

# Franklinton High School Integrated Friday

Thirteen Of 15  
Negroes Assigned  
Attend Opening

Negro children attended the previously all-white Franklinton High School last Friday for the first time in history. The Teacher-Pupil Orientation Day was held without incident as thirteen of the fifteen Negroes assigned to the school attended.

Fred Rogers, Franklinton Schools Superintendent, said, "Everything went very smoothly. It was as fine an opening as I have experienced." He added, "Our transportation problem worked out alright. This was an area of uncertainty for us. The integration situation worked very well. There were less problems than we had thought. Everybody has been very nice."

Franklinton's plan of compliance to the 1964 Civil Rights Act, like the Franklin County plan, is now under consideration by officials in Washington. The Franklinton plan calls for freedom of choice in all grades. Negro pupils are enrolled in all grades at Franklinton High School except the first, fourth and twelfth.

The Superintendent stated he was unaware of reports of a suit being instigated in relation to the Franklinton School building. The building which houses the previously all-white high school was deeded to the town for school purposes with certain restrictions in the deed. Among the restrictions was a requirement that the school not be integrated.

Rogers said this document had been checked some time ago and that Bill Pearce, attorney for the Franklinton City School Board, had advised the Board that, "In this deed of property, the restricting clause cannot be legally enforced."

Rogers reports Monday's enrollment at the two Franklinton schools as 678 pupils. There were 466 in attendance in the Franklinton Elementary School and 212 in Franklinton High School. In the B. F. Person there were 433 in elementary and 121 in high school.

# The Franklin Times

Published Every Tuesday & Thursday

Serving All Of Franklin County

Tel. GY 6-3283

(Ten Cents)

Louisburg, N. C. Tuesday August 31, 1965

(Eight Pages Today)

96th Year—Number 55

## School Opening Delayed, Plan Gets O.K.



"Voices Said Do It"

Deputy Sheriff Dave Batten, left, and State Insurance Investigator A. E. Pearce are shown above inspecting fire damage in the Epsom Community last Thursday. The scene at right shows remains of home which fire destroyed two weeks ago. A 15-

year-old Negro boy is being held following a reported confession of "hearing voices which told him to set the fires." He is charged with three capital offenses of arson.

—Times Staff Photos.

### Schools Open Tuesday, Ten Negroes Assigned To Bunn, Louisburg Schools

NEW FRANKLIN COUNTY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Tuesday - September 7 - Teacher-Pupil Orientation 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Wednesday - September 8 - First full day of school. School lunchrooms will be in operation.

Word was received from Washington by telephone late Monday afternoon that the Franklin County Board of Education's plan of compliance to the 1964 Civil Rights Act would be approved upon receipt by the U. S. Office of Education of a letter mailed here Saturday.

Board Attorney E. F. Yarbrough received a phone call from Dennis Becker, Shop Captain for North Carolina, with the U. S. Office of Education, early Monday afternoon informing the Board of the acceptance of the plan.

In a later conversation with John Dudley, of the Washington office, with whom local officials have been dealing, it was learned the letter in question had not been received late Monday, but assurance was again given that upon its receipt the plan would gain approval.

Dudley also said, concerning the Franklinton City School plan, that it has been "only a matter of time and nothing else." He indicated that approval of the Franklinton plan would be forthcoming as the plan traveled through the channels of review in the Office of Education.

The letter referred to concerned a complaint registered with Washington last week by

the Education Committee of the county NAACP, which had delayed approval of the plan. The letter mailed Saturday clarified the earlier correspondence and supposedly satisfied the education authorities in Washington.

Meanwhile, in a special meeting last Friday night, the County Board of Education put off the opening of schools in the county system until Tuesday, September 7, which was designated as Teacher-Pupil Orientation day. The first complete day of the 180-day schedule was set for Wednesday, September 8.

The delay of the opening was based on the lateness of tobacco crops and some administrative problems which school personnel would have been hard-put to complete in time for the original opening tomorrow.

The acceptance of the County plan means there will be two integrated schools in the system, this year for the first time. Seven Negro children have been assigned to the previously all-white Louisburg High School and three have been assigned to all-white Bunn High School. The all-white Epsom, Edward Best Elementary, Edward Best High School, Gold Sand and Youngsville High Schools will

### Franklin County Schools Get Reaccredited

Superintendent of Schools, Warren W. Smith, has been notified by Nile F. Hunt, Director of the Division of Instructional Services of the State Department of Public Instruction, that all of the schools visited by the evaluative committees in the spring of 1965 had been approved for re-accréditation for the 1965-66 school year.

This action was dependent upon how well the schools met the new standards for accreditation as prescribed by the State Department of Public Instruction. Included in this communication are the following schools: Bunn, Edward Best Elementary, Edward Best High, Epsom, Getsemans, Gold Sand, Riverside, Perry's and Youngsville. The Louisburg School, having been visited by the evaluative committees in the spring of 1963, was approved for re-accréditation under the new standards prior to the 1964-65 school year.

### Step-Up In Racial Incidents Noted

A September 7th hearing in Franklin County Recorder's Court has been set in the cases of a white woman and man and a Negro woman charged in a racial incident on the streets of Louisburg last Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Frances Duke is charged with destroying private property as a result of reportedly tearing some placards being carried by Negro demonstrators parading around the County Courthouse. Woodrow Medlin, Louisburg service station operator, is faced with two charges of assault growing out of the incident.

Michele Hutchinson, n/f, a Southern Christian Leadership Conference civil rights worker, is charged with blocking traffic when she lay on the hood of an automobile during the scuffle. Medlin is free under \$400 bond, and the two women are free under bonds of \$200 each.

The town council, after con-

ferred Friday afternoon, granted a parade permit to local Negroes for a Friday night march. About 82 Negroes took part in a peaceful prayer vigil at the courthouse. There were very few spectators on the streets in contrast to an earlier march a few weeks ago when hundreds gathered.

Sheriff Joseph W. Champion reports a puzzling bombing at the home of James T. Anderson five miles east of Louisburg in what is called Massenburg Town, a Negro settlement. The explosive is believed to have been thrown from a car and to have rolled off the roof of the house and exploded in the yard. No damage was reported.

A young Louisburg white man was painfully cut last Saturday night in what was termed a race incident when he approached a Negro acquaintance on South Main Street here. An

(See INCIDENTS Page 8)



C. T. Dean, Jr. Gets Award

Minutes of the County Commissioner's meeting show that County Agricultural Agent C. T. Dean, Jr., has been the recipient of the National Service Award from the Northeastern District Association of County Agricultural Agents.

D. W. Moody, Chairman, of Williamston, N. C., stated in a letter to the Commissioners, "He is most deserving."

Dean is expected to attend the national meeting of the Association in Pittsburgh, Pa., October 31 to November 5. The Commissioner awarded \$100 to the recipient, as is customary in the Northeastern district. Dean is a native of Franklin County, having attended Edward Best High School, and is a graduate of N. C. State University. He has been County Farm Agent for a number of years. He is married to the former Marian Thompson of Franklin County. They have one child, Nancy, a third grade student at Louisburg school.

### Notice

It was announced today by Mr. Wyatt Freeman that the Franklin County Fireman's Association will hold its monthly meeting at the Epsom Fire Department Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m.

### Weather

Mostly sunny and warm today. Wednesday partly cloudy and warm. Today's low, 60; high, 83.

### Negro Boy Charged With Setting Three Epsom Fires

A 15-year-old Negro boy is being held in Franklin County jail charged with three capital offenses resulting from his alleged confession of setting a series of fires in the Epsom Community.

Joseph Junior Alston, n/m/15, of Rt. 1, Henderson is charged with setting fire to a house in which the father of the youth's step father lived three weeks ago. The home of John Daniel Davis was completely destroyed.

Last Wednesday, the youth reportedly set fire to the home in which the mother of his step-father lived. The home of Cinderella Davis was also a total loss, although Epsom and Centerville firemen prevented the entire building from burning.

While firemen were fighting this fire, another broke out in a nearby home where the Alston boy lived with his mother and step-father, John Edward Davis. There was very little damage suffered in this last fire.

Deputy Sheriff Dave Batten and State Insurance Investigator A. E. Pearce reported that the youth said he heard voices telling him to set these fires. All the blazes involved homes of members of the boy's

family through the marriage of his mother to Davis.

Pearce also reported that the boy had admitted starting a fire at the home of Boone Fuller, Negro, about two years ago on the Chicken Farm Road in Vance County. Several barn and stable fires in the Epsom Community are now being checked to determine if they were the act of the Alston boy.

The boy's step-father reported that Alston used the excuse of going to the house from the field where the family was working, in the pretense of getting his shoes, and, instead, set fire to the two homes last Wednesday.

Rescuers Aid G. O. Kennedy

A report from Franklin Memorial Hospital this morning indicates that Louisburg weatherman Glenn O. Kennedy is in satisfactory condition following a sudden illness at his home Monday afternoon.

The Louisburg Rescue Service was called to aid the stricken man and transported him to the local hospital for further treatment. One report said he apparently suffered a mild heart attack, but this was not confirmed by the hospital spokesman.

Six Weekend Wrecks Kill One, Injure Eleven

In one of the worst weekends on record, traffic accidents took one life and injured eleven in the Franklin County area. Beginning shortly before midnight Saturday, there were six accidents reported.

A head-on collision around 11:30 p.m. Saturday on Highway 56, two miles east of Louisburg, claimed the fifth road fatality of the year when Mary Lucille Fields, n/f/36, Rt. 4, Louisburg, was killed instantly.

The Fields woman was a passenger in the front seat of a car reportedly driven by Ollie Williams, n/m, also injured along with Allen Fields and James Fields. Williams and the latter Fields were taken to Duke Hospital for further treatment after receiving emergency treatment at Franklin Memorial Hospital here.

Bill Pearce, w/m/21, Castalia, Rt. 1, driver of the second car, received serious chest and leg injuries and was taken to Duke. Late reports say he is recovering and that injuries are not as critical as first believed.

Shortly after midnight, another accident occurred in the Hickory Rock Community when Mrs. Rachel Murray, w/f, Rt. 3, Louisburg, pulled onto a rural paved road and was rammed in the back by a car reportedly driven by Horrie Richardson, n/m. Ellis Alston, Linwood Richardson and Christine Yarbrough, all Negroes, were treated at Franklin Memorial Hospital for injuries. Mrs. Murray and Fred Harris, w/m, Rt. 3, Louisburg, were not injured.

Around 3 p.m. Sunday afternoon a car, reportedly driven by Bobby Bissette, Rt. 2, Rocky Mount, ran off the road on Highway 39 about five miles

east of Louisburg and sheared a power pole. Bissette was taken to Duke in what local

(See WRECKS Page 8)

At Seminar

William Beckham, of 407 Sunset Avenue, has returned from the University of South Carolina where he participated in a seminar of campus dining managers conducted by Slater School & College Services. Beckham is director of Slater service at Louisburg College.

At the seminar, more than 100 school and food service specialists discussed such subjects as nutrition, menu planning, quality control, purchasing standards, special events for students and the cultural aspects of campus dining. Workshop sessions and panel discussions were stressed.

Boxscore

Raleigh--The Motor Vehicles Department's summary of traffic deaths through 10 a.m. Monday, August 30:

KILLED TO DATE 922

KILLED TO DATE LAST YEAR 1022

### Louisburg College To Open Sept. 5

The 1965-66 academic year at Louisburg College will get underway September 5, with the arrival of freshmen students. Upperclassmen will arrive on September 8, with registration for classes the same day. Classes will begin on Thursday morning, September 9.

The annual Faculty Workshop-Retreat will be held September 3-4, according to President C. W. Robbins. Speaker for the occasion will be Dr. Barney L. Jones, acting Chairman of the Department of Religion at Duke University.

Dr. Jones, who was reared in Norfolk, Virginia, received the A.B. and Ph.D. degrees from Duke University, and the B.D. degree from Yale University. He is past Assistant Dean of Trinity College, and formerly was Chaplain at Duke. The theme for the workshop is "Uniting the Two-Knowledge and Vital Piety."



Barney L. Jones

Dean John B. York announced that some 700 students will begin their work in the regular session and in the Adult Education program on September 5. (See COLLEGE Page 8)



Visits Alabama Governor

Phil Inscow, prominent Franklin County surveyor, is shown above in the office of Governor George Wallace of Alabama. Mr. and Mrs. Inscow paid a visit to Governor Wallace on a recent trip to Alabama.