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WITH ONE EYE lost because of cancer, James Eckleberry (left), 20 months, is being treated for new cancerous growths in his remaining eye. Doctors say that eye also may have to be removed to save the boy's life. James and Wilmer, Jr. (right) are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Eckleberry of near Columbus, Ohio.

## Floods, Tornadoes Strike Texas Coast, Killing One

By ASSOCIATED PRESS. Torrential rains and winds of hurricane force lashed the Texas Gulf Coast yesterday. At least one person drowned when heavy rains flooded streets and highways and a tornado injured several persons. Severe damage was caused in the Galveston area.

More than 10 inches of rain fell at Texas City, where every street was flooded for a time by knee-deep water. Several families left homes in low-lying sections.

Winds up to 80 miles per hour roared homes and cut off telephone and electric service at several towns in Galveston County.

The rains, however, began tapering off along the coast early today.

Twisters also were reported yesterday at Houston and near San Angelo. Lighter rains fell over most of east Texas and hail fell at San Antonio and Bryan.

James J. Simpson, 45, of Texas City, drowned when his car went over a culvert and careened into a culvert filled with more than five feet of water.

Mrs. Ernestine Martin was injured when the twister swooped down near Port Boliver, blowing her home off its foundation.

A drive-in grocery was unroofed and at least a dozen other buildings in the area were damaged.

Several other persons were hurt. The turbulent weather came when thunderstorms rumbled over the state as moist air from the Gulf collided with a cool front moving down from the Texas Panhandle. Only traces of rain fell in west Texas, however.

Blow-off Foundations. Dispatchers C. W. Whitman of the Galveston sheriff's office said the tornado struck on the C. H.

damaged at least 17 houses and a garage. The gates hinged a new wing of the First Christian Church into the air, spun it around and demolished it. Several homes were unroofed.

At nearby Arcadia, high winds

plane crashed in dense jungle just after leaving Cebu for Manila.

Only one passenger, a Philippine newspaperman, survived the crash, which claimed the lives of 26 persons, including several top government officials and educators, several Philippine newsmen and members of Magsaysay's staff.

The President was returning from giving two commencement speeches in Cebu.

A close guard was placed around the wreckage as officials made clear they had not ruled out the possibility of Communist sabotage. As defense secretary, Magsaysay had wrecked the Communist Huk rebel movement in the infant island republic.

Messages of condolence poured in from abroad to the Philippine government, Magsaysay's widow and their three children.

Magsaysay, 49-year-old champion of democracy and bitter foe of communism, perished on the day he was to be inaugurated as president of the Philippines.

Mrs. Ruby Layman, mother of young Charles, perished when she was offered any other animal in the pound.

BOY HYSTERICAL. She said Charles was hysterical after finding Blackie's body, she said the dog's head had been mutilated by what ap-

## Filipinos Mourn Magsaysay Death

MANILA (AP)—Vice President Carlos P. Garcia took over the reins of government today as the Philippine nation and the free world mourned the plane crash death of President Ramon Magsaysay.

Garcia flew in from the SEATO Conference in Australia several hours after Magsaysay's charred body was found in the wreckage of his plane on a Cebu island mountainside.

The 60-year-old vice president took the oath of office as fourth president of the Philippine Republic before Chief Justice Ricardo Paras. He will serve until after next November's presidential elections, which now promise to be a wide-open fight.

A staunch supporter of Magsaysay's foreign policy, Garcia is expected to continue the late President's aim of strengthening American-Philippine friendship.

The new President told newsmen he planned no changes in the Cabinet, would himself continue to fill the post of secretary of foreign affairs he had held under Magsaysay.

CRASHES IN JUNGLE. Magsaysay, 49-year-old champion of democracy and bitter foe of communism, perished on the day he was to be inaugurated as president of the Philippines.

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## 'Just Around The Corner?'

# School Merger Plans Revived, Study Asked

## Coast Guard Aids Ship In Trouble

MIAMI Fla. (AP)—The SS Perama was taken in tow today after two violent explosions and fire aboard caused its crew of 43 to abandon ship in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Coast Guard reported the vessel had been taken in tow by the SS Esso Bermuda and that the Perama's crew had returned to their ship from the SS Claiborne, which had picked them up on two lifeboats.

A Coast Guard plane from St. Petersburg reported at the scene that visibility was 10 miles and the wind south 12 knots.

The Perama was described as listing to port and "dead in the water." Five other vessels were in the area at 26-32 north and 85-56 west or about 180 miles west-southwest of Egmont Key, which is at the mouth of Tampa Bay.

One lifeboat from the Perama contained 25 men and the other eight.

SHIP MESSAGE. A message from the SS Mission San Gabriel said the engineer was flooded, the forward cargo hold flooded and the main deck almost awash.

Reports that the vessel was sinking were denied by the Coast Guard, which said its condition was "dead in the water."

The Coast Guard said the explosions occurred five minutes apart and that they broke out in the after section.

First word of the ship's trouble came from a commercial radio station at Lantana, Fla., at 3:45 a.m. EST, the Coast Guard said.

That message said the Perama, en route from Thames Haven, England, to Galveston, Tex., was afloat.

A later message said the first explosion, at 4:33 a.m., was in the pump room and the vessel heeled.

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21-YEAR-OLD Edna Davis of Kettleby, Ohio, was chosen as the Outdoors Girl of Canada for 1957 at the Canadian National Sportsman's Show in Toronto. She is 5 feet 4 inches tall, and her other measurements are 36-24-35.

## County Chafes At Vote Board Delay

By ANN SAWYER. Charlotte News Staff Writer.

With several elections only a little over a month away, the need for a county elections board chairman was pointed up today by Commission Chairman Sid Y. McAden.

He asked Rep. Frank Snepp what can be done to speed the appointment of a successor to W. Cleve Davis, who died Feb. 18.

Rep. Snepp said he understands John D. Larkins Jr., state Democratic party chairman, has requested County Democratic Chairman W. M. Nicholson to make recommendations.

URGENT NEED. Mr. McAden said an election board chairman is urgently needed for Mecklenburg because of the upcoming elections. The city primary will be held April 29, and commissioners voted 10-9 to hold an election to determine whether the county school supplement should be increased from 20 to 40 cents per \$100 valuation.

All has been quiet in the elections board chairman contest for several weeks, except for behind-the-scenes politicking by interested candidates.

With the vacancy came indications of another intra-party Democratic fight.

First reports were that the man nominated by Nicholson would automatically be referred to the state board of elections by Larkins.

Later, Larkins said he would not necessarily follow the recommendations of the county chairman or the local Democratic executive committee.

MAN DOGS DEAD. NEW YORK (AP)—The owner of a Brooklyn auto wrecking firm and his two pet dogs were found dead in his home-filled car yesterday, Police said. John Maenza, 39, had been dependent on the death of his wife, Viola, last week.

MINES FOUND. TEL. AVIV.—An Israel Army spokesman said today three more plastic land mines were found near the spot close to the Gaza border where a tractor from an Israel farm settlement struck a mine. The spokesman said footprints from the mines led to the Gaza strip.

What's Inside. Business 9B 12B. Classified 9-11B. Comics 9A. Crossword Puzzle 9A. Earl Wilson 7A. Editorial 7A. Everybody's Counselor 7A. Memo to Caesar 9B. Obituaries 6B. News 6A. Serial 9A. Soapbox Derby Notes 6A. Sports 5-6B. Theaters 8A. Women 2-4B. Worry Clinic 5A.

MEMORIAL SERVICE. A memorial service for the late President Ramon Magsaysay will be held in Manila today.

RECEIVED. A large number of letters and telegrams were received at the White House today in response to the death of President Magsaysay.

STATE DEPARTMENT. The State Department today announced that it had received a letter from the Philippine government expressing its condolences on the death of President Magsaysay.

TRIBUTE. A large number of tributes were paid to the late President Magsaysay today in various parts of the Philippines.

WIDOW. The widow of the late President Magsaysay today received a large number of letters and telegrams of condolence.

YOUTH. A large number of young people today gathered in Manila to pay tribute to the late President Magsaysay.

ZEPHYRUS. The Zephyrus, the official newspaper of the University of the Philippines, today published a special issue in honor of the late President Magsaysay.

ANNOUNCEMENT. The following is a list of the names of the candidates for the upcoming elections in Mecklenburg County.

APPOINTMENT. The following is a list of the names of the members of the County Board of Elections.

DEATH. The following is a list of the names of the persons who have died in Mecklenburg County during the past week.

WEDDING. A large number of guests attended the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. John Doe today.

## Commissioners Vote To Explore Proposal

By CHARLES KURLAT. Charlotte News Staff Writer.

The County Commission today asked school officials to study a merger of the city and county school systems.

The action came up suddenly when the County School Board presented at today's commission meeting. Ten minutes of fast talk found practically the whole commission, the whole school board and Rep. Frank Snepp, also present, in agreement that school consolidation is just around the corner.

A motion by Commissioner Sam McMinch that requested city and county school officials to consider a possible merger found unanimous agreement.

The matter came up when the school board entered the commission meeting to ask its approval for a county vote on raising the school employment tax from 20 cents to 40 cents on the hundred dollars.

TO SUBMIT ISSUE. (The commission agreed unanimously to submit the question to the voters this spring.)

"Now that we're approaching the city's supplement of 30 cents," Mr. McMinch asked school board member J. Murray Atkins, "wouldn't it be better to get ahead and consolidate the school systems?"

"I think that should be effected as soon as possible," Mr. Atkins replied. "The Institute of Government at Chapel Hill recommended consolidation several years ago. I personally think it should be worked for rapidly."

That brought school board member Lacy Ramon to his feet with a detailed plan for consolidation in eight years.

That, he said, would avoid "an administrative clash of personalities" since many city and county school officials would be retired by then.

SPAUGH AGREES. Mr. Ramon said city school board chairman Dr. Herbert Spough agrees with him "essentially."

Mr. McMinch said he has talked with City School Supt. Dr. Elmer H. Garinger and that he, too, agreed. Although Mr. McMinch added eight years is too long to wait.

Mr. Snepp stepped in the audience, got up to say consolidation would be of "terrific value. It would save money. It would mean a better education for every child in the county."

Mr. Snepp reminded the Commission that city limits extension would take eight county school districts into the city system and take a high price from county school revenue.

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## 3 Boy Scouts Found After Long Search

GATLINBURG, Tenn. (AP)—Three Boy Scouts, missing overnight on a hike in the rugged Great Smoky Mountains, were found today huddled in a shack on 6,000-foot Mt. Le Conte.

The boys, members of Greene-

ville Team "Troop 94," were found by the Morristown rescue squad in an outhouse near a ledge which stands atop the peak, one of the highest in the Smokies.

Victor Thorne, 12, and oldest of the trio, said they reached the ledge about dusk yesterday after hiking from Newfound Gap, eight miles distant.

"I knew enough from my training to stop at dark," Victor said. "We couldn't get into the ledge because it was locked, so we entered an outhouse where wood was stored."

FAIRLY WARM. "We kept fairly warm until about midnight, when the wind came up and it began hailing."

Others missing with young Thorne were Jimmy Grubbs, 11, and Mike Harmon, 12.

The trio was among 21 members of the troop which set out yesterday on a routine hike over the precipitous Alum Cave trail, 441 to Mt. Le Conte and thence back to the highway via the Alum Cave Bluffs trail, a total of 13 miles.

Nine boys completed the trip in nine days, turned back safely to Newfound Gap.

NUMB WITH COLD. It took rescuers nearly three hours to bring the three boys down to park headquarters. Young Grubbs was huddled with cold and was carried down the mountainside. The others walked.

"We were not very lucky," Victor related. "We knew our folks would be looking for us. But we didn't sleep very well, just being on the floor."

Hodges Raps Demo Chairman. RALEIGH (AP)—Gov. Hodges said today he wished State Democratic Chairman John D. Larkins had "spoken out more frankly" when Hodges was faced with critical comments from county Democratic chairmen.

One county chairman told the governor during a meeting Saturday he thought state and county chairmen should be consulted on persons being appointed to state positions.

Other chairman applauded the statement.

Hodges said he was not being critical of Larkins, but he felt that Larkins could have told the county leaders that he did not seek consultation with him "not once, but countless times" on appointments.

Hodges was asked if he were satisfied with Larkins as state chairman. He answered, "I think he is a very good man. He certainly has experience."

Later he pointed out in answering questions that he did not seek Larkins for the post, but "I inherited him" and that he had agreed for Larkins to remain in the post.

## Dog-Catching Hassle Grows As Blackie's Body Is Found

GALVESTON, Tex. (AP)—The death of a small mongrel dog, key figure in a gun fight that resulted in the firing of five dog catchers, continued today to stir up a controversy.

The dog, Blackie, was found floating in a bayou Saturday near where its young master and another boy haled up with a rifle and held off police and dog catchers for an hour last Wednesday.

NO ONE HURT. The two 14-year-old boys, Charles Layman and Robert Garcia, said the shooting occurred after a dog catcher tried to shoot Blackie. Dogcatcher Otis O'Callahan said he tried to scare the dog after it bit him. No one was hurt in the exchange.

City Commissioner Tom June-man revealed yesterday that five temporary dog catchers have been hired and a drive to the city of strays has been called off.

Blackie had been put in the pound for a 14-day observation period. The boys were suspended from school. Irate citizens had rallied to their side after the story was published.

Mrs. Ruby Layman, mother of young Charles, when she asked to see Blackie Friday, she was offered any other animal in the pound.

BOY HYSTERICAL. She said Charles was hysterical after finding Blackie's body, she said the dog's head had been mutilated by what ap-

peared to be a "shotgun blast." Earlier all but the head dog catcher was dismissed as a result of the incident.

There was a mystery as to how Blackie met death.

"In this case it's highly possible," June-man said that the dog was killed in anger. But he added, "I don't think that is the case."

MAVOR TAKES SIDE. Mayor George Clough, however, thought otherwise. "I don't see why they killed that little fellow's dog," he said. "And I'm going to see that it doesn't happen again."

A meeting was to be held today between the boys' parents and school officials to discuss their suspension.

## Evening Prayer

Our Father, who doth bring forth in hearts open unto Thee the fruit of love, grant that we shall be so filled with Thy Spirit that our love shall not be limited by boundaries nor lessened by prejudices that we might be like unto Thee, Through Him who loved unto the end. Amen.

## Our Weather

Mild with scattered showers this afternoon and Tuesday, turning cool Tuesday.

Low this morning—44.

Low tomorrow morning—32.

High today—67.

High yesterday—73.

High tomorrow—79.

Sunrise today 6:30 a.m.; sunset today 6:33 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 3A. Buy only Vat-Blue Blue Jeans. They're colorful—the color lasts. At your favorite store. Adv.