

WEATHER

Generally fair, hot and humid today and Tuesday with a few afternoon showers or thundershowers occurring mostly over north portion.

The Daily Record

The Record Is First

IN CIRCULATION... NEWS PHOTOS... ADVERTISING COMICS AND FEATURES

VOLUME 5

TELEPHONES 3117-3118

DUNN, N. C., MONDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 4, 1955

FIVE CENTS PER COPY

NO. 150

HOLIDAY DEATH RATE STILL RISING



SCENE OF BIG COTTON FIRE AT ERWIN - Fire early Sunday night swept through a cotton storage shed at Erwin Mills, Inc. in Erwin and did damage estimated at about \$140,000. Pictured here are the ruins as workmen spread the burned bales out over the yard and began the huge salvage job. Edwin officials

estimated about half of many of the 1600 bales could be salvaged. In the background can be seen the shed in which the cotton burned. Cause of the blaze still has not been determined. Erwin and Dunn firemen kept the flames from spreading to nearby warehouses, where more than \$5,000,000 worth of cloth is stored. (Daily Record Photo.)

Erwin Fire Damage Is Heavy

Cute Redhead Apparently Took Own Life

NEW ORLEANS, July 2 (AP) - A flame-haired divorcee whose body, clad in a brilliant red negligee, was found in a French Quarter hotel, apparently committed suicide, an assistant coroner said today. The woman was identified as Mrs. Valentine Chapeau Sheriff, described by her friends as a "citizen of the world." Her body was found in the exclusive Hotel Maison de Ville.

Asst. Coroner Raphael Sanchez said the death apparently was a suicide. He said Mrs. Sheriff had been "despondent" and that large quantities of codeine and barbiturates were found in her room. An autopsy was scheduled. Close friends said, however, she had been happy, and cheerful in her last few days and had spoken of going to Paris. They explained the drugs, saying she had "enormously high bloodpressure."

Only a few days before her death the 43-year-old Mrs. Sheriff had complained to police that a man impersonating a doctor or salesman had got into her hotel room and tried to attack her. But a coroner (Continued on Page Six)

YOUNG AIRMAN CONFESSES

Spends Night With Woman, Murders Her, Two Others

GALVESTON, Texas (AP) - Authorities said today they would take the rambling confession of Airman Ellis E. Lauhon directly to a grand jury for an indictment in the triple slaying of a Dickinson, Texas, family.

Lauhon, 26, of Altus, Ark., waived preliminary hearing after signing the confession. Dist. Atty. Marsene Johnson said the waver paved the way for direct grand jury action. Lauhon told police he shot Mrs. Ruby McPherson, 42, her son, George, 12, and her mother, Mrs. Zola Norman, 65, as they slept in their pine-sheltered cottage on the night of June 22. Mrs. McPherson had picked him up while he was hitch hiking and befriended him, he said. But he said he was afraid she would fall police he was AWOL from Eglin

Dunn Men Pay Fine On Larceny Charge

Two Dunn men were convicted on charges of larceny and receiving in the county recorder's court and received 12-month sentences, suspended on payment of \$100 fine and court costs and placed on probation for two years. The defendants were James Cottle, 27, of Dunn and Velton Silas of Dunn, Route 4. They were charged with breaking and entering the used car lot operated by Albert Smith on Dunn, Route 4 and stealing six tires, six wheels and other equipment valued at \$65. Both were found guilty of larceny and receiving. Vice Recorder L. M. Chaffin warned them that violation of the terms of their probation would lead them in prison for 12 months. Following is a list of the other cases tried at the Thursday session of court: Walter J. Hood paid the cost for driving with an expired license. Louis McKay paid the costs for public drunkenness. A nol pros was taken in the case of Bessie Lee, charged with possession of bootleg whiskey. George Allen McLean got a year on the roads for manufacturing whiskey. (Continued on Page Two)

Bikini Suit Is Unsexy, Survey Shows

LONDON - The Bikini bathing suit is disappearing from Europe's beaches because it hampers sex appeal, a United Press survey of 1956 swim wear indicated today. Shapely swimmers said they learned the old theory that the male is more interested in women who subtly hide their charms. Now they are going into hiding in one piece swimsuits.

Scott Attacks Ike Again On Farm Surpluses

CARTHAGE, N. C. (AP) - Sen. W. Kerr Scott today accused the Eisenhower administration of refusing to cooperate in disposing of vast stocks of agricultural surpluses, which he termed "our No. 1 farm problem."

The former Tar Heel governor attacked administration leaders in a talk at a July Fourth celebration here sponsored by the Carthage Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Scott, a member of a special Senate Agriculture subcommittee investigating farm surplus disposal policies, said "instead of making efforts to expand consumption of farm products in areas of the world where hunger runs rampant, we are being told that farmers are producing too much and should cut back."

"It is obvious," Scott said, "the Eisenhower administration is perfectly content in letting surpluses continue to pile up and seeing farmers take less and less for what they grow."

He blamed top level State Department policies for failure of American farm surpluses to move in world market channels.

He cited as an example the State Department is opposed to sending any rice, which we hold in great surplus quantities, to Japan, a major rice producer."

Meanwhile, because of growing farm "surpluses," Scott said, "our farm economy is sick, sick to the bone, and no matter how hard he tries, Secretary Benson cannot convince the farmers that everything is rosy with his double-talk about prosperity."

Record Roundup

QUIET WEEKEND - It has been a quiet holiday weekend in Dunn and Harnett so far. Acting Police Sergeant H. Davison said it has been the quietest weekend in Dunn since he returned to duty. Only three arrests were made on Saturday and there had been none since, up to 2 p. m. today. Not a single arrest was made Saturday night, usually the busiest period of the whole week for police. Sheriff Claude Moore likewise said things had been unusually quiet over the county. (Continued On Page Six)

Dunn To Be Host At Fraternal Meet

Eastern Star members from 14 chapters comprising the Ninth District will gather in Dunn on Saturday, August 13 for a District School of Instruction.



PAUL DREW

Plans for the event were announced here today by Paul Drew, the newly-elected District Deputy Grand Patron of the fraternal order.

Mr. Drew, who is associated with the Hatcher-Skinner Funeral Home in Dunn, was elected and installed in the high post at the convention held a few weeks ago in Charlotte.

The new district deputy grand patron, who has already started making his official visits in the district will be in charge of local arrangements for the school of instruction.

All of the officers of the district, along with other representatives of each chapter, are expected for the event and several hundred are expected to register.

It will be held in the Dunn Masonic Hall, one of the largest and most beautiful in Eastern Carolina. Miss Hilda Halburton of Clyde, (Continued on Page Two)



HE'S RIGHT AND READY - It takes a tophat and beard - at least a moustache - to sell peanuts in centennial-minded Harnett County these days and peanut vendor J. A. Smith of Dunn, Route 3 was ready for business this morning as he entered into the park of Erwin's colorful Fourth of July celebration in the park. Vendor Smith is pictured here with a big smile as he hawked his wares. Anybody want some hot 'uns? (Daily Record Photo.)

MOTHER PRAYS FOR RETURN

Two-Year-Old Girl Snatched By Bear

LIBBY, Mont. (AP) - An hysterical mother prayed today that searchers may find and rescue her two-year-old daughter who was snatched by a bear yesterday and carried into the woods.

The mother, Mrs. Mortimer E. Curtis of Libby, watched in horror as the bear took her child, Ida Mae, from a tent and loped into heavy timber.

Mrs. Curtis said the bear may have been a grizzly. It held the child with its left front paw and disappeared into the thicket running on three legs.

Officials at the logging camp where the incident occurred stopped Mrs. Curtis from chasing the bear.

They immediately organized a search party of 300 men who fanned over surrounding area. The search continued throughout the night and loggers said the bear may have taken the child into the high cabinet range mountains. Some of the searchers said mother bears who have lost their cubs have been known to take small children. A spokesman said two older Curtis children saw the bear enter the tent where the family was staying on an outing. They ran down the road to tell their mother. Their father was working in the woods a short distance from the scene. The Curtis home is in Libby but the family spent the weekend in (Continued On Page Eight)

Officials Fear New Record May Be Made

By UNITED PRESS

One of the biggest traffic jams in the nation's history sent holiday traffic deaths climbing toward a record heights today.

Cars clogged the highways across the nation as the long July 4th weekend hit its climax. In the East, a blazing heat wave lured added millions to the roads and pushed the toll higher.

By 11 a.m. EST, a United Press survey showed 280 deaths on the highways since 6 p.m. Friday. Drownings were in the high numbers, as usual during a midsummer holiday when temperatures are high, and totaled 123. There were six dead in plane crashes and 88 from miscellaneous causes for an overall fatality total of 497.

California had 36 traffic deaths, Iowa 15, Michigan 14, Illinois 12, Pennsylvania and Tennessee 11 each, Georgia and Texas 10 each.

The National Safety Council said the death rate on the highways was keeping pace with its estimate of a record 380 traffic deaths by midnight tonight. Deaths were running about 40 ahead of last year, when 324 persons died, and the previous record of 356 for a three-day July 4th weekend appeared sure to fall.

Corporal Rommie Williams of the State Highway Patrol reported at 1 p.m. this afternoon that there has been only one minor accident in Harnett since the long holiday weekend began. (Continued on Page Six)

New Lovelies Filling Gap In Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD (AP) - Star shortage? Movie studios are filling the demand with a raft of new lovelies, and one studio even is risking a million-dollars to turn out a Grade A star overnight.

Hollywood's current top stars - the Humphrey Bogarts and Lana Turners - are so few and familiar that theater operators are crying for new faces.

Nearly every film factory has launched a campaign to build new beauties and handsome profiles into new stars. But only one, Paramount, is daring to manufacture a movie star in capital letters in a hurry. (Continued on Page Two)



LEMONADE INSTEAD OF A TICKET - "You mean I get free lemonade instead of a ticket - gee but this is wonderful," declared Mrs. Drucilla Long of 519 Maple Avenue, Burlington, as Charles Johnson of the Erwin Woodman of the World serves her a cup of lemonade as Patrolman Paul Albergine, left, and Corporal Rommie Williams right, look on all smiles. Her little boy in the back seat was also enjoying a cup of the refreshing lemonade. Refreshing the motorists was part of the holiday safety campaign in Harnett. (Daily Record Photo.)