

Warm today and Wednesday, with 20 per cent chance of afternoon thundershowers. Low, 69; high, 90.

We don't fear an invasion from Mars. We figure they have heard of the high cost of living on this planet.

The Franklin Times

Published Every Tuesday & Thursday

Serving All Of Franklin County

Tel. GY 6-3283

Ten Cents

Louisburg, N. C., Tuesday, August 9, 1966

(Six Pages Today)

97th Year—Number 49

Signs Can Be Misleading If You Live In Franklin County

An Editorial

Don't be misled by the sign in the picture accompanying today's article. While it clearly states "Road Construction," it not only doesn't mean it, this isn't even a State Highway sign.

The sign appeared along busy, bumpy, patched and pitiful N. C. 561 near Centerville. It was placed along the road because, get this, the telephone company was



stringing wire along the right-of-way. There wasn't a State Highway crewman within miles, if indeed even inside the county. And we leave it to the reader to determine just how telephone wire installation constitutes road construction.

Similar signs decorated U. S. 401 south of Louisburg last week. A traveler could pretend he was following the old Burma-Shave signs for a distance of several miles. Each sign, the nearer one got to Louisburg, grew bolder. Road Construction Ahead. Uniformed persons might have believed this. Being from Franklin County, we knew the moment we saw such signs on this side of the Wake line, that someone was playing a cruel joke.

Sure enough, as we neared the obstacle course of patches near Cash's Store a few miles south of town, there it was, big as life. One road scraper; five highway maintenance men; all stopped. There was some evidence that some work had been done to the shoulders of the road. For ten miles, the State Highway department had been advertising that they were doing something, although certainly not construction, in Franklin County.

We weren't surprised. Fifth Division Highway Com-

missioner J. B. Brame had been asked about the shoulders on U. S. 401 and the difference in their upkeep in Wake and in Franklin at a recent meeting held here. He obviously passed the word to the local maintenance people, who in all probability would have gotten around to it anyway. They do an exceptionally fine job for this county and we're proud of them. Heaven help us if we didn't have a good maintenance crew.

In this same meeting, Mr. Brame stated that these editorials had no influence on him or the Commission. Considering the absence of any answers to our questions, he might be right.

We photographed N. C. 56 and N. C. 56 quickly got patched and painted.

We photographed N. C. 58, but had not at the time published the pictures. N. C. 58 was not patched or painted.

We published pictures of N. C. 561 below Centerville. N. C. 561 received patching below Centerville.

We printed a Letter to the Editor relating to holes in U. S. 1 at Franklinton. Less than twenty hours later when we arrived to check the road, who was there ahead of us? Of course, State Highway patchers.

We printed a picture of a hole in U. S. 401 at the Bickett Blvd. and N. C. 56 intersection. The hole is gone.

We published a picture of an abandoned well along the N. C. 56 right-of-way. Two days later it was filled.

Perhaps this does not constitute influence. Certainly we have, thus far, gotten no response on our main problem, Primary Road improvements. But even on the day Highway Commission Chairman Joe Hunt was quoted in The Raleigh Times as saying, "I haven't seen his editorials," a Raleigh newsman says he personally observed Mr. Hunt reading The Franklin Times in his office in Raleigh.

Mr. Hunt needn't be ashamed to admit that he reads The Times. A whole lot of people do. One day Mr. Hunt and the present administration will realize how many.

And just to keep the idea alive, again let us repeat: We in Franklin County want some improvements to our roads. We want our fair share of highway funds; we want them now and we don't really care whether or not Commissioners subscribe to The Franklin Times.

Rep. Fountain Calls For Full Report On Tri-County Program

Washington, D. C. - Rep. L. H. Fountain disclosed today he has called on anti-poverty program officials here for a "full report and explanation" of the circumstances under which federal grants totaling nearly \$200,000 were approved this year to the Recreation Council of Memorial Recreation Forest at Warrenton.

He said he had also asked the White House to look into the matter. Fountain said he was "deeply disturbed" by reports that a key staff member of the Warrenton organization "had been employed while still on parole from a combination of two life sentences and three 30-year prison terms imposed in connection with burglaries."

And he said he was even more "shocked and amazed" over reports that officials responsible for at least one of the grants were not only aware of the staff member's prison background but reportedly even persuaded him to accept the anti-poverty program responsibility in spite of it.

The Second District lawmaker indicated the demand for an explanation had been filed with both the Office of Economic Opportunity which administers the "Head Start" program and the Labor Department which is responsible for administering the Neighborhood Youth Corps program. The Recreation Council got a \$144,000 grant in April for a "Head Start" project and shortly thereafter was given a \$44,000 grant for a three-month Neighborhood Youth Corps program.

Fountain stressed that he was not attempting to pass judgment on the situation until all the facts are in.

"In view of what has already been reported, however, I feel that a full and frank explanation of the conditions under which these grants were made is in order, and I shall insist that it be provided by responsible officials. If the explanation demonstrates basic weaknesses in the so-called anti-poverty programs or in the procedures for handling

anti-poverty program applications, I shall also insist that corrective steps be taken," Fountain concluded.

Border Markets Open Today

Markets on the Border North Carolina, South Carolina belt open today and their opening is viewed with keen interest in the Franklin County area. Price trends there are considered in large measure indicative of what might be expected in the Middle Belt when the season opens here around the first of September.

Production in the two-State belts, as of conditions July 1, is forecast at 241,950,000 pounds by the U. S. Crop Reporting Board. This would be slightly more than 16 million pounds, or seven percent more than in 1965. The total forecast harvest for 1966 is estimated at 1,186,575,000 pounds, up 127.6 million pounds, or twelve percent more than the 1965 output.

The Crop Reporting Service said, however, that hot, dry weather caused some deterioration in crop conditions since July 1. Farmers will be allowed to sell 110 percent of their poundage quota of 1,126 million pounds, plus 69 million pounds, which were net under 1965 marketings.

Price supports will be available under the government loan program on tobacco of all grades the first twelve days of the season for the first time. Heretofore, loose leaf has been sold under supports in these belts only for a five to seven-day period. Tied tobacco will still be supported at three cents per pound higher than untied leaf per grade.

Last Year the Stabilization Corporation received 18.9 million pounds, or 6.1 percent of gross sales.

Highway Contracts Already Top 1964

Raleigh. - With the awarding of contracts here Friday, the State Highway Commission topped by more than a million dollars the previous record for total contract awards in a single year since 1946.

State Highway Commission Chairman J. M. Hunt, Jr. said that contracts totaling \$12,276,529.66 were awarded Friday bringing the total for 1966 to \$85,185,688.55. The previous high mark since 1946 was reached in 1964 when total

Retail Sales Increase Over \$1 Million In County

A release of Sales and Use Tax Analysis by the North Carolina Department of Revenue today, reveals that Franklin County had an increase of \$1,313,312.00 in retail sales in the fiscal 1965-66 year over 1964-65. The total Gross Retail Sales listed for Franklin County is \$28,140,695.00. This is compared to the Gross Retail Sales listed in a report last August for the fiscal year

1964-65 of \$26,824,383.00. Gross Collections of Sales and Use Tax was also higher in 1965-66 than in 1964-65 reaching \$540,424.02 as compared to the August, 1965 release of figures of \$508,384.36.

The latest figures show a large increase in retail sales over the 1963 figures released in June, 1965 which showed Louisburg as the number one

town in the state in retail sales growth.

Franklin County was shown in the U. S. Chamber of Commerce 1963 listing as having \$22,302,000.00 in Gross Retail Sales. The Chamber of Commerce release also showed figures for 1958 of \$13,882,000.00.

The latest figures reveal that Franklin County has more than doubled its retail sales since

1958. In the eight-year period, the count has shown an increase in retail sales of \$14,258,695.00.

The latest figures reveal a decline in 1% taxable retail sales from \$1,018,370.00 last year to \$864,596.00 for 1965-66. Auto sales increased from \$3,302,628.00 in 1964-65 to \$3,575,411.00 in 1965-66.

Apparel held its own in retail sales with the \$457,523.00 reported this week, just slightly under the 1964-65 figure of \$458,354.00.

Automotive sales increased from \$5,433,780.00 in the last report to \$5,987,348.00 in the latest figures. Food, the largest item in the retail sales listing, remained almost stable. Latest figures show a relative minor increase from \$6,278,790 in 1964-65 to \$6,764,481.00 in 1965-66. Furniture remained virtually the same at \$803,454.00 and General Merchandise showed a slight increase in sales as did the unclassified group.

Accident Statistics

	Acc.	Inj. Acc.	Fatal Acc.	P. Damage
Vance	27	6	1	\$ 8,625.00
Granville	46	14	2	\$26,650.00
Franklin	31	19	2	\$22,800.00
Warren	12	5	1	\$ 5,725.00
	116	44	6	\$63,800.00

School Opening Three Weeks Away

Opening day for the Franklin County schools is about three weeks away, according to the scheduled approved recently by the Board of Education.

The some over 6,000 students in the county system will report for orientation day on Wednesday, August 31, with the first day of school listed as September 1.

Monday, September 5, is slated as a holiday with schools closed. Teachers are to report on Monday, August 29. The last day of school for the students in the 1966-67 school term is slated as May 31, 1967. The teachers complete their work on June 2, 1967.

The Board of Education expressed its hope that the schedule as adopted sometime ago would hold and that no delay in opening of schools would be necessary. In a meeting last Monday, the Board discussed the possibility of a delay but declined to change the original dates.

In a meeting last week with local school committeemen, it was unanimously agreed that no delay would be made unless in case of extreme emergency. The committeemen, when asked their feelings on the opening date, voiced 100 per cent approval of the schedule as approved by the Board earlier.

Unless altered by unusual weather, other holidays are scheduled as Thanksgiving, November 24 and 25; Christmas, December 22 through January 1 (seven school days)

Man Killed Near Pilot As Road Machine Falls

A 43-year-old Kenly, Rt. 2 man died instantly early Monday morning when a D-7 Caterpillar overturned on him near Pilot, according to Franklin County Sheriff's officers. Alton Fernie Narron, was reportedly unloading the huge machine at the site of a pond being built on the land of a man identified only as "Mr. Bunn."

Coroner James Edwards' report revealed an eyewitness to the accident. Tommy Bailey, 23, Route 1, Zebulon, according to the report, witnessed the death, but attempts to reach Bailey were unsuccessful late Monday. Details of the happening were not explained.

The accident occurred just off N. C. 39 "below Pilot"

according to officers, around 5:45 a.m. Monday morning.

This is the second unusual fatal accident to occur within the county in the past five days. Alvin Junious Marshall, 21-year-old county man died instantly when a jack gave away causing the automobile under which he was working to topple last Wednesday around noon at Wood.

Shooting Of Negro Home Reported

The Franklin County Sheriff's Department disclosed Monday that it is investigating the report of a shooting at the Katie J. Perry home on Louisburg Route 3, sometime last Wednesday night. The Negro home was reportedly shot twice with a .22 caliber pistol or rifle.

One of the bullets entered a window and lodged in an inside wall, according to reports; the other lodged in a window facing.

The Sheriff's Department reported that although the family was home, none of the members heard the shots fired. The incident was reported to the Sheriff's Department around 6 a.m. Thursday, according to reports.

Sheriff's Deputies Dave Batten and Tom Powell said that there was nothing in their investigation indicating the incident had anything to do with the recent school suit since none of the Perry children were involved in the case or had applied for previously white schools. None of the family, according to the deputies, had any idea of a reason for the shooting.

School officials were silent on the report, but it was learned that they are concerned in view of a ruling by Judge Algernon Butler ten days ago that Negro children and their parents be given a second choice period void of intimidation. The U. S. Justice

Department and attorneys for the eleven Negro plaintiffs had claimed that massive community hostility had prevented Negroes from exercising a free choice of schools last April.

One source reported that it was doubtful that this incident would change the status of the Interim Order or the school suit.

In another totally disassociated incident, Thurston Dunston, N/m/49 of Louisburg was shot in the leg Sunday afternoon around 2 p.m. just outside the Louisburg town limits. Sheriff's Deputies are investigating this incident and reported that Dunston apparently didn't know who shot him, other than that it was a Negro.

Person Serves At Fire Convention

Louisburg Fire Company was honored during the 79th Annual Firemen's Convention, held last week at Carolina Beach, by having R. G. Person, Jr. serve as Sergeant-at-Arms for the convention. Person, who is Chief of the local company, was named to the post by President Claiborne Lawson of Durham.

Newsmen In Oklahoma Today

Times Managing Editor Clint Fuller and WYRN News Director Asher Johnson were to arrive in Ft. Sill, Oklahoma around noon today for a two day working visit with members of the local National Guard unit, in training at the massive mid-western base.

The two local newsmen left Raleigh-Durham Airport this morning around 7:30 a.m. for the flight on an Air National Guard C-121 Troop-Carrier.

Several other area newspaper and radio-TV newsmen were slated to make the trip, including Ebb Allen, Editor of the WAKEWEEKLY of Wake Forest, N. C. and Chuck Barber, Managing Editor of THE DURHAM MORNING HERALD. Fuller said, before leaving, that he would be reporting for the ZEBULON RECORD, in addition to his paper, THE FRANKLIN TIMES. The local unit is made up of Guardsmen from Louisburg, Youngsville and Zebulon. Both Fuller and Allen will be covering the Youngsville unit.

Highlight of the trip is expected to be the firing of the "Honest John Rocket" by the local guardsmen. Advance information, though not official, has it that two firings will occur, one on Tuesday afternoon and one on Tuesday night.

Johnson and Fuller are expected to return late Wednesday and the local units are slated to arrive home Sunday.

Business Association Moves Office

The Louisburg Business Association has announced the moving of its office upstairs in the Perry Building since 1962 to a new location on Court Street here.

Mrs. Juanita Pleasants, Executive Secretary of the Association reported the office is now on a ground floor level at 211 Court Street. The move, reportedly, was in order to get nearer the downtown businesses and to afford easier access for the Association members.

The Association, first formed in 1962, has rented office space in the Perry Building on Main Street here since that time. Efforts to locate on a ground floor failed to locate a suitable place until recently.

The move was approved by the Association Board of Directors in a special meeting held last week, it was announced.

Bunn Lions To Hold Bulb Sale

The recently formed Bunn Lions Club will stage a door-to-door light bulb sale in the Bunn area Friday night, beginning at 7 p.m. according to Randy Alford, spokesman for the group. Proceeds from the sale of the light bulbs will go to the Bunn Lions General Activities Fund, according to Alford.