

# Jones Journal

"A BETTER COUNTY THROUGH IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES"

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## Barbecue Rally Is Set For Opening Of Legion Building In Trenton



LOUIS DUNN  
7th District Commander  
Speaker at Legion Rally

The opening of their handsome new home will be the occasion for a celebration by members of The Glen Newton Smith American Legion Post No. 154, Commander Bruce Johnson announced this week.

Several pigs will be barbecued and every veteran of either World War is being extended a cordial invitation to be on hand for this celebration next Monday night (September 12).

"We are doing our best to increase our membership."

Now nearing completion the Legion building is located on the Fair grounds beside Brock's Millpond. It is large enough for all Legion functions and during the coming fair week it will be used as an exhibit hall for much of the farm produce that is placed in competition in the annual Jones County Agriculture Fair.

Commander Johnson has repeatedly urged that every veteran make a special attempt to be on hand for this "biggest occasion of the local Legion year".

## FIRMS WISHING TO HAVE EXHIBITS IN FAIR MUST APPLY

Firms wishing to have commercial exhibits on display at the annual Jones County Fair should make application immediately to Assistant County Agent G. T. Wiggins, who is in charge of exhibits at the fair this year. October 26-29 has been set as the time for the annual fair.

Exhibit will be allocated on the basis of available space, order application is received, and the educational value of the exhibit. Any firm wishing to have space should contact Wiggins immediately.

## Special Visitors

One of eight special corn experimental plots in the State of North Carolina is located on the farm of R. G. Foster in Vance Township, and on Thursday it will have a group of special visitors. On that day it will be visited by a group comprised of State Extension Service and Experiment Station officials and representatives of seed dealers, who have sponsored the tests with the Lenoir County Extension Service.

## FARM BUREAU BEGINS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IN LENOIR COUNTY

The 1949 membership drive of the Lenoir County Farm Bureau began on Friday last week in a meeting at the Agriculture Building in Kinston of its leaders. The goal of the 1949 drive is 2,600 members, the same as last year, with 2,800 members as its maximum goal, President John A. Shackelford said. The drive, beginning immediately, will close on October 1st, as last year, when a membership of 2,605 was reached.

President Shackelford said the Farm Bureau must remain strong to continue to get for the farmer the benefits gained in the past years. He told those present of the many past achievements of the Bureau for the benefit of the farmer. Again this year prizes will be awarded to those who obtain the most members in the drive. The prizes, as was the case last year, range downward from a free trip to the county member writing the most memberships to the national convention of the Bureau at Chicago.

At the meeting President Shackelford also stated that the Farm Bureau did not oppose a

measure of any sort that caused the farmer to be penalized because of the lack of a suitable sales outlet.

## TWO FARM BUREAU MEETINGS SET FOR JONES THIS WEEK

The annual membership drive by the Jones County Farm Bureau will be the main topic of conversation at meetings set for this week at Comfort (Wednesday) and Trenton (Friday).

The Comfort session will be held in the school auditorium and it will convene at 7:30. The Trenton gathering is to be in the Agriculture Building and it will begin at the same time.

Jones Bureau President W. G. Mallard urges every person interested in the continued success of the organization to make a special effort to attend these meetings.

## HEADING SOUTH

The heads of the police bodies in Lenoir County and Kinston, Wayne County and Goldsboro are by this time maybe completely out of the State of North Carolina and on their way to Texas. Traveling in a group are Police Chief Marion Haskins of Kinston, Sheriff Sam Churchill of Lenoir County, Chief of Police Harry Morris of Goldsboro and Sheriff Paul Garrison of Wayne County. Their destination is Dallas, where the meeting of the International Association of Police Chiefs is being held September 11 to 15.

For the first time in eight years, the peanut crop throughout the nation is expected to fall below 2,000,000,000 pounds. Production is now forecast at 1,777,000,000 pounds, down four per cent from the 10-year average and down 24 per cent from last year's record crop.



## Oak View Plantation House Is One Of Finest In Carolina And Is Seat Of Jones County's Richest Farm Unit

### ROADS AND TAXES BIGGEST PROBLEMS

Roads, roads and more roads were the principal business before the Jones County Board of Commissioners as they ignored the Labor Day holiday and held their regular September session in the courthouse. A total of six petitions—some oral, some written—were approved by the board and sent on to the State Highway and Public Works Commission.

Next heaviest business on the agenda Monday was a trio of complaints made about new property valuations that were put on several tracts of land in the recent revaluation of all Jones County property.

Presenting road improvement petitions were Frederick Foscoe, Bill Jones, Joe Killingsworth, Willie Heath, E. B. Riggs and John Hughes Pollock.

Complaining over too high tax valuations were C. K. Jarman, Bill Dixon and a representative of the Bates Lumber Company. Acting upon County Attorney George Hughes' advice the commissioners agreed that there was nothing they could do about changing these valuations until next Equalization Day. Hughes pointed out that changes might be permissible where gross injustices were uncovered or where clerical errors had been made.

J. K. Dixon appeared before the board to ask the county to pay its part of the cost to be incurred by the addition of curb and gutters to Market Street, in front of the courthouse. This was unanimously approved by the board.

On recommendation of Accountant E. E. Franck payment of \$200 each to Tax Collector Zell Pollock and Auditor Mrs. Mary Brock was approved. This payment was for extra work done during the recent revaluation of property. Franck reported that both had done an excellent job, which sentiment was echoed by Attorney Hughes.

This is easily one of Eastern North Carolina's most beautiful homes. Unfortunately it's age and the exact knowledge of its

builder are lost in the past century since it was built in the center of Jones County. E. E. Bell, its present owner, admits that he doesn't know how old it is but points out that the best information he has been able to obtain since his father, J. H. Bell, bought it in 1918 leads him to believe that it was built just about at the turn of the 18th Century.

The land and this beautiful old home belonged to the Bryan family for several generations, and Bell says it is his belief that a member of the Bryan family built it originally.

One most peculiar thing about this huge, handsome place, which is borne out by considerable evidence in its construction, is the fact that the top part of the house was built and lived in for awhile before it was raised and the lower section was added. Like much of the little known about the house, this is also unfounded in fact, but is reasonable from the appearance of the weatherboarding and from the appearance of one of the huge chimneys which covers up a place that had been a window in the top part of the home.

In addition to having what may be the county's finest home, Bell is more importantly known for his pioneering in livestock production, being the owner of the first permanent pasture in the county and among the first to move away from one-track tobacco economy of the section.

Oak View Plantation is the name that the 2,600 acres surrounding this home is known by. On it at present there are more than 200 acres of permanent pasture and some 70 Herefords and 10 Brahman beef cattle are grazed 12 months to the year on this lush Jones County green feed.

The plantation also has 126.5 acres of tobacco, 170 acres of sweet potatoes and 170 acres of corn. A considerable acreage is also devoted to small grains and the only sweet potato curing barn in Jones County is located on one corner of the place. It

has a rated capacity of 30,000 bushels but Bell says that 26,000 bushels is about all he ever has put in it at one time.

Bell says he has always had fairly good luck with sweet potatoes, selling most of them on northern markets. He says State College experts have called his land some of the best in the State for sweet potato production.

Last winter his beef cattle grazed the full 12 months and had to have no supplementary feeding, but in ordinary winters a little supplementary feeding has to be done during February and March, Bell says.

In addition to beef production, Bell is also a well known fancier of horse flesh and today breeds Shetland ponies, which he calls, "A kind of hobby of mine."

Bell married Nannie Creagh, daughter of the late Sheriff J. W. Creagh, in 1920 and they have one son, H. C. Bell, who lives in a home on the plantation and helps his father with the management of the big farm.

Not many fine old mansions of this type have survived the indifference of the past hundred years and hardly any today remain in the same fine condition of this manor house at Oak View. An awesome sight to one accustomed to furnished apartments, tiny rooms in modern homes and hotel nooks is the huge dining-living room at Oak View, which reaches 52 feet in length.

The home is unique in its state of preservation and is perhaps more unique in that it has been the rich acres surrounding it that have kept it up rather than oil wells in Texas or a brokerage business in New York, as is the case with so many restored mansions.

## One Armed Bandits

A total of six one-armed bandits were picked up on Labor Day in a raid made at Hillcrest by members of the Sheriff's department. One quarter bandit, one dime size and four nickel consumers were included in the loot obtained by the officers.