

Turner Case Mistrial As Jury Splits 10-2

BY VALERIE NICHOLSON
The trial of Henry Webster Turner, 35, of Southern Pines on charges of arson and the first-degree murder of his mother, which started Wednesday in Moore Superior Court at Carthage, ended Saturday in a mistrial, with the jury hung 10 to 2.

Judge William Z. Wood of Winston-Salem, presiding, had asked for the vote count, but without information as to how the jury was leaning, and this was not revealed in Court.

It was learned later, however, that the vote was 10 to 2 for acquittal.

Receiving the case at 3:10 p.m. Friday, the jurors had returned to the courtroom at 5:30 p.m. to report through their foreman, W.L. Baker of Southern Pines, that they "could not agree." They were sent back by the judge to continue to seek a verdict.

Called back at 6:45 and asked how close they were, they gave the count of 10 to 2, whereupon Judge Wood set the unusual Saturday session, to start at 10 a.m. After three and a half hours of deliberation, with a one-hour lunch break, they reported at 2:30 "no progress whatsoever." Judge Wood withdrew a juror and declared a mistrial.

The action ended one of the most dramatic, disturbing and mystifying cases of recent history in the Moore court, presenting many puzzles, no matter how it came out.

Turner, who with his mother, Mrs. Julia McIntosh Turner, 70, managed an art studio and picture-framing shop which she owned, is an artist, popular socially, and a member of the community's young intelligentsia. A number of friends of all ages, from college age on up to greyheads, were on hand during much of the trial, some remaining for the full four day sessions and showing their loyalty for the defendant in many ways.

A young lady whom he had been dating, Miss Olive Jenkins, a distinguished harpist and visiting artist at Sandhills Community College, sat beside him throughout the trial, and testified for the defense. On the other hand, his sister, Mrs. Beth Turner Bowers, well-known portrait painter, sat with the prosecution, and her husband, James R. Bowers, testified against the defendant.

Physicians Meet Here This Week

More than 400 physicians will be in Pinehurst for the 123rd Annual Sessions of the N.C. Medical Society Thursday through Sunday as their wives attend the 54th annual meeting of the Medical Auxiliary.

The President-Elect of the American Medical Association Dr. John H. Budd, and Dr. Jesse B. Caldwell, N.C. Medical Association President, will speak Saturday at 1 p.m. at a President's Luncheon at the Country Club of North Carolina and a reception, dinner and ball will be held in the Cardinal Ballroom of the Pinehurst Hotel that night.

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Dr. John H. Budd

Testifying at the close of the trial as character witnesses for the defendant were Jack Reid, Watts Auman, Mrs. Peggy Benedict, Jim Bowden, Gene Phillips and Glen Rounds. Another friend, David Drexel, had made his \$10,000 bond, which was continued for Turner pending further action of the court.

Dr. Bruton Is Confirmed; Takes State Board Office

Dr. H. David Bruton of Southern Pines was sworn in this (Wednesday) morning at 11:30 o'clock as a member of the State Board of Education.

The oath-taking in the old House Chamber followed confirmation of the appointment by Governor Jim Hunt by unanimous vote at a joint session of the House and Senate of the General Assembly at 2 p.m. on Tuesday.

Dr. Bruton, who is the Governor's choice to become chairman of the Board of Education, will attend his first meeting of the board as a

member on Thursday morning. He is expected to be elected chairman at the June meeting of the board, succeeding Dallas Herring of Rose Hill in that post.

Dr. Herring, who has served as chairman for 20 years, was not reappointed. He resigned recently before serving out his full term and the board elected Lt. Gov. Jimmy Green as interim chairman.

Dr. Bruton spent the remainder of today in Raleigh attending meetings of sub-committees of the board.

Also confirmed by the Legislature on Tuesday were two

other appointed members, Dr. John L. Tart, president of Johnston County Technical Institute, and Dr. Ben H. Battle, director of student teaching and student placement at Western Carolina University. They also took office at the ceremonies in the Governor's office this morning.

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Town Council Award Contracts For Fire Station, Work Center

The Southern Pines Town Council, in an "early bird" meeting held at 8 a.m. Thursday, approved the letting of contracts for construction of a new fire station, public works center and related municipal facilities, totalling \$732,393.

Bids had been opened April 7 and 14 by the architectural firm of Hayes, Howell and Associates, and the engineering firm of

Brown, Edwards and Miller. Representatives of both firms, which had done the preliminary work on the project, were present at the meeting.

The council voted to accept the recommendation of Town Manager Lew G. Brown that the low bids be approved, despite the fact that the total amounted to nearly \$100,000 more than had been anticipated a year ago. The

project had been included in the bond issue approved by the voters last May, at an estimated cost of \$835,000. While the bids on the buildings themselves had been generally in line with the estimates, plumbing and heating costs, paving, storm drainage and sewer had increased more than had been expected, Brown said.

However, the council determined that there were other sources of funds to be tapped, and acted to get the contracts signed, and construction under way, without further delay. Low bids were outlined in the project cost summary as

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Moore Board is Busy With Budget Requests

The Moore County commissioners are getting up to their ears in budgets, and so far have approved only one—an appropriation of \$7,000 as the county's share of the otherwise federally funded Adult Developmental Activities Program.

ADAP, which has been holding its classes for adult mentally and physically handicapped persons at Camp Easter since mid-December, needed its money to help with the move they are making into the old classroom building of the former West End school, now a Community Services Facility.

Other budgets received Monday by the commissioners in regular meeting were those of the Agricultural Extension county office, and the Moore

County Library. They received a presentation of the Moore County Schools' budget last Thursday afternoon, and on Monday set a special meeting for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday (tonight) of this week, at which they will consider budgets of the sheriff's department, recreation department and Economic Development Committee.

The Sandhills Community College budget will be heard Thursday afternoon, following a sitting of the commissioners as a Board of Equalization and Review.

Making the ADAP appeal were Wayne Hyatt, director, and several members of the Citizens Advisory board, including Jim Fort, chairman, Mrs. Cecil Smith, Mrs. Joe Rosy, Stuart

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Crafts Festival Slated At Blue Farm Saturday

Traditional crafts, needlework, art, farm skills and machinery and antiques will be featured Saturday, May 7, at the Malcolm Blue Farm near Aberdeen.

The bi-annual Historic Crafts and Skills Festival is co-sponsored by the Malcolm Blue Historical Society and Malcolm Blue Junior Historians.

It is given to renew enthusiasm for the American heritage. Such a short time ago, in the 1800's, our ancestors were living a self-creating and self-sustaining life. Here at the festival demonstrations of such farm skills as churning butter, milking, kettle boiling of clothes, soap making, candle making, rug making, grinding flour, shingle making, bee keeping will show how each person needed a knowledge of a variety of skills.

Women folk passed the evenings with their needle-work, quilting, caning chair bottoms, using corn stucks and pine straw

for decorative and utilitarian household items. These too will be shown by many Moore County ladies Saturday.

Craftsmen played an important role in the old days of little industrialization. Blacksmiths were vital to the farmers in designing, creating and repairing farm equipment. Carvers were needed to create handles, decoys, bowls, yokes and artistic creations of life likeness birds, animals and people to marvel at. Weavers made the cloth for all clothing, curtains, linens and rugs.

Musical instruments were often hand-crafted for perfection of sound. Furniture makers were vital and often created traditions in design, revealing thoughts and feelings of the time. These and other crafts were needed in the old days and also are to be shown at the festival.

The Junior Historians have done a great deal in preparing

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Democrats Will Meet Thursday

Moore County Democrats will hold their precinct meetings at the various polling places on Thursday, May 5, at 8 p.m.

Chairman J. Ed Causey of the Moore County Democratic Executive Committee said that if a quorum is not present for the organizational meeting Thursday the alternate date for the required session is May 12 at the same time.

The county convention will be held at the courthouse in Carthage on Saturday, June 18, at 2 p.m.

Chairman Causey said the dates for the precinct meetings and other conventions were changed from last winter to the

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THE PILOT LIGHT

DEMOCRATS - Vice President Walter Mondale made a good impression on North Carolina Democrats at the annual Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner in Raleigh on Friday.

Chairman J. Ed Causey of the Moore County Democrats said he found Mondale "very friendly and dynamic." Causey estimated that 3,000 persons turned out for the People's Party held at the State Fairgrounds.

Prior to the reception and dinner at the fairgrounds Mr. and Mrs. Causey were guests of the Governor and Mrs. Hunt at a lawn buffet at the Governor's Mansion. All of the county chairmen were invited and Causey said about three-fourths attended.



TOUR DE MOORE WINNER - Jim Huff, a 29-year-old school teacher from Michigan, coasts across the finish line of the 100-mile Tour de Moore, 10 yards ahead of the pack, to win for the second year in a

row the annual bicycle race here. It was a record number of entries-146 riders-and a record time of 3:57.47.-(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

Tour de Moore Declared Success; Huff Repeats As Bike Race Winner

Sponsors of the second annual Tour de Moore were jubilant this week at the success of Saturday's event, which saw a field of 146 bicycle riders competing but with Jim Huff repeating as champion of the 100-mile race.

It was also a record time for the winner--three hours, 57 minutes and 44 seconds. Last year's time was four hours and 19 minutes.

There were 46 entries last year. Hundreds were on hand for the finish at the Southern Pines

railroad station and there were hundreds others who watched the race along a route which circled Moore County.

It was a satisfying victory for the 29-year-old Huff, a seventh grade social studies teacher from Waterford, Michigan.

He had driven the 800 miles

from Michigan to Southern Pines on Thursday, traveling in a camper with his wife and two children, and he knew at the beginning he was not the favorite in the race. After all, there were two members of the 1976 U.S. Olympic Team and four members in the U.S. National team in

the race, and he said he was not the strongest.

After the race, however, he felt like he was the smartest. "That's one of the neat things about bicycle racing," he said. "It's how you play your cards, not how strong you are that determines who wins."

Huff came in 10 yards in front

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Foxfire Election Held; Beer-Wine Vote Sought

Ralph W. Olmstead has been elected as Mayor of the newly incorporated Village of Foxfire. In the first election of Village officers at which Olmstead was elected, Robert M. Cooper was chosen as mayor pro tem, George Anderson as treasurer, and Katie McWilliams was named Village clerk.

The Village Council will hold its official meetings on the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m., and the public was urged to

attend the meetings.

The residential area of Foxfire was incorporated by special act of the North Carolina General Assembly on April 21.

At a meeting on Monday of this week a Planning Board was appointed, with General Joseph Donovan as director. Other members of the board are Boyd Anderson, Leon Moultrip, Richard Biggins and Ed Dorsett. The Village Council has

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Whispering Pines Tops In Moore County Growth

Whispering Pines has grown from 362 to 800 at a rate of 121 percent, the Department of Administration for North Carolina estimates from 1970-75, and is the tenth fastest growing municipality in the state.

Southern Pines has changed 33.9 percent from 5,937 to 7,950, the Office of State Planning said, and Aberdeen, 31.9 percent from 1,592 to 2,100.

The figures were estimates of the average permanent resident population, and were gathered according to statutes which call

for "reasonably accurate" population estimates.

For the five year period, Moore County grew 9.1 percent for a total 42,600 persons, the report said. The population in 1970 was 39,048.

Vass grew from 885 to 1,000, the report showed, some 13 percent; and Pinebluff, from 570 to 640 was just behind it with 12.3 percent.

Other towns in the county were: Cameron, 204 to 220, 7.8 percent; Carthage, 1,034 to 1,120,

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Family Issue Crucial In Child Abuse Cases

Helping strengthen or restore the family of an abused child is "essential," members of the Moore County Child Abuse and Neglect Committee said Thursday night in discussing a possible therapy program led by Sandhills Mental Health Center personnel.

Such a program could be based on the national "Parents Anonymous" program for adult members of the family, they said.

Parents who are close to abusing their children can call for help in this program. It is an organization of parents who are learning to overcome abusive tendencies. By helping each other, they help themselves.

Dr. Robert Byrd of the Center was asked to lead the effort to provide a program here.

Frank Thigpen, Robbins attorney, was asked to discuss a guardian ad litem service with

other attorneys in the County, as well as with Juvenile Court authorities and Locke Gifford, a Greensboro attorney who began the service in his area. Such a law, now before the legislature, would have a person appointed by juvenile court represent the child. The person would not necessarily be an attorney.

Dr. Richard Ray will find out from the Department of Public Instruction its "model policy" on how to manage a suspected child abuse situation. Then a Moore policy will be worked out. Members of the committee have offered to take part in the school administration and principals' inservice education program this summer.

A Speaker's Bureau and a Traveling Exhibit to inform the public on child abuse and neglect will be set up, after exploring these ideas with the Jaycees.

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Board Choices

The Moore County Republican Party Executive Committee at their May 2 meeting nominated three candidates whose names will be submitted to the State Board of Elections, one of whom will represent the Republican Party on the Moore County Elections Board.

John Womack of Southern Pines, Ken Smith of Whispering Pines, and Jimmy Garner of Robbins were selected in order of preference by the Executive Committee.

A resolution recognizing Coolidge Thompson for his service as Chairman of the Elections Board and Mrs. Janice Batchelor for her service as the other Republican member of the Board was adopted by the Committee.

Dr. Kreps Talks Here On Energy

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Dr. Juanita Kreps told a District Rotary International convention Friday night in Pinehurst that her department underscored President Carter's economists on the need for energy conservation.

"By the year 2000, unless something drastic is done, at least two-thirds of our oil supplies for the country will have to be imported," she said.

"Eliminating waste in every segment of our population" will cause a significant result in

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Dr. Juanita M. Kreps