office at 5 p.m. by two students.

It was received too late to be published on the editorial page of this edition, but the editor felt it should be published in this week's edition and the subject warranted placing the statement on the front page. The editor also did not attempt to obtain a statement from authorities before publication because this practice is not followed

in the case of letters to the editor, though it is in the case of news stories.

The complete text of the letter and the names it bears follows.

Dear Editor:  
**Concerning Heat at Hoke County High School**

I would like to speak on the matter of the new heating system at Hoke County High School. A great sum of money was spent to have this system installed. The proficiency of this system is very slack. It seems to me that a system of this quality would have a thermostat which could be set at 65 degrees and be maintained mechanically and not manually.

We have a very unique heating system which is operated manually. It is not turned on until the

temperature falls to about 60 degrees. Then a teacher usually has to go over to the warm office where the temperature is usually maintained at a constant 68 degrees, and dolefully plead to have the heat turned on.

The wrath of the students and teachers continues to grow as we sit in agony. The motive for our suffering is conservation. Conservation is important but not at the expense of the students and teachers becoming sick.

Our assistant principal, Mr MacDonald, goes around the school and checks the thermometers placed in each classroom. He records the temperature of each room and, if the majority of these thermometers are far below 65 degrees, he may turn the heat on

until the temperature reaches 65 degrees, then he turns it off.

The students and faculty agree that this is a very unfair learning condition. We hope that this problem will be rectified in the very near future.

Sincerely,  
(signed) Tony Minshew, Patricia Winchester, Debbie Tolin, Jane Poole, Pam Wood, Sara McCallahan, Sonja Williams, Deborah Gay.

Brian Scarborough, Jeremy Simmons, Carolyn Wilburn, Jane Maxwell, Angela Strother, Bennie Glover, Craig Rogers, Greg Smith, Frederick Harris, Jacqueline Dial, Charlene Jacobs.

Lamont Adams, Anthony Kemp, Charles Miller, Jr., Khrystal Lunsford, Mark Kicklighter, Janet West, Sharon Connell, Amy

Blanks, Anita Cartrette, Susan McNeill, Cindy Frahm, Jennie Miles, Mary Beth James, Ginny Leach.

Joan Frazier, Carrie Locklear, Rhonda Ellis, Wanda Seals, Deborah Murphy, John Moses, John Jordan, Robin Oxendine.

Lawrence Calloway, Stephen Knox, Richard Byrd, Jack Espegren, Danny Jones, Carla Sappenfield, Tony Thacker, Jake Graham, Sandy Wood, Don Tyler.

Cindy Walker, Stephen Vinson, Gregory Luckie, Chauncey L. Graham, Jr., Francis Leggett, Bernard Bridges, Patricia Kellermann, Audrenita Morrison, Tawanna Graham, Pattie Smith, Debra Carl, Patrice Smith, Tracy Pratt, Tammie McMillan, Donna Bounds, Cheryl Maxwell, Kayla Bryant, Rene Sessoms.