Page 2 - The Chronicle - Saturday October 30, 1976

Complaints

Continued from Page 1 Meiszer, explained the results of an employee survey concerning their preferences of which retirement benefits they would like to see improved in the county plan. The survey was initiated by the commissioners.

He said the survey indicated that most county employees wanted a cost of living increase in retirement payments.

Bennett explained that if that change was made, retirement payments would go up as the consumer price index went up.

The employees also called for better disability coverage, and retirement after 39 years of service regardless of age. The county plan now stipulates that an employee must work 30 years and be age 65 in order to retire with full benefits.

Neal-Mizell Debate: Seeking Undecided Vote

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efforts to bring it off, the debate did no more to further voter understanding of the candidates or their positions than those of President Ford and Jimmy Carter.

From the onset it was clear that their statements would be calculated, designed to make believers out of those who were still straddling an unsteady fence. For example, part of Mizell's opening statement was that his priorities were, "God, family, and country" that the issues were helping the needy, senior citizens, crime, and unemployment, that Neal had forsaken the people of this district, and that the should and could be solved now.

Neal, on the other hand, retorted saying that the problems of the nation could not be solved overnight and called for a slow and steady approach in handling the nation's problems. He said, "being straight with the people" or doing what you say was the most important element of any person who holds a public office. He called it the new politics. He maintained, as he had previously, that his opponent had not been straight with people while in office.

From an ethnic standpoint, the debate was a disaster. In all fairness, the any specific questions they could respond to on ethnic issues. The debate might have proved a bit spicier and perhaps more revealing had questions of that type been asked.

Many times both candidates found themselves in the unenviable position of defending prior personal attacks made by the opposing candidate. The responses to the panelists' questions sounded more like short campaign speeches, Mizell's especially.

Whether anything new was learned from the debate is at best doubtful. Richard Ervin, a demo-

crat running for the State House of Representatives, said, "The greatest thing I learned was that 75% of the nation's budget was uncontrollable and that the controlled 25% dealt with areas like national defense and direct appropriations." He said it pointed up the difficulty in balancing the budget.

It is, however, the considered opinion of the writer that if there was a winner in this "debate" it was Stephen L. Neal. He did not have canned answers as Mizell appeared to. He was slow and deliberate and seemed to have put some thought in answering the questions put to him. He came off as his own man and not a manufactured political capdidate.

participants in the Fire

Police Departments." He

that there were element

both areas of the Publick

Department that believe

Fire and Police departm

should be separated.

too has hurt the effecting

of the Public Safety

"Several people have

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against the criticisms

gram," he said.

Public Safety Advisor Resigns

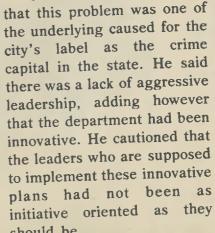
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year track record and then look at that of my predecessor to know that I did make some major accomplishments."

Jones said that one of the most disappointing things about his job was the friction that existed in top management.

He referred to the "closeddoor" antics of top administrative officials within the Public Safety Department. He said, "It has caused low moral and a lessening of the effectiveness of the public safety concept."

Jones says he has discussed the problem with the city manager and the deputy city manager. He said he believes



should be. He said the department had great potential and was on the right road but thought new personnel should be brought in to "enhance the depart-

ments professionalism." "Public Safety," he said, "that is, it's concept has not been fully supported by all the recieved," he said. don't need a crutch insisted, continuing, ask that you (the consider the fact the state has others who was and are still not member North Carolina bar, b are still legal advisors.

DVING? He said that they be received the kind of a he has. He added, as h Take the an after thought, happen to be white." was the state's only Public Safety Advisor. Even though lo with you leaving the job that has trying moments, ***** opportunities for black government were git Name could be greater i unity were displayed Address .. city-wide scale. Of the rank and b State work in the Public City.. Department, he said. Phone are some good men areas of public safety deserve better. I know () 6 mos. \$4.16 have hurt them to 1 Yr. () \$8.32 crime rating in the p other day." check enclosed Jones is supposed his post on Nov. 5th. says he may leave Clip and mail to-Where is he going a The Winston-Salem Chronicle will he be doing? remains a mystery. P.O Box 3154 mention however Winston-Salem, N.C.27102 would be working firm south of Winsk Phone 722-8624 How far south he did

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