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EDITORIAL

## Judicial Larceny

Although it is perfectly legal it was judicial larceny Wednesday when Superior Court Judge Howard Hubbard reached into the education funds of Jones County students and took out a \$22,000 plum to be divided between eight lawyers.

A Jones County jury after brief deliberation found the will of the late Robert T. Johnson perfectly valid, denying the contention of about 40 distant cousins of Johnson who accused the Branch Banking & Trust Company of all kinds of high crimes and treason in persuading Johnson to bequeath his property in trust for scholarships to deserving and needy Jones County students.

But, cloaked in his "judicial discretion" Santa Claus Hubbard arrived seven weeks early and paid off both the winning and losing lawyers out of the estate.

Hubbard is not the first lawyer-turned-judge who has rewarded those who try to break wills. It is an old, established crooked device that is used practically every time a will is probated involving any considerable amount of property.

It is legal. But it is criminal. Hubbard knows it and all of the lawyers who got this advance Christmas present also know it.

## Collector Assaulted No Court Held but Pleas Taken in Recorder's Court

By Robert Houston

William Parker, an employee of Branch Banking and Trust Company, was innocently doing his duties Tuesday when he was attacked by Robert Houston of Route 1 Trenton.

Parker, who was collecting, was looking for the residence of a potential payer and stopped at the Houston place to ask directions. Parker said that he knocked on the Houston door and that Houston came out of the house and hit him with a piece of chain before he could even give his name or state his intentions. Parker said that before he could get away from the unprovoked onslaught Houston hit him again with a rubber hose and also kicked him.

Parker said that as far as he knew he had never seen Houston and was certain that he did not know him.

## Liquor Gets Four Arrested in County

The Sheriff's Department reports four arrests during the past week. All of the arrests came as a result of the misuse of alcoholic beverages.

James Pitts Mills, 28, of Jacksonville was brought in by Highway Patrolman R. R. Mason and charged with driving under the influence.

James Godley, 52, of Maysville was charged by Patrolman B. O. Mercer with being drunk on the public highways.

Lawrence Carter, 18, of Route 1, Trenton was apprehended by Deputy Sheriff Dan Killingsworth and charged with being

The regular Friday session of Recorder's Court was not held this past week since the courtroom was being used for the civil session of Superior Court. Eleven defendants waived appearance and paid fines and costs for traffic violations. Joseph Gregory Eubanks, 18, of New Bern, George Willis Spicer, 39, of Maysville, and Gilbert Ray Norris, 17, of Richlands all paid \$13 for failing to display inspection certificates on their automobiles.

Walter Leon Koonce, 43, of Route 2, Trenton, and James Thomas Self, 67, of Graham each paid \$13 for disobeying a stop sign.

Benjamin Franklin Pollock, 36, of Snow Hill and Lumas Ward, 23, of Pollocksville each paid \$26 for speeding 70 mph in a 60 mph zone.

Corporal James Albert Lewis, 23, of Camp Lejeune and Nelson Leroy Dove, 19, of Trenton each paid \$13 for improper passing.

John Albert Barrow, 17, of Birmingham, Alabama, paid \$16 for reckless driving.

Kenneth Dillahunt, 35, of Route 2, Trenton paid \$13 for driving on the wrong side of the road.

And Leroy Pearson, 20, of Jacksonville, charged with driving without a driver's license had his case dismissed.

drunk on the public highways.

Godfrey Wilder of Route 1 Trenton was brought in by Patrolman Mason for public drunkenness.

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## Murphytown Wins Development Award; Long Point Second

The Murphytown Community Development Club was declared first place winner in county elimination in Rural non-farm Community Development Judging which was conducted on October 30.

The community was named winner based on accomplishments made to increase income, home improvements, community projects and youth activities. The judges gave the group present high praise for the progress that had been made during the year, especially in the area of home improvements and youth activities.

The runner-up was the Long

Point Community which was recognized for outstanding accomplishments in the area of housing, church improvement, and food production.

A. R. Strayhorn is Chairman of the Murphytown organization and Jasper Jones is Chairman of the Long Point organization.

### ACCIDENT VICTIM

Will Jackson, 44, of Kinston route 5, who was struck by a car driven by Rachel Hill Brimmage of Pollocksville route 1 on October 27th died last Wednesday in a Kinston hospital. Mrs. Brimmage has been charged with involuntary manslaughter.

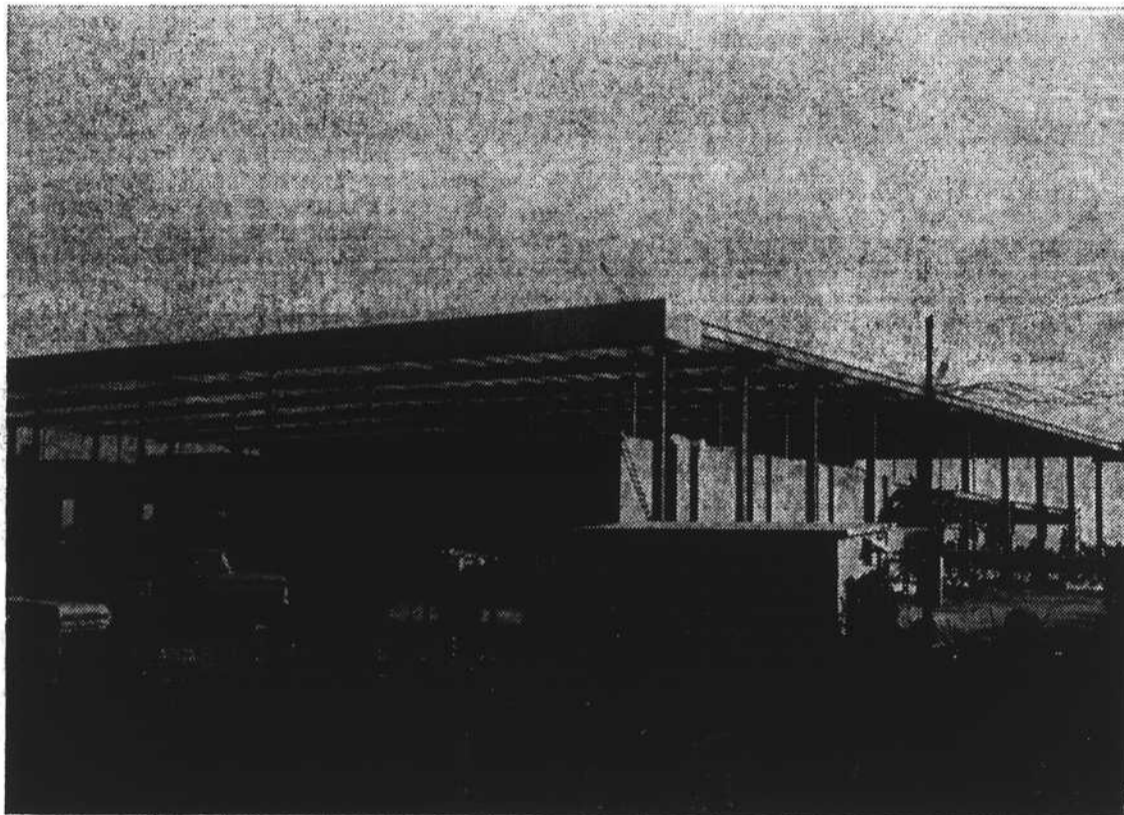
## Fall Festival

The public is invited to Maysville School's annual Fall Festival Saturday night, November 11. The building will be open at 6:30 for those who wish to eat a hot dog supper. Other activities will be Bingo, Country Store, Cartoon Movies, Auction Sale, Fishing, Bake Sale, Cake Walk, Apple Bobbing, Sports Events and Grab Bags.

### MALLARD IN GERMANY

Specialist Four Lawrence R. Mallard, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer E. Mallard, Route 1, Trenton, is participating in a five-week exercise, which began October 27, at the Grafenwhor training area, Grafenwhor, Germany.

## Work Moving Smoothly on Major Additions to College



This picture shows how rapidly the walls are moving up around the "ribs" of the largest addition now underway at Lenoir County Community College. This unit will house administrative offices, library and classrooms in its spacious two floors. The de-

sign involves no weight-bearing walls, since the steel skeleton holds the roof and adds to the free spirit of the overall architecture. School officials hope winter weather will not slow down construction too badly on this major unit and that it will be completed in time for use in the fall term of 1968.

## AURA OF MYSTERY HANGS OVER DEATH OF MARINE MAJOR'S WIFE AND CHILDREN

Two persons, whose identities are being withheld, have told Jones County Sheriff Brown Yates they saw a man "in" and "near" the car last week where a Camp Lejeune housewife and her two children were found dead of head and back gunshot wounds from a .38 caliber snub-nosed revolver.

One of the witnesses, a woman, said that she saw a man in the car last Wednesday night or early Thursday morning. Another witness told of driving south on U. S. Highway 17 last Thursday night and passing a man walking near the car in the direction of Maysville.

The witness said he distinctly remembered seeing the man walking alongside the road because the walker "turned his head so that his features could not be seen." According to investigating authorities the witnesses' descriptions of the man are at best, vague.

Funeral services for Mrs. Charlotte Anne Start, 35, and her two children, Ellen Marie, 5, and Stephen Lawrence, 2½, were held Tuesday at 2 p.m. in the Catholic Chapel at Camp Lejeune. Burial followed Thursday in Arlington National Cemetery.

The husband and father, Maj. Raymond J. Start, commanding officer of the 2nd Shore Party Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, who was on a two-day field maneuvers exercise when the bodies were found, came to the scene on Highway 17 last Friday and identified the bodies.

The major, who was hospitalized from shock and released Sunday, under sedation, will begin a two-weeks leave after preliminary questioning.

The two children's deaths have already been ruled homicide by Jones County Coroner G. W. Davenport who said that an inquest will be held after the major returns from leave.

Davenport also said that it will be some time before laboratory work is completed and fitted with other evidence to determine the manner in which Mrs. Start died.

Although the deaths appear to be two murders and a suicide Davenport said that investigating authorities are not satisfied that this is the case because of discrepancies that have turned up.

The coroner said it was "possible but difficult" for Mrs. Start to have shot herself above the left temple while holding the pistol in her right hand. The weapon was in Mrs. Start's lap and was held in her right hand when she was found.

The coroner said that the pistol in Mrs. Start's hand was not held "in a true death grip, but the absence of it does not prove contrary." Davenport said that absence of the "death grip" was suggestive but not conclusive. "The sign of a true death grip

is when the hand and pistol move as a single unit without any outside assistance." Davenport said that the pistol "fell" from Mrs. Start's hand when he examined her.

In discussing the apparent discrepancies of the case further, the coroner brought out the fact that even though two victims were shot through the head, there were "no significant powder burns" at the points where the bullets entered the victims' bodies. However, Davenport added that this did not mean that the shots were not fired at close range.

Mrs. Start's time of death was set by the coroner as being between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. last Thursday through the progress of the process of rigor mortis. "Rigor mortis", Davenport explained, "depends on humidity, temperature and other factors. It begins in about three hours after death and takes 18 to 24 hours to complete, then the body

starts to relax again."

Davenport explained that both procedures begin in the neck and said, "When I examined her at 4 p.m., Friday, the rigor mortis had relaxed in her neck, but had not extended to her hands." Davenport said that the longest the bodies had been dead at the time of his examination was 24 hours even though several persons had reported seeing the car parked beside the road as long as 48 hours before the bodies were found.

The coroner said that Sheriff Yates and SBI Agent John Edwards were at Camp Lejeune Tuesday investigating the mysterious deaths presumably with the assistance of the Naval Intelligence Service Office.

In a brief statement last Friday Start told officers that the last time he saw his family alive was at 6:45 a.m. last Wednesday. Start said that he went home from maneuvers briefly the next day and they were gone.