



Eagle Scouts

Three Local Boys Make Eagle Scout

Bennett Steelman, 14 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Steelman; Bobby Fuller, 16 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. George Fuller; and Stephen Humphrey, 15 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Hal Humphrey, of Louisburg and Scout Troop 555 were presented the Eagle Scout Award during the morning services at Louisburg Methodist Church Sunday, September 29.

Sapori District Chairman Mr. C. Ray Pruette opened the Court of Honor, assisted by Eagle Scout Kirk House. Mr. Pruette then introduced Occaneechee Council Scout Executive Mr. James Lacey. Mr. Lacey briefly received the steps toward this top ranking Boy Scout achievement and the meaning of the Eagle Scout award. He noted that reaching Eagle rank is not only a real achievement requiring much time and effort on the part of the boys, their parents and leaders, but it is also a challenge to the Scouts to continue to live up to the high standards of knowledge, leadership, skill and patriotism set for this award. He pointed out that only one per cent of

boys in the Scouting program attain this high award. Mr. Lacey introduced local Scout Executive Mr. Warren Smith, who enumerated the qualifications of the new Eagle Scouts and challenged them to live up to the standards of Scouting in their community - that as an Eagle Scout they can continue to serve the community in leadership and service.

The Eagle Silver Medals were then pinned on the Scouts by their Mothers. They, in turn, presented a miniature Silver Eagle Lapel pin to their Mothers and Eagle Tie Clasp to their Fathers.

Eagle Scout Kirk House escorted the Scouts for their awards, and Scouts Gary Clay, Bob Hicks, and Ray Hodges escorted the members of the Scouts Family. Scouts Dwight Neal and Walter House presented the colors for the Court of Honor. After the presentation at Church, a luncheon honoring the new Eagle Scouts was given by Mrs. Fuller, Mrs. Steelman and Mrs. Humphrey at the Fuller residence on Allen Lane.

Brewer To Head ASC Committee

E. G. Brewer of Cedar Rock Township will take office today as Chairman of the County ASC Committee following his election last week to the post. C. C. Perry another incumbent member of the three-man Committee was named Vice-Chairman. B. T. Bunn was renamed a member of the Committee.

An ASC spokesman said, "These farmers (including Community Committeemen) elected by the people in their community play a very important role in the administration of farm programs on the local level."

George D. Foster and Bennie Ray Gupton were named first and second alternates on the County Committee. Township or Community Committeemen were announced as follows:

Cedar Rock-Ollie T. Fisher, R. S. May, Ashley Jenkins, Edward Boone, George D. Long
Cypress Creek-J. S. Collie, Thomas W. Gay, Jr., A. C. Stallings, George Murray, Charlie Bass;

Murray To Get Outside Jurors

Superior Court Judge Leo Carr, presiding over a term of civil court here last week, granted a request by Solicitor W. G. (Buck) Ransdell that a jury be brought in from outside the county to hear the case involving E. Lee Murray, former county accountant.

Murray is charged with embezzlement, which grew out of what was termed "unexplained disbursements" dating from September 1962 through September 1966, while Murray was county accountant here. Murray was indicted last January 29 and was granted a leave of absence from his position as Treasurer of Wake County on February 5.

In an affidavit in support of the motion, Ransdell, said that many Franklin County citizens have told him that "in their opinion a jury could not be obtained from the citizens of Franklin County that would convict the defendant even if he were proven guilty..." Judge Carr said the special venire would come from Granville County.

Ransdell said Murray's trial would be set for Oct. 14 in Franklin County Superior Court.

Murray, a former president of the N. C. Association of County Accountants, was indicted by the Franklin County Grand Jury last January on five counts of embezzlement totaling \$6,360.48.

Maintaining innocence, Murray last January turned over to Franklin County \$6,360.48, the amount of the funds allegedly embezzled.

He said he was turning the money over "upon the condition that these funds will be returned to me by Franklin if in the future it should be

found that no difference existed."

Ransdell said in the affidavit that between the time he was advised of the missing funds and the grand jury indictment in the case "several prominent citizens of Franklin County" came to the solicitor's office and told him they felt Murray was innocent. They also requested that no bills of indictment be sent to the grand jury, Ransdell said.

The affidavit stated that "the defendant repaid to Franklin County the amount of the alleged unexplained disbursements accompanied by a

See MURRAY Page 4

The Franklin Times

Published Every Tuesday & Thursday

Serving All Of Franklin County

(Ten Pages Today)

Louisburg, N. C., Tuesday, October 1, 1968

Ten Cents

99th Year-Number 65

Reid Status At State Uncertain Reports Say

The status of a North Carolina State University statistical clerk, whose statements in the Raleigh News and Observer on the Franklin County policy of charging tuition for out-of-state school children, is clouded today. A release by University officials Saturday indicated that Harold Reid may no longer be employed by the Raleigh institution.

Reid, who was critical of the Franklin Board of Education's newly adopted policy, was revealed by The Franklin Times in a front-page article last week to have had a prison record. State University officials said Saturday that Reid "was not acting as a representative of North Carolina State University."

The reference in the statement to Reid's correct status was that "he is or was employed by the University..." The prepared statement also said, "Mr. Reid's work did not involve contact with students or any field surveys". Reid had claimed in the newspaper article that he became aware of "hardship cases" in Franklin County while working on a Food Stamp survey here last summer.

The Times learned from a reliable source late last week that Reid had been discharged after being confronted with the facts of his imprisonment. The source reported that Reid failed to denote his prison record on his job application and when questioned by University officials, denied having served in prison. The source also said that State University officials wanted to give the youthful Negro every chance to continue his progress since his work had been satisfactory. When called in to face prison records, it is reported that Reid failed to show up.

A State University official reported Monday that he did not know the exact status of Reid at that time and neither confirmed or denied the report that Reid had been discharged.

The statement issued Saturday revealed, however, that "The professors who employed Mr. Reid did not know of his arrest, conviction and prison sentence when he was 16 years of age for 'common law robbery'."

The Times revealed that Reid had been sentenced from Cumberland County in 1958 for two charges of robbery. The reference was contained in an article which reported the story of tuitions and particularly the cases referred to in the News and Observer article.

Reid called Times Editor Clint Fuller last Thursday afternoon and asked his help in getting four Negro children into school. Fuller said that Reid started out very courteously and was assured that everything possible would be done to get the four students in school. The four were identified as living with Mrs. Cecelia Garrett of Rt. 2, Franklinton by Reid. "His information was basically correct", Fuller stated. "A check of school records show that Mrs. Garrett was sent a letter informing her of the children's ineligibility. As far as school records show, the four children are not now in school."

Fuller said that as a member of the Board of Education he has asked that the cases be checked to see what, if anything, can be done to get the tuition paid for these four children. Fuller said the mother is listed in school records as Mrs. Irene Cox, 5

Ridgeway K.P., Great Neck, N. Y.

Fuller said that Reid later became somewhat angry when told that tuition must be paid before these children can be admitted to the Youngsville High School. "Man you're trying to deceive these people", Reid reportedly said. He contended that Fuller and the Board had not told "these people" what is intended for next year. Fuller explained that it had been made public that these children could not attend school here after this year unless adopted. The Board has announced that the tuition policy is for this year

See REID Page 4



Candidate Gets Check

Lt. Gov. Bob Scott is shown above, second from right, looking over a check for \$500 presented to him by Gen. Edward F. Griffin, County Finance Chairman, Clint Carlyle of Pilot and Bernard Walters of Louisburg, members of Scott's County Committee. The Democratic candidate for Governor and his wife, were honored Sunday afternoon by Col. and Mrs. Richard Timberlake of Youngsville with a tea and open house. See story page 3.

Photo by Clint Fuller

Saturday Night Shooting Spree Nets One Dead, Two Wounded

Louisburg Police Chief Earl Tharrington reported that Johnny Hartsfield, a New Hope Negro, is in the local jail charged with one count of murder and two counts of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, following a shooting spree in the Mineral Springs section of Louisburg Saturday night.

Dead is Willie Pate Thomas, c/m/38, who stepped out of his house when he heard shots nearby Saturday night around 9:30. He was killed instantly with a bullet wound in the upper chest. Eleven-year-old Otis Williams, walking near the Thomas residence with his father, was shot in the leg as was Margaret Williams, c/f/38, who lived at the residence. She also stepped into the yard to see what was happening. Injured in the leg, the Williams woman and the youth are expected to recover. Both were transported to Franklin Memorial Hospital after receiving first aid from the Louisburg Rescue Service at the scene.

Chief Tharrington constructed the events from witness reports as follows. He said that Hartsfield entered Ophelia's Place, a Negro night-spot, demanding to know who had knifed his brother, Winzell Hartsfield earlier Saturday. When he failed to find out who had done this, he went to his car, took out a .22 caliber automatic rifle and began firing in the direction of the Thomas-Williams residence.

Tharrington said that a woman identified as Carrie Joyner, who lived across the street from the Williams, has been charged Saturday with the knifing of the Hartsfield man. The shooting was done in that general direction. Winzell Hartsfield, according to Tharrington, lived at the Joyner residence.

Johnny Hartsfield, who maintains his innocence of the affair, was picked up Sunday morning by Chief Tharrington and Sheriff William Dement near the home of his parents at New Hope. Tharrington said officers found 13 emptied cartridge hulls at the scene

Saturday night, indicating that a number of shots were fired.

He said witnesses reported that Thomas came out the back door of his home and shouted for whoever it was to stop the shooting. Tharrington said the man was well liked and respected in his neighborhood and that feelings ran high in the area following the slaying.

The Williams boy reportedly told his father that he had been shot in the leg just before he fell to the ground. The Williams woman, an aunt of the youth, had reportedly stepped into the yard when Thomas did. A large crowd gathered at the scene Saturday and an all-night search was launched for the suspect.

Tharrington said he believed it to be coincidence that Thomas had once been married to Hartsfield's sister several years ago.

Fountain Backs Free Choice Amendment

Washington, D. C. ...Congressman L. H. Fountain expressed the hope Saturday the House and Senate would retain language approved by House and Senate conferees giving parents some degree of choice of schools they wish their children to attend.

The wording was contained in the conference report on H.E.W. appropriations just approved by the conferees. The report is to be filed in both houses Monday.

"On the basis of news reports," Fountain said, "it appears the conferees retained at least some of the amendments approved overwhelmingly by the House. Incidentally, this was the third time in as many years that the House has expressed its will in no uncertain terms."

The effect of the language would be to forbid H.E.W. to force any child to attend a school against the wishes of his parents and would prevent H.E.W. from withholding funds from any school district in an effort to force it to assign pupils to particular schools.

See Editorial Comment Page A-4

"This amendment would not end desegregation which is a fact all over the South," Fountain said. "It was intended solely to keep federal dollars from being used as a blackjack over the heads of school boards and parents."

"This threat of force, which a Federal court has found to be a fact to at least one case, is being used to disrupt entire school systems, contrary to the best interests of all the children."

"Education no longer seems to be of much value in the eyes of the H.E.W. bureaucrats charged with the responsibility of administering the law," he said.

Fountain said "We must insist that education -- and quality education at that -- be restored as the prime function of our public schools. The language adopted by the conferees would be a step in that direction and I hope

See FOUNTAIN Page 4



Bulldogs Wearing "Beanies"

See Sports Column Page A-6