

WEATHER

Variable cloudiness and a little warmer today and Wednesday. Low today, 54; high, 74.

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Ten Cents

Louisburg, N. C., Tuesday, September 12, 1967

(Eight Pages Today)

98th Year—Number 59



Train-Car Crash Scene

Staff photo by Clint Fuller.

Members of the Louisburg Rescue Service are shown above loading Sidney Beckham, an employee of Dean Farms, into the ambulance following the collision

Saturday morning of his car with the Seaboard Railway train, left. Beckham was not believed seriously hurt, but damage to the car was extensive.

Twenty-One Injured In Auto Mishaps

At least twenty-one persons were injured, mostly minor, in automobile accidents during the weekend. Two others were gunshot victims and one was reportedly a knife victim.

Saturday, shortly after 1 P.M. Sidney Beckham, an employee of Dean

Farms, and a resident of White Level, received minor injuries when the car he was driving was struck by a Seaboard Railway freight train at a crossing near the egg plant. The car suffered considerable damage. Beckham was taken to the local hospital by

the Louisburg Rescue Service and later released. Rain-slick road and the possible fact that Beckham failed to see the train in time were said to have been the cause of the accident.

An accident near Franklinton Saturday afternoon around 3:30 P.M. involving an unidentified woman, and her six children and 91-year old mother resulted in minor injuries to them. Details of this accident were not available.

Saturday night, a single car accident on NC-39 between Louisburg and Bunn resulted in injuries to at least one person. A Negro man, identified only as a Trader of Rt. 4 Louisburg was given first aid by the Louisburg Rescue Service and taken to Franklin Memorial Hospital. Rain-slick highways was said to have caused this accident.

Saturday night around 11:10 P.M. a grinding head-on crash on South Main Street just outside the Louisburg town limits, resulted in injuries to four Negroes and possibly a fifth, who ran from the scene. The Louisburg Rescue Service, in a down-pour of rain, transported the injured to the local hospital. They were identified as: James Curtis Toney n/m/20; of Louisburg driver of one of the cars; Frank Silver, n/m/20; Robert Silver, n/m/22 and Robert Alston, n/m/28 passengers in the Toney car and Charlie Perry, n/m/28 Rt. 1 Louisburg driver of the second car. Perry was charged with reckless driving and both the Silver men were charged with public drunkenness by officers.

A two-car collision NC-56 west of Louisburg near Katesville, Sunday afternoon resulted in injuries to six Negroes. According to State Trooper Houston the accident occurred when a car driven by George Williams n/m/44 Rt. 4 Louisburg attempted to turn off NC-39 and was struck in the rear by a 1959 Chevrolet driven by Jarvis Evans, n/m/46 Rt. 1, Louisburg.

Katherine Strickland, n/t/17 and Constance Kearney, n/t/13, both of 1006 S. Main Street, Louisburg, passengers in the Evans car received minor injuries. Helen Falls, n/t/31 Rt. 1, Louisburg, and Betsy Williams, n/t Rt. 4, Louisburg passengers in the Williams car were also injured. None were believed serious.

Details of two gunshot victims were not readily available, but one was identified by hospital personnel as Herbert Williams of Rt. 4, Louisburg brought in around 2:30 A.M. Sunday morning, treated and released for leg

wounds. A second, identified as Otha Strickland, Rt. 4, Louisburg Negro was also reportedly treated for leg wounds around midnight Saturday night.

Victim of a knifing was not identified and no details were available although reports of one such incident were heard.

In other incidents, Norman Perry n/m/59 of the Bunn Road was taken to Franklin Memorial Hospital late Sunday afternoon suffering from what was described as a diabetic coma. The local Rescue Service answered this call and several others in recent days to aid persons reported to be ill.

A barn on the Dick Collie farm in Cedar Rock was destroyed by fire early Sunday night, but details on the loss were not reported.

Ask Return To Negro Schools

Request By Parents Denied By School Board

A request by parents of 32 Negro pupils to have their children placed back into Negro schools, according to their free choice earlier this year, was denied here Monday by the Franklin County Board of Education.

A letter from Linwood Peoples, attorney in the Henderson law firm of Allen and Peoples, stated that he represented the parents and asked that the Board transfer 32 students back to Negro schools and out of the predominantly white schools to which they had been assigned under federal court order.

Peoples letter states: "My clients, in the spring of 1967, executed a Freedom of Choice instrument setting out the schools which they and their children desire to attend and both the parents and children did not wish to go to the schools which the Franklin County Board of Education has now assigned them."

The Board is prohibited by the court order, from disclosing the names of the parents or students or the schools mentioned in the letter.

"On behalf of my clients, we request that the school board re-assign these

Market Averages \$68.01 For First Three Days

The Louisburg Tobacco Market, swamped with tobacco today, reported this morning through Sales Supervisor William Boone that sales thus far have reached 1,132,832 pounds. This represents sales on opening day, last Thursday, Friday and Monday. The sales brought \$770,488.38 for an average of 68.01 for the first three days.

Boone reported this morning that sales today are "going good" and that prices are climbing. He said all warehouses were filled. Long lines of truck-loaded tobacco can be seen at each of the three local warehouses as growers attempt to get the leaf onto the warehouse floor for sale.

See Editorial Page 4

Discontent heightened Friday night in the tobacco crisis as leaders from major Eastern North Carolina leaf producing counties met at Wilson to map strategy to fight tumbling prices for better quality tobacco.

Their meeting was prefaced by another meeting in Raleigh Friday afternoon by directors of the Stabilization Corporation to discuss congestion that has prompted a tobacco holiday.

Opening date for flue-cured tobacco markets of the North Carolina-Virginia Old Belt was postponed Monday night from Tuesday, September 19, to Monday, September 25.

Spokesmen for several tobacco companies said they would be unable to staff Old Belt markets with adequate buying power to the later date because buyers still would be busy on markets Carolina Belt.

For the first 10 days that tobacco is sold in the Old Belt, markets will be on a schedule of five hours a day, as has been the case in other belts.

The industry committee voted unanimously to reduce auctions in South Carolina to 2 1/2 hours a day per

set of buyers starting Wednesday, with the same reduction to be made in the Border North Carolina Belt five sales days later, or September 20.

The U. S. flue-cured tobacco production forecast for 1967 was raised Monday to 1,280.4 million pounds, up 23.3 million from a month ago.

The Federal-State Crop Reporting Service said a crop of this size, if it materializes, would be 172.3 million pounds larger than the 1966 production.

Type 11 production in the Old and Middle Belts was set at 411.2 million pounds, up 9.3 million from the August estimate and 34.2 million larger than in 1966.

The harvest in the big Eastern North Carolina Type 12 Belt was estimated at 413.7 million pounds, an increase of 9.85 million from last months forecast.

Production of Type 13 leaf in the South Carolina-Border North Carolina Belt was set at 276.8 million, some 2.7 million higher than the August estimate.

Board Names Ambulance Committee

The Board, upon motion of Commissioner Faulkner, seconded by Commissioner George Harris, approved and recorded in the minute book, a motion to purchase a new boiler for the county jail at a cost of \$1,126.51. The Board had ordered the boiler to be purchased in a meeting here last Tuesday, but failed to record the action.

Advertisement for bids on a new boiler for the courthouse was authorized. The Board had previously accepted a bid on the boiler, although it had not been ordered. The Board discovered that, in expenditures of the amount expected for the boiler, sealed bids were necessary.

The Board accepted a list of overdue tax accounts and ordered the annual tax settlement which closes the books and turned over to the tax collector all delinquent accounts.

The Board meets for the third time this month next Monday at 3:30 P.M. to open bids on the courthouse boiler.

See Editorial Page 4

The County Commissioners, meeting in special session here last Thursday night, named four local men to a committee to study ambulance service for the county, in the event operators discontinue the service under new regulations expected soon from the State Health Department.

Indications are that all private ambulance operators in the county will discontinue the service by the first of the year.

Named to the committee were: Asher Johnson, Jr., WYRN radio news director; Dr. John Vasse, President of the county Medical Society, M. M. Person, Jr., Administrator of Franklin Memorial Hospital and Norwood E. Faulkner, a member of the Board of Commissioners.

Editor Speaks To Epsom Lions

From The Henderson Daily Dispatch

Clint Fuller, managing editor of the Franklin Times, whose newspaper was presented the nation's top award by the National Newspaper Association for community service, was featured speaker to the Epsom Lions club at that group's regular meeting Thursday night.

Members convened in the fellowship hall of Liberty Vance United Church of Christ for the session with Osman Gerrard presiding.

Serving as program chairman was Nelson Falkner, who introduced the speaker. Fuller's subject dealt with road improvement and primary road funds in Franklin county.

The speaker emphasized that neither he nor his newspaper claim credit for bringing road improvements to Franklin county. However, he does lay claim to the fact that the newspaper made an effort to point out the needs and necessity of action by officials.

When the newspaper began the series of articles on the needs of improved roads in the county in June of 1966, the county had received less than

\$1 million in primary road funds during the preceding 29 years. Since the completion of the series last December, Franklin county has received or been promised approximately \$1,375,000.

Other statistics regarding funds received for road purposes by the county, the number of roads there, and the amount of traffic on highways in the county were read.

Fuller added that whether a community is working toward road improvement, better school systems, or any other project of benefit to its citizens, it is necessary for citizens to accept positions of leadership and speak out for their rights.

During the business hour, plans were made for the upcoming pancake sale which the club will sponsor. Also, members of the board of directors will attend a meeting at the Plantation Inn in Raleigh September 11. Kenneth Fuller reported on the club's assistance to the Boys' home and of a Youth Exchange program to which Lions are giving their support.



Four Injured

Shown above are two cars involved in a head-on collision on South Main Street here late Saturday night. Five Negroes were injured in the accident, none believed seriously. Charlie Perry n/m/28, Rt. 1 Louisburg, driver of the car, (top), was charged with reckless driving and two of the occupants of the Ford (lower photo) were charged with public drunkenness.

Enrollment Up, Attendance Normal In County Schools

Enrollment in Franklin County schools climbed considerably last Friday and Monday following the opening last Thursday. Attendance was well below enrollment in most schools Monday, but school officials described this as normal for this time of year.

The Board of Education, meeting in a delayed regular monthly session here Monday, ordered attendance counselors to start normal checking procedures next week to determine why children, exercising a choice or assigned under the federal court order, had not shown up at schools. The Board had previously designated the first seven days of school be operated on short schedule with absences being excused due to the tobacco harvest. The short schedule ends Friday, September 15. Full schedules begin next Monday. Figures released by the Board Monday show that 5,370 students have been enrolled during the first three days of

Supt. Warren Smith reports this morning's attendance in all schools in the county shows a noticeable increase over that of Monday. Of the 328 Negro students assigned to predominantly white schools, 309 are enrolled today.

school. Based on free choice applications, the Board had earlier expected 5,855 students to be enrolled. This figure, it was explained, is subject to adjustment with some children moving from the system and others coming in late. Last Thursday's enrollment was announced at 4,762.

Under order of the U. S. Eastern District Court, ten percent of the Negro students, were assigned to predominantly white schools for the school year. Last Thursday, 249 of the 2330 Negroes enrolled attended integrated schools. Friday, 263 of

5,079 enrolled attended predominantly white schools. Monday, 231 of 2418 enrolled attended these schools.

The Board had announced earlier that 3,280 Negro students were expected to enroll, based on figures at the time, and transferred 282 of these to predominantly white schools in order to meet the 328 ten percent mark.

Monday's announced enrollment of all students exceeds that of the third day last year when 4,862 had enrolled. The 4,787 present on Monday in the system schools far exceeds the 4,037 for the same day last year.

Schools officials termed this year's enrollment and attendance as normal. Total enrollment of 5,370 Monday compared favorably with the same day in 1966 when 5,695 were enrolled and in 1964 when 5,295 were enrolled. In other Board actions Monday, fundraising projects in the schools and school treasurers were approved.