

# The Franklin Times

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Tuesday, November 21, 1967

## LOCAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

### Thanksgiving Lesson

It was 347 years ago this month that the Pilgrims arrived off Cape Cod after two months of the stormy Atlantic in the small and heavily-loaded *Mayflower*. Under terms ordained by their creditors, they were obliged to undertake a communal form of organization, and to establish a joint stock. Various troubles and unforeseen expenses, including a false start and abandonment of the *Speedwell* when she proved unseaworthy, had substantially increased their borrowings from the speculators who financed the colonizing. The Pilgrims were heavily in debt.

After exploring the Cape for a suitable site, but before landing, the 41 adult male passengers signed the famous "Mayflower Compact," providing for the enactment of laws, and promising "all due Submission and Obedience." They landed at Plymouth on December 21, 1620. During the remainder of that winter and the next, the Pilgrims followed the terms imposed by their creditors, with everything owned in common and put into a "common store." By the end of the winter of 1621-22, more than half of the colony had died of starvation and illness accentuated by malnutrition.

Then, in the words of Governor Brad-

ford, "that they might still thus not languish in misery," it was decided that, "they should set corn every man for his own particular." Every family was assigned a parcel of land, to till and to harvest.

"This," the Governor wrote, "made all hands very industrious, so as much more corn was planted than otherwise would have been."

From the bumper harvest the Pilgrims arranged a bountiful Thanksgiving, and gave thanks not only for their material blessings, but also for the system which produced it, and gave them dignity and well-being.

Each of the separate colonies later adopted the New England custom, and the first President, George Washington, at the request of both Houses of Congress, issued the first national Thanksgiving Proclamation on October 3, 1789.

Let it be remembered on Thanksgiving Day this year, and in every other year of Our Lord, that the custom began because a system was changed—from collectivism to private enterprise. And let us rejoice and give thanks that our nation learned so early the merits of a system which "made all hands very industrious."

## WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

Editor's Note: Cpl. Gray, born in Wake County, was reared in Franklin County at the site of Gray's Pond in Sandy Creek. The section was named for his late father, Alvin C. Gray, who operated a mill for many years. His mother, Mrs. Minnie Gray, still lives at the homeplace with a daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. George M. Raynor. The

Trooper attended Gold Sand High School and is married to the former Velma Gilliam, also of the Gray's Pond section. They have one son, A. C. (Butch) Gray, a star athlete at Henderson High School. Recently promoted to Corporal, Trooper Gray has been transferred to Lenior, N. C. after twenty years service at Henderson.

## Memories Of A Tough Cop

By: Cpl. A. C. Gray  
North Carolina State Highway Patrol

I have just celebrated my 20th years as a traffic officer . . . I have many memories, pleasant memories of joyful occasions, happy outings and above all my many friends.

But, I also have horrible memories of terrible incidents . . . the unpleasant duty of delivering death messages, the broken homes, the weeping of mourners in our churches, the moans of the dying on the highways.

I remember walking among the dead along the railroad tracks, with an arm in my hand, searching among the bodies to find one with a missing arm . . . an upturned face in the roadway and the rest of the body a distance away . . . cutting torches sparkling in the night, cutting the twisted metal away from mangled bodies . . . playing with a two-year-old girl in my home on Sunday and seeing her in her coffin on Wednesday . . . searching the roadside after a wreck and finding the upturned face of a 17-year-old boy in the beam of my flashlight, his body down in the ditch . . . pulling six teenagers from the wrecked, half-submerged

vehicle in the tailwaters of Lake Lucy, four dead and two crippled for life . . . two small boys sitting on the shoulder of the road crying, blood and tears streaming down their face, their father lying on one side of them dead and their mother on the other side dying.

I remember standing in the center of the roadway crying, the body of a little four-year-old girl in my arms, her golden hair flowing in the wind, her blood running down and dripping off the end of my elbows. Yes, six feet and 200 pounds of TOUGH COP crying unashamedly and I looked up to God and I prayed, "Oh, Lord have mercy."

These horrible incidents, all true, and many, many others, did not happen on battlefields of far-off lands. They happened within a few miles of the City of Henderson . . . Here in North Carolina.

YOU, THE PEOPLE, ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN STOP IT! WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT IN OUR FIGHT FOR SAFER HIGHWAYS!

## CAP

(Continued from Page 1)

plans for the mission with the Louisburg squadron, The North Carolina Wing CAP Headquarters, located in Charlotte was represented by Capt. James W. Botsford, who served as communications officer for the mission.

Major A.C. Fair of Warrenton, commander of the Henderson unit, served as flight line officer for the project and Major Eddie Clayton of Warrenton served as operations officer.

Forest Poystress of Louisburg and Sgt. Peter Eggmann of Raleigh along with Shearon, Gupton and other members of the Franklin County unit were cited by officials for their work in the success of the project.

The exercise was opened at 8 A.M. Sunday with services conducted by CAP Chaplain Major Gordon E. Allen, pastor of Plank's Chapel Methodist Church. The mission got underway around 9 A.M. Some CAP members were on hand Saturday in preparation for the Sunday event.

Capt. Brigham said he was highly pleased that all units of Group VII were represented and termed the ex-

ercise "a highly successful mission".

"The search for small private aircraft is the most common of the CAP's aerial search mission", explains 2nd Lt. Lelia C. Brigham, Information Officer of Group VII, "The mission was an orientation to the National Guard pilots and observers on the procedures used in aerial search. The Civil Air Patrol conducts over 75 per cent of all aerial searches in the United States".

## Lions

(Continued from Page 1)

Chevron and Certificates to Rev. E.M. Carter, A.E. Hall, J.K. Tharrington, S.E. Tharrington, F.C. Winston and J.T. Allen.

Receiving fifteen year, Old Monarch Chevron and Certificates were E. J. Pearce, J.W. Weathers, Jr. and L.A. Woodlief.

Receiving ten year, Old Monarch Chevron and Certificates were James T. Moss, W. Marvin Roberts and G. Dewey Wiggins.

About the most flattering thing we can say about our enemies is that we know where they stand.—Douglas Meador

## LBJ

### Signs Crime Law

President Johnson has signed into a law a bill making it a crime to obstruct a federal criminal investigation through bribery, intimidation, force or threat of force. The impact of the law is aimed at organized crime and underworld racketeers.

### On Tire Standards

Under the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966, the government has announced the first two tire safety standards. After January 1st all tires must be tested for strength and all cars made after March 31st must indicate recommended tire size and load capacity.

### Opposes Draft Plan

Justice Department officials have reported opposition to a suggestion by Lt. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, head of the Selective Service System, to induct protestors who violate the draft law. The suggestion was aimed at college students interfering with military recruiting officers.

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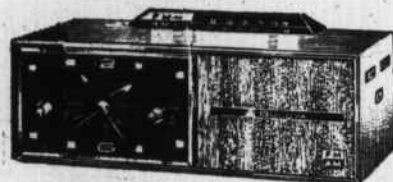
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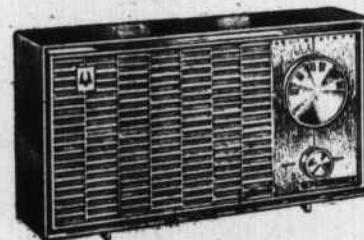
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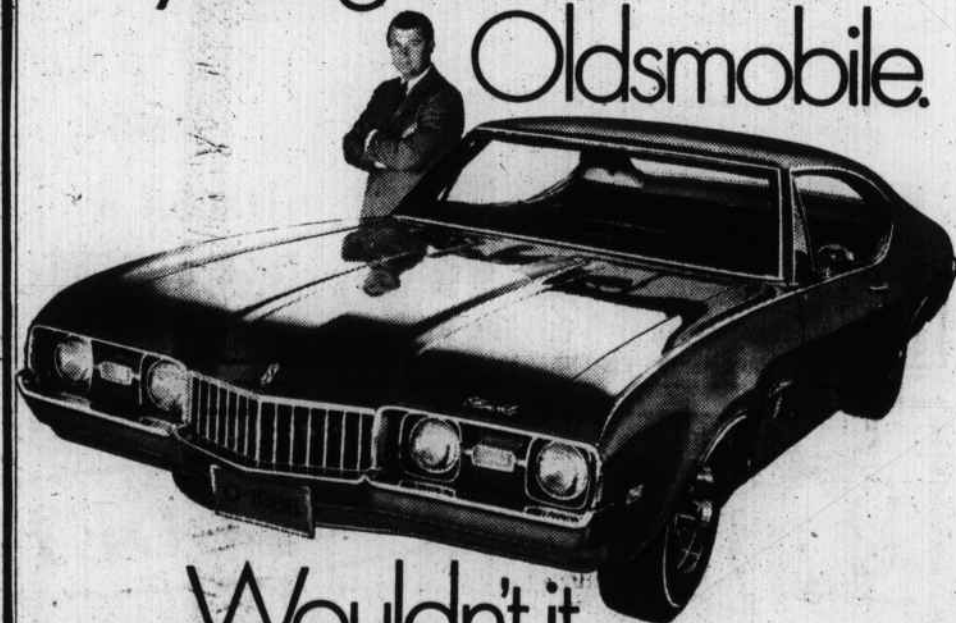
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