

Fib Copy

Enrollment Reaches 100, Still Short One Teacher for Private School

Enrollment in the eight grades of Jones Academy, Inc., which will open September 16th in Pollocksville has reached 100, but officials are still anxiously looking for a well-qualified first grade teacher.

The school will in the beginning use the Pollocksville Community Building and two mobile units for its eight classrooms, but a tract of land is being donated to the school and plans are underway to build a permanent home for the school.

Officials of the recently chartered school are President C. R. Hughes of Pollocksville, Vice President James Harriett of Pollocksville, Secretary Mrs. R. L. Bryant of Maysville and Treasurer Mrs. Jesse Eubanks of Pollocksville.

Tuition for the school is \$300 per school year, plus the cost of books and insurance.

Any parent interested in enrolling their children in the school are urged to contact either of the school officials, and anyone who knows where a well-qualified first grade teacher may be available is also urged to contact President Hughes.

Critical Injury

Nineteen year-old Michael Jenkins of Grifton was critically injured at about 4:45 Tuesday afternoon when he fell from a scaffold inside the Vernon Mall Shopping Center, where he was employed by Roy Poole, builder of the center. Jenkins was given emergency treatment at Lenoir Memorial Hospital and transferred to Pitt Memorial Hospital in Greenville for specialized treatment of a critical skull fracture and numerous less serious injuries.

Jones Man Appeals Court Decision

Douglas Ward of Pollocksville gave notice of appeal to superior court after he was ordered to pay a \$25 fine and the court's cost by Recorder's Court Judge Joe Becton for each of three charges of assault with a deadly weapon.

In other court action Alfred Ray Lee of New Bern and Eugene J. Peilly of the Bronx, New York, were fined \$30 for speeding. For failing to yield the right of way, Johnny Melvin Hinson of Whiteville was fined \$13. Also fined \$13 was Hardy McCoy King, Jr., of Kinston, who was charged with driving on the wrong side of the road. The state took a nol pros in the case charging Hugh Otha Heath of Cove City with following too closely.

Robert Earl Jones of Jacksonville was fined \$16 for Drunkenness. For reckless driving and leaving the scene of an accident, Alton Roosevelt Bummage of Trenton was fined \$26.

The case against Luther Jones of Maysville who was charged with non support was dismissed. Rev. Fred Pretty of Morehead City, who was also charged with non support, requested a jury trial.

RHODES IN VIETNAM

Private First Class Joe L. Rhodes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ellison Rhodes of Comfort, was assigned August 7 as a rifleman in the 9th Infantry Division in Vietnam.

THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

NUMBER 20

TRENTON, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1968

VOLUME XXI

Nation's Most Beleaguered Capitalists Still Try Hard



By Jack Rider

This unhappy capitalist, sitting unwillingly in his about-to-be destroyed plant, belongs to a hardy breed who refuse to give up despite trials that would cause most men to quit in disgust and accept employment in less badgered fields of endeavor.

His Name is Andrew Mercer of Grifton Route 2.

What he is, is an expert manufacturer of illegal whisky. Many assert that the product of his breed is superior to the legal grog one can buy across the land.

Those long and numerous arms of the law who harass such industrious manufacturers refer to his product as "non-tax-paid whisky." It has an assortment of descriptive names more pungent than that of the law.

For a majority of its makers and users it has come to be called "stumphole" but many still simply call it "bootleg," although bootleg more accurately described smuggled booze than home-made excitement.

When such lonely, hard-working men as Mercer, pictured here, are found at work, by the law, they are indicted and if they are first offenders they generally get off with a heavy fine. Second offenders generally spend a little time behind prison bars. About a year in prison — with time of for good behavior — is the longest sentence such manufacturers get even when they possess extremely long records.

This is an attitude of polite complicity, indulged in by a government which recognizes the immorality of its position: persecuting an individual for doing what it does on such a grandiose scale under very thin veils of legality.

Whisky in its many forms and flavors has been a favorite whipping boy for taxation almost since the first few barrels were distilled in the long ago. It still is. A gallon of whisky that costs \$20 in a store today includes close to \$14 in all forms of taxation.

In large legal distilleries whisky can be made for much less than \$1 per gallon. And even under constant harassment by the law stumphole whisky costs only about \$1, or sometimes less if the still runs long enough.

Illegal whisky flourishes because of taxation. And just as long as a man in the bushes, or in a lonely packbarn as in the instance written of here, can

make this brew for \$1 per gallon and sell it for \$6 per gallon there will be plenty who are willing to take the risk.

Although the operator of this large Lenoir County rig which was found by a 14 year-old boy last Thursday claims he was the soul owner and operators nobody believes the first word of his statement.

Generally some big shot in the background who never comes near a still furnishes the money. In most situations the landowner or tenant (Mercer was a tenant) are paid a weekly fee of from \$100 to \$200 just to let the still be installed. To a big landowner this is a mighty temptation since the money comes in cash and never sees the light of the Internal Revenue Service.

Another part of the bootlegger's code is that if the poor still hand is caught his family will be taken care of while he's in prison — if he keeps his mouth shut and forgets who hired him and who hauled away the juice he was squeezing out.

The rig Mercer was operating was one of the neatest seen in this part of the country in a long time. Tucked tightly into a shed room about 20 by 30 feet beside a large packhouse it contained equipment that could turn out about 1,000 gallons of whisky per week.

When it was raided last week there were 1785 gallons waiting to be picked up by the "rum-runner" whose job it is to get it from the maker to the user. Most of it moves in large tractor-trailer rigs into the major cities where large concentrations of Negroes "prefer" this brew to store-bought booze, not because of its flavor but because it sells for a fraction of what legal whisky goes for.

Mercer's still actually was three stills, each of 1500-gallon mash capacity, making it possible to use the stills for direct "mashing in" while others were being fired. One oil-fired burner was used to heat the beer in each to bring it to the evaporation point which causes the alcohol of the beer to float off and into a condenser which restate.

Continued on page 10

Post Office Expansion in Kinston Moves Ahead Rapidly



This is a north-looking-south view of the huge new loading and unloading ramp being built at the Central Kinston Post Office. Overall expansion plans for the Kinston facility call for a major extension of the enclosed portion of the building directly north of the existing building, which will close off the present loading ramp. The area west from the new ramp out to McLewee Street will be a parking and maneuvering area for regular post office traffic. A 20-foot alleyway will pass all the way through from McLewee to Independent streets. The small parking area on the northwest corner of Caswell and Independent will remain unchanged.