

Louisburg Entered Electric Power Business In 1905

Town of Louisburg records date back to 1906 and the exact date of the town's entry into the business of manufacturing and distributing electricity is not readily available. Records of 1906, however, show that the town was operating its own power producing plant at that time. Some residents recall that it began in 1905.

A bill in the legislature at the present time would amend the 1965 act and allow municipalities to purchase REA and private power company lines when town limits are extended. In view of this push by the North Carolina Municipally Owned Electric Systems Association, some history of such systems is being made

public. While the Association's releases do not include Louisburg's history, they do show similar systems being nurtured into prosperity in nearby communities.

Like those in neighboring towns, Louisburg first got into the electric business of necessity. There were no power companies supplying the area in 1905, according to reports. A town-owned generator took care of the needs of the community for many years. As the equipment began to wear out and the demand began to grow for more power, the Town Council began a study of the issue. Details are somewhat

sketchy, but reliable accounts point to the long period of time during which this matter was discussed. At times the issue became a real hot potato among locals. When the issue finally came to a vote on the Council, there was a 3-3 tie and Mayor W. C. Webb repeatedly voted with those favoring the continuance of the Louisburg operation. The others favored entering into a contract with Carolina Power and Light Company for a source of electric power.

Councilmen favoring such a move were the late R. C. Beck, the late W. J. Cooper and W. G. Lancaster. Those opposing were F. H. Allen, Jr., W. J. Shearin and the late W. B.

Barrow. Mayor Webb also opposed the CP&L deal.

Here the matter stood until fate took a hand. On August 30, 1944 councilman Barrow was stricken by a heart attack and died. His untimely death placed the CP & L advocates in power. In the replacement of Mr. Barrow, those favoring the CP & L deal, voted 3 to 2 for N. F. Freeman over Mrs. W. B. Barrow.

In the meeting of November 3, 1944, a resolution was introduced by Mr. Beck, seconded by Mr. Lancaster to award the contract to the power company. Mr. Cooper and Mr. Freeman voted in favor and the resolution passed 4-2 with Mr. Allen and Mr. Shearin

opposed. Soon thereafter, Carolina Power and Light Company began selling electric current to the Town of Louisburg and this arrangement has been in effect ever since.

A million North Carolinians--one-fourth of the state's population--in 73 cities and towns are served by municipally-owned electric power systems.

In every case, these 73 electric cities got into the electric power business out of necessity--most of them just before the turn of the century when there was no service from private power companies. (The first municipal electric system in the

nation was at Danville, Virginia. Danville's electric system was already in operation when the nation's first central generator was built in New York City in 1882.)

In North Carolina the cities had to generate as well as distribute their own electricity when they emerged from the Gaslight Era. In Statesville the night was February 4, 1889. A crowd had gathered on the unpaved streets of downtown Statesville--unaware, probably, that they were about to witness one of the most significant events in the history of the city. Yet all knew that it was a moment of

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Gary Tant

A Way To Win And Not Get Caught

This blue ribbon still is one whiskey still that the Franklin County Sheriff's Department has not destroyed. It is a model constructed by a United States History student, Gary Tant, that won first place in the Social Studies Fair sponsored by Aubrey L. Hancock for his Social Studies classes from April 3-7 at Bunn High School. The purpose of the Social Studies Fair was to help the social studies students relive the historical events that took place from 1914 to 1945. The sixty-five models entered in the fair represented important events that took place in World War I, the "Roaring Twenties", the depression and World War II. The sociology models represented daily living.

Gary's model, the whiskey still, represents one of the problems caused by the U. S. Government's passage of the 18th Amendment in 1919, which made the sale of whiskey illegal.

Gary is a 16 year old, eleventh grade student at Bunn High School. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Tant who lives at Rt. 2, Zebulon. One of Gary's hobbies is drawing and after graduation from high school, he hopes to attend N. C. State University at Raleigh where he plans to major in some type of Engineering.

Ted Horton's model of the Normandy Invasion won second place and Van Denton's model of a Technical Institute won third place.

Lady Senator To Address Demo Women

Senator Mary Faye Brumby of Murphy will be the featured speaker at a special dinner meeting of the Franklin County Democratic Women scheduled for the Murphy house, April 21, according to an announcement received today from Mrs. Agnes Merritt, President of the local organization.

Senator Brumby represents the mountain country of Western North Carolina embracing Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon, Swain, Jackson and Transylvania counties. She served in the last session of the House of Representatives and is now serving her first term in the North Carolina Senate.

She is a mother of three and has six grandchildren. She and her husband own and operate textile mills in the area she serves. In 1952 she returned to college at Western Carolina. She graduated in 1962 cum laude.

She is a Presbyterian and her service in church work is well known. She is one of only 21 Democratic women in state senates in the country and takes great pride in this fact. She considers herself a firm believer in states' rights saying, "Majority rule is the backbone of our society".

Senator Brumby is Chairman of the Senate Library Committee and a member of a number of other important Senate committees.

The meeting is set for 7 p. m., according to the announcement.



Senator Brumby From Murphy

5,552 Students Assigned To Schools Of Their Choice

The Franklin County Board of Education, meeting in special session here Wednesday night, assigned 5,552 school children to the schools of their choice for the 1967-68 school year. Supt. Warren W. Smith told the Board that 317 choice forms had not yet been returned.

The racial breakdown of choices was not announced, but unofficial word is that it is about the same as last year. The county system operated under the Freedom of Choice plan for the past three years and an interim federal court order this year.

The county Health Department was granted use of Gold Sand, Youngsville High, Bunn and Louisburg schools for Sunday afternoon, April 30 for a measles clinic by the Board and were informed by the Superintendent that a bill calling for a raise in Board member's pay from \$10 to \$15 per meeting had been ratified into law in the state legislature. The bill becomes effective July 1.

In other actions, the Board extended contracts to Mrs. Mamie B. Clayton and Mrs. Mabel H. Davis as Supervisors and to Mrs. Mary C. Hinson and Mrs. Ruth Best as Speech Therapists for the coming year.

County school funds amounting to \$104,475.86 were transferred from First-Citizens Bank and Trust Co. to Waccamaw Bank and Trust Co. as requested by the Board of County Commissioners. As a result of a request by the Board of Education, \$75,000 was placed on certificate of deposit drawing 5 percent interest for the next ninety days.

The result of a recent survey under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) was announced and the qualifying schools in the program remain the same as heretofore. Under the newest survey, parents were asked to designate whether their family income was under or over \$3,000 annually. The income level was \$2,000 under the system now in operation.

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Frances Ann Griffin And Josephine Medlin

Two Named To Girls' State

Josephine Medlin and Frances Ann Griffin, rising Seniors at Louisburg High School, were chosen by the American Legion Auxiliary in Louisburg to represent the unit at the Girls' State in June at WC-UNC.

Josephine is the daughter of Mrs. A. E. Medlin and the late Mr. Medlin of Louisburg, Route 1. Frances Ann is the daughter of Mrs. Paul Hensley and the late Mr. Drake Griffin of Route 2, Louisburg. They were selected from the

rising senior class because of their scholarship, their ability to meet and get along with people, and their moral attitudes.

Miss Elizabeth Johnson, president, presided at the meeting held in the home of Mrs. Oscar Joyner on Bickett Boulevard, Friday evening.

Mrs. John Stovall gave the devotional followed by the opening formalities.

Mrs. Harold Williams gave the secretary-treasurer's report.

Plans were made for Poppy Day on Saturday, May 27. The hostess served lime ice, cookies and nuts.

Mathews To Speak At College



Dr. J. M. Mathews

Dr. Joseph M. Mathews, Dean of the Ecumenical Institute of the Church Federation of Greater Chicago, comes to Louisburg College on Wednesday, April 19, as guest speaker in the College's 180th Anniversary Celebration series. Speaking at 8:00 p.m. in the College auditorium his lecture topic will be "Changing Patterns in the Practical Revolution of the Post-Modern Church." A Methodist minister, Dr. Mathews has traveled throughout Africa, the Far East, Europe, and the United States, lecturing on and studying the renewal of the Christian Church through its laymen and women. Until 1962

when he accepted his present position, he was director of studies for the Christian Faith-and-Life Community in Austin, Texas, a training school for University students. There he pioneered in setting up courses in theology and culture which would awaken churchmen and women

to their responsibilities as Christians today. Prior to his Austin position, Dr. Mathews taught religion and philosophy at the Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, and at Colgate University. The Ecumenical Institute is a research

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ABC Store Proposal Causes Controversy

By Clint Fuller
Times Managing Editor

If one thing does not take over the political scene in Franklin County, another will. The latest issue, threatening at least a mild controversy--if indeed not a major one--is the "news leak" proposal to call a county-wide referendum on the question of ABC stores. As if the host of proposals now in the state legislature aren't enough, Franklin County has one of its own.

The proposal, causing a mild stir and heated exchanges in some quarters, is the age-old county-town search for sources of revenue. Some say that the county cannot be termed "dry" as long as ABC stores operate in three of the towns inside the county. These proponents argue that the county should share in the ABC profits.

The towns, particularly the officials, counter this argument with one of their own. The stores were established after a vote of the people and after the county refused them. This, they say is reason for the towns to continue to receive all the profit.

The latest proposal would call for a county-wide referendum on the wet-dry question. Should the people favor a wet county, some agreements would then have to be made between the governing bodies as to how the profits

of the stores would be divided.

"NEWS LEAK"

Investigation shows that the source of the proposal was one of the county commissioners, in a conversation with radio-newsman Asher Johnson, who in turn aired the "news leak". It was reported that discussions took place on the matter at a closed, unofficial (no pay, no actions taken) meeting of the Commissioners and Representatives James D. Speed and John T. Church here Easter Monday. The meeting, it was learned, was held in the county agricultural building.

Commissioner Norwood Faulkner said he was in the meeting and that the matter was not discussed, that he remembered. He stated that the meeting was held to discuss salary raises for county personnel. He said other matters were mentioned and some mention "might" have been made of the ABC store or li-

quor question. He insisted, however, that the proposed take-over of town-owned stores by the county was not discussed.

According to reports, it was Faulkner who first discussed the proposal with Johnson. The Commissioner said he had had a number of people contact him on the subject of the county sharing in the profits from the ABC stores. It is believed that the "news leak" was more a trial balloon to test public reaction than anything else.

SPEED COMMENTS

Representative James D. Speed, contacted at his office in the legislative building in Raleigh Wednesday said, "Nothing was mentioned in this meeting about the ABC stores or, for that matter, in any other meeting". He added that he knew nothing of the proposal until someone mentioned it to him last week. He also said that the Commissioners would need no legislation to order a referendum on the question. Falling to do so, Speed pointed out, the people could muster 15 percent of the registered voters and petition the Board of Elections to hold such a vote.

As to the so-called "secret meeting" of Easter Monday, Rep. Speed reports that he and Rep. Church had requested the Commissioners to come to Raleigh to meet, but since most were busy, he and Rep. Church agreed to meet "briefly."

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Marshalls Named

The Marshalls for the 1967 Commencement exercises at Louisburg College include Matthew Albert Brown, Chief Marshal, son of Captain and Mrs. James H. Brown, Louisburg; Clyde Wayne Quick, son of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Quick, Franklinton; Stephen Wayne Strum, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Strum, Route 1, Henderson; Mrs. Judith Garner Hinton, wife of Mr. J. M. Hinton, Louisburg; and Martha Kay Nelson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Nelson, Route 2, Henderson.

Marshalls are the five first-year students who have the highest scholastic averages and are candidates for graduation. Grades for the fall semester and the first half of the spring semester are averages.

Visits The Far East

Youngsville -- Mr. Forrest S. Wiggins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Wiggins of Route One, Louisburg, left from New York City by plane last Friday for a business trip to Tokyo, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. Mr. Wiggins has a position as Supt. of Product Development with Allied Chemicals, Inc. with headquarters in Hopewell, Va. He has been with this corporation for about six years. He has been on one other trip abroad for the company.

Mr. Wiggins graduated from Youngsville High School, and from N. C. State University in Raleigh with a BS degree in Textile Engineering.

He is married to the former Kay Williams of Chapel Hill. They now have three little girls and are living in Chester, Virginia.

Cancer Clinic

The Cancer Detection Clinic for April will be held on Wednesday, April 19th at 1:00 p.m. at the Health Department. This is a free service and anyone wishing an examination may obtain an appointment by calling Miss Esther Andrews at GT 6-3553.

Honesty And Luck

A county woman, who asked that her name not be used, and a Louisburg College student unintentionally joined hands this week to bring honesty and luck to the forefront here. Actually, there were more than one College student involved, although the names of three others could not be readily obtained.

The honesty came when a group of four students found a purse containing around \$700 along the highway in front of the Big Franklin Warehouse on Bickett Blvd. here Tuesday morning around 11:30. The youngsters were passing the area by car at the time.

Ten minutes after discovering the large sum, one of the students, Billy Day, Vine St., Franklinton, entered Sheriff William Dement's office to report the find and to turn in the money. Deputy Dave Batten inspected the purse and called a neighbor, when it was found the lady's phone was busy.

The honesty was, of course, exemplified by these fine youngsters. The luck belongs solely to the unidentified lady, for having the forethought to lose the money where honest people might find it.

It was reported that Day was given \$20 as a reward and that he split the take with the other three.

We bet the parents of these youngsters are mighty proud today . . . and we wouldn't be surprised if the county lady doesn't agree.

Only One Ed. Board Candidate

(Frk. B.W.) J. W. Dickerson, Jr. is the only candidate so far to file for one of the three seats to be filled on the Franklinton Board of Education. The filing deadline is Tuesday, April 18, at 12 o'clock noon.

Registration books will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 216 N. Chestnut Street (home of the registrar), April 14 through April 21 except on Saturday, April 15, when the books will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Fire Station.

Challenge Day will be Saturday, April 22.

On May 2 a mayor, five town commissioners and three school board members will be elected.