

# Jones Journal

"A BETTER COUNTY THROUGH IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES"

VOLUME FOUR

TRENTON, N. C. THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 1952

NUMBER 14

## Chief Justice Shifts Judge Next Week for Lenoir County Court

The following self-explanatory statement from the Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court was received this week by this paper:

"In view of the recent article in the LENOIR COUNTY NEWS relative to the assignment of Judge Howard G. Godwin to hold the regular one week criminal term of court for Lenoir County the week of 18 August 1952, the Office of the Chief Justice wishes to release the following statement:

"Notwithstanding that he suffers from high blood pressure, Judge John J. Burney is holding practically all of the courts assigned to him by statute. Nevertheless, in the interests of his health, the Chief Justice from time to time has relieved Judge Burney from holding a week of court in order that he might rest. Pursuant to this plan, as a matter of routine, Judge Godwin was issued commission 15 July 1952 to hold the term of court for Lenoir County beginning 18 August. At that time the Office of the Chief Justice was not advised that a prosecution growing out of the recent primary was pending in Lenoir County and had been peremptorily set for trial 18 August. No request was made by any person or persons that Judge Godwin be assigned to hold the Lenoir Court.

"The Chief Justice has the utmost confidence in Judge Godwin's ability to hear the case in question with impartiality and entire fairness. However, in order to preclude any embarrassment to Judge Godwin, the Chief Justice has issued commission to Judge Clawson L. Williams to hold Lenoir Court in lieu of Judge Godwin."

## Last Tour Notice

Jones County Home Agent Mary Olive Owens this week said that final notice is being given to Home Demonstration Clubwomen who might like to go on the tour to Williamsburg, Va., and see the pageant, "The Common Glory," on August 26-27. Reservations and transportation must be arranged in advance so it is necessary to know this week just how many would like to make the trip, Miss Owens pointed out.

## Dover Soldier Gets Decoration In Foxhole

With the 7th Infantry Div. in Korea—A Dover soldier received the Bronze Star Medal recently in a "foxhole ceremony" half a mile from enemy outposts.

The award for heroic achievement in action was made to SFC John W. Langston, whose wife, Francis, lives at Route 1. Making the presentation, with friendly and enemy artillery passing overhead and machine gun fire in the background, was the 7th Division Commander, Brig. Gen. Wayne C. Smith.

Langston, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Langston of Dover, was decorated for his part in a successful patrol in which a number of communist soldiers were captured, without any casualties.

When his patrol encountered an enemy patrol, it split into three groups. Langston took one group up one side of a hill, and the patrol leader took the second group up the other side.

The two units forced the enemy into a valley, where the third group was waiting.

## J. V. Brittle Attends Indiana U. Graduate School in Bloomington

Jarvis V. Brittle, executive vice president and managing officer of the Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, Kinston, is attending the 10th annual Graduate School of Savings and Loan now in session at Indiana University.

Supported by the American Savings and Loan Institute of the U. S. Savings and Loan League, the school this summer has 128 officials of firms from 28 states and the District of Columbia enrolled.

Among the special lecturers for the two-weeks course are Stephen G. Slipher, Washington, D. C., vice-president of the U. S. Savings and Loan League; Dr. John K. Langum, president of Business Economics, Inc.; Dr. Raymond Rodgers, professor of banking, New York University, and Morton Bodfish, chairman of the executive committee of the U. S. League.

## Baysden Murder Investigation Drawing Net Tighter on Guilty

On May 18th of this year the badly decomposed body of Mrs. Earl Baysden of Richlands was found in a parked car in a Carolina Beach parking area. The windows of the car, which belonged to her husband, were rolled up and the heat of an early summer sun had hastened the decomposition of the young woman's body and the odor from the car was the cause of it being detected not too long after the car had been parked on the lot. Mrs. Baysden's body was found at about 9 a. m. Sunday morning.

Her husband, a successful Onslow County merchant with varied holdings, had reported to police that his wife had been kidnapped from their home just north of Richlands at about midnight on the Friday night before the Sunday when her body was found. Baysden also reported at the same time that the same persons who kidnapped his wife had also stolen some six to seven thousand dollars from his home, representing collections from his theatres, stores, cafes and other properties which had not been banked. Among the loot Baysden says was stolen along with his wife was a goodly number of checks. The remainder was in shall denomination bills and a small amount of change.

When police arrived to view the body of Mrs. Baysden it appeared that she had been possibly raped from the condition of her clothing and the position of her body, but later reports from Duke University pathologists stated that Mrs. Baysden had not been raped. The 30-page autopsy report filed by the Duke scientists who performed a detailed examination on the remains of Mrs. Baysden have never been released in full to the public but in part the reports confirmed earlier suspicions that the "rape" was a put up appearance, and further revealed that Mrs. Baysden had died of suffocation and possible other injuries.

Perhaps the single most interesting and vital fact was either not revealed in the report or has

been withheld by officials conducting the investigation into this most bizarre crime in recent years for this eastern part of North Carolina. That fact was the TIME at which Mrs. Baysden died. Conjecture, since that is all that is possible until the autopsy report is made completely public, leads to the supposition that the TIME of the death was fixed in the report but is being withheld since if it were known it would give the murderer or murderers a chance to set up an alibi.

The nature of the death and the advanced state of decomposition of the woman's body also lead to another conjecture and that is a growing feeling that the murder was not a premeditated crime, but was more likely a death that resulted from a beating. Any murder committed in the process of a robbery is automatically first degree and carries the death penalty on conviction.

The multiple string of crimes that could be charged and likely will be charged against the perpetrators of this murder and robbery includes three capital crimes: First degree murder, first degree burglary and kidnapping.

The officials in whose hands the autopsy report rests have been able to make their own guesses about the death—as to whether it was a sudden killing or death as a result of injuries received earlier. They may not have to guess.

Up until now a total of \$1700 has been offered as reward for the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who committed this crime. So far no one has come in and offered evidence toward claiming that nice-sized hunk of change—not so far as the public is concerned.

Last week under powers granted in an order signed by District Solicitor Walter Britt, the body of Mrs. Baysden was exhumed in the presence of a doctor. Officials present at the grave-opening declined to say what the purpose of the opening was. Rumor asserted that the purpose was to obtain a lock of



SLAYS RABBI... Edward Baldwin, Brooklyn, who was a participant in the slaying of a Brooklyn rabbi on a dare, is confronted with gun by police official.

Mrs. Baysden's hair for comparison with hair that had been found—where it had been found the rumor did not say.

Another rumor, among the many circulated in connection with this case, says that investigating officers have enough evidence now for a good circumstantial case against at least one person but delay is being made in order to add to this evidence and in order to incriminate others connected to the crime, since the nature of the crime almost positively indicates that more than one person is involved.

During July an as yet unidentified person called a well known Jones County man who had been cooperating with officers in the investigation of the crime and told him "to keep his nose out of the Baysden Case." Which indicates, to a degree, that someone vitally concerned with the Baysden case is still in this vicinity, since the call was local and not a long distance call.

Only 8 per cent of North Carolina farm families had telephones in 1950.

## Carolina Power And Light Goes For Steam In Big Way

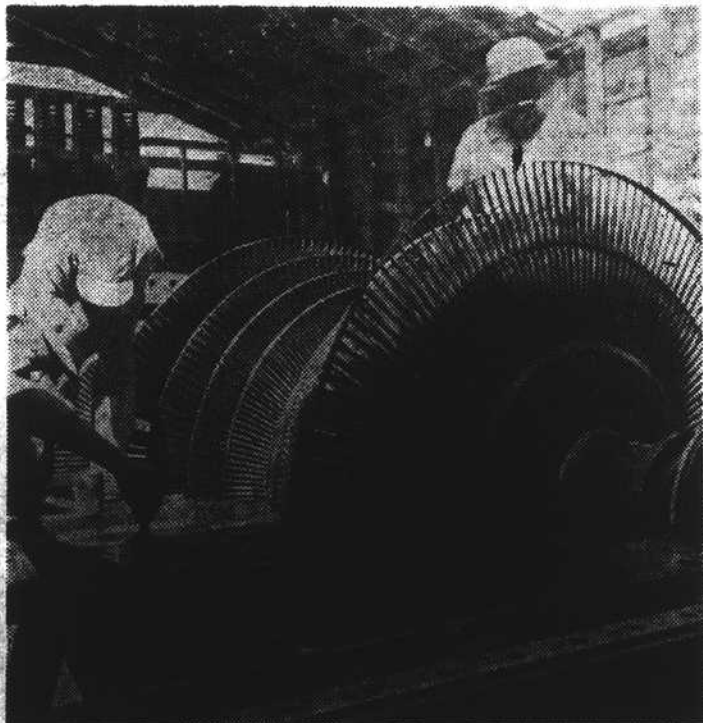
A new 100,000-horsepower generating unit is scheduled to go into production September 5 at the Lumberton steam electric plant of Carolina Power & Light Company.

Addition of the new unit will give the Lumberton plant the largest generating capacity of any plant in the company's system. The Lumber River plant already is operating two generators with a capacity of 130,000 horsepower.

Work at Lumberton recently got international attention when Greece sent an engineer to study design, construction and operation of the new turbo-generator. The engineer said his country was planning a modern power system and the first unit would be very similar to that at Lumberton.

The new Lumberton unit will be the fifth generator installed by Carolina Light & Power Company since World War II. Two are located on the Neuse River at Goldsboro and three on the Lumber River at Lumberton. The company has just acquired a site near Wilmington for the purpose of installing a 135,000-horsepower steam generating plant there.

By 1954, Sutton said, the company's post-war expansion program will have cost \$150,000,000.



TURBINE TO ROLL SEPT. 5—Workmen install a 100,000-horsepower turbine for a new generator at Carolina Power and Light Company's Lumberton plant. The force of super-heated, high-pressure steam against these tiny turbine blades drives the shaft at lower left at 3,600 revolutions per minute. At this speed, the outer rim is moving at 900 miles per hour, faster than the speed of sound.

## Disaster Loans Available This Area Through FHA

The Secretary of Agriculture has designated all counties in North Carolina as areas in which Disaster Loans may be made. This announcement was made today by Vernon Woodard who is County Supervisor in charge of the Farmers Home Administration program in Jones County.

These loans are available to eligible farmers who have suffered substantial crop losses because of drought or hailstorm damage. In areas where pastures and feed crops have been badly damaged or destroyed by the recent prolonged drought the Farmers Home Administration is prepared to cooperate fully with other agricultural agencies and eligible farmers in an effort to immediately meet the need for feed that will be required to keep desirable productive livestock on farms that otherwise would have to be sold because of the lack of feed.

This agency is also prepared to render immediate assistance to eligible farmers who may find it necessary to re-seed or ren-

ovate pastures that have been substantially damaged or destroyed by the extended period of excessive dry weather and extreme high temperature.

Before disaster loans can be approved the farmer must show:

- (1) That they have suffered substantial losses.
- (2) That they cannot obtain credit from private sources.
- (3) That the government loan can be repaid from farm income, and
- (4) That the loan will not be used for conversion from one type of farming to another.

The Farmers Home Administration's office serving Jones County is located in the Masonic Building in Trenton and the Lenoir County office is located just north of the Court House.

On July 1, farm wage rates without room and board, averaged 87 cents an hour for the country as a whole. The average in the South was from 54 to 64 cents.