

# The Franklin Times

Published Every Tuesday & Thursday

Serving All Of Franklin County

Tel. Gy6-3283

Ten Cents

Louisburg, N. C., Thursday, December 12, 1968

(Fourteen Pages Today)

99th Year-Number 86

## Road Project Is Not Approved

The long-awaited NC 39, US 401 highway improvement project for Franklin County was one of three such projects in the state left out of bid awards last Friday by the State Highway Commission. The Commission reviewed bids totaling \$32,679,271.40 and awarded contracts on projects amounting to \$31,830,005.10.

The T. A. Lovin Company of Goldsboro was the "apparent low bidder" on the Franklin project at \$725,185.10. While no announcement has been made by the Commission as to the present status of the project, it is assumed that another bid will be called for.

Funds for the Franklin project were announced in two meetings here by Fifth Highway Commissioner J. B. Brame. In the first announcement, made in October of 1966, Franklin was allotted \$350,000 for improvements to NC 39-US 401 from Louisburg to Ingleside. In January, 1967 it was announced that an additional \$400,000 was being allocated and that this amount would "hopefully" carry the improvements to the Vance County line.

In a hearing held here by officials of the Commission in October of this year, M. T. Adkins, Division engineer estimated the cost of the project,

which would fall three miles short of reaching the Vance County line, at \$633,000 plus an engineering cost of \$67,000 and the cost of rights-of-way.

The bid by Lovin exceeded the \$700,000 estimated by Adkins and would leave only \$50,000 for acquisition of rights-of-way. The figure for this has never been announced. Since the bid was not approved, it was obviously more than the funds allotted and, if normal procedure is followed, the project will be readvertised for bids.

Two other projects were not approved, fencing and development of additional right-of-way in McDowell-Burke-Iredell counties and improvements to .092 miles in Bertie County. Neither of these two projects approached the size of the Franklin improvement.

Of the 42 projects approved Friday by the Commission, Franklin's was the fourteenth in size. The award was the largest single such awarding in the Commission's history. It called for the construction of more than 334 miles of roads across the state and carried the total awards for the year to nearly \$40 million.

A year ago, the Highway Commission closed out its year with a double letting totaling some \$42-million, but in that situation sealed bids were opened on days two weeks apart in November and December. The first award came to some \$18-million, the second to some \$24-million a year ago. In this year's record \$31.8-million letting, sealed bids were opened on only one day, November 26.

Commenting on the giant letting, Highway Commission Chairman, J. M. Hunt, Jr. said: "This is a fitting way to close out another good year for the Highway Commission. I feel that it is a tribute to the hard work of the 14 members of the Commission and our professional staff."

Taking note of the fact that the State had awarded contracts with a value approaching \$140-million for the second consecutive year in spite of slowdowns and freezes in the Federal-aid program, Hunt said: "This again shows the foresight of Governor Dan Moore in proposing the \$300-million road bond issue. I don't know what we would have done without that additional money."

Hunt noted that with Federal-aid funds frozen now, the State was still able to award a record amount of highway construction.

"This letting has only bond funds, State funds, and funds from the Appalachian Program in it."



Official Board

The newly organized Board of County Commissioners is shown above following swearing in ceremonies held earlier this month. Pictured left to right, are: E. M. Sykes, John W. House, newest member of the Board, Chairman George H. Harris, Vice Chairman Brooks W. Young and Norwood E. Faulkner. The Board inspected the county courthouse renovation project Wednesday and delayed acceptance of the building.

Staff photo by Clint Fuller.



J. R. HEFNER LAMAR GREEN RONALD JOHNSON

## Three Officials Promoted

Management promotions have been announced at the Franklinton Plant of the Burlington Men's Wear division of Burlington Industries.

J. R. Hefner has been promoted to group manager for the division, with manufacturing responsibilities for the Franklinton, St. Pauls, Fayetteville Fabrics and Lakedale plants. He will be located in Fayetteville.

Succeeding him as manager of the local plant will be Lamar Greene, who is presently serving as plant superintendent. Ronald Johnson is being promoted from general overseer of yarn preparation to plant superintendent, succeeding Mr. Greene.

Mr. Hefner has been manager at the Franklinton Plant since 1965. He joined Burlington in 1941 and transferred to Franklinton from Rhodhiss, N. C. He is a native of Burke County and is active in the Lions Club.

A native of Thompson, Ga., Mr. Greene is a 1960 graduate of Clemson University. He joined Burlington in 1963. He was appointed plant superintendent in August of this year. He is active in the Franklinton Baptist Church, the Franklinton Lions Club, is married and has two children.

Mr. Johnson is a native of Fayette-

ville. He attended Campbell College and N. C. State University, joined Burlington in 1959 and transferred to Franklinton in 1962 as weave room supervisor. He also is active in the Franklinton Baptist Church, the Lions Club, and is married.

The promotions are effective January 1, 1969.

## On The Corner Saturday

Members of the Louisburg Rescue Service will be stationed on the corner of W. Nash Street and Main Street all day Saturday to accept donations to use for the purchase of a new emergency service vehicle.

A spokesman for the Service said that a Rescue vehicle will be parked nearby and a table set up and urged the public to help in this drive to obtain a modern vehicle to replace one which has been used for about ten years.



JOSEPH HART, JR.

## Receives Ph. Beta Kappa Key

Joseph Jones Hart, Jr. of Youngsville, N. C. was among the ninety University of North Carolina students who were tapped into Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's highest scholastic honorary fraternity.

He, with the other initiates, received his gold key and certificate in a special ceremony on the Chapel Hill campus Tuesday afternoon. Fifty-six of the ninety were North Carolina students, and these initiates represent less than one percent of a campus enrollment of 15,500.

Joseph was a 1964 graduate of Youngsville High School, a 1966 graduate of Louisburg College, and is an accounting major at U.N.C. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Hart, Sr. of Youngsville, N. C.

## County Could Get Sales, Income Tax

Any way you look at it, the years ahead are sure to hold a secret pocket of more and more taxes for the average citizen. As the population grows and the demand for more services leaps somebody is going to have to pay the bill. That somebody is the taxpayer.

The 1967 General Assembly estab-

## Lions Hold Christmas Meeting

The Louisburg Lions Club staged its annual Christmas party here Tuesday night with a host of visitors and wives attending. Dr. Moses Abrams, Editor of the North Carolina Education Association magazine, was the principal speaker.

Dr. Abrams, noted speaker and humorist, was introduced by Warren Smith, Superintendent of Franklin County Schools and a member of the local Lions Club.

After entertaining the group with his humorous stories, Dr. Abrams closed his address on a serious note. "Santa Claus," he said "can bring us unity, rest and quiet. We have conquered all nature except human nature. We must be our brother's keeper or his killer and we surely need no further catastrophe among men."

"Thus to make our lives fuller and more meaningful," he added, "so as to avoid catastrophe, we need to stop, join hands and hearts and search for that which is good, truthful and beautiful."

Ladies in attendance were presented with gifts of wooden candle holders and W. J. Shearin was honored for his 26 years of perfect attendance. Shearin, a charter member of the club, was presented a pin commemorating his achievement.

## Courthouse Project Acceptance Is Delayed By Board Of Commissioners

The Board of County Commissioners delayed acceptance of the newly renovated courthouse here Wednesday. Meeting in special session to inspect the \$200,000 project, the Board made no official explanation of its actions.

Reliable reports, however, reveal there exists some differences between the contractor and the Board on several minor repairs. One report says that water seeping into the boiler room during the time the building was under construction was a major reason for the delay. There was apparently no provisions in the original contract for any work in the basement where the

new boiler is located. Marks and unpainted areas inside the building were listed as some of the things still needed to be corrected. One report said that some cracks had appeared beneath some windows in the new wings.

One Commissioner said this morning that he doubts the courthouse will be occupied by the county offices until after Christmas. It has been expected that the project would be completed and that all offices would be moved back to the courthouse this week.

There is also a report that some floor tile is missing or not properly

installed. Officials of Carolina Telephone Company from Henderson met with the Board to discuss telephone needs in the courthouse. At present there are no telephones installed, which would probably necessitate a delay in occupying the building. The contractor, J. M. Thompson Company of Raleigh, took possession of the keys to the building Wednesday, following the refusal of the Board to accept the building.

One member of the Board said he was fearful that the minor repairs still needed would not be done once the building was accepted and occupied.

In other actions, the Board accepted a plan from C. T. Dean, Jr., county extension chairman, calling for a 2,000 sq. ft. addition to the present agricultural building. The Board kept the plans for further study.

The Board also met with officials of Franklinton Development on the financing of a water line to the site of the Durham Hosiery plant to be located at Franklinton.

## Commands Aircraft Carrier

Naval Captain William B. Barrow, Jr., a native of Louisburg, will assume command of the United States Aircraft Carrier, the USS Bennington (CVS-20), Friday, December 20, according to information contained in invitations sent friends here. Barrow, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Barrow, Sr., is a 1938 graduate of W. R. Mills High School here.

Barrow will succeed Capt. Daniel J. Murphy as ship's chief officer in ceremonies to be held at the Long Beach (California) Naval Shipyard.

Barrow, whose parents spent several years in Pago Pago, Tutuila, Samoan Islands, is the grandson of the J. J. Barrow, who was Clerk of Superior Court here for many years.

## If Recommendations Followed

lished a Tax Study Commission which filed its report this week. It calls for far reaching changes in some tax procedures and lists several new sources from which additional revenue might be squeezed.

If the incoming General Assembly should approve the Commission's recommendations, Franklin County and North Carolina could see a local option one-cent sales tax in the counties; county income tax; and a levy on motor vehicle licenses. Counties might also see a halt put on increased property tax levies. In some cases, if the recommendations are followed, there could be a reduction in property taxes.

The Commission's report lists Franklin County as receiving additional revenue from a one-cent sales tax of \$173,000 annually. Income tax from the county would bring in \$49,173, according to the report. No explanation of just where these figures come from or how Franklin County, with a smaller population, exceeds Louisburg in income from both sales and income taxes was given. The report lists Franklin County as being in line to receive \$10,998 in sales tax and \$3,120 in

income tax revenue. Louisburg would get \$10,153 in sales tax revenue and \$2,881 in income tax. Franklinton would receive \$2,140 in motor vehicle license revenue while Louisburg would receive \$3,608.

Bunn would receive \$636 in sales tax, \$180 income tax and \$500 from MVL. Youngsville would get \$2,819 in LOST, \$800 income tax and \$784 in MVL.

The Commission would leave the option of taxing to the Board of County Commissioners, who could do it alone, call a referendum or be petitioned by 15 percent of citizens voting in the last election for Governor.

The lengthy report makes reference to the danger of continued increases on property taxes and recommends that all new taxes be collected by the state and passed back to the counties and municipalities.

The Commission's recommendations are, of course, subject to action by the General Assembly, which it has been said will have as its greatest problem this term, the problem of money.

## Welfare Lists Ten More Needy Cases

The Franklin County Welfare Department has issued its second list of needy cases for the Christmas season. The Department has announced that someone will be on hand at the local office from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. weekdays to handle inquiries about these needy families.

The latest list of ten includes:

1. Two disabled sisters in their late fifties live together. One has had a stroke and the other is feeble-minded.
2. Woman in her thirties whose husband deserted years ago - has multiple sclerosis and is cared for by her elderly mother and father. Anything, such as magazines which would help pass the long hours would be appre-

ciated.

3. Two sisters in their eighties living alone would like to be remembered.

4. Sweet little disabled lady, age 62, lives alone and loves company.

5. Woman has two children - boy 16 and girl 11. Father just recently died.

6. Woman has recently undergone surgery and has been unable to return to work. There are two daughters in the home ages 15 and 12.

7. Father is going to Duke Hospital for treatment and is unable to work at present time. He and his wife have five children in the home - boys 10, 9, 5; girls 8 and 3.

8. Woman's husband recently deserted and she is looking for work but has no income at the present time. Her two children, a boy 16 and girl 9, as well as a nine year old grandson live in the home.

9. Woman's only work is babysitting. She has recently moved to North Carolina and is ineligible for any financial assistance. She has one 8 year old daughter.

10. Young couple has three children. Father is unemployed, therefore, is not eligible for public assistance. They are unable to provide Christmas for daughter 5, son 3, and son 1½ years. Extremely needy.

## Mitchell Wins Election

Roger Mitchell won the election held on December 6, 1968 to become a Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor. He will take the oath of office and begin a three year term on January 1, 1969. He will be serving with Bennie Ray Gupton, K. G. Weldon, C. H. Newton and J. T. Moss, all district supervisors of long standing.

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors occupy a position of public office and public trust. As a member of our local board, Mr. Mitchell will assist in program planning, policy making and the carrying out of a soil and water conservation program for Franklin County and Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District. Members of our county and district boards will meet regularly with agricultural agency representatives and others interested in this important program. District supervisors are non-salaried officials, serving district, state and nation in this important role largely at their own expense and without compensation in the form of salary.

Our Soil and Water Conservation District is a subdivision of our N. C. State Government, organized under the provisions of the General Statutes of North Carolina. As such, supervisors and districts have a responsibility to the people of our county and district. District supervisors are your elected representatives to coordinate the various aspects of this program.

The response from the eligible voters in the county was quite gratifying to the supervisors, and they wish to express appreciation to all who participated.