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# The FRANKLIN TIMES

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VOLUME LXXIV

\$1.50 per year in Advance

LOUISBURG, N. CAROLINA FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1943

(Eight Pages)

NUMBER 222

## POSSIBLE \$25,000 LOSS

### In Sunday's Big Fire

The Opera House, Built in 1890, Suffers Blaze, Owens, K-B Wine Shop, John W. Harris, Hall & Hall, Gantt Shoe Shop, Freeman & Harris, King Candy Co., Mrs. Julia P. Scott Among Losers

Louisburg was thrown into much excitement early Sunday morning when it experienced one of the biggest and most threatening fires it has experienced in a long number of years, when fire was discovered in the basement of the Opera House building in the heart of the business district. The fire was discovered around 7:30 o'clock by Chief of Police C. F. Cash and Commissioner W. J. (Pete) Shearin, when smoke was seen rolling out a coal chute opening under the Kay Bee Wine Shop. The alarm was turned in and the firemen were soon on the job. An investigation showed the entire basement full of smoke and much in the upper floors. The fight began in earnest. In the meantime some official called the Henderson Fire Department for assistance and an engine and crew from there were soon on the job rendering valuable assistance to our firemen and volunteers, while great excitement prevailed over the possible spread. But hard work, good judgment and good luck prevailed with the firemen and they took control of the blaze and confined it to the building and mostly to the basement, and it was not long before the fire was out. But not until after great damage was done to the building and the several stocks within its walls, as well as nearby buildings, from fire, smoke and water. The total damage is estimated at not less than \$20,000, a good portion of which was covered by insurance.

Had this fire gained control it would have easily destroyed all the buildings on the south side of Nash street, from the Court House to the jail, or possibly from Nash street to the river down Market street or both. In either case it would have destroyed a large portion of Louisburg's biggest businesses.

Included in the losses were the following estimates:

F. W. Wheelers, damage to building, estimated at \$5,000 to \$7,000, partially covered by insurance.

Owens 5c to \$5 store, damage to stock, by fire, water and smoke estimated at \$10,000, partially covered by insurance.

John W. Harris, damage to stock from water and smoke estimated at \$1,500, insured.

Half & Hall, water and smoke damage to stock estimated at \$600, insured.

Gantt Shoe Shop water damage to stock and machinery, \$100.

Freeman & Harris, water damage to hardware stock estimated at \$500, insured.

Freeman & Perry, water damage to building estimated at \$300, insured.

Mrs. Julia P. Scott smoke damage and damage in removing the stock estimated at \$1,000, insured.

King Candy Co. suffered damage from smoke and water, estimated at about \$350.00, insured.

Kay Bee Wine Shop, fire and water damage estimated at about \$400.

Lt. Col. E. F. Griffin, water and smoke damage to office furniture and fixtures not estimated.

Although the fire never got a chance to spread it was, one of those stubborn kind that took hard work, lots of water and much time to subdue. The fighting continued until after 11 o'clock Sunday morning.

Nothing definite has been given out at this time concerning the rebuilding of the damaged building, but it is assumed this will begin at an early date as the building is located on one of Louisburg's most popular corners.

The King Candy Co., Freeman & Harris and Gantt Shoe Shop, who suffered light damages have opened and are carrying on their usual business. John W. Harris has reopened. The others will reopen when their stocks can be arranged, insurance adjusted and buildings put in repair or new quarters secured.

This was a narrow escape from a most disastrous fire.

—On Pay Day, Buy Bonds—

## THANKS

The FRANKLIN TIMES is requested to express the thanks and appreciations of Fire Chief F. M. Fuller and Commissioner and Fireman W. J. (Pete) Shearin for the splendid and untiring work of the several firemen and the many volunteers during the big fire Sunday morning. Without their generous cooperation the results might have been quite different.

They also want to express publicly the great appreciation of not only the fire department and the officials of Louisburg, but the entire population to the City of Henderson and its fire department for their prompt response to our need and the splendid work done by them. This is greatly appreciated and will be reciprocated when the opportunity presents itself.

## GASOLINE

From all bulletins and reports received by the Franklin County War Price and Ration Board the gasoline situation is growing more seriously each day, says Chairman A. F. Johnson. Some members of Congress are trying to have the present shortage conditions extended to the western coast. Since the trouble is transportation and not supply this seems to us to be unnecessary. From the standpoint of saving tires and rubber here is hardly any doubt that it would be the proper and fair thing to do. The tire situation is becoming especially serious. It now looks as if many cars will have to be put up for a good while, because of inability to get tires.

On the gasoline side the thing that puzzles the members most is the question of supplying gasoline to haul hands. The Board knows that there is a serious shortage of labor in all parts of the county. What the Board can't understand is how a farmer in one section can expect to hire labor in another section, when the labor shortage is as bad in one as the other. It looks like these requests are only attempts to get more gasoline to ride around with. They certainly cannot expect to get labor from other sections as badly in need of labor as they are. There seems to be a spirit developing among the farmers to get the other fellows labor at any cost, if possible. This is a bad condition and it is hoped that all farmers will do two things about it. First not to employ labor that rightfully should go to another farmer and to protect himself against any farmer treating him in such an underhanded and ugly manner.

Make your preparations to carry on without any gasoline. The indications are the time is close at hand.

While there are some cooperating with the government in its effort to conserve gasoline, there are many apparently laughing at the recent order not to use gasoline to ride to work or trade when the necessary distance is not more than two miles. It would be wise for them to cooperate and save the howl they will put up when their gasoline supply is cut off. Orders are to cut it out of the next gasoline allotment.

## GRADUATES

According to information received in Louisburg by their parents, Dr. and Mrs. Walter Patten, Corporal Lawrence Patten now at Hammer Field, Calif., has recently graduated in five phases of the Technical Air Training School in the Central Net system. He went into service July 31, 1942.

Also Assistant Field Director Brooks Patten is moving from Naval Air Station at Pensacola, Fla., to Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

## DIES SUDDENLY

Martha Ann King, (colored) 65, died suddenly at the home of Mrs. M. S. Clifton, where she was cooking, Sunday morning about 11:30 o'clock. She is survived by her husband, Elijah King, and one son, Willie King.

## PROGRAM AT THE LOUISBURG THEATRE

The following is the program at the Louisburg Theatre, beginning Saturday, July 10:

Saturday—Don Barry in 'Dead Man's Gulch' and William Bendix in 'Taxi Mister' also 'Daredevils of the West.'

Sunday-Monday—Barbara Stanwyck and Michael O'Shea in 'Lady of Burlesque.'

Tuesday—Official films of the rout of Rommel in Africa, 'Desert Victory,' also first chapter of new serial 'The Secret Code.'

Wednesday—Dennis O'Keefe and Louise Albritton in 'Good Morning Judge.'

Thursday-Friday—Joan Crawford, John Wayne and Philip Dorn in 'Reunion in France.'

## TOWN COMMISSIONERS MEET

Passes Temporary Budget Estimate; To Sell Property For Taxes

The Board of Town Commissioners met in regular session, July 6th, 1943 for the purpose of adopting a Temporary Budget of Expenses for the fiscal year 1943-1944 and for the transaction of regular business.

All members of the Board were present. The monthly reports of the Town Clerk, Tax Collector, and Chief of Police were approved by the Board. The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting were dispensed with, because of the pressure of business.

The Board adopted the Temporary Budget of Expenses for the fiscal year 1943-1944. The total being \$85,198.00. The itemized budget appears in another column.

The Board ordered by motion that a factory representative from the American-LaFrance-Formite Corporation be secured to completely overhaul the town's fire truck.

Com. R. C. Beck was reappointed to represent the Town of Louisburg on the Franklin County Library Board.

Coms. Barrow, Lancaster and Cooper were appointed as a Special Committee to appear before the Commissioners of Franklin County and request that the County-wide Beer and Wine Ordinance be strictly enforced throughout the whole of Franklin County.

The Board approved an application for an "On Premise" beer license submitted to it by the Colonial Stores, Inc., known as Penders.

The following motion was passed unanimously by the Board: "That the delinquent taxes for the year 1942, and all delinquent Paving Assessments be advertised for four weeks, beginning August 20, 1943, and that all real estate so advertised, be sold for the satisfaction of any delinquent taxes or paying assessments due the Town of Louisburg, N. C., on Monday, September 13, 1943."

The Board agreed to furnish the labor for the installation of a proposed water line to the County School Garage, provided that the County furnish the pipe and all necessary material.

The Board approved the extension of a water line to serve the residence of Ernest Steed and others in his neighborhood, provided that the existing water main will supply this line without becoming overburdened.

A motion was passed by the Board to adopt a Town Tax Rate for the 1943 taxes of \$1.85 per \$100.00, subject to the adoption of a permanent budget of expenses.

The Board approved a number of invoices for payment and adjournment was taken.

## Stabilization Meeting

One of the most interesting stabilization meetings held thus far since the advent of the stabilization program was held in Franklin on Friday night, July 2nd, in the school building. This meeting was attended by approximately forty people, including the officials, superintendents and foremen of the Sterling Cotton Mill and Vamoco Cotton Mill in Franklin; and many other citizens and employers were present.

Mr. P. B. Pollock, Area Director of the War Manpower Commission, was present and explained the stabilization plan, after which a genuine full and free discussion was engaged in by a large number of those present, who propounded one question after another, until late into the night. "A most satisfactory meeting" and "beneficial to all present" were some of the remarks made by those present after the meeting closed. Mr. L. J. Craven, Manager of the Raleigh Local Office, was in charge of the meeting. Judging from the spirit manifested in this meeting, it is believed by the representatives from the War Manpower Commission office that Franklin County will be one of the counties in the State from which we receive the finest cooperation and the least number of complaints in putting the stabilization program into effect.

## WITH SOUTHSIDE

Mr. Charlie Ford announces in this issue that Mr. Thomas Wilson, one of Franklin County's most progressive young farmers, will be connected with the Southside Warehouse this season.

Patronize TIMES Advertisers

## SCHOOLS OPEN AUGUST 23

Approves Budget; To Give Out List of Teachers Soon

The Franklin County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday with all members present except Mrs. D. T. Fuller. The Board gave its final approval to the school budget that was tentatively approved at the June meeting. The total budget for the ensuing year 1943-44 shows a slight decrease in the amount approved for the school term ending June 30th.

The opening date for all Franklin County schools was set for August 23rd. Schools this year will observe one week for Christmas holidays and complete the nine months' school term by the third of May. According to this plan, schools will open ten days prior to the opening of last year.

The Board voted unanimously to request the County Commissioners to set up a Capital Reserve Fund of \$4,000.00, this being the amount of insurance collected as a result of the burning of the old Bunn High School building. This amount is to remain in this fund until such time, when the county would be permitted to begin a building program.

The Secretary stated to the Board that a complete list of teachers for the ensuing year was not yet complete. However, considerable progress is being made and only a few vacancies exist at this time. A complete list of teachers will be submitted to the Board for its approval at the next regular meeting.

The contract with the Statesville Roofing Company and the B. C. Newsome Roofing Company for re-roofing the Harris and Youngville schools was approved, and the work is to be completed by the 1st of August.

## State Guard To Attend Camp

The 8th Co., North Carolina State Guard, is making preparations for its annual encampment at Fort Bragg, July 18-28, 1943. Most of the members of the Company are looking forward to this period of encampment. In several instances it is working a real hardship on the men to make the trip, on account of the present shortage of labor, and a large number of the men are making very real sacrifices in order to go.

One member of the Company is closing his business completely for two weeks; another big business man of the county is leaving his business affairs in the hands of inexperienced assistants in order to go; several members are simply taking a chance on their crops, and are willing to take the chance in order to make this contribution to the war effort.

Most of the men are willing to sacrifice a little of their time and money to make up for the possible sacrifices of their lives by men in foreign lands now serving in the Army. These members of the Company are deserving of the full support of the county, for it must be remembered that their service is without pay for more than eleven and a half months of the year, (they are paid a small amount for their time in camp), and they are not enjoying the benefits of high wages and government allotments, but are giving their services in a patriotic spirit of service should they ever be needed by their State or Nation.

Lists of equipment and uniforms to be needed during the period of the camp are being prepared, and under a recent order of the Governor of the State school buses are being prepared for the use of the Company.

In many parts of the State recruits are entering the State Guard to more than the number allowed by law, and it is expected that the local Company will be filled up for the camp.

## RESIGNS

Mr. E. P. Barnes, former Assistant County Farm Agent, has resigned this position and accepted a position as Food Distribution Administrator with the U. S. government and will be located at Hillsboro.

Mr. Barnes was a most efficient official and through his many contacts and genial manner made hosts of friends in Franklin County who regret to see him leave.

## PROMOTED

His many friends in Louisburg will be glad to learn that Maj. Donald V. Holliday has been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. He is now stationed at Howze, Texas.

—On Pay Day, Buy Bonds—

## KILLED INSTANTLY

Private Willie Pendleton, U. S. A. On Furlough, In Accident Tuesday Afternoon

Pvt. Willie N. Pendleton, USA, on leave to visit his parents near here, died instantly when the car in which he was riding struck Sycamore Creek bridge two miles east of Louisburg, Tuesday afternoon about 2:30 o'clock.

Patrolman M. H. Bynum, who investigated the case, said the car was driven by William Duke, local filling station operator. Duke suffered facial injuries of a minor nature, Bynum said, but was placed under \$1,000 bond on a manslaughter charge. Bynum said the car was demolished and that the soldier's body was crushed badly.

Coroner R. A. Bobbitt investigated the case and reported no necessity for an inquest and that the accident was probably caused by a tire blowing out before the car struck the bridge.

Private Pendleton, who was stationed at Indiantown Gap, Pa., had been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. F. Pendleton, of Louisburg, Route 1. Army authorities claimed his body Tuesday afternoon and funeral arrangements are pending Army routine.

Surviving are his parents and several brothers and sisters.

## WAR NEWS

London, July 7.—The German radio told a badly-smashed homeland today that the Allied African chief, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, had concentrated more than 1,000,000 tons of shipping on the African coast for a leap across the Mediterranean into Europe.

This broadcast was tempered by an assertion that the Allies "cannot launch a real invasion" because of the so-called resolute defenses in Southern France and Italy.

"Even an invasion under cover of battleships or other heavy units must be considered an absolutely deadly risk," said the Berlin radio.

To Allied observers, these propaganda soundings, recorded by the Associated Press, followed the familiar pattern of touching both ends of the keyboard, but not the middle. The Axis still had not mentioned the British Commando attack on Crete, a successful invasion feeler carried out Sunday night on that important Greek outpost.

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, July 7.—German fighter opposition dwindled precipitately on Sicily yesterday under violent day and night hammering by Allied warplanes, indicating that the enemy had lost most of his land-based aircraft on the island and is badly in need of reinforcements.

Flying Fortress and Liberator heavy bombers, medium and light bombers all joined in the round-the-clock effort to sweep the enemy entirely from above the Mediterranean island flanking southern Italy.

The main target was the bombed Gerbini airport and its four subsidiary fields in southern Sicily.

Fifty Liberators attacked from Middle East bases, dumping more than 285,000 pounds of bombs on runways and dispersal areas, setting large fires. The Fortresses from French Africa hit ammunition dumps, administration buildings, hangars and five landing strips.

Single Challenge  
The only challenge mentioned was to the Liberators, which shot down one, probably bagged another and damaged two more.

British Wellingtons bombed Gerbini on Monday night.

Experts at headquarters, poring over reconnaissance photos which pictured tremendous destruction, said the task of rubbing Gerbini's five air fields from the map was nearing completion.

Five Allied planes were lost yesterday; they shot down three. The score for the Northwest Africa Air Force since the fall of Pantelleria thus rose to 275 Axis craft destroyed at an expenditure of 83 planes. A headquarters informant said experience showed that more planes were destroyed around than aloft in attacks such as the current ones on Sicily, meaning that the rate of attrition was 6- or 7-to-1 in favor of the Allies.

Washington, July 7.—Warships of the North Pacific force poured hundreds of shells into Japanese defenses on Kiska Island last night in an operation possibly preliminary to a drive

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## DR. McDONALD TO SPEAK

The Youngville Lions Club announces a joint meeting with the Franklin County Club to be held at Youngville on Tuesday night, July 13th, 1943 at 8:00 o'clock, at which meeting Dr. Ralph McDonald will be the guest speaker. All members of both clubs are invited to attend.

## Giraud Confers With Roosevelt And Army Chief

General Jacomy Named New Martinique Governor; Secret Document Disclosed

Washington, July 7.—General Henri Honoré Giraud, commander-in-chief of French forces in North Africa and co-chairman with General Charles DeGaulle of the French Committee of National Liberation, completed a transatlantic flight from Algiers today and soon afterwards conferred with President Roosevelt and General George C. Marshall, United States Army Chief of Staff.

His arrival for a series of military conferences coincided with these French political developments:

1. Disclosure that the United States government is in possession of information concerning a secret French document purporting to reveal the ambition of DeGaulle's followers to perpetuate him as a leader of the French.

2. Announcement from Algiers that Brig. Gen. Henri Paul Jacomy has been named to succeed Vichy-appointed Admiral Georges Robert as commander of French Guiana and the French Antilles, including Martinique. There was no indication that Robert had yet yielded control over Martinique. The Jacomy appointment was viewed in unofficial circles as a measure of preparation for such time as he relinquishes his command.

Not In Martinique  
Giraud told newsmen after his White House conference that he had not stopped off at Martinique enroute. But it was revealed that he had stopped at Puerto Rico and there with Admiral John H. Hoover. The latter was sent by the Navy to Martinique last week to discuss Robert's offer of a "change of authority."

Giraud's arrival was heralded by a 17-gun salute—an honor reserved only for a commanding general or an admiral of the fleet. At the airport to greet him were Admiral William D. Leahy, Mr. Roosevelt's personal chief-of-staff and last U. S. ambassador to France; Marshall, Admiral Ernest J. King, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet, and Maj. Gen. Emile Berthouat, chief of the French military mission.

BOUND OVER  
Zollie Hayes, colored, was bound over to Recorder's Court Tuesday night by Mayor W. C. Webb upon charges of breaking into Beck's and Murphy's Garages, Sunday night.

Hayes was arrested by Policeman Tom Denton as he was about to enter Beck's after a door lock had already been broken on a rear entrance to the place.

Denton said Hayes, who has a lengthy police record and is under a 30-day suspended sentence for vagrancy, admitted breaking into the garages and theft of a case of oil.

PROMOTION  
Camp Stewart, Ga., July 5.—Post Headquarters today announced the promotion of Lloyd A. West, of Louisburg, N. C., Route 2, to the grade of T/5.

He was advanced to his new rank on the recommendation of his battery commander. His promotion was based on his attention to duty and his soldierly qualities.

He has been in the army five months and was formerly a farm hand. He is now a Radio Operator.

NO RESPECTER  
Gasoline entrusted with giving those cards are no respecter of persons. They took away the card from the wife of the Governor of Maryland because she used it on a pleasure trip from Maryland to South Carolina. Now a preacher in Connecticut loses his A card for driving to his summer home and Victory garden in New Hampshire in a second family car "in open and flagrant defiance" of the regulations.

The law is no respecter of persons. Preachers, above all men, and public officials should set an example for others.—News-Observer.

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## E. P. BARNES RESIGNS

ROY HOLMES, RE-ELECTED COTTON WEAVER

Allows Mileage to Case Workers; Denies Switching Assistant County Agents Funds to Assistant Home Agent; Pollard Allowed to Clean Up Cemetery; E. R. Richardson Re-elected Superintendent County Home; Many Reports Received and Filed

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in the Commissioner's room in the Court House on Monday at 10 a. m.

The minutes for the June meeting were read and approved by the Board.

The following reports were received and ordered filed: Mrs. J. F. Mitchiner, Supt. Welfare; W. C. Boyce, Farm Agent; H. H. Price, Negro Farm Agent; Dr. S. P. Burt, Health Officer; E. R. Richardson, Supt. County Home; Lillie Mae Braxton, Home Dem. Agent.

Mrs. M. S. Clifton appeared before the Board on behalf of the Franklin County Library. After some discussion the following motion was made by Com. H. T. Bartholomew, and seconded by Com. Pearce "that \$600.00 be appropriated for said library. The \$600.00 to be paid from surplus funds and paid over to the library \$50.00 per month." The above motion was duly carried.

Dr. R. F. Young, from State Department of Health, came before the Board and discussed plans for a full-time Health program. After explaining the program in full the following motion was made by Com. T. S. Dean and seconded by Com. Howard Pearce "that said program be accepted and effective as of July 1, 1943." A roll call vote was had and all Commissioners voted yes.

Mr. Jack Champion came before the Board and stated that a Doctor had advised him not to work. Mr. Champion stated that he was a patient in Duke Hospital for a long time, and he was not able to have a crop for the year 1943. Motion by Com. Pearce and seconded by Com. Dean that Mr. Champion be put on outside pauper list at \$4.00 per month. All Commissioners voting yes.

Mrs. J. F. Mitchiner, Supt. Welfare, stated that Jane Harris should be placed on blind list at \$10.00 per month. So ordered.

Motion by Com. Bartholomew, seconded by Com. Pearce and duly carried that Jeannette Sills and Mrs. Evelyn Williamson, Welfare Case workers be allowed five cents per mile for traveling expense, not to exceed \$720.00 per year for both case workers.

The following was read by the Clerk:

To the Board of County Commissioners, Franklin County, Louisburg, N. C.

Dear Sirs:—I respectfully ask that my resignation as Assistant County Farm Agent be accepted and made effective as of June 30, 1943. The reason for my request is that I have been offered a position of greater responsibility in connection with the War Effort and I feel that I should accept the opportunity for larger services.

I have enjoyed my work in Franklin County and I appreciate the fine spirit of cooperation on the part of all of those with whom I have been associated during my four years of service here. I shall greatly miss the association with many friends I have in Franklin County and I shall always look forward with pleasure to any renewal of those acquaintances, or to any service I may be able to render them.

With best wishes I remain Sincerely yours, EDWIN P. BARNES, Asst. County Agent.

Motion by Com. Bartholomew, seconded by Com. Dean and duly carried that Mr. Barnes' resignation be accepted with regrets.

Mr. W. C. Boyce, Farm Agent, asked that the money appropriated for the Assistant Farm Agent be given for a Home Demonstration Agent, if the county is unable to get an Assistant Farm Agent in Mr. Barnes' place. Request denied.

Mr. Boyce requested that the Board raise the salaries of the personnel in the Extension Dept. of the AAA office. Request denied.

George C. Pollard came before the Board and asked permission to clean up the Colored cemetery, and repair bridge or bridges in said cemetery. Motion by Com. Bartholomew, seconded by Com. Pearce and duly carried that

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