



New Assistant Agents: Banks Wannamaker [left] and Richard Melton [right] with County Extension Chairman Willie Featherstone during break at county commissioners' meeting. [Staff photo].

2 Assistant Farm Agents Named

The Hoke County commissioners on a 3-2 vote Monday approved employing two county Agricultural Extension Service assistant agents to fill vacancies.

The disagreement was over a salary. The county pays 33.67 percent and the state Agricultural Extension Service the remainder of agents' salaries.

The effects of the action are Banks Wannamaker is employed as a field crops agent at a salary of \$14,300, and Richard Melton as livestock agent at a salary of \$16,500.

Wannamaker's appointment is effective January 18, and Melton's February 1.

Willie Featherstone, county Extension chairman, explained to the commissioners that the salaries are set by the state Extension staff and are based on experience and education. He said Melton's was set higher because Melton has nearly completed work for a Master of Science degree in agricultural economics and has served a year with the U.S. Farmers Home Administration.

He said Wannamaker has a college undergraduate degree but no experience. Both men are graduates of Clemson University. Wannamaker graduated last month with the degree of Bachelor of Science in agronomy; Melton graduated in May 1980 with a Bachelor of Science degree in animal science. He is doing his work for his master's degree also at Clemson and has about a month to go to complete the requirements.

Wannamaker is 22 and a native of St. Matthews, S.C., the son of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Banks Wannamaker of St. Matthews.

Melton, 23, is a native of Ruby, Chesterfield County, S.C., the son of Mr. and Mrs. Baxter V. Melton of Ruby.

Featherstone told the commissioners both men are from farm families, a background which he said would be valuable in their work in Hoke County. He said Wannamaker's father has a seed company.

The motion to employ Wannamaker and Melton at the salaries recommended was made by John Balfour, chairman of the county

commissioners. The two other favorable votes were cast by Commissioners James A. Hunt and Neill McPhatter. The negative votes were cast by Commissioners Danny DeVane and Mabel Riley.

Balfour's motion was adopted after a motion made by DeVane was defeated by the same count, with Mrs. Riley voting in favor. DeVane's motion called for employing the two men but at \$15,500 for Melton. DeVane expressed the opinion that Melton's FmHA experience should not count because it dealt with financing. Featherstone said that the U.S. FmHA program deals not only with housing for low-income families but with farm loans, an experience which will be an asset when Melton is dealing with Hoke farmers.

DeVane also said that, with cutbacks being made, the Extension staff should be kept at two -- the Extension chairman and an assistant agent, though it would put more work on the chairman. He did not incorporate this in his motion, though. Featherstone said, however, farmers need more assistance now than when prices for their products were much better, that they need more assistance with management now than ever. He also said it is for the benefit of the consumer also: improved efficiency by the farmer in production would help keep food prices at the food stores from rising.

Balfour earlier said that the "larger" farmers of the county don't need the Extension help but that the "medium" farmers do need it.

Wannamaker was appointed to fill the vacancy left when Bill Northern resigned last year, and Melton to the position which Wendell Young was handling in addition to serving as Extension chairman when he retired June 30, 1981. Young had taken over the livestock work after Larry Locklear, an associate agent, resigned September 19, 1980.

Melton is married to the former Benise Rice, a native of Spartanburg, S.C., and a Clemson graduate with a degree in therapeutic recreation.

Wannamaker is single.

Area Incidents

Hoke Man Attacked, Robbed of \$150

William Dimps, 58, of Queenmore told the Hoke County Sheriff's Department Friday he was attacked from behind, thrown to the ground and robbed of his wallet containing \$150 as he was opening his front door after returning home.

Willie Clifford Kershaw was charged with common-law robbery of Dimps, the sheriff's department report says. The following reports also were filed with the sheriff's department recently.

Albert Richardson of Rt. 1, Lumber Bridge, reported someone threw a bottle bearing a threatening note into his house December 26 and another Friday. The notes referred to his daughters. The bottle thrown December 26 broke the glass of the storm door and two panes of glass on the inner door.

Another bottle-throwing caused \$375 damage to a restaurant window in County Line Plaza.

Fred Lisenby, Rt. 2, Raeford, reported December 28 the mobile home of his sister was broken into but whether anything was missing could not be learned. The trailer is on Rockfish Road behind Jackson's Store. Lisenby's sister lives in Laurinburg.

Ralph Currie of Rt. 3, Raeford, reported \$100 worth of tools were stolen from his barn and two stereo speakers valued at \$130 from his car between December 24 and 30.

Mary Ann Tyler, Rt. 1, Red Springs, reported a \$50 rifle stolen between December 29 and 31.

Willie Gillis of McCain reported December 29 someone broke into his residence and stole a radio, a shotgun, a dozen oranges and a

window.

Raeford Police Chief Leonard Wiggins reported the following were received by the police department.

Barbara Evans, an employee of 76 Short Stop on the U.S. 401 South bypass, reported a man with a .22 rifle entered the store December 29, pointed the gun at her and told her to give him all the money in the cash drawer. She refused, and he repeated his demand, threatening to blow her head off if she didn't obey. She refused again, and he left the store running.

Yvonne Miller, 415 N. Wright St., reported Saturday someone took her clothes from a dryer December 29. The clothing was valued at \$259.

1981 Ends, 1982 Starts Wet Here

The year 1981 ended wet and the year 1982 started wet in Raeford.

Robert Gatlin, Raeford weather observer for the National Weather Service, reported December up to noon New Year's Eve brought 5.3

inches of rain to Raeford. Then the first four days of January brought 4 1/2 inches. Rainfall is measured from noon one day to noon the next, so the January figure includes the half inch that fell from noon to midnight the last day of 1981.

Of the 4 1/2 inches, two inches fell on Sunday and 1 1/2 inches on Monday.

The 1981 rainfall was about 37 inches about 13 inches below normal for a year, which averages about an inch a week, but the precipitation has been "building up," Gatlin said.

The rainfall of the last month of 1981 was exceeded in the past five years for that month only in December 1977 when 5.6 inches fell, Gatlin's records show.

Last month's total was the third in the five-year period in which more than 5 inches fell in December. The other month was in 1976 when 5.2 inches were recorded. The totals for the other Decembers in the period were 2.3 inches in 1980, 1.8 in 1979, and 2.7 in 1978.

The year 1980 ended 11 to 12 inches below normal for the 12 months.

The recent rains also were the best kind, Gatlin indicated and came in the right season: the precipitation was relatively slow and steady, soaking into the ground; and, coming in the winter cold, evaporation was low after the rain stopped. Benefits of spring and summer rains are reduced by evaporation caused by warm to hot weather.

N.C. 2000 Kickoff Slated Monday

More than 80 local leaders will meet in Raeford on Monday to launch the North Carolina 2000 planning project in Hoke County.

The meeting, sponsored by the Hoke NC 2000 Steering Committee will be held at the Presbyterian Church, 128 Edinborough Avenue, at 7 p.m.

According to Hoke NC 2000 Chairman Betsy Ann McNeill, the purpose of the meeting is two-fold.

"First, we want to get this broad-based group of leaders thinking about the long-term future, about what life may be like in this state and county in 20 years," she said.

Featured speaker will be Sen. Robert Jordan of Mt. Gilead, a member of the Commission on the Future of North Carolina. Jordan will discuss statewide forecasts for the year 2000 in areas such as population growth, changes in jobs and availability of water and land.

Presenting the county's 20-year forecast will be Earl Fowler, Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce executive director.

"Our second goal," said McNeill "is to get these leaders to involve every citizen in Hoke County in the NC 2000 project. We will encourage them to reach out into their communities to build local awareness of the emerging issues and to give our citizens a clear voice in choosing future directions for the state."

McNeill noted that the "kick-

off" meeting would be only the first step in the year-long NC 2000 effort.

During the next several months, counties across the state will be holding community meetings, participating in a statewide citizens' ballot on the future, and sending delegates to a state conference on the future in September of 1982.

The counties are working closely with the state-level Commission on the Future of North Carolina, which has been charged by Governor Jim Hunt to submit a report of recommended actions by December 1982.



A.A. Meetings
Wed. 8 p.m.
Nursing Home
Dining Room

AUCTION

Special Auction Saturday, Jan. 9, 10 a.m.
At The Auction House, Red Springs, N.C.

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Lumber Bridge News

By Lib Sumner

During the service at the Presbyterian Church Sunday morning, John Goldie Balfour, Jr. was ordained as a Deacon and Duncan Malloy III was installed as a Deacon.

Mrs. Annie Williford is a patient in Southeastern General Hospital and the last report she was improving.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bullard spent Saturday in Raleigh with their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Tynner, Beth and Leslie.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Brown of Jonesboro, Arkansas visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Brown during the holidays.

Miss Jenny Lewis of Laurinburg spent several days last week with Misses Kim and Kris McMillan.

Mrs. Josephine Barefoot had open house New Year's Eve. Friends from Maxton, Red Springs, St. Pauls and Lumber Bridge attended.

Mrs. Gilmer Forbis enjoyed Christmas Day in Fayetteville with

her son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Stacy Forbis.

Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Daniel, Jr. and son, Charles Joseph spent several days recently, with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L.C. Smith in Winston Salem.

Stevie Ammons, student at Campbell College, spent the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S.F. Ammons and Miss Wanda Ammons.

Dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Colon Ammons on Christmas Day were Mr. and Mrs. Steve Ammons, Stevie and Wanda and Dr. and Mrs. Richard E. Anglin and son, Tray of Fayetteville and Mr. and Mrs. Kemp Watts of Clarkton.

Mrs. Thomas B. Salak and Mrs. Mary Salak and Miss Lila Salak of Fayetteville spent last week in St. Augustine, Orlando and Disney World, Fla. Mrs. Salak's brother-in-law, Jerry Salak, student at University of N.C. was with the band and played for the football games in Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Edwin Clifton, Jr. returned last Monday from a trip to Maryland and Pennsylvania, visiting his sister, Mrs. Estelle Mobler in Hyattsville, Md. and their son's, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schropp in Silver Springs, Md., Mr. and Mrs. Harry Schropp and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Schropp and children, Robin and Berry in Windber, Pa. and Mr. and Mrs. Duane Schropp, Laura and Dana in Sykesville, Md.

Miss Julia Tolar of Laurinburg and Mrs. Ruby Britt of Lumberton and Mrs. Ozell Hinshaw of Greensboro visited Mrs. Gilmer Forbis last Sunday.

Visiting Miss Mildred Williford during the holidays were her brother's and sisters, Rev. and Mrs. J.M. Smith of New Bern and son, James Shaw Smith of Raleigh, Dr. and Mrs. A.B. Williford of Hillsville, Va., Mr. and Mrs. Worth Williford of Fayetteville and daughter Mr. and Mrs. John Cudd and Julia of Cary, N.C. Mr. and Mrs. Hugh MacLean Williford of Rocky Mount, Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Williford of Siler City and daughter Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pinkston and children, Margaret Ellen and Jesse of Franklin, N.C., and Mrs. J.B. Williford's brother, Robert Dark of Washington, D.C., and Mrs. Elizabeth Tolar of Lumberton.

Dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. S.F. Ammons last Sunday were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Prevatte of Lumberton, Wanda and Steve Ammons and Mr. and Mrs. Colon Ammons.

Candlewicking

Mrs. Edwards, Extension area craft agent, will conduct a workshop on candlewicking, a needle craft, February 9-10.

She can have 12 in the class that will be sponsored by the Home Economic Extension and held in the assembly room of the Lester Building.

Call the home agent's office at 875-2162 to register and for further details.

Are you already doing candlewicking?

If so you are invited to register for a night session of basic information.

Mrs. Edwards, craft agent, will give general information on candlewicking techniques and patterns Tuesday, February 9, 7-9 p.m. in the assembly room of the Lester Building.

Call the home agent's office to register and to obtain details.

The session will be limited to 12 persons.



The world's tallest waterfall, Victoria Falls, in east central Africa, is twice as high as Niagara.