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Hectic Weekend for Jones County Law Men With Shootings, Wrecks, Escapes

Jones County law enforcement officers had one of their busiest weekends in a long time last weekend and one of them wound up on foot with a knot on his head from contesting the right of way with a Herford bull.

The weekend got off to a "Dodge City" beginning Saturday afternoon when a family squabble erupted into a rifle-pistol duel in Pollockville.

This showdown before sundown involved Robert Brown and his father-in-law Austin Willie and it took place at the Willie Home.

Brown had a .22 caliber rifle and his father-in-law had a .25 caliber automatic pistol. As might be imagined Brown won the shooting match.

There was a lot of shooting but only one bullet broke skin and it hit Brown in the left side and inflicted a minor flesh wound that was not serious enough to keep him in the hospital. Both have been indicted

for assault with a deadly weapon.

Sunday night a pair of escaped prisoners holed up in the western end of the county in the home of Ed Hall and Deputy Milton Arthur on his way to assist in their capture ran into an Hereford bull belonging to Murphy DuVal of the Oliver Crossroad community. The bull was killed, Arthur got a big knot on the left forehead, a sprained arm and bruised leg and his car was classified a total loss.

But Sheriff Yates and Deputy Wesley Mallard along with prison department officers captured the escaped prisoners, one of whom committed one of Jones County's most brutal pair of crimes.

He is Robert Earl Hall, who in 1958 shot down Rudolph Howard and Russell Mills in a hail of rifle fire at Howard's filling station, not far from where Hall was captured Sunday night.

This is the second time Hall

Sunrise Service

Easter Sunrise Services will be held in the Trenton Methodist Church with the Reverend Paul E. Oldaker—Easter Sunday at 6 a.m. All members from all denominations are cordially invited to attend.

had escaped from prison since he was given two so-called life terms in prison for the twin murders.

The other prisoner who fled with Hall from the Pender County prison camp Saturday in a stolen prison department truck was not known to Jones County officers.

The sheriff's office also reports booking Jesse Clinton Gray of Trenton route 2 over the weekend on a drunken driving charge.

Musicians and Missing Husbands are Targets of Jones County Civil Suits

Jones County Clerk of Court F. Rogers Pollock reports receiving four civil actions in his office during the past week, including two which seek to collect for musical instruments "leased" by Jones County musicians and another pair that seek support money from husbands who have left families behind in Jones County.

The musicians who are finding that those who play as well as those who dance have to pay are Annie Mattocks of Maysville

Legal Costs of Effort to Fire Jones County Sheriff Brown Yates \$3,728.82 Commissioners Take Exception to Item

So far no announcement has been made by the Jones County Board of Commissioners on whether they plan to appeal the decision of Superior Court Judge Walter Cohoon, who refused to go along with the effort to remove Sheriff Brown Yates from office. But the bills so far paid by the county for this effort have now reached a total of \$3,728.82.

Judge Cohoon in his order refusing to oust Yates specified that the county pay Yates' attorneys \$1,200.

Assorted witness and officers' fees added another \$362 to the bill of costs in superior court.

This week County Attorney James R. Hood, who was ordered by the commissioners to institute and prosecute the effort to remove Yates, tendered his bill in the amount of \$1,339.39 and New Bern Attorney David Henderson, whose employment to assist Hood was ap-

proved by the commissioners, tendered his bill in the amount of \$827.43. Hood's regular annual retainer as county attorney is \$2,084.

The board has 30 days from the date of Judge Cohoon's order to file an appeal if it wishes to prosecute the matter further.

Otherwise the entire affair will have to be decided at the polls in the 1970 elections, if Sheriff Yates decides to stand for reelection, which is what Judge Cohoon recommended in his judgment.

This week a letter was received by the Journal and we offer this clarification:

Shortly after the original charges were brought against Sheriff Yates County Attorney Hood called on Yates, who was hospitalized in New Bern.

Hood had a letter he had prepared for Yates' signature under which Yates would have taken a 30-day sick leave and Deputy Dan Killingsworth would have supervised the operation of the sheriff's office.

Yates called his attorney in Trenton to ask his advice about signing the letter, and he was advised not to sign it.

These are the facts upon which the Journal item of March 20th said: "Killingsworth had been offered the job of sheriff if Judge Walter Cohoon had ruled with the allegation that Yates was not fit to serve in the capacity of sheriff as alleged by Killingsworth and a dozen other witnesses."

This item did not say, but the commissioners are correct in their assumption that the inference was that since their attorney was tendering this letter the board was a party to the proposition.

However, Hood said Tuesday of this week that this is not true. That the board knew nothing about the letter and that he had prepared the letter at the request of Sheriff Yates himself, who on the advice of his attorney, refused to sign it after it had been prepared for his signature.

The commissioners' letter follows:

Dear Mr. Ryder:

By unanimous resolution, the Board of Commissioners, Jones County, requested that I write you to inform you that the present Board of Commissioners has never considered anyone to replace Sheriff, W. B. Yates in the event he were removed from office as a result of the action brought against him in December, 1969.

The Commissioners requested that I send this information to you because of the implication that it had offered the office to former Deputy Sheriff, Dan Killingsworth, in an article appearing on the front page of Jones Journal in the March 20th issue entitled, "Sheriff Yates fires Deputy Sheriff Dan Killingsworth." Since the Board of Commissioners fills any vacancy in the office of Sheriff, and since the Board of Commissioners has never considered anyone to fill such vacancy should one occur, the implication of your article that former Deputy Sheriff Dan Killingsworth had been offered is erroneous.

It would be appreciated if you would correct this matter in your next issue of the Jones Journal in an article as conspicuously located as the previous article referred to.

Very truly yours,
W. D. Parker, Clerk
Jones County Board of Commissioners

Senator Larkins Reports on Survey in District on Key Legislative Issues

As of Saturday, March 22, 1969, the results of my survey are as follows:

There were 437 responses on question number 1, "Would you vote for a tobacco tax?", 429 answered, 38 per cent answering "yes", 61 per cent answering "no". The reason these two will not add up to 100 per cent is that some of the people failed to indicate.

On Question number 2, "Do you favor capital punishment?", 416 answered, 84 per cent answered "yes", 16 per cent answered "no".

On Question number 3, "Do you favor allowing 18-year-olds to vote?", 419 answered, 36 per cent answered "yes", 63 per cent answered "no".

On Question number 4, "What is your opinion on teachers' salaries?", 407 answered. 4(a) "10 per cent raise as proposed by Governor Scott." 40 per cent were in favor of this. 4(b) "Raise to national average." 39 per cent were in favor of this. 4(c) "No raise needed." 21 per cent favored this.

Question number 5, "What is your opinion of a gas tax increase for better roads in North Carolina?", 416 responded. (a) "No increase," 57 per cent. 5(b) "A 1 cent increase," 34 per cent. 5(c) "A 2 cent increase," 9 per cent.

Question number 6, "Do you favor a crown tax on soft drinks?", 411 responded. 48 per cent answered "yes", 52 per cent answered "no."

Question number 7, "Do you favor an additional 1 per cent sales tax?", 422 responded. 72 per cent answered "yes", 28 per cent answered "no". Of those responding 43 per cent favored a local option where counties re-

tain all revenues. 54 per cent favored a Statewide sales tax with the revenue being returned to the counties on a per-capita basis.

New Five Star Galaxy



PATROL BAGS TWO

Over the weekend Lenoir County Highway Patrolmen accused William Alphin of Grifton route 2 of a third drunken driving offense and Jimmy Chase of 809 Marilyn Drive of a second drunken driving offense.