

Kinston Tobacco Market Opening Aug. 21

Kinston's 12 tobacco sales warehouses are cocked and primed for what is generally expected to be the best year in several years both poundage and price-wise.

The Banner, Central, New Dixie, Farmers', Cooperative, The Old Knott, Knott's New, New Central, both Sheppard's No. 1 and No. 2, both Star No. 1 and Star No. 2 are eagerly awaiting the hustle and bustle of August 21st when the cry of the auctioneer will ring out and when the 1958 sales season officially gets underway in the largest tobacco marketing area in the world, the sprawling Eastern Belt, which extends from Ahoskie to Wallace and includes the world's largest tobacco markets at Wilson and Kinston.

Last year, plagued with a huge acreage reduction and scattered unfavorable weather a 27 per cent drop in money paid out hit Kinston and the other markets of the Eastern Belt a terrific blow.

The total poundage of the Kinston market was 53,326,894, long poundage away from the 80,559,718 pounds of the 1955 selling season and also, many a short-dollar away from the \$41,439,918.94 that was paid out in that peak '55 season.

Banner Warehouse

This warehouse, built seven years ago, is in 1958 beginning its second sales season under the same management with Rodney Goodman as president, Bruce Heath, vice president, Frank Coletrain, secretary and treasurer. Ed Dale, Kinston native, will again this year be auctioneer.

Central Warehouses

The Central Warehouse and the New Central Warehouse will again this year be under the management of the two "Bills", Bill Herring and Bill King. The Central is one of the older warehouses on the Kinston market and the New Central was built like the Banner, seven years ago but remained idle until the '57 selling season.

Knott's New Warehouse

Knott's New Warehouse is owned and operated by Graham Knott and Billy Brewer, who also serve as co-sales managers. This will be the 62nd consecutive year that the Knott family has served the tobacco selling public on the Kinston market. Jimmy Riggs and Robert Taylor are the floor managers, Lionel Garner is auctioneer and the "pay off" department will be headed by Redding Beaman

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Commissioners Vote \$699 to Cool New Welfare Offices

Last Monday after considerable discussion the Jones County Board of Commissioners approved matching state funds for a \$699 air-conditioning system for the welfare department offices in the ag building.

Approval of this item forced the commissioners to call a special meeting for this past Tuesday night to hear other ag building occupants and court house office workers ask for air conditioning also.

September Term Jurors are Drawn

Jurors for the September 2 mixed term of Superior Court were drawn by the County Board of Commissioners during a special meeting Tuesday night.

Adrian Jones, Elliott D. Hill, Charlie Battle, Jr., Roy Ballard, Charlie Brown, Jr. Lynwood Meadows, Wayne Jarman, William J. Jones, Walter Ives, L. H. Reynolds, Oscar Jones, Jr.

Garland Bruce Foy, Albert Lee Killingsworth, I. T. Riggs, Teddy Howard, James Stroud, Cecil E. King, D. G. Taylor, C. H. Brown, Richard Harper, James M. Bender, Kenneth N. Pollock, Frederick M. Harrison.

Clifton Mills of Pollocksville, V. A. Bender, Jr. W. L. Moore, Jr., Willie G. Westbrook, F. M. Hughes, George R. Bull, Gardner Pike, Lynwood Cox, C. B. Arthur, Wayne Stille, Clarence Eubanks, William McArthur, and Ernest Eubanks.

Marriage License

Jones County Register of Deeds Mrs. D. W. Koonce reports the issue of one marriage license in the past week to Clark D. Williams, 23, and Muriel Dean Feaster both of Trenton route one.

Daylight Car Theft Ends With Midnight Ramble Thru Kinston

There was nothing routine about the theft of a 1955 pink and white Ford last Wednesday from the used car lot of Carrow Buick Company.

Decidedly different was the manner in which the car was stolen. The thief simply walked onto the used car lot at about 3 p. m. while employees watched, started the Ford up and drove it away.

The return of the car to Kinston was even more unusual than its departure.

At around midnight Thursday night Patrolman R. H. Nutt of Richlands became involved with this wandering Ford in a high speed chase that was broken off by Nutt after repeated efforts to pull along side the car were prevented by the driver who "fish-tailed" the pink and white fiver, chasing Nutt off the road. Nutt went home and hit the sack.

About an hour and a half later Nutt's phone rang. Jacksonville police were calling for help. They were chasing a car north on US 258 and asked Nutt to intercept the car at Richlands.

Hasily dressing, Nutt went back to "work", and after driving a short distance toward Jacksonville he met the same flivver that had given him such a hard time earlier in the night.

And away they went! Roaring north toward Kinston. Nutt radioed ahead and asked for a road block at Kinston. Then he suggested a running road block, rather than a stationary block. Nutt said he had decided that the driver of the Ford was going to run over anything that got in his way, and there was no point in jeopardizing life and tearing up public property.

Kinston officers went just south of Kinston and had a very few minutes to wait before the Ford zipped by with Nutt in close pursuit. Two police cars and one car from the sheriff's department joined in the mad race through Kinston at speeds near 100 miles an hour.

Finally the Ford quit, going lame. The right front tire went flat after a retread had been thrown and nothing was left but a tissue-thin fabric.

The driver pulled in between the Parkview Drug Store and Superette, jumped out of the car and fled to a weeded area between the home of Doug Baker and P. C. Hemby. Officers on foot were not able to keep up with the young white man who proved he was good at running as well as driving.

In the car officers found identification papers of an ex-Marine, who had been driving racing cars in Florida stock car events. They do not know if those papers belonged to the man who escaped into the night after leaving a used Ford behind that was considerably more used than it was 36 hours earlier when it was driven away from the Carrow Buick Company used car lot.

Pollockville Men Hurt Near Kinston In Bike-Truck Tangle

Durwood McGee Carter, 23, of Pollockville route one suffered a badly fractured left leg and Bobby Strader of the same address had possible left foot injuries from a wreck at 12:15 Wednesday afternoon on the US 70 Bypass southwest of Kinston.

Investigating Patrolman Billy Baker said the Jones Countians were hurt in a head-on tangle between the motorcycle upon which they were riding and a Highway Commission pickup truck driven by Eugene Norman Sparrow Jr. of 16-E Simon Bright Apartments in Kinston.

Sparrow was in the act of passing a car as he drove eastwardly, when he met the motorcycle that was headed westwardly. Sparrow was indicted by Baker for improper passing.

Comfort Boy Enlists In US Air Force

Malcolm Ray Bonner, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Bonner, Comfort, was recently enlisted in the United States Air Force.

According to Sgt. Frank F. Fernley, local Air Force recruiter, Airman Bonner is presently at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas undergoing basic military training. After four weeks of training at this base, Airman Bonner will be reassigned to a technical training school. He will be given additional military training along with the technical subjects.

Air-Conditioning Battle Breaks Out Salary Feud Among Court House Workers

A rash of requests for air-conditioning before the Jones County Board of Commissioners Tuesday night got something hot besides the weather.

The county's constitutional officers, headed by Court Clerk Murray Whitaker, made it quite plain that the absurdly low salary scale for these officers was far more in need of correction than the air-conditioning problem.

Clerk Whitaker said, "I'm proud of Jones County but I'm tired of it being called a pauper county!" Whitaker is the lowest paid Superior Court Clerk in North Carolina.

The Superior Court Clerk salary is \$2,880, the Register of Deeds gets \$2,760 and the County Accountant gets \$3,000 in Jones County.

The clerk also receives \$600 travel expenses. The sheriff receives \$3,600 plus an annual travel allowance of \$1,500, plus certain fees for serving papers.

The generally tense atmosphere around the Jones County Court House has stemmed from the disproportionate salaries paid to those workers whose salaries are paid entirely by Jones County in

Next Thursday the Eastern Belt will open 1958 sales and the cry of the auctioneer will be the enchanting, perplexing song of good cheer until the Thanksgiving season approaches. This year there is good reason for this largest flue-cured tobacco selling area to be of good cheer.

Kinston and its 12 tobacco warehouses are grooming for the best selling season in five years, and optimism is the happy order of the day.

Only two major changes have taken place in the past year in the tobacco sales system of Kinston, and one of these was more sentimental than actual. That was the tearing down of the old Eagle Warehouse to make way for a super market. Although the Eagle was not operated in the 1957 selling season its departure does raise a note of nostalgia among the older people who buy and sell tobacco in Kinston.

The other change was much more tangible. This was the sale of Kinston's largest single warehouse to Charles J. Herring & Sons. After buying the Planters' Warehouse and operating it for the 1957 sales season the Kinston Cooperative Warehouse Inc. decided to return to a single sales floor in the 1958 season and sold this vast sales space to the Herrings, father and sons.

The Planters' Warehouse, which was Kinston Cooperative No. 2 last year is Star Warehouse No. 2 this year, giving the Charlie Herring branch of the Herring family in Kinston a commanding slice of the sales space, and sales time on the Kinston market.

The two Star Warehouses are next door neighbors on South Queen Street in Kinston, and the Herrings have been pushing hard to make this first year of their operation of these two sales floors a successful one.

There was a change in the ownership of the next largest Kinston Warehouse group, with the R. E. Sheppard Heirs and Louis Rapier purchasing full control of the two large Sheppard Warehouses from A. J. Brannan of Georgia.

The same warehouses will be in operation this year as last, with the New Carolina, Brooks and Tapps idle as in '57 and the new Banner and New Central operating in their second year.

comparison with those workers whose salaries are paid part by the county, part by the state and part by the federal government.

The latest comparative report, from which the above figures were obtained shows the following pay scales for Jones County workers who are lucky enough to have "matching fund" jobs: Welfare Superintendent \$4,140, School Superintendent \$7,728, Farm Agent \$6,576, Home Demonstration Agent \$4,698, each of whom also gets a travel allowance based on actual miles travelled.

The special meeting of the commissioners Tuesday night was called primarily to discuss air-conditioning of some court house offices, but ended up as a serious study of the disproportionate salary scale now in use by the county. The air-conditioning squabble developed after the board had voted on August 4th to spend \$699 to cool off the new welfare department offices, and another \$400 was voted to cover the floor of the ASC offices. Both these improvements are in the Agricultural Building and court house workers complained that "every-

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Jones County ABC Stores End First Fiscal Period With \$5,880.15 Profit in 6 Months

Three Jones Arrests Reported by Sheriff

During the past week three arrests have been reported in Jones County by Sheriff Brown Yates.

Thomas Edward Hall of Tuckahoe Township is charged with stealing an automobile tire from Bryan Hargett, Stephen Morgan of Pollockville is accused of assault upon a female and Willie Pat Gooding of Chinquapin Township was the alleged owner of a small quantity of stumphole whiskey.

Land Transfers

Jones County Register of Deeds Mrs. D. W. Koonce reports the following real estate transfers in the past week:

In White Oak Township a tract from Elrich Burton to Mary H. Jones.

In White Oak Township a tract from Sarah Ward Raynor to Dameron Burch Smith.

After 23 years of buying their legal liquor in Lenoir, Craven or Onslow County ABC stores Jones Countians in December of 1957 opened their own legal grog shops and the first profit and loss statement covering business from the opening in December until end of the county fiscal year on June 30th shows a net profit of \$5,880.15.

After a 20-year wait between whisky referendums the voters of Jones County voted two-to-one in a referendum last October 19th to set up a legal whisky system.

Gross sales between the actual opening of the first store on December 6th and the end of the fiscal year were \$80,233.05.

Store No. 1 at Trenton which opened on December 6th accounted for \$43,332.35 of that gross sale.

Store No. 2 which opened at Hargett Crossroads on December 20th had gross sales of \$31,903.85 and Store No. 3 at Wyse Forks which was not opened until June 1st of this year racked up a one-month sale gross of \$4,996.85.

"Goods" purchased totalled \$75, Continued on page 8