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Three Civil Suits Filed in Jones Superior Court During Past Week; One Filed for Fifth Time Over Tuckahoe Farm

In the past week three civil actions have been filed in the office of Jones County Superior Court Clerk Walter Henderson. One action, which was originally instituted July 7, 1957, has now been filed for the fifth time. Non-suits have been taken in the action four times previously.

This particular suit is one brought by Ethan and Lillie Brown Mills against Wesley and Elise Jones, Raeford and Suefield Blizzard, Trustee Donald Brock and Alonza Mills.

This action stemmed from foreclosure on a farm owned by the Mills in Tuckahoe Township by Jones and Blizzard. The allegation from the beginning is that Blizzard and Jones fraudulently obtained a mortgage on the farm when the aged couple thought it was signing a chattel mortgage.

Brock was attorney in the transaction and Alonza Mills got involved because he subsequently bought the controversial land from Jones and Blizzard.

The most recent non-suiting of the action was done in rather strong language by the presiding judge, who ordered the plaintiffs (the Mills) to pay the accumulated court costs.

Now they have made what in legal terms is called a "motion in the cause" in which the presiding judge is asked to set aside the previous order and permit trial of the action to go forward. Courthouse observers admit that there seems to be

ASSAULT CHARGED

Over the weekend Reuben James Davis of 1507 Wells Road was charged with shooting James Hall twice in the stomach with a .22 caliber pistol.

no end in sight to this longwinded controversy.

The other actions are less complicated and much newer.

Roy Carlton Parker is asking \$16,125 damages from W. W. Brafford and Allen Brinson for injuries and damages he suffered September 3, 1964 in an accident two miles north of Pollockville on US 17.

Parker's suit alleges that Brinson was the driver of a log truck belonging to Brafford which "jackknifed" into his vehicle, inflicting serious personal injuries for which he asks \$15,125 and \$1,000 damage to his vehicle.

The other action was brought by Roy Kinsey against Willie Koonce, for injuries he suffered October 3, 1964 when Koonce

lost control of a car that plunged into a creek on NC 41, hurting Kinsey and drowning his wife and three of their children. Kinsey is asking \$10,000 damages.

Five Jones Arrests

In the past week Jones County Sheriff Brown Yates reports five arrests — two of them of one man; Leon Davis of Trenton who was charged on Thursday and Friday of last week with public drunkenness. Floyd Hill of New Bern was charged with drunken driving and William Henry Wilson and James L. Lovick were booked for a bit of "hanky-panky" with a driving license.

Heavy Fines in License Switching Case; Other Court Action is Routine

In the past week Recorder's Court Judge Joe Becton gave a pair of New Bernians a choice between going to jail or paying heavy fines for their effort to switch a driving license.

James Lewis Lovick's choice was 60 days in jail or a \$100 fine for using another person's license and for reckless driving and driving without a license.

William Henry Wilson's choice was less painful for permitting Lovick to attempt to use his license. He could choose between 30 days in jail or a \$10 fine, plus court costs.

Three speeding charges were not pressed with leave by Becton including those against two Camp Lejeune Marines who have been discharged from the

service and have left the state. They are James Allen Butts and Robert Porter Phillips. The other case was that of Robert Bryan Riley of Hillsboro, who was charged with speeding 80 miles an hour.

Rebecca Ellen Melton of Battleboro paid \$25 for speeding and William Francis Tyson of Stokes paid \$30 for the same offense.

Carlton Melvin Burton whose address was not listed in court records paid \$20 for failure to stop for a stop sign and Leon Davis of Trenton paid \$20 for public drunkenness.

Eli Cornelius Chapman of New Bern and Otis Adolph Turnage of Pollockville each paid \$12 for driving an improperly equipped vehicle.

Governor's Highway Proposal Would Allocate Specific Funds to Areas

Ready by April

City Manager Jim Blue reported to the city council Monday night that the city's first 25-acre sewage treatment lagoon would be ready for use by April 1st. T. A. Loving Company, the company installing the force mains, pumping station and outfall lines will finish its work on or before this date, Blue said. At the suggestion of Alderman Buddy Rayner the council instructed to "backfill" the lagoon as much as possible from the current stage of high-water in Neuse River. Engineers had asked that the lagoon be filled to its 4-foot depth before sewage was turned in it.

A bill was introduced last week in the General Assembly from the office of Governor Dan Moore calling for a bond election on the issue of \$300 million dollars in highway bonds.

The bill spells out in detail how and where the money would be spent. It provides for \$150 million to be used on the primary road system, with specific allocations for each highway division, \$75 million for the secondary system with allocations to each county based on the number of unpaved miles of secondary road in each county in the state and finally \$75 million to be spent on the highways inside corporate communities of the state, with this allocation based on the population of each town.

The second highway division which includes Jones, Lenoir, Craven, Pitt, Greene, Pamlico, Beaufort and Carteret counties would receive \$11,052,000. This allocation is based on the total number of miles of primary roads in each division.

The secondary road allocations for counties in this general area include Craven \$709,000, Duplin \$1,250,000, Greene \$271,300, Jones \$217,000, Lenoir \$692,000, Pitt \$983,100, Carteret \$210,500, Wayne \$631,000.

Allocations to specific towns in this general area include Kinston \$973,300, La Grange \$83,000, Pink Hill \$17,900, Grifton \$71,200, Dover \$22,500, Trenton \$15,800, Pollockville \$16,300, Maysville \$35,000, New Bern \$616,300, Goldsboro \$1,132,300, Greenville \$896,500, Morehead City \$218,900, Swansboro \$43,300.

The bill, if passed in the general assembly, gives the governor authority to set the election date.

Lenoir One of 400 Counties Chosen in Pesticide Survey

A survey of pesticides used by farmers and how they are used, will be made in Lenoir County during February and March, according to Henry L. Rasor, State Statistician.

Lenoir County is one of 400 counties in the U. S. included in a national study of farm uses of pesticides. The results will be used to help assess the economic impact of present and future uses of chemical control measures. This study, the first of its kind, is part of the USDA research program to develop more effective and safer pest control methods.

Farm operators living in selected areas of the county will be asked to report on the sprays and dusts used in 1964 against crop and livestock insects and for killing weeds. The survey will include questions on the materials used, costs and method of application, and other related farm characteristics.

Joseph F. Tyndall will interview farmers in Lenoir County, starting on February 18. He will be working under the supervision of the State Statistician's office in Raleigh.

BACK AGAIN

Blanche Koonce of Happersville was indicted again last week for failing to send her children to school. Last month a "prayer for judgment" was entered in a similar charge against her.

Downtown 'Shook', Not Scared by Shopping Center

"I tell you the truth, I don't like it one bit, but we've all known it was going to happen sooner or later and I believe that it will strengthen downtown shopping because it will force us downtown merchants to work harder, merchandise better and promote more."

That's what one of the leading downtown merchants had to say on the subject of a major shopping center that is soon to be built just north of the Kinston City Limits.

This same merchant pointed out that most shopping centers are not really shopping centers because they generally include only "one of a kind" insofar as stores are concerned. This still leaves the central business district as the only place where the shopper can really shop.

Another merchant pointed out that the opening of the shopping center would have — or at least should have — a wholesome effect on the downtown business area in that it might cause property owners to make badly needed improvements in their property and institute more realistic rental rates.

Since World War Two the downtown business section has had very little done to improve its ability to better serve the shopper. Too many old buildings not adapted to the things modern shoppers expect still exist.

Owners of the old Dixie Cafe

building — pictured here — are asking \$550 per month rental for a building with cracked walls, expensively high ceilings and far from fire proof construction. This is perhaps an extreme example of downtown dilapidation and it remains empty as it has been for many years.

Each empty business property is not only a drag on the pocketbook of the property owner but is as well a drag on the other businesses in the same general area.

Some of Kinston's more progressive business property owners have kept their holdings in first class condition, and have also worked with potential occupants on a "percentage of gross" rental basis which makes it possible for potential renters to

develop. At present the biggest facelift in recent history is on tap for the central business district. This is resulting from plans of Wachovia Bank to expand its facility, causing numerous changes in the area just north of its present downtown location.

The building occupied by Midyette Hardware — which is moving to the McCoy Building at Queen and Blount — will be torn down and a new home for Singer Sewing Machine Company will be built there.

Foxman Jewelry Store will then have a handsome and much larger new home built in the space now occupied by Singer, the City Barber Shop and Ramsey Realty Company. The bar-

bershop and realty company are moving into the old Webb Shoe Store location at the corner of Queen and Gordon — pictured here — where minor renovations have been made in a building that has outlived the majority of its usefulness.

Bill Bowen, manager of the Wachovia Banks in Kinston says long range projections are being made for his company's site, but at this point it is not known whether a major renovation or a completely new building will be done.

Bowen says Wachovia has every confidence in the downtown business area and no matter which direction its building plans take in Kinston the end result will be a major change on the corner of Queen and Caswell.

With the final legal steps taken for a major additional off-street parking area just back of this Queen Street property, Bowen says he knows it is Wachovia's thinking and he believes the thinking of the others who are about to build, to design construction so that the rear of the buildings will be as attractive and useful as the Queen Street fronts.

Across the street Brody's is expanding its department store to include the front section of L. Harvey's location, which will give major floor-space expansion to Brody's Kinston operation.

On the next block south the



Hyatt Home for Boys, owner of the property of the Late Miss Delia Hyatt, has cleared a major Queen Street frontage and is in negotiation with several firms for construction of stores in that area.

It is likely that many of these things already in the mill would have taken place whether a shopping center came to Kinston or not, but the additional stimulation of major competition will surely not slow down these and major other attacks on blight that Kinston's downtown section suffers.

