

# The Chapel Hill Weekly

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LOUIS GRAVES  
Editor

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## BUDGET REVEALS MANY CHANGES IN LAST FIVE YEARS

### Scope of Municipal Services Vastly Increased; Surplus in Treasury

### COST SCHEDULE APPROVED

With the 1927-1928 budget which he laid before the board of aldermen Monday evening, and which the board approved, Town Manager Knox submitted a report showing the expansion of municipal activities in the last five years.

When the present administration came in there was a deficit of \$8,134 in the operation accounts. There is now a surplus of \$5,311. The tax rate was \$1.42½ in 1922; it was \$1.38 in 1926.

The amount of monies handled by the town government increased from \$47,500 in 1921-1922; for the coming year it is estimated at \$259,000.

The number of automobiles in Chapel Hill in 1921 was 95; it is now 500. The volume of traffic on the streets has increased in an even greater ratio. Street maintenance was reduced from \$6,884 in 1921 to \$5,010 in 1926. This reduction is due chiefly to the construction of the streets. In the last five years \$275,000 has been spent for permanent improvements—paving, curbs and gutters, new grading and surfacing of unpaved streets, sewers, lighting, and building.

Much has been said, from time to time, about the fact that the University's property is tax exempt; but Mr. Knox's report shows that, in place of taxes, the University makes contributions to various services from which it derives a benefit. For example, it stood half the cost of the sewer lines and disposal plant built a year or so ago. And it contributes to the upkeep of the police and health departments.

The number of sewer connections in the village increased from 180 in 1922 to 440 in 1927. There were 40 street lights then, there are 95 now. Fourteen fire hydrants have been added since 1922, bringing the count to 39, and the University's water department, which serves the village as well as the campus, has laid larger mains in order to provide better fire protection. The annual cost of operating the fire-fighting service went up from \$456 in 1921 to \$1,770 this last year.

Police expense has increased from \$3,389 to \$6,439; but the net increase to the town has been only \$60, since the University's contribution has gone up from \$360 to \$3,000 and the income from court costs from zero to \$350.

The net cost of the health department is estimated at \$1,890 for the coming year, as against \$925 in 1922. The town now has a full-time health officer and a negro community nurse. Dairies, markets, and restaurants are inspected and must meet tests established by the state government.

### Story Hour Next Wednesday

Miss Jessie Gay Van Cleve will have a Story Hour next Wednesday afternoon at five o'clock on the campus in front of the geology building. Everybody, from six years old up, is invited. Miss Van Cleve, a specialist in children's literature, is connected with the American Library Association. She is giving courses in children's reading in the Summer School.

## Chapel Hill Chaff

Some weeks ago I chronicled R. P. McClamroch's industry as a gardener. Afterward I learned that I had happened to pass the place on the only day in many months when he had wielded the hoe, and that it was Mrs. McClamroch who had made and cherished the garden. A score or so of my neighbors came by my lot when I happened to be mowing the lawn for the first time in years, and all during the next week they were paying me compliments on my care of the grass. One of the shameless abstainers from gardening is E. C. Branson. "Yes, I frequently do a bit of gardening," he said in reply to my question; "in fact, I have tried it three times in the last 14 years." Dr. Charles S. Mangum, when he was first married, gave his wife to understand that he knew nothing whatever about plants or the management thereof, and Uncle Jim Johnson did the work in the Mangum garden for twenty years. Then one time, in a period when Uncle Jim could not come, the doctor, on a whim, took off his coat and manipulated the pruning shears with an expertness that amazed Mrs. Mangum. He explained that he had received a thorough training as a flower cultivator in his early youth. When she inquired why it had been kept a secret, he answered: "Oh, I

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## Russell's New Book

Coming Out in August; Author in Chapel Hill for Short Stay

Phillips Russell, member of a distinguished North Carolina family and an alumnus of the University, has written a biography of John Paul Jones. Brentano's will put it out in August. This follows closely upon his book on Benjamin Franklin, which was acclaimed by the critics as one of the best pieces of biographical writing ever done by an American.

Mr. Russell was in Chapel Hill Friday, having come by automobile from New York with Berkley G. Tobey, Brentano's advertising manager, and Mrs. Tobey. They went on to Rockingham, Mr. Russell's old home, the next morning.

The author's friends here, as always upon the return of an alumnus who has gone out into the world and achieved fame, interrogated him eagerly about his activities. They learned that he was merely taking a short breathing spell after his completion of the sea fighter's biography. He has already arranged with his publishers to edit a volume of biographical sketches of famous Americans. The opening sketch, on Emerson, will be written by Mr. Russell himself. The authorship of the others has not yet been announced.

### A Good Fishing Trip

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Robertson and Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Wells went to Pamlico Beach on a fishing trip at the week-end. They caught 187 fish Monday morning—croakers, sand perch, trout, hogfish, sea mullets, spots, and oyster toads. The party traveled in the Wells car.

### Mail Carriers to Meet

Robert Neville of Chapel Hill and Messrs. Walker and Liner of Hillsboro will go as delegates from Orange county to the meeting of the rural mail carriers' association in Raleigh next Monday and Tuesday. The carriers expect to have a conference with state highway officials about roads on the rural routes.

## Seiwell Will Cruise around the World on a Scientific Expedition

A keen mind, and an enthusiasm for research that never flagged during all his college course, has won for Dick Seiwell, who was graduated from the University this year, a glorious adventure.

The Carnegie Institute has selected him to take charge of the biological and chemical observations on the good ship *Carnegie*. The vessel is to start out one year hence on a cruise of three or four years. It will go to the Arctic and the Antarctic—as near to each pole as possible—and to all the other seas. Before its mission is ended it will have circumnavigated the globe several times.

Primarily it is a physicists' expedition, with a study of terrestrial magnetism as the chief objective. But the company of scientists must also include a man who is qualified as a biological oceanographer, and Seiwell is that man.

He will collect soil from the bottom of the ocean, and fauna and flora from the bottom and all the intermediate depths. He will make observations of temperatures near the poles, in the tropics, and in the temperate latitudes, and at all the levels. And in this work he will have the aid of the finest instruments that money can buy.

After the cruise is completed and the *Carnegie* has been laid up in the drydock, he will settle down in some quiet place—for months, maybe for years—to

write reports upon the secrets he has made the sea give up.

A curious thing about the *Carnegie* is that it has to be a non-magnetic ship. Otherwise the study of terrestrial magnetism could not be made from its decks. Therefore it will not have any iron or steel anywhere about it. All its metal parts are to be of bronze. It will be equipped with sails as well as an oil-burning engine.

Within a few weeks Seiwell will go to work to superintend the construction of his laboratory on the boat. The fall, the winter, and most of the spring will be thus consumed, and the expedition will set forth in May. The first destination is the Arctic; the next, probably, the Antarctic; and thence the *Carnegie* will go to Norway, and to the principality of Monaco on the Mediterranean, and to Naples, and then—everywhere.

One thing the scientists on the vessel intend to do is to check William Beebe's observations in the Humboldt current off the Peruvian coast—the current that brings the flora and fauna of the Antarctic northward to mingle with those of tropical waters. And they hope, too, to survey Pacific isles which have not yet been definitely charted.

Captain Ault will be both the chief of the expedition and the master of the ship.

Dick Seiwell is from Pennsylvania. In the last two summers he has been engaged in investigations around Cape Cod.

## S. W. ANDREWS GIVES HIS VIEWS ON ASSESSMENTS

A complete list of all revaluations for Chapel Hill was handed to me today, June 27, and I am mailing a notice to each taxpayer of the increase or decrease and the date of the county meeting to hear complaints at Hillsboro, which is Monday, July 11.

I am frank to say that I still feel that the assessments are too high, but that with a few exceptions they are on a fair equality basis. Now, what is likely to happen is: that many of our citizens will complain and get a reduction on their property, while the masses will feel that they should abide the appraisers' values and groan under the tax burdens. With all honesty, I feel that Dr. Carroll and Mr. Fowler should make one blanket reduction of from 6 to 10%, and thus keep all on the same equality basis and then let the entire town fight any reductions by the commissioners. I know how easy it is to slip before the board

and get a little off.

This is no time for favoritism, but let all share a reduction if any is to be made, unless some real inequality has been made. With a reduction of farm values all over the county the total values will likely fall far below 1926, but it is manifestly unfair to make Chapel Hill shoulder the taxes by increasing its values. If the taxes must be kept up to the same amount, let the rate be increased, so all citizens will share.

Citizens of Chapel Hill, now is the time to act, not after the taxes are levied. Our assessors are honest men. They can be convinced that a reduction should be made if the town feels that way, but they cannot be convinced that a small majority shall have reductions and the rest shoulder the taxes.

Most respectfully,  
S. W. ANDREWS,  
Tax Lister

## BROADCASTING STATION AT PICKWICK NEXT WEEK

A broadcasting station, to spread through the land all the music, eloquence and wit that University students and Chapel Hill citizens are prepared to supply, will be operated in the Pickwick Theatre all of next week.

Sidney Shepard, manager of the enterprise and also announcer, arrived here day before yesterday, and he and the Pickwick chief, L. J. Phipps, have been busily engaged in preparations. The broadcasting apparatus will be mounted on a temporary stage in front of the screen.

The wave length is 201, and the programs can be heard within a radius of 1,000 miles.

The first broadcasting will be done Sunday evening at nine o'clock, with the ministers of the village and some invited guests

present. The public performances will begin Monday, July 4.

"We intend to have the broadcasting at 8:15 and 10:15, at the end of each moving picture show," says Mr. Phipps. "Everybody who has anything to 'put on the air' is invited to come forward and put it there. We plan to have an old-time fiddlers' convention Wednesday night. Violinist, saxophonist, pianist, fiddler, singer, orator, monologist, joke-teller, whatever you are, step up and tell the world."

Mr. Shepard has been going about the country with his apparatus and he says that everywhere there have been many volunteers. Anybody who wants to have a try at broadcasting is invited to fill out the coupon (on page 4 of this paper) and send it in to the Pickwick Theatre.

## Sleep under the Plane

Eugene Cate and Bill Prouty Serve as Watchmen for Aircraft

Eugene Cate and William Prouty sleep every night under the wing of the Ratliff airplane down on the meadow opposite Jack Sparrow's filling station.

These boys are chums, and ever since they were five years old they have held to the determination to be aviators. It was a big day for them when Mr. Ratliff brought his plane to Chapel Hill, and they were among his first patrons. Before he had bargained with them to be the night-time guardians of his craft.

They have a mattress and three blankets which they place on the ground directly under the spreading wing. The mosquitoes almost devoured them the first night; then they got a net, and now when they go to bed they hang it from the guy ropes around their bed, and so have complete protection.

Two dollars and a half, jointly, is their pay for a night's watching; but they have been taking it out in rides instead of cash. Eugene has made six trips and Bill five.

Mr. Ratliff has done a brisk business. On one day he made 49 trips, and on about half of these he took two passengers. At \$3 a head this means big money. He plans to leave here for Rockingham in a day or two, possibly to return later on.

## Jim Snipes Detained

Police Doubt His Ownership of Car; He almost Misses Speech

The delegates to the drug meeting in Greensboro last week gave a hearty enough welcome to Jim Snipes, the negro janitor and handyman at Eubanks' drugstore, but the municipality of Greensboro didn't show him an agreeable kind of hospitality.

From here Jim took a pharmaceutical group to the convention in his Buick car. After he had deposited his passengers at a hotel he drove round in search of a garage. Word had gone out to the police of a recently stolen Buick, and presently Jim was stopped by an officer and closely questioned. His assurances did not satisfy, and he was taken to the police station. There they continued to ply him with questions. He became more nervous every minute.

"Boss, I came to Greensboro to hear Mr. Eubanks' speech," he pleaded, "and if you don't lemme go I'll sho miss it."

At length the officers were convinced that the Buick was Jim's own property. So he left the station, found a garage in which to leave his car, and reached the druggists' meeting in time to occupy a seat which Mr. Eubanks had reserved for him.

### The Koch Household

Frederick Koch is a member of the band at Morehead. George Koch is recovering from a slight illness. Mrs. Koch arrived in Chapel Hill Friday night with Bobby and Billy after a visit to her mother in Denver. Mr. Koch is still in California.

School Board Remains the Same  
Dr. E. A. Abernethy and E. W. Knight, school board members whose terms expired, were re-elected at a joint meeting of the aldermen and the school board Monday evening. The other members are Mrs. W. D. Toy, W. S. Robertson, N. W. Walker, and B. A. Eubanks.

## ASKS PERMIT FOR FILLING STATION NEXT TO CHURCH

### But Mr. Pickard Probably Won't Press Matter if Much Opposition Develops

### BOARD DEFERS DECISION

An application from Clarence Pickard for a permit to erect a filling station on the lot next to the Presbyterian church, immediately across the street from the Graham Memorial building, was submitted to the board of aldermen at their meeting Monday evening. They postponed their decision until July 11.

Thus far there have been no store or other business structures in this part of the village, and a great many citizens of Chapel Hill would like to have the present character of the neighborhood preserved. It is understood that Mr. Pickard is not disposed to press the matter if the prevailing community sentiment is opposed to the development. He is himself a prominent member of the Presbyterian church, and if his fellow churchmen offer objection, he will probably withdraw his application.

Two or three years ago this same proposal was advanced, but it was abandoned when protests were made.

Chapel Hill has no zoning law of its own, prescribing the character of structures that may be erected in various parts of town, but the state laws are thought to give the aldermen a wide discretion in determining what permits may be granted.

The board has authorized a committee to make a study of the problem with a view to the drafting of a proper ordinance. Interest in the subject was stimulated when it was learned, several weeks ago, that the lot which M. R. Trabue had bought from H. H. Williams, at the corner of Franklin and Boundary streets, might become the site of a filling station. At this time M. E. Hogan was planning to buy the lot adjoining Mr. Trabue's, but would not close the deal until he was assured that Mr. Trabue had decided to hold the corner for the building of a home.

In recent years municipalities all over the United States have enacted zoning laws, and many of these have been tested in the courts. They have been upheld in almost every case. The Supreme Court of the United States recently upheld a statute prohibiting business structures in a suburb of Cleveland, Ohio.

### Lectures under the Poplar

A series of lectures, called the summer school chautauqua, to be delivered under the Davie Poplar on the campus, is to begin this (Friday) evening at 7:30. Robert B. House, executive secretary to the University, will make the first talk, and his topic will be "North Carolina History Prior to the Civil War." Later on Mr. House will deliver a second lecture on "North Carolina After the Civil War." Everybody is cordially invited to hear the speeches.

### Mrs. Branson Hurt by Fall

Mrs. E. C. Branson had a bad fall while going down to her cellar last week. One of the bones in her foot was broken, and the foot had to be put in a plaster cast. She goes about on crutches.