

of Orange County
up with the news
over the county by
THE NEWS of
County.

NO. 50

KIDD BREWER'S
Raleigh Roundup



RE-AFFIRMED—R. J. M. Hobbs is affirmed to his third term as a member of the County Board of Commissioners by Clerk of Court Edwin M. Lynch. The ceremony took place at Tuesday evening's meeting of the Board in Chapel Hill.

Commissioners Name Roy Cole Prosecutor, Replacing LeGrand

Re-Elect Hobbs As Chairman For New Term

The Board of County Commissioners re-elected its chairman, R. J. M. Hobbs, for another year at a special meeting held Tuesday night at the Town Hall in Chapel Hill.

The election of a chairman had been deferred at the regular organizational meeting of the board on December 3 because of Mr. Hobbs' absence as result of illness. He has been the board's chairman for the past two years.

Mr. Hobbs was inducted into office by Clerk of Court E. M. Lynch who administered the affirmation to the chairman who as a Quaker does not take the oath by swearing on a Bible as is the general custom.

Following the induction ceremony, the board discussed a petition filed by 15 percent of the freeholders in a proposed Recreation Tax District in the Chapel Hill area and set Thursday, January 3, 1957 at 7:30 p.m. in the courtroom of the Chapel Hill Town Hall as the time and place for a public hearing in connection with the holding of an election on the question of establishing the special recreation tax district.

The board also formally approved a resolution from the commissioners of the Greater Chapel Hill Fire Protection District which reduced the district through formal removal of certain suburban areas which have been annexed to the Town of Chapel Hill.

After discussion, the board approved proposed action by Chairman Alex McMahon of the Fire District Commission and a member of the staff of the Institute of Government to draw up a local act to be presented to the General Assembly which would permit expansion of the fire district by petition simply of a majority of voters in an area and approval of the three bodies which share governing authority over the district.

Earlier discussion had centered around a more cumbersome method of expanding a fire district, which McMahon proposed to ask the commissioners to approve for presentation as a statewide measure, which provided a second method of expansion through the use of election machinery following a petition of 15% of the freeholders.

Vernon G. Burch, newly elected constable of Chapel Hill township, received the oath of office during the meeting of the board following approval of his bond by the commissioners.



ROY COLE
... new solicitor



L. J. PHIPPS
... reelected again

Secret Ballot Vote Of 3-2 For New Man

In a surprising 3 to 2 vote on secret ballots, the Board of Commissioners Tuesday night named a new solicitor of the Orange County Records Court to succeed Attorney John Q. LeGrand of Chapel Hill, who had also applied for reappointment.

The new solicitor is Roy M. Cole, young Chapel Hill attorney, who was one of four other aspirants to the post held by LeGrand for the past four or five years.

Judge L. J. Phipps, the only judge the court has had since its establishment in the '30's, was reappointed to the bench for another two year term. The firm of Graham & Ranson was named for another term as county attorneys.

In a brief discussion prior to the vote on the solicitor, Chairman R. J. M. Hobbs read letters from LeGrand, Charles B. Hobson of Chapel Hill and F. Lloyd Neoll of Hillsboro and reference was made to letters of application read at last week's meeting from Attorneys Harold Edwards and Roy Cole.

Chairman Hobbs then recalled the board's recent experiences with the Court, noting particularly the amount of money which defendants owed two years ago, the efforts of the Board to crack down on this "credit court" operation, and the present improved condition of court records with regard to credit. He praised highly LeGrand's record of cooperation in this effort.

Commissioner Dwight Ray commented that he had discussed the solicitorship with a number of people with some favoring a change and others not. Some, he said, had expressed an interest in seeing the job being awarded to one of the younger attorneys. Commissioner Henry S. Walker then suggested a vote by ballot and the counting revealed three for Cole and two for LeGrand.

The commissioners declined to discuss their votes but it was known that opposition to LeGrand has been building up in the Hillsboro and northern Orange side of the county for some time. The action of the Commissioners, however, was surprising to most observers who had expected him to be retained.

Collections Of Taxes Lag, Jury Learns

Orange County tax collections upon the 1956 levy are lagging somewhat in comparison with previous years, according to the report of the Grand Jury to Judge Raymond Mallard this week.

The Grand Jury said reports of the Tax Office indicated \$299,316.01 of the \$642,535.67 county levy for 1956 had been collected by December 1. This amounts, it figured, to 46.53 per cent of the total levy. In comparison it noted that 47.21 per cent of the total 1955 levy and 47.91 per cent of the 1954 levy had been collected by December 1.

The Grand Jury inspected and found all detention facilities being used in the county in good shape, but noted there are no facilities for cooking at the Chapel Hill jail and the Carrboro jail is not in use for the confinement of prisoners.

Excerpts from the report read as follows:

JAILS IN CHAPEL HILL AND CARRBORO

"A committee of the Grand Jury visited the jails in Chapel Hill and Carrboro. They found the jail in Chapel Hill to be in excellent condition as to cleanliness. There are no facilities for cooking but otherwise the facilities are adequate and in good condition.

"The jail in Carrboro is not being used for the confinement of prisoners." (See COLLECTIONS, Page 2)

Ministers Ask Corrective Measures

Lottery, Gambling Violations Under School Auspices Cited

The North Orange Ministerial Association this week called the County Board of Education's attention to "certain questionable activities involving games of chance existing within the program and under the auspices of the public school system" and asked for corrective measures "to conform to the laws of the State and to protect the moral welfare of our communities."

The board was presented a resolution passed unanimously by the ministers at their meeting on December 3 along with a resume of pertinent North Carolina General Statutes pertaining to lotteries and gambling.

The Rev. C. H. Reckard, president of the association, who said he was present to answer any questions in connection with the request, explained the matter referred to some of the fund raising activities, in connection with the schools, bingo games, Halloween carnivals and students selling tickets to a turkey

lottery. Board Member Clarence Jones said the matter had previously been discussed at a local PTA meeting and moved that the ministers' resolution be received "as information" and copies be sent to district and local advisory committees for their consideration since the are the groups responsible at each school.

The resolution of the Ministerial Association presented over the signature of the Rev. L. W. Pettit, secretary was as follows:

"At a meeting of the North Orange Ministerial Association, held on 3-December, 1956, certain questionable activities involving games of chance existing within the public school system were discussed."

"WHEREAS THE UNDERSIGNED BELIEVE THAT SAID ACTIVITIES are not in conformity with certain laws of the State of North Carolina and, in the opinion of the Association, are detrimental to the moral welfare of our communities."

"The foregoing was duly passed in open meeting and approved unanimously."

moral welfare of the communities served by the ministers of the Association.

"BE IT THEREFORE MOVED THAT THE NORTH ORANGE MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION call to the attention of the Board of Education of Orange County that this Association is concerned with the existence of said activities within the public school system."

"BE IT ALSO MOVED THAT THIS ASSOCIATION is further concerned with the use of the public school facilities by groups not associated with the public school system for the purpose of sponsoring and participating in similar above-mentioned activities."

"BE IT FURTHER MOVED THAT THE NORTH ORANGE MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION request the Board of Education of Orange County to study this situation and make such corrective measures as it may deem fitting and necessary to conform to the laws of the State of North Carolina and to protect the moral welfare of our communities."

"The foregoing was duly passed in open meeting and approved unanimously."

Presbyterian Carol Service This Sunday

The traditional Candlelight Carol Service, given annually by the choir of the Hillsboro Presbyterian Church, will be presented December 16 at 5:00 o'clock.

The service is a narrative in song of the Nativity and includes works by prominent composers and masters in the field of religious music. The choir, under the direction of Mrs. C. D. Jones and accompanied by Marjorie Still at the organ, will present numbers variously featuring the full choir and soloists. A candlelighting ritual in which the congregation will participate further enhances the beauty and solemnity of the occasion.

The Hillsboro Presbyterian Church has extended a cordial invitation to the public to attend the service.

Members of the choir are: Mrs. F. S. Cates, Mrs. Scott Cates, Mrs. Oliver Clayton, Mrs. R. D. Copeland, Mrs. J. W. Dickson, Mrs. James Gies, Mrs. Ben Johnston, Knox Jones, Mrs. J. L. Miller, Mrs. T. P. Smith, D. H. Baird, S. Green, Earl Howell, C. D. Jones and J. L. Miller.

The reader for the service will be E. P. Barnes.

Central Building Plans Get Tentative Approval

The Board of Education on Monday approved tentative plans drawn by Architect Archie R. Davis for a 14-classroom elementary school building and a gymnasium in the gymnasium section contains a locker room and dressing rooms for home and visiting teams, storage rooms, a lobby and an office for the coach.

The board approved a quitclaim deed conveying to Mrs. Nellie Check Davis a tract on which stood the old Gravelly Hill School which had been owned by earlier members of her family.

Other changes approved were the addition of toilets for the public in the gym and moving toilets from one end of the building to the other in the elementary building.

The gymnasium in addition to the locker room and dressing rooms for home and visiting teams, storage rooms, a lobby and an office for the coach.

The board increased the original size of the gymnasium to 80 x 90 feet for a total of 11,876 square feet to increase the seating capacity to about 800 persons.

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Break-ins Net Pair Long Prison Terms

Two men who blazed a wide path of crime through northern Orange with 11 break-ins in late October struck a firm roadblock in Judge Raymond B. Mallard in Superior Court this week.

Jerry McPherson, 21, of Mebane and Thomas Irby, 29, of West Hillsboro were given a total of eight to 12 years each in prison here Tuesday for the robberies at Brown's service station, Forrest & Forrest's postoffice and Bill Dorsett's store, all in the Effland area. William Bryson City; Archie K. Winston-Salem; Harry Caldwell-Greensboro; Malcolm Seawell,

Hamlin's Service station and the Caldwell School at Caldwell.

Judge Mallard told the pair that under the law he could give them a total of 128 years each, for the crimes they had committed and asked each, "Why do you steal?"

To which each answered, "I don't know."

Irby said he had quit school in the fourth grade, that his father and mother had been separated. McPherson said he had quit in the eighth grade. Both are serving terms for automobile thefts in Alabama.

(See COURT, Page 2)

Suitt Gets Award As 'Top Conservationist'

W. I. Suitt, Orange Grove, was awarded a Certificate of Merit for outstanding accomplishment in soil conservation at a special meeting of the Supervisors of the Seuse River Soil Conservation District meeting in Raleigh, last Thursday.

Mr. Suitt was judged to have applied on his farm the best and most complete soil and water conservation system in the local five-county district placing first in North Carolina in the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company's 1956 District contest.

P. B. Bair, and Hoyt Ivey, District Representatives of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, made the award.

Henry S. Hogan, Orange County, James J. Ellis, Wilson, Hunter Woodall, Johnston, Marsh Knott, Wake, and C. M. Ladd, Durham, also received awards for their work as Chairmen of their various counties in leading the Seuse River Soil Conservation District to first place in the annual District Contest.

In Henry Hogan's absence, Reid accepted the award for the Orange County Chairman.

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(Photo by U. S. Soil Conservation Service) "CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARDED W. I. SUITT FOR OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENT IN SOIL CONSERVATION"—presented by P. B. Reid, District Representative of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company.

Left to Right: E. B. Garrett, State Conservationist of North Carolina; P. B. Reid of Charlotte; W. I. Suitt, Orange Grove farmer.