

Considerable cloudiness today and Wednesday. Warmer today. Low today, 25; high, 42.

The Franklin Times

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(Ten Pages Today)

95th Year—Number 87



New Plant Opens Here, Produces First Chair

Firm Hires Key Local People For Training

Harold Talton, Fund Drive Chairman, has issued a request for all pledges on the Gay Products Plant construction, to be turned in immediately. He said his organization was to close out the contract this week. Much of the pledge money has already been received according to Talton, but those who made pledges and have not turned in their money are urged to do so at once.

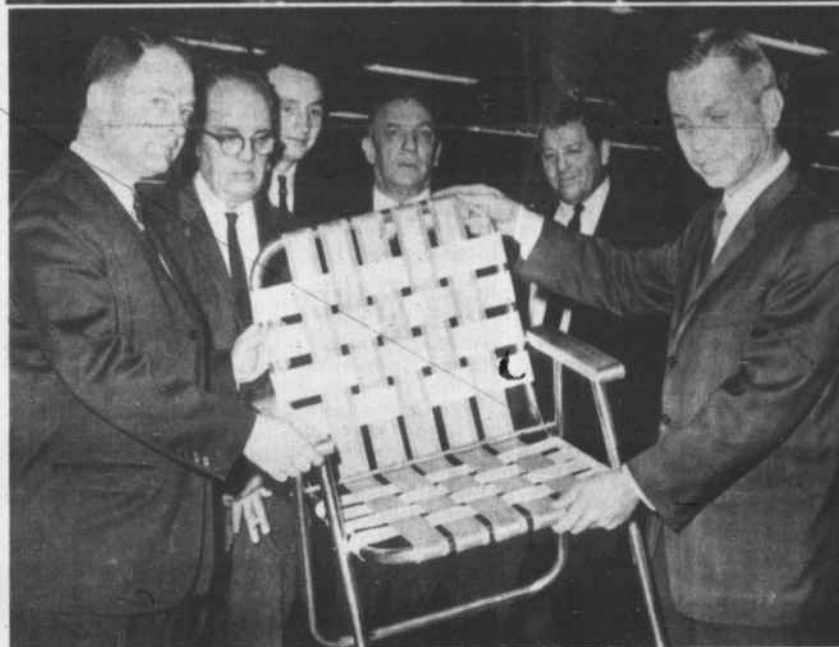
The new Gay Products Plant here is employing all local people to man their operation. Edgar Pittman, plant manager, who moved to Louisburg a few months ago from Texas, said the entire staff is to be made up of local people.

At present, the company has a training plan in operation. Pittman indicated that there would be some changes from time to time, after it is determined where an individual could do the best work. Employees received a test before being hired and have been assigned according to their test results.

Key personnel and the positions for which they are now training are Frank Rose, form-

erly a bookkeeper for Wheless Sales Co. here, now acting as Sales Coordinator and Office Manager; Darrell Perry, former National Guard official, in training for Plant Superintendent; Ralph Beasley, former Deputy Sheriff, in training for Receiving Foreman; Eugene Underhill, training for Shipping Foreman. Harold Pettry of Louisburg is Plant Maintenance Foreman and is also the tool and dye man. His assistants are: Bob Goswick and Homer Barnes. Walter Phelps is training for Production Foreman. Gay has 13 women employed at the present. Last Thursday, these 13 produced 13 chairs. The same force produced 100 chairs Friday and stepped up to 250 chairs Monday, indicating their efficiency as they learn more about the jobs assigned them.

Gay can produce 4,000 chairs in an 8-hour shift under the present set-up. Work tables and machinery are being installed to produce their lounge line. Pittman was high in his praise of the personnel thus far employed. He also spoke very favorably of being located in Louisburg.



Officials View Opening

Officials are shown above at the new Gay Products Plant here last Thursday. Top photo: Harold Talton, president of the Franklin Building Corp., left, is seen receiving a check for \$140,000 from Milton Maddox, attorney for the Small Business Administration, as a loan from the federal government to help finance the plant construction. Looking on at the ceremonies

are, left to right, Roy Workman, president of the Gay Company, W. J. Benton, County Industrial Development Director, and attorney E. F. Yarborough. Bottom photo pictures Workman, right, showing the first chair produced here to the group, left to right, Talton, Benton, Maddox, Yarborough, Plant Manager Edgar Pittman, and Workman. Staff Photos.

Check For \$140,000 Presented For Plant Construction

The new Gay Products plant west of Louisburg began operations last Thursday under the eyes of plant and local officials. The first aluminum folding chair came off the assembly line around 2 p.m. The plant will manufacture casual aluminum furniture.

Mr. Roy Workman, president of Gay Products, Inc., was on hand to see the first work turned out by the new plant. Harold Talton, president of the Franklin Building Corporation, local non-profit organization which worked on the plant project, Industrial Development Director W. J. Benton and Industrial Commission attorney Edward F. Yarborough were on hand for the start of operations, representing the local community. Mr. Milton Maddox, attorney for the Small Business Administration, was present as an interested observer. His office presented Talton a check for \$140,000.00, a loan by the Building Corporation, which aided in the financing of the new plant.

Actually, the operation is in the training stages at present, and the first chair was to dem-

onstrate to the group how the plant operates. Several pieces of machinery were not in place at the time. Some have since been put into operation.

The beginning of operations culminated a long period of work by local industrial hunters and workers. It also ended a year and a half effort on the part of the company to locate a factory in addition to the ones already established in Clearwater, Fla., and Waxahachie, Texas.

The new plant is equipped with the most modern equipment for handling the receiving, manufacturing and shipping of the products involved in its operation. A giant hoist is located at the rear of the building, where an unloading ramp will accommodate two big vans at one time for unloading.

The building is well-lighted and heated. Most of the machinery operates on compressed air which is supplied by two massive air compressors, located in a room separate from the work area. The all concrete floor makes lining up of the tables and machinery easy and the work area is well

organized.

Some last minute construction work is now being completed and the grounds are to be landscaped as soon as possible. The plant has a large parking area at the rear of the building for employees. At present operations start daily, five days a week, at 7 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m. with 30 minutes allotted for lunch with a coffee break in the morning and in the afternoon.

There is a large storage area which runs parallel to the Seaboard railroad siding from where shipments are being made to customers of the company throughout the country.

Mr. Workman said he was pleased with the way things have gone in getting the plant started here and he paid a particular compliment to those employees who were in training in the plant last Thursday. Mr. Edgar Pittman, plant manager, said Monday, "We are very happy with the people we have employed. They are interested in what they are doing and they are anxious to learn. Their willingness to work means a great deal to me."

Talton Rotary Club Man Of The Year

The Louisburg Rotary Club named John Harold Talton, 35-year-old Louisburg banker as its Man of the Year for 1964 at the annual Christmas ladies' night meeting here last Thursday night.

Talton, seventh recipient of the annual award, is a former Spring Hope mayor, coming to Louisburg in August, 1962. He took over as manager of the First-Citizens Bank here upon the retirement of the late A. E. Henderson.

The new Man of the Year was a former member of the Spring Hope Town Council, a graduate of Wake Forest College and a past President of the Lions Club at Spring Hope. He is presently a member of the

Louisburg Lions Club. Talton is a Mason, a member of the Louisburg Baptist Church and Vice Chairman of the Franklin County Industrial Development Commission.

Talton, as President of the Franklin Building Corporation, spear-headed the drive for funds to finance the building for the new Gay Products plant which got under operation here this week.

Rotary's past president, W. J. Benton, made the presentation to Talton Thursday night, stating, "The citizens of Louisburg are indeed fortunate to have as a comparatively new resident a

See TALTON Page 4



Man Of The Year

Pictured above is Harold Talton, local banking official, being presented the Louisburg Rotary Club's annual "Man of the Year" award last Thursday

night, by Rotary's past President, W. J. Benton. Mrs. Talton looks on. This is the seventh year the local club has presented the award.

College Trustee Passes

The Rev. William Albert Cade, 77, a Trustee of Louisburg College and former Raleigh District Superintendent of the Methodist Church, died last Saturday morning in Rex Hospital in Raleigh.

Funeral services were held Monday at 11:30 a.m. at Hayes Barton Methodist Church in Raleigh conducted by Rev. Dr. Paul Carruth. Burial followed in Montlawn.

He had served the Eastern Methodist Conference of North Carolina for over 50 years as superintendent for the Raleigh, Fayetteville and Wilmington districts.

He was a graduate of Trinity College and a member of the Raleigh Rotary Club, the Executives Club, the Methodist Ministers' Breakfast Club, the Raleigh Board of Missions and Church Extension.

He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. William Erwin of Columbus, Ga., and Mrs. Charles Close of Wellesley Hills, Mass.; one son, Albert Cade, Jr., of Atlanta, Ga.; two brothers, W. M. Cade of San-

ford and C. S. Cade of Fuquay Springs; three sisters, Mrs. J. L. Covington of Sanford, Mrs. Paul Abernathy of Fuquay Springs, and Mrs. J. L. Pearce of Raleigh; and eight grandchildren.

Post Office To Close Dec. 26th

Edward L. Best, Louisburg Postmaster, announced today that the post office windows will be closed Saturday, December 26, and that there will be no in-town delivery of mail. Rural routes will be served, however, and dispatches of mail will be made on regular schedule.

Best said that the order from the postal authorities "as general and that it would be in effect in all post offices in the area, according to his understanding. This would include Bunn, Franklinton, and Youngsville.

\$150,000 Fire Hits Bunn Wood Yard Sunday Morning

An early morning fire did an estimated \$150,000 in damages to the Bunn Chip and Lumber Co. near Bunn last Saturday. Willis W. Nash of Louisburg, operator of the company, said he had no idea how the fire started.

The blaze was discovered around 3:30 a.m. by Dr. Walter F. Cole, Bunn physician, while out making a call. Cole reported the fire to Bunn Fire Chief H. D. Mitchell, who in turn alerted the Bunn and Justice Fire Departments.

Nash expressed his appreciation to men of both departments for their work in bringing the blaze under control in 17 degree weather. He said,

"These men are truly dedicated to their work."

The Chip and Lumber Co. is part of the Bunn Wood Yard owned and operated by the W. W. Nash and Company, Inc. firm, and is situated a half mile east of Bunn just off N. C. Highway 58. Nash said the loss was partially covered by insurance.

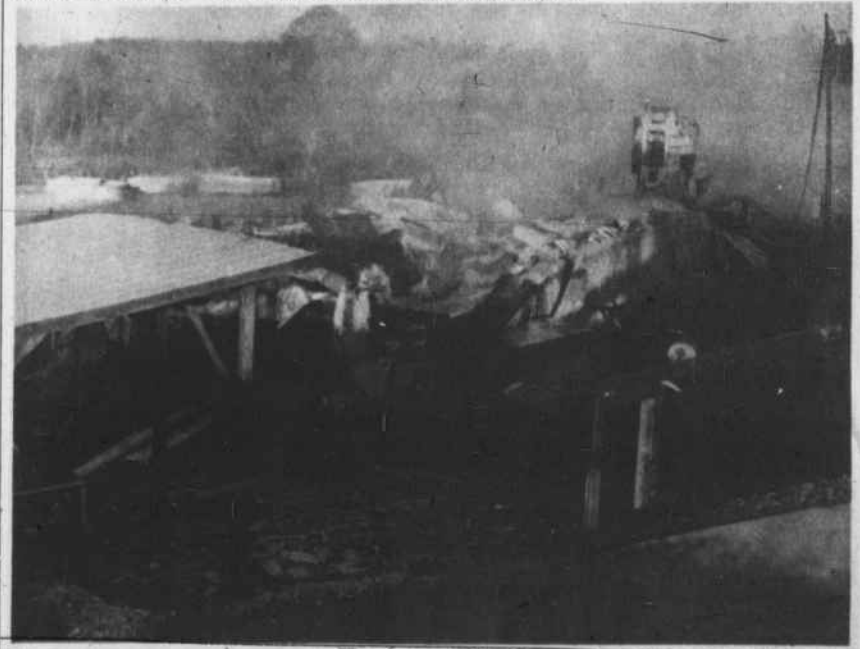
Most of the lumber on the yard was undamaged and the pulp wood operation of the firm was not halted by the fire. Some of the machinery contained in the building destroyed can be salvaged according to Nash. He said that firemen moved the hoists and lifts used to move the lumber, away from

the blaze saving damage to these machines.

Nash also said, "We had just taken over a contract which a firm in Battleboro was unable to fill due to a fire there. It was one of the largest we have had." He added, "This was the worst time it could have happened. This is our busy season."

When asked if he would build back, Nash replied, "We'll have to do something." Later, he talked of completely rearranging the structure when he does build back.

Personnel were busy Saturday clearing away the debris, which covered a wide area of the massive wood yard.



Bunn Fire

Scene above shows part of \$150,000 fire damage at Bunn Wood Yard early last Sunday morning. Origin of the blaze is undetermined. Bunn and Jus-

tice Fire Departments fought the flames in 17 degree temperature, containing the damage to the mill itself.

-Times Staff Photo.