

COST OF CARS COMING UNDER CONGRESSIONAL SCRUTINY; SECRETS ARE REVEALED

By Jack Rider

Automobiles, next to farming, are the nation's biggest business, and the care and feeding of these tin lizzies has an impact on the economy that gives chills and fevers to economists, as well as to the average guy or gal who is making "easy monthly payments" on one of these chariots.

The announced price boosts for 1969 model cars caused screams to rise from every part of the nation and even drew a critical comment or two from the man in the White House, who next year has to start buying his own cars for the first time in a very long time.

And in congress where assorted incumbents spend some of their waking hours being concerned about such things as the care and feeding of their constituencies, as well as the national economy there has also been a few thousand well chosen words said on the specific subject of automobile prices.

And last Wednesday Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson intro-

duced some interesting figures into debate, revealing that it's not the car but the "goodies" that John Q. Carbuyers adds to the bare fivver which really eats up the public bankroll.

Some of the more interesting aspects of this Detroit slight of hand are indicated by the fact that a car which costs the buyer \$3230.62, only cost the manufacturer \$1,694.24, and the manufacturer sells it to the franchised dealer for \$2495.13. Which indicates about a 190 per cent spread between the maker and the buyer for the "raw car."

But then when the "goodies" are added look what happens:

An automatic transmission which costs the maker \$56.24, costs the dealer \$136.89 and the poor soul who winds up using the automatic transmission pays \$200.85 for this convenience... about a 400 per cent markup from maker to user.

A V-8 engine costs the maker \$19.22 more than the standard six cylinder. The dealer has to pay \$75.60 for this "goodies" but the poor soul who wants

something that will run faster and burn more gas winds up paying \$163.34... which is about a 700 per cent markup.

An AM radio costs the car maker \$21.74, costs the dealer 40.16 and the fellow who winds up listening to it pays \$61.40.

Power steering costs the car maker \$29.88, the dealer is tabbed \$66.65 for this gadget, but the poor slob behind the wheel pays \$100.26 for its convenience.

Air-conditioners cost the maker \$158.49, and the dealer gets hit for \$250.14 on this size car for this necessity item, and the lucky guy who enjoys it winds up paying \$388.74.

White side wall tires cost the

car maker all of \$13.01 — and that is a four-ply tire... not one of those tissue papers referred to as a two-ply tire with a four-ply rating. The dealer gets socked \$46.72 for this item and he winds up foisting it off on the buyer for whatever he can get since the price of tires is far better known to the car buyer than the prices of those other items that are put on at the factory.

A casual glance at these figures, which one may see in much more detail in the September 25th issue of the Congressional Record tends to indicate that the range of manufacturers'

profits is from a low of 16.8 per cent on the raw car up to the exorbitant 293.3 per cent on the V-8 engine.

Some not-so-far-from-right wag asserts that they could give away the cars and still make a pretty good living on the kind of profits they make off the "extras."

The extras listed here which cost the car maker all of \$298.58 wind up costing the car buyer \$961.31. Which is a mark up on these extras of over 321 per cent. While the car... raw car that is only a 190 per cent profit from the maker to the consumer.

Prison Term Appealed in Two Assault Cases, Probable Cause in Murder Rap Highlights of Jones Recorder's Court

The past week has been a busy one for Jones County Recorder's Court with 25 cases cleared either by pleas of guilty to the clerk or in hearings before Judge Joe Beaton.

Highlighting the week was the finding of probable cause against Donna Lee Muntz of Washington, D. C. on charge of murdering her boyfriend James Burney at the home of a relative of Burney near Phillips Crossroads earlier this month. She was bound over to the next term of superior court under \$15,000 bond.

Also on Tuesday Aaron Moses Hall of Richlands was found guilty of simple assault and assault with a deadly weapon for which he was given one year in prison (six months on each charge). Hall didn't like that verdict and gave notice of appeal to superior court.

In other non-traffic cases an embezzlement charge against Elwood O. Hunnings of New Bern route 1 was not pressed with leave and Clifton Monroe of Trenton route 2 paid \$17 for being drunk and disorderly.

Speeding cases cleared were against Gary DuBrull of Cherry Point, William Cain, James A. Travis, Roger Arnold Shepherd, Clair Alvin Benton and Carl J. Robichaux all of Camp Lejeune, Harry Middleton of New Bern, John Daniel Peavey of Maysville route 1, Vernon Nelson of Traverse City, Michigan, Charles G. Poole Jr. of Raleigh, Ellis Ray Miready of New Bern route 2, Lillian Gaskins Gaylord of Pinetown route 1, John Patrick Gordon Mellers of Saint Andrews, Canada, James D. Benton of New Bern route 1, Anthony Proberg of Cleveland, Ohio and William A. Simmons of Raleigh.

A drunken driving charge against John L. Copleton of Charleston, S. C. was not pressed with leave and Eddie Siebert Wooten of Maysville route 1 was fined \$100 for drunken driving. Essie Andrews Payton of Kinston paid \$13 for failing to stop for a stop sign, Robert Moseley of New Bern paid \$13 for driving an improperly registered car, and had a not press entered on a charge of driving without a license.

Pardon My Wheel!

Arlester Ingram of Trenton route 1 was peacefully headed toward Kinston on Highway NC 55 with a loaded pulpwood truck at about 4:15 Tuesday afternoon when the right front wheel of his truck took off on its own. Some 223 feet down the road it knocked over a gas pump at A. S. Davis' place and it took about three tenths of a mile for Ingram to get the truck stopped. Patrolman R. D. Jenkins expressed the view that this is the kind of traffic nobody likes to meet coming down the road.

Two Suits for Debt Filed in Past Week in Jones Court

During the past week two civil actions have been filed in Jones County Superior Court, seeking to collect debts.

In the first First Citizens Bank & Trust Company filed suit against Malcolm and Angela Mill seeking to collect a debt stated to be \$1,685.62, with six per cent interest from the due date of the note and a 15 per cent legal fee for bringing the action.

In the other action C. L. Hardee Company of Kinston brought suit against Walter H. and Nannie Ruth Rouse seeking to collect \$17,994.33 with interest from January 17, 1968.

On Tuesday under a chattel mortgage all farming and much household equipment of the Rouses was repossessed.

Friendship Feed

The congregation of Friendship Free Will Baptist Church is holding a barbecue Saturday. Serving both barbecued pork and barbecued chicken will begin at the church at 5 p.m. All living in the general area are invited to come out for a fine supper with all the usual country trimmings.

Juvenile Rustlers

Monday a pair of juvenile horse thieves were spared the traditional "hanging" of the old west, but they were sentenced to an indeterminate stay in a state reform school at McCain after they admitted over a brief period stealing five ponies from people living in their general neighborhood of Pollocksville route 1. The pair were brothers Ervin, 12, and Cleveland, 11, children of Dizzy and Chess Roberts, who have also had an occasional brush with "the law."

FOUR JONES ARRESTS

Jones County Sheriff Brown Yates reports booking four persons at the county jail during the past week. Walter Brock of Pollocksville was charged with public drunkenness, Aaron Moses Hall of Richlands was charged with assault, Cleophus Dudley of Maysville was charged with public drunkenness and disorderly conduct and Clifton Monroe of Trenton route 2 was charged with public drunkenness.

Sgt. Jim Mitchell In Top Air Outfit

Sergeant Jimmie R. Mitchell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie R. Mitchell of Route 2, Trenton, has been recognized for helping the 3rd Air Division earn the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

Sergeant Mitchell, an aircraft electrician assigned at U-Tapao Airfield, Thailand, will wear the distinctive service ribbon as a permanent decoration.

The division was cited for exceptionally meritorious service while engaged in military operations in Southeast Asia from March 1966 to March 1968.

The sergeant is a graduate of Jones Central High School.

Held in Poker Death

Josephine Rayner of Dover route 1 has been held for grand jury action following a coroner's inquest into the death of Van Dyke Freeman last week. Freeman suffered a skull fracture in a fight with Miss Rayner, with whom he lived about a half mile north of Dover on the Fort Barnwell Road. She admits hitting him with a fire poker but claims she was acting in self defense. Freeman lived for four days after the fight which took place at about 10:30 a.m. Sunday, October 6th.

South Lenoir Tops Rockets by 32-20; Jones Central Takes North Lenoir 6-0

South Lenoir scored three quick touchdowns in the first quarter which Jones Central was unable to overcome. The Rockets staged a very impressive comeback, but fell short. Jones Central put on an air attack the last three quarters that proved very effective. Coach Dan Ballard's men gained 134 yards in the air. Quarterback Dalton Ange threw two touchdown passes, one to Leslie Strayhorn and one to end Jon Whaley. Halfback Leslie Strayhorn also had a TD toss to end Jimmy Smith. Smith had a good night, catching five passes for 49 yards. Defensively, Bob Faulkner led the tacklers with eleven tackles.

Jones Central just couldn't seem to get going in the first quarter as South Lenoir scored three of their five touchdowns. Vernon Barnett carried the ball over on the first touchdown on an end sweep from 35 yards out. Clifton Gray then recovered a blocked punt in the end zone for the second score. Halfback Larry Avery got the last six-pointer on an 8 yard run.

The Rockets touchdown was set up when Gary Jarman blocked a S. L. punt at the Rebels' 23 yard line. The scoring play came on a halfback pass from Strayhorn to Smith, covering 17 yards.

Avery and QB Jimmy Smith scored South Lenoir's touchdowns during the second half. Avery had a 53 yard sprint for the first TD. Smith sneaked over from three yards out for the final score.

Jones Central's last two scores came in the fourth quarter. Kenneth Strayhorn recovered a fumble at the Rockets' 42 to start the first drive. A pass from QB Ange to Whaley for 18 yards carried the ball deep inside Rebel territory. The TD was a 36 yard aerial strike from Ange to Strayhorn. The last TD drive started on the S. L. 44 yard line. Ange hit end Whaley on a six yard jump pass for the six-pointer. James Moore kicked both extra points.

	J.C.	S.L.
First Downs	6	9
Rushing Yardage	27	224
Passing Yardage	134	68
Passes	12/27	6/12
Passes Int. by	0	0
Punts	6/25	3/15
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Yards Penalized	5	85

Jones Central scored a touchdown the first time they had the ball and made it stand up against the Buccaneers for their fifth win of the year. Jones Central moved the ball well, but penalties kept setting them back. A total of thirteen penalties were called, some hurting both teams deep in opponent's territory.

For the night, Jon Whaley caught four passes for 49 yards. Jimmy Smith, playing only one quarter, caught one pass for 27 yards. QB Dalton Ange completed four of seven passes for 49 yards. Halfback William Hawkins led the runners with 67 yards.

Defensively, Junior Bob Faulkner had 15 tackles, many unassisted, for the Rockets. Linebacker Joby Arthur picked off two key North Lenoir passes and Steve Banks intercepted another. Jones Central's defensive secondary knocked down several Buccaneer passes that stopped key drives.

The Rockets only six-pointer came at the end of a 78 yard drive. With the ball on the N. L. 27, halfback Leslie Strayhorn completed a pass to end Jimmy Smith at the goal line for the touchdown. James Moore's attempt at the extra-point was wide.

Jones Central got another good opportunity to score in the first quarter. The Rockets had the ball first and goal after Joby Arthur intercepted a N. L. aerial, but a holding penalty prevented a score. North Lenoir carried the ball to the J. C. 17 yard line twice during the fourth quarter. Buccaneer's James Eubanks recovered a fumble at the J. C. 34 to start the first drive. Linebacker Arthur intercepted another pass inside the 10 yard line to bring the drive to a halt. The second time North Lenoir got down to the 17 yard line the Rockets' defense dug in and held the Bucs on downs.

Jones Central has its homecoming game Friday night, playing Wallace-Rose Hill. Game time is 8:00 p.m.

	J.C.	N.L.
First Downs	9	9
Rushing Yardage	128	102
Passing Yardage	76	77
Passes	9/5	19/5
Passes Int. by	3	0
Punts	3/33	5/30
Fumbles Lost	3	1
Yards Penalized	99	55

File Copy