



**Clear**  
Partly cloudy, warm today, turning cooler tonight and Tuesday. High near 74, low in mid 50s. A 20 per cent chance of rain tonight. Winds NW 10-15 miles per hour. Dews, 5-6.

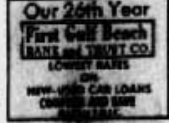
# St. Petersburg Times

Florida's Best Newspaper

ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1973

Vol. 50 - No. 160

44 PAGES



15 CENTS A COPY

## Turbulent Year For Pasco

By JAN GLIDEWELL  
of The Times Staff

pulled the county into the public eye.

political matters still-populate:

the de-

One of the largest political blockbusters of the year was the revelation in April that clerk of the Circuit Court, Stanley Burnside, had been the object of scathing criticism in a state audit of court-

**EVEN BEFORE** Burnside left the courthouse, the commission snipped away at the empire he and his predecessor-father had built over a 64-year period. By eliminating various duties, the commission had trimmed \$10,000 per year from his salary before Burnside threw in the towel.

At the same time, the commission removed certain prerogatives from Burnside, leaving a big job for Burnside's replacement, **Miller Newton**, who feels obligated to reacquire the prerogatives, most of which had been transferred to Knoblock's office. Newton, for instance, fought for more than six months and finally threatened court action before being allowed to open the commission's mail. Other

matters still are being contended.

Newton, a 34-year-old college professor and an ordained Methodist minister, was appointed by the governor to replace Burnside. Newton's appointment was calm compared to the October uproar when Askew, through his Pasco advisory committee, had to choose a successor for Strauber who died while attending a convention in Miami Beach.