

WEATHER

Variable cloudiness with little change in temperature today and Wednesday. Low today, 58; high, 76.

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Ten Cents

Louisburg, N. C., Tuesday, September 5, 1967

(Six Pages Today)

98th Year—Number 57

Judge Denies Stay, Extends Plan Deadline



Pruitt Town Accident

Accidents Result In Injuries, But No Holiday Fatalities

North Carolina marked 25 highway fatalities during the Labor Day weekend, but Franklin County escaped the fatality list. Four persons were injured in separate accidents, one county youth was injured in a Henderson mishap and death hit near the county line as the holiday weekend came to a close.

Ten-year-old George Lee Anderson of 112 Halifax road, Louisburg received injuries of the face, hand and hip when struck when he, reportedly, darted in front of a 1961 model auto driven by Cornelius Gill, 50, of Rt. 4, Henderson. The accident occurred on Williams Street in Henderson last Friday afternoon around 4:30 p.m. The youth was taken to Maria Parham Hospital, treated and released.

A two-car accident on US-401 about half mile south of Louisburg Saturday afternoon sent two persons to the hospital. The accident, reportedly took place when two cars attempted to pass a third at the same time around 4 p.m. Carl Davis, n/m/34, Rt. 3, Box 350, Louisburg was transported to the hospital by the Louisburg Rescue Service suffering from what appeared to be lacerations and a broken leg. The 1955 Dodge he was driving was described as a total loss. A 1961 Valiant, driven by Portia Davis Barnes, an employee of the Warren school system, received slight damage and the 34-year-old Negro

woman was taken to the hospital for observation.

Sunday morning around 1 a.m. Louisburg police were called to the Mineral Springs section where a Negro man identified as Harvey Lee Davis, 30, had been struck by a hit and run driver. He was taken to the hospital by the Louisburg Rescue Service and late reports say the man is suffering from a broken back. The driver of the car has not been apprehended.

Louisburg Police officers Earl Smith and Larry Gilliam heard a horn blowing around 3 a.m. Sunday and upon investigation found an overturned vehicle at the intersection of NC-56 and the Hickory Rock Road just inside the town limits in Pruitt Town.

Robert L. Eaton, n/m/33 of 39 First Street, Hackensack, N. J. was pinned inside the vehicle and the Rescue Service was called. Suffering from severe head and face injuries, Eaton was taken to the local hospital.

Two Franklinton people were injured in a wreck at the intersection of NC-98 and NC-96 Sunday morning, which claimed the life of a Raleigh woman.

Robert Harold Person, 40, of Franklinton was reportedly driver of the car in which Novie Sue Conyers, 49, Rt. 1, Raleigh was killed. The Person car collided with a car reportedly driven by James Arthur Lynch, 24, of Winston-Salem. Lynch was lodged in a Wake County jail under \$1,000 bond for failing to stop for a stop sign and manslaughter. Robert Broadie of Franklinton and Sophie Jeffreys of Wake Forest, passengers in the Person car were also injured.



401 Crash Scene

Twenty-four teachers were assigned across racial lines and 282 Negro children were transferred to predominantly white schools last Thursday night by the Franklin County Board of Education. The action followed the denial of a petition to have the August 18 federal court order stayed by U. S. Eastern District Chief Judge Algernon L. Butler.

Board attorneys E. F. Yarborough and Charles Davis appeared earlier Thursday afternoon before Judge Butler at a

hearing in which the request was denied. Judge Butler did, however, extend the time limit on a court ordered plan for further desegregation and certain reports. The original order directed the Board to present a "plan for the assignment, at the earliest practicable date, of all students upon the basis of a unitary system of non-racial geographic attendance zones, or a plan for the consolidation of grades, or schools, or both" by October 15, 1967.

The extension granted by the court

amends this section of the order and the Board of Education must now present such a plan "thirty days after March 1, 1968 or 30 days after the filing of the decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in this cause, whichever is earlier, instead of on October 15, 1967."

Time was also extended similarly for reports on pupil-teacher ratios, pupil-classroom ratios, and per pupil expenditures both as to operating and capital improvement costs. This re-

port was also required to "outline the steps taken and the time within which they shall accomplish the equalization of such schools." This portion referred to equalizing predominantly white and Negro schools as to facilities, etc.

It was also disclosed at the meeting that all positions were filled as far as the court order required, with two Negro teachers assigned to each predominantly white school and two white teachers had been assigned to each of the county's Negro schools. Five positions were still vacant in some areas as Thursday's meeting ended.

Schools are slated to open as scheduled this week, with teachers reporting today, pupils tomorrow for a short session and the first full day slated for Thursday.

Attorneys Yarborough and Davis said Thursday night that it is expected the appeal by the Board of the court order will be heard in December by the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond. A decision by the Appeals Court could probably be made by the first of the year. The Board served notice of appeal immediately following the issuance of Judge Butler's order on Saturday August 19. The order knocked down the system's freedom of choice plan.

Work on the plan ordered by the court is expected to begin when the Board meets again on September 11. It was explained that a plan will be drawn, only after careful study, in case the Appeals Court does not overrule the plan requirement of Judge Butler.

The entire text of Judge Butler's petition denial order, issued last Thursday follows:

HAROLD DOUGLAS COPPEDGE, ET AL., Plaintiff, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, by RAMSEY CLARK, Attorney General, Plaintiff-Intervenor vs THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, A PUBLIC BODY CORPORATE, ET AL., Defendants.

ORDER

The defendants having applied to this Court for an Order staying the execution, pending final disposition of their appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, of the first two paragraphs of Part I and of the first paragraph of Part II of this Court's Order entered herein on August 17, 1967, and said application having come on for a hearing on August 31, 1967, and the Court having considered the arguments of counsel for the respective parties,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that defendants' application for a stay of the enforcement of the aforesaid provisions of said order be and it is hereby denied, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the plan to be filed by the defendants pursuant to the first sentence of Part I of said Order, and the report to be filed by the defendants pursuant to the fourth sentence of Part IV of said Order, shall each be filed thirty days after March 1, 1968 or 30 days after the filing of the decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in this cause, whichever is earlier, instead of on October 15, 1967.

ORDERED this 31st day of August,

Algernon L. Butler
CHIEF JUDGE
United States District Court

Board Denies Teacher Appeals Ordered To Report For Work Today

The Franklin County Board of Education, meeting in special session here Monday night, denied the appeals of several teachers that they not be assigned across racial lines. The Board announced its decision shortly after midnight, after hearing protests of the teachers against their assignments made last week in compliance with a federal court order.

Teachers were told that the order required at least two white teachers be assigned to Negro schools and two Negro teachers be assigned to each of the predominantly white schools. The Board labored in a lengthy session last Monday, after interviewing every teacher in the system on the subject of volunteering to cross racial lines, and made the assignments.

Monday night's meeting saw a parade of professional people come before the Board appealing their assignment and requesting to be returned to schools where they taught last year. The Board's provision of allowing teachers to teach in the schools of their choice was knocked down, along with freedom of choice for pupils, by the federal ruling of August 18 this year.

It was explained Monday night that each teacher was assigned because of his or her outstanding qualification and because the Board deemed it "in the best interest of the school system." "This is no punitive action", Board attorney E. F. Yarborough explained, "Each was chosen because the Board knew of their qualifications and felt that they were the best suited for the particular position".

Some of the teachers indicated they might resign.

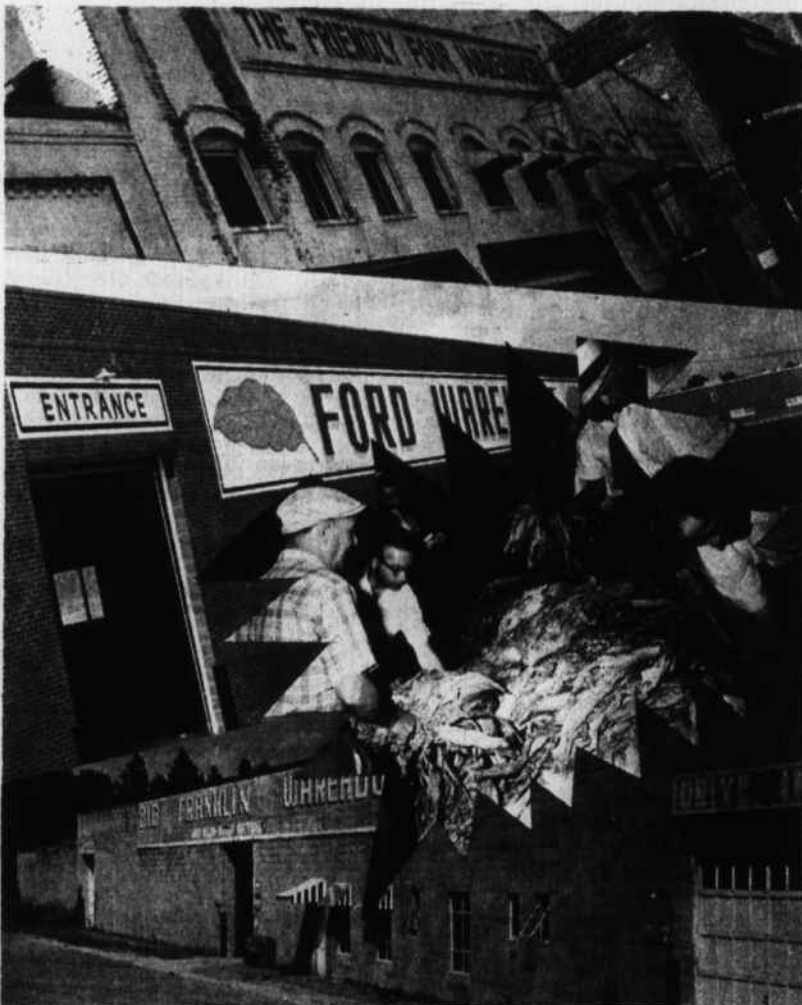
Letters from parents requesting that their children be moved back to the schools attended last year and chosen under freedom of choice this year, were read to the Board. No action was taken on these requests as the court required at least ten percent of Negro pupils in the system be transferred to predominantly white schools.

All teachers were scheduled to report to their respective schools this morning at 8 A.M. This included those whose appeals were turned down last night. No reports have been made on how many actually reported for work today. Students report for registration Wed-

nesday from 1:30 to 3:30 P.M. and begin the first of the 180-day schedule on Thursday, reporting at 8 A.M. and operating on a short schedule, with schools closing at 1 P.M. Buses will

run Wednesday and lunches will be served beginning Thursday.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Education is set for Monday, September 11.



Familiar Scene Opens

The composite picture above shows Louisburg warehouses and a tobacco auction scene which depicts the pending opening of the local markets here Thursday. Tobacco was being accepted today and a shortage of floor space has been predicted for Thursday and Friday sales. Markets, other than the Middle Belt, are observing holiday this week in order to relieve congestion at redrying plants.

ASCS Voting Is Slated

During the period from September 8 through September 19, Franklin County farmers will be voting on ASC Community Committeemen to represent them next year. The election will be held by mail with the ballots being mailed to farmers by September 8. They must be returned or postmarked no later than September 18.

Qualified voters in the election are all farmers who are eligible to take part in one or more of the farm programs which the committees administer. Lists of eligible voters in each community are available for public inspection in the ASCS county office.

The community committee the farmers elect from among their own number consists of a chairman, a vice chairman, and a third regular member, as well as two alternates. The re-

gular members of the committee also serve as delegates - and the alternates as alternate delegates - to a county convention, where farmers will be elected to fill vacancies on the ASC county committee.

Programs administered by the committees include the Agricultural Conservation Program, the Cropland Adjustment Program, acreage allotments, marketing quotas, commodity loans, the feed grain program, the voluntary wheat program, the upland cotton diversion program, the National Wool program, and farm storage facility loans. Other duties are assigned to the committees by the Secretary of Agriculture as the need arises. All farmers are urged to vote in these very important elections.

Commissioners Expected To Call For Courthouse Bond Vote

The Board of County Commissioners, meeting here today in a session delayed by the Labor Day holiday, is expected to call for a \$200,000 bond vote to raise funds for courthouse improvements.

The Board has been studying the project for several months and while no public announcements have been made, it is understood that the decision to renovate the present structure in preference to building a new one, was made some time ago.

Additional space will be needed when the new court reforms come into effect in Franklin County. Many offices are already overcrowded and with the expectation that the Franklin and Louisburg Mayor's Courts plus the new District Court will be moved into the courthouse along with other records, more space is a necessity.

No details were announced prior to today's meeting and little is known of the plans for the renovations.

Resigns As Board Clerk

Alex T. Wood, veteran Register of Deeds, today announced his resignation as Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners. Wood gave increased responsibilities in his Deeds office as his reason and asked to be relieved of his duties as secretary to the Board on January 1, 1968.

Wood stated in his letter of resignation that he had "willingly served" for many years, sixteen and one-half of which, he "willingly served without any compensation". In recent years the secretary received \$10 per meeting.

Wood cited "twenty-four laws introduced effecting the Register of Deeds office" by the recent General Assembly. In stating his reason for resigning, he said, "This duty is now consuming a considerable amount of time which I did not object to until the present, since now it is interfering with my elected responsibility as Register of Deeds".

He said he had served "to the fullest extent of my capabilities" and thanked the Board for "the many courtesies shown me while serving as Clerk...". He expressed his appreciation to the Commissioners for appropriating the funds for the rental of a Xerox copying machine for his office stating, "I am proud of the machine and I think it is one step forward for Franklin County".

In closing, Wood added, "In my opinion Franklin County is at the crossroads and with your shoulders to the wheel along with other good citizens . . . we shall go forward".

Franklinton Schools Open

(Frk.B.W.) Supt. R. B. Gordon reports that the schools in Franklinton had a very good beginning. There was a complete faculty at both schools on opening day.

Enrollment at Franklinton High is 667 and at B. F. Person-Albion 532. Because of the farm situation, the enrollment is low.

No short schedule is being observed in the Franklinton Schools.

New teachers at Franklinton High are Mrs. Betty Beamen (first grade), Mrs. Mary Long Green (first grade), Mrs. Sarah G. Daniel (first grade), Mrs. Electa R. Hardy (fifth grade), Mrs. Jacqueline Shelton (fifth grade), Mrs. Marion O'Quinn (eighth grade), Mr. James E. Parks, Jr. (eighth grade), Mrs. Jane Wilder (ninth grade-social studies & English), Mr. Carl Grod (Introduction to Vocations & Diversified Education), Mrs. Ruth W. Martin (Commercial courses), Mr. Charles Blackwelder (Social Studies & Physical Ed.), Mr. Luther Harrison (Science, Physics and Chemistry).