

Scattered afternoon and evening thundershowers, continued warm, today and Wednesday. Low, 70; high, 90.

The Franklin Times

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Louisburg, N. C., Tuesday, July 30, 1963

(Six Pages Today)

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Hail, Winds Damage Crops Over County

Storms, striking across Franklin county during the week end, were viewed with mixed emotions by the area farmers. The rains which hit parts of the county for the first time in nearly six weeks brought feelings of joy, but this changed to one of dismay on the part of those farmers who saw their crops damaged up to 100% by the severe hail and wind which struck several sections.

Most severely hit section of the county was the Alert section where a number of farmers suffered 100% loss of their just matured leaf crop. The violent hail storm, accompanied by extremely high winds for a brief period, did severe damage to approximately a four mile wide strip of farmland between highway 401 and Alert near the Warren-Franklin county line.

Rescue Called Thrice Monday

The Louisburg Rescue Service was kept busy Monday afternoon with three calls, coming at 1, 4, and 6 P.M., none of which, however, were termed as too serious by squad members.

At one P.M. a call went in from south Louisburg where, upon answering, squad members found that an unidentified negro man had suffered what was evidently an epileptic seizure.

About four o'clock the squad was again called out, to the corner of Main and Middle Streets. They found that Frank Snow had collapsed from some unknown cause. He was transported to Franklin Memorial Hospital via Rescue Service ambulance, where he was treated and released.

Probably the most serious call of the day occurred around 6 P.M. when the squad was called to the Russell Harris home. They found Mr. Harris suffering from a severe cut on the wrist which had been inflicted in a freak household accident.

Harris reported that he had been talking to his wife who was engaged in peeling some fruit. Not realizing that her husband was so close to her, Mrs. Harris turned towards him with the knife in her hand. The result was a gash across Mr. Harris's wrist.

Rescuers administered first aid to stop the severe bleeding and transported Harris to the hospital emergency for treatment.

County Man Caught At Windsor Still

Robert M. Medlin, 19, of the Pokomoke section of Franklin County, was arrested Friday, 8 miles north of Windsor when State and Area ABC officers made a surprise raid on a large whiskey still.

John (Bunch) Jacobs, 27 of Durham was with Medlin, according to the officers, and both were charged with possession of an unregistered still and possession of non-taxpaid whiskey.

The third man arrested was Thomas Mitchell, 37, of Bertie County, at whose home agents found 357 gallons of non-taxpaid whiskey. Mitchell was charged with possession of non-taxpaid whiskey.

Officers destroyed the still and equipment with dynamite. Also destroyed was 340 gallons of mash, and over 200 55 gallon barrels and 150 cases of empty fruit jars.

same in numerous other tobacco and cotton fields in the section. Tobacco and cotton stalks being virtually denuded.

There was also damage to buildings in the area with the roof being blown from, at least, one residence. Several birds caught out in the severe down fall of hailstones were injured and forced to the ground.

A number of growers in the area also reported that tobacco already in the curing barns suffered water damage as the result of the blowing rainstorm.

Some families in the Alert section reported that their entire crops for the year were "wiped out" with losses in some cases covered by insurance. Many, however, reported that they had no insurance to cover their disaster.

Hail damaged was also suffered by a number of farmers west of Louisburg, from the vicinity of the fairgrounds southwestward across highway 56. In one or two cases here, the damage was estimated at up to 100%; but most fields fell in the 50-75% loss category. The damage seemed to be confined largely to tobacco, corn leaves shredded and little apparent damage to cotton or truck crops.

Next in degree of damage to the Alert community, was the area west of Youngsville. Among the hardest hit here were the farms of Walter and Ben Perry, Jones Winston and Norman Carter. Several fields suffered varying amounts of damage up to 100%.

Residents of the section reported that the ground was covered with hailstones ranging upward in size to about the diameter of a quarter dollar.

In addition to the crop damage county residents were inconvenienced in varying degrees by a power failure caused by lightning. Two oil filled regulators on North Main Street in Louisburg burned out causing residents to be without electricity for about two hours. Power was also off in Franklinton for about 30 minutes.



Storm Damage

The roof of the home of J. H. Mosely in the Alert Community is shown in upper photo following Sunday's storm. The lower photo is the remains of a tobacco crop two miles west of Louisburg.

Monk Smith Serves Damage Claim Against Franklinton

by T. H. Pearce

A Franklinton man, Ben Minton (Monk) Smith, served notice of alleged damages on the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the town of Franklinton last week. The charges stemmed from what Smith and his attorney claimed to be severe damage to his character and reputation, sustained by false and libelous information published in the Franklin Times on July 16 and other dates, due to the careless and negligent acts and omissions of the employers of the town of Franklinton.

The notice was served on the town through Smith's Attorney Hubert Senter, in the form of a notarized claim and demand for damaged resulting from the alleged careless acts on the part of town employees. It stated in part that Smith was found not guilty on the charge of selling and possessing whiskey in the Franklinton Mayor's Court and court costs were taxed against the prosecuting witness several weeks ago and that Smith's name appeared in the Franklin Times under the criminal docket of the Franklinton Mayor's Court as published in said paper.

The notice further alleges that on July 16, Smith's name appeared again on the front page of the Franklin Times as a defendant as follows: "Minton (Monk) Smith, possession and selling whiskey, paid cost."

These statements, according to the claim of Smith and his attorney, were untrue, false and libelous, due to the careless and negligent manner in which the judgement in the cases was written into the docket by an employee of the Town of Franklinton while performing the duties of Clerk to Mayor's Court, which incorrect judge-

ment was published by the Franklin Times as written by the said employee.

On account of these alleged libelous statements, charge Smith and his attorney, he has been subject to criticism by his friends and neighbors, has been held up to the public as a bootlegger and convicted criminal, and, if true, would subject him to infamous and disgraceful punishment and imprisonment and would exclude him from decent and honorable society and render permanent and immeasurable damage to his trade as a plumber and business as a merchant; that he has been placed

under suspicion and has been forced to offer explanations to his friends and associates and that he has brooded over the matter and worried and his feelings have been outraged and damaged; that he has endured mental torture and suffering and has had his reputation and business immeasurably damaged and that he sustained actual damages in the sum of \$10,000.

Smith is the owner of a night spot known as the "Jolly Joker" located just inside the town limits on Highway 56 east. He also owns and operates a plumbing business in Franklinton.

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More Hail Damage

Walter Perry's tobacco field near Youngsville looked like the

above after Sunday's storm. It is typical of many fields.

Wayne Winstead, Mayor

Progressive Candidates Score Bunn Victory

Bunn voters returned incumbent Town Commissioners J. L. Adams and P. B. Wilson to office by an overwhelming majority Saturday and elected former Commissioners H. D. Mitchell and M. Z. Morris to the other two seats on the Board.

Wilson, a retired County Game Warden, led the ticket with 82 votes, followed by Adams with 72, Mitchell with 70, and Morris, with 62. Mitchell is Chief of the Bunn Rural Volunteer Fire Department.

Bunn Merchant Wayne W. Winstead polled 72 votes to win the Mayor's seat over a single opponent, Haywood Jeffreys, 106 of the town's 117 registered voters cast ballots in the election.

The outcome of the election was regarded as an overwhelming victory for progressive Bunn forces favoring a vote of the people on the question of the

establishment of an ABC Store and Municipal water and sewer systems.

The newly elected officials took office at a special swearing-in ceremony at noon Monday and will serve until May of 1965, the date of the next municipal election.



Bunn Board

Pictured at the swearing-in of the Bunn Town Board Monday are left to right H. D. Mitchell, P. B. Wilson, M. Z. Morris, J. L. Adams and Mayor Wayne W. Winstead.

Mrs. Griffin Named Welfare Board Chmn.

Mrs. Edward F. Griffin of Louisburg was named Chairman of the Franklin County Board of Welfare at the July meeting of the board held in the office of Mrs. Jane M. York, Director of Public Welfare.

Mrs. Griffin a lifelong resident of Franklin County and member of the board for several years replaces Mr. John T. Sawyer of Franklinton whose term of service on the board expired this month.

Neal A. Brown of Youngsville was named as the state appointee to replace Mr. Sawyer. A furniture store owner, Mr. Brown is active in The Boys Scouts of America, Red Cross and other civic groups in the county. He was sworn in by Ralph S. Knott, Clerk of Superior Court of Franklin County. The present members of the board are Mrs. Griffin, Claude T. Arnold and Mr. Brown.

Weekend Violences In County Fatal To One

A series of shootings and assaults over the past weekend left one Franklin County Negro dead and three hospitalized. Frank James, 53, of Rt. 1, Youngsville, died of shotgun wounds. Being held in Franklin County Jail without privilege of bond is David Mann 36, Negro, of the same address.

Officers gave this account of the shooting which occurred at the home of the two men: Mann said he fired on James after he advanced on him with a knife. Mann said he pointed the shotgun at James' feet, pulled the trigger, but the weapon misfired.

James kept advancing with the knife, Mann said, and so he fired a second time. The charge hit James in the chest, causing instant death. Mann then took to the woods to escape James' irate friends, officers said, but returned and gave himself up to the investigating officers, Sheriff's Deputies Ralph Beasley and C. P. (Hoot) Gibson.

In another shooting Robert Lee Spivey, 22, Rt. 3, Louisburg, staggered up to the car of Louisburg Police Chief William Dement and collapsed. Chief Dement took him to Franklin County Hospital, where he was admitted for treatment of two bullet wounds in the back. He was listed in satisfactory condition. Spivey told Chief Dement he was shot by an unnamed assailant after an argument involving a woman at Ophelia's Place, local Negro night spot. Spivey said his assailant shot at him five times, with two of the bullets hitting the mark. His assailant was still being sought Monday.

Rev. Latham To Be Assoc. Missionary

Rev. Robert T. Latham of Texas was called to be Associational Missionary of the Tar River Association Monday evening at the meeting of the executive committee held at the First Baptist Church in Spring Hope.

Rev. Latham replaces Rev. J. Parker McLendon who resigned to accept the pastorate at the First Baptist Church, Elkin, N. C.

Rev. Latham is a graduate of Baylor University and of Midwestern Theological Seminary with a B. D. degree. He will enter Southeastern Seminary this fall as a candidate for the Th. M. degree. He has held pastorates in Baptist churches in Texas and Missouri.

Rev. Latham is married and has two children. He assumes his duties August 1 and will reside in the Associational Parsonage in the Justice Community.

The committee for the selection of the Associational Missionary was composed of Rev. J. A. Bracey of Spring Hope, Rev. Garland Foushee of Pearce Baptist Church, Wilton U. Smith, Talmadge Edwards, Joe Savage, and Mr. W. M. Freeman.

FHS To Try New Project

Franklinton High School is among 45 North Carolina schools selected to participate in North Carolina's new pilot vocational program, which was made possible by a million-dollar legislative appropriation.

Known as "Introduction to Vocational Education," the project is expected to be expanded considerably if successful during the upcoming school year. Some 30 ninth-grade pupils will participate at Franklinton. They will be selected primarily from the academically talented group of freshmen. They will be taught by T. N. Stephens who has already begun a four-week course at N. C. State College designed to prepare teachers for the program.

In general, the overall plan is aimed at developing a program to aid students - and teachers - in determining the student's vocational aptitudes, and to stimulate vocational and career interest to a degree that will help cut down the number of student "drop-outs."

While Chief Dement was at the hospital, two more Negro men were brought into the emergency department. Jack Evans 18, of Louisburg, was treated for a cut scalp suffered when hit by a bottle. Evans said the bottle was thrown by Jesse Johnson, 17, Louisburg Negro.

Evans said Johnson had intended to hit someone else with the bottle but that it struck him accidentally, Johnson, however, was charged with assault.

Lacy Smith, 50, of Rt. 4, Louisburg, staggered into the hospital with a stab wound in the back. His condition was considered critical.

Smith's condition did not allow Chief Dement to question him, but visitors to the hospital reported seeing a car drive up and drop off Smith, leaving him to get into the hospital by himself.

British now expect election in the autumn.