

Partly cloudy, continued warm and humid today, tonight and Wednesday with a few widely scattered afternoon and evening thundershowers.



16 REPORTED DEAD IN EARTHQUAKE

Sister of Dead Woman Takes Lie Test

Dunn 'Suicide' Checked As Possible Murder Plot

By TED CRAIL, Record News Editor

Bernice McLean, a sister of the 27-year-old colored woman who purportedly committed suicide here last night, was whisked to Raleigh for a lie detector test early this morning.

Chief of Police Alton Cobb said the death of Estelene Thompson, who died ten minutes after she arrived at the Erwin hospital with a pistol slug through her stomach, will be carefully probed.

"Some aspects of it don't look too good," said Chief Cobb.

Bernice and seven other local Negroes questioned by police were released at 2:30 today. They had not been put under formal arrest. Chief Cobb indicated that this does not end the investigation, how-

er. Gun Disappeared Most mysterious factor in the supposed suicide was the temporary disappearance of the weapon, a .32 calibre pistol. "It's not reasonable to suppose it was taken away." (Continued On Page Two)

33 Firemen Hurt In KC Explosion

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (UPI) — A tidal wave of flaming gasoline erupted from the explosion of a storage tank today, injuring at least 33 firemen, many critically.

A Catholic priest at the scene said he administered the church's final rite to five men, two of whom "were dead or dying."

All the injured were rushed to hospitals. A General Hospital attendant said 13 were brought there and we "don't know yet if they are all alive."

Some 30 to 40 firemen were struck by a stream of flaming gasoline when the tank, the last of four 1,800-gallon containers, exploded.

The flaming liquid knocked several of the fire-fighters to the ground.

Spectators, who had been held a block away by police barricades, rushed in with police and ambulance drivers to assist the injured.

Screams of the burned firemen were audible for several hundred feet.

The victims, blackened by smoke and the searing heat, were rushed to hospitals in ambulances, which returned immediately for more patients.

General Hospital announced it (Continued On Page Two)

Montana Hit By Series Of Mighty Quakes

WEST YELLOWSTONE, Mont. (UPI)—A series of mighty earthquakes smashed into southern Montana near Yellowstone Park Monday night and early today and a reported 16 persons were killed. Montana highway patrolman Robert Spears said there could be 25 dead in the main slide and the toll "could go even higher."

The quakes brought an 8,000-foot mountain tumbling down, threatening to shatter a dam on the Madison River and endangered upwards of 150 campers in the river valley.

Helicopters from throughout the western states, some carrying para-medics, were sent to the scene, near the Idaho, Montana and Wyoming boundaries.

The earthquakes, felt throughout the Pacific Northwest, began shortly before midnight Monday. Foothills near this western entrance to Yellowstone National Park were cracked open like egg shells by the trembling earth.

Eyewitness Report A Belgrade, Mont., pilot who flew over the area, Al Newby, and Gallatin County Sheriff Don Skerritt of Bozeman, Mont., said the north shore of the lake behind the dam was copped off six to 15 feet, submerging the highway there.

The south shore heaved up similarly six to 15 feet as though the whole lake were tipped like a saucer.

The mountain, 1500 feet above (Continued On Page Two)



OLD-TIMERS IN THE TOBACCO GAME, but still looking as bright-eyed and bushy-tailed as a youngster bringing in his crop, these brothers were on hand for the opening of the Dunn market. Both M. E. Hobson (left) and W. B. Hobson (right) farm near Dunn. (Record Photo by Ted Crail.)

Harnett Concern Attains Honor

Wilbourne's Now In Southern Group

J. E. Wilbourne of Wilbourne Furniture Co. in Lillington and Dunn, announced today that their stores had become an affiliated member of the Southern Living Stores.

Southern Living Stores with headquarters in High Point, North Carolina, the heart of the greatest concentration of furniture production in the world. Furniture-land USA is a group of leading furniture stores in the South that have joined together to increase their purchasing power and the effectiveness of their merchandising efforts.

Mr. Wilbourne, advised that the new affiliation with the Southern Living Stores is a part of Wilbourne Furniture Co.'s continuing policy of expanding facilities and customer service. Through the Southern Living Stores his company will have multi-million dollar buying power advantages not ordinarily available to an individual store.

SAVES FOR CUSTOMERS Through the combined buying power of the Southern Living (Continued on Page Two)

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SAVES FOR CUSTOMERS Through the combined buying power of the Southern Living (Continued on Page Two)

Custody Still Undecided

Says Mother Unfit To Rear Her Son

A father appears to have gained the first round for custody of his three year old son.

During a habeas corpus hearing in Lee Superior Court, to determine the custody of the child, Daniel Wayne Brown, Judge Clawson L. Williams, postponed the hearing. At that time the mother, Mrs. Evelyn Lee Darroch Brown Armstrong, was placed under a \$1,000 bond to assure her appearance with the child in court Monday.

The hearing Monday did not materialize. The mother, who remarried again in March after having been divorced from the child's father, Neil Eldridge Brown since presented a doctor's certificate stating she was unable to go through a hearing at this time. Mrs. Armstrong is expecting a third child in four weeks.

The father contends, through his attorney, State Senator Robert Morgan, that the mother is not a suitable person because of her moral character to have custody of the child. The mother, through (Continued on Page Two)

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(Continued on Page Two)

Farmers Stream to Leaf Opening—One on Wheel-Chair

Dunn Markets Average Better Than Belt

By TED CRAIL, Record News Editor

They came barefoot and in shoes to the Dunn Tobacco Market today. Some farm families were their Sunday best and some straight out of the field.

Junius Barefoot, a 76-year-old farmer bitten by arthritis, came in a wheel chair.

For Barefoot, and for all the others, the first news was good news. The opening average of \$60.85 put Dunn somewhat over the average leaf price on the Eastern Belt markets (reported by United Press as \$59.89). The first tobacco went at 70 cents a pound, reported sales supervisor Ned Champion, and belonged to S. D. and Jim Whittington. That was at the Big Four warehouse where the auctions began this morning after a brief round of speeches by local dignitaries.

"I think the farmer and the tobacco men were both highly pleased at the way it was going," said Champion, who doubles up as sales supervisor on the leaf market and manager of Dunn's Chamber of Commerce.

"None of the tobacco in the early sale was turned over to the federal stabilization corporation."

Planters Bursting The Big Four, operated this year by Tom Smothers and Jack Calhoun, had only a moderate sale this morning. It ran to 622,226 pounds—sold for a total of \$37,868.

At Planter's where King Roberts and J. M. Smothers are in charge, the whole right side of the warehouse was lined with clock and Champion estimated gleaming leaf.

A sale started there at 11 o'clock that the legal limit of 2200 baskets would be auctioned by some time this afternoon.

Smothers, he said, has been working the Dunn area for about a month to alert farmers to local facilities for selling their leaf.

The first nine rows of tobacco at Planter's came from the farms of Dunn Mayor George Franklin Blalock who was lead-off speaker in the ceremonies that kicked the market open.

Blalock Happy Blalock told the assembled farmers, anxiously waiting to see what their tobacco would bring, that he has been selling on the Dunn market for years "and I've always been satisfied."

He also told them that buyers came into Dunn armed with the (Continued On Page Two)

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CRIPPLING ARTHRITIS that has put him in a wheel-chair couldn't keep Junius Barefoot (above) away from the opening of the local market. A. H. Westbrook, a tenant on his farm brought 370 pounds to the warehouse this morning. Busy newslady at left is Mrs. A. B. Uzzle, Jr., wife of Dunn's city manager.



THEIR OWN, PRIVATE air-conditioning system was in use by Robert Dale Beasley, 7, and brother Thomas, 5, as the leaf market opened. The weather was as hot as an auctioneer's sales-pitch so they opened their shirts and met the world with cool stomachs. That's their grandmother, Mrs. R. D. Beasley, behind them. (Record Photo by Ted Crail.)

Woman Held In Burglary

BURLINGTON (UPI) — A 38-year-old woman was held under \$8,000 bond today on charges of burglary and possession of burglary tools.

Police arrested Mildred Ray Ingold of Graham, Monday night in the empty home of Marvin McAdams, who is away on a visit to Ohio.

Officers said neighbors telephoned police to report a prowler around the McAdams home. Police said they found the Ingold woman hiding in a bedroom closet.

They said her pocketbook contained a small screwdriver and an ice pick. A paper shopping bag on the back porch of the house contained a large screwdriver, a combination screwdriver-hammer and pliers.

Good Pen Pals Girls At Top In Scouting

Three young Dunn girls have won their way to the highest rank in girl scouting by such diverse activities as collecting sea shells, roller skating, gardening, learn-

—equivalent to the Eagle rank for boys.

Mrs. Oiese Hudson, their scout leader and Jeanette's mother, said they are the only girls in



PATSY, JEANETTE AND KAY

ing the Morse Code and writing to pen pals overseas.

Jeanette Rowles, 13, Kay Alphin, 14, and Patsy Jackson, 14, have all become Curved Bar scouts (Continued on Page Two)

Dunn to be elevated to than rank this year.

According to Jeanette, one of her biggest thrills as a scout (Continued on Page Two)

Belt Prices \$53 To \$57

RALEIGH (UPI) — Sales opened on the huge Eastern North Carolina Flue-Cured Tobacco Belt today with early prices nudging the predicted \$58 per hundred pounds figure despite an apparent conservative approach by buyers.

General Eastern Belt markets ranged between \$53 to \$57 per hundred pounds, compared to an average of \$58.35 per hundred last year. Most baskets were bringing \$40.568 per hundred with a practical top of \$69.

The volume of offerings was fairly heavy with some markets

observing full sales but quality was generally lower than on first sales last year.

Practical Top The Federal-State Market News Service at Wilson reported lowest sales were \$10 and the high \$71 with the practical top at \$69 (Continued on Page Two)