

WEATHER

Cloudy with a chance of rain and not so warm today. Friday, variable cloudiness and moderate temperatures. Low today, 52; high, 65.

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Bank Bandits Still Free



Scene Near Seven Paths Where Hallowe'en Bandits Abandoned Car

Stranger Asks Ride To Wilson As Seach Continues

Two middle-aged Negro men, who robbed the Bunn branch of First Citizens Bank and Trust Company of \$23,224 Tuesday morning, are still at large as local, state and federal officers continue their search for the pair.

The trail drew cold Tuesday night, heated again Wednesday and by nightfall was again stalemated.

"TAKE ME TO WILSON?"

A stranger, fitting the description of one of the bandits, approached a Seven Paths Negro home early Wednesday morning and offered Tommy Neal, twenty dollars to take him to Wilson. According to reliable reports the man was wearing muddy clothing and asked Neal, "Will this take me to Wilson?" as he flashed a twenty-dollar bill. Told by Neal that it would not and that he could not take him, the man walked off. He has not been seen since.

It was also reported by reliable sources that the same man or one fitting the same description had earlier approached another Negro in the community seeking a ride. The first man approached was identified as C.P. Sykes, who was in Virginia on the tobacco market later in the day Wednesday.

Officers were informed of the incidents but would make no comments on the disclosure Wednesday.

Meantime, a Bunn Negro who is said to live in Maryland much of the time, was picked up again on Wednesday for further questioning. According to reliable reports, Mack Brock, who was parked behind the abandoned house where the bandits wrecked the getaway car Tuesday morning, was questioned again Wednesday. He had been quizzed extensively Tuesday by officers.

While in the process of placing the money into a cloth bag, two customers entered the bank. Lazarus Hartsfield, Bunn Negro, and Charlie Jeffries were ordered into the bank vault and Andrews and Mrs. Strickland were also told to get inside the vault. The robbers attempted to lock the four inside, but they failed. As soon as the pair left the bank, Andrews called the FBI and the Franklin Sheriff's department.

As the holdup men left the bank in a 1962 black Chevrolet Sports coupe, they hit the rear of a late model car belonging to Glenn Mitchell, operator of an insurance agency next to the bank. Mitchell, hearing the noise, stepped onto the street in time to see the car turn onto the Seven Paths highway. He ran across the street to inform Bunn Police Chief Tom Powell, and together with Powell gave chase.

BORROWED CAR

Four miles from Bunn, the car made a U-turn in the midst of a dirt road and headed back toward the Powell car. When Powell also made a U-turn, the driver of the getaway car either failed to see the officer or did not recognize the vehicle as a police car. The black Chevrolet turned into a seldom used dirt drive leading up to an abandoned farm house. Powell gave chase and as he turned into the back yard of the house, he spotted a white 1964 Chevrolet, later reported to belong to Joseph Nickolson, a teacher at Getsemane School at Bunn. Brock stated that he had borrowed the car, according to reports.

While Powell was explaining to Brock that he was not to leave the area, the two men in the getaway car had wrecked in a nearby field and taken afloot through high weeds into the nearby woods.

Powell, of course, was unaware that the pair had held up the bank and was giving chase on what he believed to be a hit-and-run incident. He heard of the robbery while at the escape scene via his police radio.

The alarm brought agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the State Bureau of Investigation, Bunn prison guards, state troopers and local law enforcement officials to the Bunn area for a massive manhunt which lasted throughout Tuesday night and into Wednesday.

Wednesday's activities, however, were believed to have been limited to small scale touring of the roads in the area and to questioning as far away as Louisburg in search for clues to the identity of the pair or their location.

LID ON INFORMATION

None of the officers, local, state or federal were talking Wednesday and the lid seems to have been placed on information on the conduct of the investigation.

A side incident brought more sorrow to Mrs. Strickland, already somewhat shaken by the day's events. She was informed that her two-year-old son had suffered a broken leg while playing Tuesday. Mrs. Helen Jones, another bank employee who was the victim of last May 16 holdup, was absent when the latest robbery took place.

Charles Eilers Williams, a 20-year-old Columbia, S. C. Negro is serving a 15-year sentence in federal prison for the May 16 stickup of the Bunn branch bank. He escaped a dragnet of officers searching the exact same area and was later picked up between Franklinton and Wilton, following a tip by a drive-in theater ticket seller. Williams dropped some over \$8,000 in making his escape just off the main street of Bunn.

GUN, GLOVES, NAPKIN

The Halloween bandits wore green army fatigue coveralls and the clothing was found in the abandoned car and in a nearby field. A .38 caliber German luger was also found, loaded, on the front seat of the car. Gloves and a linen napkin were also found in the vicinity. The bandits wore white handkerchiefs across their faces as masks. Andrews described them as being in their forties.

The search is continuing this morning with no new developments disclosed.

Veteran Fireman Resigns

Veteran full time fire department engineer Karl Pernel has disclosed that he is resigning the post he has held for several years to accept another position. Pernel states in his letter of resignation, addressed to Fire Chief R. G. Person and Town Administrator E. S. Ford, that "An opportunity has presented itself to me that I find it impossible to refuse in fairness to myself and to my family."

While Pernel does not disclose in his letter the nature of his new position, it is reliably reported that he will accept a position as mail carrier for the post office.

He thanked the two men to whom the letter was addressed, members of the town council, members of the Louisburg fire department, Mayor V. A. Peoples and other town workers for "unfailing good-will and cooperation."

He also stated that he would apply for membership in the fire department as a volunteer and hoped to be accepted. Pernel has been employed in capacity of a fulltime fireman for the past twelve years.

Union Files Objections To Election

Unfair Practices Claimed

Objections to the conduct of the October 12 elections at the Louisburg Sportswear plant have been filed by the attorney for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union of America with the National Labor Relations Board. In the election held here the Union lost by a vote of 121 to 39.

The Union charges in its objections that "the employer granted its employees a wage increase in accordance with a promise of a wage increase made by the employer on or about July 24, 1967 in a speech following an anti-union speech made on or about July 21, 1967."

It also charges that the company promised an increase in hospitalization benefits and did on or about August 4 give such an increase.

One of the major complaints in the Unions objections hits at local businessmen, merchants and the local newspaper. The objection states: "On October 11 a dinner meeting was conducted for the employees by a group of local businessmen and merchants who opposed the unionization of the plant." The employer's supervisors told employees to attend this meeting. The meeting was attended by approximately

150 employees. At the meeting the film *And Women Must Weep* was shown to the employees."

The filing, signed by Patricia E. Eames, Assistant General Counsel for the Union, contends that, "The employer campaign was intertwined with a local businessmen's campaign in which furtive threats of plant closing were made by individual businessmen to individual employees and the public inuendo of plant closing made by the local newspaper . . . so polluted the atmosphere that the holding of a free and fair election was rendered impossible."

Miss Eames also charged that notices posted in the plant and mailed to employees against the union were objectionable as were "brainwashing" of employees by employer's agents during the period.

It is also charged that "The thrust and focus of the entire employer campaign . . . was that a vote for the union was a vote for violence and strikes . . ."

A public hearing will be held in the courthouse on December 4, when a review of the charges will be made by officials of the NLRB to determine a basis in fact from the things charged.

The Union is also charging unfair labor practices against the company and these charges will also be aired at the December hearing. Among these unfair labor practices are charges that Jerry Costa, plant official, announced a pay hike; Sam Vick, Jr., plant manager, promised increased hospitalization benefits; and that two employees were fired on June 14 and refused reinstatement by the plant officials.

The charge states that Eleanor B. Rice and Linda F. Rich were "discharged and (respondents) thereafter

See UNIONS Page 4

Mother Hears Son In Vietnam OK

A Louisburg mother has received the welcomed news that her son is recovering in a American hospital in Vietnam following injuries received in combat there.

Mrs. Ann J. Lancaster, 105 Tan Street here, received a telegram from Marine Corp General Wallace M. Greene which informed the mother that, "Your son PFC Paul B. Wrenn, Jr. USMC, was injured 16 October 1967 in the vicinity of Quang Tri, Republic of Vietnam. He sustained gas asphyxiation when tear gas was thrown into hostile positions while participating in an operation."

The wire continued, "His condition and prognosis were good. He is presently receiving treatment at the Third

Man Shoots Self

Franklin Sheriff William T. Dement reported this morning that a 47-year-old Franklinton, Route 2 Negro man shot himself in the mouth with a .12 gauge shotgun this morning around 10 a.m.

Dement said that Simmie Cooper was brought to Franklin Memorial Hospital by the Franklinton Rescue Service and was later transferred to Duke Hospital at Durham. The shooting took place at the home of Cooper's sister, according to the Sheriff.

Bond To Lecture

Dr. Richmond P. Bond, Kenan Professor English at UNC at Chapel Hill and Professor in Residence at Louisburg College this semester, will deliver the first in his series of lectures on the 18th century literature on Monday evening, November 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the College Auditorium.

An authority in this field of English literature, Dr. Bond has written widely in national publications and has had seven books published.

The lectures are open to the public at no charge.

Other lectures will be held Monday, November 13; Monday, November 20; Wednesday, November 29. All lectures will be at 7:30 p.m.

Miss Johnson In Who's Who

A Louisburg journalist, business-woman and College faculty member has been listed in the "Who's Who of American Women." Miss Elizabeth Johnson, head of the College math department and editor-business manager of The Franklin Times, is listed in the fifth edition of the publication which is described as a biographical dictionary of notable living women of the United States and other countries.

Miss Johnson, daughter of the late Asher Frank and Sarah Thomas Johnson, is a native of Louisburg. She received a liberal arts diploma from Louisburg College; A. B. and M. A. degrees in math from the University of North Carolina; and has done post graduate studies at Duke University and Wake Forest College (University).

She has taught in public schools at Stem, Piney Grove, Gold Sand, Wadesboro, Thomasville and Louisburg. She joined the faculty at Louisburg College in 1945 and became head of the math department in 1950. She became editor-business manager of The Franklin Times in 1952.

Miss Johnson has been active in Easter Seal campaigns, served on the Cancer Society Committee, worked with Girl Scouts and is a member of the John Motley Morehead Scholarship Committee. She is also a member of the Governor's Youth Fitness Committee, is active in the Episcopal Church here, having served in numerous positions, including Sunday school teacher and Director of College Work.

She is past president of the Louisburg Branch of the American Association of

University Women and has served as state parliamentarian. She is also past president of the local American Legion Auxiliary, and of Xi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, and a member of the Elisha Mitchell Science Society, and Phi Theta Kappa.

In her limited spare time, Miss Johnson enjoys canning, knitting, baking and general homemaking. Most of her day is filled with class schedules at the College and business duties at the newspaper office.



ELIZABETH JOHNSON

Scout Drive

Mrs. Lucille M. Romero, Secretary for The Franklin County Industrial Development Commission, has been named chairman of the Girl Scout Fund Drive scheduled to open November 13th through November 17th throughout the Louisburg Area, it was announced today by the Pines of Carolina Girl Scout Council.

Volunteer workers, under the leadership of Mrs. Romero, will seek funds to continue and expand Scout activities for girls from seven to seventeen years old in this area.

"I have accepted chairmanship of this campaign with pride," Mrs. Romero said; "because I know that the program offered to the Girl Scouts in our town will help them to become better citizens at home, in their community and in the world." Mrs. Romero went on to explain that the funds contributed to this campaign will be used to bring better scouting to more girls. The launching of the up-dated program for the Girl Scouts of the 'sixties requires additional training for some 2,000 Girl Scout Volunteers in our council.

"Through Girl Scouting," Mrs. Romero affirmed, "our girls can enjoy wholesome recreation, make new friends, learn practical skills, and develop healthy attitudes that will help determine the direction their lives will take." "The theme of the finance campaign for our Girl Scouts is "Service . . . A Girl Scout Promise." Will you make a promise to help them serve?"



SBI Agent W. F. Crocker Checks Stolen Car Used In Bunn Bank Holdup