

# The Franklin Times

Published Every Tuesday & Thursday

Serving All Of Franklin County

## Committee Plan Keeps Franklin In 2nd District

A congressional redistricting plan drafted by the North Carolina legislative committee, meeting in Raleigh Tuesday, keeps Franklin County in the Second Congressional District and maintains Representative L. H. Fountain of Tarboro as this county's congressman.

In a shuffle several years ago, Franklin County was taken out of the Fourth District of Congressman Harold Cooley of Nashville and placed in the Second. There had been much speculation that Franklin might be put back into Cooley's district.

Under the plan, yet to be approved by the General Assembly in its special session scheduled for January 10, Congressman and the Second District will gain Johnston and Granville Counties, lose Northampton, but keep Franklin, Edgecombe, Greene, Halifax, Lenoir, Vance, Warren and Wilson.

The Committee approved the plan by a vote of 14-7 before adjourning until January 3. It is expected that some changes may yet be made to the plan before it gains final approval of the legislature.

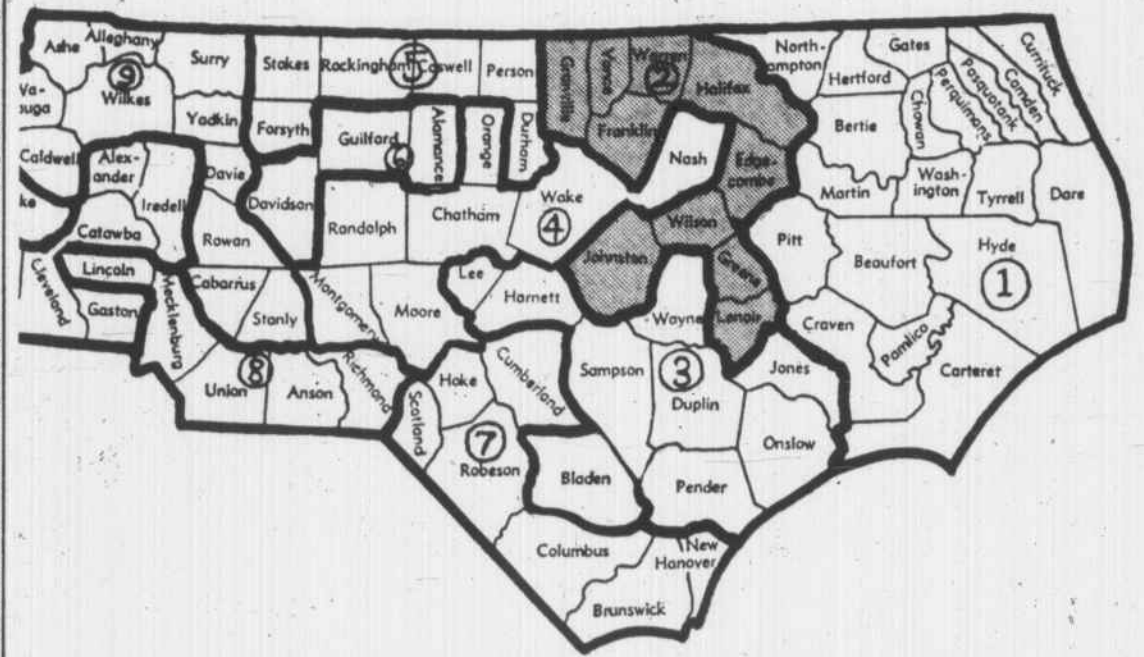
The plan establishes eleven

districts with a population variance of 2.5 percent from the norm of 414,196 per district.

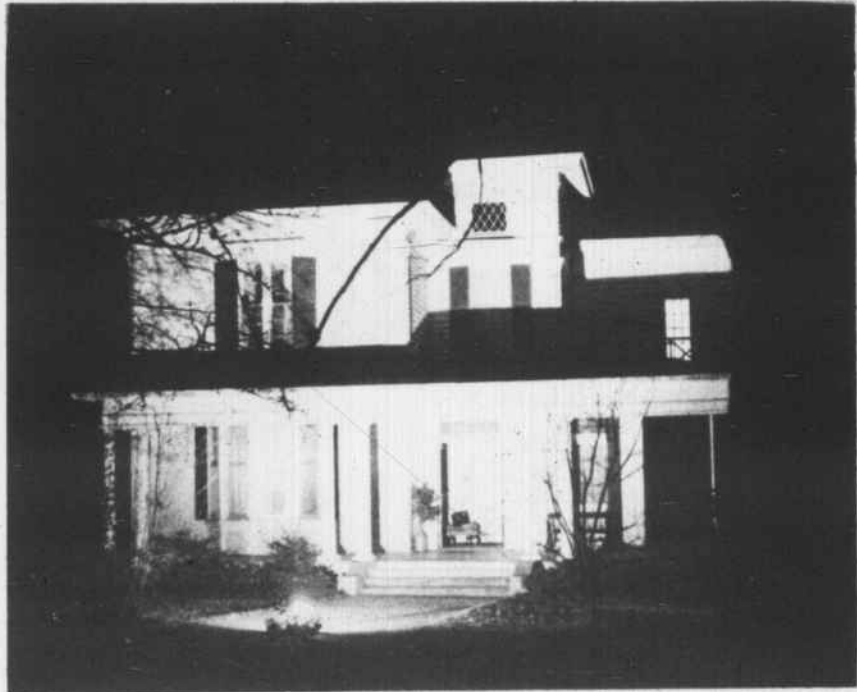
The Second District has a population of 419,239, an average of 1.25 percent.

No comment was reported from Congressman Fountain, but Congressman Cooley, who

had hoped to gain Franklin County into his district, said he felt the plan was acceptable.



The Woodrow Warrens  
Garden Club Decorations Winner



The Charlie Fords  
Garden Club Decorations Winner



The Russell Boyds  
Garden Club Decorations Winner

## Garden Club Names Christmas Decoration Contest Winners

The Civic Committee of the Louisburg Garden Club has announced the following three winners in their Home Decorating Contest for Christmas: the Charlie Ford home on North

Main Street, the Russell Boyd home on Person Street and the Woodrow Warren home on North Main.

Three prizes of shrubs will be awarded these winners. Honorable mention went to the Edward Yarborough home on North Main, the Jack Cooper home, Dickens Avenue, and the Baker Harrison home on North Main.

## Franklinton Decoration Winners Named

(Frk. BW.) The winners of the prizes for Christmas decorations in Franklinton were Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Pearce, first place; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Julian, second place; and Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Gibbs, third place. These were judged winners on Tuesday evening.

The Pearce home had Christmas lights around the doorway. On the stoop was a Santa sitting on a stool with his feet in a wash tub—his boots sitting beside the tub.

There were three Wise Men on the panels of the Julian carport. Beside the front door there was a painted nativity scene on canvas.

The Gibbs' front door was covered with red paper with a beautiful Christmas wreath.

Judges were Mrs. Cecil Capps and Mrs. Betty Gregory of Raleigh and Mrs. Wallace Tippet of Louisburg.

The Franklinton merchants sponsored the contest. Congressmen used to try to patch up bitter quarrels by passing the "peace pipe" every now and then. They don't do this anymore. The pipe keeps a congressman from talking out of both sides of his mouth.

## Mail Box Blasters Warned

Sheriff Joseph W. Champion has issued a stern warning against the use of fireworks during the Christmas holidays, particularly to the cases involving the blasting of mail boxes.

In a notice to The Franklin Times today, Sheriff Champion said, "We are having complaints, and we are investigating reports of several U. S. mail boxes being blown to pieces with fireworks. It is unlawful to have fireworks and it carries a right stiff penalty."

Referring to the mangling of mail boxes, the Sheriff said those doing so are "subject to federal indictment."

"My advice to you that have fireworks is to dispose of them at once," Sheriff Champion concluded.

## Christmas Business Reported Good Locally

Most local merchants report that the Christmas season has brought satisfactory sales records. With the farm income cut nearly 30% this year, there were some doubts that any new records would be set. Apparently, none have been.

Some local businesses began observing late hours as early as last week with practically all retail outlets staying open each night this week. This, according to one Business Association leader, has helped sales considerably.

One of the variety stores reported "nice sales increases"; however, this was credited, in part, to the fact that several new lines have been added since last year.

Clothing stores, which traditionally have their largest sales in the last week before Christmas, are doing a booming business. Most report sales a little above last year. Many of these will conduct clearance sales of winter merchandise after the Christmas holidays.

At least one grocer, enjoying a sizable increase in sales over last year, plans an inventory reduction sale immediately following the holidays.

The florists are reportedly out of some Christmas plants and designs. The post office rush has begun to ease as it usually does just prior to December 25.

Many businesses will be closed both Saturday and Monday for the holidays. Several, however, will be open on Monday. Most of these have made public announcements in their

## HEW Official Fails To Gain Answer In School Dispute On Visit Here

An official of the Office of Education was in Louisburg Tuesday conferring with local school officials on a dispute involving the admission of twenty Negro students to the schools of their choice.

Mr. John Hodgson, a native of Chicago, who calls Boston his home, spent most of the day in conference with Board Attorney E. F. Yarborough and part of the day with Superintendent of Schools Warren Smith. He conferred briefly with Times Editor Clint Fuller, vice chairman of the County Board of Education, Tuesday afternoon.

The Harvard Law School graduate was affable in his requests, the local officials said,

but no decisions were made and the present stalemate in the matter continues.

Hodgson left Raleigh-Durham Airport around 5 p.m. Tuesday to return to Washington, saying he would confer with "his people" to determine if he is to return to meet with the entire Board of Education.

In his conversation with Fuller, the Washington official said, "You are in violation of your plan," referring to the Plan of Compliance which the Board received approval on last August. Fuller inquired, "On whose interpretation?" to which Hodgson answered, "Ours."

Fuller then told the Office of Education representative, "Your interpretation of our plan is no better than our interpretation." Hodgson said, "It seems you meant one thing and wrote another," referring to the plan, to which Fuller answered, "You people approved one thing and meant another."

Hodgson was given a tour of

the Times plant and shown how a newspaper is made-up with the new offset method used here. He read an editorial which appeared in Tuesday's issue on his visit, viewing it on a negative through a light table. Fuller asked if the facts were straight, to which the young man answered, "I could take issue with some of it." Fuller jokingly replied, "I didn't ask your opinion of my opinion. I just want to know if the facts are correct." The visitor questioned the purpose of his visit being referred to as a "hearing."

Hodgson said he was interested in helping the Negro and that was why he is in this type of work. Fuller told him, "You'll get no criticism here on that statement. Our concern is with the making of a mountain out of a problem which will and can solve itself when school opens next fall."

When the official mentioned the article on his visit and that

of five other federal officials last week, Fuller told him, "Let's face it. There hasn't been a federal official in Louisburg in the past thirty years. When six come here in one week, that's news."

Fuller added, "There isn't a white man in Franklin County that could have brought six Washington officials to Louisburg in one week." Hodgson replied, "Of course not. I am here to help the Negro."

Fuller, Yarborough and Smith pointed out to the official that they and the Board of Education had worked to help the Negro and the white children alike. Fuller told the Washington official, "This Board of Education gave careful study to this plan. We did not adopt one which we could skirt around. We adopted a plan we could honestly live with and we have done so, in good faith."

Hodgson had no answer for one question posed to him by the vice chairman. Fuller asked, "Can you tell me one thing? If you people believe that we should desegregate all grades this year, why did you approve a four-grade plan? Why did you not require Freedom of Choice in all grades?"

Fuller told the young man there was nothing personal in his attitude, but he added, "We want Washington to do whatever it is you are going to do, so that we can get back to operating the schools. I didn't become a Board member to solve social problems. My interest is in the children and I am tired of negotiating everything with Washington."

Superintendent Warren Smith said, "Nothing was accomplished by Mr. Hodgson's visit. We are waiting now to hear further from him."

## Governors Christmas Greeting

In this season, Mrs. Moore and I extend our greetings to the people of North Carolina and wish for each of you the traditional joys of Christmas and the best of everything for the New Year.

Since we are confronted by armed conflict overseas and by domestic problems at home, it may not be entirely possible for all of us to have a carefree Christmas.

But since it is essentially a spiritual observance, we do wish for you and yours a Merry Christmas, and we extend prayerful wishes for a better future in the New Year.

## On Matching Basis

## Louisburg Eligible For Airport Funds

A telegram received Tuesday from Congressman L. H. Fountain, D-N. C., discloses that the federal aviation plan for the next five-year period makes Louisburg eligible to apply for funds on a matching basis for construction of a new airport.

The Federal Aviation Agency recommended Tuesday airport construction and improvements estimated to cost \$23 million in North Carolina and South Carolina.

In its annual five-year forecast of airport needs in the two states, the agency recommended new airports to be constructed in more than 27 cities

in North Carolina, and in 13 cities in South Carolina.

In addition, airports in 50 North Carolina cities would be improved and 42 in South Carolina.

The FAA said its projections are based on a predicted rise in both domestic airline passengers and in private aviation.

The recommendations for North Carolina, at a cost of \$17,167,000, include: New airports--Bryson City, Charlotte, Concord, Durham, Elkin, Erwin, Franklin, Greensboro, Henderson, High Point, Kings Mountain, Lexington, Lincolnton, Louisburg, Marshall, Monroe, Mooresville, Mount Olive, Reidsville, Roxboro, Rutherfordton, Smithfield, Tarboro, Taylorsville, Waynesville, West Jefferson, Rocky Mount-Wilson.

The County Commissioners appointed an Airport Committee several months ago to study the needs at the present facility. The text of the Congressman's telegram follows: "Under federal aviation agency five-year national airport plan, Louisburg eligible to apply for matching grants to construct new airport."