

# Jones Journal

"A BETTER COUNTY THROUGH IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES"

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## Report On Board Meeting Monday

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners Monday took a positive and unanimous stand in favor of acceptance of Memorial General Hospital as an outright gift and the sale of \$485,000 in bonds for the expansion and renovation of the building into a 125-bed hospital with adequate diet, obstetrical and operating facilities to match. In addition to this action the board approved several road petitions, accepted reports from the office of the Tax Collector, the Superintendent of Public Welfare and refused three "mandatory pay raises" to workers in the office of the latter, who expressed thanks for his department's budget but pointed out that these three workers were not receiving minimums guaranteed by the Merit System. The board expressed a desire to see "how mandatory the wage scale was and to find out if the board had any authority in county affairs". The board voted final approval to the 1950-51 budget, granting a \$210 radio item that had been deleted from the forestry department's budget and granting permission to the county school board to purchase additional ground for recreation purposes at Moss Hill and Coanahua schools where present expansion is crowding the school grounds. The board tabled until Thursday night when it meets in joint session with the town council a request for \$1,200 for advertising which was made by a delegation from the chamber of commerce.

## Paul Gilbert Champion Overplanter of Tobacco In Jones With 12.9 Acres

### Lost Auto Found In Damp Condition

Johnny Koonce returned to his home near Trenton on Monday from New Bern by taxi. He had lost his automobile and reported that loss to State Highway Patrolman Marvin Thomas.

Patrolman Thomas took a description of the missing auto and began the routine of a search through the State Highway Patrol network, but a report from the New Bern police department brought his efforts to a sudden halt. An automobile had been spotted by the police in the area at the end of one

### Hills Big Rattler

T. J. Koonce, who lives near Sasser's Mill in Jones County, Monday morning was surprised to find a tremendous rattlesnake taking a leisurely meal in his backyard upon a two pound chicken that had strayed too close to the deadly fangs of this 14-rattle, 56-inch-long marauder. Koonce procured a stick and sent this granddaddy rattler on to meet his ancestors. He was displayed to the chills and shudders of many at the corner of Queen and King streets Monday soon after Koonce had mauled his wicked looking head into a pulp.

## NEW HOME OF PINK HILL'S LARGEST BUSINESS



Last month the largest business in Lenoir County's smallest incorporated community moved into the handsome new building pictured above. The T. A. Corner Co., Inc. was founded in 1936 by the late T. A. Turner and his brother, L. C. Turner. Its officers today include President T. J. Turner, Vice-President Linwood C. Turner, Secretary C. C. Jones and Treasurer A. W. Jones. Other stockholders in the corporation besides the officers are Mrs. T. A. Turner, Mrs. L. C. Turner, Mrs. J. Frank Parrott of Kinston and Graham Turner. The new building replaces an older

building on the same site destroyed by fire on October 31, 1945. Since that time and until last month the business had been operated across the street in temporary headquarters. These temporary quarters are now being converted to use by the tractor division of the company, which is Allis-Chalmers dealer for Lenoir County. The new building houses the main offices and in its 10,800 square feet of floor space every item for the farm and home except a tractor or mule can be found. These two items are housed under different roofs by the Pink Hill company.

## Jones Commissioners OK Budget, Listen To Touchy Local problems

The Jones County Board of Commissioners in its July meeting gave final approval to a budget of \$268,709 for the fiscal year beginning July first, with no change except for a change of fund classification for the county Board of Education. But the meeting was not an easy one and called for decisions affecting the county extension service, a civic club and the pressure of state and federal funds on the county budget.

At the opening of the meeting there was presented to the board a candidate to fill the position of home demonstration agent to be vacated by Mrs. Mary Helen Loftin on August 1st, but the board found no way to meet the salary demands for Miss Eillian Swinson, now employed in Chowan and Pedquiman counties. The board told assistant Director John W. Goodman and District Home Agent Verona J. Langford that they could not increase their budget figure of \$600 by \$240 to meet the \$3,384 salary required by the applicant.

In the discussion following the decision it was pointed out that the constitutional officers of the county draw only \$2,400 per annum and do not have any reimbursement for auto mileage.

The pressure of the state funds on the fiscal operation of the county was highlighted by the presentation to the board by Clerk of the Court Murray Whit-

aker and Register of Deeds Geo. Noble of the likelihood of their joint clerical help being hired away by the County Welfare Department.

That matter, however, was settled by the assertion by the Welfare Superintendent F. J. Koonce that the representations had been made as a joke. However, it brought the comment from the board that it could not meet all the competition brought by state and federal funds.

A delegation from the Trenton Rotary Club brought before the board the differences between it and the kitchen committee of the county's home demonstration clubs, who have sought to bar it the use of the kitchen at the Agriculture Building unless five dollars per meeting was paid for the use of the facilities. Rotarian W. B. Moore as spokesman for the group related the beginning of the use of the kitchen by the club when its quarters

over a downtown building were relinquished for the use of a WPA mattress project.

It was also pointed out that the 14-man civic club had in the past three years spent \$150 for equipment and maintenance of the kitchen now barred to them by a locked door. It was stated that the club "was not mad, but felt pushed around."

Board Chairman Osborn Mallard said he had been informed by the custodian of the building, County Agent A. V. Thomas, that the custody of the kitchen had been turned over to the home agent for the club. In a vote on the issue a two-to-one decision was made by Commissioners J. Creagh and Paul Westbhook voting for the continued use of the facility by the Rotarians and E. Hood voting against. Chairman Mallard did not vote, but expressed his opposition to the use of the kitchen.

The final resolution on the county budget called for no increase in the \$1.50 per \$100 property valuation tax rate, and County Accountant Earl E. Francks estimated that \$85,862 would come from the tax levy. Other matters before the commissioners were the approval of a road petition and the drawing of juror

## Jones-Onslow REA Has Meeting 27th in Comfort

Visitors to Comfort, Jones County's smallest incorporated community, far outnumbered the population last Tuesday when more than 1,000 of the 4,057 membership of the Jones-Onslow Electric Membership

Corporation of the Rural Electrification Administration gathered for their annual meeting. Residents of seven Eastern Carolina counties—Craven, Carteret, Pender, Duplin, Jones and Onslow—in the service area heard Congressman Graham Barden in the principal address.

Barden recalled the beginning of the REA in the National Congress and praised highly the progress which has been made by its subscribers. Gwynn Price, state head of the REA, reviewed the progress in the section and in the state, pointing out that the electrification of rural homes had grown from three per cent to 85 per cent in that progress.

The report of the president, E. B. Smith, revealed that 861 miles of lines had been installed in the section since the beginning of the work in 1939. In April 514,468 kilowatt hours of power were sold to the subscribers at an average individual cost of \$4.68. The power now comes through four sub-stations in the area serviced with wholesale electric power from the Tide Water Power Company.

In the business session at the Comfort School, which preceded a dinner of barbecue and sandwiches, new directors of the corporation elected were Smith, W. Guy Hargett, Albert N. Venters, Sasser and E. M. Philyaw. Others taking part in the program were Manager Fred Harmon, Jr., and General Counsel George Hughes.

## How Memorial General Hospital Will Look After Proposed Enlargement



This is the proposed west elevation of the expanded and renovated Memorial General Hospital which is to be voted on Saturday. The wing on the right and a large portion of the connecting wing in the center is plans under consideration will be entirely new and will include operating facilities, diet kitchen and maternity rooms sufficient to handle the volume in a 125-bed hospital. The wing shown in the architect's drawing on the left is the newer section of the present hospital which now includes the offices of doctors. In the proposed plans for expansion to a 125-bed hospital the doctors

will be moved out of the building entirely and into a nearby building that is to be built by private capital. The hospital has been offered free to the county, along with an \$18,000 bank balance upon the condition that necessary funds be voted to supplement a \$300,000 state and federal grant for the hospital's expansion. The issue will be decided Saturday when the voters of the county go to the polls and have their say on acceptance of this \$300,000 plant and the bond issue that is recommended by the county board of commissioners for renovation and enlargement.