

The Chapel Hill Weekly

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Editor

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Busses Go into Operation Here And in Carrboro

Run from 6:30 in Morning till 11:30 at Night; Routes to Be Extended When Bus Is Added

Two local-service busses, each with 27 seats, are now running on a regular schedule in Chapel Hill and Carrboro. They were put into operation Monday by the new Chapel Hill-Carrboro Transit Company of which Irvin J. Watts is manager.

They start at 6:30 in the morning and keep running till 11:30 at night. Each makes its circuit in half an hour. The fare is 10 cents. The routes of the two busses overlap, and a free transfer is given to any passenger who has to change to make the trip from one town to another.

Mr. Watts says a third bus has been ordered and that when it is delivered, probably within two or three weeks, the present routes will be extended.

The present routes are as follows:

For the Chapel Hill bus: starting on the hour and the half-hour at Davie circle, beyond the eastern limits of the town; west on Franklin street; north on Boundary street; on North, Hillsboro, Rosemary, and Henderson streets to the post office; west on Franklin; south by way of Kenan, Cameron avenue, and Ransom; east on West University drive; north on the Pittsboro highway and Columbia street to Franklin at the stop-light corner; and then east on Franklin to Davie circle.

For the Carrboro bus: starting on the hour and the half-hour near the Dwight Ray home on the Hillsboro road about half a mile beyond the fork of the Hillsboro and Greensboro roads; through residence streets of Carrboro, past the Fitch Lumber Company, to the Baptist church corner; through the Carrboro business district to Chapel Hill; on Franklin street to Roberson, turning south at the Hazzard Motor Company; on Cameron

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Schedule of Lenten Services Announced

Day before yesterday was Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. April 21st will be Easter Day. The Episcopal church announces the following Lenten services:

Holy Communion at 10:30 every Wednesday and 7:15 A.M. every Friday.

Service at 5:15 P.M., Monday through Friday.

At 8 P.M. every Wednesday, study course ("God in Christ").

In Holy Week, beginning Sunday, April 14: service at 5:15 P.M., Monday through Thursday; Holy Communion at 8 P.M. Maundy Thursday; three-hour service from noon to 3 P.M. Good Friday.

Sunday services as usual.

The Four Bus Drivers

The four drivers working in a double shift on the two new busses in Chapel Hill and Carrboro are: On the Chapel Hill bus, Harry Dennis Andrews of Carrboro and Johnny Sparrow of Chapel Hill; on the Carrboro bus, Troy Hackney and John Henry Williams, both of Carrboro. Troy Hackney drove a bus for the Navy Pre-Flight School. The other three drivers, all war veterans, drove automobiles when they were in the armed forces.

Reminder Issued from Town Hall that Anybody Who Plans a Building or an Alteration Must First Get a Permit

Town Manager T. E. Hinson and Building Inspector P. L. Burch find it necessary to issue a reminder that, under the law, a permit is required for any new construction, or for any alteration to cost more than \$100, anywhere in the town of Chapel Hill. The permit must be obtained from the town manager before any start whatsoever is made on construction or alteration.

An application for a permit must be accompanied not only by plans but also by a sketch of the lot on which the building operation is to take place. It is the duty of the building inspector, who examines the plans and the sketch, to make sure that they comply with the law, before a permit is issued.

The sketch of the lot is important because of the zoning law.

Colonel Hinson and Mr. Burch have found that some prospective builders are either not aware of the fact that Chapel Hill has a zoning law or are not familiar with its provisions. Under this law a building that is

permitted in one part of town may be forbidden in another. For example, there is the "A" residence zone, which is for homes and from which are excluded not only business structures but also apartment houses. Then there is the "B" residence zone, in which apartment houses may be built; and the zone for retail business; and the zone for manufacturing. (This is an abbreviated statement of the general character of zoning in Chapel Hill; there are many details in the law that are not covered here.)

The usual procedure is for the contractor for a building operation (or, if there is no contractor, for the carpenter in charge) to attend to making the application for the permit, and any contractor or carpenter who proceeds with a building operation without having a permit is subject to a fine. But in any case, whether or not he is represented by a contractor or a carpenter, the person who undertakes a building operation or an alteration is legally responsible for obtaining a permit.

Pillars Were Built to Support Instruments, Not to Give North-South Line, Thinks Love

Mr. and Mrs. James Lee Love of Burlington were here Tuesday. They went about the village with Miss Cornelia Love, enjoying the feel of the balmy air and the sight of the early spring flowers. Mr. Love conferred with T. F. Hickerson about the restoration of the old brick pillars in the yard of the President's House.

"Please let me say that I believe the two brick pillars set up by President Caldwell in his garden were built for a much more serious purpose than to mark the north-south line at Chapel Hill," says Mr. Love in a letter to the editor of this newspaper. "If that had been his aim they would have been placed at greater distance from each other, and probably in a different form. There can be little doubt that he erected them to bear an astronomical instrument for study of the sky, and for astronomical measurements; and that he built around them a wooden shelter suitable for his purposes. And he did this, I believe, soon after he brought home the telescope and other instruments from England, about 1826. He probably built this before he constructed the larger observatory on the hill in 1831.

"The two pillars therefore are witnesses of the spirit, energy, and foresight of President Joseph Caldwell, who was a pioneer in the study of Astronomy in America. His unfortunate death in 1835, and the failure

The Burning Bush

The most spectacular and the most beautiful object in the Chapel Hill scene this week is the burning bush, otherwise known as the pyrus japonica. From one end of the village to the other, and on the University campus, the eye of the beholder is gladdened by the gorgeous red blossoms. The new local bus system began operating at just about the time the burning bush began blooming, and the manager has been thanked by some of the passengers for "throwing in," on the circuit of the village, at no extra charge, such a display of floral loveliness.

Chapel Hill Chaff

Dead rat—this was naturally everybody's first thought when the air in the McClamrochs' home was poisoned by a bad smell last Friday. The whiffs had something of the familiar quality, yet they seemed to tell of something worse, and bigger, than a rat. The ordeal might have been allowed to wear itself out with the grumbling customary on such occasions, and with the frequent opening of doors and windows to let in a fresh supply of air, if it hadn't been that the McClamrochs had a party scheduled for that evening. All preparations had been made, and the guests had been invited. Wouldn't it be a pretty howdy-do to have the merry company come in on such a smell! The host and hostess had good reason to fear the guests wouldn't stay merry long under such circumstances or even might disperse in haste.

Here was a situation that called for more than martyred waiting. So, Major McClamroch, fresh out of an organization where "Action" was the watchword—i.e., the U. S. Army—took the leadership in an intensive sniffing reconnaissance around the premises.

Major McClamroch's Army service was in the chemical warfare department, and his experience there, in the course of which he no doubt became well acquainted with H₂-S and other foul mixtures, must have equipped him well for the task of running down an odor. However, I am informed that it was not he who solved the mystery. His faithful servitor, John, one of the assistants in the quest, crawled under the house, presently uttered a triumphant cry of discovery, and crawled back

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Fires for Burning of Trash and Leaves, and Fires in Woods, Constitute Serious Danger

The fire company was called Wednesday afternoon of last week to put out a grass fire down behind Miss Josie Pritchard's home. Her home faces Ransom and Vance streets, but the fire was closer to West University drive.

A strong wind was blowing, and the blaze spread rapidly. Both the town's fire engines were in action. It took twenty minutes to get the fire under control.

It had been started in a trash can back of one of the homes on West University drive.

"It was really a bad wind," said J. S. Boone, the fireman, afterward, "and you had to be there and see the way the fire spread to realize how dangerous it was. It spread over about half an acre before we stopped it. It came pretty close to the Pritchard house."

"I had just come home for lunch when the alarm was given," said Miss Pritchard, "but I didn't have any lunch that day. I forgot all about it."

"If the fire company hadn't done such a good quick job, the fire might have reached my house and might then have gone on to other houses. The flames came across my vegetable garden and on to my flower garden. A compost heap of dry leaves caught fire, and you can imagine what a blaze that made."

"If the wind had been in the other direction, the fire would have gone into the pine woods and I believe it could have gone on to the laundry."

The fire company has been called several times in the last week or so to put out brush and trash fires. On the same day that the fire occurred back of the Pritchard home, there was one in nearby Westwood that had started from the burning of leaves in a back yard.

James Boyd of Southern Pines, who was in the village Wednesday, said that there had recently been several serious forest fires in Moore county. "One of them spread into the town of Aberdeen," he said, "and destroyed six or eight houses."

"Every town you go to, you hear about the danger from burning brush and leaves and trash," said Fireman Boone. "The fire chief in Durham was telling me the other day about the trouble they were having."

"The best action against these fires that I have heard about has been taken in High Point. A city ordinance requires everybody to get a permit before lighting a fire to burn anything out of doors. Also, there must be a hose, connected up with a water line, long enough to cover the danger zone, and there must be somebody on guard all the time. The penalty for violation of the ordinance is a fine that may run up to fifty dollars."

New Valuation of Property for Taxation Is Being Studied by Board of County Commissioners

Schwenning Hurt in Storm at Sea; Browne Comes Safe

Two members of the University of North Carolina faculty, G. T. Schwenning and E. T. Browne, taught at the U. S. Army University at Shrivvenham, England, until it closed about three months ago.

The ship on which Mr. Schwenning started home had to turn back because of the damage done to it, and the worse damage threatened, by violent storms. The second ship he took ran into a hurricane in which he had three ribs broken and received an injury to his spine. He is now in an Army hospital in Washington and cannot return to his post in the University school of commerce till June.

When the institution at Shrivvenham closed Mr. Browne was transferred to the Continent, and after that he had teaching assignments at several Army schools in Germany and Austria. He landed in New York on Tuesday of this week and was met by Mrs. Browne. They arrived in Chapel Hill night before last.

Bennett Is First to Address Club Twice

Members of the Chapel Hill Rotary Club decided some years ago that a single 20-minute speech was about all they wanted to hear from any one speaker. The first exception to this rule occurred this week when Lt. Col. J. S. Bennett was invited to address the club for the second time within a month. Both talks were about his experiences during two years of European service with the Allied Military Government.

In his second talk, given Wednesday evening at the club's meeting at the Inn, Col. Bennett said that booby traps were among the worst menaces to his organization. "As the Italians retreated," he said, "they usually mined the public buildings and many of the streets, and it was a ticklish job to detect these mines before they had a chance to do any damage."

Col. Bennett reported that Allied government officials also had to be wary of accepting favors from Italians in occupied zones, since they usually expected something very substantial in return. He said he was invited to spend the week-end at a palatial villa, but that before accepting he learned his host was planning to ask him for 100 tons of cement in return for the hospitality.

Appeals on Tax Assessments

The board of county commissioners will sit as a board of equalization Monday, March 18, in the State Highway Patrol office in Hillsboro, to consider appeals on tax assessments. Any property owner who wants to protest against his assessment is invited to appear before the board on that day in the court house in Hillsboro. The meeting will begin at 10 A.M.

Square Dancing Tonight

There will be square dancing at the American Legion Hut this (Friday) evening, beginning at 8 o'clock.

Matter Is Very Important to County and Town because of Need for More Tax Revenue

The Orange county commissioners have already begun to give serious thought to the problem of re-assessing the property in the county for taxation.

Under the law the new assessment is to be made next year and will be based upon values as of the first day of next January, but the commissioners expect to do considerable work, in the fall months, in the way of preparation.

They will probably follow the previous practice of appointing a committee of citizens to make the assessment. If this method is adopted, the committee will go about the county to inspect all kinds of property; will get the opinions of disinterested persons as well as of property owners themselves; and will then make up a report to submit to the commissioners. The commissioners will function as a court of appeal to hear protests, if any, from property owners.

The new assessment is certain to bring about a big increase in the total tax valuations. Some persons think the increase may amount to several million dollars.

The matter is of great importance to both the county of Orange and the town of Chapel Hill in connection with projected improvements. More tax revenue is urgently needed for the carrying charges on bonds that must be issued for these improvements. It is agreed by all county and town officials that it will be far better to increase the tax revenue through an increase in the assessments than through an increase in the tax rate. This is especially true in the case of the town, because the town tax rate is already near the maximum permitted by state law.

Playmakers to Give Noel Coward Comedy

Noel Coward's fantastic comedy, "Blithe Spirit," which was a hit on Broadway, will be given here next week from Wednesday through Saturday evenings by the Carolina Playmakers in their campus theatre. Tickets are available at Ledbetter-Pickard's and at the Playmakers business office in Swain hall.

Foster Fitz-Simons is the director, and his wife plays the important role of Madame Arcati, the medium who converses with spirits. Other leading characters are Leroy Love, Asheville, as Charles the husband; Lois Warnshuis, Staten Island, N. Y., as Ruth his living wife; and Jean McKenzie, West Palm Beach, Fla., as the spirit of his first wife.

Admission is free to holders of season tickets. The show begins at 8:30.

Alex H. Shepard House Sold

The Alex H. Shepards have sold their house at 714 East Franklin street to Commander A. G. Schnable, who recently succeeded Commander H. W. Carroll as executive officer of the University's Naval R.O.T.C. Commander Schnable and his wife and two daughters will move in next month. The Shepards will return to their Westwood house which the Sonntags are leaving.