

Weather

Fair and warmer today and Friday. Low today, 38; high, mid-80s.

The Franklin Times

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Five Cents

Louisburg, N. C., Thursday, October 17, 1963

(Twelve Pages Today)

94th Year—Number 68

Sylvester Bryant

Accused Rapist Enters Plea, Gets Life Sentences

The selection of a jury for the rape-kidnap trial of a 33-year-old Route 1, Louisburg negro, ended abruptly in Superior Court here this morning when court appointed attorneys for Sylvester Bryant, in a surprise move, entered pleas of guilty

as charged to two counts of a three-count bill of indictment. Bryant's attorneys tendered the pleas as a second special venire, this one consisting of 200 persons, reported into Superior Court here this morning in an effort to obtain a jury

for the trial. One-hundred special jurors had been ordered in by Judge Hamilton H. Hobgood for the opening of the trial on Wednesday morning, but had been exhausted by the end of the day with only 3 of the needed 12 plus an alternate having been seated.

Bryant was charged under the three-count bill of indictment with first degree burglary, kidnapping and rape in the last April 20th abduction and assault of an 11 year-old Needmore Community white girl. The acceptance of the plea by the State on the first degree burglary charge brought an automatic life sentence and Judge Hobgood gave him an additional life sentence (the maximum) on the kidnapping count. The medium size negro was given an additional 15 year sentence on the rape count when he pleaded guilty to charges of assault with intent to commit rape, a lesser charge, which was also accepted by the State after conferring with the girl and her parents.

Of the some one-hundred or more prospective jurors and women Wednesday, the defense turned down six, using six of

their fourteen pre-emptory challenges—the state none of six, leaving the vast majority to be excused by the court. Most of those excused by the court were so excused because of objections to the death penalty.

Of the three accepted for duty Wednesday, one was a negro. He was identified as C. L. Perry, Dunn Township farmer--store operator. Perry got the number two seat in the jury box. Luther Finn, of Youngsville Township, was the first to be agreed on by both the state and the defense, and A. L. Arrington, of Cedar Rock, was the third man to be seated.

Bryant sat quietly in Court between his two court appointed attorneys, Hubert H. Senter of Franklinton, and Durham Negro Attorney W. G. Pearson, during the day long activities, occasionally leaning over to confer with one or both. The father of the attacked girl, Walter E. Bracknell, Jr., sat beside District Solicitor.

Following the sentencing, Bryant was hustled back off to the County jail to await transfer to Raleigh to begin his 2 life plus 15 year terms.

Redmond Resigns Agents Post Here

Jake R. Redmond, Assistant Agricultural Agent for Franklin County, has resigned his position here to accept a position with the Extension Service in Pasquotank County, according to C. T. Dean, Jr., County Extension Chairman.

Mr. Redmond has been in Franklin County since February 1 and had the responsibility of working with the County's 4-H Club members and their leaders. He is a graduate of N. C. State College.

Dean stated that Redmond had done an outstanding job here in his work with Community 4-H Clubs. Since coming to Franklin County he has helped organize eight new clubs as well as assist with the planning and operation of other clubs.

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Dean says that the Franklin County Extension staff wishes for Mr. Redmond the best of luck in his new position. Mr. Dean also stated a replacement for Mr. Redmond would be hired as soon as a qualified person could be found.

Canada plans to extend wheat sales to China.



Accepts Check For Rescuers

Louisburg Rescue Service Chief V. A. Peoples (right) breaks into a wide grin as IGA Store manager Darrell L. Perry presents check to the Service in

the amount of \$106.78 representing proceeds from the sale of tobacco donated during IGA's Tobacco-Sugar trade promotion last week. - Times Photo.

Contributions Help Towards Purchase Of Rescue Unit

The Louisburg Rescue Service is \$206.78 richer today -- thanks to two nice contributions yesterday. The first one, a \$100.00 check from the First Baptist Church

in Winston-Salem, was totally unexpected. It was contributed by the congregation and brought in by pastor Ramdell Lolley in "honorarium" for services to the W. R. Middleton family

of that city, who were involved in a tragic automobile accident in Franklin County on Labor Day.

The Rev. Lolley, incidentally, is a former Franklin County pastor, having served the Pine Ridge and Popular Springs Baptist Churches. He has a younger brother, the Rev. Thomas Lolley presently serving as pastor to the Rock Springs and Mt. Zion Baptist Churches.

The second one, not totally unexpected, was contributed by the Louisburg IGA Super Market as the proceeds from their tobacco-sugar trade promotion for the Rescue Service last week end. The tobacco sold for \$106.78 and Manager Darrell Perry presented Rescue Chief V. A. Peoples with the check last night.

In voicing his appreciation for the contributions, Chief Peoples pointed out that all contributions to the Rescue Service are expended for the purchase of materials, supplies and or equipment with which to carry out their work. The Squad is currently driving for a heavy rescue unit in order that the heavy rescue equipment be available for use and not tied up on vehicles involved in medical emergency calls.

Guardsmen Stand Federal Inspection

Third U.S. Army inspectors put the men and equipment of Louisburg's Headquarters and Headquarters Battery under close scrutiny yesterday and last night to wind up the annual Federal inspection of the 5th Rocket Battalion -- Youngsville's and Zebulon's units having been inspected earlier in the week.

Commenting on the inspection, Mayor Robert L. Thompson, from the 3rd Army Inspector General's Office of Ft. McPherson, Georgia, said that he found the equipment and records of the local unit in a high state of maintenance and that he found the personnel and training highly acceptable. He further commented that he was well pleased with the standing operating procedures throughout the entire battalion.

Major Thompson and his assistants went over the equipment and records of the local Guard unit during the morning and afternoon and devoted the evening session to inspecting the personnel and training procedures.

On hand for the inspection were the former 30th Division Commander, retired Major General Edward F. Griffin of Louisburg; former 5th Battalion Executive officer, retired Lt. Col. Darrell L. Perry; Brig. General Kermit Guthrie, Assistant Division Commander; Lt. Col. Guy C. Langston and Edward W. Paul, Jr., of the 30th Division Artillery; former Division Artillery Chaplain, retired Major W. M. Latta of Louisburg; and CWO3 Jephthah Casey of the 30th Division Headquarters Detachment.

The visiting officers were entertained at dinner at Rabil's City Lunch prior to the evening session by Lt. Col. Collin McKinne, the 5th Battalion Commander, and Capt. James W. Radford, Headquarters Battery Commander.

Only two persons in the entire 300 member battalion were absent for the annual inspection. SFC J. T. Strickland and Pfc. Barry Loftin were selected as the best dressed soldiers at the inspection of the unit here by Major Thompson.

Youngsville Woman Elected District Pres.

At the annual meeting of the Fourteenth District of Women's Clubs held in Littleton on Tuesday of this week, Mrs. J. W. Weathers, Jr., of Youngsville was elected to serve as District President for the ensuing two year term.

Mrs. Weathers is a past president of the Youngsville Woman's Club and has also served as Chairman of several departments and committees in the local club. The year she was Scrapbook Chairman the local book won first place in the District and State competition. On the District level Mrs. Weathers has served as General Federation Clubwoman Chairman and District Treasurer. On the state level she has been GFCM Chairman; Help-A-Home Project Chairman, and is now on the resolutions committee of the N. C. Federation of Women's Club.

Mrs. Weathers will be installed as President of District 14 at the annual State Convention to be held in Greensboro in April. She has long been active in Club work, attending many district and state meetings, appearing on various programs, and has been guest speaker at many Women's Clubs regular meetings in this area.

AA Chapter Organization Set Tonight

The Louisburg - Franklin County chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous will be organized at the Sandy Creek Baptist Church Educational Building on Thursday, October 17, at 8:00 p.m.

The general public, physicians, ministers, social workers and family groups are invited to attend and become familiar with the program of recovery which has helped thousands to achieve sobriety. If you are faced with a drinking problem, perhaps A. A. can help. There are no dues or fees and A. A. is not allied with any particular denomination or sect. Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

For further information contact Dwane R. Campbell at GY6-4888.

Fire Alarm

The Louisburg Fire Dept. was summoned out about 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon to extinguish a grass fire near the base of the new overhead water tank in the northern section of town.

Masonic Notice

Work will be in the Fellowship degree at the stated Communication of Louisburg Lodge 413 AF & AM on Tuesday evening, October 22, at 7:30. All Fellowship and Master Masons are cordially invited.



Sylvester Bryant gets life

Robbers Get Cash At Wynne's, Wrenn's

Robbers knocked over Wynne's Self Service and Wrenn's Grocery, located across the road in front of one another just north of Louisburg sometime last night getting about \$30 to \$40 in cash.

The robberies were discovered when the stores opened for business this morning. SBI Agent L. M. Harton is assisting Sheriff's deputies in the investigation.

Entry to Wynne's was made through a side panel front glass and the thieves took an estimated \$25 to \$30 from the cash registers. Wrenn's was also entered through the front and

lost about \$5 to \$10 in cash. The robberies were discovered when the stores opened for business this morning. SBI Agent L. M. Harton is assisting Sheriff's deputies in the investigation.



The Emphasis Was On Training At Annual Guard Inspection

In Medical Detachment section, Sgt. Rand Alford, center, shows fledging medics how to properly splint a fractured leg. Guardsmen depend upon these highly trained men in case of injury in the field.

Sgt. Spencer B. Rice, right, goes over maintenance inspection check list with men of his Motor Section during training phase of annual Federal inspection here Wednesday night.

Lt. Ed Owens, right, goes over computations as Sgt. Garland Mustian transfers firing data to the board during simulated Honest John Rocket fire mission. A successful shop depends upon the data transmitted to the firing batteries from this section. - Times Photos