

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Published Every Thursday By The Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc.
Vol. 20, No. 37 Greenbelt, Maryland, Thursday, April 19, 1956 Five Cents

City Council Admits Budget Cuts Hurt Rec Dep Program; Give Boys Club \$400

By Claude Wimberly

The city council attempted to inject some life into the jaded city recreation program last Monday night. By majority vote, it approved an appropriation from miscellaneous funds: a \$400 grant to the Boy's Club for the purpose of defraying expenses for coaches, umpires and scorekeepers. It heard city manager Charles T. McDonald assure Robert Halpin, boss of the Little League, that funds had been appropriated, on a per diem basis, for umpire and scorekeeping services.

Goldfaden Throws Hat In Ring For Council

Ben Goldfaden, former city councilman and runner-up in the last council election threw his hat in the ring for the vacancy on the city council created by the resignation of James Wolfe last Monday night. Goldfaden, an insurance agent, sent a letter to the council announcing his availability and asking the council's consideration. The city council will elect the new councilman at its next regular meeting. One other resident, Bernard Krug, announced his availability, but was declared ineligible on "residency" qualifications. Although other citizens are seeking the job, none have been publicly disclosed.

The last time a vacancy was filled occurred when county commissioner Frank Lastner resigned from the council to take on his county duties. James Smith was elected in his place after 17 ballots were cast.

Local Gal Writes Book Published This Week

A local housewife became a full-fledged author this month with the publication of her first book, "Carl Becker: on History and the Climate of Opinion" (Cornell University Press; \$3.75). Charlotte Watkins Smith, 33-T Ridge, wrote the book as a thesis for her doctorate in history at the University of Chicago.

Married to Gayle Smith, who teaches English at Maryland University, Mrs. Smith has two children: Anthony (2 years old) and Judith (4½ months). The Smiths moved to Greenbelt last summer from College Park, because they found Greenbelt "convenient" and had been doing all their shopping at the co-op stores here. Now they are members of Greenbelt Veteran Housing Corporation. Mrs. Smith likes Greenbelt because it is well-planned and "nice and safe" for children.

According to the jacket blurb on "Carl Becker", Mrs. Smith has drawn a picture "... of the life and mind of this distinguished historian-philosopher..." Among the credits she gives for assistance in the work on the book is one to T. V. Smith, her father-in-law. "T.V." is well-known to the American public for his radio and television appearances on panel shows, among them "Information Please", besides being a renowned teacher-lecturer in mid-western schools.

Among Mrs. Smith's hobbies are "cooking" and a fervent interest in the political career of Adlai Stevenson. She hopes to continue writing after her children are older.

BAND CONCERT MONDAY

The Greenbelt Community Band will present their annual Spring concert on Monday, April 23 at 8 p.m. in the Center school auditorium. A balanced program of marches, semi-classical and popular melodies will be featured. Of special interest will be the second public appearance of the "feeder-band" composed of beginner musicians. Admission is free and the general public is invited.

RED CROSS OVER TOP

Successful is the word for the Red Cross Fund Drive in Greenbelt. Mrs. Frank Lastner, chairman of the Greenbelt Chapter, reports that we have gone over our quota which was \$908. Mrs.

Berwyn Heights Seeks Return Of City Land

A delegation consisting of four commissioners from the city of Berwyn Heights, accompanied by their attorney appeared before the Greenbelt city council Tuesday night to petition for the return of a tract of six and one half acres of land allegedly belonging to Berwyn Heights, and now within the corporate limits of Greenbelt.

The land in question is located at the Southeast corner of Greenbelt and Edmonston roads. This parcel was formerly owned by the Federal government, but was considered a part of Berwyn Heights. In 1949, the government consolidated its holdings in this area and brought the tract under the corporate limits of Greenbelt.

The council will consider the petition and hearings will be held to determine a course of action in the near future.

Cub Pack 202 Flies Kites; Sell Tickets

Cub Pack No. 202 was flying high again on Saturday, April 14, for their Kite Contest. Many kites flew in the breeze but the few who were chosen from the five designated categories were: most unusual design - Barton Marshall, prettiest - Derril Smith, most original cub scout kite - David Hurst, most original decoration on kite - Roy Arthur, and Richard Warwick and Jimmy Porter tied for highest flyer. The contest is over, but the cubs will still be flying up the front steps of all Greenbelt porches hoping to sell at least 10 tickets to the Scout Exhibition. This will earn them a special insignia for their uniforms. The Exhibition will be held at the National Guard Armory, Friday, May 25, 7-10 p.m. and on Saturday, May 26, 2-10 p.m. Pack No. 202 will perform an authentic Indian dance under the guidance of Mrs. Leigh Hurst.

Rescue Squad Active In Past 2 Months

During the month of February, the rescue squad answered 18 calls, 7 of which were made during the day and 11 between the hours of 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. One call was requested by a doctor, 7 by individuals, 8 runs were made in support of the fire department and 2 were in a miscellaneous category. Two runs were made in answer to calls from Baltimore City to help in the train wreck near Fort Meade. The calls also included one maternity case and several transportations of emergency and routine nature to and from Prince Georges Hospital. Total number of ambulance hours: 51 hours, 40 minutes. Total number of men used during this time, 57. Total number of ambulance miles traveled, 950.

While the ambulance traveled only 320 miles during March to answer 20 calls, 65 men were called out for a total of 15 hours and 52 minutes of ambulance time. This month's request for service included 2 auto accidents, 2 fire calls, 1 maternity case, and 2 false runs; the rest were of routine and emergency transport nature. Twelve of these calls were made between the hours of 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. Four men and nine women were treated or transported by the squad.

NURSERY PARENTS MEET

The Greenbelt Cooperative Nursery school invites parents of 3 and 4 year-olds to their meeting Wednesday, April 25, at 8:30 p.m. in the home economics room of Center school. Drs. Jennie Kleip, the school's teacher, will speak on "What Nursery School Offers the Pre-School Child." The school, located at 14 Parkway, boasts a new floor installed during the Easter vacation.

Since enrollment is limited to 16 children, it would be wise to register now. Cal Skolnik, 7586.

GVHC Board Re-Elects All Officers; Chasanow Challenges GVHC On Sales

By Al Skolnick

Edward Burgoon was unanimously re-elected president of Greenbelt Veteran Housing Corporation board of directors at the Friday night meeting of the new board. Burgoon has been serving in that post since January 1, 1955.

All other incumbent officials of the board were also re-elected. Frank Lastner, who declined nomination for the presidency, was chosen without opposition for the vice presidency. Also unopposed for re-election was John Pharris, treasurer.

The only contest developed over the office of secretary, for which Bruce Bowman beat Percy Andros by a 5-3 vote. All officers of the corporation receive a salary of \$500 a year; the other members of the board, \$400 a year.

Chasanow Complaint

Burgoon appointed a committee consisting of Lastner, Bowman, and Al Long to review GVHC sales procedure, with specific attention directed toward the relationship of the GVHC sales office to outside real estate brokers. This action resulted from a complaint by Abraham Chasanow, representing the Greenbelt Realty Co., that the membership interview conducted by GVHC sales personnel was being used to discourage clients of the realty co. from continuing to deal with it.

Chasanow felt that this was the inevitable result of combining the membership interview with GVHC sales operation. Chasanow suggested that in order to secure complete impartiality the membership interview be completely divorced from sales operations and be conducted by different personnel.

Director Pharris disputed the premise that impartiality could not be achieved by GVHC personnel. He was joined by General Manager Paul Campbell, who stated that GVHC sales office personnel are under strict instructions

not to discuss the business matters of other real estate brokers. Burgoon pointed out, however, that some applicants are confused as to the relationship of Greenbelt Realty to GVHC. When they come in for the membership interview, their questioning may inevitably draw GVHC sales personnel into a discussion of the relative merits of dealing with GVHC and with Greenbelt Realty.

The board decided that the whole specific instances of unfair tactics matter needed airing and that on the part of either GVHC or the Greenbelt Realty Co. should be investigated. Burgoon was directed by unanimous vote to appoint the above-mentioned committee for this purpose. He announced that he would continue the policy of appointing ad hoc committees to meet special problems, rather than relying upon standing committees.

Construction by Kanter

Burgoon reported the results of the latest conference with Joseph Kanter of the Continental Construction Company. Kanter is applying for R18 zoning, which would permit multiple housing, for the area between the American Legion building and Lakeside area. The area parallels the proposed intercounty beltway. Although the builder does not anticipate erecting multiple units in this area, he wants to be able to do so in case the market for single dwelling units is not up to expectations.

Kanter is still concerned about sewage facilities, since the present Greenbelt plant can accommodate only about 200 more homes. He is thinking in terms of 500 to 600 homes and hopes his zoning application will stimulate action to expand present sewage disposal facilities.

Kanter stated that he will be unable to meet the requests of the American Legion and the Jewish Community Center for additional land until the exact disposition of streetways and lots in the new development is fixed. He assured GVHC that the construction company will honor its contract commitments to these organizations.

Among incidental bits of information gleaned from the meeting, Burgoon stated, were the facts that a small-scale model of the street layout of the new development was being prepared and will be on display in Greenbelt center soon and that gas lines would be extended to the new homes.

New Post Office

The board directed Campbell to continue investigating the advisability of having GVHC bid for the construction of a post office building. Bids must be submitted by May 19. Among the problems raised are the location of the new building, the preparation of cost estimates for construction and operation. See GVHC, Page 6

Hurst Re-elected Toastmaster Prex

Robert Hurst, president pro-tem of the Toastmaster's Club of Greenbelt, succeeded himself Tuesday night, at the club's first regular election since its having been chartered by Toastmasters International, the parent organization. Hurst headed a slate comprising the following officers: first vice-president, Harold Huffendick; 2d vice-president, Claud Wimberly; secretary, Arthur Plackett; and sergeant-at-arms, Joe Hanyok.

The principal speakers at the meeting were Donald Wolfe, Joe Hanyok, and Alan Kistler. Harold Huffendick acted as Toastmaster. The club has been asked to furnish judges, and a speaker for the area speech competitions to be held Saturday evening, April 14.

TALENT WANTED

Eli DonBullion has announced that anyone interested in taking part in the Talent Show which is to be held in conjunction with St. Hugh's Spring Festival should contact Miss Lydalu Palmer at Webster 5-4542. The Talent Show is open to all local residents.

A COMMUNICATION

Suicide In The Kitchen

On April 14, a Greenbelt housewife who resides near Hamilton Place, received a severe shock from her electric range, which had accidentally become shorted to the "hot" side of the line. An exhaustive check disclosed that the range had never been grounded to the neutral or center conductor. Also in this particular case the ground wires to each burner unit had been removed and never replaced. Two other ranges were then checked for grounds, and the same ungrounded condition also existed, leading one to believe that the kitchens of Greenbelt may be very unsafe all over town.

Proper grounding of the electric range prevents accidents of this nature. If a short occurs, the circuit breakers open up, disclosing that something has gone wrong, and the trouble may then be corrected.

Mr. Paul Campbell of GVHC was called about this dangerous situation and had an electrician ground the range of the young woman who had received the shock. However, he disclosed that this is no longer GVHC's concern, as the ranges are now privately owned. He also agreed that the county electrical inspector could be notified.

The county inspector was then called about the correct procedure to remedy these defective installations. He said that this was not under his jurisdiction, since these grounding regulations should have been met years ago, when the equipment was originally installed. He is of the opinion that the owner of the electrical equipment should see that it is placed in a safe operation condition by a qualified electrician.

Bruno P. Zanin
Electronic Scientist
Diamond Ordnance Fuze Lab.
13-Z-3 Hillside Road



GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Published by the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc.

Editor - Isadore Parker, 8922

Editorial Staff

Muriel Burrows, Glenn Burrows, Phyllis Chasanow, Joseph Crown, Joan Dickerson, Helen Dondy, Edward Downey, Lucille Fonda, Sarah Gelberg, Estelle Goldberg, Rhea G. Kahn, Gretchen Keene, Al Long, Jim Monahan, Ellie Ritchie, Al Skolnik, Elaine Skolnik, Claude Wimberly.

Business Manager
Betty Cress

Staff Photographer
Paul Kasko

Distribution
Jim O'Neill

Board of Directors

Harry Zubkoff, President; Muriel Burrows, Vice-President; Betty Cress, Treasurer; Claude Wimberly, Secretary; Helen Dondy.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$2.00 per year

Advertising may be submitted by mail or delivered to the News Review, 9 Parkway, GR 3-3131, or to the Greenbelt Tobacco Store. Editorial offices open after 8:30 p.m. Tuesday. News deadline 8:30 p.m. of the Monday preceding publication.

Vol. 20

Thursday, April 19, 1956

No. 37

Grasping At Straws

Another citizens committee on recreation will be appointed by the city council in order to assist the recreation department in its community program. The council expressed dissatisfaction with the recreation committee of last year, and has declared of the new one: "If any member of the committee asks for more funds, I'll consider that a resignation."

What the council clearly has in mind is an attempt to have a recreation program without spending any money. They are striving for volunteer help, and are hoping that interested citizens will come up with some kind of program that will satisfy the needs of the city; at the same time they are only seeking "advisory" counsel on recreation programs.

We believe that the council is grasping at straws. They curtailed the recreation program during the budget hearings; perhaps crippled is a better word. Recreation has already been taken over by "interested" citizens through their churches and allied activities. Tired of waiting for leadership from the recreation department or the council or the city manager, the available volunteers are already providing stop-gap services. They are doing this with their own funds and without coming to the council for hand-outs. Perhaps they don't know how to "play ball" but they know when someone else hasn't been doing a job.

At this time, several important civil groups have become provoked enough to make straightforward inquiries about the inadequacies of the city recreation program. The Women's Club is one example. It is these same organizations that are asked to come forward with members to serve on the recreation committee.

We earnestly hope that the committee, when formed, act within their limitations, but will bring forth the facts about our practically non-existent recreation program in our city. To do this would be performing an invaluable service.

*Don't Be a Litterbug
Keep Greenbelt Clean*

HOMES WANTED

To Buy - To Sell

We have homes ready for quick occupancy. We have prospects for quick sales.

LAKESIDE LOTS

WOODLAND HILLS LOTS

We Have Homes and Lots Outside of Greenbelt, Also.

If you're in the market to BUY or SELL

come in and see us . . . Let us solve your real estate problems.

GREENBELT REALTY CO.

151 Centerway, Greenbelt, Md.
Open every day 9:30 to 5:30
Weekends, Saturdays, Sundays
Evenings by Appointment
GRanite 3-4571 GRanite 3-4351

JUMP INTO SITTER POOL

The Sitter's Pool is looking for new recruits. Enjoying the pool's benefits now are 35 Greenbelt families who go out for an evening's entertainment with the comforting thought that an adult is looking after their children. There are no dues or sitter fees, just the obligation of the member to sit back the number of hours he goes out. Call Hatton, 3251 for further information.

Attention

Sportsmen!

Fishing and Hunting

Licenses

For Sale

College Park Paint & Hardware Store

College Park Shopping Center

UNion 4-1185

To The Editor

I am sorry to say that when I attended the National Housing Conference last week I did not meet any of my Greenbelt friends there - in particular members of the G.V.H.C. board.

At the conference were discussed many aspects of housing public, private and cooperative. Of particular interest to Greenbelters were the various programs discussed to make public and private funds available for residential property improvements.

It would seem to me that we who have benefited so much through public housing should not only show a greater interest in it but give active support to the number one group working for better housing for the lower and middle income groups.

The National Housing Conference can benefit from our experience in low-cost group housing and we will certainly benefit from their efforts in the future.

ARTHUR HATTON

Is Greenbelt still the same model city mentioned in various books and magazine articles of previous years?

We Greenbelters who have lived here eight years doubt it!

The reason, as we see it, that the change has taken place is that the Greenbelt Veterans Housing Corporation is not enforcing the NO DOGS OR CATS RULE. Today, children are playing in sand boxes which serve as private bathrooms for cats during early morning and night hours. Small toddlers unwittingly tramp into dogs' stools, thereby creating another situation. Add to this the problems of flies and stench and you can see why many residents of Greenbelt are starting to look for a "little acre" out in the country where the kids can again healthfully enjoy life, as they once did in Greenbelt.

Getting away from the health side of the problem, let's look at the psychological side. Antagonisms are springing up among neighbors who were once the best of friends. A mother whose child has just come home smeared with the filth of a neighbor's cat or dog will not sit by calmly and allow the same thing to happen again. Consequently, fistcuffs have been, and will be used to make the arguments known.

Returning Greenbelt to its former model city status will take the cooperation of the residents, GVHC Manager and Board Members, and the Mayor and Town Council. Let's hope we can be successful.

A Greenbelter Who Loves Children More Than Animals

Library News

by Mary Kenan Hadley

Most people don't know that the county library has a telephone reference service. A person may wish to know what a man who studies snakes is called, how the date of Easter is determined, or the answers to many other questions. Whatever the question is, the library has the answer, or can suggest another agency that does. The library's number is in the telephone book under Prince Georges Memorial Library System.

A person borrows books from the county library for a 4 week period. Some people neglect to return the books when due, and within 2 weeks receive a reminder of their negligence. A week later, another letter is sent. If no response is received from these reminders, the matter is referred to the County Attorney's office.

Most of the libraries have book deposit boxes outside their doors. Overdue books are an expense to the County, often being replaced with new book funds.

KINDERGARTEN OFFICERS

The newly elected officers of the Greenbelt Cooperative Kindergarten for 1956-1957 are Helene Mayock, president; Helen Justman, vice-president, Center school; Elaine Skolnik, vice-president, North End; Rose Pratt, financial secretary, Center school; Virginia Wilkinson, financial secretary, North End; Betty Almodover, treasurer; Marianna Schmidt, secretary. Register your child now by calling Justman (Center) 7071 or Skolnik (North End) 7586.

Social Service League Show 'Palmer Street'

Dr. Gordon M. Cairns, president of the board of the Social Service League of Prince Georges County, announced that the annual meeting of the SSL will be Monday, April 23, at the Community Service Building, Mt. Rainier at 8:15 p.m.

A movie, "Palmer Street," a study of family life will be shown and all interested persons are invited to attend.

He added that the agency is doing an increasing amount of counseling with all types of family problems, especially problems of teenagers.

The Social Service League continues to offer limited financial assistance in some cases, Dr. Cairns said. During 1955, 390 families were helped. Of these, 160 received financial assistance.

Used refrigerator, sewing machine, and dishes are needed at this time, according to Dr. Cairns.

If any person can give these items to needy families Dr. Cairns requested that they call WA. 7-1441. Articles of clothing in good condition will be gladly accepted, he said, but it is not always possible for the staff to pick them up. The larger items will be picked up, usually by the families who will receive them.

Girl Scouts, Brownies To Review Military

Prince Georges County Girl Scouts are included in the invitation to area Girl Scouts to witness a military review in honor of the Girl Scouts of the USA. It is to be held by the U.S. Army as represented by the Military District of Washington.

According to the announcement by Major General John G. Van Houten, Commanding General of the Military District of Washington, the review will be held at 4 p.m. Sunday, May 6, at Ft. Myer, Virginia, home of the "Old Guard" (Third Infantry Regiment).

Reserved seating for attending Brownie and Girl Scouts is being arranged by counties. Girls desiring to attend must contact their troop leaders.

"DAY OF RECOLLECTION"

Under the auspices of the Washington Laywomen's Retreat League there will be a special Day of Recollection for blind persons on Saturday, May 5. If you know of anyone who is partially or totally blind and would be interested in making a Day of Recollection please contact Peg Baldwin at 2841 for more information.

LONG DISTANCE MOVING
Coast-to-Coast, Hawaii, Puerto Rico. New Modern Storage facilities. Free estimates. GR. 3-6866
Embassy Moving & Storage Co., Silver Spring, Md.

FREE HAMMOND ORGAN and ORGANIST

For your luncheon, lawn party, festival, garden party, bazaar, reunion, anniversary, fair, club, fraternity, where there are people who like to hear this wonderful musical instrument.

Keeney's Piano & Music Stores

Annapolis, & Glen Burnie

CALL

Colonial 3-2629

or

Glen Burnie 3740

Announcing A New Service HOT MEALS DELIVERED

Fried Chicken, Fried Oysters, Shrimp, Seafood Boxes

Meals Cooked to Order

Delivered Free to Your Door

1/4 Fried Chicken - 1.00

OYSTERS - .90

SHRIMP - .90

SEAFOOD PLATTERS 1.25

Crab Cake, Oysters, Fish Sticks (Includes French Fries, Cole-slaw, Hot Rolls and Butter)

Open till 11 p.m.

No Orders Taken After 10:30 P.M.

TERPS GRILL

4624 College Ave. - College Park

PHONE UN. 4-9895

(CLOSED SUNDAYS)

Whiskey - 2 Bottle Special

2 Fifths for \$6.98 - save \$1.06

Corby's Reserve - Philadelphia

Old Classic - Barclay's 5 yr. Bourbon

Old Thompson (Decanter Bottles)

Tom Burns Kentucky Blended

Fleischmann's 90 proof - \$3.59 fifth

2 for \$7.00 - save \$1.84

Kasser Vodka (it gives you breath) 2 for \$6.98

Champagne - \$2.49 fifth

Senate (in cans) - \$2.99 case

FREE DELIVERY

VETERAN'S LIQUORS

11620 Washington-Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville - WEbster 5-5990

Restorff Motors

NASH

SALES

SERVICE

7323 BALTIMORE BLVD.

COLLEGE PARK, MD.

APpleton 7-5100

A Statement to the Board of Directors Of Greenbelt Consumer Services, Inc.

February 10, 1956

(The News Review is reprinting as a public service a statement which Walter Volekhausen made to Greenbelt Consumer Services. This statement does not necessarily reflect the position of the News Review with regard to these issues, but we are sure all cooperators will find it interesting and thought-provoking. The GCS board was invited to comment on this statement concurrently, but refused to do so.)

Introductory remarks. In addressing this statement to the board, I do so as a member of Greenbelt Consumer Services and as a former GCS president; not in any official capacity.

In this statement I wish to be critical of some actions of the GCS board and management which I think are damaging to GCS and, in some cases, to the cooperative movement which made GCS possible and gives it its only significance. Lest I be misunderstood, my objective is to produce not animosities but introspection.

The board has effectively silenced the voice of the membership. The board has gotten the members of GCS to adopt an organizational structure in which the membership meeting is dominated by proxy votes and exists only, the president said, for the purpose of "blessing or ratifying the recommendations of the Co-op Congress" (June, 1955, issue of GCS Newsletter). The board had made it clear that the Congress, on the other hand, has no legal authority or legal status, and its actions are not binding on the board. As a result, the board is directly responsible to no one—a far cry from the original structure under which "the control of the cooperative shall be vested in the membership meeting" (former by-laws, Article X).

The effect is revealed in the consideration of "The PCF Problem." The last annual membership meeting voted to include in the by-laws, among GCS objectives, the following statement: "To associate itself with other cooperatives, domestic and foreign, for purposes of mutual aid." The Congress, apprised of the board's decision to withdraw from the Potomac Cooperative Federation, recommended that GCS defer its action for a year. But the board, beholden to neither membership nor Congress, has let its action stand.

I hope that it will follow the president's dictum, stated above, and let the annual membership meeting bless the Congress's action—by placing the issue of GCS membership in the Federation on the ballot for the meeting and announcing the Congress's action.

I hope the board will also consider ways of adjusting the organization of GCS so that the members can once again have an effective voice in GCS control.

Executive sessions. Through many years of GCS history, the board avoided executive sessions. For ten years when I attended board meetings regularly either as a board member or representing the Federation, there were, to the best of my recollection, only two reasons for executive session: To consider salaries of specific employees or other matters of a personal nature; or to consider pending contracts, where premature disclosure of the GCS position would adversely affect its ability to negotiate. The board was of the opinion that as a people's organization the Co-op should keep its deliberations open to the people; and that action in secret would lead to suspicion between board and membership that open discussion would have avoided.

Relations with other cooperatives never in my experience was a matter for executive session. Yet much of the present board's consideration of "The Federation Problem" was conducted in executive session, and the final action to withdraw was taken in executive session. The matter was handled with such secrecy that board members could not even disclose the result until the report was issued to the Congress some days later.

How many other subjects are considered in executive session? One director at a Congress meeting, stated that the board tended to go into executive session to consider "controversial" subjects or subjects with "political repercussions."

On just such issues members should know where the directors stand, if the members are to vote intelligently in selecting directors. I am convinced that the major reason that directors have recourse to executive session is lack of confidence either in the members or in themselves. But the director who is doing what he thinks right has no need for an iron curtain.

The misuse of executive sessions, with the attendant withholding from members of information discussed and of positions taken by directors is something which I think any one board member can materially correct. Board members are responsible to the members, not to the board. The board cannot legally exclude a director from its

meetings, even though he should state that he will regard as "unmentionable" only such subjects as he in his best judgment thinks should be so, and that he will speak to members about any subject, any debate, any vote which he thinks members should know about—regardless of whether the other directors have chosen to classify the discussion as "executive session." I hope some director will take this position and lift the veil of secrecy from our Co-op.

Straightforwardness with members and Congress. The manner in which the board, through the president, reported to the Congress on the Federation withdrawal was lacking in objectivity and accuracy. For example: the dues paid to the Federation were overstated by 80%; the reason for and the conclusions of the Carlson report were misstated; the numerous compromises offered by the other societies were unmentioned, and the GCS position was contrasted with the structure of the Federation (adopted with GCS approval) before such compromises; the GCS board's action was described as "a change in GCS" status in PCF to that of a Sponsoring Member, whereas the board's letter to the Federation called it a "withdrawal from membership." Many other errors of fact and implication were pointed out in a letter to the Congress; but although all GCS directors received this letter, the same errors were repeated in the GCS Newsletter sent out some time later. The lack of straightforwardness was even more evident in the fact that neither the December nor the January Newsletter made reference to the GCS supervisory committee report seriously criticizing the board's action or to the GCS Congress decision requesting a year's postponement of the action.

A similar lack of straightforwardness (either of board to Congress or of manager to board) was evident when it was stated blandly that there had been a meeting with Rochdale representatives on the question of joint advertising (lack of which is causing confusion for many members of both societies), whereas Rochdale had been told by the GCS general manager that, since Rochdale insists on selling and advertising only U. S. Government graded meats, joint advertising is out of the question.

The board's reluctance to break down operating figures between areas is another evidence of lack of confidence in the members. Board members have stated publicly that they don't want to give such figures because the information might encourage sectionalism and antagonism between areas. However the directors surely receive these figures themselves, without any noticeable inter-area strife among directors. Are ordinary members so much less enlightened?

Discussion, at a recent Congress meeting, of the blank check nature of the proxy form members are asked to sign showed a similar lack of respect for members' judgment. The proxy now authorizes the secretary to vote "on all matters and questions which may be presented at the annual meeting"—this authorization covering not only items mentioned on the proxy but anything else that may come up at the meeting. It was suggested at the Congress meeting that the proxy form might give members the option to give the Secretary (1) blanket authority to vote on anything, or (2) limited authority to vote only as directed by the voter on the specific issues listed in the proxy. The president discounted this suggestion on the ground that no one would then give the secretary blanket authorization. If few members would be willing to sign the blank check if they knew they had an alternative, the true intent of the members is deliberately violated by setting up the ballot in its present form.

The limited proxy is practically equivalent to a mail ballot, recognized by most cooperative leaders

as an acceptable method of voting; the unlimited proxy is a hazard to democratic operation, and as such is forbidden by many co-op statutes and frowned on by most co-op leaders.

Gas station. In endeavoring to place a gasoline station close to Greenbelt homes I believe that GCS is acting directly contrary to the interests of the community. To my mind there is no question but that Greenbelt is far more important than GCS. One of the basic concepts of Greenbelt is the belt of green around the residential area to protect it from encroachment by unplanned communities or commercial developments. The placing of the armory violated this principle, but at least left a small buffer strip protecting the homes on Southway. For GCS to propose using any part of this strip for a second-commercial project seems to me a complete disregard of community values—which in a co-op should be of preeminent significance. I do not believe that Hale Walker, who designed the community, would condone it. The station is an immediate disaster for those living near it and an ultimate danger for every Greenbelt family—since it will represent the first invasion by a business enterprise of the "green belt."

The commercial value of the project to GCS is insignificant compared with the damage to a community which is still looked upon by city planners as one of the world's foremost examples of sound community planning.

As for the petition signatures secured by GCS, the inadequate study given to the petition by those who signed it is fairly evident from the fact that they endorsed the statement that the station "would benefit the entire community." That the station might benefit residents who choose to use the station is clear; but how will it benefit those who do not? And do residents of "E" block really believe it will benefit residents of 11 Southway—or have they already dropped the latter from the community?

Furthermore, if GCS is really interested in the views of the community, why didn't it go to the residents with an unloaded question rather than a petition? Is the most important thing to secure endorsement for a position already taken by the board, or to find out and do what the members—and in

April 19, 1956

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

Three

this case the other residents of Greenbelt—want? Since GCS already had an option on the land, no harm could have been done if the board had gone to the membership before it took a position on the issue. This is the approach that would be dictated by confidence in the members and a desire to carry out their wishes.

Government-graded meat. GCS has given up the policy of selling only Government-graded meats. It cannot be argued that selling Government-graded meats is impractical, since several competing chains maintain this policy. In fact, a survey by the Super Market Institute (cited in "The Supermarket", by M. M. Zimmerman) showed that more than three quarters of the Institute's members normally handle U. S. Choice meat (the great majority mentioning the Government grade in their advertising).

The sole justification that I have heard for the GCS policy is that it produces higher operating margins. But this gain is achieved at the expense of poorer quality. The meat supplier's contention that its meat is good is no substitute for impartial Government grading. Furthermore, failure of the meat to meet even the packers' standards is no violation of Food and Drug Administration standards (as falsely offering meat as U. S. Choice, for example, would be), so the customer lacks the added protection that the FDA offers.

It has always been cooperative policy wherever possible to give the customers the facts about merchandise and in particular to specify Government grades. This policy has been followed in the purchasing and labeling of Co-op Label canned goods, and it is not the less important because it has been practiced for some twenty years.

GCS compounds its error by attaching the term "Co-op Red Label" to its ungraded meats. If each co-op is free to apply that term to any commodity, the entire Co-op Label program is placed in jeopardy.

Prices without standards are meaningless. That is why, back in OPA days, co-ops—including GCS—stood with OPA and with all genuine consumer organizations, but against all the other large food retailers, in demanding that price

ceilings be based on Government grades. Then GCS was a champion of the consumer—as a consumer co-op should be; now it is not even keeping pace with private-profit businesses.

I want to see GCS raise its banner again. A decision to return to Government grades in its meats will be a sign that it is on the right road. This I think is a policy decision—a board decision.

The board's job is to represent and protect the consumer-owners of the Co-op, and to set policies contributing toward the carrying out of this responsibility. Insistence on using Government-graded merchandise wherever possible is such a policy. In Rochdale Co-operative of Virginia the board carried this question right back to the members, to determine their wishes, and received a strong endorsement for the policy of selling only U. S. Government-graded meats.

Joint advertising with Rochdale. No one dealing with co-op public relations in the Washington area is unaware of the public relations damage resulting from GCS and Rochdale of Virginia having separate and often conflicting advertisements in the Washington newspapers. People come to "the Co-op" for specials only to find that the items aren't carried or the prices aren't correct—because they have come to the wrong co-op. In addition there are obvious financial savings for both societies under joint newspaper advertising.

Rochdale's management and board have been urging joint advertising, but the project has been blocked by the fact that GCS refused to maintain adequate consumer standards in sale of meat—that is, refuses to sell by Government grades.

Loss of co-op minded employees. Many GCS employees, deeply interested in cooperatives, have left the organization—some of them disillusioned about cooperatives as exemplified by GCS—people with ability, whose imagination the Nation's largest co-op should have been able to inspire—people for whom working for a co-op was more than a job, it was a calling.

Why is this? Has GCS failed to arouse a genuine enthusiasm for

See STATEMENT, Page 4



Has your home complete telephone convenience?

CHECK LIST

- 1 When the bell rings, are you within easy reach of a telephone in your
 - LIVING ROOM? KITCHEN? RECREATION ROOM?
 - BEDROOM? WORKSHOP?

An additional telephone costs less than 4¢ a day.

- 2 Do you have color telephones to blend with each room's decorative scheme?

Modern telephones in red, yellow, blue, green, ivory, beige, brown or gray cost a one-time charge of only \$7.50 each, plus normal monthly and installation charge.

- 3 Do you have modern telephone conveniences such as
 - AUTOMATIC LIGHT-UP DIALS? SPEAKERPHONE—FOR HANDS-FREE TALKING?
 - PRIVACY SWITCHES?

If not, what can you do about it?

Just ask your Service Representative about these and other helpful telephone conveniences.

The truly modern home enjoys complete telephone convenience. Your Service Representative is an expert in planning it. She'll be glad to help you. In Washington, call her at METropolitan 7-9900; in the suburbs, at your local telephone Business Office.



The C & P Telephone Company of Maryland

STATEMENT from page 3

itself and for the cooperative method? Many residents of Greenbelt would answer this question in the affirmative.

Gloating over bigness is not a substitute for appreciation of more fundamental ethical and public-service values that should be inherent in a community-owned co-op. Directors can well ponder this problem, and consider how to inspire GCS employees and the public (and perhaps themselves) with an understanding of the basic concepts that have made cooperatives a major world force for human betterment. The clue, I think, is to be found in the words of Murray Lincoln and Kagawa and Father Tompkins and other great cooperative leaders—in the values that they see in cooperatives, in the ideas that account for their consuming interest in co-ops. The clue will not be found in a narrow appeal solely to financial gain.

Problems with public relations employees. The board has stated that GCS management is better qualified than lay directors to guide the public relations program of the Potomac Cooperative Federation. But where is the public relations program and staff that the GCS management has built up during its decade of control? The GCS failure in this field is due, I think, largely to a lack of understanding of what good public relations is and failure to recognize how much effort is required in a sound public relations program. The fate of some of the employees is revealing. Rachel Garner, who directed an outstanding community relations program for GCS, was told that her work was not satisfactory. Bob Broadbent, who so successfully brought the co-op message to Takoma Park residents and organizations, was encouraged to leave. GCS made and publicized an arrangement for regular services from Roy McCorkel, one of the Nation's outstanding co-op public relations persons, but within a few months this was allowed to lapse. Another GCS public-relations worker was driven to a nervous breakdown trying to meet impossible demands placed on him. Al Stoughton, hired to lead a capital-membership drive in Wheaton, produced more capital and more members for GCS than had ever before been raised in a similar period by any other co-op, but was told his work was not satisfactory. He had been assured of a permanent job with GCS if he succeeded at Wheaton. It would seem to me that he had ample grounds for his statement that he had been embittered by "jungle ethics one hardly expects to find in a cooperative movement." Most recently, I can place myself (as a Federation employee, I was a GCS employee once-removed) among the group of co-op public relations workers who have failed to satisfy the GCS management (and board, in this case).

In ten years, GCS management has failed to build up an effective public relations program or a continuing public relations staff. If the board tries to evaluate this situation objectively, they may understand one reason why other societies do not relish the idea of GCS dominating the public relations program of the Federation.

Institutional advertising. I understand that the GCS board is considering, or has arranged to have, GCS's institutional advertising handled by an advertising agency. On this I would urge considerable caution, since it is a rare

advertising agency that will understand a cooperative institution. It seems to me rather naive to expect an advertising agency to enlighten the public on an idea which would destroy them. From an advertising agency's point of view, patronage refunds and stock dividends are quite understandable. But consumer ownership, honesty to the consumer, consumer protection, the service vs. the profit motive—these concepts will only give them a headache. To a co-op an advertising agency can offer experience and skill in advertising layout, merchandising and research; but for effective institutional advertising I think co-ops will do much better to develop their own resources. This could well be one function of the Potomac Cooperative Federation, if GCS and other societies will provide the necessary funds.

I understand that the GCS Newsletter is no longer the province of an advertising agency. If this is so, I am sure a long step forward has been taken.

Relations with other societies. GCS referred to "prolonged differences of opinion between GCS and the Federation," and stated that no new organizational structure could resolve these differences, so GCS found it necessary to withdraw. But GCS should recognize that the Federation is nothing but an association of cooperatives. GCS's differences of opinion were not so much with "the Federation" as with these other societies.

The GCS argument seems to me equivalent to saying that it couldn't get along with the other societies and consequently had to withdraw. Yet, GCS continues to work with many of the same societies in Potomac Cooperators, Inc., the co-op wholesale. GCS seems able to get along with other societies in a commercial venture but not in a public relations effort—or is it that GCS is willing to spend its funds with other societies for commercial purposes, but not for cooperative educational and promotional work? Is GCS, which owes its existence to other cooperatives, willing to do its part in building other cooperatives?

To these questions, I think, the board should give careful consideration. In their answer may perhaps be found the explanation for GCS's unwillingness to accept an offer by the other societies granting the substance of every demand made upon them by GCS. The answer to these questions could also explain the GCS board's conclusion, expressed in its letter of withdrawal from the Federation, that no "mechanical arrangements"—i.e., no concessions on the part of the other societies—could be acceptable to GCS.

Lack of interest in other co-ops. The other large co-ops in the Potomac area—Rochdale, GHA, Peninsula—have regularly had articles and columns in their publications telling about other Potomac area co-ops. GCS has received frequent mention. But how often has GCS mentioned the other area cooperatives in its Newsletter or other publications? Too often the attitude of GCS board and management toward other cooperatives has been one of indifference or superiority. GCS will learn more and be a far healthier organization when its leaders learn to respect, rather than tolerate or criticize, the work of other co-ops in the area. Similarly, GCS will be more respected when it leaves the praise of GCS to others. The self-adulation, the paeans of praise for GCS,

that have played such a prominent role in the GCS Newsletter recently can only produce annoyance. If you are that good, you don't have to tell people; if you aren't, saying you are is a sure way of antagonizing people.

Relations with Greenbelt News Review. No group in Greenbelt has given more to GCS (though the GCS management and board do not recognize this) than the workers on the Greenbelt News Review. No one institution has done more than the newspaper to give Greenbelt a sense of being a community—an essential prerequisite for the success of all other community organizations, including GCS. However, for years GCS has given the paper only token support, often lessening even that support when the paper presented criticism of GCS policies. If it were not for the fact that businesses outside Greenbelt (which cannot hope to gain benefits proportional to those available to a Greenbelt business) have recognized the value of the paper and have advertised in it, the News Review would have had to discontinue publication years ago.

GCS management has never recognized certain consequences that grow out of the privilege of enjoying an "exclusive" on business in Greenbelt. One of these consequences is that the residents should have a means of expressing their views and criticisms of GCS, whether valid or not. Another consequence is that GCS should willingly have played the role that an equivalent group of independent businesses would have played in supporting the paper—this the Co-op did, incidentally, during the early years of the paper. It seems strange that the community's cooperative newspaper looks to the day, now not too far off, when non-cooperative business enters Greenbelt, for assurance of the support that will take it away from the brink of disaster.

GCS needs the News Review, would still need it if every article about GCS were critical. GCS once had a policy of advertising regularly in an amount that came very close to meeting the entire budget needs of the paper. This it can now even better afford to do, and I hope that the board will make this a firm GCS policy. At least this much is owed by GCS to the community which gave it birth and whose support it still urgently needs.

Relations with other Greenbelt groups. The strife between GCS and GVHC, when the latter was a poorly-financed organization carried entirely by volunteers, was a bitter phase of Greenbelt history. If GCS support had been necessary, GVHC never would have succeeded in purchasing the Greenbelt homes. Why did GCS fight GVHC, the News Review, the City Council? I think an attitude of superiority on the part of GCS leaders was a basic factor, and I think the board should consider whether perhaps such an attitude still prevails—and, if so, what they can do to correct it.

Pitfalls of power. Have the GCS board members been willing to accept the good faith, and respect the intelligence, of those who have not shared their views—whether these people were their own members, leaders of other community groups, or leaders of other cooperative societies? Has the GCS board been willing to reconsider its position when many persons have expressed opposition?

The Federation situation is probably an extreme, but consequently revealing, case. Here the board was opposed unanimously by the representatives of the other Federation societies, by the GCS supervisory committee, by a majority of the GCS Congress, and by its own representatives to the Federation. Yet the response to the Congress's action was that there must have been a "breakdown in communication"—that the Congress was not adequately informed. Could it be that the breakdown in communication is in the other direction? Some able public relations people say that a good public relations program is 10% getting the views of the management to the public and 90% getting the views of the public to management.

Profit-based retirement plan. The decision that a retirement plan should be set up for GCS employees was undoubtedly sound, and in keeping with progressive employment practices. Perhaps it was necessary at first, in the interests of caution, to tie the GCS contribution in the plan to the net savings of the Co-op. In any event, GCS now knows what it can contribute to such a plan, and I think the contribution ought to be separated entirely from the net savings of the Co-op.

The danger of the present plan

is that it encourages the employee to see that the Co-op is profitably operated. If there is a difference between a genuine cooperative and the ordinary business, it is that the co-op is run to serve the consumer, while the ordinary business is run to make a profit for the owner. In a co-op the employee's sole job should be to see that the consumer, who is also the owner, gets the greatest possible benefit from the enterprise. This may mean encouraging him, at times, to buy lower margin items, or not to buy certain items at all. But in a profit business, the employee's object is to make as much money as possible out of his contact with the customer.

The GCS retirement plan short-circuits the cooperative approach, makes the organization neither fish nor fowl. GCS once advertised "Co-ops can't profiteer," meaning that any gouging of customers would be futile because the money would go back to the customers in patronage refunds; but profiteering offers a lure to employees under the present plan.

The redeeming feature of this aspect of the retirement plan is that it probably is not effective. Shortly after GCS adopted the plan as an incentive for employees, the Harvard Business Review reported a survey showing that rank and file employees have little interest in profit-sharing plans—their activities are too far removed from the ultimate determination of whether the business shows a profit. The article found strong support for the profit-sharing features of retirement plans only among management personnel—where, incidentally, the strongest support came for this feature of the GCS plan.

The basic question is, are we firing the imagination of our employees with the concept of a service-motivated organization, or are we asking them to concentrate on how much they can get out of the customers to add to their retirement kitty? I hope the GCS board will study ways of modifying the retirement plan without lessening its benefits to employees but so as to eliminate the profit basis for determination of the GCS contribution.

Delegation of authority. The board has made quite a point of its study of sound administrative procedures. Yet it appears to have overlooked one elementary requirement in the administration of any large organization—the ability to delegate authority and responsibility. A striking example of this is to be found in its relations with the Federation. The Federation structure which the GCS board criticized was adopted with the support of GCS representatives to the Federation appointed by the GCS board; the Federation program which the board criticized was adopted with the support of the GCS delegates; GCS delegates were instructed to take positions at the Federation board meetings which the delegates themselves did not favor; and finally the most important action taken by the GCS board with respect to the Federation (the GCS withdrawal) was taken despite the opposition of the two persons designated by the GCS board to represent GCS on the Federation board. Under these circumstances, it is no wonder that the GCS board complains that it devoted so much time to "the Federation problem"—it had not delegated its authority. It was going through its actions as if it had no delegates at all. This I think it must be admitted is not sound administrative procedure.

Undermining the Federation. Granting that the GCS management and board had the right and the responsibility to form their own judgment of the Federation, they had neither the responsibility nor the right to put their views into the mouths of others. When the GCS general manager stated some time ago that Rochdale was dissatisfied with the Federation, I asked Mr. Hull, then a member of the audit committee and now a director, to call the general manager of Rochdale to check on this, since I was convinced that this was not Rochdale's view. Mr. Hull will, I believe, recall that Mr. Petri confirmed my opinion.

Some years ago the GCS general manager distributed to the GCS board a memorandum stating that the Farm Bureau (now Nationwide) regional manager for this area was "very dissatisfied" with the Federation program, and that Farm Bureau planned as a result to reduce its sponsorship payments to the Federation to \$12,000 that year and gradually thereafter to reduce the amounts to an insignificant figure. (I suggest that the board ask management to show them a copy of the memorandum.) Actually the Nationwide payment

for that year was the full \$13,600 requested by the Federation, and it has continued at about that level, the present budget being \$13,500. The only cut in sponsorship payments that the Federation ever experienced occurred when the Companies had a poor year, and payments to both sponsors in this area were reduced (in our case to \$13,000).

The general manager's memorandum, incidentally, was labeled "confidential," though I was given a copy. Placing it in the confidential category, where one could not attack it openly, gave it something of the sanctity accorded to unknown charges of unknown accusers. I asked the Farm Bureau regional manager if he had stated to the GCS general manager that he was very dissatisfied with the Federation program, and he denied that he had made such a statement. The memorandum was circulated, I know, outside the GCS board, but how many persons were misinformed by it I do not know. The regional manager, whose views the memorandum purported to represent, was not supplied with a copy.

The statement of the GCS president to the GCS Congress that Mr. Carlson in his report said that the Federation "lacked . . . a unified program" is also one that I do not find supported by the facts. I suggest that the GCS board do as I have done, and ask Mr. Carlson if they have correctly interpreted his report. If they have not, they may wish to make a public correction.

Emasculating the Federation. Prior to its withdrawal from the Federation, the GCS board and management made numerous proposals concerning the Federation, almost all directed toward domination or emasculation. Most of these proposals, incidentally, were not favored by any other society, though some were adopted by the Federation board in order to try to keep GCS in the Federation.

It has been fairly evident during the past years that if the Federation would allow itself to be dominated

See STATEMENT, Page 5

NOW

YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST UNINSURED DRIVERS



— with Nationwide's all-new ALTERNATIVE COMPENSATION coverage.

Provides a prompt settlement for bodily injury to you and any relatives living with you . . . no matter what the circumstances of the auto accident.

Protects you against the legal headaches and embarrassment of a lawsuit against you by offering the injured party an immediate settlement.

Provides medical, disability and death benefits . . . at a surprisingly low cost.

Add it to your Nationwide auto liability policy now . . . and driving peace of mind is yours!

See your Nationwide representative below . . . and ask him about Nationwide — the company that's different . . . that's on your side.

ANTHONY M. MADDEN

141 Centerway, Greenbelt

Phone GRanite 4-4111

FARM BUREAU MUTUAL AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE COMPANY of Ohio has changed its name to

NATIONWIDE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY HOME OFFICE • COLUMBUS, OHIO

CO-OP MEMBERS

ATTEND YOUR

Annual Meeting

APRIL 26th

INTERESTING

INFORMATIVE

Center School

8 P.M.

STATEMENT from page 4
 nated by GCS it would not face the continual harrassment represented by their proposals. But the other societies, fortunately for cooperatives in this area and ultimately for GCS as well, would not let the Federation become GCS property. Under the circumstances, I think that the greatest contribution that GCS has made to the Federation in recent years has been its withdrawal. Until GCS can see something more in the Federation than an arena for a power struggle, I think it should stay out. The Federation staff and board, and leaders of other co-op societies, have wasted an inordinate amount of time in recent years trying to satisfy GCS's insatiable hunger for power while trying to preserve the significance of the Federation as a federation. My only regret is that we did not realize sooner that we were attempting the impossible.

Conclusion. The important question to me, as a member, organizer and former president of GCS, is not whether GCS belongs to the Federation; it is whether GCS belongs to the cooperative movement. To my mind at this moment, despite its remaining affiliations, GCS is little more than another big business.

That is not what most of us were aiming for when we started GCS. It can be different, if the board will make it so. I deeply hope it will.

Walter R. Volekhausen
 A Member of GCS
Specific Recommendations

1. That the structure of GCS be reviewed to restore effective membership participation guidance and control.
2. That GCS endeavor to arrange for talks in Greenbelt and its other areas by people like those who first inspired Greenbelters with the deep meaning and potentialities of the cooperative movement; and that an effort be made to impress management, board, employees, Congressmen, and the general membership with these values.
3. That the board practically eliminate executive sessions.
4. That the retirement plan and other GCS policies be reviewed in terms of basic cooperative objectives.
5. That the board welcome and give public expression to different points of view on important issues.
6. That the request for a zoning change for a service station be withdrawn.
7. That the board adopt a policy of substantial advertising support for the Greenbelt News Review - at least \$50 per week. Welcome News Review criticism - the paper will be more valuable to you if it clearly is not a GCS mouth-piece.
8. That the board vote to rejoin the Federation without seeking to control it - it will do you more good that way. Try to lead by the persuasiveness of your ideas, not the dominance of your representation.
9. That, whether or not GCS rejoins the Federation, a determined effort be made to see that the GCS public relations program gives continuing emphasis to support of other local cooperatives.
10. That the board insist that directors and management show proper respect to the effort and the accomplishments of their fellow co-op workers in other societies.
11. That the board vote to return to the policy of selling Government-graded products wherever possible, including meats.
12. That the board instruct management to proceed at once to arrange for joint advertising with Rochdale.
13. That candidates in the coming GCS election be encouraged to take stands on some of the issues presented here - such as, participation in the Federation, selling Government-graded products, avoiding executive sessions, working more closely with other co-ops as in joint advertising; and that biographies and "platforms" of all candidates be included in the GCS Newsletter accompanying the ballots.

Our Neighbors

Elaine Skolnik - 7586

Congratulations to James Strippling, Jr., 1-K Gardenway, who was named to the Dean's List at Harvard University. James is a sophomore.

Robert E. Wright, a Maryland University student, has been accepted into the Theta Chi Fraternity.

Mr. and Mrs. George Townsend, 51-D Ridge, announce the arrival of Donna Lorraine on March 31. Donna weighed in at 5 lbs. 12 oz. and joins a sister.

Happy birthday to David Klein, 2-F Northway, who celebrated his sixth birthday on April 12.

Visiting the Hy Gersons this week are Esther's parents, Mr. and M. Finklestein, sister Mrs. Elizabeth Merl and niece Susie, all of Brooklyn.

Mr. and Mrs. William Hopkins, Jr., 45 Ridge, have just returned from a wonderful trip to California. They visited friends and relatives in Los Angeles and Oxnard, and also spent some time in San Antonio, Texas, where a son and his family reside.

A speedy recovery to Betty Coleman, 11-D Hillside, who is in Prince Georges Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. B. McConky, 7-H Research, have just returned from a motor trip to Long Beach, California, where they visited Mr. McConky's mother.

A shower was given by Joella Porter and Therese Lipscomb for Anne Porter who was married the latter part of March to Louis Mead.

Happy birthday to Joel Garner, 46-G Ridge, who celebrated his ninth birthday March 8.

Sunday, March 15, was a very special day for Reba Fisher, 5-D Eastway. This little miss was eight years old.

Sorry to hear that Barbara Ratzkin, 17-Ridge, broke her wrist.

Meet new neighbor Grady and Mary Jenkins now living at 45-G Ridge with their four children, Fay 17, Bobby 15, Betty 14, and Barbara 8. The Jenkins come from Forestville, Maryland, where Mr. Jenkins deals in fences. Their telephone number is GRanite 3-5656.

CLASSIFIED

TELEVISION SERVICE: By professional electrical engineers using the finest of modern test equipment. RCA Registered Dealer. Any make, any model. Philco Authorized Service. GR 3-4431 or GR 3-3811.

CALDWELL'S WASHER SERVICE—All makes expertly repaired. Authorized Whirlpool dealer. TO 9-6414.

TELEVISION service by Ken Lewis. WE 5-5718.

DRESSMAKING and alterations. Mrs. Russell, 2-F Westway. GR 4-8956.

TYPEWRITER service. Cleaning, overhauling, repairing. Electric, standard, portable. R. F. Poland. GR 3-2537, nights and weekends.

GLENDENING'S radio and T.V. service. Free tube checking. Standard brand tubes 40% off list. 5210 Palco Pl. WE 5-6607.

PIANOS - SPINETTS from \$450 up. Delivery included. Several excellent Grands half of new prices. Keeney's Piano & Music Stores, 161 West Street, Annapolis, Md. Phone Colonial 3-2629 and 3-260.

GHW, CHLD CARE by day, or week. Call GR. 3-4083.

PRIVATE PIANO lessons. Beginning or advanced students. Will come to your home. Mrs. Nelson. GR. 4-8596.

BRICK HOUSE for sale; large, attic, end, desirable location, good yard, other fine features. Leaving Greenbelt shortly. Inquire 3491.

FOR SALE - Maple dinette set, table and four chairs. \$20. Mrs. F. R. Johnston, 7-A Ridge Rd. Tel. 7301.

2 BEDROOM Defense Home; Good location, near center. GR 3-5301.

Hep Hop For "Socko" Sox

A "Sock Hop" for Greenbelt youth will be held Sunday, April 29, from 2 to 5 p.m., at the Jewish Community Center. Admission will be 25 cents per person, and a door prize will be awarded for the most unusual socks. Included in the entertainment will be music from a juke box, games, and a bake sale. Proceeds from the affair, which is sponsored by the JCC Debs, will go to the United Jewish Appeal.

AL LONG FANS

The weekly column of Al Long will be temporarily suspended while he is on military leave. As soon as he returns, we hope to continue his sprightly, provocative essays on Greenbelt life.

Exams To Be Held For Substitute P.O. Clerk

The Director, third U. S. Civil Service region, has announced an examination for substitute postal transportation clerk, paying \$1.92 an hour, for duty throughout the States of Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

To qualify applicants must pass a written test and be able to meet certain physical requirements; and be residents of the State for which they apply. Applications will be accepted by the Director, third U. S. Civil Service region, Second and Chestnut streets, Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania until April 3, 1956.

SELECT YOUR HOME
 From over 200 homes listed by Robert E. Lohr, Realtor, Langley Park, Md.
 Call Mrs. Jarvis 9342 for further information.

ST. HUGH'S REGISTRATION

Registration for new students to enter St. Hugh's school in September will be held Sunday, April 29 after the 8:30 Mass and again on Monday, April 30 and Tuesday, May 1, from 2:45 to 4 p.m. in the school office. Children must be six years of age by December 31, 1956, to enter the September class. Baptismal certificates must be presented for all children not baptised in St. Hugh's.

TELEVISION SERVICE

Guaranteed TV Repairs on Any Make - Any Model by Professional Electrical Engineers
 RCA Registered Dealers
 Philco Authorized Sales & Service
 Sales on Television, Radio, Electric Ranges, Refrigerators
 Call GR 3-4431
 GR. 3-3811 TO. 9-6026
HANYOK BROS.
 Television Service Company

1956 Dodge & Plymouth

AT BIG SAVINGS TO YOU

\$500.00 for anything that

can roll in the door

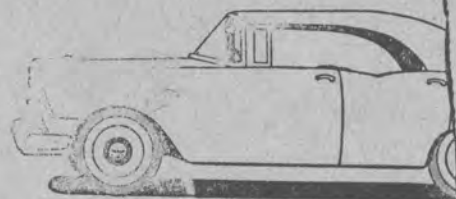
Banning & Sons Motors, Inc.

5800 Baltimore Ave. Hyattsville, Md. UN. 4-3130



Photo by Don Fugitt

**Good Popazition?
 What's that mean, Daddy?**



Proposition, Son . . . I'm talking about the way we financed our new car at Suburban Trust Co. They only charge 4% interest! That's a terrific savings—and their plan takes care of insurance and everything! See what I mean by good proposition? Come on son, let's take a ride.

A Strong, Friendly Bank

SUBURBAN TRUST COMPANY



FREE Parking at All 4 Convenient Locations
 Silver Spring - JUNiper 5 1000 Hyattsville - UNION 4-7500
 MEMBER F.D.I.C.

BAPTIST CHAPEL

Center School

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
- 6:00 p.m. Training Union
- 7:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Welcome to our
 Sunday Services.

Health For All

Too Much Medicine

"I don't take any medicine," the man told his doctor. But . . . he was taking a pill to pep himself up in the morning, another to reduce his weight, an assorted group of vitamin and mineral pills and capsules, antihistamin for the sn ifles, drops to soothe his nose, a drug to quit the jitters, another to fight heartburn, a laxative, and a sleeping potion.

None of these things were "medicine" to him—just little things he thought he needed to get through the day. No doctor had advised him to take all that stuff. As a matter of fact, he went to see the doctor because he was suffering unexplained stomach cramps.

Too many people take too much medicine or too many kinds of medicine. Some get themselves into serious trouble by continuing to take a medicine prescribed by the doctor long after it has done its work and the need is past. Others go to three or four physicians, getting from each a prescription for a different symptom. Many go on taking a drug after it starts to produce symptoms which, to a doctor, would indicate a dangerous sensitivity to the medicine.

The wisest procedure is to stick to the advice of the family doctor. When you see him for your regular checkup, he should know what medicines, laxatives, and diet supplements you have been taking. Perhaps he will tell you you don't need all those vitamin pills. The laxative habit can be dangerous. Perhaps the symptoms you are treating yourself indicate some serious trouble which he alone should diagnose.

Many of us are apt to prescribe for ourselves when it comes to cold remedies, vitamins and laxatives. It's a good idea to ask the doctor's opinion first. He's the man who knows whether a commercial preparation you can buy from the drugstore will do you any good, or whether it might do you real harm.

Insurance-Loan Tie-In Costly, Says Magazine

Beware of strong-arm arrangements for tying insurance sales to loans, warn the editors of *Changing Time, The Kiplinger Magazine*. Most of these deals involve mortgage loans, but insurance tie-ins with car loans are widespread too.

Pressure by a lender to buy his insurance, be it subtle or heavy-handed, is bad business. It restricts your freedom of choice and can cost you money because you are prevented from shopping around for equal coverage at a better price or better coverage at the same price.

Worse yet, there have been instances of costly abuses in connection with "blackjack" insurance. Sometimes captive auto policies are written at "Class 2" rates, the rate applicable to cars driven by persons under 25, whether or not there is a driver under that age in the family. Many veterans who bought homes for nothing down have been obliged to buy insurance for the full amount of their loans, thus paying to insure their driveways, sewers and lawns against total destruction by fire.

Coercion is illegal in many states. The Federal Trade Commission has ruled that it is unfair trade practice and may also violate the Sherman anti-trust act.

What can you do if you encounter an effort to dictate where you buy insurance?

You can let the lender know he has no right to specify where you buy insurance. Or, you can take your business elsewhere. In case no other lender will meet your money needs, you can sue, but this involves time and expense. You can yield under pressure and complain to the state attorney general, if you live in a state with an anti-coercion law, or to the U.S. Attorney General. Although the only immediate benefit is the satisfaction of letting off steam, your protest may help authorities spot coercion and stamp it out.

Maryland University, Fish Commission Combine Forces To Study Lake

(Reprinted from the Washington Post Times Herald)
By Robert Burchette

WHO THREW the pumpkin seed in Greenbelt Lake? A batch of these and other "strangers" were tossed into the 22-acre body of water with detrimental effect on the bass.

The lake is the object of a five-year project study by the University of Maryland, at the request of the Maryland Game and Inland Fish Commission.

Sportsmen, with the best of intentions, have done a bit of stocking on their own and have fouled up the works. Now the whole thing is a sorry kettle of fish.

The project began back in 1952. The lake was drained and inventoried as follows: 30 tons of carp, 39 large-mouth bass, 6 pickerel, 15 catfish and 7 tons of assorted tin-cans and bottle.

The lake bed was allowed to dry thoroughly then sprayed with rotenone, fertilized and permitted to refill.

SWEET AND PURE once more, the 75 million gallons of water were stocked with 300 adult large-mouth bass and 2000 bluegills. The plantings were carefully supervised and control sheets were started.

Fishing was permitted in the lake starting in June of '52 and, in November, 488 large-mouths were added. The bluegills were thriving and holding their own.

In the summer of 1953 came the blow. Instead of two species of fish, the census showed eight. There were pumpkinseed (sunfish), golden shiners, gizzard shad, pickerel, carp and small-mouth bass, in addition to the original bluegills and large-mouth bass. The unwanted species destroyed the "balance" necessary to the survival and growth of the bass.

SINCE DISCOVERY of the havoc, the lake has been planted each year with enough bass to keep up the breed. The scientific accuracy of the whole thing has been destroyed, however, and the eager conservationists are more than a little upset.

This fall there is to be a new start. Again the lake will be drained. Rotenone will be applied to kill all unwanted life and a new civilization will come into being.

This time a sort of United Nations pact is being arranged between the Greenbelt city officials, the Maryland Game and Inland Fish Commission and the University of Maryland. Water levels will remain constant and it is agreed there will be no private stocking.

W. G. MAGUIRE, president of the Greenbelt Chapter of the Izaak Walton League, has pledged the support of that group in keeping the covenant. They have done much to keep the lake clean and are willing to do more.

Charles H. Milton, regional fish culturist for Maryland's third and fourth districts, attended the meeting of the chapter Thursday evening and showed some fascinating color slides of trout hatcheries maintained by the state.

Greenbelt's own backyard fishing pool was the main subject of discussion, however. In the interest of pure scientific research, please take note: If your guppy has puppies and your catfish has kittens; drown them, if you must. But don't throw them in Greenbelt Lake.

Women Voters Query State Candidates

"Please indicate the aspects of the U.S. Foreign Policy with which you are most in agreement; those of which you are most critical," and "In what domestic legislation are you especially interested? Please state your support or opposition."

Answers to these questions are published in a flier "Know Your Candidates" just released by the League of Women Voters of Maryland.

The questions were asked of the candidates from Maryland for the U.S. Senate and for the U.S. Representative, 5th Congressional District, by the members of the League of Women Voters of Maryland, and the Anne Arundel, Howard and Prince Georges County Leagues of Women Voters.

The questionnaire is provided by the League, a nonpartisan organization, as a service to voters. All information was supplied by the candidates themselves.

"Know Your Candidates" may be obtained by calling Mrs. Sterling Ament, president, League of Women Voters of Prince Georges County, LO 7-2322.

At Annapolis, recently, Governor Theodore R. McKeldin presented a State flag to members of the League of Women Voters of Maryland who will attend the 22nd Convention of the League of Women Voters of the United States. The Convention will be held in Chicago, April 30 to May 4.

GVHC from page 1

ation, and the means of financing the project. The most feasible GVHC-owned site, Campbell stated, is on Crescent Rd. between Parkway and St. Hugh's Church.

four afternoons a week for seven weeks.

Playgrounds will be held at Langley Park, Lewisdale, Carole Highlands, Woodridge, Riverdale, Seat Pleasant, Braddury Heights, Morningside, North Brentwood, Highland Park and Fairmont Heights.

Spring Playground Program Underway

A Spring program of supervised playground will be conducted by the Prince Georges county recreation department starting April 16 in eleven communities. Games, sports, and special activities, under the direction of trained playground leaders, will be conducted

NOTICE

TO GCS MEMBERS

*Attend The Annual Membership Meeting
of Greenbelt Consumer Services Inc.*

**NEXT THURS., APRIL 26, 1956
8 P.M.**

at the
CENTER SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS SPONSORED BY A GROUP OF INTERESTED CO-OP MEMBERS