

ABC Officer Shot While Trying To Calm His Drunken Brother



This is the bed hastily vacated by Durwood I. Smith, farmer and filling station operator of the

Lenoir County ABC Officer Leo Harper may now have some reason to ask, along with Cain in the Ninth verse of the Fourth chapter of Genesis, "Am I my brother's keeper?"

This is how the question got into his mind.

Monday night Leo's brother, Wesley, while in a drunken condition "broke bad" at Durwood Smith's filling station between Deep Run and Woodington and to protect one of his children Smith had to strike Harper a pretty solid blow and then call the sheriff's department to arrest the wild and woolly Harper on charges of disorderly conduct.

Deputy Bucky Rayner came out and picked up Harper and later released him into the custody of ABCman Harper. Along with Peter Dawson, Leo took Wesley home and then they returned to Smith's filling station to get Wesley's truck. On the way back they saw Wesley hurrying back toward Smith's place armed with a shotgun. They tried to catch him but he got away in the dark.

Correctly guessing that Wesley was headed back for more trouble at Smith's Leo and Dawson drove there and although the moon was bright there were a lot of shadows around the Smith home and filling

station so Leo sent Dawson for a flashlight to help find Wesley.

While Dawson was gone Wesley showed up and Leo saw him outside the bedroom window where Smith and his wife were asleep.

Leo approached Wesley and they began to wrestle over the gun, which went off. Then Smith, who had been awakened by members of his family grabbed his shotgun and shot out into the yard of his home.

The first blast knocked Leo down and as he crawled away from the home Wesley grabbed up the automatic shotgun and fired four times into the Smith bedroom. Smith thought he had shot Wesley, better known as "Red", and also thought that Leo was there helping in the effort to kill him.

After Leo was wounded by dozens of pellets from Smith's gun and after Wesley's gun had jammed the shooting ended but the shouts and fears and jangled nerves of the Smith household did not quiet down until many hours later.

Wesley is in the county jail charged with secret assault with a deadly weapon, Leo is in the county hospital with bird shot scattered over a majority of his body. His condition is listed as painful but not critical.

Indictments Issued Last Week in Jones

Indictments in Jones County reported during the past week for Jones County include the following:

Rudolph Carney of Swansboro public drunkenness.

Rodney Rhem McLawhorn of Jacksonville drunken and reckless driving.

James Lee Huber of Pollocksville for speeding.

David Leo Perry of Dover route two possession of stump-hole whiskey and interfering with officers in the performance of their duty.

Jones County warrants were also issued four Kinston negroes in the breaking and entering of Leslie White and Gene Hood filling stations last month.

Wilbur McArthur In Kinston Wreck

Wilbur R. McArthur of Trenton route one was involved in a Kinston wreck Wednesday afternoon at 5 p. m. on North Queen Street. McArthur, driving southwardly on Queen had an estimated \$400 damage done to his car when it was struck by the car of Michael R. Mitchell of 103 Wilson Avenue in Kinston, who was driving northwardly on Queen.

Mitchell was indicted for reckless driving.

Farm and Home Agent Schedules Next Week

Monday March 2 the Piney Grove Home Demonstration Club will meet with Mrs. Ray McDaniel at 2:30.

March 2 at 7:30 the 4-H choral group will meet at the agriculture building.

Tuesday March 3 the Maysville 4-H club will meet at the school at 9:00.

Wednesday March 4 the Pollocksville 4-H club will meet at 9:00.

Wednesday March 4 at 2:30 the Home Demonstration Club County Council will meet at the agricultural building.

Thursday March 5 at 8:30 the 4-H club will meet at Comfort School.

Land Transfers

Real estate transfers recorded in the office of Jones County Register of Deeds Mrs. D. W. Koonce in the past week include the following:

From J. C. Hill to Mrs. Alma B. Vassey one lot in Trenton.

From Z. H. Marshburn one-tenth undivided interest in 320 acres of land in Cypress Creek Township to Walter Ives.

From Barbara K. Smith to W. L. Smith four lots in White Oak Township.

From Herbert Cox Jr. to Elmer C. Cox one acre in Chingapin

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54 Indictments in 20 Burglaries are Issued Against Five Kinston Negroes

Wednesday Morning a "convention" of Eastern Carolina law enforcement officers met in the Lenoir County court house in Kinston and took turns reading 54 indictments against five Kinston negroes for 20 burglaries that have taken place in the past three months over a six-county area.

The capture last Thursday morning of three of these men and the subsequent arrest of two more over the weekend led to this mass indictment scene Wednesday morning.

Ernest C. Battle of 119 Lincoln Street and Elmer Lewis Shepherd of 511 Lincoln Street were charged in 16 of the burglaries, Thomas Curtis Jones of 15-C Carver Courts was charged in 15, Henry A. Davis of 216 South Independent is held in six and Charlie Graham of 504½ North Adkin Street is accused in one entry.

Loot, including cash, taken by this quintet totalled several thousand dollars and very little of it has been recovered.

The robberies included that of Leslie Semmons' place and the Fort Barnwell Supply Company in Craven County; Tull's Esso Center in Grantsboro, Delamar Brothers Store in Oriental, Austin Miller's store in Bayboro all in Pamlico County; the ABC store in Aurora, J. B. Bryant's store at Aurora and Gayton's store all in Beaufort County; E. C. Carter and R. H. Smith's stores on Ayden route two, Quinerly's store on Grifton route one all in Pitt County, Gene Hood's store at Wyse Fork and Leslie White's store at Elm Grove both in Jones County.

The Lenoir County list covered in these indictments includes robberies of Kirby Loftin's store north of Kinston, Colonial Ice & Coal Company, Red & White Supermarket in La Grange, Raynor's Supermarket in Kinston, Hussey's store near Seven Springs and Davis' store in Southeast Kinston.

Early last Thursday morning the trio first captured (Battle, Shepherd and Jones) were jumped as they tried to get in a Vanceboro store. Riding in a 1953 Chrysler they managed to get away from the Vanceboro policeman but not before he had gotten the car's license number. This was soon spread by the State Highway Patrol radio and Grifton Policeman Alton Lewis fell in behind the trio as they sped through his bailiwick.

As the chase continued on toward Kinston Deputy Sheriff George Hill, Police Captain David Broadway and Policeman Leslie Parsons combined to bring the speeding Chrysler to a halt.

Some loot from one of the Pitt County stores, burglary tools and a fully loaded nickel-plated .45 caliber automatic pistol were found in the car.

Questioning by State Bureau of Investigation agents, Sheriff department officers from the counties involved and the Kinston Police Department led to confessions being signed by at least two of the five under arrest. Their confessions implicated the other three.

Township.

From J. K. Warren Jr. to Daris Koonce three lots in Trenton Township.

From J. K. Warren Jr. to James C. Hill two lots in Trenton Township.

Fords Don't Fly or Swim



Last Monday night Malvern Banks, who lives several miles east of Trenton, was driving to Trenton. Approaching the bridge on the east side of town, Malvern lost control of his 1957 Ford and missed not only the old bridge, but a new detour bridge which is under construction at this time.

When the Ford stopped rolling, and sinking it was almost out of sight in the dark, cold waters of Trent River. Banks scrambled out, cold and wet but otherwise unhurt. The car is classed a total loss, after being lifted ashore by the crane that is at work building the new bridge.

Asks Double Damages For Timber Cut from White Oak Lands

A suit was filed this week in Jones County Superior Court asking double damages amounting to \$7,000 for timbers allegedly wrongfully cut on the lands of J. C. LaRoque by adjacent property owners.

Named as defendants in the action are Romas, Cordell, Royal and Cleve Bell Provost and Royall Provost, executor of the will of Nettie Provost and Norman Kellum.

The suit charges that not less than 80,000 feet of timber have been wrongfully cut from the LaRoque lands by agents of the several defendants. The estimated value of that timber is put at \$35 per thousand feet, and under specified rules and statutes LaRoque is asking a total of \$7,000 and such other relief as the court may deem proper.

In the meanwhile a restraining order has been signed by Resident Judge Henry Stevens Jr. of Warsaw which has caused all cutting of timber in the disputed area to be halted until the matter can be more thoroughly aired before Judge Rudolph Mintz, who will be presiding over the March 3rd term of Jones County Superior Court.

Religious Affiliation Census for Trenton Termed Successful

The religious census that was taken Sunday afternoon in Trenton was a big success.

Nineteen teams of two in a team went out to every home in town and in a three-mile radius of town to ask families certain questions in order to help the ministers find out the church preferences of the people.

Teams from every church in town helped take the census from 12:30 until 2:00 and reported back, with very much co-operation from the citizens.

In the near future other teams will also be visiting these families.

Big PTA Event for Trenton School on Tap for Wednesday

The Trenton School PTA will meet Wednesday March 4 in the school cafeteria at 5:00 to begin a study course. The school is trying to bring the PTA up to a standard association, and in order to do so, must have a study this year.

There will be four speakers; B. W. Moore will talk on "School Finance", Fred Pippin on "Reading", and Lewis Dillman on "Religion in the Schools".

A talk will also be given on "PTA Work", but the speaker has not been announced yet. The meeting will begin at 5, a picnic supper will be served at 7 and the study will be over by 9:00.

Those who cannot go at 5, may go at anytime they wish. It is hoped that a large number of parents will be on hand.

Three Jones County Marines Take Part Division Anniversary

CAMP LEJEUNE, — Marines Sgt. Luther P. Stroud, son of Mrs. Leatha A. Stroud of Route 1, Maysville, N. C. and husband of the former Miss Florence L. Maguire of Culpeper, Va., Sgt. William L. Randall, son of Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Randall of Maysville, and Private James R. Dawson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Dawson of Pollocksville Route one, took part in the 18th anniversary celebration of the 2nd Marine Division, Feb. 2, at Camp Lejeune.

Formed in San Diego, Calif., Feb. 1, 1941, the Division, during the week, held day-long activities highlighted with a full scale parade and special meals in the messhall. The parade's Reviewing Officer was Lt. Gen. E. A. Pollock, USMC, Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic.

The Division, which trains year-round to fulfill its role as a force-in-readiness, has been based at Camp Lejeune since 1946.