

To decide next month . . .

Elections Board considering splitting, merging precincts

Splitting and consolidation of several Orange County voting precincts is being considered by the County Board of Elections.

Board Secretary Clyde Carter said yesterday that the three-member body would probably meet and act on this matter during the first week of February. In each case a

completely new registration of all voters would be required. The Board itself has final authority in the matter of setting precinct boundary lines and ordering new registrations.

In the case of the pending re-buffling of boundaries, the new registration would be held before the Democratic primary election in May.

The Board is probably going to split up the Carrboro, Chapel Hill Three and Chapel Hill Five Precincts, Mr. Carter said, and consolidate the Cole Store and Patterson and the Cedar Grove

and Tolar's Precincts

This would give Orange a total of 22 local voting areas, as compared to the present 21. The elections body is also considering the spitting at a later date of the other three Chapel Hill precincts—One, Two, and Four.

In each case mentioned here the objective is to bring the voting districts as near as possible to a registration of 500 to 800 persons, so that all can vote on a given election day without congestion, according to the election official.

Political leaders okay voting area changers

Political party leaders of the County generally support the precinct divisions and mergers envisioned by the County Board of Elections.

The political effect of the changes will be considerable, since representation on the County Executive Committees of both the Republican and Democratic Parties is based on one member per precinct, the present membership being composed of the precinct chairmen.

Just as representation in the state legislature is proportionately greater from the less populous eastern counties, so do the rural precincts of Orange have greater representation in comparison to voter totals on the county committees of both parties.

As the new set-up now stands there are five Chapel Hill committee members for the five Chapel Hill precincts—though their five precincts cast a majority of the county's ballots in almost all elections. With the proposed changes—splitting three Chapel Hill precincts and merging two rural ones—Chapel Hill

(including the two Carrboro precincts) would have nine committee members and the rural areas, 12.

Democratic Committee Chairman L. J. Phipps said he hadn't studied in detail the Elections Board's proposals, but understood that the proposed divisions were substantially the same as he recommended last fall. As to the mergers he said he could see "no reason at all why this shouldn't be done because of our modern transportation system" and the decreasing electorate in these areas.

The Republicans' County Chairman, Col. H. L. Robb, agreed that he, too, thought the precinct changes were "pretty good," noting that the Republican member of the Elections Board, Prof. C. David Jenkins of Chapel Hill, had concurred in proposing most of them with Mr. Carter.

"It doesn't seem to me there are any particular partisan implications in the changes," said Col. Robb. "Some of the precincts are pretty dinky and some are getting mighty big."

Kiwanians hear county officials

Orange County officials and department heads presented a resume of the county government over the past eight years to Chapel Hill Kiwanians Tuesday evening at the Carolina Inn.

Donald M. Stanford, Chairman of Orange County Board of Commissioners introduced the various department heads, each of whom spoke of the growing services provided by their department, with resulting higher operating

costs.

Those taking part on the program were: C. D. (Buck) Knight, Sheriff; Miss Betty June Hayes, Register of Deeds; Edwin Lynch, Clerk of Superior Court; Jim Wite, Welfare Superintendent; and Sam Gattis, County Accountant.

Miss Hayes provided an interesting aspect of her work when she illustrated how much the register of deeds could come to know about a resident of Orange simply through the various legal documents recorded by her department.

Sam Gattis, County Accountant, presented charts which graphically portrayed the ever-increasing amount of the tax dollar which is being spent for the support of the schools.

Robert N. Simms, Jr. of Raleigh Fifth District Lieutenant-Governor, was a special guest of the Club.

"We're very much interested in the reaction of the people to these plans," said Mr. Carter. "Of course we can't please everybody, but we're going to listen to the people first and then decide."

Here are the changes proposed:

(1) Split Carrboro Precinct (the county's biggest—1,800 registrants) using N. C. Highway 54 as the dividing line; Carrboro School as polling place for voters on the north side and Carrboro Town Hall for the south side.

(2) Split Chapel Hill Precinct Three—polling place now at Woollen Gym, registration 1,564—using N. C. Highway 54 (Raleigh Road) as dividing line, with Woollen Gym as the south-side polling place, and Graham Memorial, polling place for the north side.

(3) Split Chapel Hill Precinct Five, 1,333 registrants, now at Glenwood School, again using Raleigh Road as dividing line, and Church of the Holy Family Education Building for the south-side polling place and Glenwood School for the north-side.

(4) Consolidate Cole Store (264) and Patterson (333) Precincts with the new combined precinct polling place at Blackwood Station (Tapp's Store) on N. C. Highway 86.

(5) Consolidate Cedar Grove (335) and Tolar's (282) Precincts with the new polling place at Aycock School

Both consolidations proposed are of necessity within single townships, since election of township constables is still permitted under state law, and boundary lines providing for this would have to be observed.

At a later date the Elections Board proposes the division of the other three Chapel Hill precincts as follows:

Number One (1,165 registration)—Split north and south with Bolin Creek the center boundary and polling places in the Umstead Park area, recreation building for the north and the Town Hall for the south.

Number Two (1,100 registration)—Split north and south with Bolin Creek the dividing line and Estes Hills School the north-side polling place and a site to be selected yet for the south-side.

Number Four (1,211 registration)—Split north and south with the southwest bypass highway from the Pittsboro Highway to Smith Level Road as the dividing line and a north precinct polling place at Chapel Hill High School and the southern headquarters at a site to be selected.

Dogs ordered destroyed by court

Disposal of four dogs that allegedly bit several Chapel Hill persons was ordered by the Chapel Hill Recorder's Court Tuesday.

Miss Dorothy Garibaldi of 308 McCauley St. pleaded not guilty to the charge of allowing vicious dogs to run at large. She was found guilty and prayer for judgment was continued on condition the four mongrel canines—mother and three puppies—be destroyed.

The names of a half-dozen wit-

Year's report reveals drop in parking take

Parking meter revenue and parking violations decreased slightly during 1961, according to the annual report of the Chapel Hill Police Department.

The figures released by Chief William D. Blake showed \$34,286 paid into the Traffic Bureau in one-dollar civil parking fines and \$26,240 in parking meter revenue. The total of \$60,526 is about \$2,000 below the previous year. Opening of a new off-street parking lot at the Belk-Leggett-Horton store downtown and elimination of some curb-side parking places accounted for the decrease, the Chief said.

His report also showed that the 25-member police force logged up 221,534 miles in patrol

duty—an 11,000-mile increase over the previous year, brought about by annexation of new territory to the town.

Other figures and comparisons in the report showed: \$22,324 in stolen property recovered as compared to \$13,892 in 1960; 209 accidents as compared to 193 in 1960; one traffic fatality alongside none in 1960; 48 personal injuries, 35 in 1960; and \$67,257 in property damage—a \$2,400 increase over 1960.

In addition the Department made 1,613 arrests, 3,408 investigations, and gave out 32,367 parking tickets. The latter did not include several thousand tickets handed out by University campus police.

Jurors drawn for court

The names of 60 persons have been drawn for jury duty in the one week civil term of Orange County Superior Court that will open in Hillsboro next Monday.

By townships the potential jurors are:

Chapel Hill—Walter L. Smith, Shelton Merritt, Mrs. Charles E. Rush, W. J. Smith, James M. Heldman, Arthur E. Voss, Mrs. W. T. Sloan, George S. Welsh, C. L. Whitley, Benjamin C. Hedgpeh, George M. Harper, Raymond Riggsbee, S. J.

Sparrow, Henry G. Hartzog, III, Alexander Edwards, John A. Harrison, Alice T. Paine, Edward J. Owens, Priscilla M. Van Note, Robert G. Brame, D. L. Tripp, Gracie Rogers.

James H. Ingram, C. F. Bane, John S. Freeland Jr., William Miles, Bruce H. Riggsbee, Mary L. B. Wheeler, E. G. Merritt, Henry Jones, H. B. Williams, Mrs. Lillian Sweet, A. T. Melton, H. Sheldon White, C. Ritchie Bell, Peter Poulos, Patrick H. Burns Jr., James O. Durham, and W. S. Kutz.

Cheeks—W. Warren Hawkins, Joseph W. Holeman, John F. Daniel, Ada L. Hooper.

Hillsboro—Robert I. Miller, William M. Mitchell, Fred Lee Durham, G. P. Sykes, John F. Terry, Scott Stone, Jasper Medlin, Clarence Mayo, Leonard H. Wagner, John L. Webb, W. Manley Snipes, J. J. Gates, Thomas Medlin.

Cedar Grove—John M. Terrell. Enc.—O. H. Cook, Jeanette Goebel.

\$1,000 bond allowed Hillsboro area man who admits break-ins

William Tate, 25, of Route Two, Hillsboro, was released from the county jail on \$1,000 bond Tuesday pending trial for three recent break-ins at business places across Orange County.

Sheriff C. D. Knight said the Negro man confessed last Saturday night to breaking and entering at Fitch Lumber Co. in Carrboro on Jan. 5 and attempting a safe robbery there.

Tate also reportedly confessed a similar entry last Friday night at Mebane Lumber Co. He was spotted there by Mebane police cruising in the area but eluded them. However, the police got a description of the truck Tate was allegedly using.

Deputies Robert McCulloch and C. W. Riley, on a routine assignment of serving warrants spotted the truck Saturday night and brought Tate to Hillsboro for questioning. Tate later confessed the series, Knight said.

Knight said Tate admitted a break-in attempt Thursday night at Ray Motor Co. here but said he was scared off.

Knight said Tate claimed he had no accomplices.

Hinges were cut off the safe at the Fitch Lumber Co, but entry was not gained, although some six dollars was taken from a cash register.

\$63,800 in federal aid is granted hospital

The U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare on Tuesday notified Sixth District Rep. Horace Kornegay of approval of a grant to Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill under the Hill-Burton aid program.

The government is to pay \$63,800, he said, out of \$116,000 for a 1000-bed additional unit at the Hospital.

52 cases calendared for civil court term

A calendar of 52 cases is scheduled for the one-week civil term of Orange County Superior Court which will open in Hillsboro next Monday morning.

Judge William Y. Bickett of Raleigh will preside over the court. There are nine motions to be heard at the top of the calendar, six divorces, and 37 regular civil cases.

THE NEWS OF ORANGE COUNTY
Vol. 70, No. 3 Jan. 18, 1962
Published Every Thursday In The Year By The News, Inc.
Subscription Rates (Payable In Advance): In NC, \$2.50, plus 3% Sales Tax; Outside NC, \$3.
Entered As Second Class Matter In The Postoffices at Hillsboro And Chapel Hill, N. C.