

THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

NUMBER 19 TRENTON, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1964 VOLUME XVI

Recorder's Court Docket Lighter By 41 Cases; 32 In Traffic Department

Trial by Judge Nick Noble or submissions to Clerk Walter Henderson cleared 41 cases from the docket of Jones County Recorder's Court in the past two weeks. Of this 41 there were 32 traffic charges and nine other non-traffic misdemeanor cases.

The non-traffic cases included one of assault with a deadly weapon against Thomas Edward Hall of Trenton route 2 who was given six months in prison, suspended on payment of a \$100 fine, payment of \$200 hospital bills of Elmer Hall and upon the further condition he violate no law for one year.

Raymond Koonce of Trenton and Otis Turnage of Pollocksville were each given 90 days for being drunk and disorderly, with the jail sentence suspended on payment of court costs and their not violating any law for one year.

David Perry of Kinston route 6 was found not guilty of assault on a female and malicious damage to private property.

Bobby King of Trenton route 2 was fined \$25 for simple assault.

Charge of illegally cutting timber against Robert Purvis of Kinston route 4 was not pressed on payment of court costs.

C. D. Hedges of Trenton was fined \$50 for trespassing and he gave notice of appeal to superior court.

Sylvester Brown of Trenton paid \$50 for being publicly drunk.

Among the more serious traffic charges Quincy C. Southard of Cove City and Mark Thomas Shackelford of Trenton route 1 were each fined \$100 for drunken driving and each appealed to superior court.

Minor traffic charges against the following were thrown out of court: William Green of Trenton, Ivey Barber of Fort Bragg, John Irvin of Camp Lejeune, Bruce Betcher of Camp Lejeune, Nobe Jones of Maysville, Charles Williams of Maysville route 1, Roy Wade Ferrenback of Fort Stewart, Ga., Roy Carlton Parker of Maysville route 1,

Jesse Darius Banks of Maysville and Vernon Wilson Bowen of Bridgeton.

Speeding fines were paid by William Curtis Pegg of Kernersville, Franklin Albert Mills of Stella, Arthur Branch of Trenton route 2, Robert Worth Swicegood of Burlington, Roland Roger Byrd of Four Oaks route 3, Thomas Edward Kemple of Fredericksburg, Va., Richard Wayne Wilbur of Camp Lejeune, Marion Parrott Turnage of New Bern and Willard Eugene Skipper of Camp Lejeune. Colie Sherwood Doss of Maysville route 1 was also found guilty of speeding but he appealed to superior court.

Clarence Hill of Dover route 2 was fined \$40 for driving without a license. James Perrin Holloway of Jacksonville was fined \$25 for reckless driving.

Those paying the court costs for less serious offenses were James Garfield Grady of Trenton route 1, Virgil Bryan Huffman of Trenton, Mildred Sparrow Strawbridge of Pollocksville, Robert Lee May of New Bern, William G. Dowdy of Kinston route 6, Jerry Jones of Pollocksville route 1 and Paul E. Banker of Camp Lejeune.

Four Jones Arrests

During the past week Jones County Sheriff Brown Yates reports four arrests: Otis Turnage of Pollocksville and Raymond Koonce of Trenton were both accused of being drunk and disorderly in a public place, James Allen Turnage of Pollocksville was charged with just plain public drunkenness and Lester Mattocks of Maysville route 1 charged with driving a car with improper registration upon which there was no liability insurance.

Pink Hill Man Killed Thursday As Truck Hits Tractor; Another Hurt

Last Thursday afternoon 30 year-old Ceborn Hill of Pink Hill was instantly killed when the tractor he was driving about a mile south of Pink Hill was hit by a truck-trailer driven by Raiford Parrish of Selma route 2.

Both were headed south on the Kenansville road and the tractor was pulling a 4-wheel trailer on which 18 year-old Billy Sanderson was riding. Sanderson suffered a broken right leg but is recuperating satisfactorily at Parrott Memorial Hospital in Kinston.

Parrish told Investigating Patrolman T. A. Bryan that he came over the crest of a hill

Judge Burgwyn to Preside Over Mixed Term of Jones County Superior Court

Divorce Action Is Filed By Husband

Jones County Superior Court Clerk Walter Henderson reports that one civil action was filed in his office during the past week in which a Jones County husband seeks divorce from his wife.

The suit alleges the marriage on February 9, 1962 of Gerald Turner and Glenda P. Turner and further alleges their separation on September 6, 1962.

The complaint says one child was born to the marriage and the child is in the custody of the mother, who has refused to accept support from the father for the child's maintenance.

Monday Judge Sumner Burgwyn of Woodland will convene a one-week mixed term of Jones County Superior Court with plenty of work set up for the regular session.

First on the agenda are six divorce suits in which Myrtle Greces Foy seeks to divorce Paul Foy, Alma Mayo Allen is divorcing Bessie Viola Rodman, Dock Wiggins Jr. is divorcing Effie S. Wiggins, Edward Jones is divorcing Josephine King Jones and Doris McCarter Leathers is divorcing Robert Leathers.

Criminal cases include charges of rape against James Mills, John Wesley Brown, Quincy McDaniel and Wesley Green; assault with intent to commit rape against Zeb M. Harrison.

Ora Lee Bryant is charged with murder and A. J. Boyd, alias George Baldwin is charged with first degree burglary.

In the serious category from traffic James Coy Griffin is charged with manslaughter and reckless driving, Ernest Bradley Benton is charged with drunken driving and manslaughter and Tilmon Lewis is charged with manslaughter and driving on the wrong side of the road.

In the driving drunk department the following are defendants: Frank Bullock, Percy Evans, Marvin Mills, Cleveland Roberts, Paul Edward Davis, William Henry Britt, Larry Thomas Harris, William James Metts, James Taylor, Bruce Butler McArthur, Woodrow Daniel Melton and James Edward White. Marvin Mills is charged with driving while his license was revoked.

Scheduled for Thursday are several other civil actions included motions to be made in the suit brought against the Jones County Board of Education by the parents of children living in the western extremities of Jones County.

A damage action by Edna Conner against Tilmon Lewis is to be heard and an action between Lottie Belle Fiori and Peter Fiori is also set for Thursday.

There are also numerous other misdemeanor charges scheduled for hearing on the criminal calendar during the first three days of the crowded court session.

FRIDAY WRECK

Thomas Edward Anthony of Morehead City was charged with making an improper turn after his car and that of Alfred Jarman of 803 Whitfield Drive tangled Friday at the corner of Queen and Gordon.

Lenoir's Annual Accident Bill Is Over \$6,376,000

From the standpoint of safety, it is more risky to be living in Lenoir County than in most other places in the United States.

For the local resident, the hazards are greater. He is more likely to become involved in an accident — fatal or otherwise — than elsewhere, the latest statistics show.

The general accident record locally is viewed in comparison with the records of other communities. It is based on data compiled by the U. S. Public Health Service as part of the Government's annual vital statistics survey.

The findings are of special interest because of the gathering in Chicago in a few weeks of safety experts from all over the country for the National Safety Congress.

During the year ending January 1, 1963, the survey shows, there were 38 fatal accidents among Lenoir County residents, 18 of them attributed to motor vehicles.

The figures take into account accidents of all sorts affecting local people, wherever they may have occurred, but do not include local accidents involving non-residents.

Related to Lenoir County's population, the accident toll was at the rate of 66 fatalities per 100,000 people.

This compares unfavorably with the figures for the United States as a whole, which averaged 52 per 100,000.

It was also above the State of North Carolina's rate of 58 per 100,000.

The magnitude of the accident problem may be gleaned

from the national report, which shows that 100,500 lives were lost in the year.

Another 10 million persons, it is estimated by the safety council, suffered injuries that disabled them for more than one day.

Thus, for every fatal accident, there were about 100 non-fatal ones that required medical attention and restricted activity.

The cost of accidents in 1963, counting lost wages, medical and insurance payments, property damage, reduced production and the like, was approximately \$16.3 billion, according to the council.

On a proportional basis, assuming the average amount per accident applies locally, the cost in Lenoir County comes to \$6,376,000.

Time to Take Close Look at Lenoir's Hospital Situation

By Jack Rider

Seventeen years ago the people of Lenoir County made a mistake that has cost, and is costing the county hundreds of thousands of dollars per year.

At that time Kinston was recognized as the medical center of Eastern North Carolina. Nowhere east of Raleigh was there a group of such proficient and learned men of medicine and nowhere between Rocky Mount and Wilmington was there larger and more adequate hospital facilities.

Men and women of vision offered a plan to the people of Lenoir County aimed at keeping Lenoir County in the lead in this important department. But for a multitude of reasons, many long forgotten, the people in the county voted against construction of a new county-owned hospital on an adequate and expandable site.

Then another plan was con-

ceived in desperation, recognized as a second best and it was fought out at the ballot box and in the courts. This, of course, was the plan finally implemented to expand and renovate the existing Memorial General Hospital into what we have today, Lenoir Memorial Hospital.

Despite criticism frequently heard Lenoir Memorial Hospital is an excellent hospital facility and it still has a staff of good doctors and dedicated staff members.

But Lenoir Memorial Hospital, constricted by its site, cannot be expanded with any reasonable expenditure of money, and is plagued perpetually by the inadequacy of its parking area.

This writer was the principal person who fought against the construction of such a vital facility on such an inadequate site, but that, of course, is all water under the bridge and over the dam.

What is important to EVERY citizen of the county is that this lack of an adequate hospital plant is costing the county economy hundreds of thousands of dollars per year, and additionally it is denying to the sick and injured of our immediate area a medical care in keeping with that afforded in surrounding counties.

Kinston is no longer the recognized medical center of East Carolina. Kinston has no resident psychiatrist, pathologist, neurologist and until recently no urologist. These are a basic few of the medical musts in a modern hospital facility. It is likely that there are others that this non-medical writer would not know about.

Of course, when the average person thinks about a hospital his first thought is about the adequacy of medical care, the competency of its staff and the comfort and workability of its physical plant.

The Business Side

But in a community-sense there is also a "chamber of commerce" side to a hospital. Hospitals are big business. They provide work for many people. They pump money in huge chunks into the local economy and all of the satellite businesses that flourish around a major hospital pump even more money into the economy.

On the basis of the latest report from the Duke Endowment Lenoir Memorial Hospital in 1963 had 38,219 "patient days." This represents 78.7 per cent bed occupancy, which is good, but not nearly so good as in many other county-owned hospitals in this area.

Pitt County Memorial Hospital had 53,022 "patient days" in 1963.

Wayne County Memorial Hospital had 64,925 "patient days."

Of course, each of these is much larger than the 133-bed

Lenoir Memorial Hospital. Pitt is 175 bed capacity and Wayne is 222 bed capacity.

Translated into dollars and cents the Duke Endowment report says the average cost per patient of operating hospitals in these sizes was \$21.98 per patient per day in 1963.

Assuming that Lenoir Memorial operates in this average cost area—which it does, this means the local hospital's gross business amounts to \$840,000-plus per year.

This in itself makes the hospital as it is a big business and an important part of the county's economy.

For 1963, the year upon which the Duke Endowment figures were projected, the actual gross operating revenue of Lenoir Memorial Hospital was \$1,004,238 with \$77,762 set aside for free work and bad debts the hospital was left with a net op-

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