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(Six Pages Today)

100th Year-Number 13



Now You See It---



---Now You Don't

(See More Pictures Page 6)

Blast Busts Buzzing Backwoods Booze Business

The business was buzzing as seen above in left photo, when local and federal law enforcement officers spotted the going enterprise last Thursday morning in the backwoods of what was described as the Seven Paths area of Franklin County. Without a compass, it was hard to tell just where in relation to other parts of the county it was located. The buzzing, as well as the business came to a scurrilous halt a short time later as those same officers

blasted the booze, mash, stock and barrels to smithereens. Scratch one local business venture.

Two local officers had spotted the operation early Thursday morning. Just how they happened to be strolling through that particular part of the forest remains a trade secret. But they were there and there went back. With reinforcements in place, the raid was begun. One white man was stopped on

his way from work and one Negro helper managed to beat the quitting-time traffic and made good his getaway.

A third plant employee was away at the time having a pump-necessary to the successful operation-repaired. Probably aware that quitting time had come while he was away, he did not

choose to return to the plant. It was just as well. By that time, the plant was gone.

With it went five 480-gallon capacity submarine type stills, one 280-gallon capacity job, 1600 gallons of mash, 204-plastic milk-carton containers of non-taxpaid liquor and eight 100-gallon propane gas tanks. To say

nothing of assorted other goodies.

In on the raid were federal officers Mike Zetts and Don Devaney and Franklin Sheriff William T. Dement and Deputies Dave Batten, Leroy Terrell and Lloyd Gupton-on his day off.

Arrested at the site was Charles Orlando Collier, 34, of Rocky Mount.

Zetts and Dement placed the dynamite, ran up the hill like a couple of sprinters and waited for the boom. Some booms came. Some did not.

Then Zetts returned-after a respectful wait-placed more of the blasters, again maneuvered up the hill, breathing harder this trip, stood behind a large tree and waited. This time, the boom boomed and the business busted.

There's a moral to the story somewhere. It may be that one should never bury a busy booze business in the backwoods. Especially where law officers take a walk.

By Clint Fuller
Times Managing Editor

Mrs. O'Neal To Seek Re-Election

Mrs. Breattie C. O'Neal, lone woman on the Louisburg Town Council and leading vote getter in 1967, has announced she will seek a third term on the board.

Mrs. O'Neal, owner-operator of O'Neal Pharmacy here, has been a member of the Council since 1965. In announcing that she has filed, Mrs. O'Neal said, "I have enjoyed this phase of public service and will attempt another term on the Council if this is the wishes of the voters. I feel that city government is a slow but continuing process and I would like to continue to help programs for the future that will be of value to our townspeople and the county."



Mrs. O'Neal is a native of Johnston County but has been a resident of Louisburg for many years. She is the widow of the late F. L. (Simie) O'Neal, who was a prominent druggist here for many years. She has been active in the civic and social life of Louisburg, having held a number of responsible positions in clubs and other organizations.

Mrs. O'Neal is the fourth to file for the Council and fifth to file for the May 6 elections. Mayor V. A. Peoples announced last week that he will seek a third term. Incumbent Council members Grover C. Harris, Jr., George T. Bunn and Jonah C. Taylor have also filed. The other two incumbents, W. J. Shearin and H. D. Jeffreys have not announced their plans.

There have been reports that at least two newcomers will announce for the Council in the next few days.

Cancer Crusade Has Kick-Off

(See Picture Page 2)

A Kick-Off meeting for the annual Franklin County Cancer Crusade was held in Louisburg Saturday morning at Radio Station WYRN under the leadership of Crusade Chairman Mr. George Champion, Jr.

Rev. W. P. Childers, President of the Franklin County Unit of the American Cancer Society, met with the group which included volunteers from around the county who are serving as Crusade Chairmen in their respective areas. Expressing confidence for a successful crusade, Mr. Childers commended chairmen for their interest in combating cancer.

Mr. Champion talked with the leaders in regard to County Crusade plans and goals, and thanked workers for their cooperation and willingness to serve in the continuing battle against cancer.

According to Mr. Champion, April 13, 1969 is designated Cancer Sunday in Franklin County. This marks the beginning of the annual crusade which continues throughout the remainder of April.

will "remain at Duke for several more days" and that no visitors, except members of the family are being allowed.

She said her husband's condition "is good", that he is "resting comfortably" and is "thinking of the people back home."

Mrs. Speed said that the Legislator

Negro Held On Murder Charge

Joe Perry, 29, a Rt. 3, Louisburg nightspot owner, was charged with murder and jailed without privilege of bond in the shooting death Saturday of Otha Lee Gupton, 23, also of Rt. 3, Louisburg.

Franklin Deputy Lloyd Gupton said Gupton was shot five times with a .32 caliber pistol.

Gupton reportedly returned with a shotgun to Perry's one-room combination bedroom and dance floor after an argument according to Deputy Gupton.

Gupton's father, Zollie, was shot to death one year ago while allegedly assaulting a female.

Speed To Remain At Duke For Several Days

Sixteenth District Representative James D. Speed remains in Duke Hospital recovering from a bout with pneumonia. His wife reported to The Times Monday, "The pneumonia is clearing and they (doctors) are real pleased with its clearing. He needs rest and quiet."



FLAG AT HALF-STAFF For Ike

(See Editorial Comment Page 4)

Franklin citizens joined others across the world this week in mourning the passing of the General of the Armies and former President Dwight David Eisenhower. Flags flew at half-mast and many watched the funeral processions on television. The former Commander of Allied Forces in World War II was perhaps the most popular Republican President in this traditional Democratic county.

Morgans Appeal Fine In Assault On Lawings

Two Washington, D. C. Negroes appealed a conviction and fine handed down here Monday by District Court Judge Julius Banzet in charges of assault against a white couple on March 14 near Franklinton. Jesse Morgan, 46, and his son, Jesse Morgan, Jr., 20, were fined \$50 and cost of court in the charges growing out of an alleged attempt to run James W. Lawing and his wife off the highway and allegedly pointing a pistol at the couple.

The incident reportedly occurred as Lawing and his wife were enroute to Henderson from Raleigh. Lawing had been acquitted on March 13 in federal court in Raleigh on charges of intimidating a Negro professor who had moved into the Lawing all-white neighborhood.

An all-white jury had brought in a verdict of not guilty in the federal case, the first of its kind under the new fair-housing law.

The Morgans, according to reports, recognized the Lawings and tried to run their 1968 Oldsmobile off US-1 near Franklinton. The younger Morgan allegedly pointed a pistol at the Lawings as the car passed. Lawing took the license number of the Morgan car and

reported the incident to Franklinton Police Chief Leo Edwards. The Morgans were picked up a short time later by two Henderson police officers and brought back to Louisburg where they were charged in a warrant by Lawing of assault with intent to kill with an automobile.

The two Washington residents were free on \$1,000 bonds each awaiting trial here. Their trial was postponed for two weeks by Judge Banzet.

Judge Banzet found both men guilty on both counts of assault with the car and with pointing the pistol. The Morgans, represented by Raleigh attorneys Robert McMillan and Roger Smith and Louisburg attorney Charles Davis pleaded innocent to the charges. Following the verdict, McMillan gave notice of immediate appeal.

Mrs. Lawing testified that she and her husband were traveling north on US-1 around 11:30 A.M. when the Morgan car pulled alongside her. She said the younger Morgan had a gun. When questioned by Davis, Mrs. Lawing said the younger man had the gun in his hand. "I said, oh my God, they're trying to kill us", she told the attorney.

She said her husband was driving at about sixty miles per hour and the incident took place about three miles south of Franklinton.

"They passed us, but stayed in front of us, keeping to the middle of the road", she testified. Her husband related the same story and told that he speeded up in order to get the license number. He said, "I was in fear". Davis asked Lawing if he talked with the Morgans after their arrest. He said he refused to talk to them.

Morgan is a native of Clayton and moved to Washington about eight years ago. He told Solicitor Charles White that he and his son had spent the night in Raleigh and had driven to Clayton earlier on March 13 to obtain four trees which they were taking back to Washington. McMillan pointed out that no weapon was found in the Morgan car when it was stopped some forty five minutes after the incident at Franklinton.

"It doesn't make sense to me that two men would pull a weapon at a passing motorist like that. There was no hot pursuit, and they were easily flagged down miles away from where the incident occurred. He also told the Court that the Morgans gave arresting officers no argument.

Morgan denied pointing a weapon at Lawing. "I glanced at him and he glanced back at me. There was nothing more", he said.

Bids Awarded

Industrial Development Director Kenneth Schubart announced last week that bids for the water tank and the water line to be erected for the J. K. Rishel Furniture Company plant have been let.

Schubart said letters went out last Friday to the R. D. Cole Manufacturing Company of Newman, Ga. instructing the firm to go ahead with construction of the water tank. A similar letter was sent to the T. A. Lovin Company of Goldsboro to put into effect its plans for construction of the water line to run from the Dean Farms plant to the new plant site.

Time for both constructions began Monday and each have 180 days in which to comply with their contracts. Lovin is supposed to have the line completed within sixty days and the pumping station operational in 120 to 180 days. The base for the tank and the line from the tank to the site is expected to take the 180 days, Schubart said.

Rishel officials awarded contracts for construction of the plant last week. Ground work has already begun at the site on NC-56 west of Louisburg.