

Jones Journal

"A BETTER COUNTY THROUGH IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES"

VOLUME FOUR

TRENTON, N. C. Thursday, March 19, 1953

Number 45

Revaluation Brought Few Squawks on Equalization Day



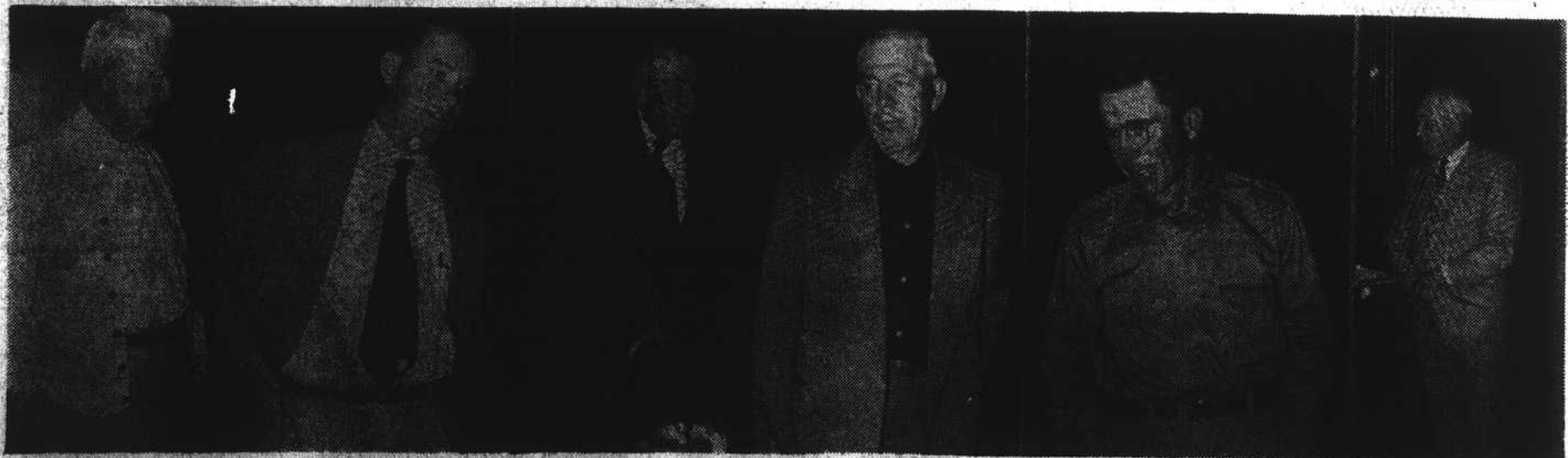
Fitzhugh Wallace, Jr. Mrs. Flossie Croom Dortch Stroud Mrs. Riggs Rouse Fred I. Sutton Fletcher Hollingsworth



Reuben Goodman Mrs. Gladys McCullers L. D. Hardy, Jr. Jim Faulkner E. S. Howard Mrs. C. B. Simmons W. F. Grant



Eugenia Scarborough Earl Tyndall A. G. Phelps W. Allen Sutton Earl Kinsey Verdi Noble



Casco Sparrow Tom Harper Hugh E. Hardy Emmett Jones Glennie Harper E. N. Dickenson

In 1933, just as the dregs of this generation's worst depression were being felt and feared Lenoir County had a tax revaluation. As might have been expected the temperament of the times was pessimistic and the result of the revaluation was downward, as perhaps it should have been at that time.

With returning prosperity and a need for more tax dollars to run the county, in 1939 a horizontal increase of 25 per cent was tacked onto that 1933 valuation. But not until 1952 was an

actual equalization ordered by the Lenoir County Board of Commissioners and now that scientific and professional evaluation and equalization has been completed and taxpayers of the county are having their first opportunity to put in their complaints about how it has hit them.

Under the law, the third Monday in March is set aside as "Equalization Day" and on that day the board of county commissioners sits to hear complaints from taxpayers who feel

their property has not been properly evaluated.

That day came on Monday of this week and 26 persons showed up to register various complaints. There were other written objections that were not reached in this deliberation on Monday and further hearings will be held next week to take these up.

A surprisingly flattering commentary on the evaluation is the fact that nearly all of those 26 taxpayers who appeared Monday went away happy once they

understood exactly what the situation was. This, of course, was not the unanimous consensus since some did not agree after having the workings of the change explained to them.

Among those to appear were Fitzhugh Wallace, Jr., who asked that the valuation of the Kinston Country Club be lowered from its new value of \$47,000 to something more nearly in line with the old value of \$9,630. This request was denied.

E. S. Howard of Pink Hill

Township wanted his property lowered from the new figure of \$4,560 back to the neighborhood of the value \$1,750. "No," was the answer to his request.

L. D. Hardy, Jr., of Institute, appearing in behalf of his mother, Mrs. Ida Hardy, went away happy when he was shown that the \$140 per acre values placed on his mother's property were a bit lower than prices placed on adjoining farms.

Mrs. Gladys McCullers, of La-Grange, asked consideration of

Continued on Page 8