

First Narrative Data On Jones Health Dept. Are Filed By Office

The Jones County Health Department opened for service to the citizens of Jones County, March 1, 1949 for the first time. This was made possible through the efforts of George Hughes, local attorney, and several other interested citizens. Conferences were had with the State Board of Health officials and a budget was prepared by that agency. Valuable guidance was sought and received from Dr. Paul Whitaker of Kinston, who played an integral part in the formation of this new unit of Public Health.

It was apparent from the very beginning that Jones County could not have a self-sustaining Health Department, so it was necessary to try to link or associate it in some way with a neighboring County whereby the services of a Health Officer could be procured. So the officials of Jones County, through Hughes sought the assistance of Lenoir County and Craven County as the most logical partners. As for Lenoir County, the proposal was brought before the Lenoir County Medical Society and prompt approval given to the Health Officer of Lenoir County to organize the Jones County Health Department. Several days later the Lenoir County Board of Health which is the governing body of the Health Department gave its official approval that the Lenoir County Health Officer be allowed to organize, and also be the Health Officer of the Jones County Health Department.

On February 10, 1949, the Lenoir County Health Officer met with the Jones County Board of County Commissioners and office space was provided in the Courthouse. March 1 was the date set for the opening.

Search was immediately commenced for qualified workers, namely, one Public Health Nurse, one Sanitary Inspector, and one Clerk. The search during March and April proved unsuccessful. However, the Health

Officer made two visits, (of three hours each) per week to initiate and carry on the work. Clinic and office work commenced on equipment borrowed from the Lenoir County Health Department which has now mostly been returned. The present equipment is the property of Jones County with the exception of some loaned on a long time basis from the State Board of Health through the effort of Dr. John Hamilton.

Mrs. Ruth Simmons, Public Health Nurse, joined the staff on May 2, followed by the Clerk, Audrey Mallard, on May 5th. Robert Lewis was employed as the Sanitarian on June 1, and his time to date has mostly been devoted to training for the position. That completes, in brief, the history of the organization of the department with its complete staff.

Accomplishments

The primary purpose of any Health Department is to protect and promote the health of its citizens within the jurisdiction— with no barriers as to race, religion, age, or economic status.

The work is accomplished through several headings, namely: Communicable Disease Control, Venereal Disease Control, Tuberculosis Control, Maternity Service, Infant and Pre-School Hygiene, School Hygiene, Vital Statistics, Health Information and Education, Administration, Adult Hygiene, Morbidity Service, Crippled Children Service, General Sanitation, Protection of Food and Milk, Laboratory, Reportable Disease.

Approximately 4,000 of the 11,500 residents of Jones County received direct service from the Health Department during the first four months of operation. A rapid summary follows— 80 cases of Measles were reported; 4 cases of Gonorrhea; 13 cases of Syphilis; 1 case of Tuberculosis; 3 cases of Whooping Cough; 261

persons vaccinated against Small Pox; 200 children against Diphtheria; 3,043 persons against Typhoid Fever, (in clinics carried to every nook in the county).

There were 93 treatments for Venereal Disease and 98 Blood Tests done. There were 10 physical examinations with fluoroscope for Tuberculosis and 2 X-rays with 21 clinic visits. There were 13 nursing visits for Tuberculosis and 6 nursing visits for Venereal Disease Control.

Thirteen maternity cases were seen with 20 visits in office and homes. The mid-wife roster is being prepared and 3 nursing visits made to midwives.

About 120 infants were seen in the office or homes and some form of public health service rendered to them.

A pre-school clinic was held during May at every white and colored school in Jones County. The Health Officer made physical examinations while the nurse vaccinated against Small Pox, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough. One hundred eighty children were seen who will enter school for the first time next September—mothers accompanied most children. The immunizations commenced were completed at some designated place— many booster injections were given.

Other Brief Comments

Twenty-four school children were examined, 14 newspaper articles were published, 135 pieces of literature were distributed, 3,828 miles traveled by Doctor and Nurse, 328 hours were spent in the field, 205 hours were spent in the clinic and office, 19 visits to schools, 19 conferences with officials, 111 other conferences, 5 food handlers examined, 21 adults examined for other public health reasons, 39 other adults

made 88 visits to the office, 73 nursing visits for some corrective purpose, 4 visits to food handling establishments, 1 private premise inspected, 1 test for Typhoid, 1 for Undulant Fever, 1 for Typhus Fever, 1 test for Tularemia, 2 sputum tests for Tuberculosis, 5 Urine tests, 9 tests for intestinal parasites.

The Jones County Health Department sponsored a program for the vaccination of dogs against rabies. Over 1,000 dogs were vaccinated at specified locations throughout the County.

This first report is respectfully submitted to the Jones County officials and to the public by the Staff of the Jones County Health Department.

British chemists are making notable advances with penicillin in veterinary practice, particularly in the treatment of mastitis.

● REMEMBER ●
Rulane Gas Service
Is
Economical!

RULANE

109 N. Queen St.
KINSTON, N. C.

COMPLETE NURSERY FURNISHINGS



For
The TINY
TOTS!

- BASSINETTES
- HIGHCHAIRS
- CRIBS
- MATTRESSES



- YOUTH BEDS
- PLAY PENS
- WARDROBES
- CARRIAGES

— Terms to Fit Any Budget —

BAKER
FURNITURE CO.

"Your Friendly Furniture Store in Kinston"

WEL-FUT

For
Athlete's Foot
Ringworm — Scalding
Chafing — Body Itch
Jock Itch
and
SUTCO

Tonic and Liniment

SOLD IN ALL
DRUG STORES

SMAW-POLLOCK FUNERAL HOME, INC.

"Service for those who care"

PHONE 2067

NEW BERN, N. C.

AIR CONDITIONED CHAPEL

FOR
A Complete
Banking Service

SEE

**FIRST CITIZENS BANK
& TRUST CO.**

KINSTON, N. C.

MEMBER

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

WALLPAPERING AND PAINTING

... Done skillfully, quickly
at minimum cost by
Experienced Craftsmen.
If you like, we will help
you select the designs and
colors that harmonize
with your interior and
help to make a Home
out of a House.

CALL US FOR FREE ESTIMATE.

Phone
3209

GARNER CONTRACTORS

KINSTON

Carl D. Garner

Wallace R. Garner

