

# The Franklin Times

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## Much To Be Thankful For

Thanksgiving is a time to count one's blessings. It is also a time to offer thanks for every single one. Blessings come in many sizes, shapes and forms and many of us, busy with what we deem to be the pressing problems of the day, often miss many which should be counted among our most important blessings.

In 1910, it was written that, "During the past decade, Louisburg has made remarkable progress... that as to municipal advantages, it possesses all the natural and acquired facilities that are to be found anywhere in the country in the most progressive town of its population."

The population was then 3500 -- "Composed of the very best class of citizenship" and while it has not moved, was located "37 miles distance from Raleigh and 27 miles distance from Henderson" and served an area of fifty miles.

The people of that day were counting as community blessings, in addition to the above named, such things as the approach of "Another railroad trunk line"; a new hospital, which was "Only a matter of constructing the building"--all other things being in readiness and a new building at Louisburg Female College "to relieve the overcrowded conditions." It was added that "the work of building good roads goes steadily on."

Cars, telephones, electricity, televisions, modern medicine, schools, comfortable houses and store dressed turkeys were not counted among

the blessings of those living here in 1910.

Nevertheless, on that Thanksgiving Day, they held services in the local churches and gave thanks.

On Friday night, following, there was a community dance, staged in the Opera House sponsored by the German Club with "music furnished by Levin's Orchestra of Raleigh. This, too, one would suppose was some sort of testimonial that all was well and that for that condition and the blessings of the time, the people were grateful.

There appeared at Thanksgiving, a writing, author unknown, entitled Thanksgiving Plums, which bears reading today.

"Make others happy and be happy yourself.

Be thankful. Your blessings have been many.

Be considerate of others as well as yourself.

Hide your grief and display your smiles.

If you have but little, partake of it gratefully.

Let the joy in your heart bubble up like a spring.

If you are short of water, don't guzzle beer.

As you feast on the fat of the land remember the giver.

Manifest your sympathy by acts as well as words."

If the Pilgrims and those living here in 1910 found so much to be thankful for, can we today, not find as much or more?



Deputy Sheriff Lloyd Gupton Views Dynamite Damage With Store Owner Jack Collins.

## Blasts Rock White Level, Cedar Rock Area

Dynamite blasts rocked the White Level and Cedar Rock areas Sunday night around 9 o'clock, according to reports from Franklin Sheriff William T. Dement, who reports four blasts were heard by people in the areas.

Sheriff Dement says he knows where two blasts occurred, but is still searching for the remaining two. One was found near the Rock Quarry in Cedar Rock and the second was found at Jack Collins' Store in White Level.

The Collins' Store suffered extensive damage to the front porch of the

building, the glass windows and nearby gasoline pumps. The dynamite was apparently thrown from a car, landing at the foot of the porch, which is built a few inches from the ground.

An unidentified man and his wife were reportedly passing along the highway in front of the Collins place just as the blast occurred. Neither were injured.

Dement said he is being assisted in the investigation by the State Bureau of Investigation.

## Murray Friends Confer With Judge

A delegation, representing friends of Lee Murray, met briefly here Monday morning with Superior Court Judge Leo Carr of Burlington. The group petitioned Judge Carr to change an active sentence imposed on Murray in October to one of probation.

Judge Carr told the group that the matter was out of his hands; that his judgment had already been recorded and suggested that the proper move at this point would be to go before the State Board of Paroles.

Former Recorder's Court Judge W. F. Shelton acted as spokesman for the group of nine men, representing larger groups in both Franklin and Wake Counties. He told Judge Carr that the group was not raising the point of

Murray's innocence or guilt in the case and said the group was satisfied that Murray had received a fair trial, but that they were acting to help a friend.

Judge Carr, received the group in a friendly spirit, according to reports and explained some of the things leading to his decision in the case. He said he appreciated the concern of the group and others in the county over the matter and realized Murray's popularity in the communities.

Shelton told the Judge that the group would not ask him to recommend a parole to the State Board, but asked if the Judge would agree not to oppose such. The Burlington jurist replied that he was not willing to make

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## Local Man Fatally Injured

Charles Ray Spencer, 36, Route 3, Louisburg man, was fatally injured here Monday when a car beneath which he was working rolled off two cement blocks crushing his chest. The exact time of death has not been

determined. "Spencer was discovered beneath the car by a small daughter when the child arrived home from school shortly after 3 p.m.

The Louisburg Rescue Service was called at 4 p.m. and aided in freeing the body. His wife, Mrs. Virginia Medlin Spencer, was taken to Franklin Memorial Hospital suffering from shock by the Service. She had been called home from her work at Sportswear plant by her daughter.

Funeral services for Spencer, a carpenter by trade, were conducted today at 3 p.m. from Piney Grove Methodist Church, conducted by the pastor, Rev. Walker Pettijohn. Burial followed in Oakwood Cemetery.

Surviving in addition to his wife are four daughters, Margaret Ann, Terry, Carolyn and Donna, all of the home; his father, James K. Spencer, Sr., of Rt. 3, Louisburg; four sisters, Mrs. H. T. Faulkner of Henderson, Mrs. Billie Pernel of Warrenton, Mrs. Roger Hunt of Triangle, Va. and Faye Spencer of the home; three brothers, James Spencer, Jr. of Rt. 3, Louisburg; Everette C. of Hartsville, S. C. and Ernest T. of Rt. 3, Louisburg.

## Franklinton Parade Plans Announced

J. J. (Red) Johnson, President of the Franklinton Township Chamber of Commerce, has released plans for the annual Christmas parade to be staged Thursday night, December 4, at 7 p.m.

The complete text of the Johnson release follows: The Franklinton Township Chamber of Commerce will sponsor their eighth annual Christmas Parade at 7 p.m. on the 4th of December, 1968. It will be marshalled by the local American Legion Unit 52.

If you are interested in entering a float or other entry please contact the Chamber of Commerce at Box 326, Franklinton, N. C. or by calling 494-7353.

Children are urged to enter decorated bicycles and their pets. If you wish to enter either please contact Lonnie House at 494-2341 and give him your age also. The judging will be according to ages this year.

Our local Woman's and Garden Club will judge for prizes to be awarded for both the parade and decorations.

Home decorations will be judged on December 23, 1968. Anyone outside of the town limits wishing to have their homes entered for judging should contact the Chamber of Commerce.

## No Marketing Order Says DA

Washington, D. C. - The U. S. Department of Agriculture today recommended that no further action be taken toward issuing a proposed Federal marketing agreement and order for flue-cured tobacco. However, the recommended decision provides for the possible reopening of a public

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Gerald Wrenn Shows How Thieves Entered His Shop.

"They Came Through Here"

## Thugs Hit Three Local Businesses

Thieves have entered three Louisburg businesses in the past week with two robberies netting over \$1300 in merchandise. One would-be robber was caught inside a South Main Street store last Friday night.

The rash of breakins began last Wednesday night when the Record Shop on West Nash Street was entered. Police Chief Earl Tharrington reports that someone apparently entered the establishment through the front door by prying the lock open. He reports that the owners of the business estimated the loss in records and tapes at nearly \$300. No arrests have been made in the case, but Tharrington said his department is continuing its investigation.

Shortly before 9 o'clock last Friday night, Tharrington working on "some information received" caught a Negro man, identified as 25-year-old James Henry Washington of Louisburg, inside the Thomas Woods Store on South Main Street. Tharrington said he was assisted later by other members of his force. He also reported that Washington made his entrance through a rear window, using a grubbing hoe to break the glass and to cut the screen.

Since the establishment is outside the town limits, Tharrington said he turned the matter over to Chief De-

puty Sheriff David Batten. The Sheriff's department has charged Washington with breaking and entering.

The heaviest haul came sometime Saturday night when thieves cut a hole in the ceiling of the Hobby Shop on West Nash Street, entered the 18 by 14 inch opening and made off with \$1,024.40 in merchandise. The robbers also took the time to engage in vandalism inside the shop. Heavy damage was done to one of the miniature

auto race tracks. Wires were cut on the larger track and other minor damage was suffered. Gerald Wrenn, manager of the Shop, reported that he is not covered by insurance. He says the thieves took the "most expensive items", leaving the cheaper things. He speculates that someone did it that knows something about the hobby business. Tharrington says his department is investigating this breakin, but gave no report of any progress at this point.

## Patrol To Step-Up Holiday Efforts

Raleigh - The North Carolina Highway Patrol has announced plans to step up its traffic law enforcement activities during the four-day Thanksgiving holiday.

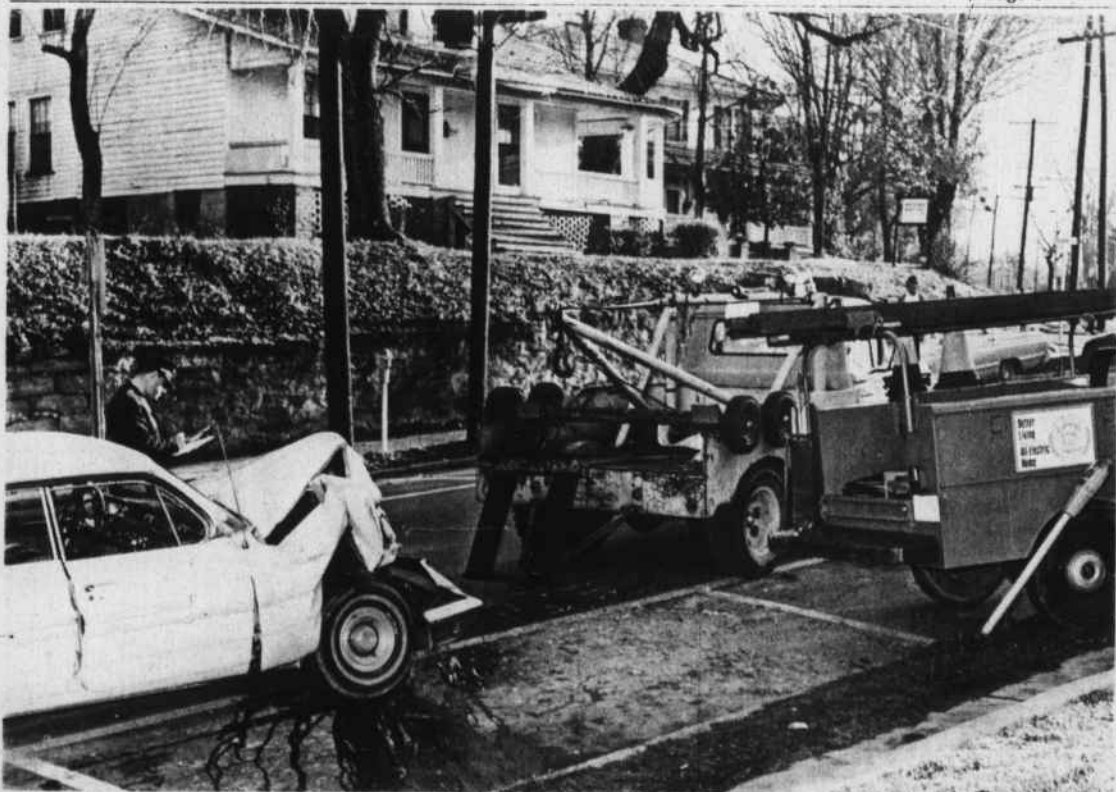
Col. Charles A. Speed, commander of the Patrol, said today that every available trooper will be on the roads, "with orders to find and arrest those motorists who annually make the Thanksgiving holiday one of the deadliest periods of the year on our highways."

Speed said special efforts will be made to apprehend drinking drivers and speeders. "We know that these

people are responsible for most of the accidents and most of the deaths and injuries. We want them off the highways, and we are certain that all responsible motorists are behind us in this desire."

All mechanical and electronic aids available to the Patrol will be in operation throughout the holiday. Speed said normal patrolling, VAS-CAR, radar and speed watches would be employed on all heavily travelled routes to detect speeders, and that Breathalyzers would be conveniently available to all troopers for testing

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Blinded By The Sun

Picture above shows scene of early Monday morning accident on East Nash Street. Ralph Winstead, w/m, o' Bunn rammed his 1962 Pontiac into the rear of a parked Carolina Power and Light Company truck, according to reports. Winstead was taken to Franklin Memorial Hospital suffering head injuries. Reports say he was blinded by the early morning sun which poses a traffic hazard at this point and which was credited as the cause of a similar accident there last week.