



Charlotte Julian Scherer

Close-Up

It was an unpainted mountain shack high in the North Carolina Blue Ridge and she stood in the doorway as they came up the hill. Her body filled the frame as she leaned one shoulder against the door jamb, her weight on her left leg.

A cigarette dangled loosely from her mouth as she hanging by a puppet's string and a frown creased the heavy brown lines of her unsmiling, half-washed face. She eyed them suspiciously as they came, winded and tired, up the hill from the highway below.

They saw her there in the door and moved ahead slowly. To the left of the two-room shack was a wooded and off behind the structures were fields of green, neatly planted, carved out of a giant mountain side.

"What you wantin'?" she demanded of them. "Why you come here? I don't want nothin', I ain't lookin' for no talkin' in 'er lokin'." Gitt'n this place.

The men hesitated but continued to move haltingly toward her. "I know why you're here," she yelled. "They told you in the village to come look at me."

They were closer now and they saw her more clearly. She was tremendously proportioned and well over six feet tall. Her long, muscular arms hung nearly to her knees and at least 250 pounds were invited to her hulking frame.

"We just wanted to stop and talk a minute," one of them said. "I don't wanna talk. Why you wanna talk to me? You come 'cause they told you to go see the 'big woman,' didn't they?"

"All down to the village they sent folks to look at me. But they ain't got no guts, 'cause they ain't comin'. They tell you I ain't really no woman, that I must be half-man, for I'm stronger'n any two men in the whole county. They say I can pull a plow better'n a mule. They say I cleared this land and planted it and built this shack with no help from nobody."

"They tell you 'all them stories. I heard they was. I heard it 'fo' years. They say you can pull the time and I run a man off'n this place and whooped him good 'cause he tried to get my little money. They say I don't take no money, body, especially no men."

"I knowed it all the while they're talkin' about a woman man. They say you're the creek and see a sight? They tell you 'big stories.'"

"Gitt'n this place before I git my gun to you."

"Don't you..." he tried to say.

"You just like the rest. You wanna laugh and tell lies, too? You wanna brag 'bout seeing the big woman again? You want to see me and talk. Well, lemme talk. Lemme tell you 'bout the big woman and how I come from Reynolds up yonder over the mountain."

"It was lazy men like my daddy and my brothers what set me to work and growin' big. They set me to 'makin' plowin' and workin' like a mule. My mother passed away—God bless her soul—very old and lazy and fat. I was a pretty girl. I was a dainty little thing. I was the prettiest girl in Reynolds—whole county for a fact."

Heavy Reading Turns To Froth For Summer

By HELEN PARKS
Charlotte News Staff Writer

The Charlottean who sat by the winter fireside and read "The Power of Positive Thinking" may likely be in the backyard this afternoon absorbing a Mickey Spillane.

Members of the public library staff say that in the summer time adult readers relax their literary standards, while the boys and girls' division does a booming business.

Vacationers take stacks of light reading with them on trips, sometimes even books on the locality they're visiting. The housewife who read "Angry Unaware" by Dale Evans is turning to books on pressure cookers and canning processes this summer. She also shambles home with one freezing of foods.

The library staff unanimously said that the average winter non-fiction reader will read mostly light fiction in the summer. In records classical music goes into a summer slump while Irving Berlin, Cole Porter and Gershwin come to the top for the average listener.

Films say popular winter through summer. The change comes in location. Families move outdoors to watch the film instead of showing within the house. Among the new films at the library for this summer are "Get Along With Parents," "Goldfish Boy," "The Hare and the Tortoise" and "Motor Mania."

Although "do-it-yourself" books remain popular all year long, a book on how to build a boat draws more interest than the rest repairing manual. Yesterday at the library about three-fifths of the books checked out were fiction. The fact may reverse during the winter months.

RATING TO RAGE
The businessman who scoured the library last winter for statistics on North Carolina's tobacco rating as compared internationally is possibly contented with "Batteries," the current rage at the library.

The constant, unchanging favorite in the boys' and girls' department is "Dave Crockett" books.

Anything with action, from pioneers to space travel, attracts the youth.

The recent Charlotte News Soap Box Derby caused a rush on automobile build-it-yourself books in the department.

Unlike the adult Charlotteans the children maintain their regular reading habits. "The Cat That Walks by Himself" receives as much wear and tear now as it did in the winter.

Among the junior high school students recreational books become slightly more popular, and history, geography and biography book check-

outs are slower in the summer.

The summer boom in the library's girls' and boys' department is caused by the program sponsored by the public schools. Diplomas are given in the fall to students who have read 15 or more books.

Yesterday was an all-time record day at the library's boys' and girls' department. There were 1,570 books checked out to pre-school up to junior high school youth.

At least 12,000 Charlotte youth participate in the summer program.



Shirley Mason checks out big stack of books for Mrs. E. G. Hardeman . . . Jane, Carl and Susan Thompson and Benjamin Womack browse in children's dept.



(News Staff Photo by Tim Franklin-Hunter)

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HIGH OF 95

PREDICTED FOR TODAY

Slammin' Sammy sun teed off against the Carolina again today, sending the mercury high into the 90 again.

Weathermen predicted a 90 degree to today. The low here yesterday's 90. The low here this morning was 71 and a 70 degree low is in sight for Friday morning.

Hot and humid, says the Weatherman, and that goes for today, tonight and tomorrow.



"I'm a lucky man," Earl Perry tells Lomas Ervin.

Ax Victim Meets Rescuer

Bus Driver 'Mighty Grateful'

By JULIAN SCHIER
and DONALD MACDONALD
When Lomas Ervin Jr. walked into the second floor room at Presbyterian Hospital at 10:35 this morning, Earl D. Perry lifted himself up on his elbows.

"Is that the boy?" he asked. "Yes, someone told him. I wouldn't have recognized him... he usually wears a uniform. Don't you?"

"Yes," Ervin answered. "I'm mighty grateful to you. I wanted to get in touch with you. I'm the luckiest man in the world," Perry said.

"We are both grateful," Mrs. Perry added. It was the first formal meeting of hatchet-victim Perry, a local bus driver, and hero Ervin, a parking lot attendant who helped save his life.

Perry was slashed across the right side of his head by 28-year-old Charles Caroleck about 1:45 yesterday afternoon when Perry stepped his bus to let Caroleck at the 100 block of Oaklawn Ave.

It was Ervin and James Barrett of S. Tryon St., who pulled Caroleck away from Perry, yanked him off the bus and sat him until police arrived. Until this morning, Perry had no idea who his helpers were.

He was resting well this morning with a cast over the right side of his head like a football helmet and a dark purple shiner on his right eye. Perry and Ervin were not unknown to one another.

Ervin explained it this way: "I go home from my work (as a parking lot attendant at Wylie's Garage at 4th and Poplar) each day and I was on my way back to work. I ride with Mr. Perry a lot that time of day."

College, Park Budgets Remain Unchanged

Charlotte, North Carolina, Thursday, July 7, 1955 Section Two

Cuts Made By Council After Study

By DICK YOUNG
Charlotte News Staff Writer

City colleges and the Park & Recreation Commission will have to get along this fiscal year with the same amount of money they received last year as a result of efforts of the City Council to hammer down the municipal tax rate to \$1.78 per \$100 of valuation.

Instead of getting their full 2 cents for city colleges and 4 cents for the Park & Recreation Commission, these two agencies had their shares shaved to 1.807 cents for the colleges and 7.211 for parks.

Informal agreement was reached yesterday afternoon by the City Council to fix the general tax rate at \$1.78, which is an increase of 13 cents over last year's \$1.65 but a decrease of 11 cents from the \$1.89 rate that formed the basis of the budget when the Council finished budget deliberations last week.

ADOPTION SET
The Council is scheduled to formally adopt the budget and set the 1955-56 tax rate at the Council meeting next Wednesday.

There is still a possibility the general rate may drop, depending upon the final request of the City School Board.

A special meeting of the School Board is scheduled for next Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. when the amount of the school tax rate will be determined.

In the city's rate of \$1.78 a school rate of 8 cents is listed.

6.5 LAST YEAR
The school rate last year was 45 cents and the maximum approved by a vote of the people is 50 cents.

There was a general feeling among Council members prior to yesterday afternoon's session to delay decision on the rate at this week's session.

But yesterday morning carmen news from county tax listing authorities that the city's taxable values had climbed to \$28,000,000, an increase of \$8,000,000 over the \$19,000,000 of 1954.

See TAX RATE on page 12-B

County Likes Revaluation Of Tax Source

By ANN SAWYER
Charlotte News Staff Writer

A revised city property valuation estimate that raised the original figures by 10 million dollars is welcome news in city circles as well as county.

For the City Council, it meant a reduction of 2.58 cents on the 1952 tax rate which was informally approved yesterday.

For the county, it means a softer cushion for any emergency that might arise in the new fiscal year that began Friday.

Actually, any increase over the \$10 million, used as a basis for the county's new budget, meant more money in the county treasury.

MORE FOR COUNTY
The additional \$10 million which was reflected in the revised city figures means that Mecklenburg County government will receive an estimated \$60,000 in revenue it had not anticipated.

The figure is set since the county bases its budget on a 90 per cent tax collection.

County officials have followed a policy of not budgeting right up to the last dollar of expected revenue. They have considered it wiser financing to allow for unexpected emergencies that cannot be anticipated during the next year.

EXTRA FUNDS
It is possible that the commissioners may need extra funds to take care of several pending problems.

For example, if county charity patients in nursing homes must be moved elsewhere in the event two story frame structures are closed, the county may need funds that are unbudgeted.

The tax, it appears likely that the county may have to give consideration again to the financial needs of the Samaritan Hospital.

Accused Of Robbery

Accused Waive Extradition Here

Two men charged by Rock Hill, S. C., police with robbery waived extradition in open court here today to face Judge Pro Tem Wallace Osborne.

The two, Buford James (Butch) Worthing, 22, Rt. 2, Rock Hill, and William Arthur Thomas, 29, 518 E. Black St., Rock Hill, appeared in City Recorder's Court before Judge Pro Tem Wallace Osborne.

Arrested here by Charlotte and Rock Hill detectives, the pair are accused of forcing a young woman employee at Rock Hill's Modern Finance Co. to allow them to steal between \$150 and \$200 in cash.

MIAMI BOUND
The pair then reportedly boarded a taxi and came to Charlotte, buying bus tickets at Union Bus Terminal for Miami, Fla.

Rock Hill Detective W. H. Proctor and Capt. T. W. Derrick, York County Rural Police, together with two Charlotte detectives, apprehended the pair at Pine and 5th Sts. shortly before they were to board the Florida bus.

NEITHER ARMED
Neither Worthing nor Thomas was armed when arrested and officers

See ROBBERY on page 12-B

FRECKLE CONTEST HELD TODAY

This afternoon was the time for the big freckle-faced kid contest at Freedom Park. It was scheduled for 3 o'clock and Julian Scherer invited all boys and girls of ten and under to come out and have their freckles counted.

News Sports Editor Bob Quincy, Mayor Phil Van Every and Arthur Smith counted 'em. A total of \$25 in cash was needed out to the boys and girls.

Council Votes A. M. Schedule

The City Council has returned to a morning meeting schedule for the rest of the summer.

The morning schedule with the public session starting at 11 a.m. will be resumed Wednesday, July 20, and after that date the council will meet every other week until after Labor Day.

The return to the morning sessions came yesterday afternoon with startling suddenness on motion of Councilman Everett Wilkinson and was carried on a 5 to 2 vote with Councilmen Steve W. Dellinger and Herbert H. Baxter opposing.

Mr. Dellinger brought up the every other week proposal which was adopted in a 4 to 3 vote and with that Mr. Wilkinson sprung his surprise motion for morning sessions.

July 27 was set as the date for the following petitions for zoning changes.

Ben D. Heath III and Charles C. Tucker from Residence-1 to Residence-2 on property in the 2900 block of Westfield Rd. and Irby Dr. Piedmont & Northern Railway and E. C. Griffith Co. from R-2 to industrial on property along Irwin's Creek and Mrs. Kathleen T. Webb from R-2 to Business-1 on property at the southwest corner of Tryon St. and Woodcrest Ave.

See TAX RATE on page 12-B

Despite Violation Citations

Nursing Licensing Is Permissible

Licensing for another year of Charlotte's six nursing homes, cited June 15 for violation of the state building code, is legally permissible, according to a letter from Dr. Ellen Winston, state commissioner of public welfare.

Copies of Dr. Winston's letter to the operators of the six local homes have been received by C. W. Edge, acting city building inspector, who gave the notices of the alleged state law violations.

While Dr. Winston says the building code you are charged with the matter of answering questions with respect to the state building code and we therefore ask that you write Mr. Edge concerning in the action of Dr. Winston.

Dr. Winston's letter regarding the relinquishing reads as follows: "In accordance with the Attorney General's opinion it is legally permissible for the State Board of Public Welfare to relicense your home for the coming year if requirements in this letter are met."

I Remember When...

By DICK YOUNG

The Rock Hill Buggy Co. turned out its first automobile called The Rock Hill and what interest was shown as it was displayed in Charlotte, but its career was short and not too sweet.

Rudy Kasper commercial photographer, Ph. ED 3-1854, (Adv.)