

## Water Inventory Committee Named for Jones County Study

### Florence Wooten Will Contested by Niece in Jones Litigation

Mrs. Alta Aman Koonce of Trenton has filed suit aimed at setting aside the will of her aunt, the late Mrs. Florence Wooten, who died March 9th of this year.

Mrs. Koonce alleges in the complaint filed this week that James Harriett and Robert Brock used undue and improper influence upon Mrs. Wooten in obtaining a will in Harriett's favor.

Rudolph Pelletier of Maysville is named executor of the will, which leaves all of Mrs. Wooten's property, both real and personal to Harriett, a nephew.

Mrs. Koonce alleges in her attempt to have the will set aside that this action was prejudicial to her rights, as well as to the rights of other nieces and nephews of Mrs. Wooten. Included among these are Mrs. Carrie Brock of Maysville, George and Jennings Harriett of Pollocksville, Carl Wooten of Atlanta, Ga., Donald Wooten of Baltimore, Md., Mrs. Margaret Carter of Woodland and Julia Williams of Wallace.

### Cherry Point Marine Attempts Suicide in Kinston Jail Friday

Private John Bewetherick, 21 year-old Cherry Point Marine, attempted suicide Friday night in the Kinston city jail by cutting his wrists with a needle. His effort required emergency treatment but was not sufficient to require hospitalization.

Bewetherick was being held in the city jail by Marine Corps Military Police, pending transfer to Cherry Point base to answer charges.

Bewetherick had been returned to Cherry Point Thursday night by a Kinston minister, who had interceded in his behalf. After the

A 12-man committee was named at a Trenton meeting May 15 to conduct the Jones phase of the state-wide inventory of water problems.

The committee, composed of representatives from agricultural, recreational and wildlife organizations, was formed at the request of the North Carolina Board of Water Commissioners. The inventory is part of the Board's plan for collecting information that will be useful in mapping a long-range water conservation program for the state.

The committee includes Farm Agents Jimmy Franck, M. B. Wright, Fletcher Barber, County Attorney George Hughes, Forest Fire Warden B. E. McDaniel, Farm Bureau President Alva B. Howard, County Key Banker Mrs. Alta Koonce, Soil Conservation Board Chairman Charlie Davis, Soil Conservationist John Yates, Wildlife Protector Charlie Parker, Board of Commissioners Chairman Thomas Stillee and Vocational Agriculture Teacher R. F. Wadkins.

The primary function of the committee will be to plan and conduct a single meeting at which citizens of the county will be asked to report all present or anticipated water problems.

Franck, who was selected as chairman of the committee, said the inventory meeting will be held in the Agriculture Building at 8 P. M., June 13. He explained that the committee wanted time to educate the public to the purpose of the inventory and to familiarize the people of the county with the type of problems to be reported.

Marine was back on the base he talked the chaplain into getting him a pass back to Kinston, promising to get back on the base that night. When arrested Friday morning he was still in the home of a friend, drunk and with no inclination to return to Cherry Point. He was taken there Saturday afternoon under escort of a captain and a sergeant.

## WASHINGTON REPORT

Dun and Bradstreet, the well-known financial reporting service, had some very interesting facts in its March report concerning the plight of small businesses in the United States.

According to the report, more small businesses failed during the month of March this year than in any March since 1933.

It is true that there are many more small businesses operating now than in the thirties, but the alarming fact is that failures among small businesses are increasing rapidly.

First quarter failures this year, for example, were about 400 more than the first quarter of 1956. Most of the failures were in construction and retailing, which reflect the scarcity of money and a general tightening of our economy.

This should make us realize that small business men are not only in a tight spot these days, but are pretty much at the mercy of uncertain, constantly changing economic conditions over which they have little control.

Despite recent uncertainties, farmers to some extent can depend on a comparatively stable system of Federal programs that undergird the farm economy.

By the same token, large corporations in most cases can be assured of a degree of stability so long as defense spending stays on its present high plan, because most of them either directly or indirectly benefit from defense contracts.

Left to more or less scuffle for themselves are the small independent business houses, which, to me, are the backbone of our everyday business life.

The large industries, after all, must depend on small business as both consumers and outlets for the things they manufacture.

It is logical, then, that small business is an area of public concern, just as farming or the development of guided missiles.

With these thoughts in mind, Congress for some time has considered ways and means of putting sound foundations under small business operations. This is difficult to do without the government unduly interfering with private enterprise, because business men, like farmers and everyone else, resent government interference in their operations, and rightly so.

There are many bills before Congress dealing with this general problem, and I feel confident that some assistance can be given to small business without hurting it at the same time.

Certainly, any savings that can be made in government spending—and it appears certain that President Eisenhower's proposed budget will be reduced—should be shared by small business through lower taxes. At the same time, it seems to me that the Federal government's first obligation is to reduce individual income taxes, which would surely be beneficial to small business in the way of increased purchasing power.

### Marriage License

The only marriage license issued in the past week by Jones County Register of Deeds Mrs. D. W. Koonce was on the 24th to Roger Carroll Grimes, 23, and Nettie Virginia Worley, 21, both of Kinston route five.

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## Forestry Rates as One of N.C.'s Largest Industries

The 1957 edition of "Forest Facts" is off the presses and anyone who doubts the importance of forestry to North Carolina ought to write the North Carolina Forest Industries Committee, 614 Commercial Building, Raleigh and get a free copy of the most informative pamphlet.

Among the facts it contains are the following:

Of North Carolina's 33,735,000 acres there are 20,075,700 acres in forests; amounting to 59.5 per cent of the state's total area.

Of that woodland 19,341,400 acres are classed as commercial forest lands, 345,000 acres are reserved from commercial use and another 389,300 acres are classified as unproductive acreage.

Ownership of that forest resource includes 13,268,700 acres (68.6 per cent) as farm woodland, 4,453,900 acres owned by industry and other non-farming operations (23 per cent), 1,300,000 acres owned by the federal government (6.9 per cent), 253,000 acres owned by the state (1.3 per cent) and 35,600 acres owned by county and city governments (.2 per cent).

Swain County with 91.4 per cent of its total acreage in forests leads the state in forest acre percentage (313,200 acres out of 344,300 acres), while barren Dare County ranks at the bottom with only 24.7 per cent of its total area in forests (20,000 acres out of 80,900 acres), which is a misleading figure since the land area of Dare County is only 245,320 acres.

Jones County with 234,400 acres of forest land out of a total acreage of 299,500 acres has 78.3 per cent of its land in productive timber use.

Lenoir County has 50.6 per cent of its total acreage in forests (126,700 acres out of 250,200 acres).

Of the annual cutting in North Carolina (646,803,000 cubic feet) 61.6 per cent is for saw logs, 13.7 per cent is for pulpwood, 4.5 per cent is for veneer logs and all other uses consume the balance of 20.2 per cent.

North Carolina's timber reserves are divided into 43.8 per cent softwoods and 56.2 per cent hardwoods.

Forest industries comprises 45.3 per cent of all North Carolina industries, (3,400 out of 7,500), employ 17.7 per cent of the industrially employed (78,000 out of 441,000), pay 16.5 per cent of the total state industrial payroll (\$243 million out of \$1,474 million) and the value of output of all forest industries is 12.1 per cent of the state's total (741 million out of \$6,121 million).

The sawtimber standing in North Carolina contains enough lumber to build 5,093,050 one-family frame houses — one for every family in Delaware, Maryland, Washington, D. C., Virginia, West Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

The timber reserves of North Carolina include 26,391,200,000 board feet of hardwoods than it is 539,300,000 board feet or hardwoods.

North Carolina is growing 251,800,000 more board feet of softwoods per year than it is cutting, and growing 580,400,000 more board feet of hardwoods than it is cutting each year.

For the last full year (1955) when all records are compiled there were 4,390 forest fires recorded that burned over 677,069 acres.

### One Still Destroyed

Sheriff Brown Yates reports the recent destruction of a small "family size" still in the Phillips Crossroads section of Chinguapin Township. The backwoods distillery was small in size and did not appear to have been used a great deal, Yates said.

### One Jones Arrest

The only arrest reported during the past week in Jones County by Sheriff Brown Yates is that of William Heath a resident of the Tuckahoe Township end of the county who was wanted in Lenoir County on charges of passing worthless checks.

### Real Estate Transfers

The only real estate transfer recorded in the office of Register of Deeds Mrs. D. W. Koonce during the past week was for a parcel of land passing from Estella Ward to W. C. Allison. Size and location of the tract were not recorded.

### Senator Erving Reports On Labor Hearings

WASHINGTON — Hearings have convinced me that it will be wise for our Labor Committee on Labor-Management to report on legislative proposals to the Senate as soon as possible.

#### PROPOSALS

The first phase of the hearings has clearly indicated the necessity for such action. Congress should consider at the earliest possible time legislation to safeguard union funds and to authorize public disclosure of union financial reports filed with the government. The existing law does not allow the Department of Labor to question the accuracy of such reports filed under the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act. Union members ought to have a right to know how their funds are being handled.

Dave Beck probably cannot make a comeback in labor circles to a position of power he once held. He is under indictment for income tax matters, so I will not comment on that. The AFL-CIO action which removed him from his high post in the council of organized labor is a severe blow to the Teamsters' top leadership.

#### AID CUTS LIKELY

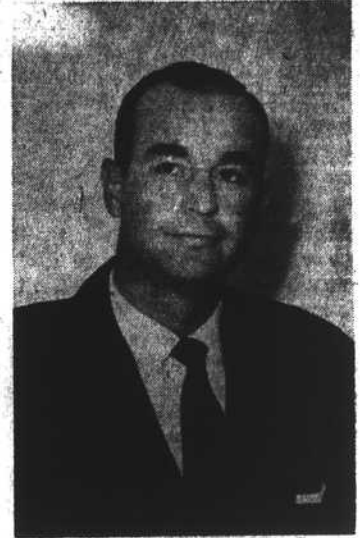
I do not think the President's speech on foreign aid spending will sustain his full request. There are many desirable aspects of providing military aid to countries on the side of freedom. I want to vote to help them. But the aid program has been so bungled and confused that the people generally are sick and tired of much of it. The will of the people is reflected in Congress.

#### FUNDS

Considerable funds will be appropriated for aid, but it appears now that there will be a substantial cut from the President's request. Historians may be able to

Causes of those fires are broken down as follows: Brush-burning 35.6 per cent, smokers 22 per cent, intentionally set 15.7 per cent, campers 7 per cent, logging 3.5 per cent, railroads 2.9 per cent, lightning 1.7 per cent and 11.6 per cent from assorted other causes.

## Revival Minister for Tuckahoe Christian Church; June 9 - 14



This is Harvey Garland Powell, Minister of the Waynesboro Virginia Church of Christ, who will conduct the Sunday morning June 9th worship hour at Bethel Christian Church in Upper Lenoir County, and who will also conduct a one-week revival at Tuckahoe Christian Church each evening of the week of June 9th through June 14th with services at 8 each evening. Pastor Powell will also assist in the Vacation Bible School which will be conducted during the same week at this well known Jones County Church which is located between Comfort and Hargett's Crossroads.

## Trenton, Rt. 2 Soldier At Fort Benning, Ga.

FORT BENNING, GA. Army Sergeant First Class Leonidas B. Cheston, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cleo W. Cheston, Route 2, Trenton, N. C., recently was assigned to the 820th Ordnance Company at Fort Benning, Ga.

Cheston entered the Army in 1945.

The sergeant is a 1945 graduate of Trenton High School.

label this session of Congress as the turning point of public reaction against excessive Federal spending.

#### NO CHANGE

Last week I told you that I had received only one telegram in support of the President's position. This is unusual, as I pointed out. The situation has not changed. There just is not, judged by the mail I am receiving, any outspoken support for a full program of foreign aid spending. I have now received two messages in support of his position.

#### FLOOD INSURANCE ALIVE

The Senate restored the \$14 million to begin the Federal Flood Insurance Program. Now the fate of the measure is in the hands of Senate and House conferees. At the moment it is alive and has a lease on life by the Senate's action.

