

Partly cloudy and cool today. Partly cloudy tonight and Thursday. No. so cold tonight.

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

VOLUME 6

TELEPHONES 3117-3118

DUNN, N. C., WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 7, 1955

FIVE CENTS PER COPY

NO. 1

25 KILLED IN FRANKFORT EXPLOSION



WHICH WILL PLAY BILLIE? — Tryouts were held last night for "Born Yesterday." Although the part of Billie Dawn was first immortalized by Judy Holliday as the dumbest, sweetest blond on earth, it looks like the Dunn production may feature a brunette in the part. Above are five girls who read for the part last night. (From left, back row) Joan Jernigan, Mrs. Susan Black, Betsy Sills, Sylvia Slaughter, and Anna Marie Daniels. (Daily Record Photo by Ted Crall)

New Apartment Collapses After Blast

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) — A newly built apartment house collapsed in a nightmarish pre-dawn explosion early today. Police feared the blast killed 25 to 28 persons — most of them refugees from communism.

Fifteen bodies had been brought out of the wreckage eight hours after the blast and officials said there was little hope for those still trapped in the debris. Seven persons were hospitalized with injuries.

The thunderclap explosion that sent the building tumbling down in splintered ruins came while the occupants were asleep.

A total of 32 persons lived in the house, most of them refugees who had only recently moved in from a settlement in nearby Idstein. Three overnight visitors also were reported in the building.

There was no fire. The collapse of the roof, walls and upper floors snuffed out whatever flames may have resulted from the explosion.

The house, completed three months ago, was inspected and approved by local housing authorities only yesterday.

Some rescue workers said they suspected a buried bomb left over from World War II might finally have gone off to cause the disaster.



BROTHER OF DUNN WOMAN HELD AT GUNPOINT BY REDS — Rep. Harold C. Osterlag (R-NY), center, and U. S. Army Lt. James T. McQueen, right, are shown as they tell a news conference in West Berlin how they and two other Americans were held at gunpoint for four hours by East Berlin Reds. At left is Charles Owlby,

Mr. Osterlag's wife and Rep. Edward Boland (D-Mass) were the two others detained by Communist police and Russians for "violating the laws of the German Democratic Republic by using a radio in a vehicle in East Germany territory. Lt. McQueen is a brother of Mrs. Carl Fitchett, Jr. of Dunn. (NEA Photo.)

Wife - Slayer Fred Hall Escapes, Still At Large

Fred Hall, the onetime deputy sheriff convicted in Harnett in 1949 of killing his wife, escaped from state prison yesterday.

He is still at large and worried prison authorities have warned the Mecklenburg community that he is dangerous.

The life-tenner crawled a winding, 150-yard route through a steam tunnel which he, as a plumber and pipefitter, had helped build.

Workers were preparing a 400-pound concrete slab for the tunnel manhole inside the prison when Hall made his escape. The tunnel's other end opens into a boiler room outside the prison fence.

Last night, State Highway patrolmen, sheriff's deputies, Mecklenburg County police and State Prison crews with bloodhounds were still combing the dense thickets of North Mecklenburg.

Hall is 5-11, weighs about 165 pounds, has grey eyes and brown hair and may either be wearing khaki shirt and trousers or blue overalls.

He was sentenced May 28, 1949, from Harnett County for murdering his wife in their two-room shanty in Harnett's Johnsonville Township.

Hall entered a guilty plea before Judge Clawson Williams told him "You are lucky to escape the gas chamber."

Conviction followed testimony by his six-year-old daughter, Myrtle, one of the Hall's three children and an eyewitness to the killing, that her father regularly beat and abused her mother and threatened her with a rifle. She also testified that he had beat Mrs. Hall with his fists and a broomstick before the shooting.

Hall at one time served as a deputy sheriff in Hoke County.

Capt. L. W. McConnell, superintendent of the Hustersville prison camp, said it is true that prisoners considered to be dangerous are not assigned to the camp as regular prisoners.

"But this man was one of 38 sent here on a prisoner construction crew to build a new cell block." (Continued On Page Six)

Dear Santa!

Dear Santa Claus,

How are you doing?

I want you to bring me a bicycle with four wheels and a walk and talk doll and a Jack-in-the-box. My brother wants a big car that he can ride in and a train and Pinky Lee xylophone and telescope with two glasses on it.

I'm eight years old and in the third grade. (Continued On Page Eight)

TAKES LOVER AND \$70,000 WHILE HUBBY GONE

Love Story Ends With Her Slaying

CHICAGO (AP) — A love story that lasted through riches, poverty, oppression and revolution was ending in a jail cell today.

Benson Doctor Freed By Judge

Dr. B. F. Cliff, the Benson physician who was charged with dispensing narcotics and not keeping a proper record of it, probably won't be tried after all.

When Judge Clawson Williams learned that Dr. Cliff was suffering from cancer so badly that he couldn't make it to or from the court, he ordered that a nol pros be taken.

Under the law, it is possible to reopen a nol prossed case, but this is seldom done.

Judge Williams is presiding over a two-week term of Johnston Superior Court. He said Dr. J. Dan Royster, Benson physician, had written him about Dr. Cliff. (Continued On Page Eight)

Godwin Takes Over Jernigan Firm

Nine years in Dunn and still going strong, Marvin Godwin, 34-year-old Dunn businessman familiar to thousands for his connection with Johnson Cotton Company, this week is in business for himself.

It was December 1, actually, that Godwin took over the reigns of a business formerly known as Jernigan's Heating and Plumbing, now to be known as Godwin's Plumbing and Heating.

He switched the arrangement of words, he said, because it's "easier said."

PLAYS SHEPHERD That's the only easy step of the week for Godwin who is not only busy getting the new business in shape, but is also nearing the time when he must step forward as the Presbyterian Pageant's leading male. (Continued on Page Eight)



MARVIN GODWIN

Harnett Board Approves Four Road Requests

Road petitions approved yesterday by the county board of commissioners were as follows:

1. To add to the State Highway System that road in Grove Township which runs from Old Dunn Road to Highway 421 and is two tenths of a mile. Petition was given to C. B. McLeod for presentation to the State Highway officials at Fayetteville.

2. To add to the State Highway System that road in Upper Little River Township which runs from Lillington - Swann Station Road, West approximately one mile from highway 421 to L. P. Wells farm, which is a dead end road, a distance of four miles (Petition was given to Commissioner J. E. Womble for presentation to district highway authorities.

3. To add to State Highway System that road in Grove Township which runs from Ballard Road to (Continued On Page Four)

Lt. McQueen Is Promoted

BERLIN (AP)—The U. S. Army announced today that Hardid T. McQueen, of Mullins, S. C., who was arrested and held briefly by the Communists in Red Berlin last week, has been promoted to first lieutenant.

He is a brother of Mrs. Carl Fitchett, Jr. of Dunn. (See photo above).

A spokesman said the promotion was automatic on McQueen's completion of 18 months' service. He said it had no connection with his brush with the Reds.

McQueen, who guides distinguished visitors around Berlin, was (Continued on Page Six)

Schoolmates Proudest Of J. Thompson

The Dunn High student council announced this week results of the first poll for "Student of the Month," an outstanding high schooler picked by vote of the students themselves.

Jimmy Thompson, vice-president of the student council and a tackle on the high school football team, received the first nod.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Thompson of 608 West Cumberland Street, he is junior class president; member of the Hi-Y, Beta, Club and Allied Youth, besides being an active member of the Divine Street Methodist Church.

Petitions of nomination are circulated in the High school, followed by an election in which the students vote for their choice. Jimmy was the November winner.



N. M. JOHNSON, JR.



J. I. THOMAS

Johnson Elected Master Of Lodge

Nathan M. Johnson, Jr., president of Johnson Cotton Company, was elected master of the Dunn Masonic lodge at their meeting last night.

Mr. Johnson, who has been active in the local lodge for years, was unanimously elected to succeed retiring Master J. I. Thomas. Mr. Thomas has enjoyed a very successful year as head of the lodge.

In addition to his Masonic work, Mr. Johnson, the new master, is also active in other affairs of the town and community. Five other elective posts were

filled at the meeting, and the new master is expected, within the next week or two, to name six local Masons for appointive posts.

OTHER OFFICERS New senior and junior wardens, respectively are Howard A. Johnson, who is employed by Dunn Furniture Co., and J. Edwin Williams, the city tax collector.

Re-elected as treasurer was Ray- (Continued On Page Two)

LITTLE THEATRE CASTING BEGINS

Tryouts For Play To Continue Here

Casting of "Born Yesterday," the hit Broadway play by Garson Kanin, will probably take about three weeks, Mrs. Lee Crall, director-manager of The Players who are producing the show, said today.

Casting got underway last night when the Players met at the home of Mrs. Susan Black on West Cumberland Street.

Mrs. Crall encouraged anyone in Dunn or vicinity who can make the rehearsals regularly to read for a part in the play if they have an interest. Rehearsals will probably not start until after Christmas.

"We have an idea for the leading part of Billie Dawn," she said, "but we will still listen to others who want to try out. There are a number of other parts in the play, too — two major male roles and a number of smaller ones.

"There are at least two speaking roles for women yet to be cast."

A second tryout will be held next week, time and place to be announced later. Anyone interested should call Mrs. Crall at Dunn 3368.

BARBECUE — The Mary Stewart P. T. A. will sponsor a barbecue pork and chicken dinner by Griffin's of Goldsboro on Thursday, December 8th from 5 until 8 p. m. Anyone wishing to buy a ticket may contact Mrs. E. F. Strickland at Fairview Florist.

These Little Things

By HOOVER ADAMS

LIONS, ROTARIANS, AND A GAL IN BERMUDA SHORTS

A brother of Mrs. Carl Fitchett, Jr. of Dunn was in news headlines all over the free world last week.

Lt. James T. McQueen of Mullins, S. C., two American Congressmen and the wife of one of them, were held at gunpoint for four hours by Communist police and Russians in East Berlin.

Lt. McQueen is serving with the Berlin Command Headquarters as one of his duties is escorting dignitaries throughout the area and into the Russian sector. The Communist police found the party had a two-way radio and put them under arrest at gunpoint. Finally, the matter was cleared up and Lt. McQueen has made other trips since into the Red-occupied area.

So far, Mrs. Fitchett hasn't heard from her brother except through the newspapers. The young officer has visited the Fitchetts in Dunn on several occasions and was assigned to Germany last May.

Jack T. Holt of Durham, purchasing agent for Erwin Mills, Inc. was presented the Carolina-Virginia Purchasing Agents award as the outstanding purchasing agent of the year at a banquet Friday night in Pinehurst. (Continued on Page Two)

"MR. ROBERTS" BEST MOVIE OF THE YEAR

Jennifer Jones, James Dean Win Nation's Audience Poll



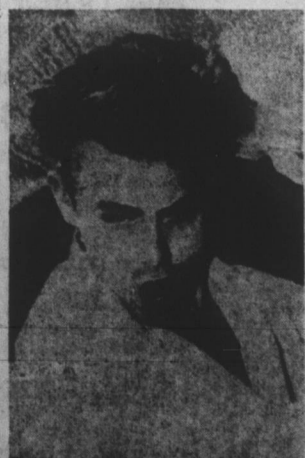
JENNIFER JONES

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — The movie-going public gave its own version of the Oscar last night to Jennifer Jones and the late James Dean in the nation's first audience award poll for the best performances of 1955.

They were named by 14 million film ticket buyers in the first poll conducted in theaters around the country by a motion picture Theater Owners' Organization council.

The dark-haired Miss Jones has an Oscar at home for her first picture, "Song of Bernadette."

But she excitedly announced that her audience award "Audie" statuette "means more than the Academy Award because the people who see the movies do the voting, and not the people who make the (Continued on Page Two)



JAMES DEAN