



Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

PROGRESS SENTINEL

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State Audits Duplin Clerk Of Court Office

A state audit of the Duplin County Clerk of Courts office, covering the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, cites several deficiencies in supervision of court cases and improper accounting, which brought the following statement from John A. Johnson, Clerk:

"Basically, the audit speaks of deficiencies of practices and procedures in bookkeeping. There is no question in this audit with reference to money, as being short or over. The exception to this is the \$274.03 in a safety deposit box, which was placed there at the direction of the administrative office of the court. I do not feel that this money belongs to the present Clerk of Courts, and feel a judicial order would be required to dispose of that money."

"I wish to extend an open invitation for anyone and everyone to visit the Clerk's office and examine our records and/or our system at any time. I'm here to serve the people, and welcome any visit or suggestion to help me provide a better service to the people of Duplin County."

The audit includes disagreement over procedure between auditors and Clerk's office personnel, and states some previous criticisms of the office were ignored. The auditor's report listed five criticisms from the preceding audit has not been acted upon by the Clerk's office. Also seven deficiencies were observed in the procedures for the current auditing period. The auditors criticized missing files and skipped file numbers, and said the same file numbers were used for two different cases. They noted additionally, auditors said they were "unable to locate three civil files and two criminal files. One file was in the office of a local attorney."

One missing file contained a guilty verdict with prayer for judgment continued for speeding 65 mph in a 55 mph zone. The other missing criminal file was a conviction for possession of marijuana, with the defendant placed on probation. The auditors also found no action had been taken on default judgments against bail bondsmen as recommended in the preceding audit. The report also showed civil judgments were not always entered against indigent dependents as required, finding that of eight cases examined, judgments were entered in only four. The seven claimed deficiencies by the 1975-76 fiscal year audit included:

- Non-receipting of \$274.03 in the clerk's safe deposit box on Dec. 20, some of which had accumulated since 1924 by the preceding clerk.
- Too many employees allowed to receipt funds. Auditors recommended reducing the number and establishing separate receipt books and change funds.
- Lack of sufficient information on receipt books.
- Magistrates' daily logs were not being maintained on current basis, and date of receipts not being broken down properly.

- The main cashier was not summarizing amounts on receipts issued to magistrates. This summarization was recommended to insure collections have been properly audited.
- Partial payments. The audit claimed case file copies of partial payment receipts were thrown away, case files in which partial payment had been granted filed with closed, no procedure to provide bookkeeper with information on costs, and no procedure for follow-up on collection of partial payments. Improving filing and keeping partial payment case files open until full disposition was recommended as well as periodic review for necessary steps to make collections.

- Other subsidiary accounts. Proper accounts should be set up for judgments and for commissions for administration and investment of trust funds.

Youth Killed In Accident

A seven-year-old boy was killed near Chinquapin Friday afternoon when he ran in front of a car on Highway 50. Larry Reed Brown, of Route 1, Chinquapin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Brown, was killed when he ran in front of a car driven by Linda P. Aycock, also of Chinquapin. The accident occurred around 4:20 p.m. Brown was pronounced dead on arrival at Duplin General Hospital. Ms. Aycock was also taken to Duplin General and treated for shock. Investigating Highway Patrol Officer D. W. Faircloth classified the accident as "inavoidable."

Annual Stockholders Meeting

Around 1,000 members attended a joint stockholders' meeting of Coastal Production Credit Association and Federal Land Bank Association of Clinton Friday, March 11, 1977, at Kenas Memorial Auditorium in Kenansville. The meeting was called to order by "Slim Short", master of ceremonies, who welcomed the members and guests of the two cooperatives. Invocation was given by Garland E. King, former President of CPCA. John A. Smith, President of FLBA, and Roy Houston, President of CPCA, introduced their directors and employees respectively. Albert Cox of New Hanover and J. Ralph Britt of Duplin County, were re-elected to 3-year terms on the board of CPCA.

Tom Morgan, Assistant Vice President, Field, Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, expressed a special welcome to the stockholders of each organization in attendance. The FICB is the source where CPCA and FLBA gets its money to lend their stockholders. Separate business sessions were held by CPCA and FLBA. During the CPCA business meeting, Roy Houston, President, presented the annual report of income and expenses. Houston also stated the CPCA net worth for 1977 was \$6,598,666 and repaid to its borrowers in excess of \$421,000, which was the largest return of any PCA in a four-state area. Also CPCA stockholders paid a net rate of 7.33% interest.

which was 3rd lowest in North Carolina. Houston concluded by telling his stockholders that CPCA is in real sound financial condition as of 1977. Upon completion of the business session, special entertainment was provided by the "Sweet Adelines" of Raleigh. Following this was a drawing for \$1,400 in gifts given to lucky FLBA and CPCA stockholders in attendance, plus 20 country hams as door prizes. CPCA stockholders winning \$100 are as follows: Tom Smith, Pink Hill; Wm. Edrow Hall, Beulaville; Melvin T. Rouse, Seven Springs; Gregory Mobley, Wallace; Terry Hatcher, Chinquapin; Thomas Earl Quinn, Magnolia; and David W. Rouse, Rose Hill.

Quinn Co. To Expand

Quinn Company of Warsaw announced Tuesday their plans for major expansion of their warehouse and freezer space from 2,000,000 cubic feet to 5,200,000 — almost double the present size. The announcement was made at a luncheon sponsored by the Duplin Development Commission.

Construction of the addition is to begin April 1st. Miller Builders of Wilmington is the contractor. Joe Rusher, Executive Director of the Duplin Development Commission, reviewed the plans of Quinn Company, beginning in the early 1930's as a small retail store in Kenansville. It was owned and operated by the late T. R. Quinn, father of Milford, L.J. and Gerald, the present owners and managers of the Quinn Company. The actual wholesaling of groceries began in 1936 from a small packhouse. In 1943, Milford Quinn took over management of the business and moved it to Warsaw in order for the company to be near the railroad for faster and better delivery of merchandise for distribution to stores. For 4 years the company operated from a small building on Train Street. It was during this period that the company, under Milford's leadership, began its tremendous growth which led to the purchase of the present site on Highway 117. A 12,000 square foot building was erected and in January, 1947, the company began operating at its present location.

In October, 1954, Hurricane Hazel visited Quinn Company and decided the 12,000 square foot building was not large enough for this growing company, so it politely scattered the building to the four winds of the earth. "I don't want to see this as the end of a company, but rather as a new beginning for a better and greater company. Consequently, a new 16,000 square foot building was constructed. (Continued to Page 5)

Wider work aisles will allow for more automation and better productivity. In addition, the additional space will allow Quinn buyers to buy merchandise on which manufacturers are offering rebates in such quantity or for longer periods of time. These rebates are passed on to the store operators who in turn pass them on to their customers. The effect of these rebate buys mean lower prices to the consumer who shops at a store supplied by Quinn Company. In addition, items can be stockpiled prior to price advances. For example, the news is that coffee is now priced by the manufacturer at \$4.18 a lb. Quinn Company, due to consumer buying, is about a dollar a pound under this price. Gerald Quinn, Vice President of Operations of the company, said the warehouse would use the racking system and would be built 26 feet high for storage. A new rail system will be installed in the present warehouse. Five box cars will be used in the new addition, with 7 cars outside. There will be a total of 42 doors for shipping and receiving. The total length of the Quinn Company will be 1,126 feet.



NEW ADDITION TO QUINN COMPANY - A new warehouse and freezer space 300x300 totaling 90,000 square feet will begin construction in the next two weeks at Quinn Company in Warsaw.

The Quinn brothers presented the plans at a luncheon Tuesday. Shown above are, left to right, Gerald Quinn, I. J. Quinn and Milford Quinn with the drawing of the proposed building.

Wilkins Honored

County Agricultural Extension Agent, was honored in Raleigh Monday, March 14th, for 30 years of service with the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service. Wilkins was presented a plaque and a tie pin by Dr. George Hyatt, Jr., Extension Service Director. The presentation was made during the annual conference of the Extension Service at McKimmon Extension Education Center on the North Carolina State University campus. His entire career devoted to Extension Education in Duplin, Wilkins joined the staff in 1948 following military service.

Pedestrian Killed In Hit & Run Accident

A migrant farm worker was killed around 7 o'clock Saturday night when he was struck by a hit-and-run vehicle on Highway 403, two miles west of Faison. The victim, Sam Flantory, was a worker at a Duplin County labor camp. He was dead on arrival of the Faison Rescue Service. According to Highway Patrol reports, Flantory was apparently

killed instantly when he was struck by a car passing another car. According to eyewitnesses of the second vehicle, the victim was crawling in the road. The occupants of the car were unable to give a detailed description of the car. The address and age of the victim are unknown.

ly killed instantly when he was struck by a car passing another car. According to eyewitnesses of the second vehicle, the victim was crawling in the road. The occupants of the car were unable to give a detailed description of the car. The address and age of the victim are unknown.

Son Of A Gun

By Joe Lanier

Brother Charged In Murder Case

James David Carlton, 60, black male, was shot and killed Monday afternoon, ten miles southwest of Warsaw on RPR 1114 near Carlton's Chapel. Carlton's brother, Benjamin, 57, has been charged with the murder and is in Duplin County jail without privilege of bond. According to official reports, the shooting took place on the porch of the Benjamin Carlton home on Route 1, Warsaw.

Carlton was shot in the back of the head with a .22 rifle, which had a carved pistol stock. The dead man's son reported the shooting to Warsaw Chief of Police R. P. Wood. Chief Wood said Carlton came to the Police Station and said his uncle had shot his daddy. Duplin County Coroner Dr. C. L. Quinn pronounced Carlton dead at the scene.

Water, water, everywhere and not a drop to drink . . . This seems to be the outlook for Duplin County and many other counties in the not-too-distant future, according to many health officials. Much of the water being pumped into homes in rural areas would not pass inspection as being fit for human consumption. Though it probably will not kill those drinking it, it does cause sickness and ill health. The Duplin County Planning Board, under the leadership of Bill Rand, is, and has been, looking into a county-wide water system, and has come up with some preliminary figures. The system if implemented following much more study, would be financed through the sale of bonds to FHA. The bonds would be authorized by the county, but repaid by the users of the water system. Thus, no tax monies would be used. Those on the water system would repay the loan, the upkeep and administrative cost. Projected rates at this time are in the neighborhood of \$8 per month, which is reasonable.

Just one fellow's opinion, though . . . mine. I personally think it is a good idea. Those who live where treated water is not available do have problems with rust and other impurities, and if those people want to install a water system and pay for it themselves, using no tax monies, as everyone would not benefit, then more power to them. . . . And if it takes approval of the County Commissioners, I think they should approve. If a small county like Jones County can do it without using tax monies, I am sure Duplin County can also supply those, where possible, with water. (Continued to Page 5)

Duplin Schools Ask For Increase In Budget

The Duplin County school system requested a budget of \$12.1 million at the Duplin Board of Education meeting last week. The request totals \$4.4 million more than the current budget of around \$8 million. Charles Yelverton, Superintendent of Duplin County Schools, presented the preliminary budget to the Board. The final plans of the budget will be presented at the April meeting for reviewing. The Board also decided to request bids from all banks in the county on services for the Board's certificates of deposit. Rather than placing large sums in checking accounts, the Board placed funds in certificates of deposit which draw interest at varying rates, according to the length of time the money re-

mains on deposit. The Board, at the request of L. B. Stevens, Assistant Superintendent, and Director of Occupational Education, approved the purchase of 12,000 cedar and pine seedlings for \$185. The seedlings will be planted by students and faculty, and will be placed to provide windbreaks. The Board also received word from the State Superintendent's office the Charity School will not have to make up the day it lost due to cold weather when the heating system was unable to meet the heating demand. The 12-classroom and auditorium addition to the East Duplin High School should be ready for its final inspection in early April. When completed, the 1,000-seat auditorium will be the only high school auditorium in the county.

Last week, members of the Planning Board, along with Richard Woodcock and Jim Rusher, met with the Board of County Commissioners to advise the Commissioners of their findings thus far, and find if they wanted the Planning Board to continue, and advising the Board of the need of a bond referendum in the future. The Commissioners passed a motion asking the Planning Board to continue with its work on the project. They did not, however, mention the bond referendum. . . . Thus, I asked the Commissioners if they would approve a bond referendum if the study proved workable and a sufficient number of people signed up for the system to make it financially feasible. Chairman Hoffer said he would

Shrubbery Sale

The Kenansville Beautification Committee will sponsor their annual shrubbery sale Friday 25th and Saturday, March 26th in the parking lot beside Jackson's IGA. Azaleas, camellias, sasanquas, gardenias and assorted hollies will be for sale. Cabbage and tomato plants will also be available. Support your Beautification Committee. Buy shrubbery Friday from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.