

THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

NUMBER XLII TRENTON, N. C. THURSDAY FEBRUARY 23, 1956 VOLUME VII

Jones Register of Deeds George Noble Announces He Will Not Seek Re-election in May

George Noble, who has served longer in the capacity of Jones County Register of Deeds than any other person who ever held the post, announced this week that he will not be a candidate to succeed himself in the coming May primaries.

Noble was appointed on the first Monday in December of 1923 to a term that was vacated by the automobile death of Frank Koonce. Koonce had been elected in November's general election but was killed between then and the time he was to take office on the first

Monday in December. Noble has served without interruption in the job as chief record keeper for Jones County. Only once in that 28-year span did he have competition and he handled that without much difficulty the first election after he was appointed.

Noble is still quite alert and prompt in his work in spite of the fact that he will be 87 years old in November.

So far no public announcements have been made by anyone who might like to take over the job which Noble has filled so well for so long.

Convictions Few and Difficult in Lenoir Courts for Auto Killings

A review of the automobile deaths in Lenoir County in the past two years indicates two important things: That most of those killed were at fault, and in instances where the driver at fault survived it is extremely difficult to secure a conviction in the courts of the county.

In 1954 18 persons were killed on Lenoir's roads. In 12 of those accidents the dead person was listed as to blame for his or her death. Four of that total were pedestrians who walked or ran directly into the car and were not found to be criminally liable.

In the eight other instances where the dead person was judged to be at fault the records show that the dead person was the driver.

In 1955 the county's death toll was considerably lower; Thirteen, in spite of the fact that there were two double-death wrecks.

Of the 13 who were killed in Lenoir in '55 five were found to have died because of mistakes they made themselves. Only two of the 13 killed last year were pedestrians, and each of those cases the driver was found to be clear of any criminal liability. In the past year only three of those who died in wrecks other than pedestrian were more or less killed by their own

errors of driving.

In '54 five persons were indicted from investigations of the 18 death-dealing tangles. Two pled guilty and were given probationary sentences. In the three other indictments no probable cause of guilt was found.

In 1955 five persons were indicted. Two pled guilty and each received jail terms of three to five years. Two others remained to be tried. In the fifth case no probable cause of guilt was found in the preliminary hearing.

In that Clinton Keys of Kinston route two was killed on the morning of September 7th.

From 1955 one case still draws a blank. In that High School Girl Helen Boyette was killed on the night of March 8th when thrown from a car driven by Robert Earl Peede. No indictment has been made and the case is still left on the "unfinished list" of local officials.

In the Boyette Death, Harold Stokes, who was at that time a deputy sheriff, was near the scene of the death and made a preliminary investigation before any member of the Highway Patrol arrived. Later Stokes turned over the information he had to a member of

Still No Action in Last Week's Freak Case in Jones County

No further action has been taken in the remarkable mixed up affair that was dumped into the laps of Jones County officers Sunday, February 13, when a Duplin County woman deposited a badly beaten and apparently drugged man at the home of Deputy Sheriff Cy Griffin in Comfort.

The woman and an adged Negro companion, accompanied by two children departed after telling how the bloody Jacksonville man had attempted to rape her twice. They have not returned to Jones County to file any action and without their interest and testimony Sheriff Brown Yates still feels that the Onslow Countaun got the worst of "The Lost Weekend" he admits having been on.

Display of 1955 License is Illegal

With the bulk of 1956 license plates distributed Motor Vehicles Department officials were confronted today with a new problem.

Old tags: How to get them off the front bumper.

Reports from many sections of the state indicate some car owners are reluctant to part with the front facing '55 tag.

The vehicle agency promptly pointed out such display is illegal. Said Col. James R. Smith, patrol

to appear to be splitting hairs, the law requires the removal of expired license plates." He urged delinquent owners not to put off the job any longer.

the Patrol. Since that time the case has remained "up in the air" with each agency apparently feeling that the other was "going to do something about it".

So far neither has done anything.

Lenoir Countian Dies In First '56 Death on Jones County Roads

Blackledge Sutton, 31 machine operator with the Barrus Construction Co., was killed instantly at about 2 Saturday morning near Pleasant Hill to become the first highway fatality of the year in Jones County.

Sutton, a resident of Kinston route three, was riding alone when the wreck took place. Investigating officer Marvin Thomas says high speed was the apparent cause of the fatality.

Sutton's car left the road and struck a tree. The exact time of the crash is not known but it is believed that it took place shortly before 2 a. m.

Jones County escaped a highway death in 1955, after a very bad year in '54 when 11 were killed.

Four Lenoir Students Finalists in Valuable Scholarship Trials

Four seniors in Lenoir County schools are finalist for scholarship awards in two of the most covered categories open to high school and prep school students.

"Poo" Rochelle, a Grainger High senior, is a finalist for one of the Morehead Scholarships to the University of North Carolina and although Robert Earl Edwards of La Grange High was eliminated from the Morehead Scholarship

Telephone Company Offers Common Stock Purchase Rights

Stockholders of Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company are being offered rights to purchase 66,640 shares of common capital stock of the Company at \$125 per share.

According to L. W. Hill, President of the firm, warrants indicating the number of rights to which they are entitled, have been mailed to the Company's 2,283 stockholders. Approximately 58 per cent of these stockholders are residents of North Carolina with the great majority of them living in the Eastern North Carolina territory served by the Company.

The stock shares are being offered to stockholders of record at the close of business on February 14, 1956, in the ratio of two shares for each five shares then held. Subscription rights to the stock will expire on March 23, 1956.

A registration statement relating to the stock issue was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 31 and became effective on February 14.

The net proceeds from sale of the 55,640 shares of common capital stock will amount to approximately \$6,950,000 if all subscription rights are exercised. The company intends to apply this money toward reduction of amounts owed on short-term notes to banks.

The Company has been making large expenditures for construction in order to meet the demand for and further improve service. It is expected that it will be necessary for the Company to continue to obtain large amounts of new capi-

Three Arrested During Past Week in Jones

Jones County Sheriff Brown Yates reports three arrests in the past week, all of which involved some misuse of whiskey in one fashion or another.

Willie Lee Bryant of Trenton was accused of having a small quantity of stumphole whiskey in his possession.

Jack T. White of Pollocksville was indicted by Patrolman Marvin Thomas on charges of drunken driving and driving without a license.

Francis Dixon of Maysville was charged with public drunkenness.

Marriage License

Jones County Register of Deeds George Noble reports that his office has issued the following marriage licenses in the past week:

On the 12th to Saul E. Moore Jr. and Annie Wooten, both of Kinston route three.

On the 14th to Jamels Albert Bridges and Inez Marie Sautler, both of Raleigh.

To Thomas Edward Hall of Trenton route two and Betty Lou Fields of Richlands route two on the 17th.

Before World War II carriers had approximately 4,500 kilowatts of ship's service; now they have 13,200 kilowatts.

tal for its construction activities through the sale of securities during the next few years.

Judge Bone Rules City Has Right to Buy All CP&L Facilities in City

Judge Walter Bone of Nashville, presiding over the current term of the Lenoir County Superior Court ruled Monday afternoon after hearing lengthy arguments that the Carolina Power and Light Company has the right to sell its holdings inside the corporate limits of the City of Kinston.

Bone's ruling was the second in what ultimately become three rulings which have been precipitated by an injunction brought by some 180 of 238 customers effected in the change. These protesting power users have sought to prevent the transfer of the CP&L holdings to the city on the ground that the city charges considerably more for its power than the Raleigh utility.

Earlier and equally long hearings had been held before the state utilities commission which had ruled as Judge Bone did Monday in favor of the sale.

The squabble will now be taken to the state supreme court.

Judge Bone turned down an attempt by the city to become a party to the action, pointing out that the city could have become a party to the cause in its earlier stages but not at the present level.

The city was seeking to become a party to the litigation so that it might ask the court to force the protesting groups to post an indemnity bond since the transfer

competition he has been recommended for another Carolina scholarship only slightly less valuable.

Joanna Flowers and Bobby Steelman, another Grainger High pair, are finalist in the National Merit Scholarship competition, in which winners may go to a college or University of their own choice.

Miss Margaret Tyndall Daughter of Dr. and Mrs. R. G. Tyndall is a finalist for an Angier Biddle Duke Scholarship.

of the time was scheduled to take place on May 1, 1955 and the city has been losing the income from the lines since that date which is estimated at approximately \$2,000 per month.

The state utilities commission admitted that the City rates were higher than CP&L rates but it pointed out that profits from the sale of power were used in lieu of taxation by the City of Kinston.

The protesting 180 citizens want to live in Kinston and use and enjoy all of the tax-provided facilities but they don't want to pay their share of the costs. That is the view that a great many citizens have taken of the situation.

ABC Officers Enjoy Good Week Rounding Up Stumphole Boys

An unusually good week has been enjoyed by Lenoir County ABC Officers Clarence Bland and Paul Young in their work of rounding up liquor law violators in the county.

Last Wednesday afternoon John D. Wiggins of the "Potneck" section in Falling Creek township and Melvin Barfield of Seven Springs route one were caught at a small still back of Wiggins' home.

On Friday Paul Johnson of Dover was caught at a still in Sand Hill township and Monday of this week William C. Munford and Henry Lee Graham both of Grifton route two were caught in Graham's '51 Chevrolet in the Sandy Bottom section with 36 jars of stumphole whiskey aboard.

Hearings were given all of these before United States Commissioner Bill Thomas and each was bound over to the April 23 term of Federal Court in Washington and Graham's car was held under \$1,000 bond pending confiscation proceedings.



The floods of last summer and fall accentuated the long needed action which is now being taken by many Jones and Lenoir County farmers to clean major drainage canals and ditches. Recent rains have again brought the need for improved drainage to mind. This is a view of one of the bigger projects now underway in the western edge of Jones County which will also help hundreds of acres of land

in Lenoir County as well. Swelled almost to the overflow level at the time of this picture this canal has since gone out of the banks but upon completion it is expected to give a great measure of drainage relief to many fertile acres along the Jones-Lenoir border in the vicinity of Elm Grove and through the "Copeland Farm". This Vine Swamp Run seen from the bridge on a rural road near Stanley Taylor's filling station.