

The Chapel Hill Weekly

Vol. 26, No. 11

Louis Graves
Editor

CHAPEL HILL, N. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1948

\$2 a Year in Advance. 5c a Copy

Trying to Erase Tunnel Crossing Baseball Field; Alibis Aplenty

Robert A. Fetzer, the University's director of athletics, has had many different kinds of things to do since he came to Chapel Hill a quarter of a century ago—everything from formulating policies and addressing alumni to ordering trunks for runners and supervising the erection of emergency wooden bleachers—but probably he never had a more curious job than the one now wished on him: the job of erasing a tunnel from a baseball field.

When plans were made last year for the three new dormitories on the east fringe of the campus, it was decided to build a tunnel to carry the steam-heating pipes. Emerson field, which is used for University baseball, was athwart the tunnel course. But that didn't mean anything, said everybody connected with the tunnel construction job; the digging would be done, the walls and roof put in place, and the dirt piled on top and pressed down and smoothed off—all a long time before the beginning of the baseball season.

The clearing-away was promised for October 1. Then it was promised for January 1. It is not done yet, and the baseball season is scheduled to open March 26, two weeks from today.

It's the contractor's job to erase the tunnel, not the athletic director's. "I'm sure," he had to take a hard look at the way, he has had to provide athletic department personnel to work along with the contractor's machinery, and he has had to provide a good part of the high pressure needed as a stimulus.

As often in such situations, alibis have been abundant. Whomever on the tunnel and piping job you talk to about the delay, you'll find it was somebody else's fault.

2,231 Cars Pass Inn Corner in Three Hours

A traffic count at the Cameron avenue-Columbia street intersection (the Carolina Inn corner) day before yesterday showed that 2,231 cars passed the corner in the 3 hours from 12 noon to 3 o'clock.

The term "cars" as here used includes all vehicles. There were 1,988 passenger cars, 114 large trucks, 97 small trucks, 22 motorcycles, 1 car with trailer, 7 trucks with trailers, 1 bus, and 1 horse-drawn vehicle.

The count was made by the 12 students who are taking T. F. Hickerson's course in transportation systems. This is one of the courses in city and regional planning, the new University department headed by John A. Parker.

Mr. Hickerson, who has had long experience as a highway engineer, directed the count. The job takes alertness and uninterrupted attention. There are 12 directions taken by cars arriving at the intersection. The cars come from 4 directions and the stream from each one divides into 3 streams: (1) straight ahead, (2) right, and (3) left.

Population Survey Is Planned

The aldermen, at their meeting Wednesday evening, endorsed the plan of the Junior Service League to make a population survey of Chapel Hill.

Statement about the Proposed Bond Issue

L. J. Phipps, named by Mayor Madry chairman of a citizens committee on the bond issue that is to come before the voters April 6, recently appointed a special committee to make a study of the projected improvements. This special committee, composed of F. O. Bowman (chairman), Collier Cobb, J. B. Johns, John W. Umstead, John T. Manning, and E. C. Smith, makes the following statement:

We have become accustomed to thinking of Chapel Hill as a beautiful, healthy, happy community, but this pretty picture may change radically in the near future if we fail to go to the polls April 6 and vote for the proposed bond issue.

The projects included are needs that must be regarded as critical necessities in view of the rapid growth of Chapel Hill in recent years. They have, in fact, become emergency needs that must be met now. Any further delay will involve hazards that already are a grave menace to the health of our community.

As a special committee appointed by Judge Phipps, who is general chairman of a citizens committee, we have made a careful study of the projects included in the bond issue as proposed by the Board of Aldermen.

New Sewage Disposal Plant

We find that the present sewage disposal plant, which was planned 25 years ago to take care of a population of 7,500, is now overloaded to the extent of double its capacity. The new plant proposed would take care of an additional 15,000 in population, and the old and new plants together would provide immediately for a population of 22,500 and, with relatively little additional cost, for a maximum of 37,500.

As you will note from statements from Dr. David Garvin, district health officer; Dr. Ed McG. Hedgpeth, University physician, and James W. Westbrook, our sanitary engineer, which are being made a part of this report, conditions in our sewage system are already so serious that the overloading is causing frequent breaks in the lines and overflowing of manholes to the extent that raw sewage flows out in many places in and around town.

Street Improvements Needed

It is obvious that many of our streets are badly in need of repairs and that some of the dirt streets should have been paved long ago.

Approximately half of our paved streets were seal-coated last fall. Those needing treatment most were included in that seal coating. It is fortunate that the streets were seal-coated then, for the severe winter weather would have increased substantially the cost had that repair work been delayed until this spring.

The streets not treated last fall are in urgent need of a seal coating now. Much work that should have been done on streets had to be postponed on account of the war and immediate post-war conditions.

A number of the dirt streets for which paving is requested are in the Negro section of the community. We believe our citizens will agree that the Negro communities are entitled to some street improvements.

No Tax Increase Expected Now

The equipment needs listed in the bond issue should speak for themselves. The town has purchased little new equipment since the pre-war years and is badly in need of the items requested.

Chapel Hill has neither the lowest nor the highest tax rate. It is about the average for a town of this size with corresponding facilities. But we believe our citizens would prefer paying a little above the average, if necessary, for the privilege of living in a community above the average.

Miss Niggli at Bull's Head

Miss Josephina Niggli will speak on "The Art Spirit" at the Bull's Head Bookshop tea at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon in the staff room of the library. Miss Niggli is the author of "Mexican Village" and the recently published, Book-Of-The-Month club selection, "Step Down, Elder Brother."

Legion Oratorical Contest

The annual 17th district American Legion oratorical contest will be held at 7:30 next Wednesday at the Legion Hut on Queens street in Durham. The 17th district is composed of Orange, Durham, and Vance counties. Roy Armstrong and Elmer Dowdy are co-chairmen of the Orange county competition.

Mrs. William Meade Prince and Mrs. Athol Burnham left Wednesday night for two weeks in New York.

Scouts Get Badges At Court of Honor

Jack Bright, 16 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Bright, received the Eagle Scout badge at a court of honor held Monday night in the Methodist church. Douglas Kelly, scout field executive, presented the badge to Mrs. Bright, who pinned it to her son's blouse. Jack, a sophomore in high school, completed requirements for 21 merit badges in order to receive the Eagle award.

At the same court, Bobby Heath was promoted to the rank of Star Scout, and Don Vance and Mac Proctor became First Class scouts.

Merit badges were presented to R. B. Fitch, Jr., Mac Proctor, J. Gray McAllister, John McGwin, Jr., Charles Wolf, Herman Husbands, and Bobby Heath.

Additional Sewage Facilities a "Must"

By Dr. David Garvin, Health Officer, and James Westbrook, Sanitary Engineer

The primary need for Chapel Hill and vicinity is adequate sewer lines and a safe method of sewage treatment. By this we mean sufficient and large enough sewer lines to take care of present sewer connections as well as needed lines in unsewered areas. To take care of an expanded sewer system, additional treatment facilities are essential.

Because of the abnormal growth of the town of Chapel Hill, the present treatment facilities are so overloaded that practically raw sewage enters the receiving stream. Moreover, the overloading of the system causes breaks in the lines and overflowing of manholes to an extent that raw sewage flows out in many places in and around the town. These conditions cause odors and unsightly conditions, and create potential health hazards.

Too often our public utilities are taken for granted and are overlooked even after they cease to function properly. We have passed the point of safety from a public health standpoint. This issue cannot be based on a dollars and cents value. For the protection of ourselves as individuals and for the safety of the public's health, the sewer system and treatment facilities must be made adequate.

Gilbert Ray, our town manager, estimates that no increase in the tax rate will be necessary for next year if the bond issue passes, primarily because of the property revaluation in 1947. He says that if prosperous conditions continue he does not think there will be necessity for any major increase in the tax rate for the next few years.

(P.S.: John Manning informs the editor at going-to-press time that there are some points in which he is not in full agreement with the other members of the commission and that he will make a statement about these points if it appears necessary.)

Rutgers Official on Visit Here

Ernest F. Schofield, assistant to the president of Rutgers University in New Jersey, was here for a two days' visit this week.

Chapel Hill Chaff

From New York comes the news that women trained in engineering have raised a revolt against the men of their profession. The dispatch says that the engineering profession is a "traditionally male sanctum whose members delight in calling themselves 'engineers with hairy ears.'" A society has been formed "to destroy the discrimination against women engineers."

I must say that the record of the engineer with whom I am most closely acquainted, my across-the-street neighbor, T. F. Hickerson, bears out the charge of discrimination. I don't mean against women engineers in particular, but against all women. He has discriminated against them in the most scornful and affronting way—by not marrying any of them. Will they continue to take this without protest? When I recall the many instances of the direct-action behavior of women in the present era I feel that I would hardly be surprised to look out of my window some morning and see women parading up and down in front of Mr. Hickerson's house with banners bearing the word UNFAIR.

Unexpectedly, and to the delight of the village, the sun came out bright and the air turned warm Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Lyons; their guest, Robert Frost; and Mr. and Mrs. Brent Drane were strolling around in our garden. Mr. Frost, a few minutes before, had been observing through the window the white-throat sparrows and the red-brown-breasted chickadees which would soon be joining him in New England for the summer. Now, out of doors beside a bamboo hedge and amid vines and shrubbery, he was aware of a deli-

(Continued on page two)

Bryant Predicts Legislature's First Work Will Be to Make Up Shortage in Improvement Fund Caused by Building Cost Rise

Registration for Bond Issue Election Will Begin Next Friday

The registration for the bond issue election of April 6 will begin next Friday, March 19, and will continue through the following Friday, March 26.

John Hocutt will be registrar, V. A. Hill and Mrs. E. R. Hinton will be judges of election.

Place: board of aldermen's room in the Town Hall. Hours: on all weekdays except Saturday, from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M.; on Saturday, from 9 A. M. to 9 P. M.

A person previously registered for a town election and still living in the town is qualified to vote without registering again. If you are not sure whether or not your name is in the book, you are already registered, ask Mr. Hocutt.

The polling place on election day will be the fire engine station. The hours will be 6:30 A. M. to 6:30 P. M.

Physician Emphasizes The Immediate Need

By Dr. Ed McG. Hedgpeth

The construction of facilities for adequate sewage disposal is probably the most immediate need of our community. The present plant is totally inadequate. Raw sewage is polluting our streams and serving as a source of potential outbreak of the intestinal born diseases which could assume alarming proportions.

The rapid increase in the Chapel Hill community and the University community, which from the standpoint of spread of the infectious and contagious diseases, are definitely one, has made this an acutely pressing necessity. The danger to the health of our community is a genuinely serious one.

Henderson Entertains Rotarians

Archibald Henderson entertained the Rotary Club at its meeting this week with reminiscences and anecdotes of old-time Chapel Hill. He is well qualified to provide such a treat because he has been associated with the University for more than one third of its life. The University opened 153 years ago and Mr. Henderson came here 54 years ago. He has written a book, soon to be published by the University Press, about the development of the village and the campus.

The Name Is "Three Toms"

In a recent issue I said I couldn't make out from W. C. Coker's letter whether the name of the inn at which he and Mrs. Coker were staying, in Thomasville, Ga., was Three Toms or Three Tones. He sends me a postcard with Three Toms Inn printed on it. "This will relieve your mind," he writes. "The name is taken from the three earliest settlers here, all named Tom something." The card bears a picture of beautiful flowers. He concludes: "We have not seen any ice this winter. Don't get mad."

Presbyterian Auxiliary's Officers

The Presbyterian Women's Auxiliary will install these officers at 3:30 Monday afternoon in the church lounge: Mrs. R. B. Fitch, president; Mrs. Thomas D. Rose, vice president; Mrs. Paul Wager, secretary; Mrs. W. E. Thompson, treasurer, and Mrs. W. E. Caldwell, historian. The new co-chairmen of Circle No. 1 are Miss Frances Archer and Mrs. C. E. Bush; of Circle No. 2, Mrs. Paul Guthrie and Mrs. John Hinson.

Victor S. Bryant of Durham, chairman of the University trustees' visiting committee, was the speaker at the Faculty Club luncheon this week. Ninety-eight persons were present, setting a record for attendance at the club's meetings. The large turnout was the result of the interest aroused by the recently published report of the committee. Mr. Bryant reviewed the University's problems and, at the end, submitted himself to questioning.

One question related to the postponement of the use of the money appropriated by the legislature for buildings—a postponement made because the Advisory Budget Commission (which was charged with deciding when to use the money) waited for building costs to go down. Instead of going down they have gone up, so that the amount appropriated is far less than what is needed. Mr. Bryant was asked: What is going to be done about putting up the buildings authorized by the legislature now that there is not enough money to cover the cost of them?

"My belief is," he replied, "that the next legislature, when it convenes in January, will make it the first order of business to provide the money needed for carrying out the last legislature's building program."

Mr. Bryant said that Governor Cherry was fully aware of the urgency of the need for new buildings here and at other State Institutions and was going to do all he could to expedite the work.

In the course of his talk Mr. Bryant said, with emphasis, that one of the most pressing University needs is for better salaries for the faculty. His hearers greeted this statement with no sounds of displeasure.

Stowe's Resolution Is Recalled by Birthday

We had two birthdays in our building yesterday, March 11. Curtis B. Stowe, linotype operator, was 62 and Mrs. Leroy Lanier, bookkeeper and receptionist for the Weekly, was 23.

Mr. Stowe has done a lot of wandering around. He was with the Orange Printshop back in the early 1930's, went away, and came back a year ago. He had a long siege in the hospital last summer and for a while the doctors feared he would not pull through. Mrs. Lanier, whose husband is a pharmacy student, has not moved so often, but she did some very important moving last month: from a trailer on Mallett street to an apartment in Carrboro.

Several of Mr. Stowe's jobs have been in college towns. At every place he has become an enthusiastic supporter of the football team of the home-town institution. I'll never forget a remark he made to me on a bleak day in November 1935. We were sitting in my car at the Duke stadium just after Duke had administered a crushing

(Continued on page two)

Milner Delayed on Trip to Japan

Charles Milner, bound for Japan by air, was delayed by an airplane engine break-down soon after leaving Washington March 2. He had to stay at Cleveland 2 days. He arrived in Tokyo Tuesday, March 9.