

# The Franklin Times

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## Courthouse Project Nears Completion

Workmen are shown above rushing to conclusion the cleanup and renovations to the county courthouse Wednesday. Unofficial estimates say the structure will be ready for occupancy by county departments by December 15. The new District Court, slated to take over on December 3, may find itself conducting business in the Louisburg Armory until the court rooms are readied in the courthouse. Ceilings and floors are apparently the only uncompleted portions of the \$200,000 renovation project.

Staff photo by Clint Fuller.

## Commissioners Endorse Moss, Benson

## Two Mentioned For Highway Appointment

It may be late next spring before an appointment is made, but interest is already running high over the selection of a Fifth Division Highway Commissioner by Governor-Elect Bob Scott. Two names are being mentioned in connection with the appointment, thus far.

Clifton L. Benson, Raleigh building supply executive and a former Commissioner under Governor Terry Sanford, is believed to have the inside track. Some reports say the appointment is Benson's for the asking. Some even hint that he may get the Chairman's job.

The second name has come to light in recent days. Tom W. Ellis, Henderson automobile dealer and Chairman of the Vance County Board of Commissioners, is being mentioned as a possible candidate for the post.

Benson was active in the recent campaigns of the Lt. Governor and Ellis managed the four-county area of

Vance, Franklin, Warren and Granville in the primary and also worked for Scott in the general election. A report out of Henderson says that Ellis is thus far not an active candidate, but that friends plan to urge his appointment by the incoming Governor. It is also reported that "If Ellis is pressed for the highway post, he is expected to have support of political leaders in counties in the Vance County area". The report does not spell out which areas or which leaders.

In the neighboring Fourth Division, consisting of Halifax, Nash, Edgecombe and others, Enfield businessman C. D. Moss is being mentioned as a possible appointment. Some mention has also been made that Franklin might be moved from the Fifth to the Fourth Division. Franklin is now in the division with Wake and Durham, two of the largest counties in the state. Many Franklin leaders have expressed dissatisfaction with Franklin road allocations in past years and blamed some of the problem on the fact that Wake and Durham have been getting the bulk of allotments for the entire seven-county division.

In a special meeting here Wednesday afternoon, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners endorsed both Benson and Moss for appointments to the Highway Commission. The Board noted that Moss was not from the Fifth Division counties, but that he was a friend to Franklin County. Benson's endorsement is for the Division post which includes Franklin.

The present Fifth Division Commissioner is J. B. Brame, a Durham paper firm executive, who was appointed by Governor Moore in 1965 and has served since that time. Brame has been a popular Commissioner in the Division and Franklin County has received more road funds under the Moore administration than any other.

Before Brame, Benson was in charge of the Fifth Division, under the Sanford administration, having been appointed on June 8, 1961 when J. Lee White of Concord resigned. Stanley S. Betts of Henderson was on the Commission briefly under Governor Hodges, having been named on August 4, 1960.

In 1957, Governor Hodges revamped the Commission, changing its policies for one of individual Commissioner rule to an overall full Commission authority. Prior to 1957, each Commissioner was responsible for his division. After the Hodges shake-up, the full Commission has had to approve all highway projects.

Prior to Betts, the division was represented by two Commission chairmen. William T. Joyner of Raleigh was named head of the Commission by Governor Hodges. Later, Hodges named J. Melville Broughton, Jr. chairman. During the Umstead-Hodges administration, Donnie A. Sorrell of Durham was Fifth Division Commissioner.

Except for the brief stint by Vance County's Betts, the area has been represented by either Wake or Durham politicians at least since 1953 and perhaps longer. A small county has not placed a representative on the Commission in this Division in recent history. Should Ellis and his Vance supporters succeed in their efforts, it would be a first in modern politics.

## Soil Sample Week Slated

Members of the Franklin County Agricultural Workers at their monthly meeting in October designated that from November 18 through 22, 1968, as Soil Sample Week in Franklin County. A special effort will be made during this week to encourage producers to take soil samples of their cropland to determine liming needs. A special meeting will be held on Monday afternoon November 18, 1968, at the Agriculture building in Louisburg, N. C. beginning at 4:00 p.m. to discuss soil testing and benefits from the use of lime.

Interested persons including ACP Vendors, Agricultural workers, and farmers are encouraged to attend the meeting. Soil testing boxes and other material may be obtained at the County Extension Service located in the Agriculture building in Louisburg, N. C. Samples may be returned to the Agriculture building or mailed or carried directly to the Soil Testing Division in Raleigh. Producers who wish to apply lime on their farmland should apply it as soon as possible since it will take from 3 to 6 months for the lime to be effective.

Funds are available through the ASCS Office to help producers pay the cost involved in applying lime on their farmland. Producers who receive government assistance to carry out this practice must have the land seeded in an eligible grass or legume by the end of 1969. Fescue is most commonly used to satisfy this requirement.

## NLRB Panel Affirms Trial Examiner Ruling In Sportswear Appeal

A three-member panel of the National Labor Relations Board has affirmed the June 27, 1968 findings of Trial Examiner Harry R. Hinkes in the case involving the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union of America and the Louisburg Sportswear Plant. The Decision and Order, released today over the signatures of Frank W. McCulloch, Chairman, Gerald A. Brown and Howard Jenkins, Jr., members of the panel, states, "The Board has reviewed the rulings of the Trial Examiner made at the hearing and finds that no prejudicial error was committed. The rulings are hereby affirmed. The Board has considered the Trial Examiner's Decision, the exceptions, cross-exceptions, and briefs, and the entire record in these cases, and hereby adopts the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Trial Examiner with modifications noted...."

The three-member panel noted two modifications in its ruling. First it said that "In view of the numerous other violations....We find it unnecessary to consider whether....the showing of the film 'Women Must Weep' constituted an independent violation....and therefore do not adopt the Trial Examiner's finding in that respect".

The second modification, the panel agreed that Sportswear's refusal to bargain with the Union was a violation and orders the Louisburg firm to bargain "upon request" with the ACWA. It also found that the Union "represented a majority of the employees" and says this is true without regard to certain disputed union cards. The NLRB further says that "the Union at times material herein was the duly designated representative of a majority of the employees in the appropriate unit".

Following the Hinkes decision on June 27, attorneys for the Sportswear firm issued a brief statement in which it was said that they "have studied the decision and consider it erroneous. On that basis the company has instructed their attorneys to appeal the decision". While there has been no statement from company officials today, it is expected that the case will now be taken to the United States Appellate

Court. It could eventually end up in the U. S. Supreme Court. One company spokesman said in June that it would probably be two years before final disposition of the matter is seen.

The Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, AFL-CIO brought a multitude of charges against the local plant in the aftermath of efforts to unionize the plant employees in October, 1967. The ACWA sent organizers into Louisburg on July 10, 1967. There followed a number of meetings, both public and private, as a drive was staged to obtain signatures on union cards. The claim by the Union that 101 Sportswear employees signed cards granting the ACWA the right to bargain for them, was upheld by Hinkes.

In the October 12 election, 121 employees voted against unionization of the plant and only 39 voted in favor. The fact that Union support dwindled has been attributed to what the ruling calls coercion by plant officials and local people prior to the election.

The Hinkes' ruling listed 16 steps to be taken by the company and ordered Sportswear to "cease and desist" from refusing to bargain collectively...with the ACWA; discouraging membership in and activity on behalf of ACWA; and surveillance of union meetings and activities.

It also ordered the company to stop

promising or granting financial benefits to discourage unionization; interrogating employees concerning union activities and changing its grievance procedures to discourage unionization.

The order prohibits the company from threatening strikes, job loss, violence and property damage or serious harm as the See SPORTSWEAR Page 4

## Nease To Lecture On Moon Probe



DR. FELTON NEASE

Dr. Felton Nease, Chairman of the Biology Department of Louisburg College, will give an illustrated lecture on the "Proposed 1969 Manned Moon Mission," Monday, November 18, at 8 p.m. in the College Auditorium. The public is invited.

As a member of the American Association for Advancement of Science, and the North Carolina Academy of Science, Nease has been active in both research and lecturing on topics in geology, marine life, vascular plants, ecology, and paleontology. He headed the Botanical section of the Ecological Survey for the Oak Ridge Nuclear Plant, and reported on the "Fission Product Contamination and its Effect on Vegetation."

Nease, a native of Oklahoma, received his Ph.D. at Duke University in 1953, having previously taught in high school, and served in the Medical Corps of the Air Force. He is married to the former Pauline Ligon of Durham.

## Open House Announced

The School of Agriculture and Life Sciences and School of Forest Resources at North Carolina State University will hold Open House Saturday, November 16, according to C. T. Dean, Jr., County Extension Chairman. The program will begin with registration at the Coliseum at 9:00 a.m. and last until 12:00 Noon. Arrangements have been made for the group to see the Florida State University-N.C. State University football game at Carter Stadium, beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Dean said the Open House is held specifically to help make serious-minded high school juniors and seniors more aware of career opportunities in the fascinating fields of forestry, agriculture and the biological sciences. Parents of the students, along with their teachers and counselors, are invited to attend.

Dean said anyone desiring additional information on the event should contact his office in the agriculture building.

## Bunn Water Session Set

Ken Schubart, Director of the Franklin County Industrial Development Commission, announces a meeting scheduled for Wednesday evening, November 20th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Bunn High School Cafeteria.

The meeting has been called to discuss the Bunn Municipal water project in detail. It will give the residents of Bunn an opportunity to ask questions relative to the plan before the municipal bond election. This election will be held in early January.

Present at the meeting will be the representatives of both Pierson and Whitman Engineers and the Commerce and Industry Division of the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development.

"The importance of this meeting can not be stressed too much; so make plans now to attend," Schubart said.

## Edward Best To Get New Cafeteria

The Board of Education has received information that the State Board has approved a project to build a new cafeteria at Edward Best High School. Meeting here in special session Wednesday night, the Board directed Supt. Warren Smith to proceed with plans to erect the new structure as soon as possible. No cost estimate was given awaiting plans from the architect. The building is to be financed from State Bond funds.

The Board also viewed plans for the new Methods and Material Center to be built behind the present Education office. Work on this federally-financed structure is expected to begin shortly. Smith was authorized to go before the State Review panel later this month to seek approval on a Science and Home Economics building at the Bunn High School.

The Board gave Smith authority to take appropriate measures to get adequate heat inside certain buildings being used at present for purposes other than normal. At Edward Best,

the Board was told, students are being served lunch in the gymnasium at present and the heat is said to be inadequate on cold days.

The Board also passed a motion authorizing the purchase of additional bleachers for the gymnasiums at Bunn and Youngsville and struck out a bill for some over \$600 owed the Board by the Louisburg High School for bleachers installed there two years ago.

A lengthy discussion was held on the National School Lunch Program. Recently additional funds have been made available to North Carolina from the federal agency due to scarcity of surplus commodities. Local school authorities have been asked to draw up criteria under which certain children could obtain reduced price lunches, using these funds. A number of questions arose in the discussion and the matter was tabled until answers could be found. Supt. Smith was instructed to confer with officials in Raleigh before the next meeting of the Board.



Wind Damage

Heavy winds in the Louisburg area Wednesday afternoon ripped the metal awning off the laundromat on South Main Street. Damage is shown above. No other reports of damage have been received. Staff photo by Clint Fuller.