

# Jones Journal

"A BETTER COUNTY THROUGH IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES"

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## Personal Property to be Closely Scanned at Listing Time

### Lenoir Tax Supervisor Promises Far More Attention to Inventory Listings And Household Furnishings In 1954

Lenoir County Tax Supervisor and Collector Milton Williams saw one of his major problems taken care of with the listing of taxes for the current year when the revaluation of all real estate in the county as well as all machinery and fixtures was put on the books at a figure arrived at by the scientific evaluation methods of the Cole-Layer Trumble Company.

But with the clearing up of the long-standing inequities in this part of the tax picture Supervisor Williams recognized that only a part of the overall job was done and he told the County Board of Commissioners last year that beginning with the listing period for 1954—which is just around a couple of holiday corners—that the next job would get underway. That is a more logical personal property listing than has been the habit in the past for most individuals and business houses.

Illustrating his point Williams pointed out to the board that under the existing law his department has the authority to take inventory of each business. He has reason to believe that the inventory listings offered by

the various local business houses is not accurate.

Williams made it very plain to the board that he plans to crack down on these personal property listings this year—both in the home and in the business houses.

A check of the 1953 inventory listings by representative Kinston businesses indicates very clearly just what Williams had on his mind.

For instance compare the 1953 listings of a few: Sidney's which is a nice but is still one of the smaller department stores, listed an inventory of \$18,500 last January. Against that E. J. E. listed \$16,030, Penny's \$13,340, A. J. Sutton's \$14,750, Harry Pearson \$18,975, Nachamson's \$20,185, Brody's \$32,650, Belk's \$36,000, Montgomery Ward \$35,415, Sears \$64,580, Harvey's \$35,565.

Williams reasonably infers from this that Sidney's is listing too high or some of the other much larger stores are listing too low. He plans this year to find which is the case.

Consider theatres. The Park Theatre lists \$25,975 worth of fixtures. The Paramount Theatre lists \$3,865 and the Carolina Theatre lists \$2,945. Which is some spread.

Looking at the women's clothing business further gaps existed in the 1953 listing picture. Diana Store topped all the local female shops by listing \$17,350 inventory. No other Kinston shop came within half that listing. The Fashion Shoppe \$6,240, The Ladies Shoppe \$6,000, Chameblain & Braxton \$5,415, Virginia Dare \$6,860.

There was also a considerable spread in the men's clothing business. Topping the listing there was the Sport Shop with a \$21,800 listing. H. Stadlem came next with \$17,600, Abe Stadlem's The Man's Store was next with \$10,475, Dave The Clothier next with \$7,800 and Kay's listed \$4,500.

Stacked beside these considerable gaps in the listing picture is the consistent listing of the four largest furniture dealers in Kinston: Oettinger \$38,400, Helwig-Levine \$35,000, Baker's \$31,160 and Quinn-Miller \$29,705.

Jewelers were also consistent: Foxman's \$17,600, Mewborne's \$14,800 and Erskine's \$13,030.

Drug stores were not so consistent. Topping the list but with four stores was Standard Drugs with a \$36,300 inventory listing. Hood's was next with \$26,285, Marston's was third

### The Past Week In Review

Howard Manning, 41 year old forger, drew two years in prison Monday in Recorder's Court and from Kinston he was transferred back to the Wayne County jail in Goldsboro to stand trial on a similar charge. To make matters worse for Manning he'll have to go to Richmond to face trial there for more forgery charges when he has finished pulling the time he accumulates along the way in North Carolina.

The Sheriff's Department in Lenoir County and the State Bureau of Investigation are still beating the bushes for two men wanted for the early Saturday morning abduction-robbery-rape case in which 29-year-old Clara Howard was taken at pistol point from the car of Marine Sergeant Samuel T. Smith after Smith had been robbed of some \$50 and his car keys. The pair took Miss Howard some three miles to a pecan grove on the Simon Jackson Farm where she says one of them raped her. At that spot deputies came upon the car but it managed to get away and less than three miles

with a \$15,000 inventory, College Street Pharmacy listed \$12,000, Temple's \$8,725, Hogan's \$5,000, Sewell's \$3,780 and Lenoir \$3,500.

Super-markets spread out a good bit too: A&P listed \$16,175.

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from that point she was dumped out of the car, barefoot in sub-freezing weather.

Kinston Policemen Jim Brown and John Barrow early Monday morning saw a '48 Model Ford turn off the highway and head down by the Star Warehouse. Brown decided that this maneuver looked a little suspicious so they decided to follow the car. For some eight or ten blocks they did and then suddenly the driver jammed on the brakes, threw open the door and took off in high gear for the low-grounds. But riding on the right in the car Fred Lewis, of 604 Lincoln Street, was less fortunate. He tried to get out too, but when he tried to open the door Barrow, driving the police car would nudge it enough to keep Lewis hemmed up until Brown could get on the ground and get the situation in hand. The nervous inclination to flight exhibited by the pair stemmed from the fact that stacked neatly in the Ford were 94 jars of stump-hole whisky. One case between the driver and Lewis prevented Lewis' departure by the same route. Nelson Howard, the fleet-footed owner and driver of the car was picked up later in the day to join Lewis in the city jail pending trial on charge of violating the liquor laws. The car was also held pending confiscation procedure by the courts.

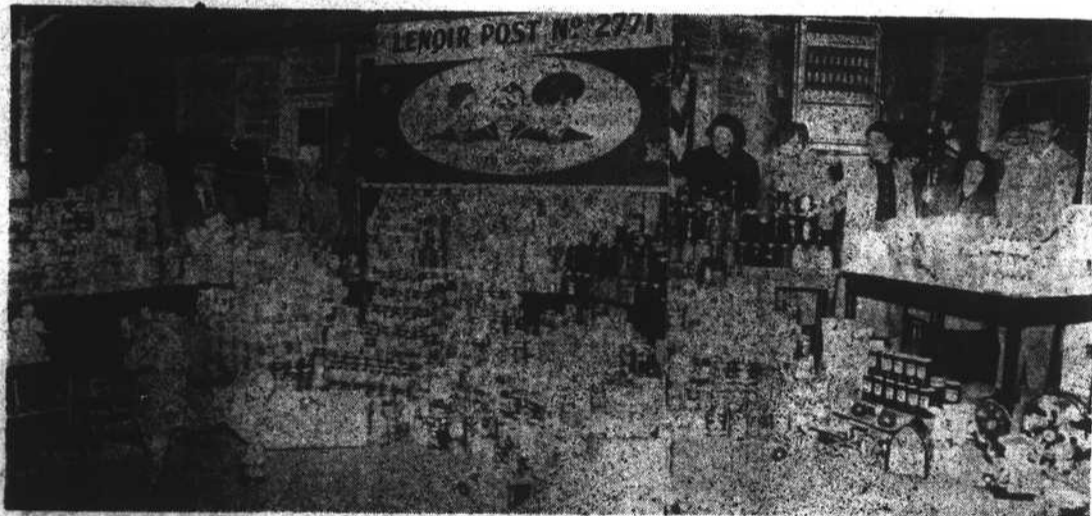
## VFW and Caudill's Begging Brighten 100 Local Homes

Carl Caudill is not known by those who know him best as a "shrinking violet." In most conversational groups he is usually easily identifiable by being the loudest and longest talker but there are things about which he can become almost tearfully silent—at least one thing.

Caudill's Coffee Shop which erupts into the air each morning over Station WFTC in Kinston apparently has a pretty wide listening audience—or if not a lot, it at least has a generous-minded audience.

Some five years ago Caudill with Boy Scout Troop 42 started what he has now tagged "Operation Santa Claus." Simply put the operation was this. Carl begged for good, clothing and toys over his program and with the help of his Scout Troop distributed these offerings on Christmas Eve Night to needy families.

This year Caudill raised his sights considerably. In the past about 30 families had been the top number on the receiving end of the Coffee Shop largess but "Old Caudill" said "By Gum, this year we're gonna get



Above members of the Lenoir Post No. 2771 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Post Auxiliary are seen sorting and being amazed simultaneously at the mountain of food, toys and clothing that have been obtained through donations by listeners to Carl Caudill's Coffee Shop

enough—a-stuff for a hundred families."

And "By Gum" that is just what "Old Caudill" did, but not without some help here and

program and picked up by VFW members who also were scheduled to spend a goodly part of their Christmas Eve night distributing this collection to the 100 most needy families in this area. From left to right in the picture above are Post Commander John A. Cutler, members Rodolph Nunn, Hugh Mattocks, Auxiliary Members Mrs. Allen Curtis, Mrs. Mattocks, Mrs. Cutler, Mrs. Caudill and once again Commander Cutler—how'd that character get into the act twice? (Polaroid Photo-aminute by Jack Rider.)

collection of these items offered by people who listen to Caudill's Coffee Shop. It's not likely, however, that the VFW had any idea what a collection job

it would have on its hands. They reckoned without the begging ability of "Young Carl."

When the deal went down Caudill with the cooperation of thousands of generous-minded people and the VFW had just about filled up one end of the VFW hut with "loot" that will be distributed on Christmas Eve Night by two teams of VFWers. Half of the "loot" goes to 50 needy white families selected by the Salvation Army and the other half will go to 50 needy negro families selected by Mrs. Mary K. Holloway, retired director of negro recreational activities in Kinston.

More than 3,600 items of food—items raneg from a small can of milk up to a bushel of sweet potatoes—300 items of clothing and about 150 toys are to be distributed.

Tull Hill, Lenoir County's champion sweet potato producer, gave Caudill 50 bushels of sweet potatoes, the Carolina Cleaners and Laundry cleaned free of charge all items of clothing donated, Lutz and Strong Pickle Company of Ayden, gave 25 cases of pickles.

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# Merry Christmas