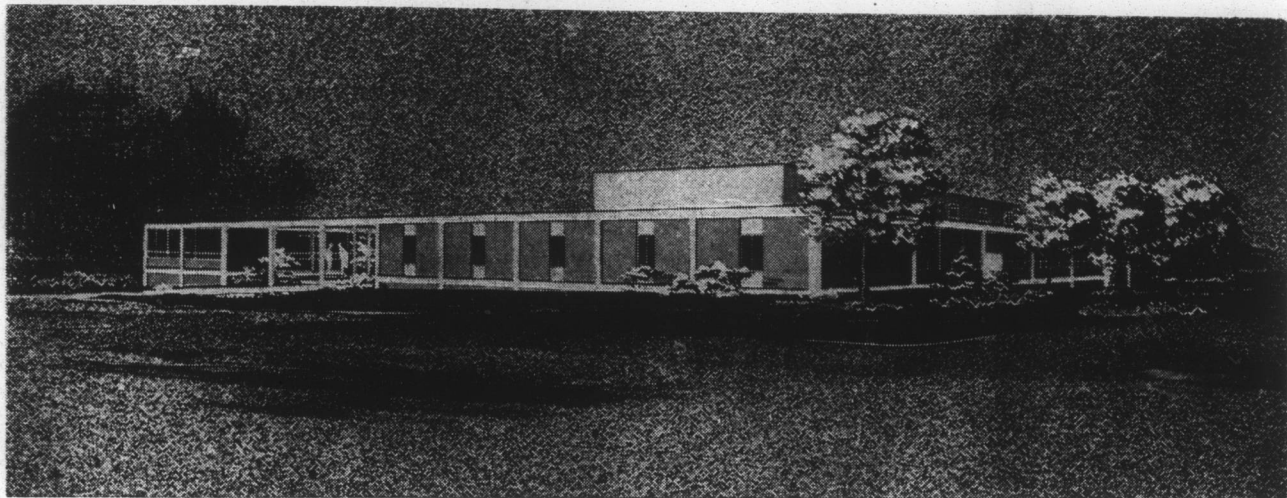


Council Again Refuses To Answer Issue



PROPOSED NEW COURT HOUSE — County commissioners yesterday took the first steps necessary to secure a new court house in Lillington. They approved an order calling for a vote on a \$490,000 bond issue to finance the undertaking. A public hearing on the matter was set for Monday, July 7 at 10 a. m. in Lillington. Here's Architect William Moore Weber's design for the proposed building, which if approved and built, would give Harnett County the first truly modern courthouse in 100 North Carolina counties. The functionally designed building would house courtrooms and office on one story, eliminate stairs and fire hazards. It is proposed to tear down the present courthouse, jail, library and welfare offices and replace them with a building to be erected on the present square. Landscaping drives, erection and equipment of the building come within the \$490,000 figures. (Photo from original drawing by W. M. Weber).

New Home Agent Other Officials Named By Board

Talk about a proposed new courthouse dominated the meeting of the county commissioners on Monday but an array of other business was dispatched in a lengthy day-long session. However, final action on the county budget and the settling of the tax rate was deferred until the first Monday in July which is the deadline for that task. Miss Virginia Oliver of Moore county was employed as the new assistant home agent. Miss Oliver was graduated this week from Woman's College of the University of North Carolina in Greensboro. Her appointment is effective immediately. County fathers re-named Miss Leila Huntley as home agent to serve for the next year. Previously she had been appointed as agent to fill out the unexpired term of Mrs. Loraine Vail Eutler who resigned last month. Negro farm and home agents L. (Continued On Page Two)

Petitions For Manning Being Signed Today

Several petitions were being circulated here today in behalf of City Manager Oliver O. Manning. The petitions defend Mr. Manning, express appreciation to him for his services, and condemn his ouster without reason. Among those reported to be circulating the petitions are Charles Lee Guy, Jr., Benny Slaughter and a number of others. It is understood that the petitions will be presented at the next meeting of the city council.

MARKETS

EGGS AND POULTRY RALEIGH — Central North Carolina live poultry: Fryers or broilers about steady, supplies plentiful, demand fair. Prices at farm up to 10 a. m. today: Fryers or broilers, two and a half to three pounds, 26; heavy hens 20-22, mostly 22.

Courthouse Hearing Slated For July 7

Harnett County may erect within the next two years a functionally designed courthouse, which bids to be the finest public building of its type in North Carolina, if plans set in motion yesterday by the county commissioners meet with the approval of the voters. Commissioners in regular first Monday session yesterday approved an order calling for a vote on a special bond issue of \$490,000 to finance the undertaking. Promoters of the bond issue claim interest can be met without increasing the present tax rate of 1.50. But the date of the bond election hinges on whether or not there will be a second primary on June 28. The law requires that 30 days must elapse between general election and a special bond election. In the event a second primary is ordered, it would be the second half of August or September before a bond election could be held. Meantime, county fathers yesterday took the legal steps necessary to set in motion the machine. (Continued on Page Two)

Ike, Taft Locking Horns In Primaries

WASHINGTON — California and South Dakota voted today in the nation's last 1952 presidential primaries. Although the South Dakota Republican primary involved only 14 national convention delegates, it provided the only two-man contest this year between Sen. Robert A. Taft and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, the major contenders for the GOP presidential nomination. Both camps shied away from advance claims of victory. Taft told a reporter he did not want to forecast the outcome in South Dakota, but said he has received "increasingly optimistic" reports from his supporters in the state. Some Taft aides said they expected the Ohio senator to win easily in the farming areas of predominantly rural South Dakota and get an even break in the cities. EXPECT CLOSE VOTE Eisenhower campaign managers would say only that they expected a close vote. Since the Midwest has been viewed as a Taft stronghold, they contended that a close vote in South Dakota would be evidence of Eisenhower strength. The critical primary test coincided with Eisenhower's official retirement from the Army. After a final "non-political" news conference at the Pentagon today, Eisenhower was scheduled to take off in his uniform and fly to his home town of Abilene, Kan., where he will deliver his first speech as a civilian presidential candidate tomorrow. OTHER HAPPENINGS Other developments in the Taft-Eisenhower race included: 1. Ten pro-Eisenhower governors joined in a statement charging Taft partisans with flouting majority rule in contests over Texas, Louisiana and Georgia convention delegates. They said such tactics would invite defeat in the November election unless nullified by the GOP national convention. 2. David S. Ingalls, Taft's campaign manager, called on Eisenhower to "rebutiate" plans for (Continued On Page Two)

Auto Stolen, Two Cut On Weekend

One automobile was stolen and two Negro victims of cuttings were reported to the Dunn Police Department over a comparatively quiet week-end. A new Studebaker Champion was stolen from J. A. Godwin, member of the staff at the Dunn Jewel Box. Officers found the vehicle in Sampson County near Mingo. Fire of undetermined origin had thoroughly destroyed the machine. Officers were called to the Dunn Hospital Sunday at 2:15 and again at 3:30 yesterday, to investigate Negro cutting victims. Connie Smith of Coats, who was wounded in the back of the neck and left arm, said it was done by John Thomas McNeill of Coats. Moses McDowell, said he had been cut on the leg by a Negro in Wilson and authorities there were notified. One wreck occurred when a 1952 International pickup, operated by Robert Lawrence Griffin of Dunn Route 3, was struck in the rear by a 1951 Chevrolet, driven by Larry Max Jackson and owned by Alton B. Jackson, Dunn Route 1. Griffin had pulled into the turn lane on Ellis, to turn into Cole, when the Chevrolet driven by Jackson crashed into the pickup. The Chevrolet left skid marks for 20 feet before impact.

Board To Study Deputy Problem

With the grand jury "more or less breathing down its neck," as one commissioner termed it, the county board yesterday took steps to comply with the grand jury request to study need for paid deputies for the sheriff's department. The last grand jury report suggested a joint study by commissioners and grand jurors of how near-by counties manage and finance full time deputies. COMMITTEE NAMED Chairman L. A. Tart named Commissioner H. S. Holloway and B. P. Ingram as members to accompany representatives from the grand jury on Monday, June 23 on a tour of Chatham and Lee and other nearby counties which give their sheriff full time deputies, patrol cars and two-way radio facilities. Wake, Johnston, Robeson and Forsyth counties were mentioned as possible stops for a second tour. W. L. Byrd and Chairman Tart (Continued On Page Five)

Mayor Refuses To Let People Question Board

By LOUIS DEARBORN Record Staff Writer

A crowd that packed and jammed Dunn's city courtroom to get the answers to burning issues in the raging city hall controversy went home without the answers.

Again, the city council stood behind a loophole in the law and said they didn't have to tell the public anything. And they didn't.

At the very beginning of the meeting, Mayor Ralph E. Hanna warned that he would not permit the board to be questioned or cross-examined without its permission.

Instead of getting answers to the issues, the crowd was lectured by the city manager and shown pictures of his accomplishments.

After evading a few simple questions, members of the council gladly and eagerly yielded the floor to the ousted city manager because that put an end to most of the questions.

MANNING TAKES OVER Mr. Manning took complete control and talked and showed movie slides for about an hour and a half.

So impressive was Mr. Manning's presentation of his accomplishments that one citizen was led to stand and ask:

"If Mr. Manning has done such a wonderful job, why was he fired?"

But the crowd went home without answers to the following questions:

1. Did the city council favor the firing of Police Chief George Arthur Jackson and the manner in which it was done?

2. Why did the council fire City Manager Oliver O. Manning, who has contended he was fired without reason?

3. Was Mr. Manning correct in his accusation last week that the board is dealing in "petty politics and personalities?"

4. Who told the truth about Manning's firing? Commissioner Leck Coats avows he didn't vote to fire Manning. Mayor Hanna and other members of the board avow that he did vote to fire Manning.

5. Is the board going to let Manning stay fired or is it going to reinstate him?

DEFENDED RECORD Manning held the audience of several hundred people as he defended his administration, using words and pictures to demonstrate his points.

"He certainly held them longer than I could," wryly remarked City Attorney I. R. Williams.

Manning's gesture in his own defense came as the climax of a mass meeting, held despite warnings on the part of city officials, that they intended to hold the meeting as usual with town council meetings, in the City Clerk's office.

However, long before the time (Continued On Page two)

Council Refuses To Take Coats Off Hook In Who Told Truth

Manning Says He Didn't Want To Embarrass Board

City Manager Olive O. Manning said this morning that he didn't demand from the city board last night reasons for his firing "because I didn't want to embarrass them."

He said it would have been embarrassing to members of the Board to put them on the spot at the meeting "because they had no reason for firing me."

"But you don't build yourself up by wearing somebody else down," said Manning, "and that's what it would have been doing."

Indicating that he believes most citizens of the town want him to remain in office, Manning said, "It's up to them (the board) regardless of what the people want."

Manning claims he was fired without reason.

Mr. Manning this morning also disagreed with the city council in the position it took last night (Continued on Page Two)

City Commissioner Leck Coats of Ward No. 1 failed in a desperate attempt last night to convince members of the city council that he didn't vote to fire City Manager Oliver O. Manning.

Mayor Ralph E. Hanna and all three members of the city council stuck tight to their story and reiterated that Coats did positively, definitely and absolutely vote to fire Manning.

Coats, swearing profusely, pleaded with the board at length after the public left to help him clear up the matter.

"MAKING LIAR OUT OF ME" "You fellows are making a liar out of me," Coats told the other board members, "and that makes it look bad for me."

He insisted and kept on insisting that he didn't vote to fire the city manager. He explained that he agreed to it, but did not vote.

Last week, Mr. Coats issued a statement refuting his previous stand, apologized to Mr. Manning and announced that he was sticking with the city manager.

Mayor Hanna and all three of the other commissioners promptly branded Coats' claim as false and untrue. Some of them ushered a harsher word.

Mr. Coats told the board last night that he wanted to clear up the matter.

Mr. Coats further contends that the meeting was illegal, since it was not at a regular session and no recorder was present.

Citizens have raised the question: "If the meeting was an illegal one, why did Mr. Coats agree to take part in it?"

Coats is leading the way to secure Manning's reinstatement. Mayor Hanna and other members of the board stated this morning that Manning is still fired and that the office will be vacated on June 15th whether Mr. Manning sees fit to resign or not.

Even The Dispatch Admits It's News

The Dunn Dispatch, which has been insisting all along that there wasn't much interest in the city hall matter, has apparently found out—at long last—that the public is interested.

On Friday, the local weekly stated: "Too bad there won't be any mass meeting again for some people but the story Wednesday probably stopped 'em cold.'"

Today, the local tri-weekly, by (Continued on page two)

Gov. Scott's Team Completely Routed

By LYNN NISBET Record Correspondent Raleigh, June 2. — The most significant element in results of Saturday's primary voting was the utter rout of Governor Scott's widely publicized "team".

Not only did the voters rally to William B. Umstead and turn thumbs down on Hubert Olive, the governor's personal choice for his successor, but by even larger majority they repudiated his appointed associate Justice of the supreme court, Itimous Valentine. Not content with this evidence of disapproval at statewide level, the voters of two congressional districts indicated their disapproval of two men who resigned from the Scott-appointed highway commission to run for Congress. Mark Goforth was eliminated in the ninth district and Dale Thrash barely edged into position to call for a runoff in the twelfth.

Elimination of Justice Valentine constituted one of the major surprise upsets of the primary. Preponderant majority of pre-election forecasts had put him in first or second place. The other surprise was in the four-way contest for lieutenant governor. Valentine was displaced by Judge R. Hunt Parker of Roanoke Rapids in top position, and Judge William H. Bobbitt of Charlotte in second. Luther Hodges ran high for lieutenant governor with a lead of some 60,000 (Continued on Page Two)

Funeral For Horrell To Be Wednesday

Neil Murphy Horrell, 84, retired Harnett County merchant, died Monday morning at 9:55 o'clock in the Dunn Hospital. He had been in ill health for sometime and seriously ill for the past week. Funeral services will be held Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the East Erwin Baptist Church. The Rev. O. W. Pulley, pastor, will officiate, assisted by the Rev. Ernest P. Russell of Dunn. Burial will be in Veterans' Memorial Park in Dunn. The body will lie in state for one hour prior to the services.

CAME TO HARNETT IN 1911 Mr. Horrell was a native of Pender County, but came to Erwin in 1911 and took a position with Erwin Mills. He served Erwin Mills for about 12 years and then operated a grocery store in Dunn until his retirement about 10 years ago. He also operated a grocery in East Erwin. He was a member of the East Erwin Baptist Church, in earlier years was active in the Junior Order and also took part in other public affairs. (Continued On Page Two)

BULLETINS

SEOUL, Korea (P) — Gen Mark W. Clark today paid his first visit to battlefront commanders since taking over as supreme commander of United Nations forces.

WINDSON, Ont. (P) — A 15-day strike of office workers ended today at the Ford Co. of Canada.

RALEIGH (P) — Jesse James has joined forces with the law. James, 31, of Tarboro has been hired to work in the laboratory of the State Bureau of Investigation here.

BUCHAREST, Romania (P) — Foreign Minister Ana Pauker has been "severely criticized" and denied re-election to the Communist party Politburo and central committee, it was announced today. She retains her foreign ministry post, however.

KOJE ISLAND, Korea (P) — An accidental burst of fire from a guard's heavy machine gun killed a Communist. (Continued on page two)

THEY CAME, THEY SAW, BUT DIDN'T GET THE ANSWERS — Pictured here is just a small fraction of the large crowd that packed and jammed Dunn's city courtroom last night for the second mass meeting within two weeks. The crowd wanted the answers to some hot issues, but the city council sat mute. As the meeting dragged on, many citizens got up and walked out in open disgust. City Manager Oliver O. Manning saved the night for the board by interrupting the hearing to show color slides of his achievements. (Daily Record photo by Bill Biggs).

THEY DIDN'T CARE TO TALK, THEY SAT MUTE — Pictured here are members of the city council as they sat and sat and sat—without giving an answer to nearly a half dozen questions. Left to right are City Clerk Charles R. Storey, Commissioner E. A. Bracey, City Manager Oliver O. Manning, Commissioner Leck Coats, Mayor Ralph E. Hanna, Commissioner J. V. Bass and Commissioner E. G. Tart, with back to camera. The only time they rose to speak was to admit they knew in advance about the firing of Chief Jackson—a fact which everybody already knew. (Daily Record photo by Bill Biggs).