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FUNERAL HOMES MULL PROPOSAL

Five White Firms To Meet Friday With Durham Man

By JIM SCOTTON
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Representatives of five of Charlotte's white funeral homes will meet Friday to discuss possibility of getting out of the emergency ambulance business.

W. N. Hovis, a member of the firm of Hovis & Son, said local funeral directors are considering an offer by a Durham firm to take over ambulance service in Charlotte.

"Ambulance service is strictly a losing proposition for funeral homes," said Mr. Hovis. "It costs each funeral director upwards of \$10,000 a year to provide this service."

AFTER GRAND JURY

The meeting this Friday is scheduled at 10 a.m. at the McEwen Funeral Home. It comes just two weeks after a Mecklenburg grand jury recommended that a municipal ambulance service be provided. Mr. Hovis said that discussions with a Mr. Aiken, who directs the Durham ambulance service, had been going on before that recommendation was made.

All of the funeral homes involved—Douglas & Sing, Harry & Bryant, Hanks-Whittington, McEwen, and Hovis—are reported more or less in favor of getting out of the ambulance business.

Two firms have not definitely decided but Mr. Hovis believes that funeral homes are closer than ever before to a decision to transfer ambulance service.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

"There is a question of maintaining the good public relations we have built up over the years," he said. "We must make sure that the service to be provided would be of the highest standard."

Mr. Hovis said that Negro funeral homes are not involved in the discussions. He expected that those homes would be asked to provide ambulance service for Negroes.

Charlotte's funeral homes first went into the ambulance service business in 1927 at the request of local doctors. At the time, a taxi company's converted truck was the only ambulance in the city.

LOW PRICE

Over the years funeral homes have tried to keep the price as low as possible, Mr. Hovis said.

See ONE on page 4-A

Ike Issues School Appeal

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower appealed anew today to his Republican congressional leaders to get a school bill enacted before adjournment, but was told chances for it are "very slim."

The dim outlook for reviving a school construction program was voiced by House Republican leader Martin (Mass.) in view of the recent House defeat of such legislation. That bill was beaten after the House tacked on an amendment by Rep. Powell (D-N.Y.) to deny funds to states which refused to integrate Negroes into the public school systems.

Senate Republican leader Knowland (Calif.) told reporters after the regular Tuesday White House legislative conference about the President's hope for some kind of a school bill and the legislators' response.

"I think there is a chance but it is a long shot at this date," Knowland said. "However, we will explore every avenue."

It was then that Martin chimed in.

"The President is very anxious to provide a seat for every school child but the chances of getting legislation at this time are very slim," Martin said.

Our Weather

Partly cloudy to cloudy with scattered showers and thunderstorms with little change in temperature today, tonight and Wednesday.

Low this morning — 69
Low tomorrow morning — 70
High today — 90
High tomorrow — 90
High tomorrow — 92
Sunrise today, 5:21 a.m., sunset today, 7:37 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 4-A



Sgt. McKeon and attorney Thomas Costello (AP)

Legislative Speed-Up

Machinery Oiled For Fast Session

By JULIAN SCHEER
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Presiding officers of the General Assembly indicated today what they would take steps to speed up next week's special session.

House Speaker Larry Moore and Wilson and Concord's Luther E. Barnhardt, president of the Senate, told The News today they

Court Okays Vote

RALEIGH (AP)—The State Supreme Court said in an advisory opinion today an election can be held in September to vote on constitutional amendments proposed by the Advisory Committee on Education.

The court had been asked for an opinion on the question by Gov. Hodges. In a brief, one paragraph opinion, the tribunal said such an election can be held in September provided the election "is in conformity with the general election laws."

are hopeful of adjournment in one week and will seek to keep the session rolling fast.

Both said they will attempt to keep committee hearings open to both sides of the Assembly in the interest of expediency and understanding.

SIT AS COMMITTEES

When school legislation, proposed by Gov. Luther Hodges' Advisory Committee, reaches the debate stage in both houses, a bid

to start off the Tuesday session, the measures will be explained in detail. The public hearings are expected to run through Thursday, but could last longer or be much shorter. By Monday the presiding officers will have a schedule worked out.

If the hearings end on Thursday, Friday morning the House and the Senate will re-convene in their respective halls.

Following would be debates on

See MACHINERY on page 4-A

—What's Inside—

Tar Heels Dig Money Out Of Their Sandhills

THE COUNTRY EAST of the Piedmont might look interesting to carbound travelers, but it turns out that there's gold in them thar Sandhills. W. Townsend Smith digs it out for examination today on Page 8A.

NOT MANY YEARS AGO, two youngsters named Hoyt Wilhelm and Frank Fidler walked dirt roads near Cornelius and dreamed of their athletic future. Today, Hoyt is famed as a relief pitcher for the New York Giants while Frank coached his team to a National AAU title. See Bob Quincy's column on Page 5B.

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Classified	10A	Serials	12A
Crossword Puzzle	12B	Sports	5-7B
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Aftermath Of Half-Million Scandal

Illinois Ex-Auditor Offers Restitution

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP)—An offer of restitution by Orville E. Hodge, who quit under fire yesterday as Illinois State Auditor in a half-million-dollar scandal, was reported today by Atty. Gen. La-tam Castle.

Castle said Hodge made the offer yesterday during an executive man conference at which he resigned.

"Hodge said he would try to make restitution," the attorney general said. "I presume he would have to attempt to liquidate some of his properties."

Defense May Examine Marine Training Poll

Law Officer Says Report 'Pertinent'

PARRIS ISLAND, S. C. (AP)—The Marine Corps was ordered today to let the defense in the trial of S. Sgt. Matthew C. McKeon see the results of an opinion poll of 27,000 Marines on how best to train fighting men.

McKeon is the 31-year-old former drill instructor from Worcester, Mass., who led 12 Marines to their deaths by drowning in a tidal marshland last April 8.

The defense argued yesterday that the poll should be made available on the grounds that it would serve in some measure to explain McKeon's activities on that fatal night.

EARLIER STAND

Heretofore, the Marines through Navy Secretary Charles S. Thomas have declined to let defense attorney Emil Zola Berman of New York see the questionnaires on the grounds that they had no bearing on the case.

Navy Capt. Irving N. Klein, law officer at the court-martial, directed the Navy and the Marines to make the questionnaires available. Klein said the study "may be pertinent" to the trial of McKeon.

Major Charles E. Sprag of Jacksonville, Ill., prosecutor, told Klein he already had arranged with headquarters of the Marine Corps at Washington to let representatives of the defense inspect the files and also see the Marine analysis of the poll.

Yesterday's opening session of the court-martial ended with a big, unanswered question: Will the Marine commandant, Gen. Randolph McC. Pate, be called to testify?

DIRECT WAY

Klein, a Navy captain from New York City, yesterday suggested that the most direct way to find out about the survey would be to call Pate to testify. There had been a number of speculations that Pate might be summoned.

Calling Pate would be in line with Berman's announced plan for McKeon's defense.

Sever also said that yesterday's request for the names of all Marines discharged from Parris Island since the defense would likewise be made available to the defense.

McKeon is charged specifically with inventing standards for justice of recruits and drinking on duty.

Klein denied today a motion made by the defense to sever the drinking charges from the more serious accusations. Berman then asked the defense to dismiss one of the drinking charges, that is, drinking in the presence of a recruit.

NO SUCH OFFENSE

Under the Code of Military Justice, Berman said, there is no such offense. He said the too-broad application of that charge is "repugnant to American standards of justice and fair play," encouraging "government by caprice instead of government by law."

Klein denied Berman's second motion to dismiss one of the drinking charges.

The charges against McKeon grew out of a fatal forced march on the night of April 8. He led 74 recruits, only five weeks in the Marines, into a tide-swung flat "to teach them discipline." Only 68 returned alive.

So far the trial has been tied up with legal wrangling. McKeon has yet to enter a plea of guilt or innocence.

See DEFENSE on page 4-A

Character' Pays Off For Groom-To-Be Facing Jail

Eisenhower 'Looks Better'

WASHINGTON (AP)—Republican congressional leaders reported today President Eisenhower "looks much better" and acts with more vigor than he did when he was taken a week ago in Gettysburg, Pa.

GOP leaders conferred with the President at the White House on the legislative program at a time when the Democratic National Committee was raising new questions about Eisenhower's health and demanding that his doctors be questioned publicly.

Sen. Saltonstall of Massachusetts, assistant Republican leader in the Senate, said Eisenhower's color was a good deal better than when the leaders met with him in Gettysburg.

It was after last week's meeting that Sen. Knowland of California, the Senate minority leader, announced Eisenhower was staying in the race for re-election despite his June 9 intestinal operation.

"The President seemed much stronger and more vigorous," Saltonstall said. "He looks fine."

MAYER TREATED

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Movie producer Louis B. Mayer is under treatment in a hospital for pneumonia, his wife has announced. The couple returned last Friday from a tour of France, England and Italy.

Similar problems sounded the death knell earlier this year for two other circus—Clyde Beatty and King Bros. However, a group of men formerly associated with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey has purchased the Clyde Beatty

Panel of officers which serves as jury in McKeon case (AP)

No More Tents 'Greatest Show' At End Of Road

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Roustabouts pulled down for the last time today the mammoth tent of Ringling Bros., Barnum & Bailey Circus, ending an era in American entertainment that thrilled generations.

"The Greatest Show on Earth" closed its road tour in a blaze of glory last night at nearby Heidelberg, Pa.

After the circus was dismantled, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey in 1919 to become the largest circus in the world.

Then came the heyday of the circus. It prospered and became a byword in America.

John Ringling, North, board chairman and president of the circus, abruptly announced the closing of the 1956 season shortly before the afternoon show.

"The tented circus as it now exists is, in my opinion, a thing of the past," Norum said. "We are considering plans for the future which may involve an almost controlled exhibition."

But he promised the 87th presentation of the circus will open as usual next year on April 3 at Madison Square Garden in New York and will play the 1957 season in other air-conditioned arenas all over the United States.

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Evening Prayer

Our Father, help us to live day by day so that Jesus would approve our faith in ourselves, in our fellow men, and in Thee. We ask it in His name. Amen.

House Okays Arms Measure

Civil Rights Measure Okay By House Likely

WASHINGTON (AP)—Unprecedented speed, the House today passed a \$2,138,000,000 military construction bill stripped of provisions which drew a presidential veto yesterday.

The bill now goes to the Senate. The House action was taken by unanimous consent with only about 100 members on the floor.

It came shortly after the Armed Services Committee had approved a measure lacking two provisions objected to by the President.

These would have required the Defense Department to get approval of the Senate and House Armed Services Committees before going ahead with contracts for Talos missile sites and for construction of government-insured housing for servicemen's families.

Except for eliminating these two provisions, the new bill was identical to the one vetoed. It authorized construction of hundreds of projects at military bases in the United States and abroad.

The Supreme Court's decision barring racial segregation of schools came into the debate at one point. Southerners asked whether the bill would enable the attorney general to file suits on behalf of Negro children denied admission to white public schools, even if the action were asked by an organization rather than the children or their families.

Rep. Celler (D-N.Y.), handling the bill, said he thought it would have even if an organization made the request.

More than 20 members, some for but most against the bill, had asked for time to speak as the House started its second day of debate.

A 151-103 test vote yesterday on

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