

Jones Journal

"A BETTER COUNTY THROUGH IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES"

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Commissioners Hear 11 Pleas For Tax Value Cuts; More Expected

Only eleven persons showed up at the property valuation equalization meeting of the Jones County Commissioners last week, but more are expected to be on hand at the Trenton Courthouse to seek relief today (Wednesday) when the body is reconvened for a final session. During the past week a good number of citizens have been around to inquire what they can do to get whittled down what they consider a too-high valuation on their taxable property.

Only one adjustment was made at the first meeting, according to County Attorney George Hughes and Register of Deeds George Noble, and that on 4,500 acres of the N. C. Pulp Company. The company pleaded that the per acre valuation jump from \$2.90 in 1948 to \$19.41 this year was a little steep, and got a compromise valuation of nine dollars per acre. That cut this year's tax valuation from \$88,360 to \$40,500.

Earl E. Bell was one of those who appeared, to plead for a reduction on 708 acres of land which, he said, "just held the world together." Others appearing before the board of commissioners last week, and most going away satisfied, were Mollie Brock, Zora G. Koonce, E. J. Pollock, Henry D. Gray, C. A. Davenport, Carl Tyndall, Claude H. Banks, S. C. Taylor, and R. L. Rowland.

The installation ceremony for the officers for the new year of Volume 489 of the Society of Forty-and-Eight of the American Legion will be held at the Trenton Courthouse at 7:30 p. m. Thursday. The volume's new Chef-de-Gare will be W. C. Flowers, Sr., of Trenton, who succeeds Alpheus Godley of New Bern. To continue as Correspondant of the unit is T. Gate

THREE DAY MANHUNT FLUSHES ROADGANG FUGITIVE IN JONES

Most excitement in Jones County in the past week stemmed from the three-day manhunt for Lester Johnson, 21-year-old Negro who fled from a prison work gang at the outskirts of Trenton on Tuesday morning. The concentration of 18 State Highway Patrolmen, Jones County Sheriff Jeter Taylor and deputies and Prison Department officers brought the escaped convict's capture one mile from Hargett's Store on Friday morning.

The scouring of the swamps pocosins by the manhunters with bloodhounds was hampered by heavy rains throughout the period. Johnson was seen during the chase, on Wednesday morning, by Patrol Corporal Ike Johnson of Jacksonville and Patrolman Bill Clagon of Trenton, but the downpouring rain prevented bloodhounds from tracking the elusifugitive.

The capture was made when the man-hunting dogs picked up Johnson's track near Hargett's Store and drove him out to the highway on the gunpoints of Corporal Johnson, Patrolman Alvin Cox of Jacksonville and Patrolman R. H. Nutt of Richlands. The convict is serving a five year sentence for forgery in

Jones County and Johnson covered about 18 airline miles in his dodging flight, and reported that the prisoner, almost at honor grade, stated he "jumped" because he had not heard from his home in Lumberton lately.

Matthews, Special guest and speaker at the meeting and chicken supper will be R. C. Godwin of New Bern, chef-de-gare of the state department.

CONTOUR PLANTING SAVES THIN TOPSOIL



As much as a quarter-inch of the few inches of life-giving topsoil of this section was drained away in the gully-washing rains of the past week on some farms. But such was not the case on the land tended by William "Buck" Trip on the Carey farm north of Kinston, shown in this aerial photo. Trip built 2,500 feet of terraces in the spring of 1949 on recommendation of Soil Conservation

Service technicians. It was found that erosion had taken 25 to 50 per cent of the priceless topsoil from the fields. Cultivation and harvesting of this contour planted tobacco is no more difficult than straight row planting, Trip says, but he has irreplaceable topsoil this year which otherwise would have washed into the ditches. (Whitaker-Leffew Photo, courtesy Carolina Aircraft Corp.)

Saturday Is Decision Day Flue-Cured Tobacco Controls; Big Vote Is Urged

TWO UNDERGOING TREATMENT

Dr. R. J. Jones, health officer for Jones and Lenoir Counties, is giving treatment to Sam Murray, a tenant on Lee Mills farm, and Horace Gates of Dover, acute two, after their being bitten by rabid dogs recently.

Heads of both the dogs have been sent Raleigh and the diagnosis of rabies was confirmed there.

Saturday the men and women who produce tobacco in the United States will go to the polls and decide whether or not acreage controls will be retained and whether or not Tobacco Associates, Incorporated, will be continued. Voters can vote for the end of controls, for controls for one year, or for continuation of controls for three more years. The same alternatives are true with regards Tobacco Associates.

Farm leaders in this part of the country are urging a strong vote in favor of retention of the controls for the full three year period and evidence points to an overwhelming vote for just that. The leaders want a full vote out as well as a big majority for controls since they want a big participation to show that the tobacco farmer is taking an active interest in his economic well being and not accepting controls from a negative point of view.

In Lenoir and Jones counties, meetings have been held in which organizations were set up aimed toward getting the maximum vote out in favor of the controls. Committees for each township in the two counties have been active for the past two weeks and these two counties bid fair to have a big proportion of their eligible voters out and voting in favor of the two propositions included in the referendum.

Questions on who is eligible to vote have arisen and it has been pointed out by farm officials that any person who shares in the flue-cured tobacco crop this year (1949), either as owner, operator, sharecropper or tenant is entitled to vote. In the case of a husband and wife engaged in the production of tobacco as joint owners of a farm, each is eligible to vote. The same is true in the case of husband and wife or father and son who are engaged in production of tobacco as joint tenants. The husband and wife or father and son, as the case may be, are both eligible to vote. The polls will be open from 7

in the morning until 8 in the evening.

In Jones County, the polling places are: Cypress Creek Township in Comfort, Puckahoe Township at Blizzard's store, Chinquapin Township at Killingsworth's store, Beaver Creek Township at Sasser's Mill, Pollockville Township at Armstrong's store, and White Oak Township at Pelletier and Week's store.

In Lenoir County the polling places are: Contentnea Township at D. W. Hamilton's store, Falling Creek Township at Roland Dawson's store.

Institute Township at L. D. Hardy's store, Moseley Hall Township at W. G. Britt's office, Neuse Township at Kirby Loftin store on Richlands' highway, Pink Hill Township at Leslie Tyndall's store on Richlands' highway and at Bill Byrd's store, Sand Hill Township at J. L. Kilpatrick's store, Southwest Township at Southwood Grange hall, Trent No. 1 Township at Lloyd Heath's store, Trent No. 2 at Braxton Newman's store, Vance Township at Harry Waller's store, and Kinston Township at Agriculture Building.

RUDOLPH PELLETIER TAKES OFFICE AS ROTARY PRESIDENT

The new Maysville Rotary Club officers, who were elected about two months ago, have just taken office. The new officers are as follows: President, Rudolph Pelletier; vice-president, Tommy Foscoe; secretary, Starling Pelletier; treasurer, Nolan Mattocks; directors, Walter Byrd and L. S. Meiggs; commission chairmen—vocations, Robert L. Mattocks; community service, Dr. J. Clave Bell; club service, Tommy Foscoe; and international service, Rev. J. D. Stott.

PICTURESQUE MILL SITE AT TRENTON



The beginning of grain milling at Brock's Mill at Trenton is lost in the blue-dimmed mist of memory, but its natural beauty among the moss-draped cypress trees haunts many passers-by for a second look. The mill passed from the Brocken family to the Brock family about the turn of the century, and in 1948 and 1949 it was rebuilt by

the rebuilding the Brock family found three foundations of older mills to indicate that the mill site was as old as the settlement of the white men in Jones County. The new mill now produces 4,000 pounds of meal per day for the section, with a top capacity of much more. (Whitaker-Leffew Photo)