

# Jones Journal

"A BETTER COUNTY THROUGH IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES"

VOLUME TWO

TRENTON, N. C. THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1951

NUMBER 50

## Jones Representative Is Standing Behind Change Made on Education Board

Dear Sirs:

I read with much interest an article on the front page and the first column of the page and your editorial on the sixth page of the Journal dated April 19th, 1951, which had to do with the Jones County Board of Education sworn in April 2nd.

The purpose of this letter is to request you to correct the very erroneous statement made by your paper in both the article referred to and the editorial. And it is requested that you publish this letter and give it all the space needed on the first or front page of the next issue of the Jones Journal, the week of April 26th, and make proper correction.

You stated that the only reason given for refusing to abide by the will of the voters was that Trenton Township would have had three of the five board members if Mr. Davenport had taken his rightful seat on the board. I assume that you made the statement referring to me as having made such statement to you or to some other member of the staff of the Jones Journal. If so, I wish to say that that is untrue and you know it. I have never made such statement to you or anyone at anytime after the 1950 Primary or during the 1951 General Assembly, nor at any time.

It seems to me that you would have informed yourself before making such untrue reference. Mr. Rider or anyone else knew, or should have known, that Mr. Davenport is a native of Beaver Creek Township and his appointment would have nothing to do with the board members of Trenton Township. Mr. J. Carlton West Jr., was named as a member from Trenton Township, and if Mr. Davenport had been appointed it would have made no change of the number of members from Trenton Township. But you seem to leave, or try to leave, the impression that I offered as an excuse that the appointment of Mr. Davenport from Beaver Creek would have given Trenton three (3) of the five (5) members of Jones County Board of Education, which you know is not true. Even if Mr. Davenport had been from Trenton Township, it would only have given Trenton Township two (2) of the five (5) members.

Mr. Rider, and other members of the staff of the Jones Journal, well know that many counties throughout the State make changes in the board members, and are not bound by the Primary results. Whether that is a good law or not it is nevertheless the law, and was made a good many years before my day as a member of the General Assembly. No grave crime or injustice has been practiced on anyone as the Journal would have it appear to its readers, and I am one of them.

I have no apologies for the appointment of Mr. Clyde J. Banks. The reason for his appointment is the fact that he is from Pollockville Township, the largest voting township in our County, with two (2) precincts, both of which normally cast one-fourth (¼) of the entire vote of the County. Without the appointment of Mr. Banks this township would not have representation on the Board of Education. As it is,

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## May 15th Deadline For Participation In Trent Project

A discouragingly small crowd turned up Monday night for the meeting on the cleaning out of Trent River from Trenton to the Lenoir County line and in order to give workers more time to attempt to raise the necessary \$25,000 that would be used to supplement the \$50,000 allocated for the job by army engineers the deadline for participation has been moved from May 1st to May 15th.

More than half of the \$25,000 that has been asked from landowners whose land is drained by Trent River has been pledged. A survey made by army engineers has revealed that \$75,000 would be needed for this job. The army was unable to allocate more than \$50,000 and the remaining \$25,000 was to be raised in Jones County.

Army engineers have estimated that the work contemplated would lower the level of the stream at least three feet at its banks-full stage. Jones County Soil Conservationist Mack Griffin says this is a most conservative estimate of the good that would be done by the cleaning out of the river.

All landowners along the river who have not pledged their financial support to this effort are urged to contact Griffin's office or anyone of the following workers who have been helping secure the needed \$25,000:

W. W. Lowery, John M. Hargett, Bruce and Jasper Foy, Nick Nobles, Z. A. Koonce, D. E. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. George, E. M. Philyaw, Mrs. Earl Franck and Fred Pollock.

## Tax Valuation in Lenoir Take a 4½ Million Jump

One of the biggest jumps in the taxable valuation of Lenoir County personal property and real estate ever made in one year has been reported by Tax Collector Milton Williams now that the 1951 listed valuation for the county's 13 townships has been totalled.

In 1950 the total listed valuation of the county was \$34,509,435 and this year it is \$4,507,905 more than that with the '51 figure ending up at \$38,016,340, which is naturally an all-time high.

## Over 50 Years Fishing Sutton Lands Biggest Cat From Neuse

Wyche Sutton, who lives just south of Kinston, says he has been fishing in Neuse River for more than 50 years and in all that half century he says this king-sized catfish he is pictured with here is the biggest specimen he has yet seen.

Sutton, a fisherman of the old school, who still thinks that the only civilized way to really go for shad and rock is with the "bows" landed this eight and one half pound catfish this month in his favorite "whirl" not too far north of Kinston.

This specimen measures 27 inches in length and is four inches wide between the eyes. This gentleman sized catfish wound up in a stew, according to latest reports and turned out one of the most succulent dishes of the season.

## Change in Welfare Law Makes Estate of Person Liable for Funds Given

### George Wiggins Has Resigned Jones Post To Move to New Bern

The exodus of Jones County extension department workers to New Bern apparently is contagious since Assistant County Agent George Wiggins, Jr., this week handed in his resignation effective May 1st to accept a position with the Maola Milk and Ice Cream Co., Inc., of New Bern. Former County Agent A. V. Thomas resigned from his Jones County post effective April 1st to accept a post with the New Bern Oil and Fertilizer Company.

Wiggins, a native of Wayne County, has been with the Jones County department for more than three years and had done an outstanding job of promoting work among 4-H clubs and has also been a strong influence toward the increased livestock production that has taken place in the county since the end of World War II.

Wiggins will be largely responsible for public relations work with the New Bern milk company and a part of his duties will consist of increasing dairying in this part of the state. He has already moved his family to New Bern and will commute to Trenton until his resignation becomes effective.

### Jones BFBL Council Names Rev. C. B. Long President for Year

Last Friday afternoon the Jones County Council on Better Farming for Better Living met in the Agriculture Building and named Rev. C. B. Long of Trenton president of the council for the coming year. Other officers named were R. L. Edwards of Trenton vice president, and County Agent Wayland Reams, secretary.

Following the election of officers of the council for the coming year the group mapped out plans for visits on May 1st to each of the 23 families in the county who have entered the annual contest, which is sponsored by local merchants and the Tidewater Power Company.

Plans call for seven teams of visitors to meet at the Ag Building at 10 a. m. on May 1st at which time Tidewater Agriculture Agent Neil Bolton will meet with them to explain the principal ideas behind this annual program. Bolton will also visit over the county with one of the teams that will do the visiting on that afternoon.

### Lanier Trial Delayed

The long delayed case against J. Con Lanier, prominent Greenville attorney, who is charged with hit-and-run driving and involuntary manslaughter as one result of the highway death last November 29th of 62 year old William Henry Tripp of Grifton, was delayed some more Monday when Judge A. R. Crisp of Lenoir convened a one-week mixed term of Lenoir County's Superior Court. Defense counsel for the well-known Greenville attorney insisted that First District Congressman Herbert Bonner is needed as an important witness for the defense and that due to pressing affairs in Washington it is impossible for Bonner to attend this session of court. The case is now set for trial in May.

One of the most far-reaching changes made in laws pertaining to welfare departments in North Carolina will become effective October 1, 1951, after having been passed by the 1951 General Assembly. This law will make the estate of all persons liable for any and all funds paid to that person through a welfare department.

Under present regulations a person may own his home and still be eligible for old age assistance from his welfare department. This view is taken since a person must have shelter and if he is forced to sell his home he would have to rent a place to live, which would usually be higher than taxes and upkeep on a home.

In the past many children have found themselves "unable" to help their parents because they knew that under the law they had no responsibility to their parents. They also knew that if the county kept their parents up with an old age assistance check each month it would be possible for them to come around and claim the property that might have been owned by their father or mother.

At present if a person has less than \$400 in cash, bonds or postal savings and has an insufficient income to live upon, is past 65 years of age and there is not sufficient income in his immediate family to take care of him he is eligible for old age assistance.

In the future, it is hoped by those who worked for passage of this bill through the legislature, that many persons owning their home will be discouraged by their children in accepting these old age assistance checks since they will be charged against that estate and will have the next legal priority after a tax lien against this property.

The Lenoir County Board of Public Welfare at the time this bill was offered to the Assembly, Chairman Jack Rider, Dr. Rachel Davis and Tom Davis, gave their unanimous support to this legislation which was killed in the 1949 session but was passed at this session without too much trouble.

This bill is in no sense aimed at depriving needy persons of the help that is available through the welfare department but it is aimed at preventing relatives, including children, inheriting a piece of property—no matter how small—after the tax payers have had to keep up the owner of that property during part of his life time.

Every property owner who is now receiving aid through the department will be notified between now and October 1st that all funds he gets after that date will be charged against his property. It is the general feeling among those close to the welfare program that this change in the law will cause many clients to come in and cancel their claims.

### Up For Parole

Lloyd "Chubby" Cummings, well known Kinstonian, who was sentenced to five years in prison after pleading guilty to setting fire to a house owned by Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Bursell in 1949 in Kinston, is now up for parole, after having served the required one fourth of his sentence.

Iredell County turkey growers are planning about a 20 per cent increase in their flocks this year.