

### An Editorial

## Lest We Forget: N. C. 56

The Governor of North Carolina has answered some of the questions posed by this series of editorials. Franklin County is to get some road improvements. Some is better than none. Before Franklin could expect relief from the long drought of getting nothing, a start had to be made. It is hoped the recent disclosure by the Governor constitutes that start.

U. S. 401 is to be widened and receive general improvements from Louisburg to Ingleside. This is a Primary highway project . . . the first since 1953. The Town of Louisburg is to get its allocation of bond funds amounting to \$112,200 and the county is to get its share of secondary road bond funds in the amount of \$735,300.

But, all this is bond money. The regular allocations being granted periodically to other counties has not yet been applied to Franklin County.

The people traveling U. S. 401-N. C. 39 from Ingleside to Louisburg will undoubtedly welcome the news that they are to see better days on this stretch of highway. But what about the people who travel N. C. 56?

The latest traffic count map released by the Highway Commission planning division shows a traffic count daily on U. S. 401 north of Louisburg, of 1800 at Ingleside and 2900 at Louisburg. Traffic on N. C. 56 runs up to 3000 from Mapleville to Louisburg.

Indeed, N. C. 56 is the heaviest traveled highway in the county except U. S. 1 just south of Franklinton which has 3100 vehicles per day.

None of us will knock the promised improvements to U. S. 401. This could possibly lead to more improvement on N. C. 39 to the Vance County line. But, we must ponder the thinking of the Commission on N. C. 56.

For instance, much is being written about the urgent need to improve N. C. 54 from Raleigh to Chapel Hill by way of the Research Triangle Park. The Commission is moving ahead with such plans.

Traffic on N. C. 54 after leaving Raleigh runs from

2700 up to 3600 and back to 3000 at the intersection of N. C. 55 leading from Durham. In short, traffic is as heavy on N. C. 56 from Mapleville to Louisburg as it is on this much discussed highway in Wake and Orange counties. And since we have personally checked it, we can say that N. C. 54 is in much better condition than N. C. 56, even though we agree, N. C. 54 could use some improvements.

How many is 3000 cars a day? How does N. C. 56 traffic compare with other roads? U. S. 1 from Henderson to Franklinton carries from 2700 to 3100 vehicles per day; U. S. 64 below Pilot where it has recently been resurfaced in Nash County and is in terrible shape in Franklin, carries from 1300 to 1900 vehicles per day and Interstate 85 from the Virginia line to Henderson carries around 3700 per day.

The Highway Commission should take a careful look at their list of road needs. We don't believe they will find one of greater need than N. C. 56. It is hoped that this highway will be placed back on an active status and that some assurance of action here will be forthcoming.

It has become vividly clear that whatever Franklin County gets from the state is going to take a continued push and concentrated effort. Every citizen should realize this and while expressing our gratitude for the recent assurances from the Governor, at the same time, renew our convictions that something more must be done to our roads. Stress the fact that action is needed now. We cannot afford to let up in our efforts at this point.

The efforts have just begun to pay off. We should take heart that such efforts were able to accomplish at least something in the way of improvements. This should be an encouragement to all to join in these efforts and push even harder.

Things might be getting better in Franklin County and the time to climb on the bandwagon is now.

## Market Average Strong

The Louisburg tobacco market is averaging \$64.51 per hundred weight for the season following Wednesday's sales. Total pounds of tied and untied leaf sold thus far on the three local warehouse floors has reached 4,672,457 through Wednesday.

Total amount paid for tobacco since opening day reached \$3,014,238.18 with Wednesday's sales.

The average for the season indicates that prices remain firm on the local market. Ranging from \$66.28 on opening day to a high of \$66.67 on September 12, no daily figures are available but total sales figures show that the season average is just below the highest.

Reports from at least one warehouse Wednesday indicated that the market is still receiving a considerable amount of tobacco even though the period for selling untied leaf ended last Friday.

The news service said price changes on the Middle Belt were small. Quality was lower than on Tuesday with an increase of poor quality and nondescript.

## Faulkner Comments On Roads

Norwood E. Faulkner, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners issued a statement today in view of recent disclosures in The Franklin Times that the county is to receive some road improvements.

The Commissioner said, "We certainly appreciate the Governor's, Mr. Brame's and Mr. Hunt's interest. We feel like we have begun a road program which will increase over the next few years." Faulkner added, "But we haven't forgotten NC 56," in reference to needed repairs to this stretch of highway from the Nash County line to Louisburg.

"I think they know more about our road needs now. They have been brought to the attention by groups that have been pushing," Faulkner stated. "We still need to push and we need the cooperation of each individual and every organization in the county," he added.

Faulkner also said, "I want to give you (the newspaper) credit. You certainly accomplished something in getting the letter from the Governor." He disclosed that he had received word from Fifth Division Commissioner J. B. Brame that the Commissioner plans a return visit to Louisburg at a time to be set by

Mr. Brame. Faulkner indicated he feels that "something can be worked out with Mr. Brame concerning Franklin County's road future."

Faulkner explained that the county had already received \$75,000 of the bond money for secondary projects. He said that secondary funds are designated for use "as you go along from year to year." The funds to be received by the county, according to the Gov-

ernor's letter to Time's Editor Clint Fuller, will be used for paving, widening and stabilizing some secondary roads, said Faulkner.

Faulkner and Fuller, accompanied by H. D. Mitchell, Chairman of the Better Roads Committee, gave Mr. Brame a tour of several county primary roads several weeks ago in an effort to point out the need for improvements.

## Merchants Plan Harvest Sale

The Louisburg Business Association announced today that a townwide Harvest Sale will be held next week, beginning on Monday. The sale, with 27 merchants participating, is the second such event of the year.

Mrs. Juanita Pleasants, Executive Secretary of the organization, said that an advertising campaign will be conducted by the Association in the local newspaper and on the local radio station. Merchants are also expected to announce individual specials to coincide with the weeklong event in their ads.

The Association, made up of various types of business and professional people, plans

townwide sales each year with the largest event being the annual Christmas Parade which opens the Christmas selling season.

The promotion, designed to increase sales of goods and services in Louisburg, usually features special reduced prices on goods being sold by member merchants. The theme of the sales event is selected by the organization's Board of Directors and all members are contacted and urged to participate.

The public is issued a special invitation to shop in Louisburg during the event by Association officials and merchants. Special advertising on the sale will appear in The Times next

## Times Launches Subscription Drive

The annual drive for subscriptions to The Franklin Times is now underway. The campaign, being conducted by high school students, began last Monday and will continue through October 10. Elizabeth Johnson, Business Manager, announced that no subscriptions expiring during this drive will be stopped until the subscriber has had an opportunity to renew.

Schools participating in the campaign are: Louisburg, Bunn, Epsom, Youngsville, Gold Sand and Riverside. Classes sponsoring the campaigns in their schools receive a proportionate share of the subscription price for use in their own projects.

The public is urged to contact these youngsters and to enter a new subscription, to renew their present subscription or to give a subscription to friends, relatives and servicemen.

## Mrs. Taylor Boone Passes

Funeral services for Mrs. Taylor Webb Boone, 64, Route 4, Louisburg, wife of the Chairman of the County Board of Elections, were held today at 2:30 p.m. from White Funeral Home here. Services were conducted by Rev. Burke E. Holland. Burial followed in the Boone family cemetery. Mrs. Boone was the mother of nominee-elect to the Franklin County Board of Education, William T. Boone. She was a native of Nash County and a member of Peach Tree Baptist Church.

Surviving are her husband, Taylor W. Boone; two daughters, Mrs. Edward Willey, of Gates, and Mrs. Jarrett E. Dickens, of Rocky Mount; two sons, William and Edward Boone, both of Louisburg; one brother, David C. May, of Silver Springs, Md; and five grandchildren.



Bishop Paul N. Garber



Dr. C. W. Robbins



Rev. W. K. Quick



GREEN HILL PLACE

## Green Hill To Be Site Of Sunday Observance

Bishop Paul N. Garber, presiding bishop of the Raleigh Area, will be the speaker Sunday, October 2, at 3:00 p.m. in a special Methodist historical service at Green Hill House near Louisburg.

The event is a part of the bicentennial celebration of American Methodism, and is sponsored by the Historical Society of the North Carolina Conference.

Green Hill, now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. George Davis, is the site of the first Annual Conference of American Methodism following the formal organization of the Methodist Church in the United States in December 1784. The Green Hill Conference was held in April 1785 and brought together about twenty preachers, including Bishops Francis Asbury and Thomas Coke.

Green Hill got its name from an outstanding patriot and Methodist preacher, Green Hill, who owned the property at the time of the Conference. He and his family later moved to Tennessee where he continued active in the Methodist movement. A number of his descendants still live in the

Louisburg area, including Mr. Davis.

Others participating in the program Sunday include Reverend Kimsey King of Ahsokie, president of the North Carolina Conference Historical Society; Reverend W. K. Quick of Greenville, secretary of the Historical Society; Dr. Cecil W. Robbins, president of

Louisburg College; and Reverend Norwood Jones, pastor of the Louisburg Methodist Church.

Louisburg College students, under the direction of Miss Sarah Foster, will provide special music.

The public is invited to the event. The house will be open for tours Sunday afternoon.

## ASCS Committee Named

Community ASC Committees from all communities, serving as delegates, attended the ASC County Convention which was held at the ASCS Office in Louisburg, Monday afternoon, September 26, 1966, beginning at 3:00 p.m. The purpose of the convention was to elect a person to serve a three-year term on the county committee and to elect a first and second alternate to the committee. Convention delegates also had to determine who would serve as Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Regular Member of the Committee.

The results of the convention are as follows: B. T. Bunn,

Chairman (3 year term); E. G. Brewer, Vice-Chairman (2 year term); C. C. Perry, Regular Member (1 year term); Bennie R. Gupton, First Alternate (1 year term); and Carl Harris, Second Alternate (1 year term).

The newly elected county and community committeemen will take office on October 3, 1966.

The 1967 Wheat Program will be similar to the program we had in 1966 except there will be NO DIVERSION required for participating and there will be NO DIVERSION PAYMENTS. It will include

See ASCS Page 5

## November Elections: Preview Of Things To Come?

By Clint Fuller

When Franklin County voters go to the polls on November 8, they will notice something unusual on their county ballot. There is a Republican running for County Commissioner. One would have to go way back to find the date when this last occurred in this county.

Willis Dupree, Louisburg plumbing and heating firm operator, has his name on the ballot as a candidate for the District 5 seat on the Board of County Commissioners against Democrat Norwood E. Faulkner.

Not since Franklin County voted for Ulysses S. Grant, 1,431 over Horatio Seymour, 1,379 in 1868, can it be found where the county has voted Republican. Even this GOP win was due to the defeat of the south in the war, and the heavy vote cast by Negroes, which were practically all Republicans at that time.

James T. Harris, known as Long Jim Harris, was the first native-born white man elected to office in the county as a Republican. This was in 1868 when he and John H. Williamson, a Negro, were elected to serve in the N. C. House of Representatives from Franklin County. Williamson, as a Republican, continued to serve as late as 1887.

In 1928, when North Carolina went Republican in the Al Smith-Herbert Hoover election, Franklin stayed in the Democratic fold by giving Smith 2,831 to Hoover's 729. There were no Republicans on the local ticket.

In 1924, the county voted for John W. Davis, a Democrat

over Calvin Coolidge, 1,991 to 302. That year, five Republicans ran for the County Commissioner seats, but were swamped by the five Democratic opponents. Democrats received over 2,000 votes while the Republicans received just over 200.

In 1958, the last time Senator B. Everette Jordan ran for office, he received 1,243 votes, in Franklin, to Republican Clarke's 85. Rep. Harold Cooley received 1,162 to GOP Dark's 44. In 1956, Adlai Stevenson got 5,298 local votes to Eisenhower's 792 in the presidential race.

Cooley represents the 4th Congressional District in the U. S. House of Representatives. Franklin County is now in the 2nd District and no longer votes on Mr. Cooley. However, Jim Gardner, Rocky Mount Republican, gave the veteran House member the run of his life two years ago, and most observers believe the younger man will do the same this time, if indeed, he doesn't end Cooley's long reign.

Senator Jordan has a more formidable foe this year in Smithfield businessman John Shallcross than against the unknown Clarke in 1958.

On the local level, the race for State Senate in 1964 between two Henderson men representing the three county area of Granville, Vance and Franklin showed some gains in the Republican ranks in the county. Fred Royster, a Democrat, won easily but John Adcox, the Republican, mustered 525 votes in the county, a high for local GOP hopefuls.

Robert Gavin received around five hundred more votes in 1964 against Democrat Dan Moore than he had gotten over Democrat Terry Sanford four years earlier. Goldwater polled 2,067 for the GOP against Lyndon Johnson's 4,554 in 1964 from county voters.

Most observers will agree that Johnson's popularity has declined considerably in the county since that time and if he were running in this year's election, his vote would be smaller.

In fact, Hayesville Township went Republican in 1964. The area gave Barry Goldwater 192 votes to Johnson's 143. Hayesville supported Dan Moore over Bob Gavin but only by 28 votes.

It is interesting to note a statement in a November issue of The Franklin Times: "The Democrats-carried the county from 1,411 to 1,633 votes . . . Every township in the county, except Hayesville giving a strong majority." The quote appeared in 1910. In 1932 The Times said: "Not a single GOP vote was cast in Gold Mine Township and even Hayesville changed from a 129 vote GOP margin in 1928 to a 43 Democratic margin in 1932."

Times have changed and few will venture a guess today as to how many Republican votes might be cast in the county on November 8. Most will agree that there will likely be more than ever before.

While it is still too early to get a true feel of the voter's

attitude, some things are already clear.

The majority of local voters are out with the national administration. Many are unhappy with the state administration, although not to the same degree suffered by the national Democrats. It is unlikely that Franklin County will go Republican. Congressman L. H. Fountain, Democratic Representative in Congress, is expected to carry the county as is Senator B. Everette Jordan. However, Fountain is expected to fare somewhat better than Jordan.

On the state ballot, other than Reese Gardner running against Rep. Fountain and John Shallcross opposing Sen. Jordan, the only other Republican is Hugh E. Monteth running against Democrat Joe Branch for the State Supreme Court. Branch is as safe as if he were home in bed.

Since this is an off-year election, little is expected to be learned from Franklin County voting. Very little is offered to excite the masses into even bothering to cast a ballot. However, in neighboring Fourth Congressional District, the race between Rep. Cooley and Jim Gardner will bear watching and so will the Fifth District race.

However, if the GOP plans ever to get back on a Franklin County ballot, the start has been made. Isolated as it is, and without any apparent campaign being conducted, it might still be of interest to count the Republican votes cast on November 8. This could very well show a trend toward what the future might hold in Franklin County politics.