

## Lenoir Countians Indicted After Raid on Duplin Still



This picture is a side-view of destroyed Wednesday morning by ABC officers and ATU agents in the Pleasant Grove Community of north-eastern Duplin County.



In this picture Henry Atkinson (at left) and Clifton West "Slick" Williams are seen handcuffed together, following their capture at this still. Williams says, "My name ain't 'Slick' no more. These 'laws' is slicker than me."



ABC Officer Paul Young in the center and two still operators at left stand before some of the 20 barrels of 220-gallon capacity that were blown up Wednesday morning by several well-placed sticks of dynamite.

Four Lenoir Countians and one Duplin Countian were indicted Wednesday morning after a raid on a backwood still in the Pleasant Grove Community of Duplin County. The operation had been under surveillance for nearly two weeks by Lenoir County ABC Officers Clarence Bland, Paul Young and Leo Harper and ATU Officers C. S. Coats and Bill Richardson of Smithfield.

Two negroes with previous whiskey convictions were found at the still. They were Henry Atkinson and Clifton West "Slick" Williams, both of the Sandy Bottom section of Lenoir County.

The three white men had been observed going to and coming from the still on numerous occasions since the officers had been watching it. They are Willie Newsome and Pete Bursell Grady of Deep Run route one and Leamon Grady of the Pleasant Grove section.

Destroyed or confiscated at the still were 20 gallons of "just-run-off" stumpole, a 1953 model International truck and 4420 gallons

of mash, half of which was just right for the old-fashioned pot-type still.

A small notebook found in Atkinson's pockets detailed expenses of the still since April 10th, indicating it had been in operation at least since that time. The officers called it one of the "neatest stills" found in recent years in this part of the state.

Atkinson says he has spent eight of his 50 years in prison for making whiskey, and the officers say he has the reputation of being one of the best distillers in the "trade" locally. When last caught he paid a \$4,000 fine.

Williams is currently under a two-year suspended prison term from Lenoir County Superior Court for a liquor violation.

Newsome is also under federal probation as one of a large group of men rounded up last fall by federal and state undercover agents.

Williams and Atkinson waived preliminary hearings but the three white men asked for a hearing which will be at 10 a. m. Friday

# THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

NUMBER 3 TRENTON, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 1958 VOLUME X

## Legal Whisky Business Grows Better for New Jones System

Reports covering sales for the month of May and for the first week of operation of the third Jones County ABC store which was opened June 2nd reveal a growing volume of legal whisky sales for the system which began in December of 1957.

May sales reported this week by Supervisor Ray Harrison show the second largest sales volume since the stores opened with gross sales of \$11,793.15 or the two stores which were in business during May.

Equally encouraging to the majority of Jones County voters who approved the setting up of this newest ABC system in an election last October is the first week's business of the county's third store which was opened June 2nd at Wyse's Fork.

The store there racked up gross sales of \$896.55 in its first week. Opening day sales were small, only \$62.30, but sales grew each day: Tuesday \$30.20, Wednesday \$124.65, Thursday \$128.65, Friday \$227.75 and Saturday \$273.

Willie Earl White is clerk at the newly opened store at Wyse's Fork. The Hargett Crossroad store also continued its upward climb of the legal liquor sales with \$5,735.15 of the May sales reported there and the other \$6,058 coming from the Trenton store.

The May gross sales of \$11,793.15 ran the total sales of the Jones County ABC system to \$64,724.25 since the system began operation last December.

Statewide net profits to the county average just above 13 per cent. but in this first year of operation Jones County officials say they will be pleased if their net profits are as high as eight to 10 per cent. This is because of initial expenses that will not be repeated in subsequent years of operation.

Members of the Jones County Alcoholic Board of Control are Chairman Edgar Philyaw, Bruce Johnson and Garland Smith.

The State of North Carolina collects a flat 10 per cent tax on all sales through these stores, meaning that the state treasury is already \$6,472.42 better off because of legal whisky in Jones County.

## Check Stealing Ring Nabbed

An investigation that began in April of 1957 ended last week with indictment of four young Kinston negroes on multiple charges of stealing checks.

The stolen checks included armed force allotment checks to dependents, compensation checks to disabled veterans and tax refunds to that unusual few who had overpaid their income taxes.

The quartet includes Paul Uzzell of 4E Mitchell Wooten Courts, James Oscar Carroll of 810 Lee Street, Charlie Graham of 504 North Adkin and Marion C. Sutton of 419 East North.

The group signed confessions, admitting the theft of a large number of checks from mail boxes over the period between April '57 and May '58.

## Twice In Same Place

Some "midnight shopper" is picking on Taylor's Esso Filling station near the city limits of Kinston on the Greenville highway. The station was broken into Sunday night and an estimated \$83 worth of merchandise was stolen. Then on Monday night, what police believe to be the same thief, or thieves, came again and on this trip carted away \$107.30 worth of merchandise.

## East Carolinian Is Presented Navy Commendation for Outstanding Work in Antarctica



QUONSET POINT, R. I.—Navy Lt. (jg) Worley Y. Creech, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Y. Creech of 1108 N. Heritage St. in Kinston, is presented with a Navy Commendation Medal April 17 at the Naval Air Station, Quonset Point, R. I., for outstanding performance of duty in Antarctica with Operation Deepfreeze II.

The presentation was made by Bond for the negroes and Newsome were set at \$2,000 each and for the Grady bonds were set at \$500. All bonds were signed by Raul Taylor of Deep Run route one.

Rear Admiral George Dufek, U. S. Antarctic Commander, following his inspection of Air Development Squadron 6, which has provided air support for Operation Deepfreeze since the polar expedition was begun in 1955.

The citation accompanying his award read in part: "Exercising a high degree of professional skill, Lt. (jg) Creech contributed materially to the planning and execution of flights from New Zealand to Antarctica."

The citation was signed by Navy Secretary Thomas S. Gates, Jr., acting for President Eisenhower.

## Ann Hughes Named Art Supervisor in 20 Raleigh Schools

Ann Hughes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Hughes of Pollockville, who this month will become Mrs. Ann Johnson, has been named supervisor of art education in the 20 elementary schools of Raleigh.

Miss Hughes has taken an active interest in art since her early childhood and her talents have been recognized both at home and over the state.

She will assume this position in September. Her work will largely consist of coordinating the art instruction of the teachers themselves, but some of her work will also be with the students.

## Stella Man Charged With Stealing Car

Cleveland Mattocks of Stella was indicted last week on a charge of stealing an automobile, according to Sheriff Brown Yates. The charge was made on Sunday.

The only other indictment reported during the past week was of Richard O. Bellamy of Dover route two who was charged with having in his possession a small quantity of stumpole whisky.

## John Clifton Harper Commits Suicide in Most Unusual Manner

Forty-eight year-old John Clifton Harper, son of Simpson Harper of Deep Run, died at about 6:30 Wednesday morning in what Coroner Raymond Jarman has ruled a suicide.

Harper, unmarried had recently been in poor health, which is believed to be the cause of his taking his life.

No witnesses saw the actual act but Coroner Jarman says that Harper's badly burned body was found in the back seat of his car, between Deep Run and Tull's Mill. The car was burning from gasoline that had been spread about the interior from a can on the front seat. Harper had also shot himself with a 12 gauge shotgun.

Members of the family say he had left to go fishing at Tull's Mill, but had given no indication of his intent to end his life.

## Willie Gurganus

Funeral services were held at 4 Thursday from the graveside in the Mills Family Cemetery near Hargett's Crossroads for 70 year-old Willie Gurganus of the Coombs Forks section of Jones County, who died Tuesday afternoon in a Kinston hospital.

## Overstuffed Sofa!

Otto Fields and his wife, Margaret, of 405 North East street in Kinston were indicted last Thursday night because of an overstuffed sofa in their home. ABC Officers Clarence Bland, Paul Young and Leo Harper found 14 jars of stumpole whisky "stuffed" in the sofa. Officer Bland agreed that Fields was in about as much trouble as one man could get. Fields had just been discharged from a local hospital after a long and expensive illness, his wife is expecting a baby, he is unemployed and they already have 18 children.