

# Jones Journal

"A BETTER COUNTY THROUGH IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES"

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## EXPENSIVE SWEET POTATO ROASTING



The anxious-looking gentleman at center is L. O. Bentley of Vance Township in Lenoir County inspecting the progress of the potato roasting on the farm on Monday night. One of his curing bins with 2,000 bushels of sweet potatoes caught fire during the curing at an uninsured cost of some \$1,900. Kinston Fireman Buren Trott is at the door of the barn directing a stream of water at the smouldering mass of spuds in the four-hour battle with the stubborn threat. The barn itself suffered only nominal damage from the flames. (Whitaker-Lester Photo)

## Production Credit Group To Hold Annual Meet In Kinston 10:30 Saturday

Commissioner of Agriculture L. Y. "Stag" Ballentine will be the featured guest and speaker Saturday morning (December 3) at 10:30 when the annual meeting and election of officers for the Kinston Production Credit Association is held in the Agriculture Building in Kinston. Every one of the 1,600 members of the Association which serves Jones, Onslow and Lenoir Counties has been urged to attend the gathering and to take part in the selection of a director to take the place of G. F. Loftin of Southwood in Lenoir County, whose term is expiring.

Association Secretary-Treasurer Yates Creech has a most satisfying report to make to those in attendance, which will include full information on the largest year's business in the 16-year history of the group. More than 99 per cent of the \$1,408,000 loaned in the three counties has been repaid and Creech says there is an excellent chance that every cent will be collected.

During the past farming year 1,087 loans were made in the three counties, ranging from \$250 to \$13,000. At the week-end only 29 of the 1,087 had failed to completely pay back their loans and not one individual had failed to make a partial payment. Less than \$300 has been charged off in the life of the association.

Vice-President G. F. Loftin of Lenoir County, W. V. Venters of Richlands and J. Leroy Henderson of Hubert are the other directors of the group.

In summing up the credit outlook, Creech painted not too happy a picture for the coming year by saying, "Money is scarcer than it has been in rural sections since 1939. I think demands for credit will be greater and harder to get than in many years in 1950."

## COMMUNITY CENTER AT POLLOCKSVILLE

The construction of the new Community Center in west Pollocksville is expected to begin immediately. The special committee now has some \$1,000 in the bank and has \$2,500 in sight, not counting promised donations of materials and skilled labor in building. The three-man planning committee is headed by Chairman Charles I. Ellington, serving with Frank Bender and W. H. Parker.

Four building lots have been donated to the project by C. B. Foy, and two additional adjoining lots have been purchased at a cost of \$100 each. The site of the new Community Center is a good one, situated on high, well-drained land and convenient to

## Four Children Perish In Hugo Fire Sunday Night

Flames swept through the Hugo home Sunday night, killing four small children. The parents, Charles and Elvie Harper, were visiting neighbors a short distance from the house on the R. E. Jackson, Jr., farm when the tragedy occurred. They rushed home when the alarm was given to find their home and children enveloped in a sheet of fire. The ages of the children ranged from four to eleven years.

There were two wood-burning heaters in the dwelling, but not believed to have been in use at the time of the tragedy. No evidence had been had of defective electric wiring. All belongings of the family were consumed in the flames, including a quantity of currency.

The victims of the flames were James Dennis Harper, 11; Hazel Mae, nine; Charles, Jr., six; and Gloria Mae, four years.

## NEW INSECT PEST IS IDENTIFIED IN SECTIONS OF JONES

The latest agricultural pest to be identified in this section is the White-Fringed Beetle down in Jones County, according to Farm Agent A. V. Thomas. The insect has been found at Pollocksville, Maysville and in the Caswell section of the county, along the line of the railroad. It is thought to have made its entry from the south by way of the Port of Wilmington.

A recent visit of S. F. Hutchinson of the Bureau of Entomology of the U. S. Department of Agriculture identified the beetle. It has done root damage in the larvae stage and leaf damage in the adult stage to soy beans, lespedeza, strawberries and other leafy crops. Now, however, Thomas says, it has been controlled to a great extent by DDT spraying, a work which is continuing to effect the complete eradication of the beetle.

## COMFORT TRIMMED TWICE BY CAGERS FROM EAST END

Young White, with Bobby Moore, 11, son of Mrs. Charlie Moore and the late Police Captain Moore of Kinston, had been left at the stand in the early morning by Ellis Simon of Kinston, who went into the nearby woods to drive a deer. Tommy is reported to have left the stand to investigate a noise nearby and loaded his .410 gauge shotgun with a No. 7 1/2 shell. When he climbed back into the platform the butt of his gun slipped through the slatted platform and the impact on the hammer caused it to be discharged.

## BY SHOTGUN BLAST

A Thanksgiving hunting accident which nearly severed his right arm has eight-year-old Tommy White, son of Lenoir County Attorney and Mrs. Thomas J. White, in a continuing critical condition this week. The accident occurred on a deer hunt at Camp Boys when the youth attempted to climb into a seven-foot high hunting platform.

The blast tore through his right forearm, shattering the bone and tearing away the muscle. A few scattered pellets lodged lightly in his right side through heavy clothing. The immediate quick thinking of Bobby Moore in applying a tourniquet is credited with saving the wounded boy's life. Together they made their way back over a mile to the camp. Young White was rushed to a New Bern hospital by Simon and Linwood Scott of Kinston, after a stop at the Cherry Point Marine Air Station for first aid. He was later moved to the Memorial General Hospital in Kinston, where he is under the care of Surgeon Oscar Cranz.

The general condition of young White is not critical, but the condition of his arm is of a very critical nature. Hospital authorities say that every day that goes by gives the youngster a better chance of saving his arm.

city last Friday night in Pollocksville High School gym, 29-27. It was an exciting and close scoring game all the way. Two of M-P's first team girls, Dolly and Letha Trott, were absent. Jones was high scorer for M-P. Jarmen was high scorer for Comfort.

The association has offices in Trenton, managed by Miss Lurley Hines, in Richlands, managed by Mrs. Evelyn Venters, and in Kinston, under the management of Creech.

Dempsey W. Hodges of Kinston is president of the group, W. G. Mallard of Mallardtown is

occupied by Union troops during the Civil War, and the story is told that its cook, "Aunt" Hannah, was sitting up by her thumb by the Yankees in their attempt to make her tell where the owner's money and silver was hidden. She was stubbornly successful. The home has been the birthplace of many of the builder's descendants, and a number of weddings have taken place in its halls. The original home, built in colonial days, was moved from the site back into the place and later burned.—(Whitaker-Lester Photo)

## ANTE-BELLUM HOME IS RESTORED



This gracious home in the Oak Grove section of Jones County is one of the best preserved of any of those built before the Civil War. Its excellent condition is due to the efforts of Claude Banks who is making a showplace of it. Construction of the home was begun in 1826 by Amos L. Simmons, great-great-grandfather of County Commissioner John Crough, Jr., after two years of selection of lots for the building lumber. The home was furnished and opened in 1828 to the surrounding of more than 100 slaves of the 5,000 acre plantation. The plantation was

occupied by Union troops during the Civil War, and the story is told that its cook, "Aunt" Hannah, was sitting up by her thumb by the Yankees in their attempt to make her tell where the owner's money and silver was hidden. She was stubbornly successful. The home has been the birthplace of many of the builder's descendants, and a number of weddings have taken place in its halls. The original home, built in colonial days, was moved from the site back into the place and later burned.—(Whitaker-Lester Photo)