

# "They Crowned Kerr And Mary's Boy Friday"

They crowned Kerr and Mary's boy last Friday. Young Robert was made Governor of all of North Carolina... including Hardee country. That top hat they crowned him with didn't do much for him... but through it all, most folks were looking at his little daughter Jan anyway. Them that missed seeing young Robert in the smokestack, needn't bother to go back for a look... Jessie Ray has done burned that thing up now. Robert wanted to make a milking stool out of it. It'd been good for that.

Robert rode down to Raleigh in one of them shiny, silver Patrol cars. The driver even opened and closed the door for him as if big and rugged young Robert was some kind of helpless or something. He'd been used to opening his own doors in Hawfields. But when you're about to be crowned there's certain things you have to put up with. It's a sure bet nobody stopped that wagon to check driver's licenses.

Robert and Jessie Ray had to put up with a whole lot of carryings-on the

night before. They had to dance in front a whole bunch of folks... but they made out just fine. Son Kerr did the best. He had to start the thing. Better watch that younkin. In about twenty years from now he might ascend to the throne. Of course, this might not work out. Pat Taylor might not have his boy ready by then.

At the big doing, Miss Mary sat on the front row with her grandchildren. She showed more sense than the whole bunch put together when she rode in a convertible with the top up. And she flatly refused to sit out in the cold to watch a bunch of fatigued-clad soldiers. Don't think she was much interested in all them short-suited majorettes, either.

Of course, it coulda been that she was sick to death of her boy's new sideburns. We didn't like them either... but that don't matter. He ain't our boy. The auditorium was full. Mostly they were wheels there... and a few newsmen and several hundred photographers. I'd have loved to had the film concession. Lawrence Woffard

walked around looking important. He's with the News and Observer... and that makes him different from everybody else. A. C. Snow looked as mean as ever and that's pretty mean. Could help wondering what'd happen if these two ever spoke to anybody



By Frank Count

not employed by the Danieles.

Sam Beard was there to keep the N and O boys honest. There was all kinds of dignitaries. If you didn't know them... they looked like people. One lady left her purse on the chair up on the stage. This showed some of them acted like people, too.

We do more swearing in a new county commissioner than was done for the members of the Council of State. They just got up, were sworn, and sat down again. The least somebody could have done was to have played Dixie for Thad Eure.

There was a bunch of governors there. South Carolina sent one. Virginia sent one. Delaware sent a half-governor and Tennessee sent a Commissioner of something. North Carolina was the best represented. Luther was there and so was Terry and Dan... and naturally Robert. We could have near-bout staffed the whole South with governors. Might have been an improvement, too. Terry was the only one that didn't wear a hat. He was the only one just getting over pneumonia. He must have enjoyed it.

They told everybody to stay in the Auditorium until they got through shooting the Governor... 19 times, they said they were going to fire at him. The wheels didn't think they meant them... so they left. The newsmen knew they didn't mean them... so they left. The only one who stayed inside was Earl Vaughn and he's the one that suggested it in the first place.

Outside... when that cold air hit us... we all wished we'd listened to him. The newly-sworn were loaded in convertibles... with the tops down. That took real planning. They ought to lock up the nut that planned open convertibles for a day such as that in January. He's dangerous. He might plan something else like it. Get him first, we always say.

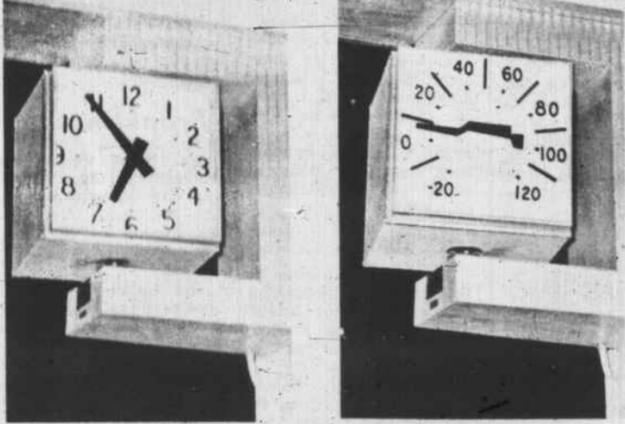
The wheels were having a bit of trouble remembering everybody's first name as several thousands stopped by the cars. It was easy. There they sat wedged in the back seat with the top down. There won't nothing they could do but smile... and I guarantee you there was a whole lot of frozen tonsils.

Everybody rushed north up Fayetteville Street. You couldn't go south. Nobody wanted to. All the action was up north.

A drill team from State College threw rifles at each other while waiting for young Robert to arrive. Nobody seen them. Mainly because there was a handful of majorettes jumping up and down nearby. Some folks thought they were jumping to keep up with the band. This wasn't exactly true. They

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### Monday Coldest Of Year

Monday was the coldest day since February 12, 1968, according to records here at The Times office, supplied by Louisburg weatherman G. O. Kennedy. The thermometer read six degrees Monday morning. Last February it went down to five degrees.

Sunday's reading of nine degrees was the previous low for this year and for this winter. Today's low reading is a torrid 24 degrees.

The lowest temperatures in recent years is one degree recorded here on December 13, 1960 and February 1, 1965. The lowest on record here at The Times office occurred in the winter of 1917-18 when the thermometer dipped to ten degrees below zero. The lowest recorded in recent years was the one below on December 11, 1958 when the area received 7 1/2 inches of snow.

Other recent lows as reported by Kennedy include three degrees on January 11, 1963, and January 29, 1963; four degrees on January 22, 1961; five degrees on January 18, 1965 and six degrees on January 16, 1964 and January 31, 1966.

### Two County Youths Get Air Academy Appointments



BILLY JOHNSON



STEPHEN MEDLIN

Congressman L. H. Fountain announced last week the nomination of two Franklin County youths to compete for admission to the Air Force Academy. The youngsters are William (Billy) Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Sidney Johnson of Franklinton and Stephen Boyce Medlin, son of Mrs. Winnie C. Medlin, Rt. 2, Louisburg.

Johnson, a senior at Franklinton High School, is a former student at Louisburg High School, attending here until 1961. He has played basketball and football at Franklinton for three years and played baseball two years.

He is presently serving on the staff of the school annual and the school newspaper, "The Charger". He is secretary of the Beta Club, both at Franklinton and in the county organization. He was recipient of the Chemistry Award last year and also served as a marshal. He is a member of the Franklinton Methodist Church where he serves as president of the MYF.

Medlin, a senior at Edward Best High School, was a member of the basketball team and the baseball team for three years. He is secretary-treasurer of the Beta Club and has

served as president of his freshman class and vice president of his sophomore class. He is a member of the Library Club and has served as Librarian. He is a member of the Monogram Club, the Glee Club and served as Chief Marshal last year.

Medlin, 17, is president of the Student-Teacher's Co-Operative Association and has served as secretary of the unit. He received an award for his outstanding performance on his NEDT test in 1965 and 1966. He is the son of the late W. H. Medlin, Jr., who was a veteran of World War II. He is a member of the White Level Baptist Church where he serves as an usher.

### Banking To Be Discussed

"Banking is a business homemakers need to know more about," says Mrs. Bernice S. Harris, Associate Home Economics Extension Agent. This is the purpose of the meeting to be held January 8, 1969, at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Agricultural Building in Louisburg.

### LHS Senior Gets Award

Phyllis Kerley of Louisburg High School has been cited as one of the outstanding high school students of English in the country. The National Council of Teachers of English has named her a 1968 national runner-up in its annual Achievement Awards competition.

Last spring a committee of English teachers from the high school nominated Miss Kerley to represent Louisburg High School in the competition. The nation's schools nominated almost 8,500 students for the NCTE citation. Of that number, only 800 finalists were chosen. They represent over 600 schools from 50 states, the District of Columbia, and American Preparatory Schools abroad.

In announcing the winners, Robert F. Hogan, Executive Secretary of the National Council of Teachers of English, stated that the Council recommends these students for college scholarships in 1969. The names of these students are sent to every college and university admissions officer in the country. In previous years 99% of the Awards winners entered the college of their choice. Approximately 80% of those applying for scholarships received financial aid.

The NCTE sends to all winners and runners-up scrolls of recognition and it honors their high school English department with certificates of merit.

Mrs. Rena C. Bland and Mrs. Jewel Bartholomew have been Phyllis' English instructors at Louisburg High School. Phyllis' parents are Mr. and Mrs. Philip W. Kerley of Route 1, Louisburg. Mrs. Kerley teaches science at Edward Best.

Phyllis presently plans to study medicine at Duke University, upon graduation from high school.

### Bunn To Vote On Water Bonds

The Franklin County Industrial Development Commission announced today that at the Bunn Town Council meeting held last night, the bond ordinance and election resolution for the Bunn Municipal water project was approved.

The following is a calendar of the various steps to be taken up to, and including, the election: January 9 and 16th - Publication of the bond ordinance and notice of election. January 18 - Opening of the registration books. February 1 - Closing of the registration books. February 8 - Challenge Day. February 15 - Election Day. February 17 - Canvassing of election returns by the Board of Commissioners.

When a favorable vote is received by the electorate of Bunn, the final hurdle will have been scaled towards qualifying for the Economic Development Administration loan and grant for this project.

### Rites Held For George Weaver

Funeral services were held today at 11 A.M. for George W. Weaver, 75, prominent retired Louisburg salesman, who died Sunday. Services were conducted from Lancaster Funeral Home Chapel by Rev. Norwood Jones, pastor of the Louisburg Methodist Church. Burial followed in Oakwood cemetery here.

Mr. Weaver is survived by his wife, Mrs. Louise Taylor Weaver; one son, Dr. George K. Weaver of Concord and four grandchildren.

## Hospital Requests Curtailment Of Visitors County Staggers Under Impact Of Flu Epidemic

Franklin County staggers today under what has been termed a "very definite epidemic" of the Hong Kong flu. Dr. J. B. Wheelless, County Health Director, reported this morning that the bug continues to "rage" in the county. "If anything, it's getting worse," he said.

Meanwhile, M. M. Person, administrator of Franklin Memorial Hospital, issues a plea for all visitors to stay away from the hospital except in extreme emergencies. He said the local medical facility is completely filled and that the steady flow of visitors is endangering not only the patient's welfare and that of the visitor, but has become a threat to the health of the hospital personnel. He pointed out that a number of hospital employees are absent, suffering from the flu.

Person also said that if volunteer curtailment of visitations is not made, more intense action will be necessary. He indicated that he is hesitant to ban all visitors, although he stressed the urgency of the public staying away from the hospital during this time.

69 out Monday and 57 today. Bunn dropped from 123 Monday to 77 today. Epsom had 70 absent Monday and Gold Sand Elementary reported 31 out today.

Teachers, too, have been hard hit. Nine were reported out of the six schools checked Monday and seven are absent today in the five checked. Louisburg had seven teachers absent last Friday, three Monday and two today.

One local tractor dealership reported

ed four absentees Monday, all suffering from the flu, and many other businesses are stricken with absenteeism during this period.

Three of the five members of the Board of County Commissioners are ill. Two have what is believed to be the flu.

Across the country, over 3,600 persons have died with what was termed flu complications. A number of local people have had pneumonia, but thus far, no deaths have been reported in the county as a direct result of the flu bug.

### Flu Hampers Board Meeting

Two County Commissioners were absent for the regular session here Monday and a third asked that the meeting be adjourned so that he could enter the hospital with what he described as the flu. County Commissioner E. M. Sykes was reported suffering with the bug. Commissioner George Harris was kept in with a lingering illness and Commissioner Brooks Young, acting chairman, called the meeting to a halt Monday afternoon saying he thought he had the flu.

The Board received the host of regular monthly reports and approved

the payment of bills in the morning session and heard a report from the engineers on a study made of a water plan for the county in the afternoon session.

Hospital administrator M. M. Person presented Board members copies of the annual hospital audit and said he was pleased to report the institution was operating on a financially sound basis at present.

Several orders of business were postponed until the full Board could be present and another meeting was set for Friday afternoon at 2 P.M.

Dr. Wheelless reported that his information indicates that the "peak" will not be reached until around the 15th of February. Asked what advice he had for those trying to avoid the bug, he replied, "Stay away from crowds. Stay at home as much as possible."

Local doctors are reporting at least a double patient load every day. One said, "Everybody walking in has the Hong Kong flu." Dr. Wheelless stated there is no vaccine available in the entire county and said medical officials are estimating that some 30 million Americans will have had the disease before it's over.

Superintendent of Schools Warren Smith reports that of six schools "spot checked" Monday, 550 students were absent, most suffering with the flu. He said that 14 percent of the students in the schools checked were absent and that it is assumed the absences are due to the flu virus. If this figure is projected to the some 5300 students in the system, there were over 700 children stricken Monday. Smith also reported that nine teachers were absent in the six schools.

The bug has apparently let up in the schools today, however. Smith's office report of five schools spot checked early this morning shows a decline. At Louisburg High School, 150 students were absent Monday and 103 are absent today. Edward Best High School had 71 out Monday and only 48 today. Gold Sand High School reported



Receives Award

Mrs. Lucille Ford of the local Farmers Home Administration office is shown above as she received a Certificate of Appreciation Incentive Award here last week. Making the presentation is Mr. Paul Parks, FHA District Supervisor. Mrs. Ford has been with the agency for 32 years and the citation was presented for "sustained superior work during the period July 1, 1965 through November 14, 1968". A cash award was also made to Mrs. Ford.

Staff Photo by Clint Fuller.