

## WEATHER

Mostly sunny and warm today and Wednesday. Generally fair and cool tonight. Low today, 60; high, 85.

# The Franklin Times

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Ten Cents

Louisburg, N. C., Tuesday, September 19, 1967

(Eight Pages Today)

98th Year—Number 61

## Homes In County Hit

Sheriff William T. Dement reported that two homes in the county were entered in the past few days and that both robberies are about solved.

A 25-year old Negro laborer and ex-convict is being sought in connection with the robbery of the home of Louisburg College Athletic Director Russell Frazier in Harris Township sometime during the weekend.

A .22 rifle, some frozen food and between \$25 and \$30 in cash were reportedly taken from the Frazier home. Most of the stolen goods have been recovered and a warrant for Leroy Reese, charging breaking and entering and larceny has been issued. The man is believed to have fled the state.

Around \$300 was stolen from the home of Jarvis Carlyle, below Pilot last night. Dement reported that his department has recovered part of the money and that an arrest is expected today in the case.

## Driving Course To Be Held At Franklinton

(Frk. B. W.) The Franklinton Rescue Squad held its regular meeting at the Fire House on Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock, with A. J. Perkinson presiding.

The Squad, along with local Woman's Club and Lions Club, will sponsor a Defensive Driving Course on November 7, 9, 14 and 16 from 7:30 P.M.-9:30 P.M. at the Town Hall. Plans were made for ten members of the Rescue Squad to take the course or be responsible for 10 people to enroll in the classes.

In order to purchase equipment, the Rescue Squad has First Aid Kits on sale. The members have the kits available for sale.

## Following Council Meet

## Some Get Raises, Some Do Not

The Louisburg Town Council, meeting here last Friday night, passed a motion, which according to reports was in approval of recommendations of a three-man salary committee. However, reliable sources have said the motion as passed, was not the original recommendation of the committee.

The proposal called for salary increases for all town employees, ranging from \$2 to \$10 weekly, except town office personnel, firemen and four of the seven-member police force.

The police chief was recently granted a raise in pay, a veteran officer was made assistant chief and given an increase in salary and the newest member of the force was given an increase. Four other members were not included in the action passed by the Council last week. None of the three paid firemen were included.

None of those excluded have made any statements on the matter publicly, but dissension is being noticed.

Town sanitation personnel went out on strike a few weeks ago, holding out for more pay. Three of those

## Road Runners Flee, Leaving Their Booze Behind Them

Last Thursday was a bad night for booze and for road runners. Officers captured over 200 gallons of the former but lost two of the latter.

State Trooper James Byrd, making a routine check of a pick-up truck on the Pocomoke Road three miles west of Franklinton, grabbed 174 gallons of illegal whiskey but lost the driver when he scampered into the nearby woods.

Louisburg police officers Larry Gilliam and Earl Smith, also making

routine checks, noted a 1961 model Pontiac failed to dim lights on the Bickett Boulevard by-pass and gave chase. Officers also noticed that the back end of the car was heavily loaded. The chase ended, thirty miles later when the car quit on NC-56 after a chase which took officers into Nash County and back into Franklin.

The driver also escaped by running into nearby woods. Both incidents are being investigated.

## Governor Offers State Aid To County Authorities

County school officials said today that they have received no word from Governor Dan K. Moore on his published statements that he would offer Franklin County assistance in tracking down alleged nightriders in the shooting, last Wednesday night, into the homes of two Negro families in the county.

Sheriff William T. Dement was called last Wednesday night around 9:15 P.M. to the home of Rev. Luther Coppedge in the Justice Community, following what was described as a shotgun blast into the Coppedge home. An outdoor light was shot out at the home of Herbert Patterson on the River Road, three miles east of Louisburg at about the same time.

Dement and deputy sheriff Dave Batten are investigating the incidents and SBI and FBI agents have visited the scene of the Coppedge shooting.

Rev. Coppedge was one of eleven Negro plaintiffs who charged the County Board of Education with discrimination and, following a two-year court case, the freedom of choice plan was knocked out last month by the court.

Governor Moore issued a statement, which appeared in last Friday's daily

newspapers to the effect that he was pledging state resources to the county. The Governor stated, "If anyone believes he has demonstrated courage, intelligence or devotion to any principle by firing into the homes of others, while he himself is hidden under the cloak of darkness, he is either a fool, an unthinking fanatic or a vicious thug, or all three combined. The state will lend every assistance to Franklin County authorities in this situation."

Sheriff Dement said his department is continuing the investigation into both incidents. He said, this morning, there was nothing new to report concerning his investigation.

## Market Prices Steady

Prices on the Louisburg Tobacco Market held steady on sales last Thursday and Monday. William Boone, Sales Supervisor, reported the market sold on the two-day period, 776,202 pounds for \$504,585.64. The average for the two-day sales was \$65.09.

This is slightly lower than the average for Tuesday and Wednesday of last week when the average was \$65.78. Average for opening day and the following two days was listed at \$68.01.

Flue-cured tobacco prices were unchanged to slightly higher Monday on the North Carolina Middle Belt, stronger on the Eastern North Carolina Belt and generally firm on South Carolina-Border North Carolina markets.

The Federal - State market News Service said most grade averages on the Eastern Belt made gains ranging from \$1 to \$3 per hundred pounds over Thursday's levels. Many variegated leaf and smoking leaf grades rebounded strongly and were up \$2 to \$5 per hundred.

Quality of marketings improved on the Eastern Belt as sales contained a smaller proportion of nondescript grades. More smoking leaf and lugs also were on the floors.

On the Border Belt, about two-thirds of the grade averages showed variations from prices paid last Thursday. Tied grades on the Border Belt were

## Board Acts To Set Up Bond Election

The Board of County Commissioners, meeting here in special session Monday afternoon, approved a motion to apply to the Local Government Commission for permission to call a \$200,000 County Courthouse Bond election. On motion of Commissioner Richard Cash and seconded by Commissioner George Harris, procedures were set in motion for a public hearing on October 2, and a vote on November 25. The bonds would finance expansion of the current courthouse facilities, mainly in preparation for the coming new court regulations in 1968.

In connection with the calling of an election, differences between the board or some members and Clerk of Court Ralph Knott were uncovered. Knott appeared before the board requesting that a letter, which he presented to each individual member, be made a part of the minutes.

The letter explained that the responsibility for providing adequate space for county officials rests with the commissioners and that Knott understood that a bond vote was to be called. "I have been informed that one or more of you gentlemen have publicly made the statement that I, among other county officials, have been instrumental in persuading you to call for the bond election," Knott stated in the letter.

"It has also come to my attention that the board would not have called the bond election had it not been for the insistence of myself and several other officials of the county," Knott said.

"I want to state here and now," Knott's letter said, "that I have not and am not requesting you to call for a bond election for courthouse improvement. I do, however, respectfully request you gentlemen to provide my office with adequate space in order that the citizens of our county can receive the kind of service they deserve."

As the board members, minus Commissioner Brooks Young, who was absent, read the letter, Knott began to explain his reason for writing it. He said, "I am not going to be the brunt of this thing. I am not going to have the bond issue put on me."

Faulkner, in reference to Knott's claim that some of the members of the board had tried to place the reason for the bond issue on him, said, "If I did this sin, put my name in there. I haven't even been to town...to anybody."

Knott added, "I don't want it to be said that I'm the cause of you calling

generally bringing \$1 and \$2 more than untied. Quality of offerings improved as less nondescript was on the warehouse floors. Volume of sales continued extremely heavy. Price support for untied tobacco was not available on South Carolina markets except for Loris and Mullins.

On the Middle Belt, gains were chiefly \$1 and \$2 per hundred. Quality of marketings improved as larger percentage of better grades was offered. Sales consisted principally of fair and low grades of leaf and lugs and low smoking leaf.

## Court Clerk, Board Members Have Words

one," in reference to the election. Cash, at this point, said, "I said it looked like you wrote that editorial in the paper." The reference was to an editorial in last week's Franklin Times in which Editor Clint Fuller called on the commissioners to support the bond issue if they called one. Fuller, present at the meeting, told Commissioner Cash, "I can assure you that nobody writes my editorial but me."

As Knott continued his explanation, Commissioner Harris stated, "As far as I am concerned, you didn't worry me" into calling for a bond vote.

"This letter simply sets out my position and I would like for it to be made a part of the record. This is county business and I am a county official and I think it should be placed in the minute book," Knott said.

Faulkner said he had no objections to the letter being placed in the record. Cash stated "It'll be alright to put in the minutes that Ralph Knott appeared before this Board and approved the bond election. We can't put 4,000 in there." Cash, just before the meeting closed shortly before 7 P.M., seconded Faulkner's motion to make the letter a part of the minutes.

At one point, radio news director Asher Johnson told Knott, "Give me a copy and I'll make it a public record."

## Joins Law Firm

Neill Archibald Jennings, Jr. of Lumberton was sworn in as a member of the bar this morning by Resident Superior Court Judge Hamilton H. Hobgood.

Jennings has joined the Louisburg law firm of Yarborough, Blanchard, Tucker and Yarborough.

The Jennings will reside in Louisburg and Mrs. Jennings will be associated with the county welfare department.

## Small Group Attends Union Rally Here

Thirty persons attended a rally here Thursday night of the Amalgamated Clothiers Workers of America, held in the county courthouse. One report said that of these only eighteen were employees of the Sportswear plant here. The firm employs some over 200 people.

The rally, publicized by handbills last week, was called to explain the union's position in the current effort to gain an election at the local plant. The ACWA is attempting to become the bargaining agent for Sportswear employees.

A union official, identified as Rachel Barnes, told the group that usual procedure in cases of this sort call for an election 21 days after a petition is granted. The union asked for the election in a hearing held here August 23. The official said she expected to hear "any day" that the election had been granted.

Knott said, in reference to the commissioner referred to in his letter, "The man knows who he is. I don't have to point my finger at him." Cash stated, "I, for one, don't appreciate your coming back here and putting pressure on us."

To this Knott replied, "Whether you appreciate it or not, if I ever have anything to say to you, I always come back here and say it to you."

After the Clerk had left the room and after lengthy discussion, the Board agreed to place the letter in the minute book.

In the late stages of the meeting, an informal discussion of the bond issue took place and Times Editor Clint Fuller, after being reminded of his editorial, asked the four Commissioners present if they intended to support the bond issue now that they had, in effect, called one.

"I intend to support it fully. I do not intend to support a farce. If you, the leaders of this county are going to lead and back this move you have taken, it can pass," Fuller said. Each of the Commissioners said they would support it. Commissioner Harris stated, "If everybody doesn't get together, it isn't going to get across." Cash said he would support it "100 per cent". Faulkner said he would not have voted to call the election if he did not intend to support it. The Chairman E. M. Sykes did not make any statement, but indicated that he will support the issue. Young was not present.

Lonnie R. Shuping, local CPA was called before the Board to discuss checking in procedures of the county deputy tax collector and stated that the audit of the tax department, as prepared by him, did not cover outside collections by the collector, but showed only that moneys turned in to the tax office were accounted for.

## Editor Is Tarheel Of The Week

Times' Managing Editor Clint Fuller was featured as Tarheel of the Week in Sunday's issue of the Raleigh News and Observer. The article, written by Charles Craven, Staff Writer, with a photograph by Lou Krasky, gave a biography of Fuller and told of his efforts to draw attention to read needs in Franklin County.

Fuller was quoted as saying, "We don't claim to have brought road improvements to our county, but we do claim to have brought attention to our needs."

The article said that Fuller is not the "prototype of a small town newspaper editor." He looks and acts like a working newspaperman: possessing the necessary measure of sophistication, a world of practicality and a tough shrewdness," Craven wrote. He added, that Fuller, "won't let a wrong go unnoticed."

Several of Fuller's editorials were quoted in the article, including remarks on the General Assembly's actions in "making everything in sight" a university and a more recent reference by Fuller to the County Commissioners not putting everything in the minute book.

Craven wrote that due to Fuller's interest in "varied views of an issue,"

there appeared at times, on his editorial page, columns written by "purveyors of a kind of die-hard, radical reaction." He added, "But the paper's editorials themselves have the mark of reason."

Fuller's literary style was referred to as "airy" and "lucid" and his editorial manner was described as "hard-hitting" and "piquant." Craven wrote that Fuller had brought Franklin County, "better roads, a sharper awareness of public issues, and a lively and searching newspaper."

The feature page article also referred to Fuller's service as a member of the County Board of Education and quoted the editor as saying, "It's a thing that concerns us all" in relation to recent desegregation moves in the county.

Craven said, "And in final summation, qualities of intelligence, education, talent and ambition got Clint Fuller what he wanted—a place in the sun of North Carolina journalism."

The article also mentioned that Fuller was selected Man of the Year in 1966 and was awarded the top spot in editorial writing by the North Carolina Press Association last January and that his newspaper was named number one in the country in community service by the National Newspaper Association.



Cheerleaders Toss Footballs  
SEE FOOTBALL STORY PAGE 8

Featured speaker at the rally was another union official, identified as Eula Gill. She spoke of her experience with unions and management and referred to Sportswear as Campus, which she explained was the parent company.

She said in her 35 years experience as union representative, "We settle our grievances, for the most part, in a fair and equitable way."

She said it was the purpose of a union to promote better wages and better working conditions. She compared the union as an organization, with the Medical Society, the Bar, and the Chamber of Commerce.

In speaking of management she stated, "They want to keep you down while they get taller." She also asked the group, "Have we made any promises?" And answered her question by saying, "We have made no promises. We have only pointed out what other workers have gotten through their union."

"Choice of a strike," she said, "is yours." "On strike our members are supported financially, and I mean supported financially—all bills are paid," she added.

A third ACWA official addressed the gathering briefly. He was identified as Wilbur Reynolds and said he would be visiting most of those present, later in their homes.

The hearing, held here, last month before Miss Clara Whiteside, federal NLRB hearing officer, was to determine which of the employees at the local plant would be allowed to vote in an election. It is understood that the granting of an election is almost a certainty in cases where petitions are properly filed. At that time, Miss Whiteside told The Franklin Times, the decision by the regional director of the National Labor Relations Board, would probably be forthcoming within one to two weeks following a September 5 deadline for further filings by the plant. The two-week period ends today.

Some criticism was voiced by opponents of the unionization of local workers, last week of the Board of County Commissioners for granting use of the courthouse for the rally.

Some criticism was voiced at the County Commissioners, last week, by opponents of the union for allowing the rally to be held in the courthouse. Opponents disclosed that the Town of Louisburg had denied use of the Armory for the meeting, however town officials have not given any public statement on the matter.