

Begun 66 Years Ago

Know Your Brevard Merchants Series

# Houston Furniture Company Is One Of Oldest In Western N. C.

## Brevard Store Is Largest In City

By - Cal Carpenter

The Houston Furniture Company is not only the largest furniture store in Brevard, it is a descendent of one of the oldest furniture businesses in Western North Carolina.

Begun 66 years ago in Canton, the original Houston-Sluder Furniture Company expanded until at one time the co-founder, A. H. Houston, had stores in Canton, Hendersonville and Brevard. Two stores still carry the name — in Brevard and Hendersonville — although both have changed from the original ownership.

The Brevard store is now owned by Mr. Houston's nephew and grand nephew, Herman Turner and son, Larry, and Mr. Houston's widow, Mrs. A. H. Houston, who lives in Hendersonville. Mr. Houston died in 1958.

### OPENED 1926

Brevard's Houston Furniture Company store was opened in 1926, in a location near the present Varner's Drug Store on Broad Street. It moved to its present location at 55 E. Main Street in the spring of 1941.

Coming back strong after a disastrous fire in 1953, the store has been remodeled several times and in December of last year expanded some 70 percent when it acquired the Bower's building next door at 53 E. Main.

### TURNER STORY

The story of how the Turners, father and son, became co-owners and managers of the store goes back to 1930.

Herman Turner was born in Duplin County in Eastern North Carolina. He attended public schools there and after high school graduation, came to Brevard to study business at the Brevard Institute, forerunner of Brevard College.

While studying at the Institute, Herman began working mornings and evenings at his uncle's store. When he completed his courses, he came into the store full time. Fourteen years later, in 1944, he became a partner in the business.

Larry Turner came into the store in a

similar manner. He was born in Hendersonville but attended public schools in Brevard.

"I started working part-time in the store while in the seventh grade," he says, "and I've been here ever since."

Five years ago, Larry acquired part ownership and became co-manager of the store with his father.

### 9 EMPLOYEES

The Houston Furniture store now employs nine people in addition to the father and son team of managers. It has three outside salesmen, one service man, two delivery men, two store salesmen in addition to Herman and Larry Turner, and Miss Gail Hall, the office secretary. It operates six trucks in selling and delivery service.

Long established, the store handles choice lines in furniture, appliances, and carpeting. In furniture it handles Bassett, Rowe, Lazy Boy and American Drew. In appliances it sells Philco, Maytag and Monarch. In carpets it offers Mohawk and Barwick Mills.

Each year the Turners, father or son, attend four furniture markets:

"We've always looking for changes that will help our customers with better quality furniture at reasonable prices," says Larry.

"One of us goes through a 30-acre floor display of furniture lines at High Point twice a year," says Herman. "But it's usually Larry," he admits, "it's got to where it wears me out."

### CHURCH, CIVIC ACTIVITY

Herman Turner is married to the former Elizabeth Russell of Hendersonville. Additional to their son, Larry, the couple have a daughter, Ann, who is now in her second year at Appalachian State University at Boone where she is studying to be a special education teacher.

Larry is married to the former Annette Tinsley of Brevard. The couple have a daughter, Lyn, who is a senior at Brevard High School and a son, Brent, who's a student at Brevard Junior High.

The Herman Turners attend the Brevard First Baptist Church and the Larry Turners attend the Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church.

The Turner men are active in civic and fraternal organizations — Herman is in the Lions Club and Larry is secretary of the Chamber of Commerce. Both are Scottish Rite Masons and Shriners.



CO-OWNERS AND MANAGERS of Houston Furniture company, which is featured this week in The Times "Know Your Brevard Merchants" series, are pictured above.

At the left is Larry Turner and standing at the right is Herman Turner. Seated is the office secretary, Miss Gail Hall. (Times Staff Photo)

## Transylvania Exceeds US Bond Sales Goal During '71

The U. S. Savings Bonds Program experienced its most successful peace-time year in North Carolina during 1971.

E & H Bond sales for 1971 of \$75,224,692 were up 17.6 per cent over 1970 and were the highest since 1945, representing 118.2 per cent of the state's 1971 dollar quota of \$63,600,000. Series E Bond sales alone amounted to \$73,907,692, an increase of 16.7 per cent over the previous year's record.

In Payroll Savings promotions, more than 51,000 new savers were added to the Payroll Savings Plan, and the state continues to be a leader in the amount of support devoted to the Savings Bonds Program by news and advertising media.

There were ninety-one counties which made 100 per cent of their annual quota for 1971, and the others came close to 100 per cent. Mecklenburg County led the state with sales of \$9,371,943, followed by Guilford with \$7,119,553, Forsyth with \$5,809,865, and Wake with \$4,884,925.

In making this release Jerry Jerome, County Volunteer Chairman, reported that

1971 sales in Transylvania County reached \$327,661.00 or 116.3 per cent of the annual goal of \$281,748.00.

Nationally, total cash sales of E and H Bonds for 1971 amounted to \$5,477 million, 17 per cent above a year earlier. Accumulation of interest during 1971 on outstanding E Bonds amounted to \$2,192 million. January

December redemptions, at cost price, at \$4,217 million, were 17 per cent below last year's \$5,060 (at cost price). Accrued interest paid out on E Bonds (and unclassified Freedom Shares) redeemed during 1971 totaled \$1,020 million. Amount outstanding of E-H Bonds amounted to \$54.3 billion, an increase of \$2.4 billion, and the greatest annual growth in 26 years.

## Presbyterian Youth To Attend Synod Of Appalachia This Week

The Synod of Appalachia of the Presbyterian Church, U. S., is sponsoring the 1972 World Missions Conference in Gatlinburg, Tenn. This Conference which will present to the youth of the Synod the work of the missionaries, will be held February 4 - 6. The Theme of the Conference this year "By All Means . . ." hopes to challenge the youth of the Church to a stronger commitment of mission in today's world.

Representing the Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church will be Mr. and Mrs. Ladson Hart, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gest and the Reverend and Mrs. Tom McPhail as chap-

erones. Youth delegates are Ron Poor, Margaret and Martha Nicholson, George T. Perkins, III, Greg Winston, Betty Phillips, Sam Feaster, Terry Brewer, Linda Kirk, Winnie Kirk, Rita Skerrett, Jimmy Ladd, Billy Dechant, Lydia Folger, Bill Stoneback, Patti Thomas, Robin Morgan, Kelly Ryan, Lisa Bryson, Julie Stanley, Dan Stanley, Marion Patterson, Alan Winchester and Steve Hunter.

These young people will leave from the Presbyterian Church Friday afternoon, 3:30 p. m., for this important conference.

## Brevard Picked By National Observer As A "Safe" Town

(Continued From Page One) were chosen by the Frankes, according to Driscoll, not only because of the low crime rate but for a combination of that factor with "concerts, sports and an active community life." Other towns with as low crime

rates do not offer the type of community life and culture available in places like Brevard.

The Frankes found that in most smaller cities with a strong ethnic base, the crime rate was low, Driscoll says.

### This Thursday

## Rep. Taylor Will Hold News Conference With GOP Leaders

Rep. Charles Taylor of Brevard has scheduled a news conference Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in Asheville when he is expected to announce his political plans for 1972.

Rep. Taylor, House minority leader in the 1969 and 1971 General Assemblies, has been

mentioned as a candidate for the U. S. Senate in the May 6 Republican primaries.

Asheville attorney James M. Bailey, Jr., has sent letters to GOP leaders across the state urging that Taylor be asked to seek the seat held by veteran Democratic Sen. B. Everett Jordan of Saxaphaw.

## Penrose Cub Scout Pack 704 Hold Exciting Rocket Races

Penrose Cub Scouts Pack 704, held their Rocket Race Jan. 13 at the Penrose School.

The judges were Rev. F. P. Blankenship and Ashby Bardwell.

There were several winners and they were for the fastest in Den 2, Bryce Lankard; Den 3 Jay Bailey; and the Webelos Jeff Queen.

Winners for the best looking were for Den 2 Johnny Monteith; Den 3 Tony Gant; and for the Webelos Jeff Queen.

Winners of the Pack for the fastest was first Jeff Queen

and second Jay Bailey.

Winners of the Pack for the best looking were first Brad Scott and second Jeff Laws.

Saturday Jan. 29th the first and second place winners for the fastest and best looking rocket went to Elowah for the District Rocket Race and the first place winner for the best looking rocket went to Jeff Laws. Congratulations.

Friday, Jan. 29th, the Webelos signed up for their First Aid Lessons being taught by Mr. Ayers. These lessons are for their parents and leaders

## Jack Dense Re-Elected Chairman Of Hospital Board Of Trustees

(Continued from Page One) Davis.

Dr. John B. Scroggin is the Chief-Of-Staff at the hospital.

According to John W. Bailey, the Administrator, the active medical staff is composed of the following:

- Dr. Clarence Edens
- Dr. John R. Folger, Jr.
- Dr. James M. Keeley
- Dr. Don F. Kimmerling
- Dr. Charles L. Newland
- Dr. Albert O. Ryan, Jr.
- Dr. James H. Sanders, Jr.
- Dr. John B. Scroggin
- Dr. Robert L. Stricker
- Dr. James W. Tyson
- Dr. Marius H. Wells

Medical Staff, Consultants, Active:

- Dr. George R. Lacy, Jr.
- Dr. John A. McLeod, Jr.
- Dr. Lawrence A. Mucci
- Dr. David Biggers
- Dr. Roger Morrison

Medical Staff, Courtesy:

- Dr. George B. Dysart
- Dr. MacRoy Gasque
- Dr. David N. Reiner
- Dr. Neil Mitchell
- Denial Staff, Active:
- Dr. Jerry Cabe
- Dr. Walter S. Clayton
- Dr. Wilburn A. Davis
- Dr. Carol L. Grahl, Jr.
- Dr. Milton V. Massey
- Dr. John L. Prugh.

## Criminal Term Of Court Is Adjourned Wed.

(Continued from Page One) nesses who will appear in Florida in the cases are Deputies Glennis McCall and James Stroupe. They were the arresting officers, and the cases will be tried on February 8th.

William V. Howell, who was charged with speeding 100 miles an hour in a 55 mile an hour speed zone, was found guilty by a jury and was given a suspended sentence. He also had to pay a fine of \$125 and costs.

Several cases were continued until the Criminal term of Superior court on March 27th. They include those against Richard C. Curry, Vicki L. Bentley, John A. Macfie, James P. Macfie, Billy Youngblood, Wm. Joseph Riddle, Richard Garrea and Wade S. Strickland. Strickland is already in jail on another charge.

Jimmy F. Crane was acquitted by jury on a charge of driving while license revoked.

Judge Falls adjourned the court just before noon on Wednesday.

of Pack 704 and anyone who is interested in First Aid is welcome to come Friday, Feb. 4th, 8 - 9 p. m., and start these lessons. They are being held at Rev. Blankenship's house in Enon, and will last for five weeks.

## Vaniman To Explain Mobiles At Art Guild Meeting Friday

For its February meeting, Friday the 4th, the Transylvania Art Guild (T.A.G.) is privileged to have one of its own members and a local resident, Mike Vaniman, to explain the ins and outs of mobiles. He will demonstrate his technique of assembling a mobile during the meeting. Mobiles are a unique art form. One of Mr. Vaniman's eye-catching creations is hanging in the Craft Shop in Brevard.

Last month's meeting featured a fascinating demonstration by Mrs. Esther Skene of Hendersonville. A rousing and

in her own right, Mrs. Skene showed a small group of T.A.G. members how to make mobiles in a mixed media.

All T.A.G. members and other interested persons are urged to attend the meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening in the Art Gallery adjacent to the Arts 'n' Crafts Center. Frances McCall and Fanny Harris of the Social Committee invite all who attend to stay afterwards for refreshments.

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