

THE JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

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Four Civil Actions Filed in Jones County's Courts

Jones County Court Clerk Rogers Pollock reports having four civil actions filed in his office during the past two weeks.

Norman Edward Richard filed suit for divorce from Bet Jean Rich, alleging their marriage on September 28, 1968 and their separation on May 8, 1969.

W. F. Hill filed suit to collect \$33.10 he alleges owed to him by Wilbert Greene.

Carolina Model Homes Corporation asked ejection of Charles Burton from a house on which he is delinquent in payments.

New Bern Oil and Fertilizer Company filed suit for \$131.27 which alleges is owed to it by Olivia Grady.

Ann Pollock Heads Junior Auxiliary

The American Legion Junior Auxiliary, Post 154, met October 12 at the home of Mrs. Fatie Gray. The program given by Ann Pollock and Patsy Banks was on Girl's State. A business session followed.

New officers for 1970-71 are:

Ann Pollock, President; Judy Banks, Vice President; Mona Johnson, Secretary; Karen Pollock, Treasurer; Gayle Hill, Historian; Rebecca Franck, Chaplain; Kathy Gray, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Cathy Parker, Reporter.

Routine Session of County Commission

Last week the Jones County Board of Commissioners held a quiet election-week session in which it:

Approved payment of \$11.48 taxes to the Town of Trenton on the land the county purchased back of the courthouse from J. K. Avery;

Voted \$25 toward the annual Christmas Party at Caswell Training School; and

Approved the emergency expenditure of \$2870 to buy a new boiler for the Agricultural Building.

Judge Lowers Short Sentence for Dope Peddler Last Week

Last Wednesday Judge William Copeland gave John H. Smith, alias Willie Beaumont two years in prison after a jury had convicted him of two narcotics violations. He could have given him five years on each count.

On Thursday Judge Copeland reopened the case and said he had been told that Smith alias Beaumont already had one illegitimate child and was expected to have another any day; so in view of this he was going to permit the proud father to serve a work-release sentence, which calls for him spending his nights and weekends in jail, while being permitted to work during the week.

The judge said he was doing this to prevent the children having to be taken care of by the welfare department.

Eight Arrested On Drunk Charges In Jones County

In the past two weeks the Jones County Sheriff's office reports 11 arrests and eight of the 11 charges involved drunkenness.

Glen Braswell of Camp Lejeune was charged with drunken driving, Julius Jordan Jr., Alex Roberts, Clyde Kinsey, Michael Poole, all of Pollocksville, and Oliver Cobb of Trenton were charged with public drunkenness and Richard Moore of Pollocksville route 1 was charged with public drunkenness, escape from custody and indecent exposure.

Jake Ray Jones of Trenton 2 and William Rufus Carter of Richlands route 2 were both charged with peeping into an occupied dwelling and Linwood Earl Jarman of Comfort was charged with assault on a female.

Gas Thief Injured

At about 1:10 Sunday morning John Thomas of Cove City route 1 sped away from Skinner's filling station on the US 70 bypass after getting \$5 worth of gas put in his flivver. He hit a car as he sped away. He was found in his wrecked car near the Oscar Waller home south of Kinston on the Richlands Road at about 7:30 Sunday morning and brought to a Kinston hospital where he is recovering from numerous injuries suffered in the crash of his car. He will face numerous charges as soon as he is able to attend court.

District Court Disposes of 27 Cases With 10 of These Being Nolle Prossed

In last Friday's session of Jones County District Court 27 cases were cleared from the docket, but 10 of that total were disposed of by having the state

decide not to prosecute.

These nolle pross entries were in speeding charges against James C. Engle and Ronald E. Jones, reckless driving against George A. Rhodes and William D. Purvis, assault with a deadly weapon charges against Jesse Foy, Mrs. Eva Locklear, assault on a female charge against Walter Foy and a simple assault charge against Walter Foy.

Non suits were entered in trespass charges against Roger Mewborn and Elmer Whaley and nol prosses were entered in peeping tom charges against William Carter and Jake R. Jones.

Chester Roberts was fined \$100 after a one-year jail term was suspended for selling of marijuana and he was also placed on probation for five years.

Joseph V. Lee was fined \$100 and had his driver's license restricted for one year for drunken driving.

Jack Williams paid costs for public drunkenness and Ed Brown had a choice of 20 days in jail or paying court costs. Pat Sholar was ordered to make good a worthless check and pay costs.

Cecil R. Jones had a six month jail term suspended on condition he pay a \$50 fine and work around the sheriff's office four weekends after being found guilty of stealing.

Ernest Moore was fined \$100 for drunken driving and was given a restricted license for one year.

Henry Riggs paid court costs for trespassing. Herbert Taylor was fined \$100 for drunken driving. Clyde Kinsey was given 20 days in jail for public drunkenness.

John C. Eubanks, charged with drunken driving, paid \$50 fine for reckless driving. Edward Murrell paid costs for cursing in public. Heman Stone paid \$5 fine and costs for speeding. Donald Jones \$10 fine and costs for improper passing.

EXCHANGE BETWEEN EDITOR & JUDGE ACCENTS GROWING CONCERN OVER COURT FAILURES

Editor's Note: Because of community concern, and because the spoken word too often is misquoted we publish here an unabridged version of the exchange between Newsman Jack Rider and Superior Court Judge William Copeland.

(Editorial November 4 on Radio Stations WFTC and WRNS by Jack Rider.)

If anyone has any lingering question about the cause of crime running loose in our nation today it should be answered by just such abuse of common sense as that exhibited in Lenoir County Superior Court Monday in the name of law.

A pair of 24-carat New Jersey crums were caught by local law enforcement officers and they were found to have more than 30 packages of heroin hidden on their person. One had it hidden in a secret compartment in the waistband of his trousers and the other had it tucked in the top of his sock.

This pair of hiding places came as the result of information for which the people of Lenoir County paid \$1000 in reward. The informer not only told who the crums were, but where they would be at what time, the license number of their car, and further told the officers where the dope would be hidden on these two vermin — both

of whom had gonhorrea in addition to his moral degeneracy in the peddling of dope to our children here in Lenoir County.

Because there was in the opinion of the Judge some misplaced, or misstated phrase in the search warrant the officers used when they arrested this pair the courts have now found them not guilty of having heroin which was found hidden on their person.

Fortunately one of the pair had sold some of his heroin to an undercover officer and the court did manage to bend over backwards and find him guilty and give him a 3-to-5 year jail term, which means that he will probably in jail one-fourth of 36 months — unless some Santa Claus parole board turns him loose ahead of schedule.

We do not need more laws. We do not need more police. What we need is different judges, different interpretations of the existing laws.

Now the last place in the world one can expect to find justice is in the courts. Technicalities every day turn mad-dogs loose on society and lawyers stuff their pockets with money they have earned as accessories to the lowest kind of crime. But the lawyers could not stuff their pockets and the guilty could not walk the streets if we had a few

— not many — just a few judges who would forget the technicalities and pay some attention to whether the thugs before them are guilty or innocent.

To turn loose on children a known peddler of the vilest kind of drugs on such a thin and stupid pretext is a prostitution of reason, of the law and our entire civilization.

In this the court is more criminal than the criminal.

Mr. Jack Rider
HGR Broadcasting Co.
Kinston, North Carolina

Dear Jack:

I have known you now for some thirty years and decided to write you today concerning your editorial of yesterday.

I have always tried to operate the Court within the law, which includes the United States Constitution as well as the laws of this State. When the time comes that I cannot do this I will resign.

You attack me personally in your editorial and refer to me as a criminal. Unfortunately, you frequently make attacks about things about which you have little knowledge. In this case, you were not in the Courtroom and had no way of knowing the reason why the Court and the Solicitor did what the law required. These are not

new laws or new interpretations by any Supreme Court. The law under which the Court was operating was the law of this country before we were born. It is included in the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

I get no pleasure in releasing people that should have been convicted. Neither do I get any personal pleasure out of punishing people. There is nothing to be gained for anyone by a Judge committing obvious error. The only result that I know of would be that the State of North Carolina would have to pay more attorneys' fees for indigents to appeal to our Appellate Division, where the Trial Court will be promptly reversed.

You also attack the Solicitor of this District and his Assistant. They have also taken an oath and when they cannot live within the law they too should and will resign. Lenoir County has been fortunate for twenty years to have one of the ablest Solicitors in this State. You will shortly lose him because of re-districting. You will soon realize that the people of Lenoir County are the losers. He has as his assistant, in my judgment, the ablest Assistant Solicitor in the entire State. The people of this County will likewise be the losers when Lenoir County is elim-

inated from his District.

Presumably you do not like any lawyers and I assume no Judges. That is your privilege.

Maybe it would suit your wishes better if we had "Peoples Courts" in this country such as operate the courts of China and Russia. These courts are those of men and not of law.

I attach a copy of a statement that I made in open Court yesterday with regard to another matter that was before me. No one from your staff was present to hear it.

I suggest that in fairness to me, the Solicitor of this District, and his Assistant, and the people of Lenoir County that you read this letter and the attached comments I made in Court, at some appropriate time on your station where your program provides for editorial comment.

With best wishes, I remain
Sincere,
J. William Copeland

(Editorial November 5, 1970 over radio stations WFTC and WRNS by Jack Rider.)

Trying as I do to have something topical and important to comment on six days of the week in this editorial period often runs one up a blind alley.

In three and a half minutes (continued on page 3)