



The FRANKLIN TIMES



VOLUME LXXIV

\$1.50 per year in Advance

LOUISBURG, N. CAROLINA FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1943

(Eight Pages)

NUMBER 4

ADJUST SALARIES IN WELFARE ORGANIZATION

Resolve Against Salary Increase Bills

Approved Establishing Mail Service on Bus Line From Rocky Mount to Creedmoor; Several Minor Matters Given Attention at Commissioners Meeting Monday

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Monday morning with all members present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following reports were received and ordered filed: Dr. S. P. Burt, Health Officer; Miss Lillie Mae Braxton, Home Agent; H. H. Price, Negro Farm Agent; W. C. Boyce, Farm Agent; Mrs. J. F. Mitchiner, Welfare Officer; Supt. E. R. Richardson, County Home.

Dr. Burt reported a balance on hand from the tonsil clinic held last summer by the Health Department, and asked the approval of the Board for the purchase of an operating table, chairs, stethoscope, and other badly needed articles for the Health Department with this money. Upon motion of Com. Dean, seconded by Com. Pearce, and duly carried, this matter was left to the discretion and orders of the Board of Health.

Mr. Moss, of Oxford, was before the Board in reference to property of Dr. Bullock and Mrs. Roberts which was double listed. The County Accountant was instructed to refund the amount of \$22.63, from the revolving fund, principal and penalty up to 1934, said County Accountant having already investigated the matter and reporting to the Board that this was the amount.

The County Accountant also reported double listings in the following: W. M. Bibby, P. S. Allen, G. M. Hill. He was instructed by the Board to get same straightened out and to see that there was only one listing.

E. A. Grissom was before the Board in reference to chickens killed by dogs. The county attorney informed him that he would investigate the law in this matter and advise him.

On motion of Com. Pearce, seconded by Com. Dean and duly carried, lots numbers 8 and 9 of the Cheatham property in Youngsville were sold to the Church of the Disciples of Christ for the cash payment of \$50.00, the balance \$75.00 to be paid in ninety days and if same is not paid in 90 days the cash payment is to be forfeited.

The matter of the Pattle Coppedge land was deferred to the first Monday in April and in the meantime Baldy Coppedge was instructed to raise a down payment of \$200.00 and return to the April meeting.

The following resolution was unanimously passed by the Board: "Whereas there is a serious loss of time in the delivery of mail to and from the outlying trading territory in and near Franklin County.

"And Whereas, there is now established a permanent bus line over the territory involved, making regular trips between Rocky Mount and Creedmoor, by Red Oak, Nashville and Louisburg; "And Whereas, we realize the great benefits to accrue to the business interests of the several towns and communities and convenience to the population all along the line, totaling some 40,000 or more.

"Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Franklin urgently requests the Post Office Department of the United States to establish a daily mail service connecting the east and west through the territory above named, at the earliest possible date.

"Done by order of the Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County at its office in Louisburg, North Carolina on the 1st day of March, 1943."

Bonds of Johnnie Horton and J. Henry Cash, Constables, were accepted by the Board, subject to minor changes.

Upon recommendation of Mrs. J. F. Mitchiner, of the Welfare Department, Daisy Etheridge was placed on the outside poor list at \$4.00 per month.

Mrs. Ben T. Holden, Chairman of the Welfare Board, appeared before the Board of County Commissioners and reported that Mrs. Gertrude Boone Foster, one

of the case workers, had resigned and would not be with the Welfare department any longer, and that Mrs. John Williamson had agreed to take over her duties as a War Time Measure, and as a help to the Welfare Department, as it is almost impossible to obtain additional case workers at this time. Mrs. Holden further stated that since it was mandatory by the State that under the Merit system adopted by the State for Welfare Departments, that the salaries of Welfare workers with certain experience and Educational attainments be increased to comply with their requirements, that the Welfare Board recommended that Mrs. Williamson be increased from \$1,440.00 to \$1,800.00 per year, and that the clerical help in the office be increased from \$70.00 per month to \$80.00, and that in doing without the case worker who had resigned that the increase could be given these two workers without any additional cost over the budget to the County, and that the Welfare Department could then turn back to the County \$60.00 per month, representing a savings to the county of \$60.00 due to the workers being willing to double their work during the war. Mrs. Holden then asked the Commissioners what their wish was in this matter. Com. Dean moved that the recommendation of the Welfare Department, of which Com. Terrell was a member representing the County, be accepted in this matter. Com. Pearce seconded the motion, and same was carried by a majority vote. Com. Bartholomew voting against the recommendation.

Mr. Gray King, co-administrator of the Q. S. Leonard Estate came before the Board in reference to getting an old deed of trust, made payable to the County, and which had been settled a number of years, by the property being needed back to the county, cancelled on the record. Mr. Matthews, County Attorney, informed Mr. King that he would investigate the matter and advise him.

Mr. King also asked to have a tax lien note of Mrs. D. G. Pearce which appeared against her property on the records, cancelled, as it appeared to him that same had been entirely paid. Mr. Matthews also advised him that he would investigate this matter.

Jurors were drawn for March Civil Term, Superior Court, April Civil Term.

Hill Yarborough, Attorney, appeared before the Board in reference to a road in Harris Township being worked and maintained by the State Highway & Public Works Commission and having a ditch opened. The Clerk of the Board was instructed to write about this matter and send a copy of said letter to Mr. Bob Moore.

Upon motion of Com. Bartholomew, second by Com. Pearce, the following resolution was adopted by the Board, by a three to one vote: Com. Joyner voting against said resolution and stating that he felt that in justice to the parties involved that salaries should be increased to meet the living expenses at this time, and that if at a later time living was not so high, that the salaries could be reduced, just as they were in 1932 when all county officials voluntarily took a cut in salary, which had never been raised since that time.

The Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County desires to make it clear that the said Board is opposed to the legislation recently introduced in the General Assembly by our representative, Mr. W. L. Lumpkin, whereby the salaries or compensation of certain elected officials of the county would be greatly increased during their present terms of office. The measures referred to would raise the annual salary of the Register of Deeds from \$2,000.00 to \$2,400.00 and that of his deputy Register of Deeds from \$1,200.00 to \$1,500.00. The salary of the Clerk of the Superior Court would be raised from \$2,500.00 to \$3,100.00 and an additional \$200.00 would be authorized for extra assistance in his office in addition to the deputy clerk. The Sheriff would be granted the sum of \$600.00 per year to keep up his automobile. The salary of one deputy sheriff would be raised from \$600.00 to \$1,000.00. The salary increases would go in effect as of February 1, 1943. These increases make a total of \$2,500.00 per year.

The Board of County Commissioners was not consulted in regard to these large salary increases, either by our representative or by the elective officials involved, and this Board has not approved and does not sanction

(Continued on Page Eight)

Blackouts

Dates for practice blackouts in the State were announced this week by R. L. McMillan, State director of Civilian Defense.

Dates of the tests are: March 17, Asheville Air-Raid Warning District; March 18, all districts in Wilmington Air-Raid Warning Region; March 19, Norfolk Air-Raid Warning Region.

McMillan also announced the time for all signals—and explained that times were given in advance so that the tests enabling residents to become familiar with the new signals. There was considerable confusion last week when first blackouts were held under the new signals.

The times announced by McMillan for the public signals: blue, 8:50 p. m.; red 9:00; blue, 9:10; white, 3:22.—News-Observer.

Franklin County is located in the Wilmington Region and therefore will observe the blackout on March 18th.

Not Entitled To Deferment

Registrants whose wives have become pregnant since December 7, 1941 are no longer entitled to deferment on the grounds of dependency. It was announced today by the State Director of Selective Service. He stated that this revised policy has been made necessary because present regulations provide that no status which was acquired on or after December 8, 1941, may be considered when deciding questions of dependency.

The Director further announced that all local boards in the State have been directed to re-open and reconsider for classification the cases of all registrants heretofore deferred on the grounds of dependency because their wives have become pregnant since December 7, 1941.

The fact that a registrant is a parent shall not be considered in determining the class in which he should be placed unless the child was conceived prior to December 8, 1941, the Director said. He further stated that this ruling applies to all cases, regardless of the date of marriage, and is to be applied both in considering the classification of a registrant and in determining his category.

Two Houses Burn

A heavy fire alarm aroused the population of Louisburg about 5 o'clock Tuesday morning. An investigation disclosed that two houses on "Pig Trot" the street by the cotton yard, was on fire. The fire department answered promptly and saved a portion of the frame work but the damage to the buildings was large and to the contents also.

One of the houses was owned by Mrs. J. C. Tucker, and occupied by Willie Red Young, colored. This building was badly damaged but not so much as the other, a good portion of the household belongings were saved although most of them were water damaged.

The other house was owned by Mrs. Ben T. Holden, and was occupied by Big John Hawkins. This building was practically a total loss, as was also the household contents. The fire started in the top stairs of this house and by the assistance of the wind spread to the other one.

Neither of the houses or their contents were insured, according to our information.

Fireman W. J. Shearin while fighting the fire fell through the top of one of the houses and landed on the top of a cook stove. Luckily he received no injuries.

Point System Meeting

Quite a number of merchants in Franklin County attended the meeting in the Court House Monday night when Dr. B. U. Ratford, Director of the Price Fixing Department of the State OPA office in Raleigh, explained the workings of the New point rationing system.

Questions were freely asked and many answered with the result that a better understanding was had.

Charlie Wells, young farmer of Buncombe County, is helping solve the mutton problem. Seventeen ewes have brought 30 lambs and he still has nine ewes to lamb. There are 88 head of beef cattle on the Wells farm.

Please tell us where is the sacrifice today in high places. Can you put your finger on any real sacrifice of record at Washington

Autoist On 'Honor System'

Washington, March 3.—OPA Administrator Prentiss Brown today ordered an end to police enforcement of the East's ban on pleasure driving, said future compliance will depend upon an "honor system," and added there is "a fair probability" the ban can be entirely eliminated by March 22, when new gasoline coupons go into effect.

Brown said he didn't mean nobody will be questioned about whether his driving is for pleasure or duty, but "it's one of those irritating things we want to avoid."

Faith In Public
"The time has now come to stop all unnecessary inconvenience of the public," Brown told a press conference. "I believe in light of the widespread understanding of the situation which exists we can henceforth rely on what might be termed the 'honor' system of compliance instead of police enforcement. I am instructing all OPA regional, state, and branch offices to put this policy into effect immediately."

"This action is in line with my general ideas in enforcement of all OPA regulations. Positive enforcement measures must be used with criminals but they are not necessary with the general public. Instead I expect to secure voluntary compliance by the public through understanding of the need for regulation."

World Day Of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer sponsored by the United Council of Church Women will be observed this year in the Episcopal Church on Friday, March 12th. All the churches in town will participate in this observance. Two services will be held so that everyone can have an opportunity to attend, the first at 10:30 A. M.; the second at 8:00 P. M.

The observance of the World Day of Prayer has grown from its inception 56 years ago when women of the Presbyterian Church felt the need and opportunity of a day set aside to pray for "Home Missions." The idea grew in popularity. Later two women taking a trip around the world "were captivated by the discovery that Christian work is not divisible by seas or boundary lines." As a result of their efforts the foreign mission forces chose a day for united prayer and in 1920 (23 years ago) Church workers of all denominations, both in Canada and in the United States, joined in prayer for "Home and Foreign Missions."

The first Friday in Lent was selected as an appropriate day for such an annual observance. From this observance the idea of a universal day of prayer came about at the request of many world friends who saw the great significance and opportunity such a time would present. The first World Day of Prayer was observed in 1927, sixteen years ago.

In keeping with the idea that the prayers encircle the entire globe, the observance begins in the far, far, East, the first taking place in the Fiji Islands, the tiny islands south of the Solomons which have seemed much closer to us during recent months. While we are going to bed the evening before the Fiji Islanders are offering the very same prayers we present the next day! Thence the chain goes on! Thrilling accounts of observances of the day come to us from China, even Japan, Siam, Thailand, India, Australia, England, occupied Europe, Africa, and the two Americas. Just as the Fiji Islands are in a major sea-line of importance nowadays so also is the little island of St. Lawrence, off the coast of Alaska where the World Day of Prayer ends, 30 miles from the Arctic Circle. This isolated island, the most westerly point on the globe, is bound from November to May, is now also a path of grave danger and better known than ever before.

"Father, I pray that they may all be one" the theme of the day.

Present world conditions make "these hours of prayer double precious and helpful" abroad as well as at home where 10,000 observances are held annually in the United States and Canada. "We're grateful for the privilege of sharing in this tremendously thrilling experience and feel constrained to not neglect so great an opportunity."

"As o'er each continent and island The dawn leads on another day, The voice of prayer is never silent, Nor dies the strain of praise away."

Forsyth County dairymen are greatly disturbed over the high price of dairy feeds and the relatively low price of milk.

WAR NEWS

London, March 3.—German planes raided London tonight in a weak reprisal for the week-long sustained Allied aerial offensive highlighted by Monday night's shattering raid on Berlin.

And even while the enemy raiders were making their hurried, haphazard attack in the face of new British anti-aircraft defenses there were indications that the Allies were stretching history's mightiest air offensive into its eighth night. Deutschlandsender, Germany's principal domestic radio station in the Berlin area, announced that it would be off the air "for some time."

Berlin Simmers
Meanwhile Stockholm reports said the entire Berlin citizenry had been mobilized to fight fires that still were burning there and to repair damage so extensive that it left "a great part of Berlin homeless."

Germany's attempt to blast London appeared unsuccessful, and was met with derision by the British populace, many of whom watched the colorful anti-aircraft barrage instead of seeking shelter.

Allied Headquarters, North Africa, March 3.—American forces were reported sweeping unopposed across the central Tunisian plain tonight toward Faid Pass, vital doorway to the Axis coastal corridor, while British troops had driven the enemy back two miles in the battle for the gorges farther north.

Front dispatches said the Americans now were well east of recaptured Sbeitla and military quarters believed they had a good chance to restore the mid-Tunisian line as it was before Marshal Erwin Rommel began his offensive on Feb. 15.

Many Land Mines
Another American column was reported working down toward Gafsa, 50 miles south of Kasserine Pass, at a slower pace as sappers cleared away thousands of mines.

Dispatches indicated the Americans might be by-passing heavily mined Feriana, which lies west of the direct route to Gafsa, although American patrols had penetrated the town Monday.

London, Thursday, March 4.—Russian troops, storming and capturing Rzhev, anchor point of the Great German salient northwest of Moscow, have smashed the heart of the enemy's defensive system on the central front and have opened a Red Army gateway to the west, the Moscow radio said today.

Capturing two key railroad cities on the Kursk-Orel front for a total of three first-rank victories in a single day, the Russians also had put the German Bryansk-Orel salient in imminent danger. Radio Moscow said that practically the whole Kursk region had now been freed and unconfirmed reports circulated here that the Germans were preparing to evacuate Orel.

State Guard

The age limit for membership in the State Guard has been increased in order that patriotic citizens of North Carolina who are over 45 years of age and have expressed a desire to become a member of the Guard units throughout the State may now join their local companies, by a law enacted by the current session of the General Assembly, any man who has not reached the age of 51 years is eligible for membership.

The 8th Company now has an active membership of 48 men, two short of the required membership. It is difficult to keep the active membership up to full strength on account of the fact that so many of the members of the Company are drafted at each call for men for the armed services, but the recent act of the Legislature opening the membership to men up to the age of 50 years is expected to cause the full strength of the State Guard to be reached within the next few weeks.

The Officers and 1st Sergeants of each company of the State Guard have been ordered to Fort Bragg for a ten-day period of refresher training in the regular Army Officers Training School. This school commences on Monday, March 15, 1943. Instruction at the school will be conducted by trained professional instructors of the United States Army, whose regular duties consist of training officers in the Officers Candidate School and is conducting refresher courses for officers who need specialized training or who need to brush up on certain phases of the training.

The officers of the local Company who are expected to take this training are: Captain Hill Yarborough, 1st Lt. Paul W. Elam, Lt. R. Lee Johnson and 1st Sgt. James L. Ferguson.

Children don't vote. That explains why ice cream has been

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

Institute of Government
Chapel Hill, N. C.

NOTE: This is the seventh in a series of weekly summaries of the work of the 1943 session of the General Assembly. It is not intended as a report on all legislation, but is confined to bills of general interest or major importance.

Franklin County
HB 345 - Introduced by Lumpkin, Feb. 8 (Register of Deeds salary). Feb. 23, Ratified.

HB 392 - Introduced by Lumpkin, Feb. 10 (Election of Accountant). Feb. 24, reported favorably by Senate Committee; Feb. 25, passed 2nd and 3rd readings.

HB 394 - Introduced by Lumpkin, Feb. 10 (Recorder's Court jurisdiction). Feb. 25, reported favorably by Senate Committee; Feb. 26, passed 2nd and 3rd readings in Senate; Feb. 26, Ratified.

HB 453 - Introduced by Lumpkin, Feb. 12 (Validating Franklin and Louisburg Township bonds). Feb. 24, reported favorably by House Committee; Feb. 25, passed 2nd reading; Feb. 27, passed 1st read in Senate, sent to Calendar Committee.

HB 454 - Introduced by Lumpkin, Feb. 12 (Tax penalties in Louisburg, Bunn and Youngsville Townships). Feb. 24, reported favorably by Senate Committee; Feb. 25, passed 2nd and 3rd readings; Feb. 26, Ratified.

HB 484 - Introduced by Lumpkin, Feb. 15 (Louisburg property conveyance). Feb. 23, reported favorably by Senate Committee; Feb. 24, passed 2nd and 3rd readings; Feb. 25, Ratified.

The major bills of the Session came up for passage in the House and Senate this week and received quick action.

SB 54, providing for a nine months State-supported school term, passed three readings in both the House and the Senate and was ratified on Feb. 26. During the week a Committee Substitute for the Budget Revenue Bill, reported favorably by the House Finance Committee last week, passed its third reading on Monday and was sent to the Senate. The Committee Substitute made a number of changes in the original bill, one of the more important being the deletion of the provision in the original bill for giving counties the option of collecting the intangible tax. Another change allowed merchants making timely sales tax payments to deduct 3%. In the Senate, several amendments were added. The most controversial amendment had the effect of removing the 3% sales tax from materials to be incorporated into ships and other war requirements of the Federal Government, constructed on a cost or cost-plus-flat-fee basis. All Senate amendments were concurred in by the House on February 26.

The Biennial Appropriations Bill and the Supplemental Appropriations Bill, being SB 11 and SB 12, respectively, were both reported favorably by the Senate Finance Committee as to Committee Substitute, which retained or increased all appropriations with a few exceptions. Both bills passed three readings in the Senate and House. A feature of both bills is a new schedule of war bonuses to teachers and state employees. The bonuses will be payable as follows: \$5 per month to those earning an annual salary up to and including \$400; \$10 for annual salaries from \$401 to \$899; \$15 for annual salaries from \$900 to \$1899; \$16 for annual salaries from \$1801 to \$2100; \$18 for annual salaries from \$2101 to \$2400; \$20 for annual salaries from \$2401 to \$2700; \$22 for annual salaries from \$2701 to \$3600, and \$24 for annual salaries from \$3601 to \$4500. The bonus for teachers will be figured upon an annual or semi-annual basis and will be apportioned monthly.

HB 144, the Wine Control Bill, including a provision for the sale of "dessert wines" having an alcoholic content of 20% and which passed the House after considerable controversy, was tabled in the Senate on February 23. Numerous local bills have been introduced in both branches of the General Assembly to control, regulate or prohibit the sale of wine and beer. To date, none have been reported from committees. However, HB 180, a State-wide measure to prohibit the sale of wine and beer between 11:30 P. M. and 7:00 A. M. every day and to make it unlawful to allow consumption of wine or beer on the premises between midnight and 7:00 A. M. every day, and which further authorizes any county or municipality to prohibit sales between 11:30 P. M. and 7:00 A. M. Monday, passed its final reading in the Senate on February 26. And

(Continued on Page Five)

DESTROY JAP CONVOY

General MacArthur's Headquarters, Australia, Thursday, March 4.—Allied planes battering a big Japanese convoy bound for New Guinea have turned the engagement into "a major disaster for the enemy," with a total of 10 enemy warships and 12 transports sunk or sinking, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

"The battle of Bismark Sea now is decided," the noon communique issued at United Nations headquarters said. "We have achieved a complete victory. The completeness was such as to assume the proportions of a major disaster for the enemy. His entire force was practically destroyed."

Credits Providence
Fifteen thousand Japanese ground troops on the vessels were drowned or killed, "almost to a man," the official announcement said, and 55 enemy planes were shot out of action Tuesday and yesterday.

"Merciful providence guided us to this victory," MacArthur commented.

The convoy included 10 warships, described in the Communique as cruisers or destroyers, escorting the 12 transports. The entire fleet represented a total tonnage of approximately 90,000 tons.

"All are sunk or sinking," the communique reported.

The big convoy, one of the largest ever sent against New Guinea by the Japanese, was sighted Monday north of New Britain Island. It was advancing behind a weather front that prevented MacArthur's American and Australian planes from attacking.

Tuesday, however, Flying Fortresses and Liberators took off through tropical storms and trapped the convoy north of Cape Gloucester, on the southwestern tip of New Britain and about 150 miles from its destination at Lae. The Japanese base on New Guinea's north coast.

Early reports had placed the size of the convoy at 14 vessels, but today's communique, based on information from late-returning pilots, put the number of enemy ships at 22.

Joined By Other Ships
It said the convoy as it was originally sighted consisted of only 14 ships, but was joined yesterday afternoon by eight other vessels.

All categories of Allied planes roared to the attack yesterday, driving blow after blow at the enemy vessels as they sought to escape, probably to Lae, the direction in which they were headed.

"Ship after ship was again and again hit with heavy blows from low altitude," the communique said. "The enemy air coverage became weaker and weaker and his forces more scattered and dispersed, and finally his remnants, isolated and bewildered, were gradually annihilated by our successive air formations as we sent them into combat."

Recorder's Court

Franklin Recorder's Court had only three cases before it Tuesday morning. All three of these were continued as follows:

T. V. Pool, operating automobile intoxicated, continued until further order.

George Washington Harris, bastardy, continued.

H. R. Preddy, trespass, continued.

Ben Nicholson of Johns Creek in Jackson County set about 10,000 pine seedlings five years ago on a steep hill above his cultivated acreage. Six inches of pine needles prevent damage to his crops from washing.

Some inventor missed a golden opportunity by failing to put cat-snip into tubes so it could be squeezed out like shaving cream.

PROGRAM AT THE LOUISBURG THEATRE

The following is the program at the Louisburg Theatre, beginning Saturday, March 6th:

Saturday—Johnny Mack Brown and Tex Ritter in 'Lone Star Trail' and Dock Foran and Grace McDonald in 'By Buddy.' Also a new chapter of 'G Men vs. The Black Dragon.'

Sunday—Monday—Fred MacMurray, Paulette Goddard and Susan Hayward in 'The Forest Rangers.'

Tuesday—Anna Neagle in 'Wings of the Woman.' Also a new chapter of Bill Elliott in 'Valley of Vanishing Men.'

Wednesday—William Holden and Susan Hayward in 'Young Saturday and 7:00 A. M. Monday, passed its final reading in the Senate on February 26. And

(Continued on Page Five)