

# Switching Price Tags Considered Shoplifting

When you think of shoplifters, you sometimes envision the "casual pilferers" who take an item here and an item there just for the thrill of it.

You may also envision the real professionals who go after the large, expensive items.

These professionals have the "bulky pockets, voluminous coats, and false-bottomed caroms" by which they take off their haul.

Other professionals are the "bloomer and trouser artists" who wear billowing bloomers beneath a flowing skirt or stuffed trousers under a topcoat.

North Carolina's shoplifting law clearly applies to either the casual pilferer or the professional, but it doesn't stop there.

The General Assembly has included another type of shoplifting as a result of a 1973 amendment.

Suppose a person comes into a store and finds the particular item that he wants to buy. The price tag is \$5.99.

As he is about to pick it up, he notices that the item right next to

## Law For Laypersons

it, something entirely different, is priced at \$2.99. He then quickly switches the labels so that the item he now is going to buy is priced at \$2.99 rather than \$5.99 as it should be.

He takes it to the checkout counter and pays \$2.99 according to the switched label.

Although he has not shoplifted in the usual sense, this person has obviously done something wrong; he has in effect stolen \$3 from the merchant who received \$3 less for the item than he had asked.

The North Carolina provision which covers shoplifters now provides a section that will adequately cover this new type of crime.

Section 14-72.1(d) provides that anyone who, without authority, willfully transfers any price tags on goods to other goods having a higher selling price, or marks the goods at a lower price, or substitutes or superimposes on them a false price tag, and then presents the goods for purchase

shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Upon conviction, this person may be punished by a fine of not more than \$100, or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or by both fine and imprisonment.

Suppose you happen to pick up something on which the price tag has already been changed.

The person at the cash register realizes that the price is wrong and should be higher. Can the merchant have you convicted under this statute merely because you have in your hands something on which the price tag has been changed?

The North Carolina General Statutes expressly provides that the mere possession of goods or the production by shoppers of improperly priced merchandise for checkout shall not of itself present a good case of guilt.

A merchant is going to have to go further and show that you willfully transferred the price tag or changed the price without anyone's authority before you can be convicted.

## Sunday School Lesson

Background Scripture: Exodus 33:15, 16; Luke 1:1-4; 24:36-53; Acts 1.  
Devotional Reading: Exodus 17:1-7.

Jesus gave his disciples some hard commands during his ministry, but perhaps the hardest command of all was the one he gave during his resurrection appearances: "...he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father" (Acts 1:4).

The last thing the disciples must have wanted to do was to "wait"! Spiritually and emotionally, they were all "charged up." The horrible defeat at Calvary had been turned to an overwhelming victory. Jesus had been vindicated. The kingdom of God was not lost, as they had feared. In those circumstances, feeling as they did, they probably wanted to do something-something that was appropriate to the wonderful thing that had happened when Jesus rose from his tomb.

Jesus' instructions to "wait for

the promise of the Father" must have troubled them, particularly impulsive Peter who never seemed happy unless he was making something happen. Not easily put off, the disciples pressed Jesus for something specific: "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" Waiting might not be quite so hard for them if they could pin Jesus down to a specific date. His reply was hardly what they had wanted: "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority." Yet, although he would not give them dates, he did leave them with an important promise: "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses on Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

Acts 1 lifts up for us two of the most difficult aspects of being a follower of Jesus Christ: waiting and living by God's promise. Waiting is difficult because we fail to realize that our own concept of time is different from that of God. As we see things, we believe NOW

and no later is the moment when we want something to happen.

I've been waiting for something very specific to happen in a portion of my life for the past 25 years. That's almost half my lifetime and it seems a long, long time to wait for God to answer my prayer. Yet, I realize that, in God's sight, the time may not be right. That is not a rationalization to get God "off the hook," but an acceptance of the limitations of my human time-space perspective. I have been wrong many times in the past about what was the "right time" for God to do this or that.

So I am left with two alternatives. One is to conclude that my waiting has been in vain and that the longed-for blessing from God will never come. The other is to live by the promise of his grace - hard as that may be - until the promise is fulfilled. I have found time and again in the past that one must learn to live on the promises of God and not let go of the conviction that in His time they will be fulfilled.

## Soft Lenses Aren't For Everyone

by Beth Parsons  
Duke University Medical Center

If you wear glasses or contact lenses and like to keep up with new products, you've probably heard about extended-wear soft contact lenses that can be worn up to two weeks without removing.

They could be just right for you, but before you rush out to buy a pair, there are some points to consider.

Richard C. Hamilton, contact lens technologist and director of the contact lens service at the Duke Eye Center, says extended wear soft contact lenses have been shown in clinical investigations to cause problems in cataract patients.

"We have had problems with a lack of oxygen (hypoxia) on the cornea and a pH imbalance in the eye," he said. "Extended-wear soft lenses can also cause corneal erosion and lead to infections because of their higher water content. The lenses tear easily if improperly handled and can collect build-up that adheres to the lens and can't be cleaned off."

Because of these complications

## Health Hints

and the fact that some lens wearers simply can't wear soft lenses, Hamilton said he seldom suggests them to cosmetic patients - those who can wear glasses but prefer the look of contact lenses.

"Extended-wear soft lenses are not a panacea," the optician said. "But for some patients, they are an invaluable tool."

Hamilton said many contact lens wearers who have worn the same pair of hard lenses for as long as 10 years begin having problems and think the answer is the new soft lens. He called the condition "10-year syndrome," common to many hard contact lens wearers who begin to complain of "greasy" lenses that feel uncomfortable.

"It's actually the eye's loss of tolerance for the hard lens and it's usually caused by overwear," he said.

Many people wear their lenses longer than recommended because they can't see through their glasses after removing their lenses. That is called "spec blur."

The blur is caused by corneal molding, a change in the shape and contour of the cornea caused by the contact lens.

Though the wearer may experience no pain, the cornea may take two months or longer to return to its original shape. Sometimes the cornea is permanently reshaped.

Though the daily-wear soft lenses are often more comfortable than hard lenses, they are less durable, more open to bacteria, harder to care for and may not offer as acute vision as hard lenses for some people, Hamilton said.

The key to wearing any contact lens is proper fit and determination to follow the rules, he said.

Daily-wear soft lenses and hard lenses should not be worn more than 12 hours without a break.

Extended-wear soft lenses should be worn only according to a practitioner's instructions.

If the change from contact lenses to a pair of glasses with a matching prescription causes poor eyesight, or if the lenses become painful to wear, the person should see an optician promptly.

## 1982 Forest Fires Burned Almost 700 Acres Here

Fire...warm and cheery in the fireplace or stove; awesome and destructive when running wild in a forest.

Despite the warnings of firefighters, rangers, foresters and even Smokey the Bear, thousands of acres of forestland in North Carolina are consumed by fire each year.

Some of the biggest and most destructive forest fires occur in the spring.

In 1982, there were 70 fires in Hoke County, which burned 695 acres of forest.

This compares with 3,695 forest fires statewide and almost 80,000 acres of forest, brush and marsh land.

"Every time we lose trees in

North Carolina, we lose dollars," said H.J. "Boe" Green, director of the Forest Resources Division in the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.

"Last year, damage to commercial forest lands alone amounted to over \$24 million. It's a productive natural resource we can't afford to lose," he said.

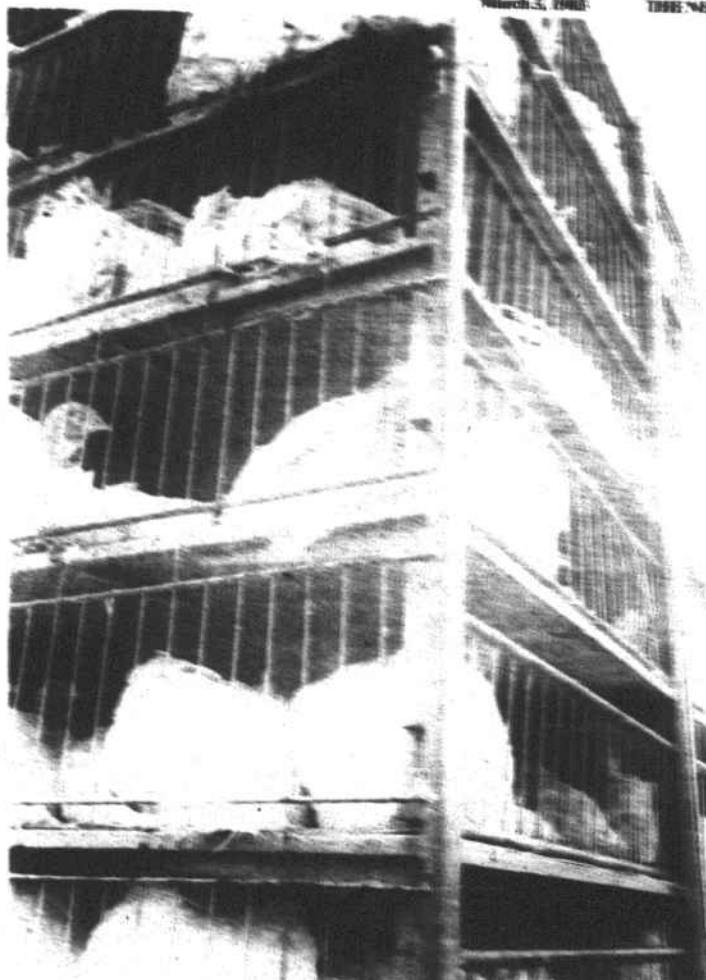
While forest fires can occur at almost any time, in any month, the most devastating are on dry, windy days, generally in the spring.

Green explained that during the winter, there is no shade on the forest floor. The bright sunny days and strong winds combine to take moisture out of dead vegetation and brush. As the weather warms, people become more active out-

side. And it is people who start the fires.

The leading cause of forest fires, according to Green, is careless debris burning. This includes burning trash and brush piles, field burning, and burning in trash barrels. Over 42 percent of last year's forest fires were caused by careless debris burning.

The second major cause of forest fires is incendiarism...the deliberate burning of someone else's woodland. Often called woods arson, this crime accounted for 22 percent of the forest fires in North Carolina in 1982. The 1981 General Assembly stiffened the penalties for this crime. Those found guilty of incendiarism can now be sentenced up to ten years in prison, fined up to \$5,000, or both.



**HIGH RISE FOR TURKEYS** - These turkeys appear to be sitting in the lap of luxury in a high rise turkey pen but little do they know that this new style of life will be short lived for they are on their way to the chopping block.



**ADOPTABLE PET** - This male Samoyed is between two and three years old and is a friendly animal who needs a home. Anyone interested should contact Mr. Hales at the Hoke County Health Department.



**HOME NEEDED:** This part collie dog is eight to nine months old and a male. According to Hales the dog is friendly and lovable.

## 4-H's Hold Successful District Retreat

The Southeastern 4-H District Retreat, held recently in Whiteville, was a most successful experience for many local 4-H'ers and Adult Volunteers.

Very informative workshops were conducted including: A Safety Hunt, Self Defense, Home Safety, Foods Safety, First Aid, and Automotive Safety.

The weekend's entertainment included Bobby McMillon, visiting artist in folklore, from Southeastern Community College. A Disco Dance, and campaign speeches by candidates currently running for District Office.

Attending from Hoke County were: Sandy Lupo, Leah Hendrix, Ronda Tatum, and Sharon McNeill (4-H'ers), and Janet Hendrix, Juanita Holland and Joy McNeill (adult volunteers).

We congratulate Columbus County 4-H Agents, Southeastern District 4-H Officers and Advisors, and the many people who assisted them in making this one of the best Senior 4-H Retreats in several years.

Also the manager and staff of Holiday Motel in Whiteville, for their gracious hospitality, and to the Whiteville School System for the use of their facilities.

**SMALLER FAMILIES.** U.S. families are growing smaller. The 1980 census revealed that the average number of persons in a household is now 2.75, as compared with 3.11 in 1970.

## David Allen Accepted In Master's Program

Raeford native David R. Allen has been accepted for enrollment in the University of Miami's Public Administration Masters Program for the Summer semester of 1983.

Allen, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie H. Allen of Palmer Drive, is a 1978 graduate of Hoke County High School in Raeford and a 1982 graduate of Pembroke State University, majoring in Political Science.

He is currently serving in the United States Coast Guard assigned to the Seventh District Office in Miami, Florida.

## LEGALS

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION BEFORE THE CLERK FILE NO. 83 SP 4

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF HOKE

**NOTICE OF FIRST RESALE**  
IN THE MATTER OF THE SALE OF LAND OF WILLIAM H. GILL and wife, BETTY H. GILL, UNDER FORECLOSURE OF DEED OF TRUST TO WILLIAM L. MOSES, TRUSTEE, RECORDED IN BOOK 217, PAGE 098, HOKE COUNTY REGISTRY.

WHEREAS, the undersigned, acting as Trustee in a certain Deed of Trust executed by William H. Gill and wife, Betty H. Gill, and recorded in Book 217, at Page 098 in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Hoke County, foreclosed and offered for sale the land hereinafter described; and whereas within the time allowed by law, an advanced bid was filed with the Clerk of Superior Court and an order issued directing the Trustee to resell said land upon an opening bid of Sixty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Seventy and no/100 Dollars (\$67,570.00).

NOW, THEREFORE, under and by virtue of said order of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Hoke County, and the power of sale contained in said Deed of Trust, the undersigned Trustee will offer for sale upon said opening bid at public auction to the highest bidder for cash at the door of the County Courthouse in Raeford, Hoke County, North Carolina, at 12:00 o'clock Noon on the 17th day of March, 1983, the following described property located in the City of Raeford, Hoke County, North Carolina, and being described as follows:

**TRACT I: BEGINNING** at an iron stake where the southern margin of Prospect Avenue intersects with the eastern margin of Weaver Street and running thence S 88-00 E 193 feet to a stake; thence S 2-00 W 107.5 feet to a stake; thence N 88-00 W 193 feet to an iron stake in the eastern margin of said Weaver Street; thence N 2-00 E 107.5 feet along the margin of Weaver Street to the beginning point.

This being a portion of that property conveyed by Deeds recorded in Book 118, Page 161, Book 87, Page 329 and Book 106, Page 306, Hoke County Registry.

## LEGALS

**TRACT II: LYING AND BEING** in Raeford Township, Hoke County, North Carolina, and BEGINNING at the northeast corner of Edwood Avenue (called in deed from J.W. McLaughlin, dated March 6, 1980, Portland Avenue) and Highland Street at their crossing and run with the east edge of Highland Street North 4 chains and 20 links to Blackfish Avenue. Then East with the south edge of Blackfish Avenue 2 chains and 38 links to a stake. Then South 4 chains and 20 links to a stake in the north edge of Edwood Avenue. Then West with Edwood Avenue 2 chains and 38 links to the BEGINNING, containing one acre, more or less.

This sale will be made subject to all outstanding taxes, if any, and prior liens of record, if any.

This sale will also be made subject to rights of the United States Government to redeem the property according to the Federal Tax Lien laws.

**CASH DEPOSIT:** Five percent (5%) of the amount of the highest bid must be deposited with the Trustee pending confirmation of the sale.

This, the 28th day of February, 1983.

William H. Moses, Trustee  
Post Office Drawer 688  
Raeford, North Carolina 28376  
Telephone: (919) 875-2137

## NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain deed of trust by Larry C. McQueen and wife, Sylvia H. McQueen to James W. Long and R. Palmer Willson, Trustees, dated the 30th day of June, 1977, and recorded in Book 194, Page 328, Hoke County Registry, North Carolina, default having been made in the payment of the note thereby secured by the said deed of trust, and the undersigned, J. William Anderson, having been substituted as Trustee in said deed of trust by an instrument duly recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Hoke County, North Carolina and the holder of the note evidencing said indebtedness having directed that the deed of trust be foreclosed, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at the Courthouse Door, in the City of Raeford, Hoke County, North Carolina at eleven (11:00) o'clock, on Friday the 18th day of March, 1983, and will sell to the highest bidder for cash the following real estate, situate in Raeford Township, of Hoke County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows:

**BEING** all of Lot No. Thirty (30) of a subdivision entitled PROPERTY OF MRS. CHRISTIANA Mc LAUGHLIN, as prepared by G.S. Harrell, S.R., on October 22, 1942, as recorded in Map Book 2, Page 245, Hoke County, North Carolina Registry. Said property being located at 322 St. Pauls Drive, Raeford, N.C. 28376. (Present record owners are Cleveland J. Patterson and wife, Catherine Patterson)

This sale is made subject to all taxes and prior liens or encumbrances of record against the said property, and any recorded releases.

A cash deposit of ten per cent (10%) of the purchase price will be required at the time of the sale.

This 25th day of February, 1983.

J. WILLIAM ANDERSON, Sub. Trustee  
FAIRCLOTH ANDERSON, KIRKMAN & TAYLOR ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
400 WACHOVIA BUILDING  
225 GREEN STREET  
P.O. BOX 1883  
FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA 28302-1883  
(419) 483-1491

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION 83-E-12

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA HOKO COUNTY

## EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of Amanda Elizabeth Ammons of Hoke County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said Amanda Elizabeth Ammons to present them to the undersigned within 6 months from date of the publication of this notice or same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.

This the 3rd, day of February, 1983.

Rev. Ties Denson  
504 W. 6th Ave.  
Raeford, N.C. 28376  
46-67C