

WEATHER

Generally fair and cooler today. Wednesday, variable cloudiness and warmer, chance of showers in afternoon. Low today, upper 30's; high, lower 60's.

The Franklin Times

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Whites Make Up 30% Of Saturday Registration

Negro Group Confers With Governor

A group of Negroes, representing a 12-county area of Eastern North Carolina, met last Friday with Governor Dan Moore. Led by T.T. Clayton, a Warrenton attorney who was an unsuccessful candidate for the House of Representatives in the three-county Sixteenth District in 1966, the group protested "continued acts of intimidation" in Franklin County.

The Governor reportedly said that he is "disturbed over the dastardly acts". Although news release of the conference failed to spell out just what acts the Governor has reference to, it is assumed he referred to an incident last month in which six county youths fired into the home of their Negro teacher and alleged acts of violence at the home of Rev. Luther Coppedge of the Justice Community.

The Governor reported "I have directed state agencies to spare no effort to bring the perpetrators to justice". The six youths were tried here last week and fined \$25 and costs and had their driver's licenses revoked for ninety days. No arrests have been made in the Coppedge case where four sticks of dynamite were found along the highway right-of-way near his home a few weeks ago.

Clayton said in Franklin County acts of "intimidation" had been directed against "Negro parents whose children are assigned to white schools and against Negro teachers assigned to teach in white schools."



Another Accident On Bickett

Shown above is scene of a three-car smashup Sunday afternoon around 1:15 P.M. on busy Bickett Blvd. here. Fortunately no one suffered serious injury, but three persons were taken to Franklin Memorial Hospital for treatment. Two were admitted. The accident reportedly took place when a Chevrolet, driven by Larry Keith n/m/17, of Louisburg slowed near the Little River service station.

The car struck in the rear by a Mustang, driven by Tommy White of Burlington. The Mustang was then struck in the rear by a Cougar, driven by Margo Rayner, 16 of Louisburg. Artius Harris Cooke, n/u/42, a passenger in the Keith car, Mrs. Tommy White, w/t/19, and Miss Rayner were taken to the hospital. She was treated and released while the other two women were admitted. Photo by Clint Fuller.

Vietnam Policies Topic Of College Debate

The 11 a.m. chapel service at Louisburg College Thursday, March 28, was different, to say the least. Professor Demetrius Nixon of the college History Department and Rev. W. W. Finlator, pastor of Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh, debated the Viet Nam policies of the United States.

Mr. Nixon, who spoke first, said that we are not fighting the Vietnamese,

but Communism. He outlined the history of the Communist activity over the world since Das Kapital advocated the overthrow of capitalism in 1867. Professor Nixon recalled the formation of The Russian Socialist Labor Party in 1898, the Russian Revolution in 1917 under Lenin, the Stalin purges in 1935 through 1938, the refusal of Russia to enter the Marshall Plan in 1947, and the aggressive forces

of Communism in Korea, Berlin, Cuba, and Viet Nam.

He said that Communism is determined not to abandon its ultimate objective of world conquest, emphasizing the oft-quoted "Kruschiew statement, 'We will bury you...'" The professor commented that "Those who advocate appeasement in Vietnam have not learned the lessons of the past."

"Let us arm those people over there with the most modern weapons—even nuclear weapons, if necessary," he continued, "level all the industrial centers."

Mr. Finlator countered by saying that the primary motivation of the United States in providing over 3,000 military bases over the world was economical. "The more bases we build, the more defensive we say we are," he said. He stresses that while the United States contains only 5% of the world's population, it possesses over 50% of the world's wealth, and wants more. "We blame everything on Communism. We are being sold a bill of goods. We attempt to put down poor peoples in other lands who want their own wealth to stay with them. We arm the governments in power in order to fight their own people," he said. Mr. Finlator said that Communism is not a monolithic structure, that Communism differs from country to country. "This is now the longest war in United States history," he said, "yet we cannot beat them."

The Raleigh minister briefly outlined the history of conflict in Vietnam, pointing out that the Vietnamese only want to determine their own destiny without foreign interference.

A question and answer period continued through the afternoon with over 300 students firing the questions at both men. The students now plan a mock election to indicate how they feel as a student body about United States involvement in Vietnam.

Local Reaction To LBJ Announcement

The surprise announcement by President Lyndon Johnson Sunday night that he would not seek reelection was met here with widespread approval. Although 4554 voters gave Johnson a two-to-one margin of victory in Franklin County in 1964, few locals have admitted it since. The President had lost considerable support here in the past few years, mostly on his domestic policies. Most Franklin citizens supported his stand on Vietnam.

The unexpected stepping down by LBJ

has brought on a number of quips and statements of varying degrees of approval.

One fellow said early Monday morning, "I've been waiting a long time to hear him say just that". Another quipped, "I knew he would stop the bombing, his son-in-law is heading to Vietnam". Still another pondered the present selection and said, "I can't see Nixon. I just don't believe he is capable of being president".

"I was almost asleep, but that announcement woke me up", said one Monday morning political analyst.

"He thought he would get beat", said another. "Those who wanted ABJ for President will get their wish", said one, "They'll now get anybody but Johnson".

"This is a relief to me", said a veteran politician, "Now, I may be able to vote Democratic. I had never voted Republican, but I just couldn't vote for Johnson".

"What's left", asked one suspected LBJ sympathizer, "Bobby Kennedy, Eugene McCarthy, Hubert Humphrey and Richard Nixon". He was quickly joined with a reply, "If this is the best this country can offer, we're in sad shape", said a bystander.

And so it went here Monday. Most observers seemed glad Mr. Johnson had stepped out of the race, but were having second guesses over what's left.

Berger Wins Scholarship

Chapel Hill--James Lipscomb Berger Jr. of Louisburg has been awarded the distinguished Alston-Pleasants Scholarship for four years of study at the University of North Carolina here, William M. Geer, director of Student Aid, announced today.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. James Lipscomb Berger, Sr. of Louisburg, Berger is first in his senior class at Louisburg High School and has been quite active in school activities during his high school years.

He has been active in the Quill and Scroll Society, the Beta Club, the Glee Club, a marshal three years, the French Club, a writer for the school paper, and vice president of his class.

In addition he was named a National Merit semi-finalist, attended the Governor's School in 1966, and won the NCTE English Award.

Established in 1958 as a \$100,000 trust fund to the University memorializing Willis (Congress) Alston by his granddaughter, Mrs. Missouri Alston Pleasants of Louisburg, the scholarship directs that the annual earned income from the trust fund be used by the University to provide Alston-Pleasants Scholarships. Winners must be residents of Franklin, Halifax and Warren Counties who are eligible by University standards for admission here. It is annually renewable subject to consistent scholastic achievement.

The 1968 Selection Committee included Dr. James R. Caldwell, chairman of the Faculty Committee on Scholarship Awards and Financial Aid; Dean of Men James O. Cansler; Director of Student Aid William M. Geer; and Louisburg attorney Hill Yarborough.

Board Names Advisory Councils

The Board of Education, meeting in regular monthly session here Monday, appointed Advisory Councils for schools in the system and reelected Horace W. Baker as chairman of the Board. Edward F. Yarborough was reelected attorney to the Board and Clint Fuller was reelected vice chairman.

The following Advisory Councils were appointed:

Bunn High School: Leonard Frazier, Glenn Mitchell, O'keyne Mullen, Benny L. Perry, Benny Williams.

Edward Best High School and Elementary School: Melvin A. Nelms, J.W.A. Jenkins, W. Donald Wester, Phillip Sykes, W.B. Pearce.

Epsom High School: Sidney Driver, Tommy Ayscue, Robert Rowland, Ronald Renn, Kenneth Fuller.

Some over 2,000 Franklin citizens registered last Saturday in the new county-wide registration with seventy percent of those registering being Negroes. On the first of four Saturdays when registration books will be open throughout the county, Negro registration was termed successful by a county NAACP official.

The heaviest registration came in the Louisburg precinct where approximately 1,000 persons visited the Louisburg armory to sign up. Of these, 80 percent, or around 800, were Negroes. Otis Gill, president of the county chapter of the NAACP said he was satisfied with the turnout in Louisburg and, terming the voter registration drive being conducted by his organization a success, he said more work would be necessary in other precincts.

Gill said that his group had been working for the past three weeks on plans for the drive and that he had teams working in each of the eleven precincts last Saturday. He indicated that the drive will continue throughout the four-week registration. He said his group is also "knocking on doors" in an effort to get Negro citizens registered. Gill also said the voter registration drive in Franklin is being handled by his local organization without any outside participation.

Reports from all but Hayesville, Pearces and Cypress Creek precincts indicated that the Negro drive was successful in a number of the precincts. Figures were, for the most part, estimates, but of the 2151 persons registering in the precincts reported, 1271 were Negroes. In Cedar Rock, 149 persons registered with the breakdown being 108 white and 41 Negro. In Gold Mine precinct reports say that about 40 to 50 percent of the 125 registered Saturday were Negroes. Sandy Creek reports about half of the 112 were Negroes and Frankinton reports the same. There, half of the estimated 500 registering were Negroes. At Youngsville, 36 out of 140 registering were Negroes; 35 of 100 at Harris precinct and three of 25 at Dunn No. 1 were Negroes. Pearces Hayesville and Cypress Creek were not reported.

This is the first known voter drive by the Negro organization in the county. In 1966 demonstration marches were staged around the courthouse in an effort to get books opened early, but no all-out drive was launched when several weeks later, the books were opened. It has been estimated that Negro registration in the county der the old registration.

The fact that Franklin County has been placed under the 1965 voter rights act, thereby eliminating any literacy test, probably accounts for some of the overwhelming number of Negroes registering for the first time. Gill said that announcements were made in meetings and in churches, encouraging Negroes to register. Personal contacts accounted for a number in Louisburg Saturday.

Some criticism has been lodged on the method of registering used in some precincts. In several, according to reports, forms were handed to applicants to be filled out. According to earlier announcements, registrars were to fill out the forms. However, it was said that most of these problems were worked out Saturday.

Books will be open in the Louisburg precinct beginning Wednesday of this week, according to an announcement last week by Registrar Lee Bell. In Sandy Creek, books are open at Jasper Parrish's store at Oswego during opening hours each day. Others, as far as has been announced, will be open only on Saturdays.

Courthouse Project Discussed

The Board of County Commissioners ordered the architect for the courthouse renovation project of seek bids on two methods of construction, in the regular monthly meeting held here Monday. One set of bids is being sought for the cost of renovation with courthouse personnel continuing to work while the project is being carried out. A second set of bids is being requested for a cost of the same work with the building emptied and turned over to the contractor.

Mr. Harry J. Harles of Rocky Mount, A.I.A. met with the Board and agreed to the request to seek dual bids on the project.

County voters approved a \$200,000 bond issue for courthouse enlargement and improvements last November.

In other actions, the Board passed a motion to allocate \$2500 of county secondary road funds to the paving of a drive around the welfare building and copies of the motion were sent to Fifth Highway Division Commissioner J. B. Brame and other highway officials.

Commissioner Norwood Faulkner was appointed a member of the Franklin County Technical Panel, and organization sponsored by the Farmer's Home Administration. Judge Hamilton Hobgood sent a letter asking the Board to see if funds are available to place an elevator in the courthouse for use of elderly people and handicapped. The Board said it would take the request under consideration.

Commissioner George Harris of District 3 was present for Monday's meeting. Mr. Harris has been absent for several months due to a serious illness. He was welcomed back by fellow Board members and other well-wishers attending the meeting.

Edwards Is Youngville Lions Prexy

Youngville--At the meeting of the Youngville Lions Club held on Tuesday night March 26 at the community house, the nominating committee including chairman G.D. Wiggins, and J.T. Moss and Nelson Walden, presented officers to serve for the ensuing year.

Those elected are: President Claude Edwards, First Vice President Nelson Walden, Second Vice President Stephen Wiggins, Third Vice President Mack DeMent, Secretary-Treasurer J.T. Allen, Tallitwister, E.J. Pearce, Lion Tamer Robert Hill, Director for one year J.T. Moss, Director for two years R.E. Cheatham, Director for two years J.K. Tharrington.

President Davis Hill presided at the meeting, welcoming members and also guests from Oxford who were Lions Wallace Mullen, Graham Wright and Vernon Strother.

A special guest at the meeting was Mr. Leop Spencer of Raleigh who is running as a candidate for District Governor of 31-G. He was introduced by Lion Bryant Kirkland of the Raleigh Club.

Program chairman J.T. Moss, assisted by L. Jervais Phillips, presented an informative and interesting film provided by the American Cancer Society.

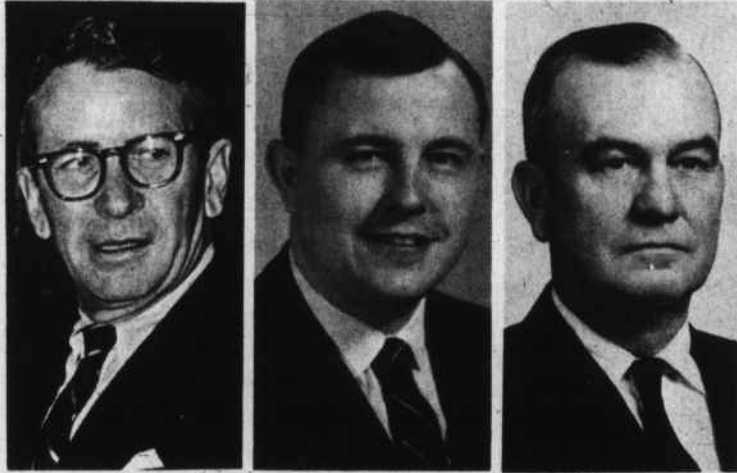
Two Weekend Shootings Reported

A 35-year old Louisburg, Route 3, Negro is in critical condition in Duke Hospital in Durham after being shot at his home around 1:30 A.M. Monday. Sheriff William T. Dement reports that Alex Junius Terrell of the Albert community was shot near the heart with a .22 caliber pistol. He is holding Norwood Yarborough, n/m/32, of Rt. 2, Louisburg in the shooting.

According to reports, someone told Yarborough that Terrell had threatened to shoot him. Yarborough then

traveled the ten miles from his home to Terrell's residence, called the man to the door and shot him.

In another unrelated incident, Bennett Jenkins, w/m/49, of Rt. 1, Castalia reportedly shot himself in the chest while cleaning a shotgun at his home around midnight Saturday. The Centerville Rescue Service transported the man to Franklin Memorial Hospital and he was later transferred to Duke.



Broughton

Stone

Bruton



Morgan

Fountain

Taylor

Dignitaries Here Friday

Pictured above are some of the dignitaries expected to attend Friday night's annual Democratic Dinner to be held here in the College cafeteria. U. S. Senator Sam J. Ervin, Jr. will be the featured speaker. Included in those having accepted invitations are: gubernatorial candidate J. Melville Broughton; Dr. Raymond Stone, candidate for Supt. of Public Instruction; Attorney Wade Bruton and his opponent, Robert Morgan; Congressman L. H. Fountain; Pat Taylor, candidate for Lt. Governor; Secretary of State Thad Eure and Agriculture Commissioner Jim Graham, both unopposed this year. Gubernatorial candidate Bob Scott, committed earlier to attend a meeting at Wendell is expected to have a stand-in. Governor Moore is out of the country and has sent his regrets at not being able to attend. Tickets to the event are on sale by all precinct committees.

Center Gets Loan

David E. Daniel, president of Town and Country Recreation, Inc. announced today an insured loan in the amount of \$105,700 has been approved for the Town and Country Recreation Center, Inc. The loan is for the purpose of the construction of a swimming pool and related recreational facilities.

Daniel said he hoped the project would be let for bids around the middle of April and that construction could begin about a month later.