

Segregation, Engineer's Case Make Big Headlines During 1954

The year 1954, just nosed out by the new year 1955, saw a number of events steal the headlines from Rocky Fork Lake, while not getting the lion's share of the headlines, did have a busy year, its end full season. It was filled with water on April 26, 1953, in anyone has forgotten.

Probably outstanding among news events of the year, certainly on a national scale, was the controversy that developed over Hillsboro alleged school segregation problem.

As a preliminary to this was the case of Philip Partridge, now in prison for setting fire to the Lincoln School for colored children, on July 5, 1954. These two "crises" put Hillsboro and the county "on the map" more than other events since the famed Yonkers murder case.

Perhaps of lesser note but attracting considerable attention was the battle between Hillsboro and Greenfield over the attempt build a county hospital. Locally,

the completion of the Acro plant and the building program for Hillsboro Schools drew major attention.

FOLLOWING is a roundup of events of the past year:

Jan. 1.—Tentative plans for Clear Creek Watershed approved; Mayor Karl Doebele takes office, succeeding E. Clark Wiscup; civil defense rescue truck assigned here; unit headed by Ralph Rogers; grand jury called.

Jan. 5.—Fire damages New Hope Baptist Church; hospital auxiliary purchases oxygen tent for hospital; R. J. Davis is named city safety service director; punch presses and other equipment moved into new Acro plant here.

Jan. 9.—Marvel Wilkin elected president of Hillsboro school board; James Rolph, 24, Covington, Ky., and Calvin Dick, of Tipp City, sentenced to prison on indictment of grand jury; David West, local librarian, resigns to take post at Dover.

Jan. 12.—A son born to Mrs. Lester (Blanche) Stacy, Lilley Avenue, is declared winner of baby derby, being born on Jan. 1, John D. Mayer, 13, hailed into court for third time on traffic offense; county commissioners appropriate \$249,542 for the year; city council okay \$248,873 budget; youth admits setting series of fires in Highland area; E. C. Wiscup announces candidacy for state representative.

JAN. 19.—A new company H. O. National Guards, of Hillsboro, officially launched; summary shows 13 highway deaths in county during 1953; James D. Smith, 17, of Sinking Spring, dies in stalled auto between Bainbridge and Cynthia; dog poisoner sought in north end of city.

Jan. 22.—Weather summary shows 1953 was driest year since 1944, rainfall totaling only 31 inches.

Jan. 26.—William Allen, 37, construction worker, of Mowrystown, killed in crash on Route 62 near Elmstreet; several candidates file for May primary; Mrs. Amanda C. Barnett, 107-year-old native of county, dies at Allensburg.

Jan. 29.—Donald A. Pfeffer, Hillsboro, reported missing at Maysville, Ky.; John M. Collins, 71, retires after completing 43 years of service as deliveryman; Rev. Charles E. White, of Dayton, named pastor of St. Mary's Episcopal Church; production, on small scale, started at Acro plant.

FEB. 2.—Flood control measures for Rocky Fork Lake apparently shelved by Corps of Army Engineers; improvement projects for lake announced by Ora Shrock, supervisor; fire destroys barn at Charles Masie farm on Route 138 north.

Feb. 5.—Two auto fatalities, first of year in county, recorded as Charles R. Williams, 25, and Richard Lancaster, 24, of Weberstown, died in crash on Route 50 near Fairview; Darrell Hottel announces candidacy for common pleas judge; drawing held for county cage touring; school board interviews architects on building plans.

Feb. 9.—Buford beats Fairfield to win county basketball league title; General Telephone Company announces plans for dial phones in Mowrystown.

Jan. 12.—Granville Barere, 75, editor and publisher of Hillsboro News-Herald for 46 years, dies at hospital; police initiate crackdown on youthful drivers; Capt. Eugene Gall named to head local guard company; Roy Kittrell, of Hillsboro, fined \$325 and costs on liquor charges.

MARCH 2.—Lynchburg beats Buford, 65 to 49, to win county league title; Robert Arnett, 49, of Cincinnati, killed in highway accident at Dodsonville.

March 5.—Red Cross drive set to open; C. W. Jones, 65, of Polk escape injury as Puerto Rico fanatics shoot into the House of Representatives in Washington; accident claims Mrs. Elizabeth Arnett, 55, of Cincinnati, injured in accident at Dodsonville.

March 8.—Funds of Scio-Sandusky Conservancy District tied up by order of Madison County judge; license tag sale going briskly.

March 12.—New basic salary schedule presented by Hillsboro teachers to local board of education; Hillsboro Fire Department adds rural water tanker; architectural firm employed by board of education.

March 16.—County 4-H Club leaders honored at recognition dinner here; Easter Seal campaign opened by crippled children's society; James Emerson, 35, owner of Hawaiian Bar, charged by liquor agent Stanley Delhart with obstructing an officer, charges later dropped.

March 19.—William H. Wilson, 27, Greenfield, killed in an accident on Route 35 near Washington C. H.; 250 persons attend annual livestock banquet at Belfast School; Reed's Drug Store looted, small items taken; Harold O. Powell named editor of News-Herald; Columbus & Southern Ohio Electric Company announces installation of new alternate main line to provide current to city.

March 26.—Plans for new Webster School approved by school board; V. W. Flickinger, head of the Ohio Division of Parks, an-

nounces plans for hydraulic gates at dam at Rocky Fork Lake; \$1900 donated by community to help purchase hand uniforms at Hillsboro High School.

APRIL 2.—Dedication services held at New Market Baptist Church; 246 attend second annual suburban banquet of Highland County Farm Bureau Cooperative; Buford School district announces vote on \$73,500 bond issue on May 4, for new addition; old City Building sold by Homer Gass to D. H. Owens; survey shows building slow at Rocky Fork Lake; county road marker plans by committee; fire destroys house of Frank Fox southeast of Berryville.

April 9.—Carmel girl, Shirley Ann Horn, 10, killed when hit by a car, one mile south of Carmel; four injured in car-train crash at western edge of city; larger police force authorized by council; grand jury ignores three drunken drivering cases.

April 13.—Joseph S. Hew, hospital administrator, resigns to take similar post at Portsmouth City Hospital; fire destroys home of Mrs. Fannie Abers near Dodsonville; Elks Lodge officers installed.

April 16.—School board here approves for teachers; Buckeye State representatives picked; parking area at south beach of lake being cleared.

April 20.—Nearly 600 youngsters attend annual egg hunt; Carl Demmy, of Carmel, held for investigation; Good Friday service held at St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

April 23.—County commissioners approve road marker plan; William J. Redkey nominated as Lions Club president; old City Building becomes dairy bar under new owner; Union Central Life Insurance company celebrates first anniversary in new records building here.

April 27.—Andrew Stanforth, 30, Hillsboro, killed in crash on Route 247 south of here; Charles E. Hamilton, 37, Hillsboro, RT, 4, fatally injured in crash near Wayneville in Warren County; preschool clinics held at various centers; Chamber of Commerce to take over hospital bond issue campaign for November.

MAY 4.—Ward B. Allen, 25, of Hillsboro, held in attack on six-year-old stepdaughter; 600 attend annual 4-H conference here; 13,000 folders on Rocky Fork Lake received by Chamber of Commerce; Admiral John J. Ballentine retires from Naval service.

May 7.—Two polio cases, Paul Workman and Larry Roades, both of Pricetown, are reported, first of year; Acro announces employment climb to 105 persons; May primary results announced; new Farmers Exchange Mill opened, dedication held; council adopts dump ordinance; Georgeanna Ward picked as queen of Junior-Senior Prom.

May 14.—Two men rescued after boat overturns at lake, victims being Hugh Fetter and Clarence Ruse; Richard C. Estle of Brushcreek Township held on rape charge of his 15-year-old daughter; HHS senior class set for annual tour to Washington, D. C.; David Chaney, Lynchburg, listed as third polio victim of year.

May 18.—Prom Party sponsored by 18 local organizations at ONG Armory, with 175 students in attendance; Paul Cummings elected president of Highland County Methodist Brotherhood.

May 21.—Richard Bantz, Hillsboro football coach, accepts teaching post in Austria; Walter Roselott named chairman of Democratic county committee and Ralph Pence elected head of GOP committee; commissioners purchase radio unit for county sheriff; Paulette Pendall, of Lynchburg, is fourth polio patient; Greenfield makes plans to oppose hospital bond issue; Hillsboro Garden Club marks 25th year.

May 25.—Walter Ellis of New

Jersey employed as hospital administrator; State Patrolman R. L. Jenkins assigned to Hillsboro; 70 trucks take part in annual Rocky Fork Lake; tax count filed against Lloyd and Betty Crossen; cancer society exceeds \$4,000 goal.

May 28.—Old covered bridge on Route 70 north of Carmel to be abandoned; state highway department announces; Karl Baldwin, Lynchburg, becomes fifth polio case in county; Richard J. Woods, 55, of Cincinnati, killed in accident on Route 50 seven miles east of here; two county dairies grant official Grade A status by board of health; Roger Faris, Jr., named president of Junior Chamber of Commerce.

JUNE 1.—State health department announces special polio research survey in community; estimated 45,000 persons visit Rocky Fork Lake on Memorial Day weekend; Vernon B. Fairley, Sr., elected president of HHS Alumni Association.

June 4.—American Legion erects flagpole at north beach of lake; employment office reopened for summer; road blacktopping program announced by county officials.

June 8.—Polio survey begun in four towns; Neil Milner, Leesburg, named president of State Future Farmers of America; Hillsboro Presbyterian Church marks its sesquicentennial with special program; New Laundry & Dry Cleaning plant here sold.

June 15.—Hospital receives deep freeze from Whitesak Twig, Mowrystown; Rev. C. A. White of Belfast transferred to Owensville; report shows 402 boys and girls enrolled in 4-H Club work; E. W. Gibson, 68, former newspaperman, claimed; purchase of Lloyd's Restaurant by Ralph Burns announced.

June 18.—Lowell Douce, county agent, returns to duties after year's study at Iowa State College on scholarship; board of education announces plans to submit three mill levy at fall election.

June 22.—Advertising for bids on new Webster School begun; estimated 35,000 to 45,000 persons at lake during week-end period; Donald Moore, tavern operator at Dodsonville, cited by liquor agent.

June 25.—First drowning of year recorded when James Wauk, 10, of Carmel, drowns in livestock pond; John D. Mayer, cited in numerous traffic cases, enters U. S. Marine Corps.; State Senator William Daddens of Cincinnati blasts state for slow development of lake.

June 29.—Open house held at hospital, more than 300 attend; Dr. H. H. Lowe, Leesburg physician, claimed; Walter Hilton named commander of American Legion; hunger strike staged by jail inmates.

July 2.—Russell Spurgeon, 55, near Dodsonville, killed when hit by truck while driving tractor and wagon; objectionable comic book campaign launched here; swimming classes planned at lake under recreation program; eight schools announce plans to seek tax levies in November; county prosecutor explains hospital bond issue in public statement; Mrs. Jan Geisenhof of Lansing, Mich., named executive secretary of Highland County TB Association; new salary schedule outlined for all school districts in county system, covering \$200 flat increase.

July 6.—Greenfield opposes hospital bond issue campaign; Lincoln School, damaged by fire, arson suspected; liquor charge against James Emerson dismissed; wheat begins to roll to market.

July 9.—County Engineer Philip Partridge admits setting fire at Lincoln School, concerned over inequalities of white and colored children; county commissioners ask placing of hospital bond issue on ballot; Henry Schroth employed as coach at Hillsboro High School.

July 13.—Partridge ordered to Lima for 30-day observation; \$750,000 bond issue to be asked for hospital; Albert N. Hoggatt, 10, suffocates in wheat bin at Buford; Donald Tedrick and Norris Shaffer, both county natives, killed in crash near Washington C. H.

AUG. 3.—Seth B. Norviel, 85, of Bainbridge, killed in crash one mile north of Rainsboro and Charles W. Pierson, 43, near Lynchburg, was killed when struck by car on Route 131 near Vera Cruz; Sam Kerns named postmaster at Leesburg in surprise move.

Aug. 16.—Fifteen special questions for November vote filed with board, including local option votes in Hillsboro and Dodson Township; (CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

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Walter West, Mgr., Belfast 2861



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ROSS-HIGHLAND NATIONAL FARM LOAN ASSN.

H. T. (Tom) Boyle
Secy.-Treas.

PHONE 266—Res. Ph. 862
118 1/2 E. Main St., Hillsboro

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OCT. 1—Judge John Druffel grants continuance in segregation case at Cincinnati; Richard C. Estle sentenced to Ohio pen for rape; barbecue nets \$2700 for fairgrounds work; Carl Hull, workhouse escapee, captured after wild chase in area.

Oct. 8—Council approves annexation of township land; NAACP files appeal in segregation case; Arnold M. Elzey named lake supervisor.

Oct. 15—Partridge found guilty by jury, sentenced to penitentiary.

Oct. 19—Four new doctors added to staff at Highlands Community Hospital; budget of health board cut by budget commission.

Oct. 22—Frank Raymond (Tom) Buntain, funeral director, claimed; hospital bond drive nearing end.

Oct. 26—Two local men held for 10-year-old murder in Kentucky; 22 issues on November ballot, led by hospital bond issue and levy.

Oct. 29—Chamber of Commerce names directors; new \$3200 addition opened at public library.

NOV. 2—Masked bandits stage \$2085 robbery at Albers Market here in daylight; Margaret Moran reigns at HHS homecoming queen; Ward Allen sentenced to life term for rape; work begun on leveling fairgrounds.

Nov. 5—Hospital bond issue and levy defeated for second straight year; Darrell Hottle unseats Judge George McDowell in November vote; theater tax repealed by city council; Polk is re-elected to congress; wets triumph in local vote.

Nov. 16—More than \$14,500 spent

TAXATION

L. Robison, Treasurer of Highland County, has determined the number of mills levied on each town within said County for the year 1933.

80 Mills.						
	State Levy	County Levy	Township Levy	School Levy	Corporation Levy	Total
h.	.20	2.80	2.50	14.50		20.00
ng.	.20	2.80	2.50	17.50		23.00
	.20	2.80	2.50	12.20		17.70
	.20	2.80	2.10	14.50	4.20	23.80
	.20	2.80	1.80	16.50		21.30
	.20	2.80	1.40	13.10		17.50
	.20	2.80	1.40	11.50		15.90
	.20	2.80	1.40	17.60		22.00
	.20	2.80	1.40	11.90		16.30
	.20	2.80	1.40	18.00		22.40
	.20	2.80	1.50	15.50		20.00
	.20	2.80	1.50	17.50		22.00
	.20	2.80	.70	15.50	4.40	23.60
	.20	2.80	1.30	14.20		19.50
	.20	2.80	1.30	15.70		20.00
	.20	2.80	1.30	12.60		16.90
	.20	2.80	1.30	13.00		17.30
	.20	2.80	1.00	14.20	3.20	21.40
	.20	2.80	1.00	14.20	3.00	21.20
	.20	2.80	1.50	17.60		22.10
	.20	2.80	1.50	15.50		20.00
	.20	2.80	1.50	17.50		22.00
	.20	2.80	1.50	16.20		20.70
	.20	2.80	1.50	11.50		16.00
	.20	2.80	1.50	16.50		21.00
	.20	2.80	1.80	18.00		22.80
	.20	2.80	.70	17.50		21.20
	.20	2.80	.70	14.80		18.50
	.20	2.80	.70	11.00		14.70
	.20	2.80	.70	11.50		15.20
D.	.20	2.80	.50	17.50	3.10	24.10
D.	.20	2.80	1.30	13.20		17.50
	.20	2.80	.50	13.20	2.90	19.60

Nov. 19—Fire insurance rates slated for reduction in area; men arrested here for old Kentucky murder are re-indicted at Pikeville, Ky.

Nov. 23—Suit is filed in option election in Dodson Township; new addition planned at local hospital; record high budget request of \$328,320 set by commissioners; Mrs. Nora Meredith resigns as home agent.

Dec. 10—County brings action for recovery of funds from state for care of feeble-minded; Arlin Howard, Air Force veteran, of Sinking Spring, killed near base in New Jersey.

Dec. 14—Hearing set for Dec. 29 in school segregation case; hospital given refrigerator by Lynchburg Twig; three inches of snow falls in area, heaviest up to that time; Farm Bureau wins several regional honors.

Dec. 17—Tax duplicate listed at \$33,871,840; Dr. Sigel Roush, dentist, writer, lecturer, physician, claimed; David Carroll, polio victim, graduates with honors at Ohio State University; tax rates announced; Stanley Kibler re-elected president of fair board.

Dec. 24—Total of 943 persons given free chest X-Rays here; Jaycees plan Christmas party for youngsters.

Dec. 24—Total tax charge is \$756,588; total of \$6,211.30 paid to exhibitors at county fair, annual report shows; Santa makes visit to Pin Hook Hollow, swamped with gifts from throughout state; Christmas mail volume climbs over previous year.

Membership Rules Of Junior Fair Board Revised

Revision of the constitution of the Highland County Fair Board was effected at a meeting of the directors of the group last week at the county extension office, Lowell Douce, county agent, reported.

The revision concerned the composition of the board. Action was taken to permit two representatives of each participating group in the Junior Fair on the board. Heretofore, only one director from each group comprised the board. The action actually doubles the membership. Among the groups are girls' 4-H clubs, boys' 4-H clubs, Rural Youth, Future Homemakers of America, Future Farmers of America, Juvenile Grange and scouts.

The directors also discussed financial details of the junior livestock sale conducted each year at the county fair. There has been some controversy over the division of funds from the sale and a committee was named following the meeting to make a further study of the present rules and possibly effect a compromise.

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elaborate earlier points of testimony, resulted.

Druffel gave no definite impression as to how he might act in the case. However, at one point in the litigation, he fired a barrage of questions on his own about the fire set by Philip Partridge at the Lincoln school, concluding with the statement that he wanted it on the record for the benefit "of the court of appeals."

WHILE THIS might be open to varied interpretation, some observers thought it might presage—and it is merely assumption—Druffel setting another continuance as he did after the previous hearing. Others were predicting that he would render a decision along these lines: Ordering the board to integrate the pupils but either setting no time limit or giving them a period up to the completion of new buildings to complete integration.

THE PROCEEDINGS opened Wednesday at 10 A. M., in Druffel's court with a statement from the NAACP's chief attorney, Mrs. Constance B. Motley, of New York City. She re-defined that side of the case, saying that the rezoning action of the board back on Sept. 13, sent the children involved to a racially-segregated school (Lincoln); that the zoning was on the basis of race and that alone. Druffel asked if testimony would supplement previous evidence and she replied that it would.

Marvel Wilkin, president of the Hillsboro board of education, was summoned first. A map showing the rezoning was submitted in evidence and most of the questioning of Wilkin by Mrs. Motley centered on the Lincoln school zone, with attempts to prove that it was done along racial lines. Wilkin testified that it was merely an effort to keep children in virtually the same schools and to avoid crowded conditions until new buildings are finished. Wilkin said that several Negro children preferred to attend Lincoln School. Others have remained away from classrooms altogether since the litigation began, he added.

UNDER cross-examination Wilkin said the resolution did not specify either colored or white children. At this point the judge was presented a copy of the resolution outlining the zoning. Druffel also interjected the question as to whether colored children were now attending the previously all-white Washington and Webster Schools. Wilkin replied that eight were attending at Washington and four at Webster. "By their own choice?" the judge asked. Wilkin replied, "Yes."

Superintendent Paul L. Upp of Hillsboro Schools then took the stand and was questioned by Attorney Russell L. Carter of the NAACP. Upp testified that the

no problem at all.

AFTER A recess, Judge Druffel began his quiz on the fire at Lincoln on July 5, directing questions at Upp over plaintiffs' objections. The judge apparently wanted to clarify in his own mind how the action of Partridge entered the picture, or if it did. He indicated that he knew the former county engineer was now serving a prison term for setting fire to Lincoln School. This was the testimony he said he wanted inserted in the record for the "purpose of the court of appeals." Upp told the judge directly that he was concerned over the feeling of the groups in Hillsboro and the general tenor of the community in regard to the situation and that he had tried to judge and evaluate these factors in his decisions.

Upp was followed by Mrs. Helene Ash, teacher at Lincoln School, subpoenaed as a defense witness. She said she had taught at Lincoln "on and off" for about 15 years. Principal fact brought out by her brief testimony was that she had never had a white student enrolled at Lincoln during her period of teaching there. She preceded Dr. R. F. Campbell, Ohio State University professor, a previous witness, to the stand. He reiterated results of a survey made here.

Elmer Hedges, vice president of the local board, also appeared briefly. He told of attempting, in an official capacity, to negotiate a trade of the colored church on the corner of the Washington School lot for the Lincoln School. This action was taken prior to the Lincoln fire. It was an attempt, as the judge interpreted it personally, over plaintiffs' objections, to show the "good faith of the board in abandoning Lincoln eventually."

ARGUMENTS followed this. Counsel for the plaintiffs reiterated that it was definitely segregation in Hillsboro in violation of the federal constitution and asked for immediate relief. Druffel interjected brief comment here, speaking to Mrs. Motley:

"These are inherited conditions...since days of Civil War. The (Hillsboro board) recognize segregation is unlawful and are building schools to meet that need. They have passed a resolution to integrate."

ONE STOP

Millie