

# Union Organizer Working on Barrus Employees on Probation for Stealing Union Funds

by Jack Rider

It is just one of many crude ironies in the current effort to unionize the employees of Barrus Construction Company that the chief organizer, Aubrey B. Dixon, is on federal probation after pleading guilty to stealing funds from the same union by which he is still employed.

And it is additional flavor to this same irony that among the union-spread rumors about this writer is that he is opposing this union effort because he is in the pay of Barrus Construction Company, when this confessed thief of union funds in the last reported year drew from the union a salary of \$13,664.64, an allowance of \$9,965 and expenses amount to \$3,600.79; for a total take for the calendar year of 1968 of \$27,232.43.

How much this poorly paid union organizer stole is not a complete matter of record in

the United States District Court at Charlotte, but he did plead guilty to one of three charges of stealing on October 15, 1968 at which time the court sentenced him to a suspended sentence of two year's probation and the payment of a \$750 fine.

So in the same year the union was paying him a total of \$27,232.43 he was in court pleading guilty in the language of the court:

"It is adjudged that the defendant upon his plea of guilty to count 3 of 3 counts has been convicted of the offense of violation of Title 29, Sections 401 et seq (embezzlement of labor union funds, causing false pay strike list) and false reporting of finances (count 3) as charged in count 3 of 3 counts 1 and 2 dismissed and the court having asked the defendant whether he has anything to say why judgment should not be pronounc-

ed, and no sufficient cause to the contrary being shown or appearing to the court, it is Adjudged that the defendant is guilty as charged and convicted. It is hereby adjudged that the defendant is hereby committed to the custody of the Attorney General or his authorized representative for imprisonment for a period of (imposition of sentence suspended). Twenty-four (24) month probation; pay \$750 fine."

The union this confessed thief represents is the International Union of Operating Engineers and it is one of the major unions in the United States, reported to have in excess of 300,000 membership.

The latest financial report to the United States Department of Labor shows that the union is very liberal at least with its employees, having paid its president \$88,220.44 in wages and expenses in 1968 and having

paid all of its officers (including an eighth vice president a total of \$592,628.96, and the aforementioned eight vice president took home \$25,604.17 for holding down that key position plus another \$25,766.81 for being a regional director.

The union also had that affluent year 80 other "workers" whose base salary was in excess of \$10,000, most of whom drew in excess of another \$10,000 for expenses. One of these was Dixon and this group of 80 took home a total of \$1,720,395.17 earned by the membership of their union.

Each of the members of the union is required to have taken from his pay \$25 for an initiation fee, plus \$6 per month, plus any other assessments or fees that national or regional headquarters may order.

For 1968 when the union was reporting a membership of 300,000 it only reported an income of \$6,724,669 from its dues and another \$735,688 from "fees."

In 1968 it reported a total income of \$11,493,550 and disbursements of \$12,189,553. Among these expenses was \$225,797 for office expenses, \$284,957 for educational and publicity expenses, \$123,639 for professional fees, \$173,608 in contributions, \$241,815 convention expenses (at least they know how to put on a party), \$17,478 for meetings and conferences, \$4,616 for members attending Harvard.

At the close of business 1968 the union reported assets totaling \$25,981,059, which included \$10,100 cash on hand, \$151,282 cash in banks, \$383,740 in accounts receivable, \$71,900 in loans receivable, \$21,065,407 in United States Treasury Securities, \$50,000 in Mortgage investments, \$991,485 in other investments, \$2,919,636 in land and building at 1125 Seventeenth Street Northwest in Washington, D. C. and "other assets" listed at \$337,509.

Barrus Construction Company has about 425 employees who would be "eligible" to pay the union their \$25 initiation fee

and their \$6 per month dues, meaning a first year "take" from these workers of \$11,125 in initiation fees and \$30,650 in regular dues for a total of \$41,775; thus it is easy to see how and why the union can pay organizers such as Probationer Dixon such high wages, plus letting him steal a little every now and then.

Every worker on every job done by Barrus Construction Company is covered by the federal minimum wage laws, as well as the laws pertaining to prevailing wage scales in which federal funds participate, which means that in no instance can Barrus, or any other road paving contractor pay less than the federal minimum wage, or the prevailing wage whichever is greatest.

In the last reported year the union only deposited \$852,688 in the general pension fund covering all 300,000 members of the union.

During this year when the union bosses were only dropping \$852,688 in the retirement kitty of their 300,000 members they tucked away \$312,541 just for the pension fund of "headquarters" and dished out a single juicy \$12,533 in retirement pension to the former general counsel (head lawyer) of the group.

Salaries and expenses paid to all union "workers," including officers, those paid over \$10,000 per year and those few paid less than \$10,000 per year amounted to \$2,804,526 and then on top of that they had a \$241,815 convention.

It would appear on the record that the most lucrative business in America today is charging people for the right to earn a living.

If more than half of the eligible employees of Barrus Construction Company are stupid enough to associate themselves with this kind of operation they will be doing just that: Paying a collection of parasites \$72 per year plus assessments for the right to work for a living.

## THE JONES COUNTY

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## Enlist in The War Against Narcotics

Nothing during my lifetime has frightened me worse or made me madder than the flow of deadly drugs into our community. I confess that I am like most people — or have been until now — content to say, "That's a big city problem. It won't hit us here in the sticks." Of course, this has always been a stupid conclusion but on consecutive weekends right here in our little country large shipments of heroin — the most deadly of all deadly narcotics — have been caught and three people are under indictment. I feel that this is not simply the problem of the police, or the SBI, or the sheriff's department. It is the problem of every man, woman and child in every community . . . whether in the biggest city or the smallest village. No family anywhere is exempt from this terror. So this week I have started in my own way to do something here in our own community about this. I have \$2500 in hand and it is my intent to underwrite with the help of the people in our community a \$50,000 reward fund. And this money will be used to pay \$500 cash rewards for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone selling or transporting these deadly drugs in our county. Money is the ugly name of this dope peddling business. . . and most of the pitiful addicts who are used by the higher ups would sell their soul in hell in order to keep their individual supply of dope coming. But we have to start somewhere . . . we have to let the little cogs and the big wheels in this vicious racket know that we mean business and that we intend as a total community to resist in every way we can this occupation of our area by these enemy forces. So far I have confined my effort in raising this reward fund to those able to pledge \$500 each and we here at these radio stations have pledged \$500 to this fund. But I am in the process of having a limited liability note prepared by lawyers and bankers so that people may pledge from \$100 up to back this effort to back all our law enforcement agencies. I first tried doing all the leg work in building up this fund but I found that I just simply do not have the time to contact as quickly as I want enough people to pledge this \$50,000. So anyone listening who is willing to pledge \$100 or more on a limited liability note please contact me immediately either by letter or phone and let me add your name to this fight to protect our county and I sincerely hope that other counties will join hands with us in Lenoir in this war against one of the most deadly enemies we have ever faced.

### LET THAT MAN GO!

Over the weekend the highway patrol in Lenoir County arrested one man that local radio announcers wish had never been caught in this neck of the woods. His name is Alfred L. Lauferswiple. He is from Coach Ran, Georgia and he was accused of drunken driving and speeding 100 miles an hour.

### CHICKEN CHEATING?

Monday Johnny Moseley of Grifton route 2 was charged with the embezzlement of \$2,308.68 from his former employer, Colonel Sander's Fried Chicken stand on West Vernon Avenue in Kinston. The warrant was signed by an official of the company, and alleges the embezzlement over a several

## Blue Angels Are Coming

What is expected to be the biggest and most exciting aviation day in the history of Lenoir County is being held Sunday at Stallings Field and the principal attraction will be the famous "Blue Angels". This team of Navy flyers has thrilled millions all over the world with their formation flying and acrobatics with one of the nation's fastest and most versatile planes. The program is free. Food will be available at the Air Field and low-priced flights over the Kinston area will be provided by Piedmont Airlines during the day.

## Kinston Board to Go Ahead with Integration Plans

Over the dissenting vote of Kinston School Board voted 5-to-1 to re-approve its plan to pair four Kinston schools in order to instantly integrate grades seven through 12 totally in the 1970-71 school year.

Harvey spoke against the move but was boxed in by a series of parliamentary tactics by Chairman Mary Lynn Gay, who ruled the meeting attended by a capacity audience at Grainger High School auditorium with an iron hand and a sarcastic tongue.

This plan calls for assignment of all seventh graders in the school system to Harvey School, all eighth graders to Adkin Junior, all ninth and tenth graders to Adkin High and all 11th and 12th graders to Grainger High.

Harvey said it was not in the educational best interest of all students involved and was not necessary under current administrative and judicial rulings.

Harvey gave one specific instance, on request, of what he meant when he said academic standards were being lowered in this move:

"By order of this school board next year four white and four black students must be chosen as marshals. And I don't think this is fair to either the white or black students", he stated.

months period.

## Jones Candidates

### SHERIFF

W. Brown Yates\*  
Dan Killingsworth  
Joe Monette  
Walter Cox  
M. Eugene (Buddy) Moore

### COMMISSIONER

James Barbre\*  
Charlie Battle\*  
Micaja Bonner  
Delmas Brown  
Charles Copeland  
George B. Franks  
Theodore Hicks  
Nick Mallard  
Hoyal Miller  
Osborne Mallard  
Horace B. Phillips\*  
Charles (Duffy) Smith  
Leslie D. Strayhorn  
Robert R. Green  
Preston Reynolds  
Ralph Howard  
Donald Bachelor  
Lindsey Maness, Ind.

### COURT CLERK

F. Rogers Pollock\*  
Harold B. Hargett Jr.  
Arthur Mallard

### SCHOOL BOARD

Kleber Bryant  
Raeford Becton  
Walter Ives\*  
Marvin Philyaw\*  
J. C. West Jr.\*  
John Booth\*  
Abbott Meadows\*

### CORONER

George W. Davenport

## Jones Murder on Sunday

A shooting at about 3 Sunday afternoon at the home of Carrie Hill on Dover route two near Wyse Forks resulted in the death of 33 year-old Robert Koonce of Kinston route 3, who died from two .32 caliber pistol wounds. Jones County authorities report that Mack Jerkins of Trenton route 1 turned himself in shortly after the shooting and admitted inflicting the fatal wounds after an argument between the two at the Hill home. Jerkins is scheduled to be given a preliminary hearing in Jones County District Court Friday.

### CONSTABLE

Maggie Small  
S. A. Norris

### SENATE

Charles Larkins Jr.\*  
Reece B. Gardner

### HOUSE

#### Seat No. 1

Fitzhugh Wallace  
Guy Elliott\*  
John Talbot Capps  
Harold W. Hardison

#### Seat No. 2

Red Tingin  
Dan Lilley\*

### SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

Howard Hubbard\*  
Walter Henderson

\* Denotes Incumbent

Bold denotes Republican