

## Impossible Wreck Mangles Car, Trees; Driver Survives



This is the jumbled heap of wreckage dumped back of House's Garage that was a 1957 Ford until 11:15 p. m. Saturday when it flew into a pine thicket northwest of Kinston on NC 58.

Gene Allen "Squeaky" Heath, 21, of Snow Hill Wednesday was reported to be in fair condition at Memorial General Hospital in Kinston from injuries he suffered in an almost unbelievable automobile accident Saturday night.

Without seeing the car Heath was driving and the damage it did to a pine thicket northwest of Kinston it is difficult to believe that a car could be so thoroughly torn apart. And after seeing both the car and the area in which it exploded it is equally difficult to understand how Heath is still alive.

Heath at 11:15 p. m. Saturday was driving south from Snow Hill to Kinston at an undoubtedly high rate of speed. At the intersection of NC 58 and the Wheat Swamp Road he lost control of his 1957 Ford hardtop. The car struck two islands in the intersection, then leaped from the elevated curve some distance in the air to come down and skid headon into the stump of a large pine that had been cut off almost flush with the ground.

This very solid stump tossed the car into the air. Still travelling through the air the car next came to a telephone pole 28 inches in circumference, which was shattered. Next in the line of flight of the car were three pine trees. One 36 inches in circumference was cut cleanly off about six feet above the ground. Another 28 inches in circumference was torn completely out of the ground and also cut in two sections and the third

pine of 22 inches circumference was cut in two sections and torn out of the ground. These trees and the telephone pole were roughly 75 feet from the stump where the car began its last flight.

After tearing through these trees and the pole the car scattered over an acre or more of the wooded area just south of Hilton Kennedy's home. The motor was torn out and went in one direction, fenders, doors, boot lid went in still other directions.

Some where in this wild flight Heath was thrown out of the car. Some 90 feet from the spot where the trees were clipped off his wildly flailing body struck a pine about 18 inches in circumference and at a point about two feet above the ground. The tree had the bark torn away over about a square foot area and there Heath's right leg between the ankle and knee was torn from his body.

His body flew on through the pine woods for another 20 feet, finally striking a large pine about seven feet above the ground and falling to the ground where he was found, still conscious as soon as people in the neighborhood began arriving at the scene.

From the point where the car went out of control on the highway to where Heath's body finally fell is more than 300 yards. From the point where the trees and telephone pole were mowed down his body was thrown another 175 feet.

Residents of the area express the opinion that Heath was racing with another car at the time of the accident. They also point out that Heath is quite familiar with the road, having passed over it three or four times Saturday afternoon while hauling shrubbery to the National Guard Armory in Snow Hill.

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## Tom Stilley Quits Jones County Board; Ralph Scott Successor

At a special meeting of the Jones County Board of Commissioners Tuesday night Chairman Tom Stilley tendered his resignation and announced that he is leaving the county to accept a job with the soil conservation service in Lenoir County.

Superior Court Clerk Murray Whitaker named Ralph Scott, well known farmer of Chinguapin Township, to serve out the unexpired portion of Stilley's current term and also the new term which begins on the first Monday in December.

Stilley was elected in November to his fifth term on the county board, and would have completed his eighth year at the regular December meeting.

## Auto-Tractor Wreck Near Jones-Lenoir Line Thursday Night

Ed N. Riggs of Pollocksville suffered a bruised nose and heavy property damage to his car just after dark last Thursday night when his car rammed an unlighted trailer loaded with corn.

The accident took place just east of the Jones-Lenoir county line on NC 58. Lewis Battle, tenant on McKinley Battle's farm, was driving the tractor. Both vehicles were headed west.

Riggs says lights from an approaching car blinded him, making it impossible to see the trailer until almost the point of impact.

The tractor was lighted but there were neither lights nor reflectors on the trailer. Battle escaped injury but the tractor suffered considerable damage.

## Marriage License

The only marriage license issued in the past week by Jones County Register of Deeds Mrs. D. W. Koonce went to James Edward Frazier, 25, of Hubert and Ethel Joyce Mills of Fuquay Springs.

## Jones Commissioners Vote Build Health Department Clinic

A special meeting was held Tuesday night by the Jones County Board of Commissioners which voted to build a clinic for the health department on a tract of land being given the county by Mrs. Verder Pollock and her daughter, Jean.

Dr. R. J. Jones, district health officer, explained the plans and financing of the clinic and pointed out that current federal allocations to North Carolina have already been earmarked and that no new money will be available until July 1, 1959.

Dr. Jones said that under existing laws federal funds would pay for 66.7 per cent of the cost of the clinic, and he added that there is some possibility that the 1959 session of the General Assembly may make some state funds available for further help with the project.

The estimated cost of the clinic is \$30,000 and it will be located east of Trenton on the Pollocksville highway, just around the curve from the Woman's Clubhouse. The donation of the land by The Pollocks is being done in memory of their husband and father who recently died.

Attorney Donald Brock was named as agent for the commissioners in negotiations with the State Medical Care Commission that will be necessary in securing approval of the site, the building plans and certain other parts of the building program.

Members of the County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board meeting with the commissioners said that the county's share of the cost of the clinic could be obtained from the ABC reserve fund, if the county general fund were unable to foot the entire bill once the construction is underway.

## New Fire Alarm Horn

At the meeting Monday night of the Trenton Fire Department Fire Chief Thomas Stilley announced that the town now has an air horn as a fire alarm to replace the

## Maysville, Kinston Churches Top Goals In Methodist Drive

A checkup last week of the current five million dollar drive by North Carolina Methodists for their higher education fund showed that 103 churches in the state had reached their goal.

Of that number 15 were in the New Bern District which includes the churches in Craven, Lenoir, Jones, Onslow and Carteret counties.

Among these were Maysville Methodist Church which reported collection of 103 per cent of its goal, Kinston's St. John which reported 131 per cent of its goal, Lee's Chapel also in Jones County with 100 per cent of its goal and Belgrade Methodist with 143 per cent of its goal.

This first report showed that \$2,036,381 of the \$5 million goal had been reached.

## Sheriff Yates Reports Three Local Arrests

Sheriff Brown Yates reports three arrests in the past week in Jones County; one for drunken driving, one for speeding and the third for public drunkenness.

Patrolman Glenn Morgan indicted Joe Haddock Jr. on the drunken driving charge and booked Robert Earl Hall of Cypress Creek Township on charge of speeding 95 miles per hour and driving on the wrong side of the road.

James Harrington of Comfort was the fellow accused of public drunkenness.

siren, which could not be heard at a distance. Any of the volunteer firemen to hear the horn reports immediately to the fire house. The department discussed plans for the Christmas tree which is to stand on the corner of the courthouse lawn. Plans will be carried out later.

## Kinston Tobacco Market Drops From 2nd to 4th Place in World Rank

The sales season in the New Bright Belt for 1958 has ended and the blessing of an almost perfect growing season saw the gross pounds of tobacco sold jump 13.563 per cent over 1957 in this, the world's largest flue-cured tobacco sales area. This increase was made on the same acreage allocation as in 1957 but it is likely that fewer acres of tobacco were actually planted because more acres went into the soil bank in '58 than in '57.

While this 13.563 per cent increase for the belt was good news from Wallace to Ahoskie there was no cause for jubilation on the Kinston Tobacco Market where there was only a 1.774 per cent increase in sales for '58 over '57.

Compounding the injury, Kinston slipped from the second place rank it has held since 1951 among the world's flue-cured tobacco markets. Not only did Kinston fall from 2nd place but it fell all the way to 4th place.

Both Rocky Mount and Greenville zoomed past Kinston.

While the Kinston market could only add 946,278 pounds to its '58 sales, Rocky Mount was adding 7,103,086, Greenville was adding an

amazing 10,867,761 and Wilson kept its top spot easily with a big 7,072,050 pound increase over '57 sales.

By every standard the Kinston Tobacco Market lost ground. Greenville averaged \$57.29, Wilson averaged \$58.40 and the tiny Wallace market on the southern end of the belt averaged \$58.20 for '58 sales. Kinston's average was \$56.94.

In the period from 1950 through 1957 the Kinston Tobacco Market had sold an average of 14.944 per cent of the belt's tobacco. This year it slipped and badly, only selling 13.528 per cent of the belt's crop. In '57 Kinston sold 15.086 per cent of the belt's tobacco.

Said quickly, this drop of 1.558 per cent of the belt's total sales does not sound too bad. But applied to the 401,228,190 pounds that were sold this year on the New Bright Belt this small sounding percentage drop comes out at 6,251,135 pounds. This is what Kinston would have sold in addition to its 54,274,114 pounds if it had just KEPT UP with the belt.

The high water mark of Kinston sales, as a percentage of the belt, was reached in 1952 when 15.624 per cent of the belt's tobacco was

sold on Kinston warehouse floors.

The tabulation below will give a concise picture of the 1958 sales situation among the top four markets.

Market	1957 Sales	1958 Sales
Wilson	72,656,022	79,728,072
Rocky Mount	51,424,414	58,527,500
Greenville	44,505,259	54,592,020
Kinston	53,326,894	54,527,500

Most phenomenal of all was the huge increase racked up by Greenville.

Here is another tabulation which offers food for much thought during the winter season, showing the record for the past nine years of the Kinston market.

Year	Per Cent of Sales
1950	14.310
1951	15.011
1952	15.624
1953	14.441
1954	15.102
1955	15.265
1956	14.736
1957	15.086
1958	13.528

There may, or may not be any relation between the tabulation above and the rental agreements which have kept competition down on the Kinston market.

Until 1952 a cut throat, building

war competition had shot the Kinston market higher and higher in rank among the markets of the world.

But beginning in 1952 a "gentleman's agreement" was reached which brought an end to this rough, tough variety of competition that had built the Kinston market.

Under the first agreement two new warehouses were kept off the market for a five-year period at an annual rental of \$42,000. In 1957 after that first "five-year plan" had run out another was negotiated under which those two new warehouses were opened, but under which four old sales floors were closed for another five-year period.

In 1952 there were 13 groups of warehousemen competing for business. In 1958 there were only seven. In 1952 the list included Brooks, Central, Eagle and Carolina, Sheppards, Planters, Star, Cooperative, Old Knott, New Knott, Tapp, Dixie and Farmers. In 1958 the list includes the two Centrals, two Stars, two Sheppards, Cooperative, Banner and Old Knott, and the Dixie and Farmer.

The Planter's Warehouse included in its management such

men as Ivan Bissette of Grifton, whose influence brought millions of pounds of Pitt County tobacco to Kinston. At the Eagle and Carolina Percy Holden was on hand to exert his proven influence with millions of pounds of tobacco from Greene County. At the Central Warehouse Emmett Jones represented the huge tobacco acreage in western Lenoir County and eastern Wayne County.

The great tobacco growing area south of Kinston had strong representation in a half dozen warehouses. But the critical area insofar as the Kinston Tobacco Market is concerned is the rich section with a tremendous tobacco acreage that lies between Kinston and the markets of Greenville, Farmville, Wilson, Rocky Mount and Goldsboro. This surely does not mean that the large area to the south of Kinston should be taken for granted and careful attention should be paid to every farm with an acre of tobacco. However, the loss to the Kinston market of the proven influences in Pitt, Greene, Craven and Wayne counties is the most serious damage it has suffered in the past 10 years.