

—YEAS, NAYS, HOORAYS—

How State Views The Hodges Plan

By JULIAN SCHEER
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Yeas and nays were heard around the state today on Gov. Luther Hodges' proposed school legislation.

The reaction was generally as predicted with high state officials expressing favorable reactions, the state's newspapers generally favoring the measure and political opponents of Gov. Hodges voicing dissenting opinions.

Those Spud Prices Are Going Down

The record high price of potatoes hit the shooks today. By tomorrow, however, it is expected that the price will be about 12 cents a pound for spuds last week will be able to buy them for about eight cents.

That is still a penny or two above normal. But it's a substantial drop from last week, when short supply and long demand combined to send potato prices to their highest level in the memory of local grocers.

A spokesman for a local food broker said whole sale prices dropped today from \$9.50 to \$8.50 per hundred pounds. The drop came with new shipments of potatoes from western North Carolina and Virginia, he said.

Part of the credit for the drop can go to housewives, too, he declared. "They backed off from that 12 cents," he said.

The potato shortage came on after a cold, dry growing season in Florida, Charlotte's news apparently decided they'd do without their french fries until things got sensible again.

Police Won't Forget John

TRENTON, Tenn. — Trenton police will remember John Sward and his automobile.

When the 23-year-old Minneapolis, Minn., veteran hit town he was stopped. The officers stood and stared. The 14-year-old auto was really jammed.

In the front seat beside Sward was a device he used for heating. There was a small hotplate, wired to the battery, for cooking.

There was a water cooler, which doubled as a refrigerator. It contained eggs, bacon and other food.

Half of the back was taken up by a sink, where Sward could wash himself, his dishes and his several pots and pans.

Atop the car was a water tank. The sun provided heat with plenty of hot water.

A shower? Well, sort of. A hose juttred from the inside of the right front door.

The other half of the back seat was taken up by a bed which could be extended at will. In the trunk were various items, including groceries. "I don't want to be bothered with shopping along the way," said Sward.

On the way to where? said the police. Nowhere in particular, said Sward. He had left Minneapolis on a trip south.

"I thought I'd just do what I wanted to do but I don't like being stopped like this," he said.

"I haven't done anything wrong." Why was that? he asked. "If I have car trouble I'll have a way to get help," said Sward. "It's logical, isn't it?"

The officers had to admit it was, but still.

After an eight-hour delay while Trenton police checked with Minneapolis police, Sward was released.

A MINOR DETAIL

LITTLETON, Colo. — George A. Hinshaw won't be a candidate for the Republican nomination for state representative, after all.

He forgot to register as a Republican.

Our Weather

Partly cloudy today, tonight and tomorrow with widely scattered showers or thundershowers in the afternoon.

Low this morning 70

Low tomorrow morning 71

High today 94

High yesterday 92

High tomorrow 94

Sunrise today 5:50 a.m.; sunset today 7:36 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 2-A

On Trial Drinking Counts Questioned

McKeon Seeks Change In Charges At Trial



SGT. McKEON

Subway employes try to stem tide. (AP)

Subway Line Closed

Wanamaker Blaze Jams N. Y. Traffic

NEW YORK — A weekend fire that destroyed the old abandoned John Wanamaker department store building and knocked out a section of the subway caused an unprecedented jam of riders at Grand Central Terminal today.

Nearly a dozen persons were killed by the heat during the morning rush hour as commuters pressed alternate routes to the busy Wall Street and downtown sections because one subway line was closed.

Water from fire hoses poured into the burning building cascaded into the IRT Lexington Avenue line and the BMT subway. Both Brooklyn and Manhattan and serve a large area of Manhattan.

BMT trains were halted last night by water in the 8th Street station. Today they were getting through on three of the four tracks.

The IRT line, however, was out of service between Grand Central and Brooklyn Bridge. Commuter crowds that normally use the IRT trains to get to Wall Street, the area and other downtown points had to get off at Grand Central.

They jammed the huge station. Loud speakers blared instructions for the riders to take other subway lines, and also announced extra buses had been pressed into service.

The stubborn fire smoldered into a third day in the ruins of the old block-square building in lower Manhattan.

The toll of firemen treated for smoke poisoning, cuts and burns mounted to 216. Twenty were hospitalized.

Officials said a spark from an acetylene torch may have started the blaze Friday. Workers had been working on demolishing the

Gov. Griffin Urges Talks At Chicago

ATLANTA — A Southern caucus in Chicago just prior to opening of the Democratic National Convention was suggested by Gov. Marvin Griffin today.

Griffin approved the proposal of southern Democratic state chairmen that party officials of southern states hold a meeting in advance of the convention.

Griffin said, however, that in his opinion the best chance of getting full attendance would be to hold the session in Chicago on Sunday, Aug. 12, the day before the convention opens.

He added that if an earlier meeting is desired "I would be glad to entertain them here."

The state chairman proposed that Southern governors, chairmen of convention delegations and members of the convention platform and resolutions committee gather in a conference prior to the convention.

The caucus was proposed in a 500-word statement issued by chairman of seven Southern states here Saturday at the conclusion of a two-day session.

The group did not indicate when such a caucus might be held but named a committee composed of John Sammons Bell of Georgia, Herbert S. Walters of Tennessee and Neville Bennett of South Carolina to coordinate the suggestions made by the group.

NOT IN FAVOR
At the Saturday meeting here the group took the stand that the South "should work together to protect itself" but said "we do not favor any boycotts, walkouts or third parties."

But five of his six fellow newsmen after the meeting, the group stated it was "disturbed over the invasion of the sovereign rights of the South."

The group expressed the belief that "the South should work together to protect itself and to preserve the rights of the states and of the people as guaranteed by the Constitution."

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Amplifying his statement at opening ceremonies, Mr. Baxter told The News today:

"Of course, Cecil St. has to be wined, and the city will have to do that. The new Park Center is a municipal step which we have got to work together."

COUNCIL'S JOB
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COOLING OFF in a small waterfall, lovely Carol Cherry of Opelika, Ala., demonstrates one way to beat the heat. An education major at Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn and Lee County's Maid of Cotton, she was featured in this week's edition of The Plainsman, Auburn student newspaper, as "Loveliest of the Plains." (AP Wirephoto)

Council Disowns Parking Problem

By DICK YOUNG
Charlotte News Staff Writer

It is a new controversy over parking for the Park Center in the city.

Councilman Herbert H. Baxter told the City Council today he believes responsibility for parking the city's cars should be the Council's.

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Counsel Says Counts Prejudicial

By CHARLES WEST
PARRIS ISLAND, S.C. — The general court-martial of S. Sgt. Matthew C. McKeon opened here today with the defense making a bid to sever for later trial all charges relating to drinking.

McKeon, a former drill instructor from Worcester, Mass., is charged with manslaughter in the April 8 drowning of six Marine recruits under his command. Other charges accuse him of oppression of recruits, possession of alcoholic beverages and drinking in the presence of a recruit.

Defense attorney, Emil Z. Berman of New York City, asked the court's law officer, who decides the legal questions of the trial, to eliminate the two drinking charges. Berman made the motion and presented his arguments with members of the court panel recessed from the courtroom.

PREJUDICE CLAIMED
Berman claimed that both drinking charges are minor and a prejudice the case. He pointed out that neither the graver charges mentions alcohol.

He said he did not ask for "a Mal disposition" the drinking charges, only that they not be considered by this court.

The law officer, Navy Capt. I. N. Klein, continued to hear arguments from both sides about Berman's motion.

McKeon, ramrod stiff but missing the deep tan customary for his fellow Marines at this Southern training base, repeatedly mumbled "lips," casting glances about the room and fumbled nervously with his hands.

WIFE PRESENT
Also present in the courtroom were McKeon's wife, Elizabeth; his brother, former Marine Sgt. James R. McKeon of Worcester; and his sister, Miss Mary Hanratty, also of Worcester.

The family of Pvt. Thomas C. Hardeman, one of the recruits who drowned, came here from Savannah, Ga., for the trial. They are his mother, Mrs. Maggie Lucille Hardeman; his sister, Tom Meeks, an older brother, Robert Hardeman; and a younger brother, Eugene Hardeman.

Also present in the courtroom were McKeon's wife, Elizabeth; his brother, former Marine Sgt. James R. McKeon of Worcester; and his sister, Miss Mary Hanratty, also of Worcester.

LARGER ISSUES
The larger issue, both said, is the "Mal disposition" method of turning out hardened, disciplined fighting men were justified, and it so, was McKeon merited following known customs.

Most of the morning was consumed by the formalities attendant on swearing in of court officials and arguments as to whether Berman could make his motion outside the presence of the court panel.

In a called meeting with newsmen yesterday, Berman released a copy of correspondence with Navy Secretary Charles S. Thomas.

The case began at 9:02 a.m. and recessed at 11:45 to resume at 1 o'clock.

Germans Blast GI Offenses

FRANKFURT, Germany — American GIs today were blamed for two more attacks on Germans and arguments as to whether they fired the strongest official blast so far at the alleged increase in crimes involving Allied soldiers in Germany.

German police announced that a 29-year-old Munich construction worker had died after being "seriously maltreated by a drunk American soldier."

They said a group of GIs attacked him as he was standing with his fiance and friends in a Munich street. U. S. Army officials said military police are investigating.

Bavarian police at Forth also reported that a 29-year-old German was struck fatally in a beer hall argument with a GI.

The U. S. Army denies that there is any increase in the crime rate. But it says it is "not standing on statistics" and is working to improve the situation.

Top Whistlers Given Prizes

RICHLAND, Kan. — This eastern Kansas village may have the whistling smell fry in the air.

The town is the site of the annual whistling contest. The contest is held in the town square.

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No Problem If Legs Strong

There is no parking problem at the new Park Center if you're willing to walk a couple of blocks.

Asked today where persons will park when coming to the building, Marion Dieth, superintendent of the Park & Recreation Commission, said, "Where they parked when they came to the old Army."

But he added, the situation has been improved a little bit. A little more space has been squeezed out for cars at the rear of the building. And there will be a limited number of spaces on the street near the building and on nearby streets.

Otherwise, parkers may park in the old baseball field just east of Memorial Stadium and across Independence Blvd. at 50 cents per car.

Yesterday, as many as 2,000 persons present at one time for the building's opening program, cars were parked on the street, on vacant lots, and on the Park Center grounds.

—What's Inside—

Petunias Bloom On Isle In Ocean Of Concrete

A TRAFFIC ISLAND is not exactly a thing of beauty—unless, perhaps, it has petunias growing in it. One Mecklenburg traffic island does, and there's a PEOPLE column in it for Charles Kuralt on Page 6A.

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So Hope Springs Eternal; How About Springing Hair?

By EDDY GILMORE
LONDON (AP)—Dr. S. J. Van Pelt advises bald-headed men that relaxation is the best way to keep a head of hair.

"Relaxing is probably the best restorer of hair," he said. "Relaxation will dispel tension and give the hair a chance."

Van Pelt is president of the British Society of Medical Hypnotists.

"Raising hope," he said in an interview, "may even raise hair. So, avoid depressing remarks about baldness being hereditary. Hope yourself into a head of hair."

It was suggested that the doctor take a look at the reporter's bald dome.

"Well," said Van Pelt, hedging a little, "you can always hope, but, er,

Evening Prayer

Our Heavenly Father, we trust Thee this day to help us bear the burdens of life, knowing that Christ understands our every need. May we submit ourselves to His guidance. In His Name we pray. Amen.

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