

# THE NEW BERN MIRROR

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## INTERESTING

As best we can make out, after wading through the abundant, carefully phrased wordage, the Hospital Board's report says in essence, "There ain't nobody done nothing wrong, but what they done we ain't gone let them do no more."

Specifically, the Board finds that Mr. Lonnie Moore, Administrator of Craven County Hospital, acted above reproach when he sold a refrigerator-stove-sink at the Hospital to a member of the Hospital staff for \$25. Mr. Frank Milby, the report states, made the purchase on June 17, 1970.

"Mr. Lonnie Moore authorized the sale of the equipment," says the Board's report. "However, in the future, any equipment disposed of will be done so only after approval of the Board of Directors of the Craven County Hospital Corporation."

Is the public to gather from this that it was entirely proper to dispose of equipment in this manner in the past, but that it will be improper to do so in the future? Admitting we're slightly confused, that appears to be in the inference of the Board's findings.

Twenty five dollars doesn't seem to be much to pay for a stove-sink-refrigerator, even if, as the report describes, "the burners of the stove were not operable." Also, the report points out that the stove-sink-refrigerator was surplus property because it would not fit in a Conner Mobile Home purchased for the Rescue Squad.

The report says, "The item was not advertised inasmuch as it was a small item and the cost of advertising would have been almost as much as the sales price of the unit." Since when has a classified ad in a local newspaper required an investment approaching \$25?

As for the six links of pipe that Danny Jackson, a Hospital official, removed from Hospital property for use at the River Bend Golf Course, a development Jackson is interested in, the report has this to say:

"Mr. Jackson exchanged some plywood, which he personally owned and which was of equal or greater value, for the six links of pipe. The plywood was used to build shelves that were needed in the Rescue Squad building. The hospital had no need for the pipe."

If this swapping of material by a Hospital official, on his own terms for his own benefit, was above reproach, why does the Board, in the very same paragraph state: "The use, purchase or exchange of hospital property by an employee, regardless of value shall not be permitted in the future."

There are other aspects of the report that could be touched on, but the aforementioned should suffice. Strangely enough, this editor's mimeographed copy of the report wasn't delivered by the Board that did the investigating but by a courier of Danny Jackson, one of the parties under investigation.

Perhaps we shouldn't be surprised at this rather unorthodox handling of the press release. After all, prior to the day of the release, there were reports that Jackson was saying publicly that the Board and the State Bureau of Investigation had completed their probes and found nothing wrong.

On the night of the Hospital Board's announcement, John Clark Wheeler, with typical eagerness, proclaimed on his Channel 12, WCTI-TV newscast that not only the Hospital Board but the State Bureau of Investigation had concluded delving into the Craven County Hospital matter.

Apparently this was a revelation to the SBI and general public, not to mention at least one member of the press who had been told by the SBI that any announcement would come from Raleigh or the District Solicitor.

The following night, on his newscast, Mr. Wheeler made no retraction of his momentous scoop, and offered no apology for misinforming the public. He did however say, in contradiction of his previous newscast, that the State Bureau of Investigation had NOT concluded its probe.

A reliable source says Mr. Wheeler's boss, the owner of the television station, didn't take too kindly to Wheeler's inaccuracy, when the "scoop" boom-eranged badly.

## Historical Gleanings

—By—  
ELIZABETH MOORE

JOHN COOR PENDAR VS. ARTHUR JONES 1803  
A line dispute in Wayne County, State of North Carolina, from the deposition of Daniel Hedgepath:

In obedience to the annexed commission directed from the Honorable the Superior Court of New Bern District, I have this day Wednesday, August 31, 1803, at the house of Daniel Hedgepath, county aforesaid, present before me Daniel Hedgepath, age 70, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, deposed and saith:

That about 43 years ago he attended a survey of the patent called the ROUNDABOUT, property of GEORGE POLLOCK, for 6000 acres. That GEORGE POLLOCK was present and showed him a white oak at the mouth of LITTLE RIVER, a marked tree as his beginning thence up the river 400 poles to a marked pine on said LITTLE RIVER, which POLLOCK laid his hands on and said was his corner tree, &c, running thence through Theophilus Jones' field to POPLAR BRANCH crossing at about 280 yards above the place now called the mouth of the Branch, to JOHN HOWELL'S field, near his stable. That JOHN MOLTON and deponent were chain bearers, and RICHARD CASWELL, surveyor, That this line then run in very near the line afterwards run by CHRISTOPHER NEALE. Deponent further saith that about the year 1756 he leased a small part of the ROUNDABOUT patent from ROBERT WEST who he understood was guardian for GEORGE POLLOCK, the only son of CULLEN POLLOCK, the patentee. That after holding under the lease from WEST two years, he obtained a new lease from GEORGE POLLOCK for 20 years, and about two years after this new lease, the survey was made. The deponent occupied under this lease about 8 or 10 years when he was forcibly turned off by JOHN SASSER, who had patented that part of the land, GEORGE POLLOCK, having died, and THOMAS POLLOCK, his heir at law, residing in the Northering States. Deponent was not reinstated in his possession. Soon after CHRISTOPHER NEALE was appointed attorney for THOMAS POLLOCK, he commenced suit against SASSER, which became a non suit. Deponent further saith that in April 1793, THOMAS POLLOCK came to the house of JOHN C. PENDAR, when deponent was present. POLLOCK said he came for the purpose of claiming the ROUNDABOUT land but wanted to sell to those in possession on reasonable terms; that deponent and JOHN C. PENDAR accompanied

## Village Verses

### HAPPINESS

Back yonder in the long ago,  
When I was somewhat littler,  
Most anywhere you chanced to look  
You'd spy a happy whittler.  
Relaxed, and sort of comfy like,  
Armed with a Barlow knife,  
He pared off curly shavings  
As he gave his views on life.  
Youngsters in the neighborhood  
Would listen with delight,  
Marveling at the things he carved,  
His blade so sharp and bright.  
Fashioning fancy walking sticks,  
And boats complete with sail,  
And while he whittled he found time  
To tell the tallest tale.  
Conversation would never lag  
When whittlers got together,  
And on those winter evenings  
Or in sultry summer weather  
They whiled away the pleasant hours,  
Praising and belittling,  
Discussing weighty world affairs,  
All the time a whittling.  
Today we do things differently,  
We're in a scrambled age,  
And we choose to be as jumpy  
As a squirrel inside a cage.  
Home ain't where the heart is,  
It's where we hang our hat,  
And home, alas, in times like these  
We're seldom ever at.  
We're folks plumb full of fidgets,  
We try a pace that kills,  
Too doggone much commotion  
Is to blame for all our ills.  
So sometimes I get to wondering  
If it wasn't a better life,  
When folks just sat a whittling  
With a good old Barlow knife.

—JGMcd.

THOMAS POLLOCK to the house of THOMAS COOR who lived on the ROUNDABOUT land. Pollock made his claim and both THOMAS COOR and JOHN COOR PENDAR agreed to purchase title to the land they held. THOMAS POLLOCK then agreed to meet the persons who held lands in his patent at the house of URIAH

BASS which was also on his ROUNDABOUT PATENT, and there fix terms which he would sell to them. A meeting was accordingly held at Bass' in April or May of the same year. De-

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