

## Friends Make 40th Birthday Unforgettable

Gib Bernhardt became 40 years old Friday.

His friends made certain this birthday would be especially memorable for him. The surprise celebration was held in advance of the date at the home of Jim and Sue Fant in Raeford.

Among the approximately 14 people who came was J.B. Coleman.

"J.B." stands for "Jelly Belly." J.B. was seated in a wheelchair on the dimly lit front porch and was introduced to each guest as he or she arrived.

J.B. didn't respond, just sat there, staring ahead, and his handshake didn't respond either. In fact, it felt -- well, lifeless.

This was natural for J.B.

J.B. was a mannikin. He was decorated with "40-year-

old Burlington retirement cards," Mrs. Fant explained. (Bernhardt heads Burlington Industries' Dyeing Plant).

For another thing, Bernhardt also was given a wheelchair for transportation. He was "chauffered" everywhere and anywhere he wanted to go, all evening. A fairly regular companion was J.B., of course.

And Bernhardt also had the traditional birthday cake, decorated with the number of candles which matched the age he was reaching August 27.

And, following tradition, Bernhardt was to blow out the candles. But at that point the proceedings departed from tradition.

To help him put out the flames of the candles, two Raeford Fire Department firemen arrived with fire extinguishers.



Gib Bernhardt with J.B. Coleman.

## Upchurch Holds First Reunion

A reunion will begin with its Alumni picnic Sept. 4, 1982, at 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. on the playgrounds of Upchurch High

School, presently Upchurch Jr. High School.

At 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. a program will be in the auditorium covering the history of our former school.

The speakers will be Henry McKoy of Raleigh, and after that an old fashioned basketball game will be in the gym between Anne Chestnut School and former Upchurch High School students.

Sunday, Sept. 5, 1982 we are asking all persons who attended school in either Rockfish or Silver Grove Churches after the old school burned, to please attend that church for morning worship services.

To climax our reunion we will have a banquet at 6 p.m. at Bordeaux Motor Inn Convention Center, 1707 Owen Drive, Fayetteville, N.C.

The speaker will be Sterling O'Neil McLaughlin of Greensboro.



Sterling O'Neil McLaughlin



Henry McKoy

## Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:

Some people were downright disgusted with the man who encouraged his 9-year-old daughter to sue the crackerjack company because there wasn't a toy in the box she bought like there was supposed to be. That man ought to be ashamed of himself, they said.

Those people don't understand. That man was merely teaching his daughter to get along in the present world. Anybody who can't find somebody else or some company to sue these days is behind the times.

For example, I had a flat on my pickup the other day. Picked up a nail on the road near my place.

I'm now planning on suing the tire company for making a tire that won't resist a nail.

If I lose that case, I'll sue the manufacturer of the nail. A company is responsible for its product, isn't it?

If I lose that case, I'll sue the contractor who built the road. If he hadn't built it, I wouldn't have been driving on it. In legal terms he was guilty of creating an inviting hazard.

If I lose there, I'll sue the State Legislature for voting the money to build the road. If it hadn't, the contractor couldn't have built the road and I wouldn't have had a flat there.

If by then my lawyer says he's tired of all these suits and quits, I'll get another lawyer to sue the first one for failing to live up to the principles of equal justice for all.

By the time I appeal all these cases through the lower courts and they finally get to the Supreme Court, somebody is going to wish I hadn't had that flat tire, although I'm afraid it'll be me, which will be unfair because I had no chance to join that crackerjack suit. I don't like crackerjacks.

You can see how unfair life is. Yours faithfully,  
J.A.

## Hydrants Being Installed At Rural Ponds

# N. Raeford Fire Protection Improving

The first of up to a dozen dry hydrants planned for installation throughout the North Raeford Fire District was put in place Saturday afternoon at the edge of Wright's Pond about three miles southwest of Raeford.

That one immediately improved fire protection provided by the North Raeford Volunteer Fire Department.

The last of the 10 to 12 planned is expected to be installed by the end of September.

Johnny Baker, North Raeford Volunteer Fire Department chief, said Monday that completion of the work will mean that the firemen will have a source of water readily available no farther than a mile and a half from any structure in the district.

Eventually, this new system and other improvements planned will lower the district's official fire rating, which, in turn, will bring lower premiums for fire insurance owners of homes and other buildings in the district.

"We'll install a hydrant wherever there is a pond," Baker said.

What the dry hydrant does is permit a pumper truck to stop at the edge of a lake or pond and pump water from the hydrant, drawing it through the hydrant from the pond and into a fire department tanker truck which would be standing near the pumper. The North Raeford department has two tankers with a capacity of 1,500 gallons of water each, Baker said.

Without the dry hydrant, he explained, tankers couldn't get close enough to a pond in some places to draw water directly from it. The reason is the character of the land bordering the banks of these bodies of water -- too steep, or marshy for a fire truck to get to. Consequently, tankers have to go all the way back to a Raeford city hydrant to refill for continuing a fire fight.

The North Raeford pumper can pump over 700 gallons into a tanker every minute, Baker said.

Even a relatively small pond can supply enough water to handle a blaze. Baker said a pond just a foot deep and covering about an acre contains about 15,000 gallons of water.

Wright's pond covers about five acres and is about three feet deep near the shore, which adds up to about 225,000 gallons of water available.

The expense of installing a

hydrant runs on an average of \$200, Baker said. The pipe is a six-inch PCB, he said.

The hydrant can be as far as 49 feet from the pumper to serve its purpose, he added.

Baker said the dry hydrant at Wright's Pond is Hoke County's first. The North Raeford department serves an area within four miles in every direction from its fire station near Upchurch Junior High School, except into Raeford, since Raeford is served by its own fire department. All the departments have mutual-aid agreements; they help each other when asked.

The dry hydrants will be additions to the Raeford city hydrants the North Raeford department is free to use in firefighting, Baker added.

The North Raeford District's fire rating, given by the State Insurance Services Office, currently is 9AA, which Baker termed "pretty good."

"We're going for 7," he said, speaking of the goal of the improvements, "and hope for 8." The lower



Fire Chief Johnny Baker at dry hydrant [white] and pumper truck. Truck's black hose will be connected to the hydrant and truck and water pumped into fire department tanker truck.

the number, the better the rating. Putting in the dry hydrants will

complete one of the requirements for achieving a lower rating.

## Of Increase In Wholesale Rate

# Higher Power Rates Seen Result

Carolina Power and Light Company has altered its usual procedure in asking the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Washington, D.C., for a new wholesale rate increase from Lumbee River EMC and 17 other EMC's in North Carolina.

According to FERC Staff Lawyer Michael Small, CP&L is using a technique often employed by Duke Power Company to cause the FERC to suspend the initial part of an almost 20 percent increase.

"To take advantage of the recent rulings by the FERC, CP&L is asking for an 8.4 percent wholesale increase to take effect on October 24," said Small. "That would be 60 days from the date they filed the request."

"Then, in phase two of their request, they want a 10.7 percent increase to take effect five months from Oct. 24," he added. "The justification for this is that it is easier for a consumer to take two small increases rather than one large one."

Small said that the FERC has been allowing a one-day suspension of rates when the increase is less than 10 percent and issuing the full

five-month suspension when the total exceeds a 10 percent increase.

The new wholesale rates are designed to provide CP&L with a rate of return of 18.5 percent and an overall return of 13.4 percent.

"When phase two take effect, the co-ops collectively will be paying about 19.6 percent or nearly \$25 million a year more than we do now," said Lumbee River EMC spokesman Jim Autry. "We at Lumbee River EMC would much rather have the entire increase suspended for five months."

"In this case, we'll be saving about \$900,000 a month on phase one and about \$2 million a month on phase two. That means we could save as much as \$14.5 million if the maximum five-month suspension were applied to both phases," Autry continued.

Autry said the Lumbee River EMC consumers rose to the occasion last August and greatly influenced the FERC decision to suspend the last rate increase for five months.

"Last year, Lumbee River EMC and the other co-ops which buy power from Carolina Power and

## Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

### 25 years ago

Thursday, August 29, 1957

County Superintendent Kenneth A. MacDonald said this week that the 13 white, negro and Indian schools of the county are ready for the opening of the 1957-58 term at 9:00 o'clock next Thursday morning and he released a list of teachers for each of the schools.

Luther Jackson Tapp, 56, died Friday at his home here of heart trouble.

Coach Floyd Wilson reports enthusiasm and interest in the football squad this year at an all-time high.

John L. Morgan, Jr., manager of the Raeford Plant of Pacific Mills, has announced the promotion of James F. Best from industrial engineer to manager of the industrial engineering department.

Health authorities have reported excellent cooperation by the people of the county in the venereal disease survey which has begun last week.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. John Angus Hodgin, Senior of Antioch, will be at home on Sunday, Sept. 1, from 4:00 until 6:00 o'clock in the afternoon honoring their parents on the 65th anniversary of their wedding.

### 15 years ago

Thursday, August 31, 1967

Summer vacation ended yesterday for an estimated 5,000 Hoke County public school students who trooped back to the county's nine schools.

Raeford Jaycees were forced this week to split the annual Hoke - Scotland Agricultural Fair into two parts when the midway scheduled to appear here bogged down at the rain-soaked Elizabethtown fairground.

Sgt. E-5 Walter E. Holt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Holt of Raeford, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal and the Army Commendation Medal for Heroism for combat duty in Vietnam.

There'll be some changes made at Hoke High School this year and Principal G.R. Autry, beginning his first school year here this morning, says he knows through experience they will be beneficial to all concerned.

James W. Pittman, who for the past seven years has been FHA supervisor for Hoke County has been transferred to Anson County and already has begun duties there.

Southern National Bank will display an exhibit of counterfeit bills, along with authentic currency of the same denomination, beginning today in the bank lobby on Main Street.

## Sunday School

Devotional Reading: Genesis 1:26 through 2:4a.

"One of the greatest frauds ever perpetrated upon humanity!" This was the scathing judgement pronounced upon the Genesis Creation story which I came across last week in a magazine article. Instinctively, I bristled.

Yet, as I put down the magazine, it struck me that the Genesis Creation story has probably suffered more from its "friends" than from its enemies. Many of us in the churches have unwittingly provided the very ammunition which critics have used to discredit the scriptures. And nowhere is this more evident than in our handling of the first few chapters of Genesis.

The time is long overdue for Christians to make it unmistakably clear that acceptance of Christ and his Gospel does not require that we regard Genesis as a literal history of the creation of the universe. The long-drawn-out, weary controversy as to whether it took God seven literal days or thousands and thousands of years diverts us from the real purpose of Genesis' Creation story which is to focus upon why, not how God created the world. How ironic that our human interpretations of the Creation tend to obscure the real theme of this story: "So God created..."

It is no less fruitless and even self-defeating for us to get hung-up on the question as to whether the Adam and Eve narratives of Genesis are literal accounts of the first two human beings. A serious reading of Genesis 1-4 indicates that those who penned these words never intended them to be regarded as literal history. Their use of the Hebrew word, Adam, provides us a clue -- if we really need one. Adam means "man" (today we would say humanity), a collective term referring to all men, not an individual. Thus, we need to bring to the Creation stories of Genesis the same attitude and appreciation that we bring to the parables of Jesus: the realization that it is the truth behind the story, not the details of the story itself that is vital in hearing what God is saying to us.

So the story of Adam and Eve is really our story. The value of their story is not that they might have actually lived centuries ago, but that what we see of them in this story continues to live in us today. It is you and I who are made in God's "image," who were created to "Have dominion" over this earth, who are commanded to "be fruitful and multiply," and live in obedience to God's commands. We are the "real Adam and Eve."



An interesting early type of "cigarette" was smoked by the Pima Indians of Arizona in ancient times. They stuffed tobacco into reeds and smoked that.