

THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

NUMBER 16 TRENTON, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1970 VOLUME XVIII

Directed Not Guilty Verdict Entered In Murder Charge Against Jerkins

Judge Joseph Parker of Windsor in Jones County Superior Court this week entered a directed verdict of not guilty in a murder charge against Mack Jerkins.

Evidence all pointed to the fact that Robert Koonce was shot twice and killed instantly when he advanced on Jerkins in the home of Carrie Hill in the Wyse Forks section on April 5th of this year after Jerkins had warned him to come no closer.

Koonce had an opened pocket knife in his hand when it was taken from his pocket by the undertaker who was called to the scene.

In other cases cleared in superior court James West Foy was fined \$100 for drunken driving but was permitted to use his driving license for business purposes.

A non support charge against Danny Lassiter was nolle prossed.

Rev. Fred Petty was ordered to pay into the court \$40 every two weeks to support his two children.

Carl Stuart Brown was fined \$100 for drunken driving.

Wilbur Metts was ordered to pay the court costs and stay off the lands of Jack Metts for two years after being found guilty of trespassing.

Raeferd Jarman was fined \$100 for drunken driving.

GETS DOCTORATE

Ohio State University has issued a list of seniors and graduate students who receive degrees at its summer commencement. John A. Volpe, secretary of Transportation, delivered the commencement address at the ceremonies held Sept. 4 in St. John Arena. Graduates included: Melvin L. Murphy of Kinston who received his Doctor of Philosophy Degree.

Another Shot Fired in Allison Patent Squabble Over Large Slice of Land

A small item tucked amid the routine affairs of Jones County's records this week indicates that the long-standing land-grabbing efforts of a series of technicians is still not dead.

Among the land transfers recorded in the office of Jones County Register of Deeds Bill Parker in the past week is one which transfers any and all claims Dewey and Rosa Barker may have had in the residue of tracts patented to David Allison in the years 1794 through 1798 to a corporation titled "Allison Land & Timber Company."

The Allison patents included a very large part of all the land between New Bern and Wilmington and through the years assorted raids on the public lands have festered around these old grants.

A large part of Hofmann Forest came from this source, and there have been numerous efforts during the past 30 years to break the grip Hofmann Forest Foundation has on some, if not all, of its more than 80,000

Routine Session of District Court

In a routine session last Friday, nine cases were cleared from the calendar of Jones County District Court, including eight criminal and one civil item.

The civil item was a divorce granted to Herbert Riggs from Sadie Riggs on separation grounds.

Milton Cannon, charged with assault with a deadly weapon, was found guilty of simple assault and had a choice of 30 days in jail or paying the court costs.

Roy Kellum paid costs for public drunkenness, Dwight Wainwright paid \$5 fine and costs for speeding, Mary Burroughs paid \$10 fine and costs for speeding, Arturo Interior Capule paid \$5 and costs for speeding, Fenner

Corn Shortage Likely to Cause Small Grain Expansion, Koonce Offers Tips

by Joe Koonce

Corn Blight damage to the 1970 crop of corn is likely to result in the planting of a larger acreage of small grain this fall. Farmers will be planting them for winter grazing as well as for a grain crop.

Farmers who plant small grains, especially for grain production, should consider all available production practices that will increase yields.

High yields are more likely to occur when the soil pH is 5.8 to 6.2, the desirable range for small grains. Farmers should make full use of the soil testing program to determine lime and fertilizer needs for each field to be planted to small grain.

For average soil conditions the general fertilizer recommen-

BIRTH ANNOUNCED

Mr. and Mrs. Dalton Loftin, native Jones Countians, who now live at Hillsborough have announced the birth of their fifth child, Nancy Elizabeth, who was born September 17th in Watts Hospital at Durham. The Loftins have one other daughter and three sons. Mrs. Loftin is the former Emma Sue Larkins, daughter of Judge and Mrs. John Larkins.

Tripp Jr. paid costs for not having had his flivver inspected, Archie Pierce paid \$5 fine and costs for speeding, Etta Ransom paid costs for failing to stop for a stop sign.

J. W. Collier, who was charged with public drunkenness and disorderly conduct, was committed to Cherry Hospital by Judge Joe Parker in Superior Court Monday, where Collier was taken for violation of probation he had been placed on at a previous court term when he pleaded guilty to several charges of drunken driving.

ation is 500 pounds of 5-10-10 or 250 pounds of 10-20-20 at planting time. On poorly drained soils, especially those with a high organic matter content, a copper deficiency may show up. This deficiency may be corrected by the use of 2.5 to 5 pounds of actual copper per acre. The best way to apply the copper is to mix it with the fertilizer to be applied at planting time. An application of copper will last 3

Continued on page 8

Jones County 4-H Clubs Entered In State Fair

The Jones County 4-H Clubs entered in the 1970 N. C. State Fair, which runs from Oct. 16 through 24, will be vying for much larger prizes than were awarded last year.

Prizes for the 13 exhibits in the 4-H section have been increased by \$75 across the board, making the blue ribbon worth \$400.

The red ribbon of second place will bring \$375 this year and third place will pay \$350. The club in fourth place will get \$325 and those in fifth through 13th will earn \$300 each.

Traditionally 12 exhibits have been created by selected clubs — two from each 4-H district. Last year, however, the 13th exhibit was added for science work. The exhibits illustrate the various themes and goals of 4-H work.

Competition is open to only 13 clubs because of the limitations of display space.

Individual 4-H members will compete in crafts, fine arts photography and insect studies for prizes ranging from \$15 to \$150.

Crafts will include basket weaving, sewing, metal work, marquetry, pottery, woodcarving, wood working, block printing, knitting and mosaics. Fine arts covers oil painting, water colors, drawing and etchings.

Editorial

CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE

By Jack Rider

In the past year Vice President Agnew has made a lot of noise on the specific subject of managed, or mis-managed news. In case anyone labors under the illusion that what Agnew complains about is just a conspiracy confined to the television networks and a few metropolitan newspapers let me very quickly destroy that illusion.

If anything, the further up the branch one travels the worse the news management becomes. I am personally involved in one of the most flagrant abuses of this kind I've seen in over 25 years in this news business.

Let me let you in on this very well kept secret.

Just a few weeks from now the voters of North Carolina are being asked to vote on seven amendments to the state constitution. Each of some importance, but by far the most important, and the most ridiculous, is one that calls for a reduction of the number of individual agencies in the state government to 25 or less by 1975 on recommendation of the governor and final approval by the general assembly.

This is the kind of catch-phrase reform movement that sounds good until one gives it even a few minutes of study and then it quickly melts in one's hand. It is hiding behind a tissue of lies and is absurd on its face.

The tissue of lies is the constantly chanted refrain that the state government has proliferated to the point where there are 317 independent agencies. In order to arrive at this frightening number these reformers have counted everything from such ceremonial groups as the Governor Richard Caswell Memorial Commission down to the trustees of the Home for Confederate Widows, which now supervises the care and feeding of six elderly souls over in Fayetteville.

In fact there are just 59 departments of record in the state government; departments over which constant budgetary controls are exercised, and departments that supervise the major functions of our state government.

Undoubtedly there are some of these more necessary and some more efficient than others, but no absurd amendment to the constitution is needed to abolish, reform, regroup or merge all but seven of these 59 agencies. That seven comprise the council of state, and the general assembly can add any of these other 52 agencies to the seven council of state offices if it sees fit.

Each of these 52 agencies is a child of the legislature.

So much for background. Now to the Conspiracy of Silence I mentioned in the beginning.

The bright little boys inside state government and inside the major press of the state have decided that all of these constitutional amendments are absolutely vital and so they refuse to publish any opposition or the truth about the entire mess.

On Wednesday of last week Agricultural Commissioner Jim Graham, Employment Security Commission Chairman Harry Kendall and myself as spokesman for the State Department of Veterans' Affairs, along with Bud Thompson of Wilmington, who is chairman of the State Veterans Advisory Committee, which includes the state commanders of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans and Veterans of World War One appeared before a study committee in Raleigh to voice opposition to several specific items under this reorganization plan.

There were at least six reporters and three photographers present at this hearing which was in the Legislative Building at 1 p.m. Wednesday. Since Wednesday I have waited to read or hear one word reported on this meeting which so seriously touches the lives of so many North Carolinians.

I spoke with the unanimous voice of the directors of the State Department of Veterans Affairs, which represents the 531,000 veterans of our state and their families in their effort to secure all benefits they are eligible to receive from the federal veterans administration.

Our directors oppose having our department dumped into a super-agency to be called the Department of Veterans and Military Affairs, which would include the Adjutant General, the Civil Defense Bureau, the National Guard Armory Commission, the Civil Air Patrol, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

We feel, and the commanders of every major veterans organization in the state feel, that the welfare of our 531,000 veterans and their families need and deserve individual representation by an agency free of political manipulation.

These sentiments were forcefully brought to the attention of this committee, but the press of North Carolina has refused until now to report the facts because these facts do not fit their opinions.