



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

FINAL

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Yancey To Step Down May 1 As Charlotte's City Manager

Henry Yancey: Our Most Happy Fellow

By JULIAN SCHIEF
News Staff Writer

They'll remember Henry Yancey around City Hall for many things.

For blue and gray suits and mild ties (he has just a couple of gift red ones).

For an even temper and the ability to say "no" nicely.

For punctuality and systematic office routines.

For a vast and wide knowledge on a thousand themes.

Henry Yancey, a greying 63-

year-old with a friendly face, puts aside 34 years of city management problems on May 1. He may even ask the telephone company to list his Huntley Pl. residence phone in his own name. (It is listed under Mrs. Yancey's name now.)

It has been that kind of career—one in which a busy and harassed man has had to secretly listen while a caller after working hours to protect himself from callers.

No longer will he have to patiently listen while a caller complains, "My garage wasn't picked up this week," or "Why can't I get my street re-

paired?" or "I called the police and they took 30 minutes to get here."

But he won't be running away.

"RIGHT OUT THERE"

"I'll be right out there on Huntley Pl. This is where I want to live," he says.

But I will say this: the next city manager won't have to worry about Henry Yancey trying to tell him what to do, or how we did things. No member of this Council or any other Council need worry about Henry Yancey campaigning for or against him. Henry

Yancey is retiring.

There was an inner glow today as he called Annabel Burch, his secretary, into his office at 8:15.

"The first thing I want you to do is type this letter," he said, "and send it to the Mayor and members of the City Council."

She made an original copy for Mayor Jim Smith, an original for Herman Brown who presided over today's Council meeting, and copies for members of the City Council. They went out by special messengers.

Then he went about the day's

work in his usual systematic, quiet way.

Yancey arrived at City Hall a little earlier than his usual 8:15 starting time. Breakfast at home was usual—only coffee and juice. He drove in the city-owned air conditioned Buick. When he came here in 1946 the city gave him a Dodge for official use. He drove it until 1958.

The daily routine of Henry Yancey seldom changes. He strictly observes City Hall working hours — 8:15 to 5:15. He goes home for lunch each day except Tuesday when he meets with his Rotary Club. His "big meal" comes in the evening at

home with Mrs. Yancey.

He is a man without hobbies, without much recreation. The Yanceys like to travel by car — we'll be doing a lot of that from now on — and this is his relaxation.

HIS BEST JOB

"The 'glow' he feels today is confidence that he did the best job he could.

"I don't believe I have a single regret during my career," he says. "I have been approached by councilmen in different towns and told to hire a fire person — but I have al-

See YANCEY on page 3-A

To End 12 Years At City Hall

Editorial On Page 6-A,
Other Stories on 3-A

By DICK YOUNG
News Staff Writer

City Manager Henry A. Yancey gave notice today that he will retire May 1, or earlier if the City Council desires.

The last chapter in a brilliant career as a city manager which Mr. Yancey began nearly 34 years ago was written in a letter to city officials.

In that letter Mr. Yancey, at 63 years of age recognized as a dean of American city managers, stated his intention to retire. Since Mayor Smith was enroute back to Charlotte from New York where he has been signing municipal bonds, copy of the letter was delivered to Mayor Pro Tem Herman A. Brown. All other members of the City Council were also sent copies of the letter.

THE LETTER

The text of the letter: "The Mayor and Members of The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina

"I have given careful and thoughtful consideration for many months to the matter of retiring from public management, and, having reached a decision to do so, I hereby submit my resignation as city manager of Charlotte, effective 30 days from this date, or on any earlier date which the council may wish to select.

"I should like to take this opportunity to express my grateful appreciation to the fine body of men and women who comprise the city's organization for their loyalty and devotion to duty, which has contributed much to whatever success I may have attained in my present position.

"I should like to thank the members of this council and each of their predecessors for their support and confidence during my twelve and one-half years as city manager.

"Very sincerely,
H. A. Yancey, (signed)
"City Manager"

"PLENTY OF NOTHING"

Asked what he intends to do Mr. Yancey replied, "Plenty of nothing. I have waited a long time for this and have a lot of catching up to do."

He and Mrs. Yancey intend to remain citizens of Charlotte and to maintain their residence on Huntley Pl.

But they'll probably do a lot of traveling, he indicated.

Mr. Yancey's announcement of his impending retirement came as a complete surprise.

His successor will have to be chosen in the municipal election May 5.

BEST PAID IN N. C.

The highest-paid city official in North Carolina, Mr. Yancey became Charlotte's sixth city manager Sept. 17, 1946. He has remained here for more than 12 years, breaking the record of tenure of all previous managers. He also set a record for himself by staying here longer than at any other city where he has served.

The \$18,000 he was paid 12 years ago in the state. While here he has turned down several offers with higher pay.

The period Mr. Yancey has served as Charlotte's manager has seen the city government's greatest growth.

The budget in 1946-47 was \$2,862,496. The 1958-59 budget calls for expenditure of \$12,553,500.

As a young engineer, Mr. Yancey became a city manager at Charlotteville, Va., Sept. 1, 1923, and served there eight years, after which he went to Petersburg, Va., where he was manager for three years.

In 1935 he came to North Carolina to assume the management of the Durham water and sewer system. In August, 1936, he became manager at Greensboro where he remained until he came to Charlotte in 1946.

Mr. Yancey's accomplishments in Charlotte during the past 12 years have been varied and unexcelled. And he, Mr. Yancey disclaims full responsibility for them as he reported.



Speaker Labels Soft Drink Tax As 'Disastrous'

RALEIGH—The Legislature Joint Finance Committee was told Tuesday that two bills to place a tax on soft drinks are "disastrous, discriminatory, unfair, inequitable and unenforceable."

Fred O. Bowman of Chapel Hill, spokesman for North Carolina's soft drink industry, led opponents in assailing the tax proposals at a committee hearing.

Bowman, maintaining soft drinks are food, said the tax proposals represent a "penalty tax" that would result in reduced employment, business volume and state tax revenue.

One bill before the committee would put a one-cent tax on each bottle of soft drink. Fountain syrup used for soft drinks would be taxed at 75 cents per gallon. This measure, introduced by Reps. Frank Snapp of Mecklenburg and Ed Kemp of Guilford, would bring in an estimated 18-20 million dollars a year.

BOTTLE TAX

Another bill, introduced by Sen. John H. Jordan of Wake, would tax soft drinks at 15 cents per bottle, but syrup would be exempt. This proposal would bring in an estimated 27 million dollars annually.

Bob Roper, glass manufacturing executive of Laurens, S.C., told the committee his plant near Henderson if it had thought a brown tax likely in this state. The plant, now under construction, will employ 200 workers at first and 750 at full capacity.

Roper said a 25 per cent decline in soft drink consumption would result in a 75 per cent drop in bottling.

Other legislative highlights included:

Rep. John Kerr Jr. of Warren County, S.C., told the committee he would provide maximum use of present school facilities in the state on a 12-month basis. Under the measure, local school boards could operate the schools four quarters a year, with a year of school work consisting of three consecutive quarters totaling 180 school days.

REFORM SCHOOL

The Senate enacted into law a bill appropriating \$75,000 to convert a portion of the McCain Trust into a fund for the reform of the state for Negro boys.

House Judiciary 2 Committee held a hearing but postponed a vote on legislation which would give superior court solicitors a pay raise and prohibit them from practicing in private law practice. The proposals are part of the Bell Committee court reform plans. Superior court solicitors gave general support to the bills at the hearing.

'Green' Director Not Green

Story on Page 1-B

Southwest Twisters Kill Six, Injure 59

DALLAS, Tex. — Tornadoes slashed through vast areas of Texas and Oklahoma last night and today and killed six persons and injured at least 59.

The twisters struck at Vaughan and Bynum in north central Texas; near Gainesville in north Texas; near Kingston, Okla., near the Texas border; and at Silver City, 30 miles west of Tulsa, Okla.

A freak tornado dipped into Marshall, far east of the main turbulence area, unroofed one home and then lifted. It struck hours after the main twister, line left Texas.

Another tornado cut a path 800 feet wide in Henderson, in far east Texas southwest of Marshall, while hurricane strength winds damaged homes and businesses in Gladewater, and near Longview, all in the Marshall-Henderson area. No one suffered injuries in Henderson, but damage was extensive.

Still another twister struck Galveston Bay on the Texas coast, sinking a cabin cruiser and causing mooring sheds.

The line of tornado weather rolled hundreds of miles into Kansas and Missouri, Kansas City underwent a tornado alert for 15 minutes but no twister struck there.

PLANE CRASHES

A tanker plane from Bergstrom Air Base near Austin crashed because of the turbulence and all four aboard died.

Three persons perished at Vaughan, a village of 50 persons. Two died at Bynum, east of Vaughan. An automobile was tossed off the highway south of Bynum, killing Mrs. C. B. Bruner of Waco, Tex.

The main Waco-Dallas highway the six miles to Bynum had the appearance of a battlefield where two armies had fought foot by foot.

Smashed automobiles, tractors and wagons, tossed into fields and ditches, were in evidence almost everywhere.

Tattered clothing and bedclothing littered from trees and fences. Mailboxes hung at crazy angles. Snapped utility lines strewn the roads and fields, and many utility poles had snapped.

Bill Orr, his wife and four children searched through the ruins of their home at Bynum this morning, picking up remaining valuables and the children's toys.

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Said Orr, "I heard this terrible roar at about 8:15 p.m. and my wife and I jumped up and grabbed the kids and ran into a southeast bedroom and jumped under the bed. We just got under the bed when the tornado hit."

At Vaughan, the twister flattened all the half dozen houses, a cotton gin was ripped in half. Highway Patrolman Doug Howard and A. D. Langston told of spotting two writhing flames. Twisters moved east to Bynum and killed two more persons. About 350 persons live there. Bynum and Vaughan are about 70 miles south of here.

A house was blown away about four miles southwest of Hillsboro, south of here, and officers were unable to locate the two Negroes who lived there.

State highway patrolman Ray Wallace said the tornadoes "seemed to move right down a straight line and flatten everything in their path from Vaughan eastward."

Another tornado cut a path of destruction one mile wide and six miles long northeast of Gainesville. Seventeen persons were injured.

Children Treated For Rat Poisoning
COALINGA, Calif. (AP) — Six children, aged 2 to 5, are home today after a hectic night at Coalinga Hospital where doctors rid them of nearly a pound of rat poison pellets they had eaten.

Mrs. G. R. Ninkerviss sped her own Billy, 5, and five other mopeds eating the pellets which they had found in some garbage at the hospital. Doctors pumped out their stomachs and gave them antidote.

Evening Prayer
O God, help us to remember that day by day we are preaching truth by our lives to many who hear no other sermon. Grant that the message given today may be true and worthy of Christ. As followers of Christ, help us to preach righteousness that Thy kingdom may come upon earth as it is in heaven. In His name . . . Amen.



Here's A View Of Tornado Damage At Texas Natural Gas Corp. In Gainesville

U.S. Planes To Use Berlin Corridor Any Time Needed

BERLIN (AP) —

The U.S. Air Force served notice on the Soviets today it will go on flying high altitude transports to West Berlin "if at any time a military requirement is established."

This statement shortly after a Soviet Embassy warning that complications would arise if the United States persisted in flying planes to West Berlin at altitudes above 10,000 feet.

The spokesman said that if at any time a military requirement is established for transporting cargo or military personnel in or out of West Berlin, the high-altitude planes will be used.

The "most efficient altitude for carrying cargo over relatively short runs is between 20,000 and 25,000 feet, depending on winds and cargo," he added.

A guarded statement from the Soviet Embassy hinted that explosive incidents might erupt in the three air corridors used by Western planes into the isolated city unless there is a U.S. Air Force transport into West Berlin last Friday.

The U.S. State Department has declared that the United States will continue to fly planes into Berlin at whatever altitude it deems necessary.

The dispute came into the open when the United States and the Soviet Union traded protests over the transport into West Berlin last Friday.

Low this morning 52
Low tomorrow morning 50
High today 80
High yesterday 77
High tomorrow 70
Sunrise today 6:10 a.m.; sunset today 6:44 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 2-A

Our Weather

Fair to partly cloudy and warmer today and tonight. Thursday showers and scattered thunderstorms, followed by clearing and turning cool in the afternoon and rather windy today and Thursday.

Low this morning 52
Low tomorrow morning 50
High today 80
High yesterday 77
High tomorrow 70
Sunrise today 6:10 a.m.; sunset today 6:44 p.m.

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NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Two men were killed on the New Jersey Turnpike today in a collision involving six trucks. The crash occurred in dense fog.

TRANSPORT —

A relief truck driver, asleep in the compartment behind the cab of a tractor-trailer rig that plunged into a river near this Charlotte county town this morning, awakened as the heavy vehicle left the highway and pulled his companion out of the driver's seat where he was jammed by the shifting cargo.

Both the driver, identified as James Bruce Slowe, 45, of Concord, and the relief driver, Rufus Byron Lupo, 32, of Charlotte, escaped serious injury in the wreck which occurred about 9:35 a.m. on U. S. 19 just west of here.

State highway patrolman R. W. Heffner said that Lupo was jammed as the rig ran off the left shoulder of the road in an S-curve before the tractor hit the water. One end of the trailer, headed with the tractor, landed in the water.

It was through that hole that Lupo fell the dazed driver as water poured into the sinking cab, the patrolman said, shoving cargo aside to make an escape route for the men within where he served eight years, after which he went to Petersburg, Va., where he was manager for three years.

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Room Use Banned

Atlanta Editor Cancels Address

COLUMBUS, Ga. (AP) —

Editor Ralph McGill of the Atlanta Constitution says he has canceled plans to address a meeting of the Columbus League of Women Voters on the current school crisis "in order to spare further harassment of those concerned."

The decision was announced last night a few hours after the Muscogee County Commission refused to permit the League to hold the meeting in a Superior Court room on May 4.

Permission to use school facilities for the speech was denied by William H. Shaw, school superintendent.

The commission voted unanimously to ban the meeting. Commissioner Roy Walker, who introduced the motion, said it was the duty of the commissioners "to keep down strife" and that permitting McGill to speak might create undue tensions.

Commissioner Malcolm Forte described the proposed speech as "an effort on the part of the Atlanta newspapers to ram their opinion down the throats of the people of this county."

McGill has advocated continuance of public schools even if they are ordered to integrate.

The commission earlier had agreed to allow the League to meet in the courtroom. In rescinding that action, the commissioners indicated the ban was based on an opinion that the League meeting was not a function of government.

The commissioners cited a letter dated Nov. 18 from the judges of the Muscogee Superior Court and Columbus City Court that courtrooms could be used only for judicial and governmental functions.

Mrs. Joseph Masuck, Columbus president of the League, said the rescinding of the commission's decision was "logical." "It is my understanding that meetings not connected with government, including a labor meeting, have been held in the courtroom," she said.

Both Columbus newspapers, The Enquirer and The Ledger, carried editorials yesterday urging the commission to permit the League to use the courtroom for McGill's appearance.

—AND WATCH THOSE RASH PROMISES, TOO—

Watch That Bicycle Riding, Grandmother

OMAHA (AP) —

"Grandma, would you do anything in the world for me?" asked eight-year-old Janice Wilberg. "Of course, honey," replied Mrs. Herman Drace, 54.

"Then ride my bike," exclaimed Janice. Grandma thought for a moment about how she used to bicycled when she was young.

Then she mounted Janice's bike and down the street she went. She rode about 30 feet, then took a tumble.

It wasn't much of a tumble physically. Just a scratched ankle. But an hour later things were different. Grandma fingered her engagement ring. The set was gone.

Now it was time for the family to do something for their visitor from Kenosha, Wis.

So into the dark went Grandma, Mr. Wilberg, Janice and nephew Gene Jr. They beamed a flashlight and the family car lights onto the pavement and as

Grandma put it, "Everything seemed to glow."

Now came the neighbors and more cars lined up to sweep the pavement with light. It was a blue Monday and no luck.

Grandma was ready to call it quits when Wilberg cried, "Here it is!"

Mrs. Drace called the three-quarters of a carotid pen tightly, sighed and said, "It's certainly an interesting way to meet the neighbors."

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