

For Hoke County People

Christmas, New Year's Holidays

Hoke County government offices, courts and schools and most businesses will be closed for varying times for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

The holiday for the school students started with the end of classes for Friday. Classes won't start again till the morning of January 4.

Raeford city government offices will be closed Christmas Day, and the following Monday, besides the weekend days, and January 1. The city-Hoke County landfill will be closed Christmas Day and Saturday but will be open Monday.

District Court will have none of its sessions this week or New Year's Day. The court's regular business days are Thursday and Friday.

The Hoke County government offices will be closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. The county commissioners were to give a reception at the Lester Building Wednesday for the county employees.

There will be no story hour this week at the Hoke County Public Library. The library will be closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Saturday and Sunday. It will be open Monday for business as usual.

The Raeford Post Office will have no mail service, incoming or outgoing, Christmas and New Year's days.

The federal offices also will be closed Christmas and New Years, and state offices will be closed Thursday and Friday for Christmas, and January 1 for New Year's.

The News-Journal office will be closed Thursday and Friday for Christmas and on New Year's Day.

Dog Warden Hearing Resumed Wednesday

The Hoke County Advisory Personnel Board planned to resume Wednesday its hearing of the appeal of William Hales from his firing as county dog warden, board chairman Hugh Lowe said Monday afternoon.

The hearing, which began Thursday afternoon, was recessed after Thursday's session till Monday morning, then continued into the afternoon.

Lowe said the board will make its report after that, and give Hales and County Manager James Martin written copies of the proceedings.

The hearings are closed to the public. Lowe told a reporter in replying to questions that two witnesses testified before the board Monday but said he could not disclose their names or whether they testified for the county or for Hales.

He also said he still could not make public the reason for Hales's firing November 23.

At Thursday's hearing, the board heard testimony from County Attorney Duncan McFadyen, Phil Diehl, Hales's attorney, Mrs. Susan McKenzie of Seven Lakes, Moore County, a former County Health Department administrative assistant, and M.R. Mills, county sanitarian when he retired February 28, 1980. Mrs. McKenzie left her position January 25, 1979, and was replaced by Lloyd Horne, the current administrator.

The dog warden is on the Health Department staff.

Lowe said the board would issue its report between Christmas and New Year's day. The report will include the board's recommendation whether Hales's firing be rejected or upheld. The county manager has the final decision on whether to accept or reject the recommendation. He must make his decision within three working days after receiving the board's written report.

The SBI has investigated Hales also but the investigation was independent of Hales's firing. The reason for the investigation, like the reason for the firing, have been kept from the public by the authorities concerned.

The SBI investigation had been requested by Assistant District Attorney Jean Powell. The Hoke County Sheriff's Department was not called in and would have declined if it had been called, because, according to Sheriff David Barrington, the sheriff's deputy or deputies who would have been investigating Hales are county employees; hence, a county employee or employees would have been investigating a county employee.

None of the members of the advisory board are county employees.

As A Condition Of Suspending Sentence

Payment To Victim's Children Ordered

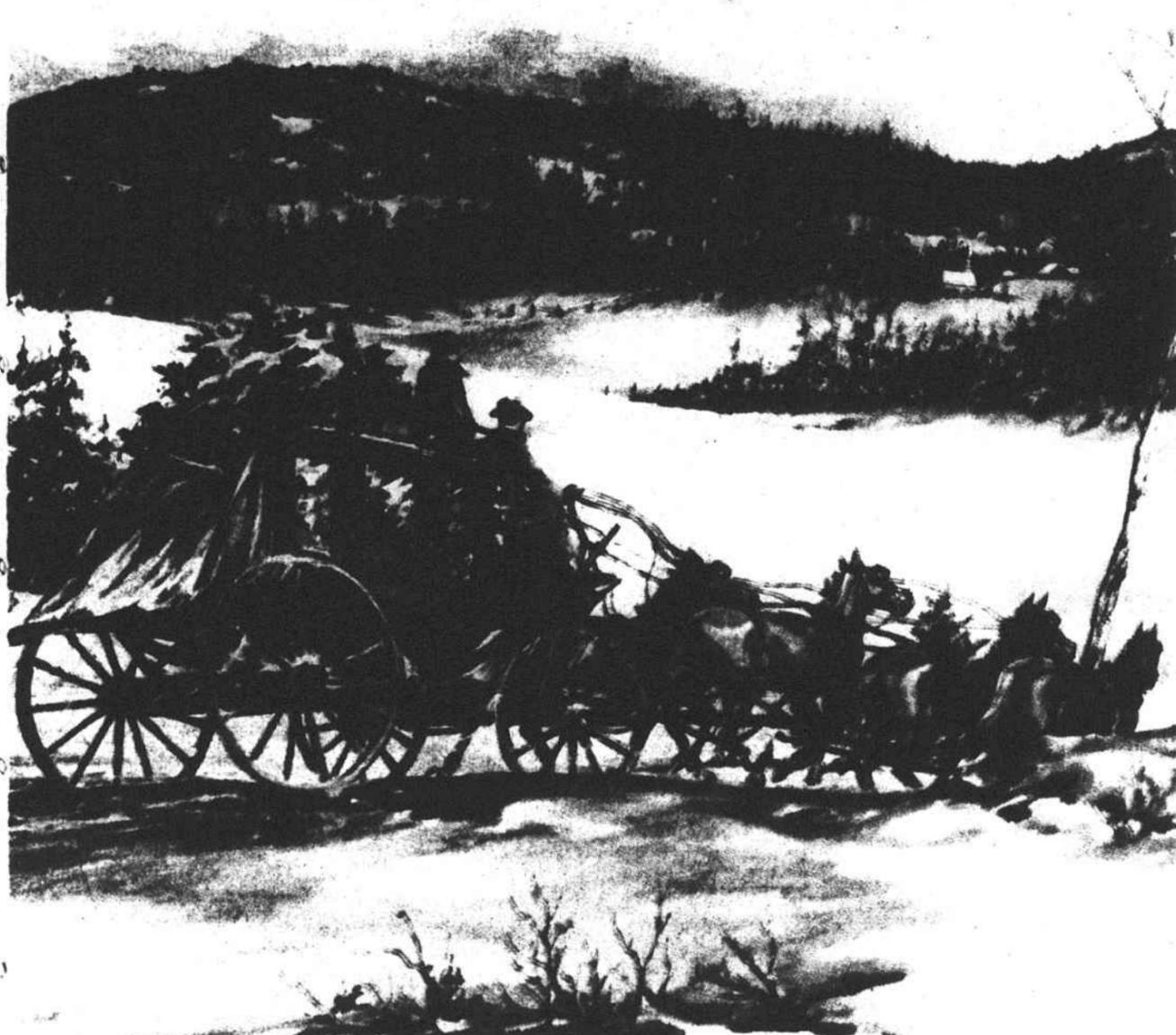
The driver involved in a fatal one-car accident November 18 was ordered to help support of the victim's minor children, among other conditions of suspending a jail sentence Thursday by District Court Judge Joseph E. Dupree.

The defendant, Vernon Scott Hales, 31, of Rt. 12, Fayetteville, pleaded guilty to charges of unintentional death by motor vehicle and of driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

The charges were filed shortly after Mrs. Betty Carol Starling, 29, of Rt. 3, Fayetteville, died November 19 shortly after midnight, of injuries suffered about 11 p.m. November 18 in the accident on SR 1441 in Hoke County and about four miles from Parkton.

The car, which was being driven south by Hales, ran off the right side of the road when Hales lost control. It skidded back across the road, struck a ditch embankment and overturned twice, pinning Mrs. Starling under the vehicle, the State Highway Patrol reported.

Dupree sentenced Hales to six to 18 months, and suspended the sentence for 2½ years on the conditions Hales pay \$100 per month for the next 18 months into the clerk of Superior Court clerk's office to be turned over to Samuel Starling of Rt. 1, Roseboro for the use of Mrs. Starling's minor children. The judge also ordered as conditions of the suspension that the defendant pay court costs and fine of \$100, and surrender his operator's license and not drive for 12 months. The judgment also provides that the funds to be paid for the benefit of the children be in addition to any other liability the defendant might face under law.



Throughout the land, the season spreads a feeling of warmth and good cheer. To all of you, we wish the very best of everything. Our sincere thanks for your patronage.

From the staff of

The News - Journal

Around Town

BY SAM C. MORRIS

Someone was by the office Monday and said that they couldn't remember a December as cold as this one has been. It has been cold, but I don't keep records and the weatherman is not around at this time to give me the figures. Of course, the way the furnace has been running for the past week, maybe the fuel bill will give me an indication as to how cold it was this month.

I haven't played golf this month and can't remember another December I didn't play since I took up the game.

Anyway winter is now officially here, so we must put up with the cold weather.

If you haven't heard, you will be sorry to hear that Mrs. Dot Cameron, Hoke librarian fell in Winston-Salem last week and broke her hip. She is now in Forsyth Memorial Hospital in Winston-Salem.

Make her Christmas happy by sending her a get well card. The address is: Mrs. Dorothy Cameron Forsyth Memorial Hospital Silas Creek Parkway

Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102 How many of you has Dot helped at the library?

The passing of Joe McNulty of Raleigh last week took another of the men that I serviced in the army with in World War II.

Joe was a native of Hoke County and attended school at Hoke High. He left with us for the army when the National Guard was inducted in 1940.

His funeral and burial were held Sunday at Shiloh Presbyterian Church at Montrose.

Don't forget that the school children are out of school and will be playing during the day and maybe some of them will be on the streets.

Also, on Christmas Day they will be trying out their new bikes, skates and etc. So watch for them and let's not spoil someone's Christmas.

Another thing to remember is, if you must drink while attending a (See AROUND TOWN, page 13)

Hollingsworth, 94 Found Dead In Woods

A 94-year-old man, discovered missing about 2 a.m. December 13 from his daughter's home on Vass Road, was found dead about 3:12 p.m. December 15 in woods just off the U.S. 401 bypass near Webb's Tire Service north of Raeford.

Natural cause was believed responsible for the death of the man, William Hollingsworth, but his body was sent to the State medical examiner's office at Chapel Hill for an autopsy to determine the specific cause. The findings had not been received before press time.

His body was found about 1¼ miles from the home of his daughter, Mrs. K.C. McNair, where he had been living. A search by the Hoke County Rescue Squad, an Army helicopter crew, law enforcement officers, and a tracking dog had failed to find him? His body was found by Marion Hollingsworth of Rt. 2, Raeford, described as Hollingsworth's grandson. The Hoke County Sheriff's Department reported Marion Hollingsworth had been hunting for the older man with Roscoe McMillian and Spencer Singletary when William Hollingsworth's

shoes were found on the ground at an entrance to a path. Following the path, Marion Hollingsworth found the body.

William Hollingsworth had been reported lightly dressed when he left home on foot. The weather had been extremely cold during the period he had been missing.

His most recent birthday had been December 11, the birth date on the sheriff's department report shows.

The sheriff's department was notified of his disappearance by his daughter. She had last seen him alive on Saturday night at bedtime.

The funeral for Mr. Hollingsworth was held Sunday afternoon in Piney Grove Baptist Church. Burial was in Leach Springs Church cemetery.

Christmas Party

A Christmas party for senior citizens was given Tuesday night at Laurel Hill Church in the South Hoke community.