

Merry Christmas

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Jones County Jaycees Planning Charter Night Banquet and Award to County's Outstanding Young Farmer for 1964

Plans are underway but the exact date has not yet been set for the Charter Night Banquet of the recently organized Jones County Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Along with the Charter Night banquet the first of what will be annual awards is to be presented to Jones County's outstanding young farmer in 1964.

President James Hood says a committee has picked a secret committee that will make the selection of the outstanding farmer.

Other officers of the new JC organization include Vice President, Treasurer Charles Jones Jr., and Secretary Leslie Park-

Dr. John H. Thompson, chairman of financial projects committee, and Carlton Ipock, chairman of community projects committee.

The farmer award is jointly sponsored by the JC's and the LP gas dealers of Jones County.

THREE JONES ARRESTS

Jones County Sheriff Brown Yates reports three arrests in the past week. George Albert Williams of Trenton route 2 and Marvin Vance Daugherty of Kinston route 6 were charged with drunken driving and Bud Phillips of Kinston route 5 was charged with public drunkenness.

Bloodmobile Gets 218 Pints Blood In Lenoir Visits

In visits to Kinston and Deep Run this week the Red Cross bloodmobile collected 218 pints of blood — 126 pints Monday in Kinston and 92 pints Tuesday at Deep Run.

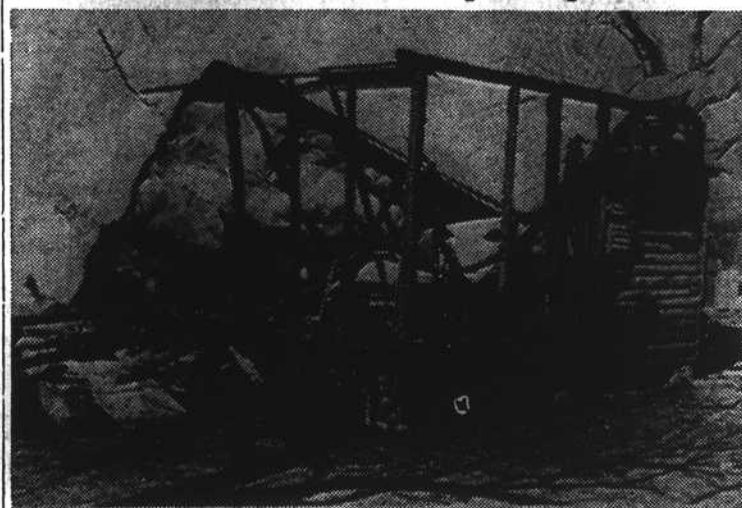
Among the donors was one who earned his 6-gallon donor pin by giving his 48th pint of blood. He is Wayne Greenway of Kinston. There were also two 2-gallon donor pins handed out to Elmer E. Lanier and Walker Suggs.

Donors also included 14 persons giving their 8th pint and getting their one-gallon donor pins. They are F. E. Stephenson, J. T. Garvey, Maurice Lesner, Alice Abbott, Raymond Wade and Venus Wooten of Kinston; Braswell Smith, Burrell Stroud, Cecil Williams and Louis Smith of the Deep Run community and Ethro Hill, Billy Brewer, Remus Teachey and Mrs. Carrie Pickett of the Pink Hill community.

THURSDAY BREAK-INS

The Lenoir County Sheriff Department is investigating three robberies last Thursday night by thieves who stole merchandise from a filling station at Jenny Lind, money and merchandise from the Kinston Building Supply Company and cash from the Wonderland west of Kinston.

Five Children Die Saturday Morning As Their Home is Destroyed by Fire



This picture shows the gutted southeast corner of and the charred bed on which some of the five children of Verdie Spence were burned to death in a fire early Saturday morning. The fire, now ruled accidental, on the Graham Hodges farm west of Kinston was one of the worst tragedies of this kind in the history of Lenoir County.

Warehouse Sale?

Last week officials of the Kinston Co-operative Warehouse revealed that a stockholder's meeting has been called for January 9th at which time the directors will recommend sale of the warehouse to the owners of Knott's New Warehouse for a stipulated price of \$230,000. The directors in a recent meeting unanimously agreed to accept this high offer from the Knott organization. Several other bids were offered.

KINSTON BREAK-INS

Kinston police are investigating three break-ins: A window smashing looting on Monday of Whitfield Jewellery Store, an attempt punching of the Swift & Company safe Tuesday night, and theft of about \$200 in coins from Bland Music Company Monday.

Lenoir County Baby Crop-yield Higher Than National Average; Wonder Why?

Babies continue to be big business in Lenoir County, fortunately.

From the standpoint of the local merchants who sell infants wear, nursery equipment, cribs, carriages, play pens, baby food, and toiletries, each new arrival means just that much more in the way of sales.

In Lenoir County, the birth rate has remained at a high level, in contrast to the situation in many parts of the country, where it has dropped sharply in recent years.

The figures for the local area have just been released by the Public Health Service, following a national survey. They show that the birth rate amounted to a sturdy 23.0 per 1,000 residents in the year ending January 1, 1963.

By way of comparison, the local rate was bigger than in the United States as a whole, where it was 22.4 per 1,000.

The Government report shows that a total of 1,328 babies were born to local parents in the year, not counting those born in the county to non-residents.

Nationally, there was a drop in number from the peak year 1957, when 4,308,000 births were recorded, to the current total of 4,167,362.

This downturn, which was unforeseen a few years back when stations were predicting a population of 212 million by 1970, has caused a readjustment in their forecast. They now say that the 1970 total will be around 208 million.

They are confident, however, that the decline in the number of births will be reversed soon by the approaching wave of potential mothers who were born during the baby boom of the 1940's.

The high cost of rearing a family seems to be one of the elements in the present drop. Larger families require larger

houses, more food, more clothing and more savings for education.

As to just how much it costs to provide for a new-born baby, outside of medical expenditures, the estimates vary widely.

The total, for a layette, bedding, diapers, furniture, bathinette and the rest, can be had for as little as \$100 can also run to more than \$500. The average seems to be in the vicinity of \$300.

Where to Begin? That's The Question of This Little Lady



Where to begin? This pretty little redhead was all agog this week in the toyland of United Surplus Store while her parents had a word or two with Santa Claus. To be surrounded by big-as-life dolls, child-sized tables, tricycles, blackboards and ten thousand more gadgets to delight the kid of any age; that is a joyous part of Christmas for all. The wonderland of childhood is nine parts magic and one part heartache, but still the child who finds just one toy on Christmas Morning generally is happier than that child who wakes up in a room full. After all, a kid cannot play with but one toy at the time, and if there is only one all of the child's love and imagination will be concentrated on that one, rather than spread thinly over a dozen that are soon tossed aside and forgotten. There are many lessons of the Christmas Season and this is not the least.

A fire first discovered at about 3 Saturday morning destroyed a tenant house on the Graham Hodges farm west of Kinston and claimed the lives of five children of Verdie Spence. The children ranged from nine years to two months of age.

Cause of the fire has not been determined, but Hodges told investigating officers that a very noisy party was going on in the home which caused him at about 1 a.m. to go and give the party members a warning to get quiet.

Hodges called the fire department from Kinston when he was awakened by screams coming from the home and got up to see the house on fire.

Two men, Jesse James Williams and Odie Jones, who worked for Hodges, occupied the house and about two weeks ago the Spence woman moved in with her group of children.

Williams fled the scene and has not been found yet. None of those who survived the fire had any idea what happened, but in the sub-freezing weather officials guess that Williams attempted to start a fire and it got away from him and he fled in panic.

Although authorities admit the obvious possibility of arson they are more inclined to the accident theory.

This is Lenoir County's worst fire tragedy in many years and Fire Chief Joe Hailey urges everyone to bend every effort to use caution at all times with fire and especially in the colder time of the year when so many more people are using fire than at other times of the year.

LAND TRANSFERS

Jones County Register of Deeds Bill Parker reports the following land transfers recorded in his office during the past week:

From D. W. Koonce, guardian, of Wilbur Alphin, to Wilbur Alphin tracts of 158.2, 46.4 and 28.1 acres in Tuckahoe Township.

From Cape Fear Wood Corporation to Riegel Paper Company tracts of 257.9, 78.05 and 485 acres in Beaver Creek and Pollocksville Townships.

From Beverly Alphin to Keith and Lou Anne Alphin 114.5 acres in Tuckahoe Township.