

THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

NUMBER 48 TRENTON, N. C., THURSDAY APRIL 7, 1955 VOLUME 6

Seventeen Candidates Seeking 6 Jobs Available on Kinston's Ruling Board

Although it first appeared that Kinston politics were going to be very quiet this spring a last minute burst of filing by would-be office holders has now assured an extremely hot campaign for the five seats on the city council and the job of mayor for the next two years.

On March 23 the incumbent council and mayor filed together, in an unprecedented display of solidarity and until April 1, just 36 hours before the filing deadline the incumbents had the field very much to themselves. These are Mayor Guy Elliott and Aldermen Charlie Sanders, John Rider, Ed Johnson, Burwell Temple and Frank LaRoque.

But then a former candidate, Broker Roy Wooten, tossed his bomb in for the third consecutive battle. Wooten had run for the board of aldermen in 1951 and came in eighth in a field of 12 with 464 votes and in 1953 he had first filed for alderman and at the last minute decided to run for mayor. In that race Wooten wound up a lot higher in the listings, second to Mayor Guy Elliott. There were no other announced candidates but another, Wooten, J. P., got three write-in votes for the city's chief executive job. Elliott got 2023 votes, Roy Wooten got 756.

After Wooten had broken the ice by filing Friday morning another candidate showed up to the Friday afternoon. He was Winston S. Wheeler, a salesman, who is currently leading the resistance to the purchase of power lines inside the city limits by the city from Carolina Power & Light Company.

Saturday morning two more associates of Wheeler in that Quixotic effort paid their filing fee. John C. Dall Jr., a Du Pont employee, and Robert C. Deal, a Serv-Air mechanic.

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Legislation For Jones County Permits Maysville Extension; Driver Training In Schools

House Bill 588 which was introduced by Jones County Representative John Hargett has passed the House and has been reported favorably in the Senate.

This bill, which was requested by the Maysville Town Council, will extend the city limits of Maysville, Jones County's largest town.

Other legislation tendered by Hargett permits the Maysville Council to order the condemnation of buildings in the city limits and to further order their demolition. This bill (House Bill 418) merely extends to Maysville the same powers granted by General Statute to all towns of 5,000 or more population.

House Bill 651, which has passed the House, asks permission for the Jones County Board of Education to include in its county-wide current expense school budget funds for instruction in driver training and safety education.

Other legislation specifically for Jones County introduced so far by Representative Hargett permits the levy of a 15 cent, rather than a 10 cent ad valorem tax for support of the farm and home agent offices, repeals a special levy of 5 cents for expenses of the county attorney and permits a 10 cent levy for co-operation with the state in forest fire prevention.

New Streets Needed

City Manager Bill Heard reminded the city council Monday night of the urgent need for additional connecting streets and bridges between Heritage Street

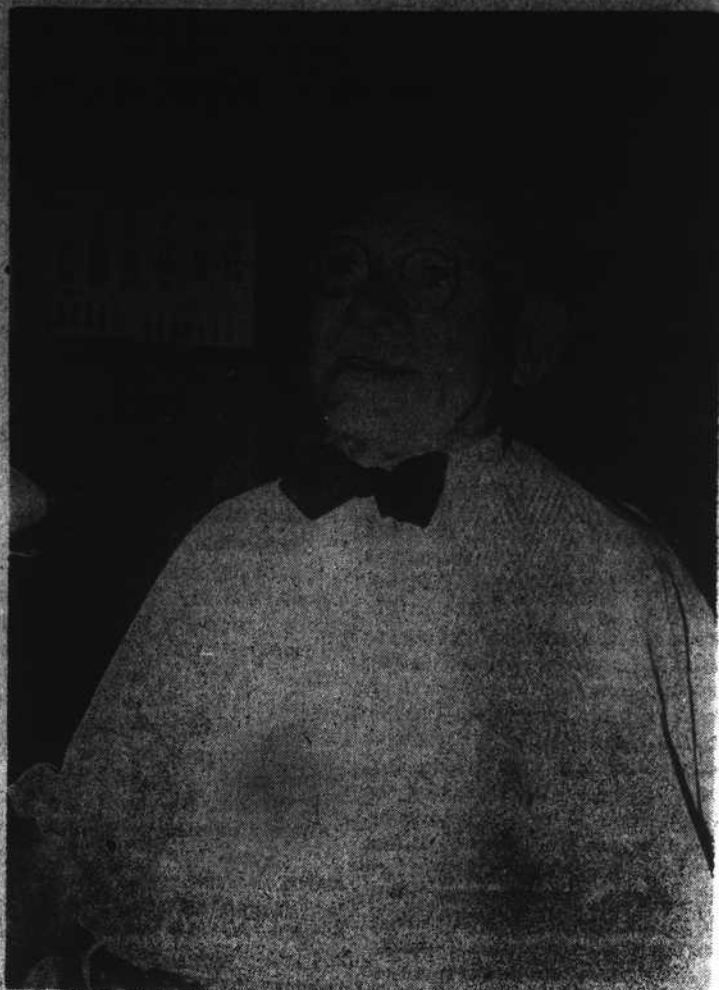
and the Old Snow Hill Road. This need will be greatly increased by the opening next fall of Teachers Memorial School which will serve children living on and east of Heritage Street. This will force some children, with present streets, to have to travel over a mile and a half and connecting roads would almost cut that distance in half, Heard pointed out. Already under construction, Heard reminded it the extension of East Daniel Street across the Adkin and to the Old Snow Hill Road. A proper bridge at that point would cost a minimum of \$4,000 he estimated. The council agreed to include that bridge in the '55-'56 budget and have it completed by September first.

Prospective Tobacco Acreage
Prospective U. S. acreage of flue-cured tobacco is estimated at 995,300 acres, a reduction of five per cent from the 1,042,200 acres harvested last year.

Street Widening Cost Estimated

City Manager Bill Heard Monday night gave the city council estimates it had asked for the cost to the city of moving existing utilities facilities back on Queen Street between Peyton and Vernon Avenues to permit the six-foot widening that has been requested of the State Highway and Public Works Commission. Heard's estimate of the cost to the city was \$3,750 and he reminded that no trees would have to be moved and no right-of-way would have to be purchased.

Kinstonians at Work



Morris Bloom is a long way from his native home, but Kinston has been his home since 1907, and today as he nears his 61st birthday anniversary on July 14, he is still very much a fixture in the life of the community.

Bloom was born many years ago and many thousand miles away in a village in Southern Russia near Odessa, on the shores of the Black Sea. The full, rich and happy life he has led has taken him into many lands and into many strange situations.

Before he reached his teens his father died and his mother not being able to manage the business left by his father sold out in Southern Russia and went to live with relatives in the north-eastern corner of Russia, in actually what is part of Poland today. The city where Young Bloom grew up and learned his trade of boot making was Bialystok, which was then a frontier

town on the Polish-Russian border.

As a youth of 12 he went with an older man to Konigsberg (Now Kalingrad) for a two year period in which he worked at his trade and became more proficient in its practice.

In 1904, the year Tsar Alexander III died and the leadership of the Russians fell into the hands of Tsar Nicholas II, Young Bloom had reached the age for military duty. His country was not at war but he had to serve a four-year hitch in the Tsar's Army, most of which was spent in garrison duty near his childhood home, Bialystok. During the latter part of that time he supervised a group of 36 bootmakers whose task was to make boots for officers of their division. Bloom recalls now, sixty years later that in over two years he only cut one pair of boots "wrong." "They were too short," he remembers. Then, of course, (Continued from page 5)

Forest Fires One Aspect of Overall Soil-Water Problem



This picture taken last Friday afternoon looking across the farm of Manley and Henry Gray between Kinston and Trenton shows a tiny fraction of the damage that was being wrought

in the Great Diver Swamp by one of the worst forest fires of the year to hit Jones County. Forest Fire Wardens are begging all who come close to wooded areas to use extreme cau-

tion with any kind of fire, since the continuing dry weather has Eastern Carolina's woodland in one of the most inflammable conditions in many years. (Polaroid Photo in a Minute by Jack Miller)

In the first three and a fraction months of 1955 well over a half million acres of North Carolina timber land has been destroyed or damaged by fire.

This is a staggering, expensive loss for a state to suffer that ranks 47th in per capita income in the nation. It is even more staggering to know that a big part of that vast damage has been done deliberately and with malice.

But because of the vastness of the acres to be protected and the imperfections of the law it is next to impossible to secure a conviction, or for that matter even an indictment against those persons who have committed these gross crimes against the state as a whole and the landowners in particular.

North Carolina has over 49,097,000 acres of land within its borders and only 5,975,000 acres of that land are under cultivation. If one would be extremely liberal and allocate another million acres to cities, towns and other space-consuming things that would still leave over 42 million acres in Tar Heel land that is wooded. Naturally all of that vast area is not timber land. Much of it is swamp, sand or other soil types not suited to any kind of timber or crop pro-

duction.

But the point still remains, that after subtracting any liberal part of the state's acreage, North Carolina is still left with most of its land in the slow, but profitable production of timber.

The tragedy of fire is that it destroys the work of many years and makes difficult any new start on an immediate basis.

Forestry and its allied industries are not favored with such sudden and dramatic displays of power as the tobacco industry, but in the total, forestry and its products do contribute a vast amount to the economy of North Carolina.

Professionals in the field of forest conservation are today differing on many subjects, and not the least of these is FIRE. The great debate which has not yet broken into the open is, whether to have controlled fire under set conditions to thin underbrush, or to have, what the state is experiencing this year, uncontrolled fire, destroying everything under unprescribed conditions and at the worst possible time from the standpoint of wildlife as well as weather.

The non-professional who does not understand all of the intricate aspects of this argument,

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