

# THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

NUMBER XLI TRENTON, N. C., THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16, 1956 VOLUME VII

## Peculiar Case Puzzles Sheriff Brown Yates

Sheriff Brown Yates is still shaking his head about a case — or he reckons its a case — that dragged its way slowly into the affairs of Jones County Sunday.

So far as Jones County officially is concerned the case began about like this:

A white woman from Duplin County, accompanied by two small children and an aging colored man pulled up to Deputy Sheriff Cy Griffin's house in Comfort at about noon time Sunday. In the back seat of their car was a bloody, badly mauled white man, partially undressed and in a semi-coma.

The woman's story was that she had seen the white man wandering down the side of a road — just where is still in doubt. She thought it was someone she knew. She stopped and offered a ride. The man, who proved to be a stranger, accepted the ride. And the woman permitted him to climb into the car in spite of it not being who she "thought it was".

Her story continued with rather lurid account of the stranger trying to rape her in full view of the

children and the colored man. But the attempt was stalled.

Then they stopped at a Jones County filling station and asked where they could find the law. "we got a crazy man we want to get rid of". No attempt was made to get rid of "the crazy man" at the filling station where there was help. The filling station operator said the woman, the negro and the children were in the front seat and the man was not beaten up at that stop.

The woman explained that by saying, that a couple of miles down the road the man tried to rape her again and this time was given the beating which caused Jones County authorities to carry the man to a Kinston hospital when he was brought to the jail in Trenton.

Once the Duplin County woman had deposited the bloody Onslow Countian with Deputy Griffin she took off, and up until Tuesday she hadn't returned to Trenton to prefer charges in spite of the fact that the Duplin County Sheriff had told her to do so, at the request of

Sheriff Yates.

After receiving emergency treatment in a Kinston hospital the Onslow Countian was returned to Trenton in a somewhat more coherent condition.

His story went "thisaway:" Saturday night he had taken two drinks of whisky with men he met at a Jacksonville filling station. The next thing he knew was when he "came to his senses" in the Kinston hospital. He had no memory of his rough ride with the Duplin Countians.

Since no charges had been preferred against the Onslow Countian, Sheriff Yates released him, with a reminder that he might have to look him up again if the woman from Duplin County did return and sign a warrant.

Monday, the Jacksonville man returned to learn of any further moves that might have been made in the case. Then he reported to Sheriff Yates that he knew one of the men with whom he had taken the potent two drinks. It was his conviction that he had been drugged. A feeling shared by Deputy Roy Mallard who carried him to the hospital in Kinston.

The Onslow Countian further reported that Saturday night his

## Jake Koonce Indicted For Beating Woman

Last Wednesday afternoon (February 8) Patrolman Marvin Thomas indicted Jake Koonce of uncertain address for badly mauling one Lucille Hill just across the bridge from Trenton on the Mallardtown road.

Thomas says Koonce "was laying it on her good and strong" as he drove upon the scene. He pulled them apart and had to still maintain a pretty tight control on Koonce to keep him from adding a few more lumps to those he had already given the Happersville woman.

Koonce is already under indictment on two charges scheduled to be heard in the next term of Lenoir County's Superior Court: Shooting Ernest Rhodes and reckless driving on separate occasions. Now he's under \$250 bond scheduled to be tried in the Jones County Superior Court for beating the Happersville woman.

Koonce was recently released from federal prison after serving a five-year term for white slavery.

place of business had been broken into and a considerable quantity of merchandise was stolen.

Sheriff Yates is understandably bewildered. So far as he can determine it appears that the Onslow Countian has suffered the worst end of the bargain. The lost weekend cost him \$55 in cash which he thinks, or says he had in his pockets when he took the two drinks with his "friends" in Jacksonville. And it also cost him a very severe beating.

The Duplin County woman has refused to return to press the charges she made Sunday. The colored man who was riding with her has told the Sheriff of Duplin County that he "heard a little something about it, but don't remember much."

Sheriff Yates says he ain't gonna do nothing "til somebody else does".

This is the Dean of Lenoir County's Active Farmers, seen as he beamed with understandable pride at a surprise birthday anniversary party given in honor of his 86th anniversary last Sunday. Joseph Williams, father of 12, former county commissioner, one of the county's largest landowners and one of its most remarkable citizens passed his 86th milestone last Friday but the children waited until Sunday to "slip up on him" with their surprise party. Still active and alert, Williams enjoyed every minute of it along with several dozen friends and relatives who gathered for the day.

## Mark Louis Smith Named 'Young Farmer of the Year'

Mark Louis Smith of Deep Run route one, President of the Lenoir County Farm Bureau, has been named "Young Farmer of the Year" award sponsored by the National and Kinston Junior Chambers of Commerce with the American Petroleum Institute Committee on Agriculture.

Smith, one of the best known young farmers in the county, is a son of the late Mark Smith, who served many years on the county board of commissioners. He is secretary of the Deep Run Ruritan Club and is active in church and fraternal activities in his home community.

Last year Hoke King of Sandhill Township was winner of the award. Kenneth Foscoe was chairman of the committee which supervised the selection this year, but actual selection of the winner was made by a secret committee of men who keep up with farm affairs in the county.

Smith was commended for his contributions to his community, for his outstanding soil conservation

practices and for his work in all those activities aimed at a better life for his own family, as well as for all others engaged in farming.

## Flivvers and Electricity Rapidly Changing Living Habits

Electric power and the gasoline engine lack the awesome power of the atomic bomb but these older and better known advances of mechanical science have changed the living habits of Americans more than all the other inventions of the past 100 years.

And change presents problems to some and pleasures to others. Largely the problems created by the gasoline engine and electrical power have fallen into the lap of those who set governmental policies and administer the same.

The pleasures have come to the users of these two gadgets.

The map of America has been made and is now being rapidly remade by the uses and extension of the uses of these two giants.

For two generations the question was "How You Gonna Keep 'em Down On The Farm?"; now it has become just the opposite. True, farm population is decreasing at an alarming rate, but not so far what the sociologists call rural-non-farm residents.

Lenoir County is proof positive, if any were needed of this return to the farm, or if not to the farm at least away from the city.

From one end to the other of Lenoir County neighborhood groups of homes are sprung up.

In front of the Hiram Smith farm, at the Floyd Gray, Gray's Mill fork, at Jonestown, at Lakeside, between Pink Hill and Deep Run, at Sharon Church, at Granger's Station, on Clyde Morris' farm near the Du Pont plant, and in a dozen or more other scattered spots about the county there are clumps of new homes with industrious young folks working on lawns, putting down shrubs, digging.

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## Albertson Foxhunt Next Week

The annual Albertson Foxhunt will be held as usual this year on George Washington's Birthday Anniversary, February 22nd. Foxhunters from every corner of Carolina are expected to attend this annual affair. The usual succulent barbecue dinner will be

served at the Albertson Ruritan Club, which will be the only formal interruption in a full day of listening and watching the bounds in their search for "Old Bear Fox". Naturally all foxhounds will be welcomed.



Here are a few of the new residential areas that are springing up from one end of Lenoir County to the other. At top left is a new home in "Copeland Town" in the southeastern corner of the county, where five acre tracts of land were sold

like hot cakes at \$400 each and where more than a dozen "home-steaders" are now bringing civilization to the wilderness that once was Bearwell Pocosin. At top right is a pair of the fine new homes in the development just east of Kelly's Millpond. At bottom left is an-

other of the Lakeside developments and at bottom right is a view of Rochelle's corner just west of Kinston on the Goldsboro road. Hundreds of rural homes for non-farming families have been built in the past few years and today dozens more are under construction.

## Premeasurement?

This year official pre-measurement of all allotted crops will be available to farmers through their respective ASC offices. This service will permit the farmer to avoid complications of the past which have led to costly and at times irritating differences of opinion about land measurements. Full details are available to all farmers at their respective county ASC offices. Payment of 70 cents per acre with a minimum payment of \$3 will be the cost and the measurements established in this official pre-measurement will be accepted as official unless obvious error is detected later, or unless the allotted crop is not planted in the pre-measured area.

In 1906 the first specialty marks in the history of the Navy were added to sailors' uniforms.