



W. S. ETHRIDGE

Ethridge Promoted, Reassigned

State Trooper W.S. (Bill) Ethridge, a ten-year veteran officer stationed at Franklin, has been promoted to the rank of Corporal and is being transferred to Winston-Salem, according to an announcement by the N.C. Department of Motor Vehicles. Ethridge will be a supervisor in Troop D in Winston-Salem.

Ethridge said, "This is home and I sure am sorry to go. I have made a lot of friends here and I appreciate everything that's been done for us". He said the Civil Defense programs, which he has instructed, will be continued.

The county will continue to have a five-man complement of Troopers and the vacancy left by Ethridge's departure will probably not be filled until after the school for Troopers ends in January.

State Trooper R.L. Weathersbee of Troop A, Elizabeth City is being promoted to Corporal and will be stationed in Louisburg with Troop C. "He is an A-I man", Ethridge said, "I have known him for a long time. He is tops. The people here will like him". Ethridge, who has been extremely popular in the county, participating in recreation programs and instruction projects on Civil Defense, resides at 309 Mitchell Street in Franklin with his wife Dorothy and their two children.

Highway Patrol announced it will promote 48 men—44 troopers to corporal and four corporals to sergeants. This is the largest en masse promotion ever authorized for the 38-year-old law enforcement agency.

Patrol Commander Colonel Charles Speed said the promotions will be effective December 1 and reassignments will be made as soon as possible.

The promotion of this very large number of men is the first step in a series of administrative improvements which are the results of a continuing in depth study of the Highway Patrol by the State Personnel Department," Colonel Speed said.

Colonel Speed pointed out that the promotions reflect efforts to improve the efficiency of the Patrol and to make advancement through the ranks easier.

The additional corporals will be assigned to the existing 36 patrol districts," Col. Speed said. "This will allow for closer supervision of the troopers in the field with approximately one corporal for every eight troopers. From here on, the corporals will be in the field with the troopers."

Motor Vehicles Commissioner Ralph L. Howland stated that these administrative improvements and others to follow are in line with Governor Moore's recent mandate to retard death and injury on Tar Heel highways. "The Patrol is the front line of defense against these chronic and habitual traffic law violators who cause a majority of the accidents on our highways," Commissioner Howland said. "We intend to make this organization the finest and most functional anywhere."

"We will have about half the men in Raleigh at 10 A.M. and the other half at Greensboro at 2 P.M." the Patrol Commander said.

Dr. Larson To Lecture At College

Dr. Arthur Larson, Director of the World Rule of Law Center and Special consultant to the U.S. State Department, will appear on the Louisburg College Lecture Series, Dec. 4, at 8 p.m. in the college auditorium. The public is invited to hear him speak on "Goals for America."

Dr. Larson, who also teaches International Law at Duke University is an Adviser to President Johnson, and was formerly a Special Assistant to President Eisenhower. He has served as Under-Secretary of Labor, and in 1956 became the Director of the United States Information Agency.

He is author of a number of books including WHEN NATIONS DISAGREE, WHAT ARE WE FOR, KNOW YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY, THE LAW OF WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION, AND A REPUBLICAN LOOKS AT HIS PARTY.

Dr. Larson attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, and was formerly the Dean of the Law School at Pittsburg.

He is a fluent, articulate and humorous speaker. As a positive thinker,

Peoples Says Hoover's "Facts" Untrue



The Old Boy Arrives in Louisburg Hundreds View Christmas Parade

The largest crowd in several years attended the Louisburg Christmas Parade here Wednesday afternoon. Bright eyed youngsters withstood the cold for the opportunity to give old Santa Clause a wave as he arrived at the end of the parade.

The marchers were led by the Louisburg High School Band and included a number of commercial floats, the

South Granville band, horse-men, a dance contingent from Zebulon that won applause from the crowds along the length of Main Street.

The Ingleside 4-H float featuring carolers won first place in the judging and will receive a \$25 prize from the Louisburg Business Association, sponsor of the parade. Joan

Baker's School of Dancing from Zebulon took second place and will receive a \$15 prize. Walnut Grove Baptist Church won third place and \$10. All floats eligible for the prizes were non-commercial entries.

Mrs. Juanita Pleasants, Executive Secretary of the Association expressed the organization's appreciation to all who participated in the annual event.

The arrival of Santa Claus marks the official opening of the Christmas shopping season in Louisburg and windows and stores are decorated for holiday season.

Ambulance Service To Stop On December 31

There will be no ambulance service in Franklin County after Dec. 31 as a result of an agreement signed by funeral directors in a meeting in Henderson earlier this week. The agreement calls for the halt of all such services by the fourteen firms located in Franklin, Vance and Warren Counties.

New state regulations requiring ambulance operators to have a full time two-man staff plus added equipment has been given as the reason for the stoppage of service. Practically every community in the state is now faced with the problem that confronts citizens of the three-county area.

"It would be very impractical for us to meet these requirements", a spokesman for the group said. "It would cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000 a year for each home to stay in the ambulance business", he added.

Another operator said the wage and hour laws were the real cause of the decisions. He said no ambulance operator could maintain service under these requirements. He said a minimum of \$1.60 per hour for two men on an eight hour shift made it impractical to continue what he described as an already losing business.

He also added that it is a \$50 fine to move an ambulance without the

state's approval.

The County Commissioners failed to act on the matter when setting up the new budget a few months ago and no funds are earmarked to relieve the situation.

"I don't know what people are going to do that need transportation to the hospital after December 31", the funeral director stated.

The Board of County Commissioners appointed a committee to look into the matter some time ago. Dr. John Vassey and radio newsmen Asher Johnson made report to the Board several weeks ago and suggested that some agreement be made with the county volunteer rescue units.

The Louisburg Rescue Service, in a special called meeting Tuesday night voted to offer assistance to the county during the emergency. A spokesman for the group said the idea behind the offer is to eventually set up a separate emergency ambulance service with paid personnel and volunteers on standby. Under this plan, it would be necessary for the county to purchase at least two ambulances and quarters for the vehicles would have to be obtained. The central Rescue headquarters building in Louisburg has been offered until arrangements can be made for suitable quarters.

However, the Board of Commissioners failed to include the pending ambulance service crisis in the current budget. Warned at budget that the situation would develop, the Board elected to put off any actions. This leaves the question of finances for whatever plan the Board might approve.

New state regulations, enacted by the last General Assembly places strict requirements on operators of ambulance services. Some communities are attempting to underwrite operations by private firms with tax money, but this has proven less than satisfactory in most places.

Some private firms have sprung up to take the place of funeral homes, which make up the bulk of ambulance operators in the state, but this plan too, has not been met with a great deal of success.

It has been suggested here that the hospital operate an ambulance service in conjunction with its other services. However, an unconfirmed report says hospital officials are opposing such a move.

Meanwhile, the December 31 deadline is approaching and nothing is being

Jaycees Seek More Toys

Clint Kennedy, Chairman of the Louisburg Jaycee Toy Drive has issued a call for more used toys for Christmas. Kennedy announced that anyone having toys to be picked up should call any member of the local Jaycees.

"We want to thank the people for the toys already given and we will be glad to come pick up any toys that the people want to give now," Kennedy stated.

The organization collects used and broken toys, repairs them for distribution to the needy children at Christmastime each year.

Henderson attorney Linwood T. Peoples has replied to a letter from FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, in which the Director denied that Agents of the FBI had intimidated Franklin County Negro parents who are seeking to intervene in the school suit now in appeal in U.S. Fourth Circuit.

In a letter, dated November 25, 1967, Peoples wrote Mr. Hoover, "The information contained in your letter does not set the record straight. It does establish that my clients were interviewed by the Federal Agents as was duly reported to us by our clients. Further the interviews were conducted at the request of the Department of Justice, which is headed by the Attorney General of the United States who is a party to the Civil Action, Coppedge et al and United States vs Franklin County Board of Education et al C.1798, and at the specific request of the man who heads the Division that handles such Actions".

Doar Resigns

CBS News reported last night that John Doar, Assistant Attorney General of the United States in charge of the Civil Rights Division and involved in the current controversy between the Justice Department and attorneys for a group of Franklin County Negro parents, has resigned.

Walter Cronkite reported on the Evening News that Doar has quit to reenter private law practice. WRAL-TV Raleigh, reported, also Wednesday night, that Doar was not available for comment on the Franklin case and his resignation.

The 46-year-old federal attorney is best known for his appearance in Jackson, Miss., where a group of Negroes swarmed into the streets to avenge the murder of Medgar Evers. Doar appeared and yelled over the roar of the crowd, "My name is John Doar, D-O-A-R. I'm from the Justice Department and anybody around here knows I stand for what is right."

WRAL-TV Dateline News also reported that a check with leading lawyers had revealed the opinion by them that actions by the Department of Justice in sending FBI agents into Franklin County to question Negro clients without consent of their attorney, Linwood T. Peoples of Henderson, was a breach of the canons of the N. C. Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

Mr. Hoover wrote Peoples on November 20 that his agents had come to Franklin County at the request of John Doar, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Rights Division, United States Department of Justice.

Peoples charges, in his letter, "Your other 'facts', we reject as untrue. Not only did the Agents question our clients as to how they came to hire our law firm, but also as to how they traveled to Henderson, how we were paid, and whether or not economic pressure was exerted on them; as well as other questions concerning the issues raised in their motion to intervene in the above Civil Action".

Mr. Hoover had stated in his letter, "Your clients were not questioned as to how they came to hire your firm nor were they intimidated in any way". "Several of our clients told us these things, Mr. Hoover", Peoples' letter continues, "and we questioned them very closely, thoroughly, and separately in the approved manner concerning what was asked them and we had a chance to observe them and their demeanors while answering our questions and we are convinced they were telling us the truth".

The exact number of parents interviewed is unknown. A reliable source has reported there are sixteen parents who are seeking to enter the suit, claiming that eleven original Negro plaintiffs, represented by NAACP attorney Lavonne Chambers of Charlotte, did not represent them in their so-called class action against the Board of Education. The suit resulted in an August 17 order from Judge Algernon Butler of U.S. Eastern District Court knocking down freedom of choice in Franklin County. Judge Butler also ordered at least ten percent of the Negro school population be transferred to predominantly white schools. Children of the parents represented by the firm of Allen and Peoples of Henderson, were assigned against their wishes of their parents to predominantly white schools.

The FBI Director had charged last week that Peoples caused the publication of "baseless allegations" in The Franklin Times and purported to set the record straight.

Mr. Peoples' letter offers to furnish the Director with affidavits, "If you still feel our accusations groundless".

"It still seems highly unethical", writes Peoples, "for the Attorney General's Agents to question our clients when he is a party to the Action in which they seek to intervene, and we still cannot believe that such action could serve any other purpose than to intimidate them".

Peoples again asked for a copy of the agent's reports and the names of the agents who questioned his clients. "Since you have indicated a desire to furnish us with the facts, perhaps you would be kind enough to send us the report and the agent's names.

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Miss Franca Contestants

Contestants in Franklin's Miss Franca contest are shown above. The winner will be chosen Friday, December 1. Pictured left to right, front row: Debra Satterwhite, Joan Blackley, Jane Roberts, Pam Radford and Alice Green.

Second row: Teresa Corn, Patricia Pruitt, Donna Strother, Donna Holmes, Annette Ball. Third row: Marie Nall, Rose Eury, Diane Collins, Wendy Gupton, Lynn Carter, Bess Green and Vicki Cash. Photo by Mrs. Bert Whitfield.



DR. ARTHUR LARSON