

Jones Journal

"A BETTER COUNTY THROUGH IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES"

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DuPont Kinston Plant Getting Polyester Laboratory

A laboratory for the development of Polyester at the site of the DuPont Plant in Kinston, W. Va., is under way. The manager, and other workers were scheduled to start in 1954, the new building to be built in less than three months. It will be part of the company's Technical Services Department's Technical Services will house offices, laboratories, and seminar room required for basic and exploratory research on "Dacron Polyester Fiber. Approximately 55 technical men will be assigned to the new facilities.

Currently the Textile Fiber Department is carrying out research on "Dacron" in the Carothers Laboratory at the Company's Experimental Station in Wilmington, Delaware, and it will continue in that location until the new plant is completed.

More Housing Now

Unofficial but usually reliable sources this week said that L. Harvey and Sons Co. has signed contracts calling for at least 25 new homes to be built about a mile and a half from the present city limits on the Greenville highway on the farm purchased earlier this year by the company from Andrew Johnson. The houses, so the source stated were to be two and three-bedroom types of modern construction.

Welfare Aid \$208 in November

Welfare aid totaling \$208 was distributed to 398 persons in Kinston during November. The largest group of checks went to the 340 families in which 1,208 ADC cases were residing and the total expenditure in that category was \$18,217. Of this total the county's part was \$1,797.50 and the other \$16,421.50 was from federal and state funds. The average check per child was \$15.08.

The next largest group receiving aid was the aged past 65 who got a total of \$17,581 of which the county paid \$2,093.75 and the other \$15,487.25 came from the outside sources. The average check per person in that category was \$29.06.

The disabled persons number 223 and they received checks totaling \$4,600 and of this the county paid \$692.50 and the other \$3,907.50 came from Raleigh and Washington. The average check in this group amounted to \$37.70.

Fast Man With Hat

Recently an itinerant preacher held a small crowd's attention on a Queen Street corner and just about the time he had worked them up to the "donating pitch" one of Kinston's best known citizens, Bill Cheney, offered his hat and very courteously passed it through the crowd. According to reports a goodly accumulation of small change was dropped into Cheney's fedora. The preacher reached but didn't receive, Cheney pocketed the offering and took off with something less than Christian mutterings aimed in his direction.

Big Sewer Completed But For Testings

Workers of the Blythe Construction Company and Barrus Construction Company this week have put the finishing touch to the big 24 inch main sanitary sewer that has been put in past of the Adkin to serve the mushrooming northeastern section of Kinston and to relieve the overflowing trunk line sewer that now serves practically all of Kinston east of Queen Street.

This sewer which cost \$202,000 is finished but for flushing and tests to be supervised by the City's Utilities Department as soon as that is over a considerable number of the new homes already completed in the northeastern section will be occupied by persons who are now living in hotels and boarding houses and who have their furniture stored

Six Divorces, One Annulment 14 Criminal Cases Cleared In Jones Court Session By Grady

Although Judge Henry Grady of New Bern only sat two days over the December term of the Jones County Superior Court a considerable backlog of cases was cleared from both the civil and criminal calendars of the court. Six divorces, one annulment, 14 criminal charges and one damage suit were cleared in the fast action of the state's oldest Superior Court Judge.

Divorces were granted to the following on grounds of two years separation: Helen Watson Buck from Randall Buck, D. S. Mobley from Ella Lee Mobley, Janice Cottle Harrell from Johnnie Harrell, Hilda Holmes from Wyatt Holmes, Noah Hill from Ida Mae Hill and Leroy Sheppard from Zephora Williams Sheppard.

Harry Williams Hicks was granted an annulment from Louise Williams on the grounds that at the time they were married in 1950 she already had a husband.

In the damage suit \$500 was awarded to John Wayne Scott through his father John K. Scott from Edward Morris Scott due to injuries suffered in an accident.

Only one jail sentence was handed out by Judge Grady and that went to John Thomas Station who pled guilty to transporting stumphole whisky and who had a poor memory when it came to telling the judge where he got the whisky, from whom

he got the whisky and where he was carrying it.

Other criminal cases disposed of included Elbert Meadows, a traffic violation, \$200 fine and costs; John Edwin Barrow, drunken driving, \$150 and costs; Milton Hassell Potters, trespassing, costs; Leon Shennon, larceny, repay James Durden \$10 and the court costs; John Brown, drunken driving, \$100 and costs; Charlie Richardson, drunken driving, \$100 and costs; DeFord Mobley, reckless driving, \$50 and costs.

Roman M. Leary, drunken driving, six months in jail suspended on payment of \$100 fine and costs; Alfred F. Britt, driving after license revoked, \$200 and costs; Lei C. Hatchell, driving after license revoked, 18 months in jail suspended on payment of costs and condition of five years probation during which period he is not to drive; Arthur Smith, violation of the liquor laws, 18 months suspended on payment of \$150 fine and costs; Willet Hawkins, violation of probation terms, judgment continued on condition Hawkins remain sober and clean up around his home with Probation Officer ordered to make detailed check on his home life and Rufus Peede, reckless driving \$50 and costs.

There are 13,000 fewer telephones on North Carolina farms now than there were in 1920.

War on Kinston Housing Shortage Appears to be Won

When the several hundred houses now under construction in the Kinston area are complete there is every evidence that a good big hole will be cut out of the long-standing housing shortage in this section of the forest.

Since the Marine Base boom days of World War II when more people started coming to Eastern Carolina than the draft boards could ship away there has never been quite enough houses to go around in Kinston, and of course, the same goes for many other small Eastern Carolina towns, that are now flexing their grammar and beginning to call themselves Cities.

With the end of World War II and when building restrictions became for nearly five years more a nightmarish memory than anything else, considerable local effort was made to fill the natural gap between the number of families and the number of dwelling units in the Kinston area.

After nearly four years without any building there was a

natural housing shortage if not one single new family had moved to Kinston, since in that four year period a lot of boys and gals had marched to the altar, to the maternity wards and back and had native families growing where teen-age kids had been when the Japs started bombing Pearl Harbor.

This home-grown crop of housing problems was rocking along in a make-shift manner, either bunking with "ma and pa" or doubling up in dozens of old large homes about every part of Kinston that had been cut into two and three room units which were for want of a better and more applicable name called Apartments. Perhaps the British word "Diggins" would have been more sensibly applied. But they were a roof, a place to sleep, to eat, to live, to love and to breed.

A minor flicker on the housing front came with "Shack Town" when Contractor O. L. Shackelford and Realtor-Lawyer Ely Perry combined to build a dozen or so homes at what was then the western end of High-

land Avenue. For a while it looked as if Shackelford and Perry would have to install their own families in this group in order to ever get them filled and paying off mortgages. But that was not for long.

George DuBose, another contractor, built two small groups of homes over in the Fairfield section south of Vernon Avenue. Individuals by way of GI loan and other assorted mortgages agencies began putting up homes all over the place. Some months more than a dozen permits would be issued of this nature.

To fill the breach for those folks who couldn't talk a mortgage out of anyone due to their income status the Kinston Authority was lucky enough to snag on to some two million government-loan bucks for over 200 low-rental apartment units which are now additions to Simon Bright apartments and the brand new Negro group, Carver Courts.

But then one day in September 1950 a long-awaited and golden sounding announcement

was made by officials of the Du Pont Company that they were going to build their third nylon plant near Kinston and would need some 1,200 people to keep this multi-million dollar project humming every hour of every day in the year. With this news that the industrial payroll of Lenoir County would be much more than doubled in one sudden burst of Du Pont magic there immediately followed a lot of head-getting-together on the subject of housing for the Du Pont folks.

Where real estate had been inclined to crawl almost back to its pre-war status in the urban areas of Kinston with the end of WW II it now started heading for the outer stratosphere and at this writing it has not yet headed to earth, where it began.

Public meetings, private meetings, rosy plans, chamber of commerce pipe dreams of a Kinston of 50,000 people before you could write E. I. du Pont de Nemours and so on into many a long hot summer night.

But the people who preached

and prayed and did a great deal of testifying about the housing situation—the very people who had the land, the money, the credit, the brains, and an option on every inside track sat on their hands and bankrolls and waited for a long, long time for the widows, the small merchants, the amateurs, the government and other assorted groups to take over a job which their position almost forced upon them.

Then more thunder came into the housing sky with the reactivation of Stallings Field, the city-county airport, as a contract flying school for the Air Force. Another 1,200 house-looking folks would be shipped into Kinston, and almost overnight, to put that Korean War born show on the roads. And during all of this there were some five or six hundred Camp Lejeune and Cherry Point Marines looking places to park their wives and children while they picked up cigarette butts and killed time in general at these two huge reservations.

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Every Eligible Voter Should Cast PMA Ballot

Whitford Hill, chairman of the Lenoir County PMA committee, today issued a final call to all farmers of the county who are eligible to vote in the PMA farmer-committee elections.

"A voice in the selection of committeemen to administer the various farm programs under PMA is a vital right under our system of free government. It is a privilege that should not be neglected."

Polls will be open from 9 a. m. to 6 p. m. on December 18. Voting places are as follows: Contentnea—F. W. Stokes' Store; D. W. Hamilton's Store. Falling Creek—Roland Dawson Jr.'s Store.

Institute—L. C. Hardy's Store. Kinston—Kirby Loftin's Store (Greenville Highway); Agricultural Building.

Moseley Hall—W. G. Britt's Office.

Neuse—Harold Lee's Store (Richlands Highway).

Pink Hill—Roy Taylor's Store (Richland Highway); Hill Supply Co. (Pink Hill).

Sand Hill—Willie White's Service Station.

Southwest—Southwood Grange Hall.

Trent No. 1—J. R. Davenport's Store.

Trent No. 2—Moss Hill Service Station.

Vance—A. C. Bizzell's Store. Woodington—Harry Waller's Store.

Polling places in Jones County are the fire station in Maysville for White Oak Township, Armstrong's store in Pollockville, The Ag Building in Trenton, F. P. Noble's store in Cypress Creek, Blizard's store in Tuckahoe, Killingsworth store in Chinquapin and Sasser's Mill in Beaver Creek township.

"No Lenoir County farmer who is eligible to vote should let that time pass without voting."

says the chairman. "The three farmers who will serve on the community committee and the delegates to the county convention from that community should be the choice of the majority of eligible voters in the community."

Eligible voters are the owners, operators, tenants, or sharecroppers on a farm that is participating this year in any program administered by the county and community PMA committees.

Elections are entirely non-partisan and eligible voters are free to vote for any farmer they choose, providing they are participating in one or more of the PMA programs this year.

Hill said he is issuing this final call to farmers to vote in the PMA committee elections because he believes that the elected committee system of administering farm programs is vital to the welfare of agriculture in this country and that farmers should not endanger the system by failure to vote.

He explains that in voting a farmer may want to re-elect the same committeemen who are serving now or he may want other farmers to serve on the committee. "Whichever way it is, he should express himself by voting his choice. Only by voting can a democracy be made to work."