

Jones Journal

"A BETTER COUNTY THROUGH IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES"

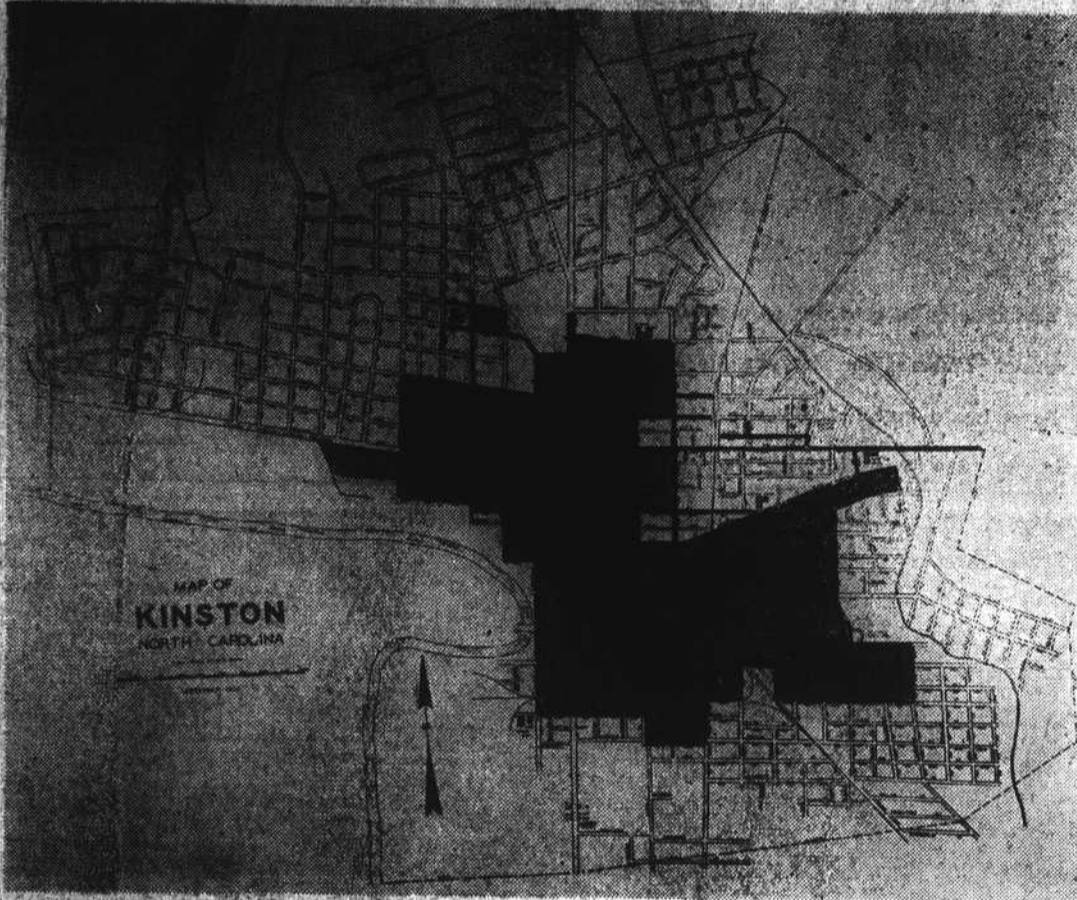
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Editorial

Less Than Half of Kinston Has Sidewalks



This map reproduced above, indicates another problem that faces the Kinston Board of Aldermen, that ought to be approached and solved immediately. The darker portion of the map above shows the part of Kinston where sidewalks are provided. The lighter portion of the map which includes by far the major part of the city includes those areas where no sidewalks are provided.

This subject of sidewalks is one that has been regarded rather like a red-headed step-child and it has now grown up to such proportions that it will be difficult to cope with.

The principal reason we are hollering on this subject, of course, lies in the traffic hazard that this lack of sidewalks presents, both to school children and adults. Forced to walk in the streets, where thousands of

cars swarm and zoom it is inevitable that sooner or later somebody is going to be hurt or possibly killed.

The failure of the city to provide sidewalks after so many plans from so many people certainly, it would seem, leave the city open for suits if such a tragedy occurs and, we believe further, that the cost of paying off one suit would much more than amount to the cost of putting sidewalks in those areas where they are needed.

Back when a car was more or less a strange and rare machine Kinston built sidewalks as the town grew but for some reason—perhaps just a simple oversight, as the town grew and as the automobile multiplied over and over again sidewalks were left in the shuffle some where.

On the mid-thirties Attorney Jesse A. Jones appeared before

the city council and asked for a single sidewalk from Fairfield to town so that school children would not have to walk to school down US 76. Jones was listened to but not much more.

Periodically, over the years since we started this paper, we have also hollered on this subject—and we intend to keep on hollering. We think every Parent-Teacher Association in the city should have sidewalk construction as its No. 1 project and kept as that until sidewalks are provided.

The bus service to these outlying areas is nowhere near adequate and as one parent put it to us last week: "I wouldn't mind my kids walking if they had some sidewalks to walk on. Now they neither have bus service or sidewalks."

It's time to do something NOW, not after a funeral.

Carolina Power & Light Drops Kinston Gas Plant And to No One's Surprise



Above at right Kinston Attorney Fitzhugh Wallace, Jr., explains in a little more detail some of the aspects of the company represented by his law firm taking over the gas franchise in Kinston which is being dropped by the Carolina Power and Light Company on October 1st of this year. Wallace, who with his father represents the Public Service Company of New York, as well as Carolina Power and Light in Kinston, said to the board of aldermen Monday night that the New York outfit would not be interested in less than a 30 year franchise, which is the length of the one that comes to an end on October 1st. Listening intently at left is Alderman Barwell Temple who along with the other three aldermen present voted unanimously naming a committee of Mayor Guy Elliott, City Manager Bill Heard and City Attorney George Greene to enter in negotiations with the New York company for a 30-year franchise. (Polaroid Photo-in-a-minute by Jack Rider.)

Other matters taken up in the September session of the Kinston Town Council at its delayed Monday night meeting included the passing of an ordinance making a bird sanctuary of Kinston which forbids the

shooting, trapping or molesting of any and all songbirds.

Newsman Jack Rider appeared before the group and presented a map of the city (Reproduced in this issue) which shows that more than half of the city is without sidewalks. Rider begged the council to do something toward providing sidewalks before some person is injured or killed from having to walk in the heavy trafficked streets. The matter was referred to City Manager Bill Heard who was not present at the meeting, being absent on his annual vacation.

Attorney Marion Parrott briefly discussed the closing of an alley between the Caswell Hotel and Oasis Theatre but on advice of City Attorney Greene who said the city had no legal claim on the alley which was very clearly a private alley the council told Parrott it had nothing to do with the closing of said alley. Alderman Ed Johnson told Parrott to rush along with the building since a building would pay more taxes than an alley.

The city's insurance coverage for the coming year beginning October fourth went to a company represented by W. A. Moore for an annual premium of \$8,432.77.

May, 1952, production of total nonfat dry milk solids was the highest for any month in 18 years of record.

Judge Henry A. Grady, At 82, Still Holds Lively Court

Judge Henry A. Grady is North Carolina's oldest Superior Court judge but a great many far younger men could learn how to expedite matters in the court room if they took lessons from the 82-year-old jurist who now lives just below New Bern on the beautiful banks of the lower Neuse.

Holding court in Kinston this week Grady not only displayed the usual enthusiasm for his work that has marked his many years on the bench but also had his well known wit about him at all times.

One of the first cases heard was a divorce case in which J. Frank Wooten, one of Kinston's best known lawyers, was splitting a couple legally asunder. Wooten referred to a witness in the case as "that little white headed girl." Grady, who is snow-white haired himself, quickly reminded Wooten that Wooten's eyesight was not so good, the judge declaring, "That's a red headed gal."

A few minutes later in another case Wooten, defending Florine Blackman Brooks on an assault with a broken pop bot-

tle charge, declared that he couldn't get that prosecuting witness into court and that he had been trying for a year to get him into court.

Officer Paul Young reminded Wooten that the cutting with the Coke bottle had not happened until July of this year, at which point Judge Grady leaned forward to remind Wooten, "Frank, your eyesight is failing and your memory has gone bad on you, too." Mrs. Brooks was fined \$25.

Running headlong through the court's calendar, the 82-year-old Judge with a lot of pushing and shoving cleared the following cases by noon-time Tuesday: Clara Lee Harriss, case remanded to juvenile court, after Grady ruled that the case had not been properly appealed from the Juvenile Judge John S. Davis. Davis had ordered the girl to be committed to the State Training School for Girls at Samarcaud.

An assault with a deadly weapon charge against Clyde Morgan was not pressed after the prosecuting witness had failed to show up to testify against

the one-armed defendant.

Delzell Brinson and Ada Taylor were each charged with having in their possession some stumpled whisky and Grady gave them identical sentences: One year in prison, suspended on payment of a \$100 fine, the court cost and condition of their being placed on probation for five years.

Mercer Fields was given a two year jail sentence suspended on condition he pay the hospital bills of Willie Robertson whom he admitted shooting in a brawl at the "Club Executive" on the night of January Third.

Grady brought this trial to a grinding halt when he told counsel for the defense, "You can plead this man guilty to assault with a deadly weapon or I'll issue a bench warrant for him on the basis of what he has admitted on the witness stand and give him four years in prison for buying a pistol without a license and for carrying a concealed weapon."

After one of the briefest conferences on record between client and attorney the "guilty" plea was tendered. Fields was

placed on probation for five years and ordered to pay the hospital bill of Robertson as well as paying him a reasonable amount of the time Robertson had lost from work.

Tom Waters drew a \$25 fine and court costs after a jury had convicted him of speeding. This was Waters' second speeding conviction in five months and will mean his loss of driving license for at least a six-month period.

Dalton Taylor was ordered to pay a \$100 fine and court costs after a jury had convicted him of drunken driving. Notice of appeal to the Supreme Court was given by Taylor's counsel.

A jury found Henry F. Furches NOT GUILTY of forcibly trespassing into the home of James Jenkins of 106 East Blount Street. Furches was shot twice with a .25 caliber pistol during the fight that followed the alleged trespass, neither wound was serious.

Jenkins testified that two women, one of whom was Furches' fiancée had begged entry to his apartment to escape Furches who had beaten the fiancée.

The fiancée denied this and apparently the jury believed her, or decided that Jenkins had inflicted enough punishment on Furches for the alleged trespass.

Emmanuel Harris of Pink Hill drew nine months on the roads for cutting the face of Willie Clark open with a bush axe earlier this month in a fight near Pink Hill. Clark had gone back to Mississippi and failed to show up to testify against Harris, but Pink Hill Chief of Police P. H. Squires described the wound Clark had suffered.

Elizabeth Koonce was granted a divorce from Jake Koonce on the grounds that he had committed adultery and Claude Swanson Dodd was granted a divorce from Rebecca Dodd on the grounds of two years separation.

More than 192 million pounds of tobacco was sold on the Georgia-Florida Belt during the 1953 marketing season.