



THE DUBLIN SENTINEL

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10¢ PLUS TAX

Repaying The State School Bond Issue

A key question concerning the repayment of \$300,000,000 worth of school building bonds is now being asked by many N. Carolinians as they decide how they will vote on this issue Nov. 6.

The question of need for this amount of state money, to assist local units in meeting their critical requirements, were answered last year when a survey of instructional needs was clearly documented by each of the 151 school systems.

As State School Superintendent Craig Phillips said, "The school building needs reported by responsible school officials in each county and city administrative unit speak for themselves. If the 1,200,000 pupils and 56,000 teachers and principals in the public schools of N.C. are to be housed in healthy, safe, modern and efficient buildings, a major construction program with State aid must be undertaken now."

Very few, if any, are questioning the critical and urgent needs of the schools. But a key concern now is, "Can N.C. afford to borrow this amount of money now?"

This question was answered by State Treasurer Edwin Gill when he appeared before a joint legislative committee of the General Assembly last spring and said - yes.

"We can authorize the \$300,000,000 without any difficulty if it is understood that the entire authorization would not be issued at one time. I am suggesting that if these bonds should be issued over a period of three to five years, the impact on the credit of the State would be reduced. As these bonds are issued, our highway bonds are being systematically retired. The result is that our total indebtedness is kept within manageable proportions."

The repayment of state debt works the same way it does with a family debt. For example, a family now has budgeted \$50 a month to pay for a needed refrigerator. The family knows this must be paid and sets aside \$50 every month to retire this debt. Next year the debt on the refrigerator is repaid, so the family decides to use this budgeted \$50 to purchase a needed stove. The stove can be paid for at no additional expense or strain on the family budget.

The key questions in any proposal to borrow money are: do we really need it and can we afford it? The answer to both questions by key state officials and the State Treasurer is a convincing yes.

National Guard Reorganization

RALEIGH—The N.C. Army National Guard will undergo a major reorganization in the very near future. This statement was made by John J. Tolson, III, secretary, Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs.

A proposal to reorganize the N.C. Guard was presented to State National Guard and Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs officials on Oct. 3, 1973. The proposal has been studied and several adjustments made and coordinated with the National Guard Bureau.

Reorganization will actually give N.C. a larger force structure as the number of Army units will increase by five and the overall strength will increase by 156 personnel spaces.

All full-time National Guard technicians will be retained under the reorganization plan. Also, troop retaining will be kept to a minimum as most communities will keep the same type unit currently assigned. Each town that has a National Guard unit will keep one under the reorganization.

Towns of Duplin County which now have a National Guard Unit

will still have a Unit in their town. Unit designations of the towns are: Beaufortville NC - Detachment 2 Co. A 1st Battalion Mechanized 120th Inf., Warsaw NC - Detachment 1 Support Co. 1st Battalion Mechanized 120th Inf., Warsaw NC - Detachment 1 Co. C 1st Battalion Mechanized 120th Infantry.

Endorses

School Bond

The Public School Teachers of Duplin County have gone on record as being heartily in favor of the School Bond Issue to be voted on by the people on Nov. 6.

Classroom teachers feel they have a firsthand knowledge of the needs of the Schools and they see the School Bond Issue as the brightest hope that has appeared on the scene in many years for N.C. Schools.

The Duplin County unit of A.C.T., or Association of Classroom Teachers, encourages its many friends and patrons to support the School Bond Issue with a YES vote at the polls on Nov. 6.



CONSTRUCTION OF DUBLIN COUNTY AIRPORT. AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION STARTED MONDAY—Site preparation for the Duplin County Airport was started on Monday with the clearing of trees for the eventual grading and paving. Funds of \$333,187 was awarded to Duplin County from the Federal Aviation Administration with a grant of \$50,818 from the State. Local funds also will be used to

assist in the construction. The new airport will be located on County Road 1301 near Duplin Country Club and the completion date is for July 1, 1974. The airport will be located on 181 acres of land with easement of 700 feet wide and 8700 feet long. The paved runway will be 75 feet wide and 730 feet long.

Mrs. Best To Be In The World Who's Who Of Women

By Ruth Grady

Miss Gornalls Best, teacher of Social Studies in Faison Jr. High School, is to be included in the Second Edition of THE WORLD WHO'S WHO OF WOMEN. Names are published in this book after a careful scrutiny of many thousands of recommendations. Pictures and detailed biographies of each successful candidate are included in the book.

Miss Best had had a long and successful career of teaching in Duplin County. For the past four years, she has been teacher of Social Studies in the Faison Jr. High School. Other schools in her thirty-seven years of teaching were the Sandy Crossway School, Clysno Elementary, Duplin County Training School and E.E. Smith School. Her longest term of teaching was at E.E. Smith where she was Basketball Coach and Choir Director and a most popular teacher with the students.

After graduating from Douglass High School in Warsaw, Miss Best entered Elizabeth City State University from which she graduated in 1944 with honors. In the year 1955, she did Graduate work at Penn State University, University Park,

Penns. and received her M.A. in Education.

Miss Best has spent much time with professional organizations. She has been secretary of County P.T.A., Coastal Plain District Classroom Teacher, General Alumni Association of Elizabeth City State University, Vice-president and secretary of Duplin County Teacher Association, Director of Duplin County Federal Credit Union and secretary-treasurer and president of the Duplin County Alumni of Elizabeth City State University.

However, much of her most outstanding work has been in the First Baptist Missionary Church on West Hill Street in Warsaw. She has served as teacher, music director, worked with the young people's organizations, and has been recognized as a Community Leader of America. She has also worked with both boy and girl scouts.

Miss Best has previously been listed in Who's Who in American Education, and Who's Who in Women of America. This

will be the third honor of this type which she has received.

In 1972, Miss Best was selected as Teacher of the Year for Duplin County. At this time she said, "My philosophy of teaching is to teach each boy and girl the basic principles of life in order to aid him in reaching the highest possible goals of society."

"To put away personal feeling and respect others for achievement; be willing to exchange ideas. Do not allow fear to impede progress, but continue to provide leadership and develop closer communication with all concerned.

"Knowing that success and satisfaction often depend upon certain fundamentals, my philosophy of education is the passing of my learning-values, skills and attitudes to this new generation. Upon these fundamentals rest the rich heritage of human life."

From comments of former principals who have worked with this dedicated teacher, Miss Best has lived up to her philosophy.

Senator Hardison To Speak In Kenansville

Keynote Speaker at the Annual Meeting of the Duplin Co. Farm Bureau will be our own State Senator, Harold Hardison of Deep Run. Sen. Hardison has worked vigorously in the N.C. State Legislature for all programs that would be of benefit to the total farm program.

The date set for the Farm Bureau Annual meeting is November 8, 1973, at 7:30 p.m. in the Kenansville Elementary School Auditorium in Kenansville. The general public is invited out to hear this vibrant speaker and to express your own views to him.

All Farm Bureau members are especially urged to be present as this is the most important meeting for farmers all year long.

Sample Ballots

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Sen. Hardison

Of special interest will be the various reports of the past year's progress as well as consideration of Resolutions and Recommendations to be forwarded to the State Convention of the Farm Bureau. Favors will be distributed and you're sure to miss something exciting if you stay home!

Report On The Status Of Health Services In Duplin

CONT. FROM LAST WEEK

The following sub-sections consist of specific observations about particular agencies and programs. They are arranged alphabetically. The length of any particular section is indicative only of what the writers thought they had to say and does not indicate any judgment of the importance of magnitude of the problems for any program.

DENTAL HEALTH
Only a small segment of the county population is receiving regular dental care. Even emergency treatment is not readily available. The dentists in the county do not generally take patients who cannot personally pay.

Bad dental health can cause bad general health and can cause poor pupil performance in the schools. Some provision needs to be made to provide minimum crisis dental care at least for children. This might be done by hiring a part-time public health dentist or by securing a "moonlighting" military dentist a few hours a week.

We have suggested also the installation of dental surgery equipment at the hospital and the exploration of the possibility of a full-time dentist at the hospital. Details on how this can be done can be made available if the decision to try it is made. While little of this report need be spent on the subject of dental health, let us be reminded that diseases of the gums and teeth affect roughly 100% of the population at some time in life. Neglect of these disorders can and often does result in serious complications involving not only the gums and teeth but also other organs of the body.

EDUCATION AGENCIES

It is clear that the health-related school programs which exist are not well coordinated with other county agencies. There is no evidence of a positive health education program in the public schools. Although each school district in the state has one person designated as Health Coordinator, in Duplin County this is an additional duty and does not seem to have resulted in any school health programs. A full-time health coordinator in the schools would benefit the students significantly and, likely, such a person could serve in some inter-agency coordinating role as well.

The Head Start program operated by the community action agency seems to have no relationship with the county school programs. This program is an example of one whereby some originally OEO programs can be incorporated into the appropriate county agency. There are other areas in which this could and should be done.

The JSI is a valuable resource that has already contributed much to the county. It is likely that a better relationship between the nurse education program and the hospital could benefit both. Further, the institute should be encouraged to provide programs for training county employees, board members and officials. This is an economical source of services to upgrade the performance of all county agencies.

HOSPITAL

The hospital, as a facility, can only be classed as excellent. It is clear that no expense has been spared to provide the best facilities and equipment. The housekeeping is practically perfect. Both the nursing supervisors and general administrative staff appear to be conscientious and sincerely interested in doing a good job. The staff size is more than adequate.

Only a small segment of the county population is receiving regular dental care. Even emergency treatment is not readily available. The dentists in the county do not generally take patients who cannot personally pay.

The administration of the hospital needs to be in charge of a positive, aggressive program of providing services to the people of Duplin County. These services need to be SOLD to the people directly and to other agencies. A definite step-by-step positive program should be drawn up by the trustees and approved by the county commissioners with regular review to determine its effectiveness. Illustrations of things which can be done follow:

1. Installation of an EXTENDED CARE FACILITY on the unused floor of the new wing. This would be profitable to the hospital, would keep some monies in the county which are now going out and would improve the hospital's relations with the community. This is a simple administrative step which could be operational in 30 to 60 days. It is felt that this unit can be returned to general hospital use on short notice if it is required, but in the meanwhile would significantly improve hospital earnings.

2. A six bed or more PHYSIATRIC AND DETOXIFICATION UNIT could be installed in the hospital. This would provide needed services and provide more funds. The mental health unit could contract for guaranteed beds to insure the economic feasibility of the project. A careful look at the project should assure the administration, and nursing staff, that this is not as difficult to operate as they seem to believe. A presentation of the facts and the training required by Dr. Raman should clarify the picture.

3. The HOSPITAL LABORATORY and other possible saleable services should be publicized and promoted to others. Perhaps the lab could do work for non-staff physicians and/or industrial plant medical departments. Also, much lab work may be able to be done in the hospital for the health dept.

There is some talk of the hospital's buying a multi-channel chemical analyzer. In the opinion of the study group, this is not economically justified. As any rate, it should not be done without careful study of the costs and benefits. The lab appears overequipped at the present. The laboratory SHOULD be a significant money maker for the hospital.

A somewhat related matter is the installation of radioisotopes or nuclear medicine in the hospital. It is extremely unlikely that this service could ever be justified in a general hospital of this size. Equipment and staff support are costly and not likely to yield much benefit. An explanation of how the decision was made to install this service could give some insight into how NOT to manage in the future.

4. The EMERGENCY ROOM is costing money rather than making money. Additional publicity with the public, with rescue squads, etc. could probably increase the week-end utilization of the facility. This facility is discussed again under the heading of nurse practitioners and physician's assistants.

5. A review of STAFFING the hospital appears to be called

for. It is generally felt that the staff is too large. However, this is difficult to judge in the time available to the study group; so, we only suggest that the trustees call for a careful study and justification of the situation.

There may be cases where over-staffing is justified. For example, it was suggested that there was more operation room staff than needed for two surgeons. However, in view of the tremendous service both in their practice and in extra duties performed by the two surgeons, it could well be justified to give them extra staffing as a courtesy in this case just because they want it. Both these men are doing much in the hospital. The trustees should know, however, why the staff is larger than would appear reasonable for this size facility and its workload.

6. TIGHTER FISCAL MANAGEMENT is definitely called for in the hospital. Purchase of unneeded equipment and overstaffing without justification are indicators of the need to review all expenditures on the basis of a formal examination of the benefits to be received and how they relate to the goal of the organization.

7. The GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS at the hospital needs improvement. Policies with regard to wages are not made clear to employees. Regular staff meetings are not held. There is inadequate clarification of duties for nurses and the authority relationships with regard to doctors-nurses/administration need formalizing. It appears that the utilization review committee does not have a nonstaff physician member as it should. In-service training seems to have low status and is assigned as additional duty rather than as a primary responsibility. The administration is not "incharge" at the hospital neither are the trustees. The hospital group does not see itself as an integral part of the total health care system of the county and thus does not initiate cooperative relationships with other agencies.

8. Considerable emphasis needs to be placed on PUBLIC RELATIONS at the hospital and elsewhere in the county health system. The hospital does not seem to have a good reputation as a nice place to be. Recently instituted techniques of getting judgments against persons for relatively small, likely-uncollectible accounts will likely do more damage than good no matter how justifiable their action may seem, fiscally.

A successful medical facility should be good in a human sense as well as a medical sense if it is to be patronized. It is a serious shortcoming of the Duplin County General Hospital that many people in the county don't like the place.

9. Addition of DENTAL SERVICES at the hospital can probably be accomplished to the benefit of the hospital and the county populace. The following steps could be taken: a) provide facilities for dental surgery at a cost of less than \$500 and encourage local dentists to do multiple extractions and other procedures in the hospital. This helps persons get third party reimbursements for these procedures, will increase the use of the hospital, and set the stage for further activities at the hospital. b) explore ways in which a dentist could be encouraged to practice with an office in the hospital. Details on how this has been done elsewhere are available. c) explore the possibility of a full or

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LET'S BUY ANTIQUE CAR SHOW - A special attraction for this year's Warsaw Veterans Day celebration will be an Antique Car Show sponsored by the Warsaw-Kenansville Senior Club. Cars like the one shown will be on display.

car club in Eastern N.C. Pictured L to R: Lloyd Parker, Chairman for Antique Car Show; Carl Lusk, Clifton Antique Car Club member who is assisting in bringing the event to Warsaw.