

**... COUNTY SCHOOLS ONLY COST \$35 PER PUPIL FROM LOCAL FUNDS; LENOIR'S COST \$85**

In comparing the cost per pupil of representative school districts in the general area it is conclusively shown that both the Kinston and Lenoir County school systems are spending at a rate far more extravagant than any of their sister counties.

Viewed from the top side of total operational expenses these two systems automatically come out on top — the race for taxpayer's dollars isn't even close.

For instance Jones County spent in 1967-68 a total of \$1,458,774.64 on school operations, with \$1,017,548.90 coming from the state, \$346,730.24 coming from federal and just \$94,495 coming from local tax levies. With 2700 families this means that the average Jones County tax contribution to schools that year amounted to \$340 from all sources but only \$35 of this came from Jones County levies.

And in Jones County which kicks in such a very small part of its total school budget the expenditure per pupil is \$496.01, well above what the heavily taxed Kinstonians are winding up having spent on their children.

In the four-year period 1964-68 the total operating costs of both Lenoir County school systems amounted to \$23,908,129.59, almost a \$6 million per year average, but it wasn't spread so evenly. In 1964-65 the two Lenoir County school systems spent for operations \$4,713,741.58 but in the last year of this four, 1967-68, the price-tag of quantity education had soared to \$7,209,720.30. This is an increase in just four years of more than 52 per cent and at a time when the total enrollment of the two systems was dropping by 563 students, from 14,304 to 13,731.

In that four years while Lenoir Countians were spending \$23,908,129.59, Craven County's two school systems managed to rock along on just \$21,639,064.06. Pitt County's much larger two systems got by with \$26,546,564.63, the Wayne County and Goldsboro systems (also far larger) used up just \$31,873,933.15 of the taxpayers dollars and the Wilson County and Wilson City systems burned up only \$18,782,251.63 for public school operations. None of these figures includes any money for capital outlay.

But the taxpaying sheep and goats do not get really separated until some passing attention is given to the amount paid locally out of this total.

Lenoir Countians taxed themselves at home for \$4,404,310.70 of their \$23.9 million, but Craven County had to cough up at the local level just \$1,967,165.29 of its total \$21.6 million expenditure.

Pitt County with 18,000 students to Lenoir County's 14,000 only had to scratch up 2,906,369.11 of the \$26.5 million it spent.

Wayne County with over 20,000 students in its Goldsboro and Wayne systems got by with just \$3,134,107.40 of local funds on a total of \$31.8 million spent from all sources.

The Wilson County and City systems spent \$2,435,036.24 of local money out of the total \$18.7 million spent in this four-year period.

Using the latest estimates of the North Carolina Board of Health the population of Lenoir County is 63,965, which means that the county has about 13,900 families using an area average family figures as a basis for this division.

Another interesting thing to be noted is that the average

taxed from all sources—federal, state, and local — to the tune of about \$1540 per family during those four years for pay for "free schools" and that \$284 of that total paid by Lenoir Countians was levied at the local level.

In Craven County the latest population estimates give it 66,982 people, or something about like 16,700 families. The average cost per family for "free schools" in Craven County in this four-year period was \$1,295 and only \$111 of that was raised through local taxation.

In Pitt County the present population is estimated at 75,016 people or something close to 18,700 families. In this four-year period that average Pitt County family was tapped out for a total of \$1420, but of that only \$155 came from local levies.

Wayne County is now said to have 96,736 people or something like 24,100 families and in this four-year period their total per family cost of "free schools" ran to something like \$1322, but they had to kick in just \$130 of that from local tax sources.

Wilson county's population is estimated at 60,364, or about 15,000 families, which means that in this period the average Wilson family was spending \$1252 per family on free schools, but the local tax levy needed to bring that figure up to \$1252 was only \$162.

So, in one paragraph the picture is this: For total public school operations the average Lenoir County family spent \$1540, in Craven County \$1295, Pitt County \$1420, Wayne County \$1322, Wilson County \$1252. And from local tax sources the average family bite was Lenoir County \$284, Craven County \$111, Pitt County \$155, Wayne County \$130 and Wilson County \$162.

And these are comparisons of counties of about the same size and relative per capita income bases. When such counties as Jones and Greene are set beside those of Lenoir the gap is beyond belief.

In Lenoir County that same

**Nematode Count for Badly Infested Land Available at State**

A pilot Nematode Assay Program has been going on four years at State University. The purpose of this experimental project is to develop reliable techniques for assaying soil samples for nematodes. An effort is, also, being made to relate this information with the most practical control treatment.

It is hoped that in a few more years this Cooperative Program will develop into a general nematode advisory service through the N. C. Department of Agriculture.

Interested farmers who want to send in samples for a nematode count are encouraged to do so by February 15. Results obtained from samples submitted between September 15 to February 15 are more reliable than at any other times of the year.

It is very important to collect samples properly. Persons desiring to take samples for a nematode count are invited to visit the County Extension Office, Room 118, the Federal Building, for instructions and plastic bags before starting to take the samples.

One important point to keep in mind is that samples should be kept cool and out of direct sunlight.

year the cost per family was \$465 for its schools, but where the average Jones County's local payment was just \$35 it was \$85 per family from local funds in Lenoir County.

For those who wonder how such wide variations in allocations of school funds comes about the answer is very simple: The

boys in the back room of the State Department of Public Instruction take away from the counties that show a willingness to tax themselves heavily for education and add to those counties that are less openhanded.

Kinstonians tax themselves an extra 21 cents on the \$100 valuation to give their children a

better chance, at least dollar-wise but when the state slide rule gets through sliding students in the Kinston schools winding up with an average of \$496.96 being spent on them, while in the county system where there is no special school tax the average expenditure per pupil is \$540.01!

**THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL**

NUMBER 38 TRENTON, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1969 VOLUME XVII

**Bazaar-Supper**  
Christian Chapel in the Phillips Crossroads section of Jones County is holding a bazaar beginning at 2 Saturday afternoon at which a large number of items from the farm and home will be offered for sale. At supper time a real, home-cooked chicken stew supper will be served. The public is urged to visit both the bazaar and to eat supper. All all profits go into the church building fund.

**Short Course Opens December 8 at ECU On All Tax Laws**

A farm and Small Business Income Tax short course is scheduled in Greenville on December 8-9, 1969.

The short course, which is sponsored by State University, is designed to bring people up-to-date on tax laws and court rulings.

A total of four short courses will be held across the state. A fifth short course of a more advanced nature will be held at State University in Raleigh on December 10-12.

The short course will be primarily for persons who assist other people in filling out both state and federal returns for businesses and individuals.

Instructors are provided by the Department of Economics at State University in cooperation with the Department of Internal Revenue, the N. C. Department of Revenue and the Social Security Administration.

Persons interested in attending the short course may come by the county Extension Office in the Federal Building in Kinston or call 527-2191 for further information.

**Nasty Experience**

Bobby Wilson of Hookerton route 1 narrowly escaped death in a nasty experience last week while working with Crain & Denbo in the connection of sewer mains to the city's new sewage treatment plant. Wilson was overcome by sewer gases, fell into a manhole area and was nearly drowned before other workers could pull him out. The rescue squad of the Kinston Fire Department administered oxygen and moved him to Parrott Memorial Hospital where he rapidly recovered from a very close call.

**Draft Lottery Plan Goes into Effect; Senator Explains How System Works**

By U. S. Senator Sam Ervin  
Congress recently approved the President's request that he be permitted to use the lottery system of choosing inductees into the armed services.

The Congressional action was taken to reinstate the power of the President, if he chooses to use it, to establish a random prime age group. From 1948 until 1967, the President had the authority to designate the so-called prime age group for induction and to establish the sequence of induction. During the debate on the extension of the draft law in 1967, however, the House adopted language which forbade the lottery system of selection and that provision became a part of the 1967 law. Congress has now eliminated that proviso.

It should be pointed out that the recent Congressional action did not affect the power of the President to implement five of the six plans he announced in his May 13th draft message. These related to the change in the prime age group subject to induction from an oldest first to a youngest first order of call,

the period of prime draft vulnerability, and the continuance of undergraduate and graduate student deferments.

In his May 13th message, the President announced that he planned to continue undergraduate student deferments with the understanding that the year of maximum vulnerability would come whenever the deferment expired, and promised to allow students to complete, not just one term, but the full academic year during which they are first ordered for induction.

He declared, at that time, that he planned to change the order of call from the oldest first to the youngest first. This, he pointed out, would reduce the draft vulnerability of a potential inductee as he grows older. The President stated that he would reduce the period of prime draft vulnerability from seven years to one year. Under his plan, a young man would normally enter draft vulnerability during the time he was 19 years of age and leave it when he became 20. The President also requested a report from the National Security Council and the Director of Selective Service on all guidelines, standards, and procedures relating to the draft.

The sixth proposal in the May 13th message was the Presidential request that Congress enact legislation permitting him to use the random selection system of choosing men for induction in the armed services.

On October 30th, the House approved a bill to permit the President to have this authority, and on November 19th, the Senate took similar action. This will permit the Administration to implement its plans to revise the draft. According to the testimony given by the Executive branch officials in Congressional hearings, the plan will become operative early in 1970. At that time, the Selective Service system will establish the 19 to 20 age group as the prime age group for induction into the armed services. Individuals in this group will have a maximum exposure of one year for induction, and those not inducted in that age group within that period will then be placed in a lower order of call.

Under the lottery system, a national drawing will be conducted using the 366 days of the year. Each day will receive a sequence of call, and individuals will then be chosen according to a second national drawing based upon a scrambling of the alphabet.

A more comprehensive study of the draft will be considered during hearings early next year before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

**Greenville Girl Hurt Seriously In Kinston Wreck**

Doris Darden Boone of 1107 Willow Street suffered serious head injuries at 5:45 Saturday afternoon when his car was rammed at the intersection of Herriage Street and the Airport Road by another car driven by Ruby H. Cherry of Greenville.

Patrolman Earl Edwards said Miss Cherry failed to yield the right of way and came onto the major roadway to cause the accident.

Four passengers in Boone's car suffered injuries for which they were treated and released. They are Jeffrey, Tony and Joyce McNeil all of Kinston route 2 and Gloria Jean Pitt of 1018 Liberty Hill Road.

Miss Cherry was hospitalized from injuries she suffered in the crash and Boone after receiving emergency care at Lenoir Memorial Hospital was sent to Pitt Memorial Hospital for treatment of serious head injuries.

Other weekend accidents included a \$1300 crash at the corner of Fields Street and Tiffany Avenue which resulted in William Franklin Howard of Columbus, Georgia being charged with drunken driving and leaving the scene of an accident after his car rammed that of Wade Gower of Grifton. Tuesday Howard was fined \$100 in district court for his part in the tangle.