

Fire Destroys Four Businesses Here

Thanksgiving

This is the week of Thanksgiving. It is a time when Americans let their thoughts wander to the distant past when things were simple though hard for the early settlers. The problems in those days were ones of a personal nature. The most pressing problem was constantly one of survival.

Those people valued their freedom, the close friendship and dependence of their neighbors. They placed their greatest trust, not in money or power or position, but in their God. The most valued possession of a man at that time was his honor, his word, his reputation in his settlement.

Hunger, cold, sickness and miseries the like of which we today cannot imagine plagued him. But, his spirit never wavered.

Because of this spirit, we are here today enjoying the fruits of his labors.

If these gallant people could find reasons to give Thanks in view of all their real hardships, surely each of us can reach out and touch any number of



things for which we, too, should give Thanks.

Let us be Thankful for all the blessings of these days. Let us be Thankful for these settlers from whom we inherited so much, including the ability to give Thanks.

How much do you have to be thankful for this Thanksgiving Day?

Herring Scholarship Established

Louisburg College Board of Trustees in the fall meeting set up a scholarship in memory of Dr. Herbert J. Herring of Durham who had served as a member of the Board since 1952.

The scholarship will be known as the Herbert James Herring Memorial Scholarship and will cover full tuition. It was established in appreciation of Dr. Herring's service

both as a Trustee and as a General Consultant to the College.

John W. Scott, Professor in the Law School at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was elected a Trustee of the College.

The Board authorized the appointment of a special committee to implement long-range plans already made by the College.

Reporting to the Board were members of the College administration including President Cecil W. Robbins, Dean John B. York, Treasurer Genevieve Perry, and Director of College Relations, David E. Daniel. Also reporting was Allen de Hart, Chairman of the 180th Anniversary Committee who outlined the anniversary celebration beginning on Founder's Day, January 6, 1967.

Also reporting were the Reverend James A. Auman, Executive Director of the Association of Methodist Colleges of the North Carolina Conference of The Methodist Church and Duffy Paul of Raleigh, President of the Louisburg College Alumni Association.

Twenty-Two Expected To Die On Highways

While you're steering your wheels carefully so you don't become one of the 22 persons the N. C. State Motor Club warns may lose their lives in Thanksgiving holiday traffic on North Carolina's streets and highways, take time to give thanks that you were not one of the 25 killed during the same period last year.

The state will officially count its holiday toll from 6 P.M. Wednesday, November 23, through midnight Sunday, Nov. 27, a period of 102 hours. The 1965 casualty list, in addition to the 25 fatalities (the exact number predicted by the motor club), also included 559 injured in a total of 1,215 accidents.

Leading driver violations

reported were: speeding, 251 failure to yield right of way, 191; driving left of center, 161; and following too closely, 109.

"Our motor club bases its estimate on past experience coupled with current driving patterns," Thomas B. Watkins, president of the club and the National Automobile Association, said. "Fatalities can be reduced to the extent that motorists observe the safe driving rules and vice versa."

"Don't call off that trip to grandmother's house or wherever you want to go. At the same time, use extra caution and don't spoil your holiday by getting involved in an accident."

Local Implement Place Robbed

Sheriff's deputies are investigating a break-in at Louisburg Tractor and Truck Company here, which netted the burglar an adding machine and a camera. An attempt to get into the company safe proved too much for the thief and no money was reported missing.

The burglary was discovered

Fire, believed to have started from a grill in a Negro tavern, completely destroyed four businesses on South Main Street here Sunday afternoon. The blaze, sighted by a passerby shortly after 4 p.m.

had gutted the rear portions of the massive metal sheathed structure when firemen arrived.

The property, owned by the estate of the late Charles P. Green, was partially covered

by insurance according to John Godfrey local furniture store operator who handled the building for the estate. Neither he nor Louisburg Fire Chief R. G. Person estimated the damage.

Destroyed in the blaze was Green's Cafe, a barber shop, the Fran-Co. Auto Parts Store and the tavern when the fire was believed to have originated. A Negro employee of the Town of Louisburg said Mon-

day morning that he saw a blaze coming from a grill in the place when he arrived Sunday afternoon to build a fire preparatory for Sunday night's business.

Fire units from Centerville, Epsom, Bunn, and Justice were called and their aid has been credited with having prevented the fire from spreading to nearby buildings. John Hayes, operator of Fuller and Hayes Grocery issued a statement Monday expressing his appreciation to all the fire units and to private individuals who helped prevent his store from catching. He said his damage was confined to slight water damage to the walls and ceilings.

The grocery store had escaped a raging inferno in January of 1963 when another destructive fire struck just before midnight. The blaze wiped out Ford's Southside warehouse, the Lee Bunn grocery and other businesses adjacent to Fuller and Hayes or the south side. Sunday's blaze wiped out the four adjoining buildings to the north of the store.

Firemen Sunday, as they had been in 1963, were concerned for awhile that the flames would spread to Franklin Milling Company across the street or perhaps to Allen Oil Company's fuel storage tanks a short distance from the scene. Efficient fire fighting on the part of local firemen and the rural departments prevented this.

Main Street was closed off from the Nash Street intersection to Kenmore Avenue for several hours during the height of the blaze Sunday afternoon and early evening. Firemen were still on the scene late Sunday night preventing a flareup of the blaze.

Telephone and power linesmen were busy Monday morning repairing damage to their lines by the flames and Chief Person said the portion of the structure still standing would have to be torn down for reasons of safety.

Hundreds of spectators flocked to the blaze, smoke from which could be seen for miles around. Many joined in to aid in the battle. One arrest was made of an unidentified Negro man, aiding in the battle, who continued to use profanity after being warned by officials. He was taken to the local jail by officers.

There were no injuries reported in connection with the blaze and while no estimate of damage was made by officials, it was apparent that the loss would run into several thousand dollars.

Case Back In Recorder's Court

Superior Court Judge William A. Johnson, presiding over Granville County Superior Court session last week remanded the assault case against former Louisburg principal Howard Stallings back to Granville Recorder's Court. The action came at the request of defense attorneys.

Stallings has been charged in warrants sworn by the parents of a 13-year-old Oxford youth with assault in what the parents claim was an excessive paddling of the youngster. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Elliott are the parents.

The incident is reported to have followed misbehavior on a school bus by the youth. The driver, an unidentified girl student, was forced to return the bus loaded with students to the school reportedly because of inability to handle the 13-year-old.

In the hearing in Recorder's Court November 8, the case was moved to a jury trial in Superior Court at request of attorneys. No date was announced for the now slated Recorder's Court trial.



Ruins Of Sunday's Fire

Franklinton Men Tackle Armed Bandits

A Franklinton grocer and feed store operator, listed in his 60's was slightly wounded in the hand Monday night when he and a son-in-law tackled three armed bandits in the store located on West Mason Street.

Chief of Police Leo Edwards

gave the account of the robbery this morning. Edwards said that Lewis Thompson, Sr. owner of Thompson's Feed and Hardware Store in Franklinton returned to his store Monday night shortly after 11 P.M. to cut off a motor. Unknown to Thompson at the time was the fact that three armed, white men had made entry into the store by breaking in an abandoned rear door, crawling into the basement and breaking a lock on a trap door type closure. As Thompson entered the store, the bandits working on the safe, hid and remained quiet.

Thompson's son-in-law, Clement Weston, walked from across the street upon seeing his father-in-law inside the store. When Weston entered, the bandits came forward flashing a pistol and demanded that Thompson open the safe.

One of the bandits then went outside to start a brand new Dodge pickup purchased Monday by Thompson, preparatory for the get-away. At this point, Thompson jumped his man and Weston attacked the second man. Thompson reportedly told Chief Edwards, "We'd have had them if that other one hadn't come back".

The reference was to the fact that the third man returned and picked up the gun off the floor where Thompson had knocked it when he jumped his man. The third bandit, then placed the pistol at the head of Weston and ordered Thompson to stop his attack.

Both Thompson, who suffered a slight hand wound when the pistol discharged as he knocked it from the hands of the bandit, and Weston were bound and gagged as the three-some made their escape with over \$2,000.00 and the new

pickup truck. Thompson and Weston managed to break loose about five minutes later and sound the alarm.

The pickup was described as

See BANDITS Page 6

Board OKs Option Transfer

The Board of County Commissioners met here Monday afternoon in special session to act on several matters, including the sale of the Boarding Home property.

On motion by Commissioner Richard Cash and seconded by Commissioner Brooks W. Young, the Board voted unanimously to recognize that the Franklin Building Corporation, in a meeting earlier in the day, had transferred the lease on the Boarding Home property as given by the Commissioners, to a newly formed, but unnamed corporation. It was explained that the newly formed corporation will exercise the actual transfer of the property.

Cash's motion included authorization that the Chairman, Norwood E. Faulkner and Secretary Allen T. Wood could sign the deed at whatever time it became necessary without another called meeting.

Advertisement of property, real and personal at the Board Home site other than the Home building itself, was discussed and later ordered. It was understood this would be by public auction at an announced date.

A representative from the State Highway Patrol appeared before the Board in connection with the removal from the Board Home property of a gasoline pump and tank now being used by locally stationed patrol cars. It was agreed that the pump would be moved within 15 days.

Two Youths Hurt When Car Flips

Two county youths were injured Sunday morning around 2:30 a.m. when the foreign sports car in which they were riding ran off the road and overturned several times near the Louisburg Town limits on highway 561.

Phil Hight, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred C. Hight, Rt. 2, Louisburg was the most seriously injured and remains in serious condition this morning in Wake Memorial Hospital. Bill Parham, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Brooks Parham of Franklinton was also injured in the crash but was released from the hospital.

Both youths were taken to Franklin Memorial Hospital following the accident by the Louisburg Rescue Service and later transferred to the Wake county hospital. Hight remained unconscious through

Sunday. The extent of his injuries were not disclosed pending further examination by his physicians.

Louisburg Police officers Hubert Shearin and Charlie Lambert, the latter having just recently rejoined the force, were patrolling in the vicinity of the accident and witnessed the car leaving the highway and overturning. The fact that they did, has been credited with perhaps saving the life of Hight. Otherwise, it has been theorized, the accident might have gone unnoticed until dawn. The vehicle was a total loss after rolling several hundred yards in an open field. Both men were thrown from the car. It was not learned which of the two was the driver, although the vehicle was owned by Parham.

Civil Air Patrol Alerted

The Franklin County Civil Air Patrol was alerted here Sunday and made preparations to join in the search for a missing Piedmont Airlines Martin 404 airliner.

The locals were called around 7:00 a.m. Sunday morning and remained at the local field for most of the day. After the discovery of the crashed airliner near New Bern around 10:30 a.m. the local CAP stayed on at the local air field making routine repairs to equipment here. Three crew members were killed in the crash.



Mayors Proclaim CAP Week

Mayors of Franklin County's five municipalities are shown above with officials of the local Civil Air Patrol following the declaration by the Mayor's of the week of December 1 as Civil Air Patrol Week by the Mayors and the County Board of Commissioners. Pictured, left to right are: Capt. J. L. Gupton, head of the 25th Anniversary observance; Mayor Bill Andrews of Bunn; Mayor Marvin Roberts of Youngsville; Mayor V. A. Peoples of Louisburg; Mayor Joe Pearce of Franklinton; Mayor John Neal of Centerville and Capt. Joe Shearon, head of the local unit.

— Photo by T. H. Pearce.