

## Bunn Bank Robbed, Suspect Captured

A 20-year-old Columbia, S. C. Negro man was arraigned Saturday before U. S. Commissioner Reva Rothrock in Raleigh and jailed in lieu of \$10,000 bond charged in the Friday morning robbery of the Bunn branch of First-Citizens Bank and Trust Co.



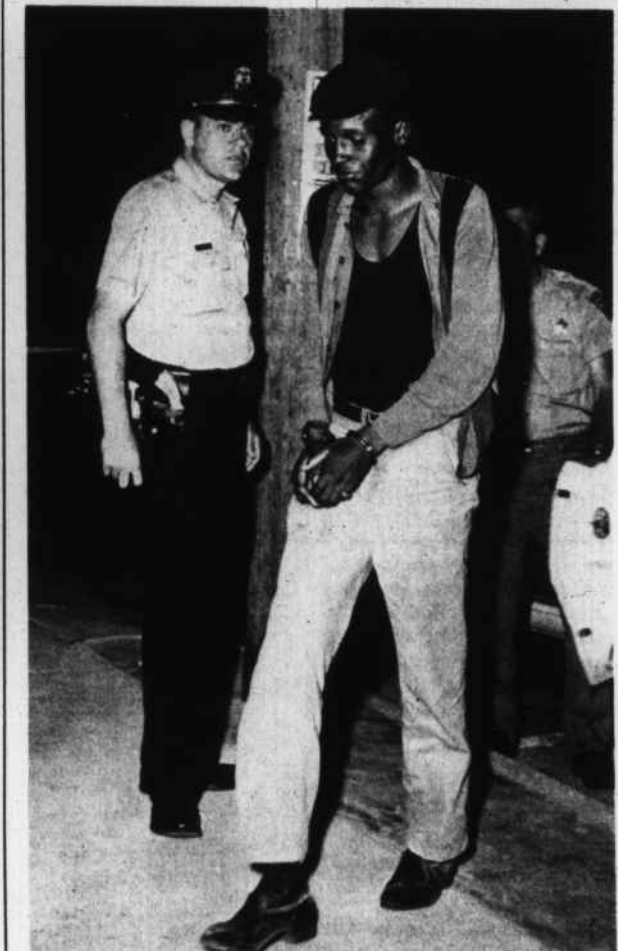
**Mrs. Helen Jones**  
Mrs. Helen Jones, pictured above, stands at the window in the Bunn branch of First-Citizens Bank and Trust Co. where, just a few minutes before the picture was taken, an unmasked Negro youth pointed a gun and ordered her to fill up a paper bag. Mrs. Jones placed \$8,700 in the bag as two SBI agents looked on. She said she did not become nervous until the camera was focused on her.  
Staff Photo by Clint Fuller

Franklin Deputy Sheriff Lonnie House, two miles west of Franklinton. SBI officers transported the suspect to Raleigh for the arraignment. Charles Eller Williams is charged with entering the bank



**Bunn Bank**  
Bunn branch of First-Citizens Bank and Trust Co. is shown above last Friday morning about 15 minutes after it was robbed by a Negro youth. Two other men were believed involved in the robbery, but gained their escape in a car which has not yet been found. SBI agents, tipped beforehand of the robbery, were inside the bank, but the fleet-footed Negro escaped, dropping the money in the process. A 20-year-old Negro from Columbia, S. C. was picked up late Friday night and charged in the robbery.  
Staff Photo by Clint Fuller

around 10:30 a.m. Friday, pointing a gun at Mrs. Helen Jones, bank teller, and demanding her to "fill it up" referring to a large brown paper bag he handed her. Unknown to the unmasked bandit,



**Suspect Returned**  
Charles Eilers Williams, 20-year-old Columbia, S. C. Negro is shown above entering the Bunn bank Friday night about midnight after having been caught two miles west of Franklinton by Franklin Deputy Sheriff Lonnie House on a tip from Mrs. Jack Upchurch, a drive-in movie ticket seller. Williams was lodged in the county jail early Saturday morning but was taken to Raleigh later in the day where he was arraigned before U. S. Commissioner Reva Rothrock and jailed in lieu of \$10,000 charged with the robbery. Others in the picture are, left, Louisburg Police Chief Earl Tharrington who just happened to be standing nearby having accompanied Louisburg Mayor V. A. Peoples to the scene and Deputy Sheriff Lloyd Gupton (partially hidden behind the prisoner), who transported Williams to Bunn.  
Staff Photo by Clint Fuller

two agents of the State Bureau of Investigation were watching as the robbery took place. One agent was faking a conversation with bank manager William A. (Bill) Andrews while a second waited in the

bank's office. As the bandit exited through the front door, the two agents gave chase. The fleet-footed youth made good his getaway when officers could not shoot because of fear someone on the street might be

injured. The robber turned off the street into a field and escaped as the two officers gave pursuit. A massive search was launched, which lasted well into Friday night. The search included officers from both the SBI and the FBI plus the county Sheriff's department, prison department personnel, game wardens and state troopers with at least one airplane. Bloodhounds were also used in the hunt which centered just north and to the west of Bunn. Andrews said that a well-dressed man entered the bank shortly after it opened Friday morning, showed his badge and said, "Your bank is going to be held up this morning." The SBI agent asked Andrews to tell the two women employees. Mrs. Barbara Strickland was ordered into the vault while it was decided that Mrs. Helen Jones would wait on the bandit. One agent hid in the office while the other talked with Andrews at the teller window. Mrs. Jones said that a young Negro man came in and asked for change for a five dollar bill. He later asked for one dollar in silver. The Negro left and it was believed, for a time that he would not return. Mrs. Jones went out for the morning refreshments. Shortly after returning, the young Negro reentered the bank and demanded the money. Andrews reported that \$8,750 was placed in the bag, which the robber dropped in his efforts to escape. All the money was recovered. Bunn Police Chief Tom Powell, a former Deputy Sheriff, reported to The Franklin Times that an unidentified Negro woman had called one of his auxiliary officers Saturday afternoon around 4 p.m. and said that someone planned to break into the bank Saturday night. Powell said he and two officers watched the bank all night Saturday and returned again on Sunday night, although nothing happened. It was believed that there were three Negro men involved in the holdup. Two reportedly escaped by car as the officers chased the fleeing bandit on foot. Glenn Mitchell, who operates an in-

### Alert Lady Brings 13 Hour Manhunt To Successful End

The family pulled away from the ticket window into the theater lot. It was 9 o'clock. This was when Mrs. Jack Up-

**CAR VIEW RIVE-IN Theatre**  
LOUISBURG



**Mrs. Jack Upchurch**

church, ticket seller at the Car View Drive-In here first noticed the tall, slender Negro man standing near her window.  
"Pardon me, mam. Could you give me some information? I'd like to know if this is the right highway to Durham?"  
Mrs. Upchurch remembered that he had "good manners."  
"Yes. This road takes you straight to Franklinton, then Creedmoor and on into Durham," she replied.  
"How far is it? About 15-20 miles?"  
"No, I think it is about 35 miles."  
"Goodness, I've got a long way to walk," the youth said, holding his hand to his chest. He didn't actually. In a short time, because of the alertness on the part of Mrs. Upchurch, mother of four, this young man would be through walking for what could be a very long time. The Bunn branch of First-Citizens Bank and Trust Co. had been robbed earlier last Friday and Mrs. Upchurch was aware that officers were searching for a young Negro man, although she did not have any description of the suspect. As the Negro walked away, heading west on NC 56 which runs directly in front of the theater, Mrs. Upchurch sent word by the next customer to

### Area Has Storm Scare

The Franklin County area was under tornado alert early Sunday night and residents were warned to stay in their homes and to be ready to move to a safe place if the storms should strike. The first warning told of severe thunder storms in nearby counties, headed toward Franklin County. About 7:15 p.m. the Raleigh-Durham weather station reported that counties feeling the thunder storms included Caswell, Chatham, Person, Randolph, Alamance, Orange, Granville, Durham and Wake. About the same time, the weather station placed the counties of Franklin, Nash, Johnston, Durham and Wake under tornado alert. One funnel cloud was reportedly sighted by state highway patrolmen in the vicinity of Wake Forest. The tornado alert was lifted about 9 p.m. Heavy rain was reported in the county, but damage, if any, was light. The unusual May weather has brought some hail to many parts of the county and extensive damage to isolated areas has been reported. However, there has been no widespread damage to crops or to buildings.

### Negro Surrenders After Fatal Shooting

A 20-year-old Louisburg Route 2 Negro walked into the Louisburg fire station Sunday morning shortly after 11 a.m. and told fire department engineer Carl Pennell and Louisburg Police officer Earl Smith, "I want to see the Sheriff."  
The man, accompanied by a friend, said he was the one the Sheriff was looking in the Saturday night shooting. Thus, Thomas Earl Dean surrendered a few moments later to Sheriff William T. Dement and was charged with murder in the shotgun slaying of Lewis Melvin Alston, 28, 2500 Druid Park Drive, Baltimore, Md., at a Negro night-spot known as the Little Acorn, located on NC 56 two miles east of Louisburg. The shooting occurred about 2:30 a.m. Sunday morning and the Louisburg Rescue Service was also on the scene, having been called earlier before the extent of the injury was determined. Dement arrested the father of the suspect, Guy Dean, for drunkenness at the scene and transported him to the local jail. Young Dean is confined to the jail without privilege of bond charged with murder. The victim was reportedly a former resident of the area. The reason for the shooting has been given.  
Mrs. Morris was transported to Franklin Memorial Hospital by the Franklinton Rescue Service, where she was treated for painful cuts and bruises and head injuries. Also treated was Joseph Douglas, whose injuries were believed serious and his sister, Ariene Douglas, n/l/36 and her two children, Jessine, age 10, and Hubert, age 17, all passengers in the McGil-

## "Ten-Four Car One - - Suspect Wearing Blue Knit Sweater"

Most of them ate supper at Bea's, although the place was closed. Now it was back to the business at hand. There were three bank robbery suspects loose and darkness had come. Back at the bank office, search headquarters was being set up. County maps were being distributed. Officers were being assigned sections to cover. Riders were being named to accompany those officers not familiar with the area. The cars and officers dispersed. Sheriff William T. Dement in Car One was assigned the area south of Bunn in and around Pearces, Riley and Five Points. Deputies Dave Batten in Car Two, Lonnie House in Car Three and Lloyd Gupton in Car Four were also assigned areas a few miles from Bunn. Carl Pennell manned the police radio at Louisburg. "Wouldn't it be nice to spot him," said the Sheriff. "I sure would love to catch him," he added as he drove along mile after mile. "We're back-tracking now. I don't believe he's in this area." Traffic on the police radio was spasmodic. Locations were noted. Nothing of value was reported. By now it was nearing

9:30 p.m., over two hours since the night vigil began. Then the break came. "Louisburg P. D. to Car One." "Go ahead, Louisburg P. D." "Mr. Carlton Trotter who runs the drive-in theater is here. He reports that his cashier saw a Negro man at the drive-in. Subject asked direction and how far it was to Durham. Thought you might be interested."  
"Ten-four, Louisburg P. D. Can you describe?"  
"Mrs. Upchurch reports subject was in twenties, weighs about 145 pounds, wearing BLUE knit shirt and khaki pants."  
"Blue knit shirt?"  
"Ten-four, blue striped knit shirt or sweater."  
"Where is subject now?"  
"Left walking toward Franklinton on highway 56 about ten minutes ago."  
"Ten-four, Contact Franklinton Police. Have them send car toward Louisburg."  
"Ten-four, Louisburg P. D. to Franklinton."  
"Go ahead Louisburg."  
"Sheriff advises send car on 56 to meet Louisburg police.

Watch for subject along road."  
"Car one to Louisburg P. D."  
"Go ahead, car one."  
"Have Louisburg police meet Franklinton car. Chief advises."  
"Car One to cars three and four."  
"Go ahead car one."  
"Did you read traffic? Over."  
"Ten-four."  
"You're closer than we are. Proceed to area. Check Gay Products parking lot. Converge at Perry's Inn."  
"On our way, Car One."  
"Car One to Louisburg P. D."  
"Go ahead, Car One."  
"Advise subject armed. Approach with caution."  
"Ten-four, car one. Louisburg P. D. to Franklinton. Sheriff advises subject is armed. Approach with caution. Repeat. Subject is armed. Approach with caution."  
"Ten-four, Louisburg P. D."  
The search for the robbery suspect had narrowed. A man fitting the description given by SBI and FBI officials had been

sighted in Louisburg. He was headed for Franklinton and Durham. Franklinton and Louisburg Police were on the way. Deputies Lonnie House and Lloyd Gupton were only a few miles behind. The Sheriff continued to cruise the backroads in the Bunn area. Was it possible that the suspect had been able to escape from the dragnet made up of hundreds of law enforcement officers-bloodhounds-heavy traffic? How could he have gotten to Louisburg without being detected? Was it really the suspect? Would he be able to catch a ride? Grab a car from the furniture firm parking lot? Wait until the shift changed at 11 o'clock? Hide in a rear seat? Would he walk the railroad? Stay off the highway? Stop at the airport to rest?  
"Car One to Louisburg P. D."  
"Go ahead, Car One."  
"Relay. Position of Cars three and four."  
"Car One. Cars three and four at Perry's Inn with Franklinton, Louisburg. Subject not sighted."  
"Ten-four, cars three and four. Sheriff advises stay in