

Grand Jury Reports Bad Conditions Exist At County Home

Judge Burney Describes Report As Worst Ever Called To His Attention and Termed It A Disgrace To County.

We are publishing the detailed report of the Grand Jury which was made to the August term of Criminal court in Smithfield last week, which Judge John J. Burney, the presiding jurist said the Grand Jury's report of conditions existing at the county home was the worst ever called to his attention, and declared that he termed the situation a disgrace to Johnston county.

Some of the conditions reported by the grand jury are, in brief, as follows: Toilets unclear and unsanitary; mattresses on which inmates sleep are infested with chinch; inmates show signs of neglect, and often engage in fights; inmates complain that they did not get proper food; in the tubercular ward the report shows that not enough precaution is being used to prevent spread of disease; colored ward patients report lack of attention to the sick; report charges that the prisoners who are assigned to the county home for work are often worked on the private farm of W. J. Alford, superintendent of the home.

The county commissioners are reported to be considering a thorough investigation of condition at the county home, following the grand jury's report, but whether Superintendent Alford is slated to lose his job or not was not indicated.

Full Text Of Report Filed By Grand Jury

To the Hon. John J. Burney, Judge Presiding:

We, the Grand Jury, respectfully submit our report as follows:

We have passed upon all bills of indictment.

Prison Camp: As directed by the Court's Charge, a Committee composed of Rev. J. W. Wellons, J. E. Edwards, R. B. Strickland, S. B. Jones and C. L. Lane visited first the Prison Camp and found every department in excellent shape, clean and sanitary, plenty of good wholesome food and all quarters clean and equipment in good shape and all prisoners well-cared for and well-treated.

County Home: Also as directed by the Court's Charge, the same committee visited the County Home, and they make the following report and recommendations. The toilets are unclean, and some of the floors are wet with urine. The mattresses are infested with chinch. The window shades are in bad shape; the doors are also in bad repair and need plumbing and refitting with locks. Some of the inmates are old and have mental impairments. They show signs of neglect, and often they engage in fights. One showed bruises on her arm. The inmates complained that they did not get milk, ice water and eggs. The tubercular ward is in fair shape. The garbage and sputum cups from the tubercular ward are often retained too long after they should be disposed of. We found the discarded sputum cups stacked up on the porch floor. These cups should be burned or buried deeply immediately after disposal. A closed garbage can should also be used. We found the Colored Ward in fair shape but complaint was made of a lack of attention to the sick. We recommend that a full time, competent matron be placed at this institution to help keep the inmates clean and tidy and to help keep

the floors clean. The wearing apparel and bed linen should also have the constant supervision of a competent matron and we recommend the services of such a person in connection with the services now rendered by the Superintendent and his wife. We also recommend a thorough cleaning and painting of the inside of the institution. The yards are also in poor condition and we recommend a general cleaning of the yards as well as the building. We recommend the immediate installation of a telephone in this institution. A telephone would serve to get quick medical service for the inmates in all cases of acute illness, and it would serve other very useful purposes. We find that laborers are often sent from the Criminal Courts of the county out to this institution. We do not believe that the Superintendent has sufficient control over these prisoners and we recommend that it be stopped. We fail to see that it can work any useful purpose. Reports have been made to us that these prisoners when sent out to the County Home are permitted to work on the farms owned and controlled by the Superintendent. We recommend that this practice also be discontinued.

The Jail: The jail is in good condition.

The County Offices: We have visited the various County offices and so far as our inspection of these are concerned we found them in excellent condition.

Guardian Reports: We were charged by the Court to investigate reports of Guardians, Administrators and Executors. We found that the Grand Jury made a thorough investigation of this during the last Term of Court and all of the reports appear to be up-to-date with no delinquencies to report.

Wayside Inns: Acting under the charge of the Court we visited the following inns or taverns in the County not in Incorporated Towns, and we make report of the following: W. A. Ferrell, Gurkins Tavern, Carolyn Court, Bowers Tavern and Duncan's Cafe. All of these places were clean and sanitary and we saw no evidence of law-violations except that in each case there was a failure to keep the number of the automobile license plates whose owners spent the night at these taverns. In each case the Keepers stated that they were ignorant of this legal requirement and each indicated his willingness to abide by this particular Statute.

The Schools: The schools not being in session, no visit was made to any of them. After the school terms open, we shall be glad to visit them with the view of ascertaining the standards upon which they are operating.

The Courthouse Basement Bathroom: The men's toilets, both white and colored, in the basement of the Courthouse need immediate attention by a good plumber. The windows should also be kept closed or screened as under their present condition they afford indecent exposure to the public by men who go to these places and use them.

It was reported to us that Irby Holt, recently paroled from the State Prison, is not keeping the terms and conditions of his parole and we recommend that the Parole Commissioner make an investigation of his conduct to determine whether or not he is living up to the requirements of

CORBETT-HATCHER NEWS ITEMS

R. A. Bailey and sons, N. V. and Roland, entertained their tobacco burning hands at a weiner roast at their home recently. A very delightful time and repast was enjoyed by each one present. Guests departed declaring Mr. Bailey and sons as perfect hosts.

Miss Chloe Blackman, of Live Oak section, spent Monday and Tuesday here with Emma Jean Blackman. She was accompanied by her cousin, Charles Hales, of Ocala, Fla.

Rev. and Mrs. C. F. Allen, of Zebulon, were visitors in the community Saturday afternoon.

Misses Nettie and Deffie Bailey, of Kenly, spent the week end here with their brother, Jesse W. Bailey and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Bedford Bailey, who have been residing in Christianburg, Va., where Mr. Bailey has been employed in Vocational Defense work, are spending a few days here with their father, R. A. Bailey.

Johnnie Brown has returned home, after spending several days with relatives in Baltimore and Aberdeen, Md.

Ellie Watson left early Wednesday morning for Portsmouth, Va., where he has accepted a position as machinist in the ship yards.

Dr. and Mrs. Wade H. Atkinson attended services at the Lutheran church in Wilson Sunday morning. While there they called on Dr. C. P. Harper, a leading druggist of Selma, who is still a patient at Carolina-General Hospital, and Lucian Hadley of Wilson.

Helen Woodruff, of Selma, spent Monday and Tuesday here with Helen Brown Bailey.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry LaCelles and daughter, of Smithfield, were guests Sunday of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Sullivan.

Mrs. M. V. Bailey and Miss Myrtle E. Bailey spent Tuesday in Wilson. Mrs. Bailey will be a member of the graduating class at their final commencement and Graduation, Thursday evening, August 22, which will be held at the A. C. College.

B. F. Ward, of Fort Bragg, was guest of relatives here during the week end.

Miss Hester Bailey, of Baltimore, Md., is at home for a few days. She was accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Archie Long and family, who spent the week end here with their mother, Mrs. B. T. Long.

Miss Mary Grant Bailey returned home Wednesday, after having spent the past week with friends in Woodland and Williamston.

Mr. and Mrs. M. V. Bailey and Mr. and Mrs. Bedford Bailey spent Saturday, Sunday and Monday at Carolina Beach. They took Mr. and Mrs. Bedford Bailey's trailer-camp along, which is well equipped with modern conveniences, making their trip very enjoyable.

Mrs. Wade H. Atkinson and Miss Mamie Bailey shopped in Goldsboro Tuesday. While there they called on Mrs. E. W. Vick.

Norman Bailey, who has been in the U. S. Army for the past year and a half, is now stationed in Alaska.

the Executive Department. All of the County officers as well as the Solicitor and the Presiding Judge have been very cooperative during this term and we desire to express our appreciation for these courtesies.

W. G. WOODALL, Foreman

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PENALTY ON EXCESS COTTON AT SEVEN CENTS PER POUND

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has set the penalty rate on 1941 cotton marketed in excess of the farm marketing quota at seven cents a pound, Tom Cornwell, Cleveland county cotton farmer and member of the state AAA committee, announced.

The 1940 penalty rate on excess cotton was three cents a pound. The 1941 rate was provided by Congress in an amendment to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938. This legislation set a basic cotton loan rate at 85 per cent of the parity price and provided that the penalty on marketing excess should be one-half the loan rate.

In view of the cotton parity price of 16.19 on August 1, the loan rate for 7-8 inch middling cotton is 14.02 for gross weight. Thus the penalty rate, which will apply to all excess cotton marketed this year, will be seven cents a pound, Mr. Cornwell said.

The Cleveland county farmer reminded that while the penalty rate has been increased just four cents a pound for violations of marketing quota provisions, the loan rate has been increased by more than five cents a pound—from 8.9 cents in 1940 to 14.02 this year.

Cotton growers who knowingly exceed their acreage allotments may receive government loans at a rate of just 60 per cent of that offered to growers who planted within allotments. The 60 per cent loan will be available only on that portion of the crop which is subject to penalty, however, Mr. Mornwell added.

Farmers of Greene county are reporting heavy infestations of boll weevils this year, according to J. W. Grant, assistant farm agent of the N. C. State College Extension Service.

Fred—"Would you accept a pet monkey?" Catherine—"Oh, I'll have to ask father, this is so sudden."

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Four Oaks Merchants Start Trade Campaign

The Merchant's Club of Four Oaks is launching a trade campaign to run through Wednesday, December 24, 1941, when a grand prize of \$100 will be given to the lucky person on that date.

The plan is to issue trade tickets on the basis of one ticket for each \$1 in trade or paid on account, and each Saturday afternoon \$20 in cash will be given away, but for a person to participate in these cash prizes they must have secured some of these tickets by trading with Four Oaks business men.

Kenly School Faculty Named For 1941-42

The Kenly school faculty for the school year 1941-42 has been announced, as follows:

J. B. Long, of Elizabeth City, principal; Miss Mildren Carmichael, Dillon, S. C.; Miss Lucretia Sauls, Fremont; Miss Doris Baker, Holly Springs; Miss Ruth Patton, Morganton; Miss Elizabeth Webster, Mebane; Miss Kate Kelly, Asheville; Miss Cameron Taylor, Fairmont; Mrs. L. C. Wilkinson, Jr., Kenly; Miss Marion Reid, Elizabeth City; Miss Mary Bardcroft, Williamston; Mrs. Ed. F. Ward, Smithfield; and Mrs. J. B. Long, Elizabeth City.

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