



OUR PARK NEEDS: III Park Board's Big Surplus Vanishes



(News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin—Franklin Park Surplus Will Build Scenic Park Behind Mint)

By CHARLES KURALT
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(Third In A Series)

West side residents, turned down again yesterday in their quest for a park, might be asking themselves a question today:

"What happened to the Park Board surplus?"

"They were told when they went before the City Council the same thing they were told when they went before the Park & Recreation Commission—all the money is allocated or spent.

But hardly a year ago, the newspapers were filled with page one stories about a \$243,000 surplus the Park & Recreation Commission didn't know it had. Isn't there enough left to buy an \$18,000 park site?"

The answer—like the answer to so many questions in present day Charlotte—is to be found in the phenomenal fact of the city's growth. A quarter of a million dollars doesn't last long when there are a quarter of a million people needing it.

Dotted all over the city map are park projects calling for attention.

Short And Long

The simple fact is the Park Board is once again short on money and long on need.

It seems unreasonable to ask west side citizens to buy their own park land—even when the park board follows up dutifully and promises to develop the land once it's bought.

But this is a policy born of necessity. Only twice in recent years has the park board offered to buy any land. It bought the Veterans Park site and it's going to buy property at Bryant Park which it suddenly discovered a couple of years ago it didn't own.

Donations Help

Otherwise, it depends upon donations—and if it didn't, Park Sup. Marion Diehl insists, there would be plenty of sites owned by the city, but no parks because there would be no money to develop them.

This won't do much for the ruffled tempers of the west siders, but here's where the surplus work is going:

- \$14,000—Park & Recreation warehouse for storing playground equipment, vehicles and machinery.
- \$2,000—Pickup truck for hauling purposes.
- \$7,000—New arts and crafts workshop across Cecil St. from Park Center.
- \$10,000—Edgemoor Park. Installation of basketball court and all-purpose area at Queens Rd. and Edgemoor Rd. This project is nearly completed.
- \$5,000—Sedgefield Park. Basketball and tennis courts were installed here.
- \$8,000—Double Oaks Park. A new park has been developed near the Double Oaks community center.
- \$12,000—Biddleville Park. This money has been allocated for a major project in the crowded Biddleville Negro section. The park is under construction.
- \$12,000—Oakhurst Park. This is a new park under construction near Oakhurst School.

'Passive' Park

\$9,000,000—Eastover Park. The park, now on the planning boards, will be a "passive" or scenic park on the wide expanse of land behind the Mint Mu-

Hit-Run Tornadoes Slash Wash Through Southland

Jonas Says He Opposes P. O. Cuts

By JULIAN SCHEER
Charlotte News Staff Writer
Tenth District Rep. Charles Raper Jonas told The News today he will oppose, both in committee and on the floor of Congress, any attempt to curtail current mail deliveries and the closing of post offices on Saturday.

He also said he would be in favor of granting the Post Office Dept.'s requests for supplemental funds — if a full investigation reveals the money can not be cut from other parts of the service — to assure continuation of the services.

Rep. Jonas commented by telephone from Washington on statements by Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield that cuts in service were contemplated, effective Saturday, if extra funds were not granted until the end of the fiscal year on July 1.

Service Affected

Summerfield told a House appropriations subcommittee the following services would be affected: Discontinuance of city carrier delivery of all classes of mail on Saturdays; closing of post offices on Saturday and discontinuance of all deliveries of all classes of mail; discontinuance of money orders; reduction of deliveries to business districts to one per day; embargo the acceptance of this class mail except merchandise; suspension of employee leaves until Saturday; suspension of the purchase of uniforms until after July 1; and stopping of purchases of clothes, covers, lights, weight vehicles and other equipment and supply items.

Rep. Jonas is not a member of the subcommittee which heard Summerfield, but is a member of the full House Appropriations Committee.

See JONAS on page 2A.

Sub Workers Face Layoffs

Approximately 55 substitute workers at the Charlotte Post Office may be thrown out of work if Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield makes drastic cuts in Postal service.

This seems to be the most serious step being taken over the Charlotte Post Office.

Charlotte Postmaster George E. Wilson Jr. is on vacation and said at the Post Office today he had received no information from Washington. But it was an open secret at the Post Office that substitute workers would be the ones to feel the economy pinch.

Post office workers are employed on a "substitute" basis and work varied schedules until they receive appointments and are assigned to regular hours.

Cost Money

Ralph Jordan, president of Local 545, National Association of Letter Carriers, said "it looks like this will cost us a lot of money."

Eugene Dzmilinski, president of the Post Office clerks, said "this will affect about a third of our force."

He said about a third of the clerks are substitutes who do not get paid until they are called to work.

"The law will not permit the Post Office to lay off a regular," he said. "It's the substitutes who will be cut."

Another Postal worker here defended Summerfield, saying, "He can't spend what he hasn't got. But said another: "He spent the money on equipment and expansions. We've got more equipment here now than we need."

If Mr. Summerfield puts his proposals into effect, the Charlotte Post Office will operate a "Sunday schedule" on Saturdays.

Building Open

This means that the building will be open for those who wish to mail letters or take mail from boxes. Stamp, parcel post and other services will be available. Officials also said that classified, or branch Post Office stations will in all probability remain closed most of the day, opening for an hour or so to permit persons to take mail from their boxes.



Freuchman Maurice Chavigny (Right) Is Held For Killing Of McReynolds

French War Hero Guns Down Retired General And Wife

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—A small but compact and much-decorated French war hero last night shot and killed a retired general and his wife in their luxurious home.

Detective Lt. Ralph H. Lee said two counts of murder would be filed against Maurice M. Chavigny, 44, of Paris, in the deaths of Brig. Gen. Wilbur R. McReynolds, 64, and his wife Faye, 61.

McReynolds, who developed the C and K rations used by armed forces during World War II, was shot five times and his wife twice in the living room of their home in an exclusive residential area.

FOLLOWED ARGUMENT

Lee said the shooting followed an argument with Chavigny, who had been a guest since Thanksgiving Day. Police arrested Chavigny in the McReynolds' car at-

Who Asked You To Sit Here, Jack?

COLUMBIA (AP)—Compulsory civility for male bus and train riders was proposed in the General Assembly today.

Rep. John Hart of Union introduced a bill to require a male passenger to obtain permission from a female passenger on any public conveyance before he could occupy a seat next to her.

Hart said his bill was aimed at preventing "violence that would certainly result" should the courts order integration on public carriers in South Carolina.

Under his bill, a Negro man could sit next to a white woman only if he had her permission.

However, should a woman object to any man sitting next to her, white or Negro, under Hart's proposal she could keep him standing.

The outspoken segregationist pointed out that his bill makes no reference to race.

"If the federal courts would rule such a law unconstitutional, the next step would be for them to require men and women to use the same rest rooms and eliminate segregation of all kinds," he said.

Penalties for violation of Hart's proposed new law would be up to \$100 fine and/or 30 days in jail.

Evening Prayer

As Thou dost bring forth joy, O Lord, into the hearts of Thy Son's sorrowing disciples, even so fulfill Thy promises unto us as with expectancy we look unto Thee. Through Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

—AVIATION MEDICINE EXPERIMENT—

Motion Sickness May Mar Space Flight

WASHINGTON (AP)—Riding in a space ship would prove exhilarating to a good many people, but others would find it uncomfortable, some even nauseating, a scientist indicated today.

Dr. Siegfried J. Geratshewol of the School of Aviation Medicine at Randolph Field, Tex., told the American Rocket Society (ARS) about experimental testing reaction to "weightlessness."

DOWN YOU GO

This phenomenon—similar at least to some degree to the effects of motion sickness—was duplicated for 10 to 40 seconds what you'd face in an elevator, or in a space ship with days, weeks and perhaps even years in the space ship no longer was influenced by the pull of the earth's gravity.

If you weren't belted down, or lashed onto other means of restraint, you'd feel a "weightlessness" perhaps by magnetized shoes—your float around inside the rocket ship's cabin. And so would your pills and anything else that wasn't pinned down.

47 TESTED

Dr. Geratshewol's prepared report told of experiments in which 47 persons were exposed to weightlessness under conditions duplicating for 10 to 40 seconds what you'd face in an elevator, or in a space ship with days, weeks and perhaps even years in the space ship no longer was influenced by the pull of the earth's gravity.

He said about half the sub-

Downpours Follow Damage In Dixie

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Angry tornadoes boiling out of the southwest swept across frightened Dixie last night and today as they ripped out a death-and-damage path toward the northeast.

At least one person was killed, scores were injured and dozens of buildings were wrecked in the shifting hit-and-run path.

Tennessee, Kentucky and Mississippi were hardest hit by storms which followed earlier tornadoes in Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. Drenching rains followed, disrupting highway travel in many areas.

Tornado Rips TB Sanatorium, Injuring 50

JACKSON, Miss. (AP)—A tornado struck the Mississippi State Sanatorium for Tuberculars early today, injuring 50 to 75 patients. Two other tornadoes ripped other parts of the state during the night, killing one person and injuring at least seven others.

The funnel cloud which hit the tuberculous institution at Sanatorium was said to have been seen by Dr. Henry Boswell, the superintendent. "All suffered cuts and abrasions."

ROADS COVERED

The Tennessee Highway Patrol said roads were covered by torrential rains, which halted traffic and disrupted communications.

Three children and an adult were injured last night by a tornado which ripped through a section of Nashville and suburban Belle Meade. Trees were uprooted, roofs blown off and windows smashed. A downpour flooded some residential streets.

Heavy winds and rain blew across Chattanooga and wrecked some power lines.

A tornado lashed wide areas of western Kentucky, in the Bowling Green area.

WOMAN KILLED

The other tornadoes occurred in a Negro community near Sylva, Tenn. in south Mississippi, where Mrs. Louise Jones, 65, was killed and three persons hurt; and near the Mississippi delta town of Glen Allen, Miss. at least four persons were hurt. About 15 plantation workers' homes were blown away near Glen Allen.

Torrential rains following the twisters caused flash floods and filled streams to a danger point. The Pearl River at Jackson was five feet above flood stage and firemen, police and volunteers worked to evacuate residents and stalled cars from inundated areas. At Sanatorium, Dr. Boswell said:

TERRIFYING THING

"It was a terrifying thing. About a fifth of the 200 patients in the Negro infirmary were children. Many were hurt and in pain, but I never heard a cry or whimper. "We had to evacuate the top floors because of rain that had blown in and did damage to the walls and ceiling. Some of the patients had to be moved to the lower floors."

Dr. Boswell, who was treating 100 patients from about 2 a. m. until about 8:30 a. m., said the twister "practically derided" the service building for the white patients and damaged several employees' cottages.

Asked for an estimate of the loss he said, "I should think a whole thing amounts to a quarter million dollars."

The Sylva area tornado hit about 1:45 a. m.

TORNADO HIT

Sylva area is in south Mississippi, about 30 miles northwest of Laurel.

The third tornado hit the Marshall and Linden plantations near Glen Allen, near Greenville.

Deputy Sheriff L. V. Vandevender said the twister there blew away about 15 homes and slightly injured four persons.

Mugging Conviction Ruins Police Future

NEW YORK (AP)—William Ravenel, 18, was sentenced by a Brooklyn judge today to five years in prison for a mugging attack on a Brooklyn woman.

"This kills my lifelong ambition to become a cop," commented Ravenel. "I was taking a course in police science at Brooklyn College."

What's Inside

Business	16A	18A
Classified	12-15B	
Crossword	12-15B	8C
Comics	12-15B	8C
Puzzle	12-15B	8C
Earl Wilson	12C	
Editorials	12B	
Everyday Counselor	14A	
Keepin' Our Sanity	12C	
Memo to Caesar	15A	
Obituaries	16A	
Radio-TV	7B	
Serial	8A	
Sports	8-12B	
Theaters	14-15A	
Psychological Effects of	12C	
Women	4-7B	
Worry Clinic	14A	