

Weather

Mostly cloudy with a chance of occasional thunder-showers today and Friday. Little change in temperature. Low today, 68; High, 82.

The Franklin Times

Published Every Tuesday & Thursday

Serving All Of Franklin County

Your Award Winning County Newspaper

Giggle

It's a tough world for the American businessman. Every time he comes up with something new, the Russians invent it a week later and the Japanese make it cheaper.

Tel. Gy6-3283

Ten Cents

Louisburg, N. C., Thursday, July 11, 1968

(Twelve Pages Today)

99th Year-Number 42

Many Franklin Citizens Oppose Any Type Of Gun Control Legislation

The gun control controversy, which has spread across the nation in recent weeks is anything but a sleeping dog here in Franklin County. At almost any turn and with the slightest excuse, someone will speak out in strong opposition to any and all legislation designed to control the ownership of firearms.

Franklin Sheriff William T. Dement says, "I am certainly not in favor of registration.

There is nothing wrong with the laws we now have if the penalties were harsh enough."

While Congress, already having passed one gun law contained in House Bill No. 5037 Crime Control and Safe Streets Bill, Section IV, ponders further legislation, many local citizens are writing members of Congress expressing their opposition to any such legislation. Earlier this month the Board of County Commissioners sent a wire to

the two North Carolina Senators and Congressman L. H. Fountain informing them of a resolution passed by the Board in opposition to any and all gun control.

The wording of the Commissioners' resolution was almost identical to that contained on a petition being circulated in the area by an organization called "Citizens Committee To Defend Our Constitution", headed by

By Clint Fuller
Times Managing Editor

retired Col. Henry E. Royall of Raleigh. A reliable report said Wednesday that already over 60,000 signatures had been obtained on the petition from the Raleigh and eastern Carolina areas.

Sheriff Dement said he believes that the penalty for carrying a concealed weapon should be made more severe. He believes such an offense should be made a felony and should carry a penalty of at least a 2-year prison sentence and \$500 fine. He says such an offense presently too often results in only a \$25 fine.

One interested observer said there are already over 20,000 gun laws on the books in this country and no new ones are needed. In support of this he cites certain existing regulations. These, however, vary from locality to locality.

Here in Franklin County a permit is required to purchase a handgun. State law requires such a permit to be issued by the Sheriff. It requires the applicant's name, address and the Sheriff must attest to the applicant's "good moral character" and also that "the possession . . . is necessary for self-defense or the protection of the home."

No such permit is necessary for the purchase of a rifle or a shotgun. Sheriff Dement says he has turned down some applications, granted some and has had what he termed some "border-line cases".

There are three firearms dealers in the county operating from established business locations, according to reports. These are Seaboard Stores, Inc. and Freeman Hardware in Louisburg and J. W. Perry's Store at Pearce.

These and a number of others deal in rifles and shotguns, but only the three are considered dealers in handguns.

Phillip McKinne of Seaboard Opportunity Gets Grant Of \$411,521

The Franklin-Vance-Warren Opportunity, Inc., of Henderson, has been awarded an extension and reorganization grant of \$411,521 to finance its community action program through next Sept. 30, it was announced today from Washington. Executive director of the agency is George V. Boyd.

The information was given by Leveo V. Sanchez, director of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

The local contribution to match the grant is \$38,451, it was stated.

The announcement said a total of \$14,764 is for completion of the conduct and administration phase of the program, and \$12,136 for completion of the neighborhood centers functions.

The full-year Head Start program, a continuing project, is to receive \$384,621 under the allocation.

Moss Named To Morehead Committee

James T. (Joe) Moss of Youngsville has been named to the John Motley Morehead Selection Committee for Franklin County, according to an announcement this week by Roy Armstrong, Executive Director of the Morehead Foundation.

Moss, a member of the State Banking Commission and a successful farm operator, joins ten other county citizens on the Committee which selects young men for consideration for a Morehead Award. Armstrong stated that, "All of us are pleased that you will accept this assignment. You are a member now of one of our finest committees."

Other members of the local committee are: Charles Yarborough, John W. King, Miss Elizabeth Johnson, Dr. Carey J. Perry, Edward F. Yarborough, Dr. Cecil W. Robbins, J. Harold Talton, Bland B. Pruitt, Mrs. Hamilton Hobgood and Rev. Frank E. Pulley, all of Louisburg.



For targets, for hunting, for protection . . . they are deadly.

Staff photo by Clint Fuller.

Stores, Inc. is against gun control legislation. He says he went into the handgun business about three years ago to "fill a need". He is sincere and straightforward in his discussions of the present issue. He says he is not against some regulations on guns, but is opposed to additional legislation and adds that registration of guns would be an unenforceable farce. He cites several cases and examples where he believes that private citizens need a gun for self-protection such as a car breakdown along the highway at night or an attack on a person.

McKinne, himself a gun enthusiast, is interested primarily in sports requiring firearms, such as hunting and regulated shooting events. He says his business has grown in the area of gun sales in recent months and he stresses the safe use of firearms.

J. W. Perry, Jr., owner of a sporting goods store at Pearce, is one of the largest dealers in firearms in eastern North Carolina. Converted from a general merchandise store a few years ago, Perry's is now primarily a gun outlet. It would take considerable time just to count the guns on display in his store and he, too, stresses safe use of the weapons and emphasizes the sportsman aspect of gun ownership.

Perry points out that gun registration is already a reality and no further legislation is necessary. The National Firearms Act of 1938 requires that gun dealers keep a record of every gun, pistol and long guns alike, that comes to their place and also that a record be kept of the disposition of each.

Such a record lists the make, model number, caliber gauge, serial number, date and from whom received for every gun purchased or traded for by the dealer. Besides this information the record must show to whom the gun is sold and the date. These records must be kept for ten years. The records do not constitute a registration of firearms with any governmental agency. The records remain with the

dealer. However, in crime investigation, agents of government can and often do look at these records. While no permit is required to purchase a rifle or shotgun, these too, must be recorded.

New federal regulations prohibit the mailing of guns between anyone except dealers and manufacturers. Private-owners cannot now return guns to factories or service centers. One recent incident was told of a Louisburg gun owner mailing a handgun back to the factory for some renovations. He received a call from the company informing him that the gun would have to be returned to a licensed dealer and

See GUNS Page 6

Youngsville Eases Water Shortage

Youngsville - During the past few weeks Youngsville Mayor W. M. Roberts, the members of the town Board of Commissioners and Water Supt. J. A. Green have been occupied with negotiations for a new town well to supplement a rapidly decreasing water supply.

For about six months there has been a noticeable decrease in the volume of water, and the long hot summer caused a sharp drop in the supply.

A new well has already been located on property which had to be purchased by the town for the well site. A pump is to be installed next week and pipe lines laid immediately; all at considerable expense to the town.

Tests run at the new well indicate that sufficient water will be provided. The two old town wells which have been in service for many years, will continue in alternate use.



Franklin Sheriff William T. Dement displays some of the handguns being held in his office. All of which, he says, were involved in assault, property damage or murder cases here.

Rights-Of-Way Being Obtained For N.C. 39 Road Project

Surveys are being made and rights-of-way are being obtained on the rebuilding and in some instances, the relocation of N. C. 39 from Henderson to Louisburg, according to J. B. Brame, Fifth Division Highway Commissioner.

Brame disclosed the status of the long-awaited project in a public hearing in Henderson Wednesday. The hearing was called to explain-certain

re-routing of N. C. 39 through the city of Henderson.

Mr. Brame said he could not say precisely when the project would be up for letting by the Highway Commission. It is expected that work, once begun, will begin at the Henderson end of the twenty-mile stretch. It is to connect to U. S. 401 at Ingleside, five miles north of Louisburg and continue on and join that portion of Bickett

Bldv. by-pass north of the hospital, which was resurfaced last year.

The new project is also expected to join North Main Street at the town limits, where resurfacing was stopped last year.

Mr. Brame first disclosed the overall project in a meeting here last year. On January 19, 1967 he announced that Franklin County was being allotted \$400,000 in additional funds with which to extend N. C. 39 improvements to the Vance County line at Epsom. In October of 1966, Mr. Brame had announced an allocation of \$350,000 to Franklin County for improvements to N. C. 39 from Louisburg to Ingleside.

In the October, 1966 meeting, Division Engineer M. T. Adkins said the Louisburg to Ingleside project would take about two years to complete the project. No time estimate was noted in the meeting of January, 1967.

Apparently, work inside the Henderson city limits is to come first and will be followed by the Vance county portion of the project. Work in the Franklin County area is unlikely to start during the present Dan Moore administration.

Bunn Sets Annual Budget

The Town of Bunn has set a tentative budget calling for expenditures of \$14,210 for the coming year. The budget calls for a tax levy of 80 cents per \$100 valuation.

The largest expenditure for the southeastern Franklin town is the police department with a budget of \$6,800. The sanitation department is budgeted for \$1,250 for the 1968-69 fiscal year and administration is slated for \$2,585.00.

The largest source of revenue for the town is from profits from the ABC Store, listed at \$9,500 and a valorum tax which will amount to \$2,783.00. Expected revenue for the year is listed at \$13,783.94 with a balance on hand of \$426.06 to balance the budget at \$14,210.

The tentative budget was adopted by the Town Board on July 2, 1968.



Gone Is Armour

Several months ago some unknown Lothario climbed the tall water tower near the hospital grounds here and unartistically painted the medical signs for male and female in bold black paint. This led the way for other paramours to express their affections for their young lady and the practice snowballed until the tank looked somewhat like an elementary school chalkboard in the late afternoon. Tuesday of this week, town of Louisburg electrical department employees, Bobby Gilliam and James Hall, brought an end to it all by painting over the art work with silver paint. But love may yet overcome as the outlines of the now covered expressions of amour are still visible through the fresh covering coat.



Chief Deputy Dave Batten shows how "junk" gun is fired. In background, is a number of "long" guns confiscated in local assault and murder cases.