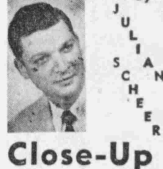


Charlotte



Close-Up

The County Commission meeting looked more like the Monday Afternoon Tea, Poetry and Marching Society.

The center of interest wasn't a welfare case job classification or a smelly creek — it was poetry by ex-Commissioner W. Craig Lawing.

Commissioners knew he was talented, sure, but no one suspected Craig as a literary light. But a poem was passed about and read with interest at the meeting.

"Pine Rock Leader was a pal I had, had died and he had penned a few lines about him. The effort made quite a hit. Someone has even printed the poem and here's how 'My Pal Named Leader' goes:

"Pine Rock Leader was a pal I had
I got him his derby year;
"Sight unseen I bought him
"On what I'd chance to hear.

"A derby winner I was told,
"He had a licensed win,
"And before the year had end
"My Pal had won again.

"My horse, my boots, my saddle
"Was the price I had to pay,
"And to make the trade more even,
"I threw in all my hay.

"On Thanksgiving Day at Black Jack
"A day I'll surely remember,
"For there he became a champion
"On the twenty-third day of November.

"Standing at stud in the kennels leader was never content,
"It was his pride and joy, you see
"To go where the rabbit went.

"Whenever I went hunting
"He always went along.
"There I would sit for hours
"And listen to his song.

"On that cold New Year's Day
"In nineteen fifty seven,
"My ole gray pal, he left me
"And went to good dog heaven.

"He jumped a fox that afternoon
"And ran the thing like mad;
"I sat and listened to the race,
"The best I'd ever had.

"When the young dogs passed me
"Ole Leader came my way,
"I'm too old for this," it seemed
"Was what he tried to say.

"As I leaned down to pat him
"As he lay there on his side,
"His tail only wagged a time or two
"As at my feet he died.

"My pal has gone to heaven
"Wherever good dogs go,
"There to match his running with
"My other dog named Joe.

"Now when my hunting days are over
"And I'm buried beneath the sod,
"I hope to run ole Leader and
"On the hunting grounds of God."

Ministers Plan Group Meeting

Six ministers from local congregations will participate in the program for Jehovah's Witnesses' meetings tomorrow through Sunday.

J. T. Hinkle, presiding minister of the Central Unit of Witnesses here, said Richard Glass and J. R. Crosby, associate ministers from First Baptist Church, will give demonstrations.

Horace Blanton of the West unit will assist with the demonstrations on how Bible speaking classes are conducted.

Merle Taylor, also of the West unit, will preach a sermon Sunday at 4:30 p.m. on "Telling the Good News from Day to Day."

Thursday at 2 p.m. H. C. McGee will speak on "Let Your Happiness Be Manifest" and Roy Nienke will discuss the subject "Spreading Happiness."

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Schools Seeking Cure For Big Headache

By CHARLES KURALT Charlotte News Staff Writer

Seven thousand county school students could be city school students if the Board of Education had its way.

Therein lies a headache for school officials — and a threat to the academic well-being of the 7,000 boys and girls who live in Charlotte's perimeter area.

Simply stated, the problem stacks up this way: School officials need to know right now when extension of the city limits will take place, so they can start planning. But it's a question nobody can answer.

There are, for example, about 2,000 junior and senior high school students in the area. Now, they go to county schools. In

event of annexation and extension of school district lines which presumably would be simultaneous — these students would go to city schools.

While city junior and senior high schools do not have enough room to take them, their present schools are outside the perimeter area and would not be annexed. Where will they attend school?

If city school officials knew for sure annexation was coming next year, they could start building new classrooms to accommodate them. But of course school officials don't know any such thing.

"This thing is all snarled up. County School Supt. J. W. Wil-

son said. "We need a lot of answers right now — and we can't get a one."

LITTLE ACTION

There could be a vote on annexation this spring, if Mecklenburg's legislators approve. Just now, they're non-committal, despite the City Council's insistence that annexation is necessary to the continued good health of the city.

As a result of the doubt, the County School Board is reluctant to spend its money — short as that money is in the face of rising enrollments — on building schools in the perimeter area. They might, after all, become city schools within the

year. So students who live in the area, the fastest growing in Mecklenburg, face the shadowy threat of insufficient school buildings.

Just this week, Mr. Wilson told the County School Board there are enough children in the new Sherwood Forest development east of the city to warrant an elementary school for the neighborhood.

At present, these children attend Matthews School. There will be when their neighborhood becomes part of the city.

School consultant N. L. Englehardt, foreseeing this muddle, suggested children in this

"shadow" area continue going to their old schools outside the city until new schools are ready for them within the city limits.

IDEA PROPOSED

But that suggestion won't set well with many parents, for well as the County School Board, who has plenty of other uses for its money.

Eight schools, making up almost one-fourth of the county school system, will come into the city if proposed boundaries are followed.

The eight (repeated clockwise from the north) are Plaza Road (now under construction), Oak-

hurst, Cotswold, Pinewood, Woodlawn, Plato Price, Thomasboro and Hoskins.

Additions to several of these are on the drawing boards and will be paid for by the County School Board.

But by fall of 1959, Mr. Wilson says, another 100 classrooms will be needed in the perimeter area. Who's going to build them? "We don't know," he says, "but somebody had better build them and they'd better start soon."

Here is Dr. Englehardt on the problem: "The building program should be based upon children and not upon boundaries. The interchange of students between city

and county on a tuition basis should be advanced so that students may attend logical school centers."

"Before this problem — one of the knottiest growing from the complex discussion of annexation — is finally ironed out, school officials may come to some such answer."

Another possible answer would be to leave school district lines as they are when annexation comes. That has a multitude of drawbacks, too.

Right now, there are no answers. But if they don't come soon, several thousand school children will find themselves without classrooms a couple of years hence.

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Charlotte, North Carolina, Thursday, January 24, 1957 Section Two

—ON ANNEXATION— Town Meetings Start Next Week

Jan. 1, 1959 Target Date Set By Council

By DICK YOUNG Charlotte News Staff Writer

That long-discussed selling job on city limits extension will get under way next week.

A series of "town hall" meetings to explain the proposed city limits extension to residents of the perimeter area will be initiated next Thursday night.

Council members yesterday afternoon agreed on a schedule for these meetings.

Thursday, Jan. 31 — Tryon Hills City School.

Friday, Feb. 1 — Thomasboro County School.

Monday, Feb. 4 — Shamrock Gardens City School.

Tuesday, Feb. 5 — Sharon County School.

Council also agreed on April 29 as the date for the special election which Mecklenburg residents will be asked to authorize.

And if the extension is approved at the special election to be held the day of the biennial municipal primary, the annexation would become effective Jan. 1, 1959.

PHASES MULLED

Yesterday afternoon's special council session was devoted to a thorough discussion of all phases of the campaign for the annexation of 31 square miles of territory embracing a population of about 30,000 with real estate valuation of 70 million dollars.

Mayor Van Every was instructed to complete arrangements for these so-called "town hall" meetings long advocated by Councilman Herbert H. Baxter.

Attention was given to the program at each of the meetings following in general: See MEETINGS on page 12-B

I Remember When...

By DICK YOUNG

S. College St. was blocked by a high embankment of the Southern Railway Columbia division tracks, where an underpass now permits the street to go through.

The Charlotte Junior Chamber of Commerce today announced its outstanding men of the year award winners for 1956.

The Jaycees, at their annual Founder's Day banquet and ball, will select one of the 10 men to be awarded the Distinguished Service Award.

The Man of the Year for 1956 is Irwin Belk, Tom Belk, Charles Briley, Charles (Bud) Coira, Frank Dowd Jr., Tom Lane, Rev. W. Calvin Leonard, W. J. Smith, Will Temple and Lee Cain.

Sifford Report City Recreation Already In County

Recreational facilities of the city now serve the county, said Ernest Sifford, chairman of the Park and Recreation Commission in a report on expansion of recreation service if the city limits are extended.

In a letter to City Manager Henry A. Yancey Mr. Sifford wrote: "The Park and Recreation Commission is already operating in or on the edge of the perimeter section. It can be considered the Freedom Park serves the entire county and the same might

and donate it for park purposes. In that way two things are accomplished: The resident's property is made more desirable and the taxpayers will save money."

Mr. Sifford's reply was one of four departmental reports which were on Mr. Yancey's desk today.

O. C. Fogus, superintendent of the motor transport department which includes the sanitary district, replied:

"On being supplied boundary line information, equipment and personnel appropriations six months prior to effective date of extension, this department's service will be rendered as of effective date of extension of city limits."

AREAS ASKED

Future plans for recreational developments were referred to when Mr. Sifford wrote, "We have an agreement with the Planning Commission whereby when any developers apply for a permit that we jointly endeavor to get them to set aside certain acreage."

FREEZING RAIN A POSSIBILITY FOR WEEKEND

A repeat performance of last week's show of snow and ice may be staged tomorrow. The Weather Bureau says freezing rain may fall here.

With clouds thickening by the minute, rain is expected to begin this evening or tonight. The temperature, dropping during the night, may touch 32 by morning. If the mercury falls below freezing, ice could form on the streets.

The thick clouds, which kept cold air from breaking through the overcast this morning, should also keep warm air from filtering in tomorrow. A high of 45 is forecast for the afternoon.

City-County Traffic Toll

Fatality yesterday—1
1957 1956
Injured to date — 83 69
Fatalities to date — 2 1

Redevelopment Plans Outlined In Local Study

Act Amendment Would Be Lever

By DICK YOUNG Charlotte News Staff Writer

The possibility of urban redevelopment as a tool for community improvement was outlined at the Charlotte Library at 4 p.m. today.

William E. McIntyre, planning director of the City-County Planning Commission, was scheduled to present a detailed study report on the possibilities of effective use of the urban redevelopment program in overall community planning.

And as an illustration of the effectiveness of that tool of community improvement Mr. McIntyre cited results achieved in urban redevelopment at Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Nashville.

Invited to the conference with members of the Planning Board are members of the City Council, the County Commission, the former local urban redevelopment commission and the Mecklenburg Legislative delegation.

OTHERS INVITED

City Manager Henry A. Yancey and other city officials concerned with the proposed program are also invited.

Possible opposition to renewal of the program was mentioned in the request of representatives of real estate organizations for permission to attend this afternoon's meeting.

The study on the redevelopment program was requested last fall by the local Planning Board.

This request was made in view of the possibility of amendment to the state urban redevelopment enabling act.

As originally adopted the North Carolina enabling act requires an area to be 100 per cent blighted in order for a redevelopment agency to exercise the right of eminent domain for the acquisition of any property within the so-called blighted area.

The proposed amendment provides that condemnation proceedings may be instituted when 66 2/3 per cent of the area is designated as blighted.

Charlotte initiated an urban redevelopment program on Oct. 3, 1951 when members of a five-man commission were appointed by the City Council.

A federal grant of \$747,610 was earmarked for Charlotte's redevelopment program and a preliminary advance of \$23,650 was obtained in February, 1952, for initiation of the program.

Commissioners, including Paul R. Younts, chairman, Irwin Belk, Douglas Aiken, George Sibley and Pete McKnight, employ an administrative director and staff, retained the services of a planning consultant and selected two areas for initial redevelopment.

However the program collapsed after less than two years. On August 5, 1953, the commission notified the Council of its intention to resign as a body because of the inability to overcome legal barriers requiring 100 per cent blighted areas in the state enabling act.

Dog Of The Week



'It's Winter And I'm Sad'

"There's nothing special about me except I haven't got a home."

"I haven't bitten anyone or saved anyone or won a prize at a dog show. I'm not a bit newsworthy, except I'm lonely and haven't got anyone to love me."

"I do know I'm male and I'm about six months old, which is old enough to remember what a hunk was like."

"Mr. Stuart, he's head of the new county pound out here on Lancaster St., says I'm just a big, affectionate, overgrown pup."

"You can have me if you want me. You'll have to pay \$2 since I've been eating their food and they've been caring for me out here."

"If you want me call C. S. Stuart at FRANKlin 52947 (that's the county pound's new number)."

"And don't forget my buddies out here. They don't have homes either. Some of the bigger ones eat a little more since they cost more, I guess."

"But, me, I'm a \$2 dog, and you wouldn't think that too much who has been in the pound since they cost more, I want a home again. Maybe it's because it's winter-time, but I'm pretty unhappy."

"The News says there's going to be a Dog of the Week

every week from now on, so may as well somebody else be I'm the FIRST."

"There're lots out here without homes, but not just like me. I'm mostly German Shepherd as you can see, but I can't prove it."

"The only reason I have my picture in the paper this afternoon is because the Charlotte News came out to the county dog pound and took my picture to help me find a home."

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Charlotte Jaycees Have Long Record Of Service

Community betterment in social and economic fields, and taking a keen interest in the youth of the community.

The Charlotte Jaycee Club was among the first 100 such organizations to be founded in the nation, and the first in North Carolina, receiving its charter in January of 1921.

Linn D. Garibaldi was first president for the Charlotte Jaycees, and other community leaders who have been in the helm of the local organization include Frank K. Sims Jr., Albert L. Bechtold, James H. Glenn, U. Chester Wheelchel, J. Lambert Schwartz and Charles F. Coira Jr.

The Distinguished Service Awards began in 1932 with Frank K. Sims Jr. as first recipient. Among others who have received this honor are Albert L. Bechtold, James J. Harris, Hoyt Galvin, James H. Glenn, Neal Forney, A. Grant Whitney, J. Lambert Schwartz and McAlister Carson Jr.

Just this past Monday came one of the examples of the Jaycee work with youth when their School Safety Patrol Drum & Bugle Corps participated in the inauguration parade of President Eisenhower.

Another youth effort on the part of the Jaycees is their committee which recruits the bulk of the boys who race in the annual Sun Belt Derby.

And every Thursday night is Hoody Night in the children's ward at Mercy Hospital.

TEN YEARS AGO

The A.U. Junior Olympics began here ten years ago under sponsorship of the Jaycees and has continued each year.

In 1948 the Jaycees started their educational program for exceptional, mentally retarded children. They furnished a special room in a school and paid

See CHARLOTTE on page 12-B

See JAYCEES on page 12-B

Jaycees Name Outstanding Men For '56

Here are brief descriptions of the 10 men:

- Irwin Belk, 34**, president of Belk Enterprises Inc., vice president of Belk Stores Service Inc., and a director and vice president of the Belk group of stores. He is also president of the Monroe Telephone Co., vice president and director of the Monroe Hardware Co., and Randolph Mills at Franklinville. He is a director in 11 other area firms and a trustee of the University of North Carolina, and is on the board of directors of Florence Crittenton Home, Charlotte Chamber of Commerce and the Charlotte Workshop for the Blind.
- He is also a member of the board of the council of church architecture, Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. He is on the finance committee of Queens College, and is on the board of directors of Florence Crittenton Home, Charlotte Chamber of Commerce and the Charlotte Workshop for the Blind. He was second vice president of the Carolinas Carrousel in 1956, and was president of the event in 1955. He has also done outstanding work with United Community Services. He is a member of Myers Park Presbyterian Church, the Charlotte County Club, and the Myers Park Club.**

Thomas M. Belk, 31, executive vice president of Belk Stores Service Inc. and director of Pyramid Life Insurance Co. of Charlotte. He is also president of the Men of Myers Park, Presbyterian Church, the Charlotte County Club, and the Myers Park Club.