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## School Bus Transportation Costs in State and Jones County Are Listed

Data recently released by the Transportation Division of the State Department of Public Instruction reveals that during the 1968-69 school year some 610,760 Tar Heel school children were transported to school on buses, A. C. Davis, Controller for the State Board of Education, announces.

The data, according to D. J. Dark, director of transportation, is compiled yearly. During the 1968-69 school year, 54.9 percent of the total public school population were transported to and from school daily, according to Dark.

Of that number, 70.9 percent of the students were enrolled in elementary school and 29.1 percent were in high school. The average school bus in the State transported 66 students per day, made 1.57 trips per day — and average of 12 miles in length one way — and trans-

ported an average of 48.5 students per bus trip.

The total cost of North Carolina's school transportation for 1968-69 was \$14,293,272.60, including replacement of buses.

In Jones County the number of regular school buses operated during the 1968-69 school year were 43. An average of 2,421 students were transported daily, with an average of 56.3 students per bus per day.

Each bus traveled an average of 48.3 miles a day getting 6.991 miles to the gallon of gasoline. The operating cost per mile was .2036.

The average cost State-wide — including replacement of buses — for the 1968-69 school year was \$1,541.05 per bus; \$8.51 per bus per day; \$23.40 per pupil for the school year; \$1.202 per pupil per day; and \$2.243 per bus mile of operation.

## Four Jones Arrests

The following arrests were made during the past week by the Jones County Sheriffs department. Ronnie Taylor of Pink Hill was charged with larceny; Roy Houston of Pink Hill was charged with being publicly drunk; Daniel Miller of Pink Hill was booked for being publicly drunk; and Paul Ed Brown of Trenton route 2 was charged with being publicly drunk.

## Trenton Livestock Company Suing for \$15,802 Damages from Wilson Firm

Two civil cases were filed in Jones County during the past week. Earl D. Alphin filed for a divorce from Barbara Margarete Alphin.

Trenton Livestock, Inc. filed suit against George Ray Parker and Watson Electric Construction Company of Wilson.

Parker is an employee of Watson Electric Co. and was the driver of a pick-up truck that was involved in a wreck with a

## Kinston Hit by Second Downtown Fire Tuesday Night with Very Heavy Loss; Three Firemen are Hospitalized

Downtown Kinston was hit by the second disastrous downtown fire of the winter Tuesday night when The Jewel Box and Advance Store on the 300-block of North Queen Street were both gutted by fire of undetermined origin and the three story building in which they were located was totally destroyed.

Captain Otis Koonce was overcome by smoke and the near freezing weather while working on top the aerial truck's ladder and Capt. Linwood Hill and Lt. Haywood Quinn suffered leg and possible internal injuries when a rear wall fell on them and several other firemen who were working in the back of the build-

ings. They were all hospitalized. Three firemen were treated and release for less serious injuries they suffered when the wall collapsed.

Fire Department Dispatcher James B. Rouse said he received simultaneous alarms from the police radio and the regular fire alarm system at 8:31 Tuesday night and the fire was not under control until after midnight.

Stallings Salvage Company which is just north of the Advance Store also suffered heavy smoke and water damage although the fire was contained in the old building that houses the two totally destroyed businesses.

The Whitaker Building, which housed the two gutted stores, was built early in the century and was purchased by the Broday family several years ago when Dixon's Hardware was closed.

Fire Chief Bob Faulkner says although it is not possible to say with certainty at this time it is believed that the fire started in the back of the Jewel Box and spread to the Advance Store, which is an auto supply store.

No estimate of the damage is available at this time, but it is certain to run into the quarter of a million dollar area, and possibly a good bit higher.

## KINSTON CRIME RATE ONE OF LOWEST IN NORTH CAROLINA FBI'S ANNUAL REPORT SHOWS

by Jack Rider

The annual report on Crime in The United States by the Federal Bureau of Investigation includes thousands of statistics and among these is a set that shows Kinston to have one of the lowest crime rates of any city over 25,000 population in North Carolina.

This chart with this article shows the total crime rate for all North Carolina cities over 25,000 population and it indicates that only Burlington and Kannapolis suffered less crime than Kinston in 1968.

At least one part of the folk legend seems to be on the way out since these two large textile centers — Burlington and Kannapolis — indicate that millworkers no longer have the urge to commit mayhem and other less serious breeches of the peace.

Kinston had fewer crimes reported in '68 than Burlington but Burlington's population of 33,199 is almost 8,000 greater than Kinston's in the 1960 census and it's logical that it has experienced about the same

growth as Kinston in the past 10 years, and Kannapolis in the '60 census had about a thousand and more population than Burlington, which undoubtedly gives that Duchy of Cannon the honor of being the state's most law-abiding large community.

The Kannapolis record is all the more remarkable when it is reflected that its police force numbers just 31 men, compared to 63 in Burlington and 57 in Kinston.

With doubt the most chilling figure included in the FBI's annual report is the fact that from 1960 to 1969 the crime rate increased by 98.9 per cent nationally while the population was increasing by just 11 per cent. This means crime was increasing almost nine times as fast as the population.

In this nine-year period murder rose 106.5 per cent, from 9,000 to 13,650.

Forcible rape rose 84.3 per cent in this period, from 16,860 to 31,080.

Robbery jumped a frightening 143.7 per cent, from 107,390 to 261,730.

Aggravated assaults jumped 85.8 per cent, from 142,000 to 262,400.

Burglaries increased 103.8 per cent, from 897,400 to 1,828,900.

Theft of more than \$50 valuation jumped 151.1 per cent from 506,200 to 1,271,100.

Auto thefts climbed 138.8 per cent from 325,700 to 777,800.

For this period violent crimes increased 106.5 per cent, from 285,200 to 588,800.

And crimes against property jumped 124.2 per cent, from 1,729,400 to 3,877,700.

### Police Brutality?

In an era when one of the criminal battle cries is "Police Brutality" it is illuminating to consider that in this nine-year period there were 475 police officers killed.

In this era of probation, parole and technically freed criminals it is also irritating to consider that of the 626 persons indicted in connection with murdering these 475 police officers 76 per cent had previous arrest records, and 54 per cent of them had previously been arrested for crimes of violence, and 65 per cent of them had prior convictions, and

of this total two thirds had previously been granted leniency in the form of parole or probation. Of this total 16 had been convicted before of murder and this 626 murderers of police officers had an average of 4.5 arrests before being charged with killing an officer.

### Negro Crime Rate

Another sad reflection from these frightening figures is on the brutality of Negroes to Negroes. In 1968 there were 9,458 murders in the United States, and Negroes who comprise less than 12 per cent of the nation's population were charged with committing 5,699 of that total, or 60.3 per cent of all homicides — and 93 per cent of the victims killed by Negroes were Negroes.

In the major cities the Negro murder rate was at its worst, with 7,907 murders in metropolitan areas Negroes committed 5,149 of that total, or 65.1 per cent.

In small towns and suburban areas there were 1,322 murders and Negroes committed 482 of these, or just 36.5 per cent and in rural areas outside

of corporate limits there were 723 murders and Negroes were charged with only 254 of these, or 35.1 per cent.

Unhappily the trend of disproportionate violations by Negroes run all the way through the crime rate reports.

Negroes with 12 per cent of the population committed:

- 60.3 per cent of all murders.
- 24.7 per cent of involuntary manslaughters.
- 46.6 per cent of all forcible rapes.
- 62 per cent of all robberies.
- 49.2 per cent of all aggravated assaults.
- 33.4 per cent of all burglaries.
- 31.3 per cent of all thefts of more than \$50.
- 35.1 per cent of all auto thefts.

The only exception to this rule in the long listing of all crimes is liquor law violations with Negroes charged with only 11.5 per cent of this total, and this surely does not prevail in Eastern North Carolina.

City	Crime Index	Homicide	Inv. Mansl.	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Theft	Auto Theft
Kinston	438	3	0	1	7	123	144	307	51
Goldsboro	667	6	1	5	14	35	251	773	99
Greenville	593	3	2	3	4	70	196	666	67
Rocky Mount	747	3	5	5	17	128	284	632	94
Wilson	498	1	0	5	20	121	121	684	88
Wilmington	1,773	7	3	13	80	269	729	1,251	215
Charlotte	9,466	45	18	80	384	2,094	3,835	5,659	712
Greensboro	3,791	14	15	25	113	857	1,087	2,384	488
Raleigh	2,755	15	0	17	93	380	773	2,255	342
Winston-Salem	4,244	28	16	35	90	943	1,789	2,623	489
Asheville	1,465	8	5	3	39	116	420	1,438	249
Durham	2,394	11	9	22	92	553	846	1,949	249
Fayetteville	2,604	17	1	19	141	420	832	1,702	360
Gastonia	1,560	3	1	4	14	213	686	1,552	217
High Point	1,097	6	5	4	19	50	478	984	124
Burlington	547	0	0	0	5	88	114	712	61
Kannapolis	385	0	0	6	7	108	132	289	47