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Govt. Asks School Board Imprisonment

Says Classrooms, Buses Segregated

The United States Justice Department has asked the U. S. Eastern District Court to "remand" the Franklin County Board of Education "to the custody of the Attorney General for imprisonment" in charges filed in Raleigh Wednesday afternoon. Seeking to have the Court declare the five-member Board and Schools Superintendent Warren Smith in contempt of federal court, Attorney General Ramsey Clark has also asked that a "daily fine" be levied against the individual members and Smith.

The Attorney General claims in his latest charges against the Franklin Board that students are segregated in the classrooms and on school buses and that Negro students are being taught by Negro teachers and white students are being taught by white teachers.

"The great majority of Negro pupils in the district, especially in the elementary grades, have been assigned to all-Negro classes taught by Negro teachers," the Justice Department claims. "whereas white pupils have been uniformly assigned to all-white or predominantly white classes taught, in most instances by white teachers."

The Board of Education disclosed at the opening of schools, under the federal court order to fully integrate, that pupils were assigned to classrooms based on reading ability as determined by tests a year before the court order. Team teaching was also begun this year to insure that all children in a class would get the benefit of teachers of both races and teachers were selected to teach subjects for which they were best qualified. No policy or directive was ever issued pertaining to segregated school buses, although a number of parents have transported their children to school by private car.

School Supt. Warren Smith and Board attorney E. F. Yarborough declined comment on the latest charges until a further study is made. Indications are, however, that a statement from the Board will be made later today. The next meeting scheduled by the Board is set for Monday night at 7:30 p.m.

The Attorney General also asks that the tuition policy of the Board be halted, claiming that it discriminates against Negro students. The North Carolina Attorney General ruled some time ago that tuition may be charged for pupils attending schools outside the district in which they reside. The Franklin Board instituted such a policy last fall.

Clark claims "these requirements denies Negroes equal protection of the laws, to the irreparable injury of the United States".

The latest charges in the court battle which began in 1965, asks the U. S. Eastern District Court for "An order adjudging the defendants, Franklin County Board of Education, Warren W. Smith, Horace W. Baker, W. T. Boone, Jones H. Winston, Albert C. Fuller and Lloyd A. West, to be in civil contempt" of five court orders and to direct, "That unless said defendants purge themselves of their contempt within three days of such adjudication or such time as may be set by the Court, each of the individual defendants be remanded to the custody of the Attorney General for imprisonment and that each of the defendants, individual and corporate, be subjected to a daily fine, all until they have fully purged themselves of their contempt."

HEW Official To Speak At College

Dr. Ellen Winston, a consultant to the Office of the Secretary, U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, will be sponsored in a public lecture by the Louisburg College Lecture Series Tuesday, January 21, 1969, at 3 p.m., in the College Auditorium. Her subject is "Private versus Public Responsibilities for Welfare," and the

audience will be invited to a discussion and informal reception following the lecture.

Among Dr. Winston's other current activities are: Chief Consultant for the National Study Service of New York; consultant for the Ford Foundation; Vice President of the Child Welfare League of America, Inc.; member of the Board of Directors of the National Council for Homemaker Services, Council on Social Work Education, and the Silberman Fund; and trustee of the National Health and Welfare Retirement Association. She is secretary of the U. S. Committee of the International Council on Social Welfare and one of the two United States representatives on the Permanent Committee of the International Council on Social Welfare. She represents the United States on the 9 member United Nations Preparatory Committee for the 1968 International Conference of Ministers of Social Welfare.

As the first U. S. Commissioner of Welfare, Dr. Winston headed the Welfare Administration in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, which included the Bureau of Family Services, Children's Bureau, Office of Juvenile Delinquency and Youth Development, and Cuban Refugee Program.

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DR. ELLEN WINSTON

Search Continues For Missing Man

The Franklin County Sheriff's office are continuing a search today for Brooks Merritt, 61, of the Moulton Community. Merritt, reportedly missing since last Friday, was described as being about 5'10" tall and weighing around 135 pounds. When last seen, according to reports, he was wearing striped coveralls.

The Sheriff's Department reported that the man was reported missing Wednesday and a search was launched. Merritt reportedly lived alone and a brother, according to the Sheriff's Department filed the missing persons report.

By mid-morning, the Department reported that Merritt has not yet been found.

Hearing On NC 39 Held In Henderson

A hearing was scheduled this morning in Henderson on the NC-39 project in Vance County. The project, which has a counterpart in Franklin County, has been cut due to what the Highway Commission calls "inflation".

An announcement by Capt. W. F. Brewer, Executive Secretary of the Henderson-Vance County Chamber of Commerce, states that Fifth Division Commissioner J. B. Brame of Durham and other highway officials will be present for the 11 A.M. conference.

It is expected that the Vance officials will seek to obtain additional funds, hoping to extend the improved road to Gillburg, some five miles east of Henderson.

Bids are to be let in the January 28 meeting of the Commission on both ends of the project, which reaches from Louisburg to Ingleside in Franklin County.



New Court Room

Third Remodeling Of 1849 Courthouse Completed

The \$200,000 renovation of the courthouse was completed a few weeks ago and the various agencies of county government have now moved into the greatly improved facility. Except for empty spaces awaiting the purchase of new furniture, the structure is now ready to withstand, perhaps, another 33 years.

That's how long it has been since the old building was remodeled last. Built in 1849 of "brick and stone" it was later remodeled and used until 1936 when it was remodeled again and now, in early 1969, the latest face lifting is completed.

The remodeling in 1936 cost around \$33,000 and was shadowed by a court injunction which halted construction for nearly a month when B. M. Stallings, described as "a former pressing club operator" went to court in his name and the name of other taxpayers because the Board of County Commissioners failed to award a contract to a low bidder and undertook to accomplish the work without a contractor.

In August of that year, the injunction was removed when the Board awarded the general contract to C. A. Ragland for \$28,935 and the heating, plumbing contract to W. N. Wiggins for \$4,520. William Edens was supervisor of the construction.

J. H. Boone, retired county tax collector and accountant, had the honor of laying the first brick for the new construction in 1936. No such ceremonies were held when the newest

By Clint Fuller
Times Managing Editor

renovations were started in 1968.

An interesting side note to the start of work in 1936 is the report in The Franklin Times that the "First lick struck produced a broken sledge hammer". No record is available on how many, if any, such hammers were broken in the latest project.

Another parol is that in 1936 court was adjourned in the old opera house because "heating facilities (were) not sufficient". The same happened here on several days when the heating facilities in the Louisburg Armory were found insufficient.

But, all that is behind now and the newly renovated building would be something to see for those who built the first courthouse out of logs in 1781. Modern lighting, perhaps adds as much as anything else to the interior and the bright new coat of paint throughout also brightens what was, before, a dark and dreary hallway as well as most offices.

There is ample space in all quarters now and although it looks spacious, when more furnishings are added, the picture will become better focused.

All in all, the new facility is a credit to the county and to those who had a hand in its doing. Many compliments have been expressed over the looks of the building. The outside architecture was not harmed with additions and except for some less vision at the corners of Nash and Market and Court Streets, little difference can be noted.

There is always someone nearby from one of the offices glad to take persons wishing to see the facility on a tour. A large number of people have taken a look in recent days and more are expected. It is one of the nicest courthouses anywhere for a county this size. It belongs to the people. Go by. Take a look.

of the National Council of State Welfare Administrators for some ten years; from 1956 until 1963 she served as Chairman of the North Carolina Governor's Coordinating Committee on Aging; and was a member of the Governor's Committee on Migrant Labor from 1959 to 1963.

Member of the Academy of Certified Social Workers and a Fellow of the American Sociological Association, her honors and awards include the W. S. Terry, Jr., Memorial Merit Award presented by the American Public Welfare Association in 1963, and the Distinguished Service Award of the U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1967.

Author of a number of books and articles, her recent publications deal primarily with issues in social welfare policy with special focus on public welfare.

Small Farms To Get Cotton Payments

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced that small cotton farms will be eligible for the small farm payment on 35 per cent of the effective allotment even if no cotton is planted on the farm. Small farms are those with allotments of 10 acres or less or with projected production of 3,600 pounds or less. As in past years, farms releasing acreage to the county ASC committee will not be eligible for the small farm payment.

The principal provisions are as follows: Unlike the programs for 1966 through 1968, payments will not be offered in 1969 for diverting acreage from cotton.

The National average price-support loan rate for middling 1-inch cotton at average location has been set at 20.25 cents per pound for the 1969 crop. Price-support loans available to program cooperators for different individual qualities will be based on the middling 1-inch rate. This compares with the 1968-crop rate of 20.25 cents per pound for middling 1-inch cotton.

The price-support payment rate to cooperators has been established at 14.73 cents per pound. This payment is in addition to the price-support loan. It is the amount necessary in addition to the loan to provide producers at least 65 per cent of parity on cotton produced within the acreage permitted under the program.



Sheriff's Office



Masonic Officers

Pictured above are officers of Louisburg Lodge No. 413, who were installed at the meeting on Tuesday night. Front row, left to right: Max T. Brown, Treasurer; Candler Strickland, Senior Warden; Douglas Gupton, Master; Charlie Smith, Jr. Warden; James Johnson, Secretary; second row: Herbert P. Beasley, Chaplain; Dean Holton, Senior Deacon; Sammy Beasley, Steward; Milton Alford, Steward; Perry B. Beasley, Installing Marshal; George Finch, Jr., Jr. Deacon and back row, James Harris Wheelless, Installing Officer. Larry Griffin, Tyler, was not present when the picture was made.