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# **Consolidation Vote Set For Tuesday**

## A Message To Fieldcrest Employees

#### From

#### H. W. WHITCOMB, Chairman Of The Board Of Directors

Tomorrow, Tuesday, September 12, citizens of Leaksville, Spray, Draper and the Central Area will vote on the proposal to consolidate the three incorporated cities and the unincorporated Central Area into one unified city. We feel that you, the employees of Fieldcrest Mills, Inc., who live and vote in these areas should know the Company's position on this very important matter, the outcome of which will affect all of us in the years ahead.

The Company, and I speak now for our officers and directors, very strongly favors consolidation. In spite of rumors and spite talk to the contrary, there is no financial advantage or savings to the Company by consolidation. Quite the opposite, our taxes to the new city will increase by more than \$50,000 per year at our present valuation and tax rates because of the property we own in the Central Area on which we now pay county taxes only.

This includes the Karastan Service Center, the General Offices building, the Fieldcrest Store, the Central Filter Plant and a considerable acreage of land which will be included. We have ourselves provided our own water, sewerage, trash and garbage collection, fire protection and other services for these properties. We will continue to do so. What then would the company gain from consolidation?

We believe we would gain a great deal which cannot be measured in dollars. We believe that the proposed consolidation would eventually result in a greatly improved, better governed community. A community that would be unified in its planning, zoning, growth and development. A community that would be interested in progress and growth along sound and economical lines for **all** areas of the Tri-Cities and Central Area which is not true today.

For all practical purposes, we are one city today except in our government. In any mill or factory, in any school, church, club, store, restaurant or gathering of any kind are people from each section or area of the proposed new city. We work, eat, play, worship, study and have friends in every section. Why shouldn't we do away with our three outmoded, separate, and uneconomical governments and form one real city that will provide good service to all our citizens wherever they live within the proposed new boundaries?

If and when this happens, we will have a better place for Fieldcrest employees to live, a city that will help Fieldcrest Mills to attract new employees for specialized jobs which we cannot fill

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### Historic Election To Set Course Of Tri-Cities For Future Years

NO. 5

A large majority of Fieldcrest employees in the Tri-City plants and offices Tuesday, September 12, will participate in the historic referendum election proposing consolidation of Leaksville, Spray, Draper and the unincorporated Central Area.

A record turnout of voters are expected to cast their ballots on the proposed merger of the four communities. If the entire area consolidates, it will become the largest city in Rockingham county.

In the election, the voters will also choose a name for the proposed new city. The three names suggested most frequently by the public will appear on

#### Voting Places

Voting hours are 6:30 a.m. to 6:39 p.m. Polling places are as follows:

Leaksville—everyone living in the city of Leaksville will vote at the Armory, North Henry Street.

Spray—anyone who lives in Spray will vote at Spray Town Hall,

Central, unincorporated area — anyone living in the central, unincorporated area will vote in the lobby of Morehead high school auditorium.

Draper—all residents who live in Draper will vote at the Draper town hall.

the ballot. These are: "Eden", "Leaksville-Spray-Draper", and "Twin Rivers". A blank space on the ballot will permit a write-in name when preferred.

Draper, by action of its governing body, will vote separately on the matter. If Draper citizens do not favor the issue. Draper will not be included in the new city, even though Leaksville, Spray and the unincorporated area vote for consolidation.

It was pointed out that, under the law setting up the election, the Draper vote cannot be tabulated to influence the vote either for or against consolidation of Leaksville, Spray and the central, unincorporated area. Should the consolidation proposal fail to carry in (Continued on Page Eight)