

Welfare Budgets Taking Half Most County Budgets

The tentative Lenoir County budget for fiscal 1964-65 totals \$2,256,327.07 and 49-per-cent-plus of that is allocated to the county welfare department.

The tentative Jones County budget for fiscal 1964-65 totals \$785,954.07 and 46-per-cent-plus of that is allocated to the county welfare department.

The welfare budget for Lenoir County totals \$1,113,032.14 and in Jones County it amounts to \$353,579. These are typical counties in North Carolina and all across the nation. They are not among the lowest, nor among the highest in their expenditures for the relief of the needy.

One question a few interested taxpayers ask from time to time is where does this money come from. Obviously, it all comes from the taxpayers, but part of it is collected from the taxpayers through the federal taxing process and other smaller chunks are collected by the

state and county tax systems.

The formulae for allocation of funds is like most federal functions — deliberately intricate, and to this federal intricacy the State of North Carolina adds a few touches of its own to create a system under which hardly any two counties share exactly alike.

The three principal allocations of funds are for Old Age Assistance (OAA), Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) and Aid to the Totally Disabled (APTD).

OAA and APTD allocations are as follows: 80 per cent of the first \$31 paid an individual and 65 per cent of all above \$31 comes from federal tax revenues.

ADC funds include 14/17ths of the first \$17 paid per person and 65 per cent of all above that \$17.

The remainder of these payments is shared between the state and the 100 counties as follows: Each unit pays half of that amount not paid from federal tax funds, but

the state has something called an "equalizing fund" through which it gives additional financial aid to those counties which are felt to be less able to meet their share of the payments.

Some counties get nothing from this "equalization fund" and the amount allocated to the "poor counties" varies from year to year.

Another question frequently heard is: Who gets this money? Currently it is being allocated in Lenoir County to 1,988 people, which means that roughly three people out of each 100 in the county derive all or part of their livelihood from a welfare department check.

In Jones County the percentage is much higher with 944 persons presently drawing welfare aid there it means that roughly nine people out of each hundred are getting all or part of their livelihood from a welfare check.

What determines who will and

who will not get help from the welfare department. The criteria are 1. Need, 2. Residence and 3. Resources.

One might say that a person with resources does not need help, but there are people who have resources that cannot be readily used. An aged person may own a home but the home's only value is simply as a place for the individual to live. If welfare rules forced that person to sell his home he would still have to pay rent.

So regulations permit a homeowner of limited resources to receive public help but such help is held as a lien against any real estate he may own.

No person is eligible to receive welfare aid if he has liquid assets totalling \$500 or over. This includes cash, stocks, bonds and any other negotiable instruments.

There are other regulations which forbid a person disposing of real estate through deeding it to chil-

dren in an effort to become eligible.

Currently in Lenoir County the 1988 persons receiving welfare aid include 1,115 ADC clients — which includes children and adults. This is by far the most controversial category of welfare aid. Roughly 16 per cent of the children receiving aid in this category are the result of illegitimate parentage. The other 84 per cent are orphans either by death or desertion or children of parents who themselves are aid recipients for various disabilities, either physical or mental.

Lenoir County regulations require the indictment of known parents for non-support before any ADC allocations are approved. At present the average monthly allocation per child in the ADC category is \$23.18 of which \$1.25 is withheld and put in a pool to cover medical expenses.

In the '64-65 Lenoir County budget \$277,820 is ear-marked for this particular kind of help.

The same item in Jones County's tentative budget is \$151,200 and it presently is covering 701 persons. Lenoir County has five times the population of Jones County but ADC allocations for Jones County in this category are nearly as great as in Lenoir County.

Jones County's average grant per person per month in this category is \$20.35 less the \$1.25 for medical aid.

Under aid to the aged Lenoir County presently has 478 recipients; Jones County 127. The latest estimate has roughly 3,059 persons past 65 (eligibility age for OAA) in Lenoir County and 612 past 65 in Jones County.

The average monthly grant for each of these in Lenoir County is \$54.07 less \$5.22 which goes into the medical aid pool and in Jones County the average grant is \$51.25 less the same \$5.22.

Lenoir County is budgeting \$381,360 in this category while Jones County is budgeting \$83,520.

It is interesting to note that in both counties there are fewer persons drawing OAA now than two years ago, largely due to Social Security payments now reaching a greater percentage of the people in this bracket. Two years ago Lenoir County had 512 OAA clients compared to 478 now while Jones County had 135 two years ago and 127 at present.

The disabled clients now number 267 in Lenoir County and 95 in Jones, and Lenoir's average payment is \$55.43 less \$5.72 medical pool withholding and Jones County's average is \$54.07 less the medical pool \$5.72.

Lenoir has budgeted \$214,800 for this category and Jones County is budgeting \$70,800.

Other smaller categories include aid to the blind with 80 clients in Lenoir County and 18 in Jones County and average payments comparable to the disabled payments.

To run the department itself, paying salaries and office operations cost Lenoir County is setting up \$134,700 and Jones County \$36,348.

For aid to the blind Lenoir County is budgeting \$70,402.14 and Jones County \$3,211.

Under general assistance — a category borne entirely by the county taxpayers, Lenoir County is allocating \$31,450 and Jones County \$8,500. This money is used in emergency situations to tide people over until the processing of other type aid can be completed, or to help people who are not eligible under any of the programs for which federal tax funds are allocated.

In addition to these forms of direct financial aid all clients on the various jointly supported programs also receive free medical care, including free hospital care. This is the basis for the medical deductions in each category of aid to provide a pool for payment of such costs.

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Sister Sues Brother For Rent and Property

Principal among civil actions filed this week in Jones County Superior Court is an action brought by Dorothy Ila Moore against her brother W. L. Moore and his wife.

Miss Moore is seeking to collect \$200 back rent which she alleges her brother owes her and another \$725 for property she claims he moved off her farm early this year.

In setting forth her suit Miss Moore says she bought the family farm in April 1963, in which she held a 2 interest and in which her brother owned a 7 interest and her sister, Mrs. Mabel Moore Gray, owned a 1 interest.

Miss Moore alleges that she paid \$68,458.55 for the 386.4-acre farm which until that time had been rented to her brother.

After the sale she says he asked permission to rent the house in which he had been living until he could build another home. She says that he left in January of this year, never having paid any rent and took with him a stock barn shed worth \$300, a poultry house worth \$200, a pump and four screens worth \$100, fencing and posts worth \$100 and 2500 tobacco sticks worth at least \$25. She is asking the court to award her \$200 rent and \$725 for the property with interest.

In other actions filed Doris McCarter Leathers is asking a divorce from Robert Leathers on grounds of two years separation. Alleging their marriage on July 6, 1953 and their separation "sometime in November 1960."

In other actions reported by Court Clerk Walter Henderson three other cases were cleared from the court's docket — one by consent non-suit judgment and the other two by default judgment.

The voluntary non-suit ended an action brought by Woodrow Lafayette Foy against Lester Jenkins Auto Service and David Lewis of New Bern.

The default judgments were Jenkins Gas Company against George Eubanks Jr. for \$444.39 and Maxwell Company against Earl Scott for \$398.46.

DUPLIN MAN KILLED

Lyman Earl Jones, 26, of Beula-ville was killed last Wednesday when he fell under his truck on US 17 near Edenton.

Sylvia Hargett Has Boone Essay Entry

Sylvia Hargett of Trenton route 2 is one of 800 North Carolina school children who has written a paper on "Daniel Boone, empire builder" and submitted it as an entry in an essay contest sponsored by HORN IN THE WEST, outdoor drama playing nightly except Mondays through August 29 at Boone, North Carolina.

Miss Hargett attended Trenton School. The child's teacher last school year was Mrs. Dorothy Mercer.

Winners of the contest will be presented cash prizes prior to the evening performance of the outdoor show on July 31.

Recorder's Docket is Lightened by 34 Cases

Trial before Recorder Nick Noble, submission to Clerk Walter Henderson or appeal to superior court removed 33 cases in the past two weeks from the Jones County Recorder's Court docket.

Of this total 29 cases involved various traffic violations and the other four were misdemeanors.

These four misdemeanor cases include charges of public drunkenness against John Hughes White of Pollocksville, whose charges were not pressed with leave, and Lemuel Mastocks of Maysville, who paid \$16 for his mistake.

Robert Whitfield of Kinston route 3 drew a 6-month suspended jail term for assault on a female and he was ordered to pay a \$25 fine and not violate any law for 12 months.

Delma Wilson Meadows of Maysville drew 30 days for assault but this was suspended on payment of a \$25 fine.

The following were fined for speeding: Isaac Jones of Rockville, Md., Johnny C. Hughes of New Bern route 4, Joe Brown of Georgetown, S. C., Clayton Whitt Turner of Pink Hill route 1, John Koonce Jr. of Trenton route 1, James L. Jones of Maysville route 1, Edward Trott of Jacksonville route 2, John W. Worthington of

Forestry Pilot Dies

Charles Cline, 27, a native of Emporia, Virginia, died at 6:30 Saturday morning in a Kinston hospital from injuries he suffered Friday in a plane crash in the Dover pocosin, about 15 miles southeast of Kinston. Cline, a pilot for the Forestry department, was on a routine training flight from Stallings Field with a "water bomber" used in fighting forest fires when the crash took place.

ONE JONES ARREST

Jones County Sheriff Brown Yates reports only one arrest in the county during the past week; that of Bobby Ray Roberts of Pollocksville who was jailed on a charge of public drunkenness.

ABDUCTION CHARGE

Migratory tobacco hand Rodolph Walker, 18, was charged over the weekend with abduction of a 15-year old girl in a warrant signed by the girl's mother.

Farmville, Phillip O'Brien of Jacksonville, Carlton Heath of New Bern, Ernest Hill Jr. of Maysville, William E. Johnson of Kinston (found not guilty), Johnny S. Hargett of Jacksonville. Hargett appealed to superior court.

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Attacks Elderly Man, Lands in Hospital

Last Saturday morning E. F. Nunn of 112, South Independent Street, said he heard a lot of noise around the back door of the house next door.

He walked out on his back porch to see what the commotion was about and was accosted by a young man who asked, "What have you got to do with it?"

Nunn says he replied, "Nothing," and started back into the house when he was followed by the belligerent young man.

Back in his room Nunn said he got a .22 caliber pistol and at about that time he was grabbed and dragged back out into the yard, where he was being choked and beaten when he managed to get out the pistol and fire two shots.

One hit his assailant in the chest just below the ribs and the other hit him in the leg.

Bruce Clark of 26-H Simon Bright Homes was the young man who was doing the attacking. He underwent surgery at Parrott Memorial Hospital to remove the bullet from his chest and is reportedly resting well on Wednesday.

Nunn was charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill.

Clark's police record began at the age of 10; includes theft, disorderly conduct, assault on a female, gambling, driving without a license, failing to yield right of way, breaking and entering and being an accessory to assault with intent to kill.