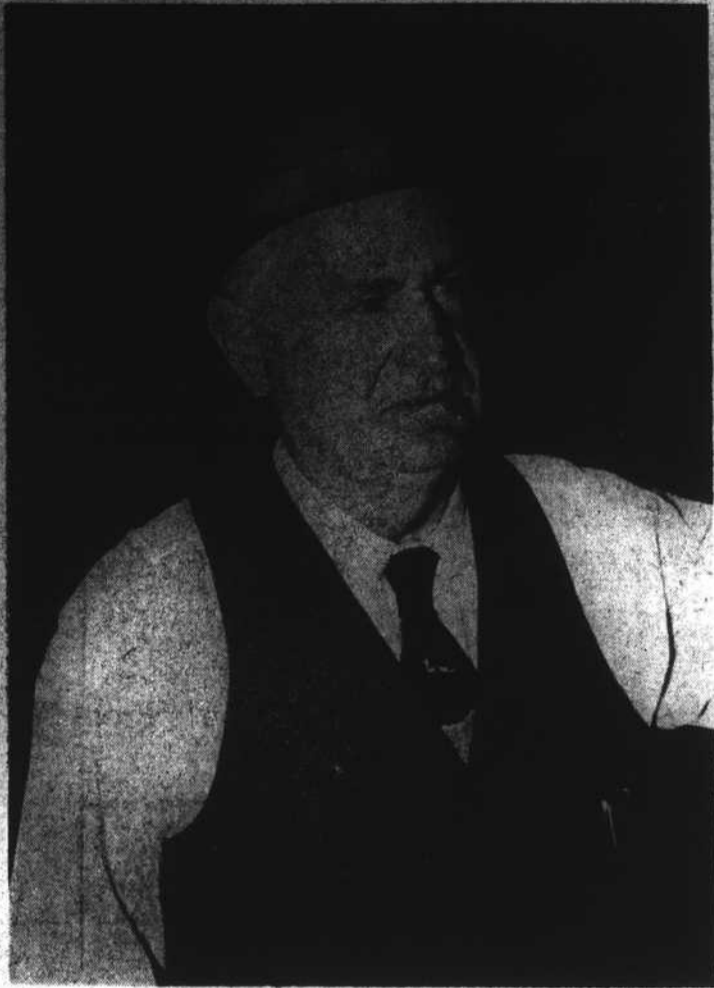


Meet The Dean



Power Plant Superintendent Albert Scott

J. Albert Scott is the Dean of the 240 employees of the City of Kinston and by a pretty good margin, having been employed without interruption since August 1911—the exact date has escaped his memory as well as the “memory” of the city's official records.

But in that 42 1-2 years since this native of Jones County came to Kinston and became a part of the ever-growing team that supplies the services that so many take for granted there have been some considerable changes in the “Old Home Town.” And not the least of these has taken place in the city-owned power plant where Scott has pulled all of his “hitch.”

Scott was born near what is now Oxley's Crossroads in Jones County on October 25, 1891, which puts him in his 63rd year now. He was one of six children born to the late S. W. and Leah Andrews Scott and he still owns the “old home place.”

After his schooling had started at a crossroads “little school house” and progressed some more in the schools in Trenton, Scott with his family moved to Kinston—a distant 18 miles away in those slow-travelling times. Scott and his family took up residence in Kinston in the winter of 1904-05 and he added more to his schooling at the old Rhodes Military Academy which sat atop the beautiful hill now occupied by Memorial General Hospital and the home of Mrs. Heber McCoy.

In August 1911, shortly before his 20th birthday, Scott became one fourth of the labor force at the city's tiny power plant. Scott and the late Ernest Dunn were the “operators” of the two generators the city then proudly boasted—one of 50 kilowatt capacity and the other of 80 kilowatt capacity. The only other employees were the firemen, Negroes Bill Reed and Charlie Jarman, both of whom have also passed on.

Those two tiny generators and two hand-fired boilers supplied the Kinston of 1911 with what power it got. The population in that 42-year-ago time stood at about 6,995, Scott recalls of that time:

“We worked 12 hours and were

Highlights In The Past Week

Harold Adams of Albertson route one in Duplin County, Leslie Stroud Jr. of Kinston route four and Willie Bennett of 215 East South Street in Kinston were caught with a 1930 Studebaker loaded down by some 72 jars of stump-hole whisky Friday night by Officers Sam Ives and Harold Cogdell of the Kinston Police Department.

Bids were opened Tuesday on the new elementary school that is to be built soon just Northeast of the Kinston City Limits and school officials were well pleased with the bidding which was considerably lower than had been anticipated by architects and some school board members. After the bidding had been reviewed and after the alternates had been decided upon it was found that all four of the major bids were placed by Kinston firms. O. L. Shackelford was low bidder on the general contract for the 20-room school. Horace Ervin Electric Company was low bidder for the wiring of the building and the Kinston Plumbing and Heating Company was low bidder on both the plumbing and heating work in the school. As soon as a detailed review of the bids is made by Architect John Rowland, the contracts will be signed and work will begin soon afterwards. The total of the bids was slightly in excess of the \$520,000 available for the this much-needed school and the review

See Past Week Page 12

off 12 hours. No holidays. Seven days every week in the year and the only way we could get time off was for Dunn to stand an extra shift for me, or me for him.”

Scott remembers the boilers that produced steam for those early generators: “They were hand-fed of course, largely with wood slabs purchased from local sawmills and occasionally a little coal would be used.”

Then the “light plant” as most Kinstonians call it, underwent

See Scott Page 7

THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

VOLUME FIVE TRENTON, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1954.

NO. 36

Tax Article Backfires Due to Wrong Impression Some Got of the Listing By Harvey's Which was the Highest

The recent series of articles in this paper having to do with inventories listed by Kinston merchants for purpose of taxation has caused some misunderstandings, at least one of which seems to persist in spite of every effort that can be made to end it.

In the original story (December 25th) in a listing of inventories listed for taxation by local department stores it was stated, correctly, that the following valuations were on the tax books: Sidney's \$18,500, Ebird's \$16,030, Penny's \$13,340, A. J. Sutton's \$14,750, Harry Pearson's \$18,975, Nachamson's \$20,185, Brody's \$32,650, Belk-Tyler's \$36,000, Montgomery Ward's \$35,415, Harvey's \$35,565 and Sear's \$64,580.

Last week a further article in this connection pointed out that the \$35,565 listing for Harvey only included the inventory listings of the Harvey department store and did not include the entire Harvey listing.

It was felt that since other department store listings were included in this category that the reading public would be able to understand that this figure was not the entire Harvey listing. But this was a flattering impression to have of the reading public since many persist in the belief that \$35,565 is the total listing of the Harvey business establishment between

Queen and Heritage Streets.

Such is certainly not the case. Added to the department store listings from Harvey of \$35,565 are the shoe department listing of \$8,770 and the appliance and machinery listing of \$60,545 which make a total inventory listing for the Harvey businesses between Queen and Heritage Streets of \$104,880. This does not include real estate or store fixtures but is only the inventory listing.

Felix Harvey III, president of the Harvey Company, points out that he shares 100 per cent the views of this paper and its effort to obtain a more realistic inventory listing from local merchants. Harvey understandably did not like the wrong impression that so many people had gained from the December 25th article in this paper, since rather than being among the “lowest listers” Harvey's rates among the very highest.

The \$35,565 listing for its department store which did not include the store's shoe department is, by far, the highest department store listing in the county as a review of the figures printed above clearly indicates.

Peculiarly enough, this paper published the original article with the express purpose in mind of embarrassing the absurdly low listers in this inventory category but apparently



Above is a picture of Sergeant First Class Guy T. Eubanks Jr. who has now been officially declared killed in action by the Department of Defense. Sgt. Eubanks, son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy T. Eubanks of Trenton route one, had been on the missing in action list since September 5, 1950.

ended up in causing the most acute and erroneous embarrassment to the highest lister rather than the lower.

Viewed from a volume or store-square-footage position Harvey's listed inventory for its department store is a model that many of those low listers on Queen Street might strive to copy.

Spaniel Saves Family Of Six

Last Saturday night the James Braxton family of Grifton Route two—just across the river from Grifton proper—went to bed as usual and to sleep.

Mrs. Braxton says that about 11 o'clock she was awakened by the whining and pawing of their pet cocker spaniel “Blackjack” who had jumped onto her bed.

On arousing, Mrs. Braxton found the house filled with smoke and afire. Her four children that were at home and her husband were all still asleep when she was waked by “Blackjack.”

Mrs. Braxton hurriedly aroused the other five members of the family and along with “Blackjack” they beat a hasty retreat from the house which was by that time afire all over.

The Grifton Fire Department answered the call but by the time they arrived it was too late to save any part of their home or its contents.

With boys six and 10 years of age and girls 5 and 4 the Braxtons are in need of every thing that goes to make a home—furniture, clothing and most particularly bed clothing.

“Blackjack,” the hero of this incident is a solid black cocker who has yet to reach his first birthday. The Braxtons got him last spring about tobacco transplanting time when he was a tiny ball of black wool. He is NOT for sale, at any price, the entire Braxton Family agrees.



“Blackjack,” seen here sitting in the lap of Mrs. James Braxton, will not be a year old for several months yet but he is already a hero of the first water. His anxious whining and pawing that awakened Mrs. Braxton last Saturday night

quite probably saved her life and the life of her husband and four children when their home and its entire contents were totally destroyed by fire. (Polaroid photo-in-a-minute by Jack Rider.)