



This shows three views of an almost miraculous accident that took place at about 10:50 Tuesday morning at Hussey's Crossroads, 16 miles west of Kinston on the Mount Olive Highway. The miracle being that nobody was killed.

A truck driven by Tommy Snipes of the Snipes Grocery Company of Goldsboro was headed in the direction of Kinston on the main highway. Another truck of the Southern Butane Gas Company of New Bern, driven by Morris Featherston, was pulling onto the main highway from the south.

Featherston suffered a terrible cut across the face, Snipes suffered only shock but both trucks were all but demolished.

The bottled high pressure gas truck lost its front wheels in the accident, rolled over on its back and for several hours hissed forth a cloud of highly flammable butane gas. The body of the large grocery truck was torn from the truck chassis and groceries were scattered all about the crossroads.

Patrolman Wesley Parrish who investigated the crash says Featherston will be indicted for failing to yield the right of way. The general consensus was that Featherston was lucky to be alive.

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## Damp Weekend In Two Ways Locally

Although it is pretty generally agreed that the weather had a slight edge insofar as the dampness of the past weekend is concerned there was considerable activity in the damp end of the law enforcement business as ABC officers, city police, the sheriff's department and the highway patrol rounded up numerous men and women who were booked for being "illegally" wet in the whisky sense of the word.

Catherine Thompson of 519 Fields Street, Major Gooding of 918 Reed Street, Justice Long of Goldsboro route three were all booked for having in their possession varying amounts of sulphate whisky. Gooding was also charged with transporting some of the potent ditchbank

## Wet July Still Leaves Rainfall For This Year Below Average

Month	1953	1954	1955
January	1.52	4.46	2.69
February	4.45	0.81	1.17
March	3.07	3.77	1.84
April	2.24	2.52	1.54
May	2.37	2.83	3.44
June	6.28	3.73	3.64
July*	0.15	0.53	4.77
Totals	20.08	18.66	19.09

\*Through July 13th  
As the tabulation of comparable rainfalls listed here shows, 1955 was bidding fair to be a record dry year until soggy July dripped into the Kinston area. And even with the heavy rains so far recorded in July this year has not yet earned for itself a "wet" reputation, since the rainfall for the year is still well behind the halfway mark

brew and his 1953 model car was held by ABC officers under \$3,000 bond pending confiscation proceedings.

Ray P. Edmundson of 216 West Peyton Avenue and Pete Bryant of 306 Short Street were booked on drunken driving charges.

The sheriff's department "law-ed" Barbara Barrus and Warren Throver both of Kinston route four on charges of violating the liquor laws and eight other fellows were booked for simply drinking too much.

of the average annual rainfall of some 44 inches.

These comparable rainfall figures for the past three years, supplied by the weather department of Stallings Air Base, indicate that May has been the only fairly consistent month in supplying moisture to the local fields and streams.

Through June, this year was far behind the moisture delivery of the first six months in both 1954 and 1953, and each of these was rated as an unusually dry year for this part of the nation.

At the end of June this year only 14.32 inches of rain had fallen, compared with 18.20 in 1954 and 19.03 inches in 1953.

February and June were the wet months of '53 and January, March and June shared the damp honors in '54. This year May, June and July have been the top drizzlers in the Kinston area, and if July holds out along the lines so far established it will approach the record rainfall for one month.

## Musicals Friday Night

The Civic Opera Group will present "Down The Wind" and "Down In The Valley" at 8:30 Friday Night.

## Road Work Promised In Northeast Kinston

Latest information from highway Department officials is that survey work is to begin Monday (July 18) on improving access roadways to the Teachers Memorial School in Northeast Kinston.

Negotiations were begun in March of this year between school and highway officials and at that time it was understood, at least by the school and city officials that the Old Snow Hill Road would be widened with curb and gutters and sidewalks built to accommodate the daily flow of well over 700 pupils that will be using the road to reach the new school.

The city council was informed of this in April, and was told that the city was expected to obtain right of way for the widening project and Assistant City Attorney E. W. Price obtained the necessary clearances.

But with school opening just two months away officials became understandably worried when they saw no activity on this promised project.

Last week conferences between members of the school board and the highway department revealed that about all the school could hope for was the opening up of Charlotte Avenue northward to connect with Linden Ave., which dead-ends in front of the new school. At that time highway officials explained that the size of the Old Snow Hill project with a considerable drainage problem would force it to be delayed for some considerable time.

But this week the highway department altered its thinking, at least partially, to schedule a survey of the Old Snow Hill Road project beginning Monday morning. They still pointed out, however, that it would be quite impossible to complete that work by school opening time. The Charlotte Avenue project is promised for completion by September.

## Crime Does Pay — The Courts at Least

The annual audit of the books of the city-county Recorders Court indicates two things, at least; one, that crime does pay and that the local court has continued the rapid increase of business that has marked every year since the mid-thirties.

Cases handled during the past fiscal period (July 1, 1954 through June 30, 1955) jumped by 847, from 5,997 in '53-'54 to 6,844 in the period just ended. Percentage-wise that was an increase in cases of better than 14 per cent.

And as the number of offenders climbed so did the fines, costs and forfeitures collected by the court. Total receipts in the fiscal period just ended were \$110,056.00 and in the preceding period the total that crime paid into this particular court was \$93,022.04. This was a total boost of \$17,077.05 in the court's re-

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## Jones Tax Valuation Jumps Nearly 5 Per Cent for This Year

Final 1955 totals from the office of Jones County Tax Collector Zelle Pollock show an increase of \$299,132 in the overall tax listed valuations of the county. This represents just under five per cent increase over the 1954 totals; \$6,301,324 for this year compared with \$6,002,192 for last year.

Almost half of that \$299,132 boost came from greatly increased listings of automobiles, trucks and trailers. This year the office of the tax collector made an all-out effort to obtain a full listing of motor vehicles by checking the tax list against a master vehicles listing supplied by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

How well this drive at listing fliwvers for taxes paid off can be seen by comparing the 1,861 cars and trucks listed last year with the 2,637 listed this year; an increase of 776 in one year, which is a jump of 41 per cent.

That a good many of these formerly unlisted fliwvers, were fliwvers is indicated by the fact that a 41 per cent increase in the number only caused just over a 10 per cent increase in the valuations of all cars and trucks.

The values for cars and trucks in 1954 was \$999,267 and this year it moves to \$1,123,969, an increase of \$124,702, which at the tax rate of \$2 on the hundred dollars valuation will yield \$2,494.04 — presuming the entire levy is collected.

Miss Pollock's figures also indicate that while the county was growing in tax listed valuation it was also growing in size, increasing by 686.1 acres due to

several newly found areas that had previously been unlisted in the county. Total acreage jumped from 216,954.4 to 217,631.5 — this in spite of the fact that the county lost over 600 acres to Lenoir County when a survey found two large tracts of the Copeland Farm actually in Lenoir County, rather than Jones where it had been listed for taxes since listing began.

The boost in auto-truck listings accounted for a big part of the increase as the personal property total climbed from \$2,052,164 to \$2,276,480 — a jump of \$224,316 in the personal property category.

Real estate valuations climbed from \$3,950,028 last year to \$4,024,844 this year, an increase of just \$74,816 in that area.

Other interesting figures from the tax scrolls show that poultry and livestock were registering gains in most categories: Horses dropped from 158 in '54 to 105 this year; and mules dropped from 1,156 to 1,059. The mechanical tobacco harvesters, it would appear are giving the mule the final push into oblivion.

Hogs increased from 7,053 to 7,417. Milk cows climbed in number from 494 to 566. Beef type animals slipped from 2,578 to 2,497.

Laying hens, however were more numerous with 24,648 listed last year and 26,390 put on the tax books this year.

Dogs increased, at least on the tax books, by six this year; 1160 last year and 1166 this year. As usual the males outnumbered the females by a wide margin, perhaps occasioned by the fact

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This picture records another "intersectional squabble" in which two vehicles were trying the impossible trick of passing through the same intersection at the same time. The truck here was being driven by Stanley Rouse, owner and operator of Model Dry Cleaners. Up until it collided with the car at right, driven by Mrs. Zella King of 404 Clay Street it had been headed south on Independent Street. Mrs. King was driving west on Blount, after the pieces had stopped falling Rouse's truck was headed north with its south

end slammed against a very solid oak tree. Rouse suffered a fractured spine and multiple bruises and shock. Dr. Payne Dale said that Rouse's spinal injury was serious, of course, but not of the kind that might result in permanent crippling. From six to eight weeks in a cast will be necessary treatment for Rouse, Dr. Dale said. Mrs. King's car was still headed in a general westwardly direction. Police Captain Wilbur Mazingo who investigated the Wednesday morning tangle indicted Mrs. King for failure to yield the right of way.