

WEATHER

Generally fair and a little warmer today and Wednesday. Low today, 58; high, 85.

The Franklin Times

Published Every Tuesday & Thursday Serving All Of Franklin County Your Award Winning County Newspaper

READ PART III WHY WE FIGHT - IN VIETNAM. PAGE 4 TODAY

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Ten Cents

Louisburg, N. C., Tuesday, August 15, 1967

(Six Pages Today)

98th Year-Number 51



One Seriously Hurt

Scene above shows Saturday night accident on a rural paved road in the White Level Community where Joe Williams, N/M/19 received serious head injuries when a fence post rammed through the right corner of the windshield striking the man in the head. The car, whose driver was

not identified, ran off the rain-slick highway into the ditch striking the fence. Williams was given first aid at the scene by the Louisburg Rescue Service, transported to Franklin Memorial Hospital and later moved to Duke where his condition is reported to be serious. Photo by Clint Fuller.

Franklin Ranks 35th In Retail Sales

Franklin County has moved into 35th position in North Carolina in the total amount of retail sales, according to figures released last week by the North Carolina Department of Revenue. Franklin paid into the State \$577,519.80 in Sales and Use taxes for the 1966-67 year representing a gross retail sales of \$29,582,082.00.

The latest figures move the county from 38th place in 1965-66 and is a further jump from the position held in 1958 when Franklin was ranked 39th. The five-year figures, released in 1965 for the period 1958-63, which showed Louisburg leading the state in percent of retail sales growth, also showed Franklin county with a 60.7 percent increase during the period.

Sales growth in the county has not been as startling over the past few years, but a steady increase is noted. The county shows a 10.2 percent increase in the latest figures over those released for 1965-66. A jump of 32.6 percent was noted over the figures of 1963.

However, an amazing 113 percent increase is shown over 1958, which places the county high in the listing of total increase over this period. No breakdown figures were given for municipalities in the latest release.

Matching Franklin's 133 percent growth over the past ten years, the

state shows an increase of 138 percent. Statewide percentage of growth from 1963 to the 1966-67 figures shows an 83.4 percent increase.

Total state figures for retail sales for the past year are listed at \$9,126,250,732.

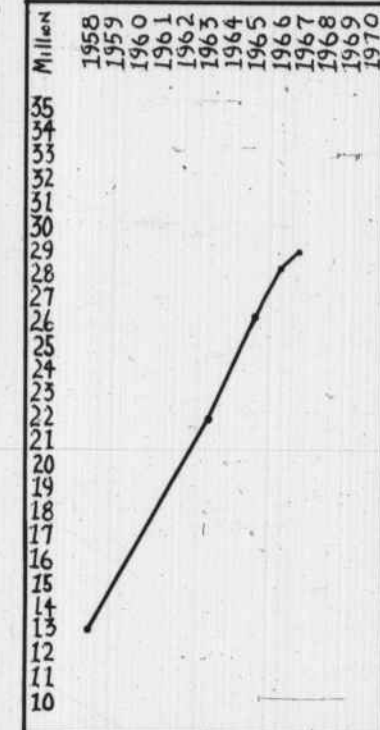
Automotive supplies took a small dip in the county last year, losing .05 percent from the year before. All other categories showed a gain. Automobile sales were up .049 percent from \$3,575,411 in 1965-66 to \$3,751,830 in 1966-67. Apparel moved from \$457,523 to \$534,043 or a hike of .18 percent.

Food accounted for the greatest number of dollars in retail sales and showed an increase in Franklin County of .112 percent. In 1965-66 food accounted for \$6,764,481 in sales and in 1966-67 food amounted to \$7,534,169.

Furniture jumped .037 percent in sales in the past year, reaching a mark of \$833,548 against the \$803,454 reported in 1965-66. General Merchandise accounted for \$4,436,278 in sales last year, a jump of .035 percent over the \$4,278,157 of 1965-66.

Building Materials reported sales last year of \$3,975,350, a gain of .035 percent over the \$3,839,610 in 1965-66 and Unclassified sales jumped .23 percent up to \$1,977,981 last year.

The total sales reached by Franklin County this past represents the largest amount ever. Neighboring counties were listed as follows: Granville, \$32,285,768; Vance, \$52,092,672; and Warren, \$13,816,411.



Guardsmen Return From Oklahoma

Units of the Fifth Rocket Battalion from Louisburg, Youngsville, and Zebulon returned home Sunday afternoon following a two-week encampment at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. The units fired three XM-50 Honest John Rockets during their stay at the giant Artillery and Missile base.

Two of the missiles were fired Wednesday afternoon before Major General Ivan Hardesty, Commander, 30th Infantry Division, and his party of National Guard brass, and area newsmen. A third fired Thursday morning misqued on first try, but after some quick adjustments, the bird flew off the ramp right on target.

"A" Battery from Zebulon fired the first shot Wednesday afternoon and also gave a demonstration prior to the second shot by "B" Battery from Youngsville.

The plane carrying State Guard officers and newsmen was delayed at Raleigh-Durham due to fog last Wednesday morning and portions of the tour at Ft. Sill were curtailed, according to reports. Louisburg Mayor V. A. Peoples, a special guest along with Raleigh Mayor Travis Tomlinson, said, "I've never met a nicer group of people. We have had a wonderful time." Mayor Peoples added, "I wish we had had more time with the local boys."

Also making the trip was Lt. Col. Collin McKinne, Veteran's Service Director from Louisburg. Area newsmen making the trip included Charles Barbour and H. B. Webb of the DURHAM MORNING HERALD, Max Powell of WPTF-Raleigh radio, Charles Mooney of THE RALEIGH TIMES, and Ken Wilson of the ZEBULON RECORD.

Local newsmen A. F. Johnson of WYRN-Radio and Clint Fuller of THE FRANKLIN TIMES were unable to make the trip. Several other area newsmen were forced to cancel out. Guardsmen from the area report a successful two-week training period with most complaints coming from the weather in Oklahoma this time of year. Temperatures ranged well over 100 degrees for most of their stay there.

School Officials Invited To Governor's Education Conference

Superintendent of Schools Warren Smith and Times Editor Clint Fuller, a member of the County Board of Education, have been invited by Governor Dan K. Moore to attend the Governor's Conference on Public School Education next week in Raleigh.

In announcing the series of conferences which will deal with education, law enforcement and agriculture, Governor Moore said at his news conference last Friday, "I intend to discuss the future of public education and to announce the membership of the Commission to Study the Public School System of North Carolina."

The group was created by the 1967 General Assembly and will have 17 members, 11 of whom are to be named by the Governor.

Fountain Speaks To County Commissioners

RALEIGH, N. C. -- Congressman L. H. Fountain has urged rural counties to prepare for growing populations which will bring urban problems that must be attacked before they become insoluble.

The counties must have the help and cooperation of city and state governments -- where needed -- to meet these new challenges, the Second District Congressman said in a speech prepared for delivery at the 60th annual convention of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners in Raleigh.

One of the most urgent needs facing all counties, Fountain said, is improvement in the structure and management of Federal grant programs.

Former Police Chief Dies Suddenly

J. Asbury Dennis, former police chief at Franklinton and Warrenton, died suddenly at his home on NC 561 six miles east of Louisburg Monday afternoon while mowing his lawn. His death was attributed to a heart attack. He was 72 years old and retired several years ago.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 3 p.m. from Sandy Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Charles Conway and Rev. Don Ballenger conducting. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Valie Dennis of the home; three daughters, Mrs. J. B. Perdue, Mrs. J. F. Gilliam of Rt. 2, Louisburg, and Mrs. T. A. Clarke, Jr. of Hobbsville, N. C.; three brothers, W. E. Dennis of Wake Forest, G. A. Dennis of Louisburg, and Charlie H. Dennis of Butler; three sisters, Mrs. Ervin Mitchell of Goldsboro, Mrs. Claude Edwards of Louisburg, and Mrs. Gus Stroud of Franklinton, eleven grand children and three great grand children.



"Federal grants now include more than 175 general programs funded under more than 400 separate appropriations," he said. "They will amount to more than \$17.4 billion next year and are administered by 19 different departments and agencies and by more than 140 separate Federal bureaus and divisions."

Fountain said the amount of Federal funds involved "is one dimension of the problem, but in some respects a comparatively modest one."

"Of equal significance is the extraordinary number of programs, the diversity of fiscal and personnel requirements, the so-called guidelines and the rapidly expanding number of independent governmental units that are eligible as grant recipients."

Fountain, who has carried out extensive studies of governmental problems as Chairman of the House Intergovernmental Relations Subcommittee, said the grant management situation has been made worse because of "our failure in many cases to relate new programs to old ones."

State restrictions -- where they exist -- on county government must be removed if the counties are to adequately prepare for the urbanization which is rapidly accelerating, Fountain

A New Look

The front page of today's TIMES has a new look. For the first time in many years, the format is being changed. Today, the TIMES is being made up with a 6 column format, without column rules instead of the 8 column ruled layout used in the past. The new look is designed to make the page more easily read and more attractive. Your comments are invited.

Names Shearon Assistant Chief



The Louisburg Town Council named veteran Police Officer Hubert Shearon assistant Chief of Police in its regular meeting held here last Friday night and gave Chief Earl Tharrington and Shearon pay hikes.

Shearon is a veteran of seventeen years on the force. Tharrington took over last December when former Chief William Dement became County Sheriff. In other actions, the Council appointed former Councilman E. F. Thomas to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a three-year period and awarded the audit of town books again to Lonnie R. Shuping for a fee of \$400.

The Council also authorized Administrator E. S. Ford to advertise for bids on a 3/4 ton pickup truck. Bids are to be opened on September 8.

said. Although only one-tenth of North Carolina's population lived in urban areas in 1900, the urban population had increased to 40 percent by 1960. The figure continues to rise.

Fountain said North Carolina was in a better position than some other states to meet the new challenges. He cited the relatively low number of local governmental units, the 1959 annexation law.

School Suit Decision Still Awaited

Franklin County school officials continue their long period of waiting today, as reports say there is still no word from Judge Algernon Butler of U. S. Eastern District Court. The Judge is expected to rule in the two-year old school suit involving the County Board, the U. S. Justice Department and the NAACP, almost momentarily.

With teachers due to report for work two weeks from yesterday, officials are understandably concerned. Pupils report two weeks from Thursday.

Officials and School Board attorneys are declining any comment on the case or the delay in receiving a decision.

The government and the NAACP has asked the Court to consolidate the schools making all school unidentifiable as to race. They are seeking the establishments of elementary schools in one location and high schools in another to serve members of both races.

Intimidation and disparities in some of the schools were major issues presented by the government and the NAACP. The School Board contended that its freedom of choice plan was working and asked the Court to uphold it.

Early reports, following the close of arguments on Wednesday, July 26, indicated that a prompt ruling would be handed down by the Court. With school opening two weeks away, officials are standing by awaiting whatever action becomes necessary. Unofficial reports have it that no postponement of school openings is planned as of today.

Assistant Farm Agent Named

C. T. Dean, Jr., County Extension Chairman, announced the appointment of Parke M. Brown to the position of Assistant County Agricultural Agent for Franklin County. Mr. Brown's appointment is effective August 15, and he replaces James Stephenson who resigned July 1st to enter other employment.

Mr. Brown is a graduate of Earlham College of Richmond, Indiana. Prior to accepting the position of Assistant Agent, Mr. Brown was employed by Wilson and Co., Meat Packers of Chicago, Illinois.

In announcing the appointment, Dean said that Brown's major responsibility would be working with 4-H Club members and adult leaders. Mr. Brown will reside at 302 West Noble Street in Louisburg.

Republican Gubernatorial Hopeful To Speak Here

John L. (Jack) Stickle of Charlotte, who may or may not be the Republican nominee for Governor in 1968, will be the principal speaker here Friday night. The occasion is the installation of C. Ray Pruette of Franklinton as District Governor of Lions International District 31-G.

Stickle, who last week gained the support of Republican Congressman Charles R. Jonas for his gubernatorial bid, is a past president of the sprawling service organization. His name has been mentioned over the past few years as a possible candidate for Governor or other high political office. Monday, Stickle issued a statement to the effect that finances will dictate his decision to enter the 1968 race.

His appearance here Friday is billed as non-political. He spoke briefly here earlier this year when the local Lions Club celebrated its 25th anniversary. Stickle introduced the main speaker of the evening, Leon Campbell of Greenville, S. C.

Stickle, a wealthy yarn broker, has been active in politics for several years, having headed a "Democrats for Jonas" campaign in several recent elections. He switched from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party about six years ago.

Stickle comes here in his capacity as a leader of Lions International, a position which is not designed to hamper his political aspirations. Luther Hodges had the active support of Rotary International in his bids for public office a few years ago. Other details of the Pruette installation will be announced later. The event is expected to take place in the Benjamin Duke College Union building on the Louisburg College campus.

Scouts Visit Expo '67, Return Home Wednesday

The twelve members of Troop 555, Boy Scouts of America, from Louisburg, are in Montreal, Canada today visiting Expo '67 as part of their Canadian Goodwill Tour. The group is expected to arrive in Raleigh tomorrow afternoon by bus.

After visiting Washington, D. C. last week, the Troop toured the Gettysburg Battlefield, the Corning Glass Works and spent Tuesday night at Camp Gordon, N. Y. Here the boys "enjoyed the fellowship of some 200 Boy Scouts from western New York." Wednesday the group toured Niagara Falls.

H. H. Steelman, Scoutmaster accompanying the group, wrote, "The Troop was really impressed with the Falls and facts of its history."

After a picnic lunch at Batavia, Canada, the boys traveled along the Q. E. A. Highway into Ontario and on to Toronto, spending last Wednesday night on the outskirts of the city with Canadian Boy Scouts. "Everyone was impressed by the size of Toronto," writes Steelman, "and all the boys are having a fine and wonderful time. The experience of this group of boys cannot be told in words."

Major J. Linwood Gupton of the Franklin County Civil Air Patrol left Raleigh-Durham Airport last Friday for a flight, first to Charlotte and then on to Ft. Sill, Oklahoma to attend a two-week Flight Instructor Orientation Program. Gupton flew in a C-124 N. C. Air National Guard airplane, which was to bring local National Guardsmen back from a two-week training session at Ft. Sill.

Gupton Taking CAP Training In Oklahoma

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Gupton will attend the CAP program at Will Rogers Field at Oklahoma City, Okla. He will complete the training on August 25. He was chosen as one of twenty flight instructors from the fifty states and Puerto Rico. Applications were received from 114 qualified senior instructors and the local air enthusiast was one of the twenty chosen and the only one from North Carolina. He will receive instruction for 40 hours on ground operations and 15 hours of in-flight instruction in Piper C-180s and Cessna 172 aircraft.

"These Louisburg boys can stand tall for their excellent scouting attitude, spirit and the lasting friendships they are creating among themselves and most important Boy Scouts and their leaders of other sections of the U. S. A. and Canada," Steelman continued.

"The songs, funny events, jokes and places they see and people they meet will be an everlasting experience," said the Scoutmaster.

Steelman concluded his report, written last Wednesday night, by saying, "More will be reported later for a lot and perhaps the most looked forward to event, Expo '67, is still to come on their tour."