

## 4 bills under consideration

# Assembly seeks utilities answer

by Charles Jeffries  
Staff Writer

Four bills are currently being considered by the N.C. General Assembly that could affect the disposition of the University-owned utilities in Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

Joe Eagles, vice-chancellor of business and finance for the University, and Mayor Howard Lee of Chapel Hill are the principal figures in the long debate over utilities.

The four bills in the legislature are: 1) a bill that authorizes the sale of the utilities; 2) a bill that authorizes bonds for the expansion of the utilities if they are not sold; 3) a bill which lists the items the bonds may be used for; 4) a bill that would place the utilities under the authority of the Utilities Commission.

Mayor Lee supports any bill which would get the University out of the utilities field, but he does not favor a

joint utility commission between Chapel Hill and Carrboro as many persons have proposed.

This view on the question of whether or not the University should be in the utilities business is also shared by Eagles.

Mayor Lee expressed his belief that Eagles' agreement on the matter of utilities and the University was a slight change from his earlier stand which Mayor Lee says was influenced by his position with the University.

Lee and Eagles have both played an active part in the formulation of various commissions to study the feasibility of disposition of the utilities. Lee proposed to the Town Board that a group be formed to evaluate and recommend ways to increase Chapel Hill's chances of owning the utilities.

According to Eagles there are several factors which must be included in a study of the disposition of the utilities.

"The welfare of the present employes

with regard to jobs, fringe benefits, and pay; the ability of the new owner to render service; and the money the bidder has in order to make the purchase should the legislature decide to sell."

On the other hand, Mayor Lee offered several ideas concerning the factors Eagles mentioned.

"As far as the employers are concerned, the town has a higher minimum wage than the University. Although we can't offer the same benefits as they do, we are improving our position on this."

On the question of an ability to render

service, Lee said, "We would be less vindictive towards the townspeople than the University has been and would be capable of rendering the same services that the utilities now offer under the University."

Lee said the town could make the utilities pay for themselves and still make a profit.

The sale of utilities by the University should the legislature authorize it would affect the University very little. Most of the money received from their operations are fed back into their upkeep, according to Eagles.

## Women feel pinch

The pinch in this year's job market has added to the problems normally faced by the women college graduate seeking interesting work.

At the UNC Placement Service, 543 women seniors, alumnae and graduate students registered for non-teaching jobs this year, a 13.8% increase over last year. Of these women, only 201 reported employment by May 15.

According to the annual report of the Placement Service, "the effects of the current job market can be seen in the descending ranking of career fields most frequently entered by these women." Secretarial work heads the list of jobs taken by UNC women graduates this year, followed by general administration, social service, personnel, and research and analysis in the behavioral and social sciences.

Salaries for women went up 2.9%, while last year they rose 11.8%. Women's salaries remain generally lower than men's. In 6 of the 8 fields entered by both men and women, such as social service, science, and advertising, the pay for women was less than that for men in the same field. The overall median monthly salary for women graduates was \$575, while for men it was \$667.

## College job market tight

"The pinch felt in the academic job market last year quickened to a painful squeeze during 1970-71," according to the annual report of the UNC Placement Service.

The number of registrants for jobs teaching in college went up by 20.5 per cent this year, while teaching vacancies received by the office dropped 24.1 per cent.

The higher registration at the Placement Service can be attributed in part to "a growing number of individuals who, failing to secure permanent positions last year, extended their graduate study with the assistance of temporary or part-time positions in research or teaching." This year, 798 potential college teachers registered with the office, including 343 alumni, and 2,203 vacancies were received from American colleges, universities, community and junior colleges.

The report continues, "Since vacancies were already down severely last year, this year's decline in relation to the past decade is even more serious than is immediately apparent." Only 293 of the 798 registrants found jobs by May 15.

"Last year, history, English and Romance languages were the most overcrowded disciplines nationwide," according to the report. The Placement Service found these markets even more glutted this year. The fields with the most vacancies per applicant were, in descending order, education, business administration, sociology, physical education and recreation, and psychology. Vacancies in college administration and math and statistics, high last year, dropped noticeably this year.

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