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Two - County Investigation Leads to Indictment of 11 for Raping Three Teen-aged Kinston Girls Sunday Night

Cooperation between the Lenoir and Jones County Sheriff Departments has led to the indictment of 11 young men on 13 charges of rape.

The group is charged with picking up three teen-aged Kinston girls at a Tower Hill Road juke joint with the promise to take them home, but instead they allegedly took the trio to the Caswell section of Jones County where the oldest of the three girls was raped by all 11 of the men and the two younger girls were raped once.

The indicted 11 who are being held under Jones County warrants since the acts of rape were all believed to have been committed in Jones County are Curtis Phillips, William Henry Cannon, James Phillips, Mack Thompson, John Ervin Jones, Sam Phillips, Clover Cobb, Bernard Baker, Cleveland Cannon, Leonard Grant and George Thompson.

The girls were Jean Moore, 19, who swore she was raped by each of the 11, and Wanda Faye Wiggins, 15, and Sandra Faye Bright, 14, who said they were molested only once, and by one of the same 11 who gang-raped Miss Moore.

TWO MARINES ARRESTED

Jones County Sheriff Brown Yates reports booking two Camp Lejeune Marines at the county jail during the past week: Douglas O'Hara, who is charged with drunken driving, and Paul Chapman, who is charged with public drunkenness.

Much Lesser Charge

Last year Bobbie Joe Garner of Kinston route 5 was indicted on the capital charge of raping a deaf mute teen-aged girl from the same area. Last week in Lenoir County Superior Court he was put on trial for assault with intent to commit rape and the jury found him guilty of an even lesser charge, a misdemeanor, assault on a female, and he was given a 2-year jail term suspended on payment of court costs and five-year probation.

JIM PHILLIPS IN VIETNAM

Specialist Four Jim A. Phillips, Jr., whose parents live on Route 1, Kinston, was assigned February 28 to the 1st Infantry Division near Di An, Vietnam, as a supply specialist.

Kinston Student Arrested Tuesday as Officers Close Cliffs of Neuse Park

Although a lot of trouble threatened and a lot of accusations filled the air no one was hurt and only one arrest was made Tuesday afternoon as officers closed Cliffs of the Neuse State Park three hours early to get rid of an estimated 500 Negroes who were creating general criminal nuisances of themselves.

The lone arrest was that of William F. Grice Jr. of Kinston, who was released under \$300 bond after being charged with obstructing traffic and obstructing officers in the performance of their duty.

Park rangers had to call for help from the Wayne County Sheriff Department and the Highway Patrol after the 500, described mostly as high school and college students had gotten out of hand with beer and whisky drinking and fights among themselves as well as insulting and aggravating overtures some of the group made

to white visitors to the park, who were foolish enough to stay around under the circumstance.

Possession or use of any alcoholic beverages in state parks is strictly forbidden by law.

Park officials said they had some previous problems with Negro rowdiness but nothing to compare with Tuesday's exhibition.

Five Divorces on Tuesday in Lenoir District Court

On Tuesday in Lenoir County District Court five divorces were granted on grounds of one-year separation.

The divorced were Dr. John Parrott from Hattie Parrott, Roger Lee Carter Jr. from Vivian Carter, Horace Powell from Dorothy Powell, Ann Powell from Claude Powell Jr. and Nancy Jones from William Jones.

Jones Board Asks Half Any Increase In State Liquor Tax, Gives One Month Severance Pay to Dan Killingsworth

Armed Robbery

Last Friday afternoon at 5:30 two young colored men stuck up the Kinston Western Union office on East Gordon Street and got away with about \$1000 in cash after one stuck a pistol in the face of Irvin Rogerson and ordered him to fill a paper bag with money. They forced him to go to the rear of the office, while they fled from the front. He went out a back door and ran to get a policeman, but by the time they returned the men, naturally, had disappeared. It wasn't known whether they were riding or walking when they left the office. At about the same time Friday a sneak thief got \$249 from the cash register of Pollock - Johnson Hardware Store on South Queen Street.

Hospitalizes Wife

Saturday Joseph Patrick of 801 Thompson Street was charged by Kinston police with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill after he had fractured his wife Henrietta's skull with an iron grate from a coal heater, following an argument in their home. She remained in a coma until Monday but now she is given a good chance of a complete recovery.

GRAY ON VIETNAM DUTY

Fire Control Technician Third Class Jasper F. Gray, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Gray of Deep Run, and husband of the former Sandra K. Moody of 704 N. McLewean St., arrived off the coast of Vietnam aboard the small amphibious transport ship USS Cook.

Tuesday the Jones County Board of Commissioners held a quiet session, but passed on a number of important matters.

First the board asked that a bill be introduced in the general assembly giving the Jones County Watershed Improvement Commission the authority to pay any assessments on Jones Countians whose lands may be assessed for work done in the Moseley Creek - Tracy Swamp Watershed when and if the 25-cent county-wide levy for watershed improvements is made.

Tax Supervisor and Collector Julian Waller was authorized to hold the tax lien sales on the First Monday of October.

Commissioner W. D. Eubanks asked the county election board to give some consideration to reshaping the voting precincts in Trenton and Pollockville Townships and the Piney Grove voting precinct.

The board also unanimously passed a resolution asking that at least half of any increased tax on legal whisky be left with the county in which it is collected.

And the board voted to pay Former Deputy Sheriff Dan Killingsworth through April 12th. He was fired on March 12th by Sheriff Brown Yates.

The board took no action on the matter of appealing Judge Walter Cohoon's ruling in refusing to dismiss Sheriff Yates from office.

Saturday Suicide

Twenty year-old Jerry Johnson, son of Mrs. Lillian Ellen Johnson of 404 Old Asphalt Road killed himself instantly at about 6:30 Saturday afternoon in a bedroom of their home by placing a 410 gauge to his chest and pulling the trigger with a string that had been tied to the trigger and one of his toes. No reason was known by his family and he left no comment behind for his decision to kill himself.

KINSTON NEGROES MISS GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO PUT AT LEAST ONE CANDIDATE ON BOARD

Less Than 25 Per Cent of Eligible Voters Cast Ballots on Tuesday as Four Candidates Top Vote-Getting

By Jack Rider

Tuesday apparently Kinston Democrats had not gotten over the Easter Holidays because only 2481 out of 10,186 eligible to vote in the city's biennial aldermanic election bothered to do so.

Political Newcomers Herbert Dawson and Eugene James led the voting by considerable margins, but failed to secure the numerical majority necessary for nomination in a primary.

This makes almost inevitable a second primary on April 22nd between Dawson and James and the next two highest candidates: Incumbent Jim Ward and Retired Wholesale Grocer Jesse Oglesby.

Dawson collected 1116 votes, James 1074, Ward got 923 and Oglesby came in fourth with 894 votes.

The also-rans included Garland Bailey with 390 votes, Jimmy Brooks with 275 and Ronald Henry who dragged in last with 220 votes.

The nominees from the April 22nd secondary primary will

have to face "Lonesome Republican" Cabell Ramsey in the general election which will be held in May.

Incumbent Mayor Simon Sitterton Jr. was unopposed by either party as he sought his second full four-year term in that post.

Negroes Lose Opportunity

Kinston's 3420 Registered Negro Democrats suffered apathy almost to the same degree as White Democrats in Kinston's biennial city election Tuesday and this almost certainly cost them an opportunity to place at least one and possibly two Negroes on the city council.

In Kinston there were 10,186 Democrats eligible to vote and 3,420 of those were Negro. This left 7,766 White Democrats in the city.

Of course, it is an absolute impossibility to say exactly how many of each race did, or did not vote, but it is safe to say that the majority of the 1116 who voted for Negro Undertaker Candidate Herbert

Dawson were Negro, although it is certain that Dawson, a well-known and respected young man, did receive some white votes among the 1116 he collected in leading the ticket.

Dawson was closely followed by Negro Clergyman Eugene James who ran second with 1074 votes.

All in all it is safe to say that considerably less than one-third of the Negroes eligible to vote did so on Tuesday. This robbed both Dawson and James of a numerical majority, necessitating a second primary, if the white runners-up decide to call for one, and this is almost an absolute certainty.

In the second primary, common sense and the more than two-to-one edge the White Democrats have over the Negro Democrats make the chances of Dawson and James mighty slim.

But on Tuesday of this week if another 200 Negro votes had gone to the polls both Negro candidates would have been nominated and with only one Republican candidate to be concerned about in the general election, one of the two would most certainly have been elected to the city council, unless a successful write-in campaign could have been mounted, and the pathetic attitude of Kinston voters, both White and Colored, make such a possibility extremely remote.

Kinston has only had one Negro alderman, Mrs. Alice Hannibal, who served one two-year term and drew strong white support in her bid for a second term, but who lost when a split developed in the city's Negro voters.

Tuesday's election did prove however, that on a given day the Negro politicians can move their people in far greater percentages than the white politicians, since nearly 33 per cent of the registered Negroes in the City did vote on Tuesday while less than 12 per cent of the white voters did so.

The population of Lenoir County was estimated by the State Board of Health for 1967 was 62,033, which included 38,675 white and 23,358 colored citizens; or 62.3 per cent white and 37.7 per cent colored.

The annual report of the board of health does not break down the city populations by race, but it is generally believed that the white - colored ratio in Kinston is higher than in the county, with at least a 60-40 ratio.

On that basis the ratio of registered voters is still extremely low for Negroes, despite the fact that there are no tests for Negro registration now and in the past several years there has been an almost constant effort to persuade more

Negroes to register.

Kinston's population is something in the order of 30,000, meaning that about one third of them are registered to vote, and since at least half, and possibly more than half of that 30,000 are under voting age, the overall registration for the city is something near 70 per cent of those who have reached voting age.

If Kinston's population is 40 per cent Negro and if half of that 12,000 are of voting age only about half of this group is registered, while if the city has approximately 18,000 whites with about 9,000 of voting age the ratio of whites registered is far higher with something approaching 85 per cent of eligible whites registered against half, or less than half of eligible Negroes registered.

So the Negro candidate comes to bat in a strictly racial contest completely outgunned by better than a 2-to-1 ratio of registration and when two-thirds of the eligible Negroes fail to vote as on Tuesday of this week the Negro candidate's chance under a primary and general election system is marginal, so this makes Tuesday's missed opportunity even more bitter to swallow.