



## Greenbelters Crowd Two-Day Hearing On Co-op

### 2 Of 3-Man Committee Find Contract Between GCS, FPMA "Monopolistic"

The contract between Greenbelt Consumer Services and the government was held to be "monopolistic" and its cancellation was recommended by a two to one vote Saturday by the House Small Business subcommittee.

GCS Secretary Frank Lastner, in a release to the press Saturday night, charged that the hearing was "definitely fixed," that the majority members of the committee "acted as prosecutors rather than men trying to find out the facts," and claimed that they "had already made up their minds as to the outcome of the hearing before it started." He added that the final decision was rendered without "deliberation" and before "all the records and evidence" sought had been recorded.

Immediately after conclusion of the hearings held on Friday and Saturday, the committee chairman, Representative Walter C. Ploeser (R., Mo.) read a resolution which described the contract as contrary to the purpose and spirit of the anti-trust laws of the United States. Representative R. Walter Riehlman (R., N. Y.) concurred in the resolution, which urged that "private business" be admitted to Greenbelt on "fair and equal terms."

Dissenting, Representative Wright Patman (D., Tex.) stated that the committee had not proved that the contract was monopolistic. He said he would oppose the resolution before the full House Small Business committee and would oppose it before Congress.

(The contract between GCS and the Federal Public Housing Authority grants GCS with respect to services it is supplying at any time, the exclusive privilege of rendering that service within a one-half mile radius of the center; with respect to any other services which FPMA deems desirable or economically feasible, FPMA agrees to give GCS 30 days' notice before awarding to anyone else the privilege of rendering that service. GCS can compete with anyone else for the right of rendering the new service.)

#### Tax Question Evaded

A pre-hearing release by the subcommittee stated that GCS "enjoys a complete monopoly over all business at Greenbelt, as the result of a contract with the Federal Public Housing Authority . . . Specifically, the hearings will deal with tax exemption aspects of co-operation (sic), government fostering of cooperatives and the discrimination against private business due to the FPMA favoring co-operative enterprise over private enterprise."

Actually the hearing touched only incidentally on the charge of tax exemption. That part of the investigation will be handled through a report being drawn up by the committee's accountant who has examined the financial records of GCS. To this report the co-operatives attorney, Albert Arent, will attach his statement.

#### Myer Defends FPMA

Questioning of the first witness, FPMA Commissioner Dillon S. Myer, revealed that the committee's dual interest was in airing the "monopolistic" contract between the government agency and GCS and in pinning the blame on FPMA.

Spectators from Greenbelt were interested to note, as one said privately, that "in this fight GCS and FPMA stand shoulder to shoulder with the lengthy lease negotiations and differences on other matters temporarily, at least, forgotten."

Mr. Myer would not agree that the contract was "monopolistic" and said that the cooperative had been a very good agency with which to deal. He felt, he said, that the contract was awarded in the public interest.

Letters of application to FPMA by representatives of "private business" for entrance into Greenbelt were read and the replies as well which were all along the same line—that a study was being made concerning the disposition of the community. The applications included among others one from Safeway Stores, and two later identified as coming from former GCS general manager Thomas B. Ricker and former GCS theatre manager Jack Fruchtman.

Upon questioning from the chairman, Mr. Myer agreed that the present food store space was inadequate, but said that the new super-market will ease the situation. The contract has been remunerative to the government, he said.

#### Patman Intervenes

Congressman Patman took over the questioning and brought out the fact that GCS enjoys no tax exemption. He said in Greenbelt "the people themselves have charge of their business. If two thirds of the people want it that way, why shouldn't they run the store?" He added that there is no restriction on peddlers and hucksters in the town, and that there is additional competition because so many of the people go into Washington every day.

"Far better," the Texas Congressman said, "to have a cooperative at the shopping center than a chain which draws profits out of the community."

#### M. E. C. Represented

Robert I. Black, president of the Maryland Economic Council, testified that "in every community in Maryland where I have visited . . . the leading merchants and business men express fear and concern over the threatened or existing competition from cooperatives." He proceeded to read a comparative list showing the number of stores and services in Greenbelt and in other Maryland cities with about the same population. He drew a laugh from the spectators when, following his listing of funeral parlors in other cities, he said, "A town of 8,000 is a natural for a funeral parlor."

Congressman Patman charged that the National Tax Equality Association is responsible for the "misleading of the merchants" with regard to cooperatives, and that he is awaiting with interest the report from the NTEA which the committee, at his instigation, requested, concerning their financial backing.

#### Applications Cited

Edward Thornhill, Greenbelt resident, and a former employee of the Resettlement Administration, testified at the Friday afternoon session. He said that when the project was in development the government had many applications from private businesses to operate the stores. Complaints came to him from businessmen who wanted to come into Greenbelt that they "were given the runaround."

(Continued on Page 4)



Tom Ricker, former general manager of GCS, confers with "the prosecution" as general manager Sam Ashelman resumes his testimony at the co-op hearing Saturday morning. Representatives Riehlman and Ploeser at the left, and Representative Patman, at the right, made up the three-man committee.

### GCS Resolution

Text of the resolution adopted unanimously by the membership meeting of Greenbelt Consumer Services on Wednesday night:

"We residents of Greenbelt, Maryland, deplore the bias against cooperatives displayed by the Subcommittee of the House Small Business Committee during its recent hearing on the Greenbelt Co-operative, as evidenced by calling only witnesses unfavorable to the cooperative, using a very small committee room despite the crowd, and other manifestations of unfriendliness.

"We have complete confidence that Greenbelt Consumer Services will continue to serve the best interests of our community and provide us with adequate shopping facilities. The recent expansion of such shopping services as the electrical appliance and shoe stores, the bus and traveling store services, in addition to existing plans for a new building are ample proof of the awareness of the Co-op of the town's needs.

"We do not oppose the establishment of private enterprises in our town, but we insist that they provide "fair" competition and do not build on our park and recreation areas.

"We urge our Federal Government through the Public Housing Administration to honor its present contract obligations with G.C.S.

### List Closes Mon., 15 Up For Council

Mayor George Bauer and Postmaster George Eshbaugh bring the total of candidates who have filed for council election to 15. Director of Recreation Ben Goldfaden told a Cooperator reporter that he plans to file his petition tonight, which will increase the number to 16.

According to Mrs. Winfield McCamy, Town Clerk, there are still four additional petitions out, but none of which had been filed on Wednesday. They were taken out by Councilman Joseph Rogers, Sherrod East, Al Shaeffer and by someone who preferred to remain anonymous, according to Mrs. McCamy. However, the anonymous candidate is said to be Councilman John Cain.

Mrs. McCamy did not have figures at hand of the total registration on Wednesday, but did emphasize that registration will be held tonight at the Town office, next to the bank, as well as tomorrow, from 9 a. m. to 1 p. m., and on Monday, Labor Day, from 9 a. m. to 1 p. m.

Comprising the total of 15 actual candidates at press time were: George Bauer, Thomas J. Canning, Abraham Chasanow, Paul Dunbar, George Eshbaugh, Vernon T. Fox, David Granahan, Mrs. Betty Harrington, Herbert Hertz, Frank J. Lastner, Allan Lawrence, A. C. Long, Frank J. McConnell, Allen D. Morrison and James C. Smith.

### GCS Members Get Hearing Report, Pass Resolution Deploing Bias

Nearly 400 members of Greenbelt Consumer Services voted unanimously, at the quarterly meeting Wednesday night, to endorse a resolution proposed by Paul Borsky which deplored the "bias against cooperatives displayed by the sub-committee of the House Small Business Committee" during the recent hearing. It was also voted that the resolution be made available for signature by any residents who were not present at the meeting. Copies will be sent to the Public Housing Authority, to all nine members of the full committee on small business, and to other Congressmen and public officials.

Morris Mitchell, secretary of the Southeastern Cooperative League, referred to Greenbelt in the speech of the evening as "one of the most civilized places on earth," and told his audience that it has an opportunity here to set an example for the whole world. He stated that he knew Greenbelt in 1937 when he worked with the Farm Security Administration, and that the project was under attack since the beginning. Reviewing world events since the crash of 1929, which he said marked the point where the capacity to produce advanced so far that the competitive profit system broke down, Mr. Mitchell listed the systems which other countries have adopted and cited co-operatives as the ideal answer for peace and abundance.

In the president's report, Dayton Hull stated that the cooperative came through its inquisition with flying colors, and reported that since the hearing there have been more sales of stock than withdrawals. All of the recent withdrawals except one, in fact, were

### Gobbel Plan Ok'd By Council Mon.

A set of rules and regulations devised by Town Manager James T. Gobbel was accepted by the Town Council Monday night. The plan covers in detail every phase of procedure, duties and responsibilities, including a tie-up of Council to Administration, with each councilman a committeeman in relation to one or more administrative departments.

The meeting, which lasted only an hour, also saw the passage of a resolution to erect a bandstand, and the selection of election officials. Divided into a day shift and a night shift, the officials selected are as follows: Judge at large, George Edmiston; Lou Gerstel, Mrs. Daniel Neff, Rudolf Danek, Lester Roach and E. M. Hager, completing the day shift; and John Beckham, Director of the Count; Hilbert O. Kurth, John McWilliams, Mrs. Joseph C. Macchio, Leo Mullen and Wayne Roberts for the night group.

by people leaving. mally turn in their stock a departure. As far as financing is concerned, Mr. Hull stated that enough money has already been raised from GCS members to build the minimum building required in the new lease by July, 1948.

#### Capital Stock Doubles

Treasurer Thomas Ritchie reported over 100% increase in capital stock, and stated that the books are in excellent condition, Fulton Lewis to the contrary. The co-operative, he said, is still enjoying an excellent financial position, with 3 times as many assets as debts; last year's ratio was 2.6%.

Frank Lastner, secretary, reported on the hearing, at which he was a witness, and added that GCS has now a total of 2466 members. Paul Borsky, also a witness at the hearing, gave a further comment on the hearing and presented his resolution for vote of the membership, seconded by Mrs. Carrie Harper.

Discussion followed, with Mrs. Betty Harrington stating that the resolution might strengthen the position of FPMA, which announced after the committee's decision that it had no plan for action as a result of the hearing. Major Adelbert Long suggested that Greenbelters did not object to the hearing itself, since Congress has a right to investigate anything it takes into its head, but they did object to the unfair tactics. Morris Solomon added that the whole town should be alerted to make its feelings known to its individual representatives in Congress, and to write to the committee independently on the subject.

#### Elect 4 Directors

After the vote on the resolution, election of members to the board of directors was held, with nine candidates up for election: Larry Fink, Lucile Fonda, David Granahan, Carrie Harper, Paul Kasko, Bill Nicholas, Ben Rosenzweig, Tom Ritchie, and Orville Slye. Results were to be counted Thursday night, and were not available at press time.

The question of employing former director Bruce Bowman as assistant to the fountain manager was presented for vote of the membership as provided in the by-laws, and was approved by a majority show of hands.



# GREENBELT COOPERATOR

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2. Covering Greenbelt news as fully, fairly, and accurately as possible.

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Friday, August 29, 1947

No. 1

## OUR NEIGHBORS

Cheer up! It's hot here but there are places in the U. S. that are considerably hotter. From Oklahoma City, Mrs. Kay Clark, a former Greenbelter, writes to Mrs. Joe Rogers and sends a newspaper clipping that gives a good idea of how hot it can get out there. The news photo shows a woman opening a bureau drawer of newly hatched chicks. The woman had previously placed a box of eggs in a drawer and then forgotten to use them. Some time later she opened the drawer to find that the eggs had been hatched into baby chicks with the aid of the weather which kept the mercury at a constant 100 degrees. "So you see," Mrs. Clark writes, "at least our temperature is an even one... an even 100 degrees!"

Mrs. George Long, 15 B Ridge Road with her small daughter is in New York for a three weeks visit with her mother.

Mrs. Lulu Hamlin, 2 H Eastway entered Mount Alto Hospital as a patient more than a week ago.

Thirteen year old Billy Turner has been spending the month of August with relatives in Algonquin Park, Ontario, Canada. He's enjoyed the motor boating and swimming twice a day during the unusually hot weather.

Mr. and Mrs. William Noss of Hazelton, Pa., are spending a few days as the house guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Domchick, Sr., 60 H Crescent Road.

Enjoying vacations at Camp Letts, Maryland, are Mr. and Mrs. Larry Fink, 16 C Ridge Road and their two boys and also Mr. and Mrs. Lester Citron with their children, 13 E Ridge Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Salzman, 56 B Crescent Road are in northern New Jersey with their son, Gil, for a brief holiday.

Annette and Martin Greenbaum, 23 A Ridge Road, celebrated their common birthday on August 19 with a party for about 20 of their little friends. Annette was five years old and her brother, Martin was 2. Their grandmother came down from New York to wish them Happy Birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Crane, 6 D Plateau Place, had as their guests, Mr. and Mrs. A. Scholler of Chicago. Mrs. Scholler is Mr. Crane's sister. The Schollers returned home last Sunday.

The daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. William H. Rogers on July 27 was baptized last Sunday by Father Dowgiallo. The baby has been named Nancy Lou Rogers. Her godparents, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Serafin of Spangler, Pa., were here for a week and left Sunday. Miss Chet Serafin, the sister of Mrs. Rogers was here also. A buffet luncheon was served after the christening at the home of the baby's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Rogers, 2 C Eastway.

Mrs. Burma Keaton of 25 A Ridge Road is enjoying a visit from her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Melton of Athens, Tenn. After a stay here of three weeks,

they will go on to visit another daughter and her family in Norfolk, Va., before returning home.

The patter of little feet at the home of the Leon Vogels at 11 H Laurel Hill Road has become quite a clatter this past week because of a pair of wooden shoes that arrived from Amsterdam, Holland, as a gift for little Ian from a family friend.

Winfred and "Pedey" Meyer of 54-F Crescent Road left Greenbelt last week for the Eastern Shore of Maryland. "Wif," who formerly taught at Greenbelt High, has been appointed principal of the high school at Preston, Md. "Pedey" was a popular member of the Co-operator staff. Greenbelt will miss them both. Goodbye and good luck!

Mrs. Frances Stouffer, Public Health Nurse, is attending Walsh House, Red Cross Headquarters, for classes in Home Nursing and Infant and Mother Care and Family Health, three days this week and three next week, to prepare herself to teach classes to the prospective mothers or any who are interested in this phase of home nursing. The course will consist of six 2 hour lessons over a period of three weeks.

Tommy Stage of 57-Q Ridge Road celebrated his fifth birthday with a party on August 22.

Lynne Eddy, 58-B Ridge Road was two on Monday and celebrated with a party.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Backstrom, 73-R Ridge Road have with them for an extended visit Mrs. Backstrom's brother, Robert Perry who arrived on Tuesday from Manhattan, Kansas.

Dr. and Mrs. William Eisner are leaving September 6 for a vacation in California and will be away for the balance of the month.

Johnny Costa, the Co-operator's sports editor and his family have returned from a two weeks vacation. They divided their time between New Haven, Conn., where they stayed several days with friends, and Cedarhurst on Chesapeake Bay where they were guests at the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Felter of 9-D Research Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Bev Fonda, 9-C Research Road have returned from a two weeks visit with friends in Conway, New Hampshire. With their seven year old son, Ritchie, they climbed, but really climbed 3295 feet to the summit of Moat Mountain. They drove up Mount Washington and subsequently discovered they were at the foot of the mountain at the same time that the Tom Ritchies were eight miles away at the top.

A son, Richard Allan was born to Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Shelley of 2-A Crescent Road on August 17 at Leland Memorial Hospital. They have another son, Warren Kenneth, Jr. The Shelleys are moving tomorrow to Takoma Park, Maryland.

Mrs. Harold McWilliams and Mrs. Thomas Berry of the 34 court Ridge entertained at a bridal shower August 13, in honor of Mrs. Paul T. Strickler, Jr. (Corinne Davis) bride of last January. Mrs. Strickler was the recipient of many beautiful gifts.

Shop in Greenbelt stores and save yourself money.

## To The Editor:

### Candidates Speak

Born in Washington, D. C., 1895. I attended public schools in the District of Columbia; entered Government Service in 1912; have had 34 years Government service; came to Greenbelt March 29, 1938; was elected member of Cooperative Organizing Committee about May 1, 1938 and served until January 1, 1940; was elected to Board of Directors of GCS 1942 and 1943 and served as Secretary to the Board and Chairman of the Management Committee most of that time.

I have been a Director of the Greenbelt Community Church (formerly member of Finance Committee) several times since its organization, and also serve on the Music and Building Committees.

I was elected to the Town Council in 1943, reelected in 1945. I have actively supported the Community Band, the Youth Center and every other projected program which I believed was of benefit generally to our Town and all its citizens, or at least a great majority.

I was member of the Planning Committee of the Greenbelt Town Fairs for 1945 and 1946, and was also active in the earlier Fairs.

I am a member in good standing or a supporter of practically all of the organizations to which I am eligible and that I feel are beneficial to the members and a credit to Greenbelt.

It is my desire that Greenbelt be retained for Greenbelters and not be turned over to private interests or corporations, and I will do all within my power to bring about complete ownership of the entire town by the citizens of Greenbelt. It is possible! Let's find out how it can be done and all pull together and do it.

I have been active in every activity for which I was eligible and felt I could do a good job or be of material help in a program.

Let's all stop trying to tear things down and put our minds and energy to keeping what we have and to making a grand little old town still better.

Since all that I can do is the best I can do, I make you just one promise:

If reelected, I'll do my best at all times.

—PAUL DUNBAR

## To the Editor:

As a candidate for election to the town council I earnestly solicit your vote. My position on the four most important questions facing Greenbelt citizens is:

1. When Greenbelt is sold, I favor its purchase by the citizens of Greenbelt either through the Mutual Housing Association or in any other manner desired by the majority of the citizens.

2. I favor the adoption of a zoning code which will preserve the beauty of Greenbelt while permitting business to operate in restricted commercial areas.

3. I am in favor of GCS maintaining and expanding its economic advantage built up by years of hard work by the citizens of Greenbelt, and resent outside interference of any kind in Greenbelt's affairs.

4. I favor a town budget appropriation providing for expanded sanitary, public health, educational, and other vitally needed services.

I welcome any opportunity to amplify my views on these and other pertinent issues.

Sincerely,  
—HERBERT HERTZ

## To the Editor:

My decision to enter the council race has been motivated by the lack of playfields, sidewalks, and safety measures in the north end of town. As one of the first residents to move into this section of the town, it was obvious to me that no thought had been given to these problems and in the ensuing five years very little has been accomplished. The people of the north end have never been properly represented in the town government and I feel that they are entitled to a councilman.

The problems of our young people are of the greatest importance to the entire community, and I believe the council should assume leadership in working out the solution to these problems.

Public Health Services have long been inadequate for our needs. I favor the immediate expansion of Public Health personnel and facilities. Due to limited space here I will elaborate on my platform by other means.

—FRANK J. McCONNELL

## Plugs Bauer Power

### To the Editor:

I am going to vote for George Bauer for Council again. Mr. Bauer is the people's choice. Modest almost to a fault, Mr. Bauer shrinks into the background in public meetings. Never loud nor assertive, he at times lets others disagree with him, without attempting to penalize them, although he is the Mayor of our town.

He has the support of people who are representative of Greenbelt. Such people as Judge Tom Freeman, Thomas Ricker, Jack Fruchtmann, Leo Mullen, Les Sanders and others typical of the high intelligence and moral character in our town, speak well of Mayor Bauer.

His prowess as an athlete makes him particularly a good man to help run our town. I hope his friend John Cain will also run, so that there will be at least two candidates whose character and ability are known to the public.

A vote for Bauer and Cain is a vote for Safeway!

—IMPROVER

## Rumor Hath It—

By CARL ISLE

As predicted, rumors are flying thicker and faster as the climactic day nears.

The rumor that Jack Cain will run trails a lot of offspring rumors along behind it. His statement that he wouldn't run for a million dollars leads one rumorist to assert that a larger sum must have been offered him. Since he testified at the Small Business subcommittee hearing that the Council had not been "run right" ever since he'd been on it, one assumption is that he's supported by those who'd like to see the Council continue to be inefficient. More likely, in view of the nature of his testimony, says another rumor-monger, the million-plus offer has been made by Safeway Stores.

Rumor hath it that the Greenbelt Improvement Association, which delivered to Greenbelters a flyer on Wednesday evening, is composed of sour-grape businessmen who got their starts in the Greenbelt Cooperative, before being kicked out, and would like to kick GCS out and clean up on Greenbelt consumers. It is said that they have a theme song to the tune of Dixie, that goes like this: "We're the boys who root for Mayor Bauer

Every minute, every hour.

He's our friend

To the end.

May he win!

Vote for Bauer!

He could also use a good assistant Who will never be resistant. Vote for Cain! Vote for Cain! Vote for Cain! and for Bauer!

One disconcerting rumor which we have not had time to check yet is that Leo Mullen, selected by Mayor Bauer as a vote counter, cannot legally act in that capacity, as he is under a peace bond until October.

## Community Church

Sunday, August 31—

9:30 a. m.—Church School. Thomas P. Berry, superintendent.

10 a. m.—Men's Bible Class. James T. Gobbel, teacher.

10:50—Church Nursery.

11 a. m.—Church Worship. A cordial welcome to all. The Rev. Eric T. Braund, who with Mrs. Braund and the children, has been on vacation in Pennsylvania during the month of August, will return to the pulpit. Soloist will be Mrs. Lydalu Palmer, with Mrs. Milton Wiksell as organist.

Tuesday, September 2—

First fall meeting of the Afternoon Guild postponed until Tuesday, September 9.

8:00 p. m.—Building Committee meeting.

The Evening Guild will hold its first meeting of the fall on Tuesday, September 16 at the home of Mrs. Grace Trast, 19-K Ridge Road.

## St. Hugh's Catholic Church

Daily Mass: Mass will be celebrated at 7 a. m. at St. Hugh's Chapel on only two days of this week, Monday and Friday. Fr. Dowgiallo will be on retreat from Sept. 2 through Sept. 6.

Sunday Mass: 7:30 and 9:30 a. m. in the theater.

1 p. m.: Baptisms.

Confessions: 4-5 p. m. Saturday, expressly for the children. 7:30-9:30 p. m. for adults.

Thursday, September 4: Opening of school for children attending the Holy Redeemer School, Berwyn, Md., 9 a. m.

Friday, September 5: The First Friday of the Month. Mass at 7 a. m., 58-A Crescent Road.

Saturday, September 13: A basket picnic at the lake for all members of St. Hugh's Parish, from 11 a. m. until closing time. The public is invited.

## Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter Day Saints

Sunday meetings are held in the social room of the elementary school as follows:

Sunday School—10:30 a. m.

Priesthood Meeting—11:45 a. m.

Sacrament Service—6:30 p. m.

Everyone is invited to these meetings.

## Hebrew Services

Sabbath Services will be conducted by Rabbi Sandhaus, Friday, August 29 at 8:30 p. m. in the Social Room of the Center School. All persons are invited.

## Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church

Woodlandway and Forestway  
Pastor, Rev. Raymond W. Cooke  
6-X Plateau Place  
Telephone 5946

Sunday, August 31—

9:45 a. m.—Church School.

(Classes for all ages)

11 a. m.—Morning Worship.

You are cordially invited to worship with us.

"Whatever light we have is desperately needed somewhere."

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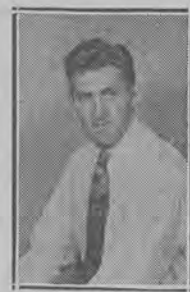
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## Ben Leaves Post

Today Ben Goldfaden bids good-bye to his post as Recreation Director of Greenbelt to accept a position as physical education director at Bladensburg Junior High School. This culminates a long record of service in Greenbelt,



which began as assistant recreation director in 1939. From 1942 to 1944, while Director Vincent Holchowst was in the armed service, Goldfaden served as director, until he went into the Navy in March, 1944. In January, 1946, he returned as assistant director to Holchowst and in September, 1946, became director, when Holchowst left his post to take a position in the County.

Upon graduating from George Washington University in 1937 with a B. S. degree in physical education, Ben worked with the District Recreation Department in Washington. He received his master's degree in 1940 from GWU.

Goldfaden was instrumental in inaugurating new ideas for expanding and broadening activities in recreation and physical education. Initiation of Greenbelt's baby playgrounds in 1943 was a project on which he worked in conjunction with Mrs. DeGourse, Mrs. Armstrong and Director Holchowst. He was basketball coach at Greenbelt High for four years, and organized and managed the men's softball team for six years. He was also one of the driving forces in the organization of the Youth Center Canteen.

In his post as Recreation Director, he worked with two full-time assistants and thirty part-time assistants. Yesterday his staff entertained him at luncheon at Beltsville Farms. Today, his last day, he closed up his books at the Youth Center.

A Greenbelter since 1938, Ben resides at 6-T Ridge Road with his wife and 6-year-old David, and 5-year old Vickie.

## Women Bowlers!

Women bowlers will meet Thursday, September 4, at 8:30 p. m. at the Athletic Clubhouse to make plans for the coming bowling season.

Due to the lateness of the meeting, prospective bowlers should have their teams completed and franchise money ready to turn in.

For further information, call Grace Danek, 4791.

## AC League Calls For More Bowlers

The Greenbelt Athletic Club, the sponsor of the Greenbelt Men's Bowling league for 1947-48 is now forming teams for the coming Fall and Winter season. The league will get under way on Tuesday, September 9, 1947 at the College Park alleys.

The present response of bowlers indicates that a 24 team league, which could be run on a two league shift schedule the same as last year, is needed. However, if the response warrants it, the possibility of a 32 team league is much preferred. Sufficient alleys are available for a 32 team league and it provides for a more equitable manner of scheduling games, because all teams will be on an equal basis. If a 32 team league is formed, it will make it possible for each team to bowl every other team once and will run for 31 consecutive weeks beginning Tuesday, September 9, 1947 through April 6, 1948. Whereas, last year a 24 team league required two bowling rounds with half the league and one round with the other half. In either event, a 24 team or a 32 team league will call for a two-shift arrangement for bowling on one night.

A team should be submitted by a captain or alternate, and any male of Greenbelt not affiliated with an organized Greenbelt team may also submit his name to one of the listed officers not later than Monday, September 1, 1947 which has been set for the deadline.

For entering teams or information call: Albert J. Schaffer, President, Phone 3644, "Pop" Bell, Vice-president, Phone 4323, or Fred J. Hahn, Official Scorer, Phone 5801.

## "A" Block Winner Of Midget League

After five weeks of play, A Block emerged as winner of the five team Midget Softball League put on by the Recreation Department for boys 12 years and under.

D Block led the first half without losing a game; however, a three-team play-off was necessary to decide the second half winner. At the close of the second division, A, D, and E blocks had a record of 3 wins and 1 loss each. A block won the play-off and then went on to defeat D Block, 21-2, for the championship.

The A block team was led by Frank Kelleher. Members of the team were: Jerry Brittingham, Paul Hennessy, Joe Stark, Edward Don Bullion, Richard Hensel, Bill Moore, Richard Ward, Bobby Solomon, Jack Baxter, and Ronald and Roland Taylor.

## AVC Plans Action On Hearing Result

The Greenbelt Chapter, American Veterans Committee will hold a special meeting in the Social Room of the Center School at 8:30 p. m., Wednesday, September 3.

The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss action to be taken by the Chapter in relation to the hearing by the Congressional committee on small business last week-end.

All veterans are invited to attend the meeting. Persons competent to answer questions on reinstatement of GI insurance will be there and the necessary forms will be available.

Plans for meeting dates in the center school must be submitted to the Community Manager by September 4. A vote will be held Wednesday to set meeting dates for the coming year.

At a meeting held on August 20, Dr. H. Du Buy was guest speaker. Dr. Du Buy, a bio-physicist, is a member of the Education Committee of the Prince Georges County Steering Committee on Atomic Energy. The Committee is sponsored by the League of Women Voters, and is sponsoring an atomic energy education week in Prince Georges, October 12-19.

## Six Boy Scouts Make Second Class

Six Scouts of Boy Scout troop 229 closed the door on their Tenderfoot days Monday night when the examiners at the Hyattsville Board of Review certified them eligible to become Second Class scouts.

Richard White, Allen Gerstel, Donald Flynn, Vernon Vickers, Donald Hahn and Steven Weisbroth are the boys who were awarded the Second Class emblems.

Also at the Board to be examined on merit badge work were three First Class scouts of troop 229 and to these boys go the following merit badges: Ralph Townsend, First Aid; Robert Glazier, Personal Health; Robert Johnson, Personal Health and Swimming.

## Cub Pack Holds Outing

Cub Scout Pack No. 202 held an outdoor Pack Meeting and picnic at Camp Mulligan last Saturday afternoon. Cubmaster Haspiel and Assistant Cubmaster Woolley led the boys in playing games while some of the dads pitched horseshoes. The following Cubs received awards for achievements: Ronald Brooks, Bobcat; Michael Stripling, Bobcat; Benny Goins, Wolf Badge and Gold Arrow; Ronald Hunt, Lion Badge; Merle Nelson, Lion Badge; Craig Woolley, One Year Star and Denner's Stripe.

The Pack Committee will hold a round table meeting on Wednesday, September 3, at the McConnell home on 73-A Ridge Road.

## Tennis Tournament Held For Beginners

Billy Avagliano placed first in the boys' beginner tennis tournament and Connie Newton came out on top for the girls.

The tournament, which was open to any boy or girl who participated in the classes offered this summer by the Recreation Department, was held last Wednesday on the local courts. Ten of the beginners felt they had progressed far enough in class to attempt playing a full game in the tournament.

Billy and Connie were presented with gold tennis medals at the Crafts Exhibit held last Thursday.

## Jewish Women Elect Delegates

Mrs. Adelaide Weidberg, 14-Z-2 Laurel Hill Road, and Mrs. Edith Nicholas, 18-F Crescent Road, were elected delegates to the Middle Atlantic Conference of the National Council of Jewish Women, at the meeting of the Greenbelt Section of the Council, held last Monday night. Alternates to the Conference which is to be held in Petersburg, Virginia, on October 26, are Mrs. Phyllis Bloomberg, 2-A Ridge Road, and Mrs. Estelle Dolgoff, 14-E Laurel Hill Road.

A bake sale on the morning of September 26 is the first item in the program of activity planned for the organization by Mrs. Ethel Fisher, 5-H Ridge Road, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. Other activities announced are an open Membership Tea on October 2, and a Halloween Party for members and husband on October 25.

Clothing and toys for boys and girls in the age groups 3-7 and 14-19, are needed for overseas relief. Mrs. Frances Miller, 10-B Plateau Place, chairman of the Overseas Service committee, also stated that morale builders such as jewelry, cosmetics and ribbons would be welcomed by war-weary teen-agers in Europe. Mrs. Miller may be contacted at 4278 for any further information on this project.

## Group Plans Quiz For Council Race

A Committee for Better Government in Greenbelt has been formed, announced its chairman, Henry Pearlman of 4-C Laurel Hill Road.

Objectives of the Committee, according to Mr. Pearlman, are to acquaint the public with the qualifications of Council candidates. To do this, Committee members will question each candidate on several problems such as housing, the future of the cooperative here, the town budget, and other subjects of particular interest to Council. The views expressed by the candidates will then be given to the public as the basis on which to select five councilmen.

Mr. Pearlman pointed out that many citizens would like to vote and feel that they should, but have nothing on which to base a preference. He feels, he said, that if a candidate's stated intentions are known to the voters, a larger, more informed electorate will result.

## Piano For Tommy Campaign Begins

"A Piano for Tommy" is the slogan of a fund-raising campaign being launched by friends of 21-year-old Tommy Millet. Blind since early childhood, Tommy has nevertheless mastered a piano technique indicative of his inherent musical talent.

Many Greenbelters have been entertained in their homes by Tommy's music, although the young pianist has never had a piano of his own.

"We feel that others might like to join in this chance to show Tommy some real appreciation of the pleasure he has given," said one of the organizers of the campaign. He added that Tommy knows nothing about the plans.

Donations are being received by Joe Lewis, telephone 5428.

## Choral Group Elects Board

"The Greenbelt Community Chorus" was chosen as the official title for the new choral group, at its meeting last Monday night. A Board of Directors was elected to complete the organization of the chorus and to serve until the first of the year when regular officers would be elected. Members of the board are: Mrs. Charles Cornack, 6-B Ridge Road; Mrs. Mary Jane Kinzer, 6-G Ridge Road; Miss Fay Friedman, 7-C Hillside Road; Samuel Gottesman, 20-B Parkway; Thomas Freeman, 23-G Ridge Road; Fred Pfeiffer, 14-D Ridge Road, and Mrs. Orville M. Slye, 6-T Hillside Road.

Mrs. Cornack, acting as membership chairman, said that anybody in Greenbelt interested in singing with a large choral group was welcome. The invitation was also given to residents of nearby communities and students from the senior high school. It was stressed that the larger the group the less expense it would be to each member in defraying the cost of the music and the instructor.

Dr. Harlan Randall, head of the University of Maryland music department, is expected to serve as director of the group which will meet again Monday, September 8, at 8:30 p. m. in the home economics room. Members of the chorus and other persons interested are asked to watch the Cooperator for further notice.

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## 2 Of 3-Man

(Continued from Page 1)

Mayor Bauer informed the committee that he felt the best interests of the town would be served by the introduction of private business. A letter signed by Councilmen Paul Dunbar, Allen D. Morrison and Joseph Rogers was read at this time which stated that the Mayor was not authorized to speak for the Council. The mayor referred to the council resolution of last September which urged the entrance of private business into Greenbelt. The vote was 4 to 1, Morrison dissenting. Mr. Bauer said that "the people of Greenbelt had never had any choice in the matter" of deciding whether the cooperative or "private business" should run the businesses.

Following Mr. Bauer, witness Thomas R. Freeman opposed what he termed "th monopoly angle," and Councilman Jack Cain among other things said that the platform of the winning candidates at the last council election had been their endorsement of the entrance of "private business" into the town.

## Safeway Wants In

The zone manager of Safeway Stores submitted for the record price checks which showed according to his data that on three different dates prices in the chain stores averaged six to seven percent lower than G.C.S. (Later in the testimony GCS manager Sam Ashelman submitted price checks made by Greenbelt housewives which indicated that the cooperative's prices were in line. He also pointed out a number of items in the Safeway's price checks which he would question.)

Another Safeway official told of his giving advice to the government on setting up the Greenbelt food store and his inability to gain admission into the community for the chain. He testified that the present food store was inadequate for the community but admitted lack of knowledge concerning the facilities planned in the new supermarket.

Greenbelt residents who served as witnesses and testified that they believed the community would be better served by the entrance of ~~other business were Selwyn B. Walter, Jennings B. Craig, Frank H. Riley, Albert J. Shaffer, and John McWilliams.~~

Mr. Ashelman, under cross-examination from the chairman, would not agree that the cooperative was a monopoly. "It is a small business owned and controlled by the people . . . Co-ops are a yardstick which help promote free enterprise."

## Monopoly Defined

Congressman Ploeser's definition of a monopoly, repeated many times throughout the hearing, was "absence of competition." Mr. Ashelman made the point that "monopolies are generally understood to exploit the people, and this is what co-ops cannot do." He told the story of the co-op bus, secured after Capital Transit had failed to provide local service. Pressed by the chairman's questioning as to how he would feel about competition at the center he said, "We can serve the people best because we are working for the people. I would like to see a Safeway up in the other end of town, though."

Mr. Ashelman charged the committee's council, Willis J. Ballinger, had refused to supply a list of witnesses to be called and to present "a bill of complaint."

Jack Fruchtman, former Greenbelt theater manager, testified at the Friday night session that he would pay \$12,000 or 25% of the gross, whichever was larger, to operate the theatre here. Asked if he would still pay that price if there were three or four theatres here, his response was affirmative.

Thomas B. Ricker, former GCS general manager, who made application to FPFA to operate a variety store in Greenbelt, stated he would like to see private business here and indicated on a map locations near the athletic field he thought would be suitable. He said his record had been good as manager of the cooperative, citing an all-time high in earnings for 1942 of 5.1%.

Board member Carrie O. Harper, called to the stand later by Mr. Arent, stated at some length the difficulties the Board had had with Mr. Ricker and the bad situation he left behind for the new management. His interest in his own enterprise at Cedar Point had kept him from the proper handling of his duties in Greenbelt, she said.

## Bryan Confused

Inability to get information concerning the finances of the cooperative was the complaint of Allen A. Bryan, former GCS treasurer, who followed Mr. Ricker as a witness. Congressman Patman drew a laugh from the spectators by his remark, "Maybe he got it and just didn't understand it." Mr. Bryan said that a letter he had written to the Cooperator concerning finances of GCS was not printed. Former editor Ralph G. Miller, called as a witness, testified that he felt the letter was only of interest to GCS members and not to the town as a whole; that he had so advised Mr. Bryan and had not printed the letter. He said he did not remember Mr. Bryan's offer to pay for the printing of the letter as an advertisement.

The committee's accountant, William J. Warmack, testified that he had received fine cooperation from GCS in going over their books but that he had been unable to find in the annual reports, except for one year, an accounting of the disposition of the earnings. It was explained that the membership votes on this at its annual meeting.

## Crowd Policy Cited

Mrs. Harper drew applause when she described GCS board meetings and the policy of adjourning to a larger room if the number of those present crowded the meeting room. At the scene of the hearings Friday and Saturday, only a small fraction of the spectators could be admitted to the room which was nearly filled by the press and witnesses. A request on Friday morning that the hearing be moved to a large caucus room was denied by Congressman Ploeser.

A Reconstruction Finance official, the first witness Saturday morning, told the committee that Mr. Ashelman, when applying to the RFC for financing for the new supermarket, had said that GCS was "not to be classified as a cooperative." Opportunity for Mr. Ashelman to give his side of the story on this testimony (as on all statements directed against the cooperative) was denied until much later. He explained, as soon as Mr. Arent was permitted to call him as a witness, that he had told the RFC that GCS was not a farm cooperative and therefore was eligible to borrow from the government agency. Farm co-ops, which have tax exemption privileges, borrow from the Bank for Cooperatives.

Mrs. Harper and Mr. Ricker testified again, the former citing specific items of incorrect inventory pricing when Mr. Ricker was manager, and Mr. Ricker charging interference on the part of the board of directors.

Greendale, Wisconsin, sister "green town" of Greenbelt, came into the hearing when Arthur R. Marcus, a Greendale resident and a representative of the American Legion, urged the committee to take steps to see that the Government sells some of the land it holds in the "green towns" for private building of homes for veterans. He said that the tax situation in Greendale is prohibitive to veterans who would own land there and that the "government granted monopoly" to the co-op there is responsible.

## Patman Urges Vote

Congressman Patman recommended that Mr. Marcus see that an open vote be taken in Greendale to determine the sentiments of the residents. At several points during the hearing the Congressman recommended the same course to witnesses dissatisfied with the Greenbelt FPFA lease.

At this point in the hearings, GCS counsel was permitted to introduce witnesses to make statements to the committee. He was not allowed to question these witnesses—they were on their own.

Sherrod East expressed the opinion that the cooperative and its members were naturally interested in protecting their interests and they were justified in doing so. As president of Greenbelt Mutual Housing Association, he answered questions from the chairman concerning the bases on which FPFA would deal with citizens interested in purchasing the community.

## Housewife Satisfied

Mrs. Dora McNeel testified as a housewife well-pleased with the way GCS serves the community. Richmond Robertson, facilities engineer for GCS, was quizzed by the committee as to the desirability of competition at the center, and finally upon remonstrance of Mr. Arent was allowed to tell about the plans for the super-market, for which purpose he had been asked to testify.

Other residents who testified for the cooperative were Ben Rosenzweig, GCS secretary Frank Lastner, Councilman Allen D. Morrison, Mrs. Ralph G. Miller, Paul Borsky, Mrs. Wells Harrington, and Town Manager James T. Gobel.

Mr. Gobel described the purpose for which Greenbelt was planned and the achievements made as a community. He supported the cooperative as a constructive force here.

Mr. Arent took the stand to describe the terms of the lease. He also pointed out that in shopping centers generally the rue is only one establishment of one type of business, so that each business in such a location is a monopoly, according to the definition of absence of competition.

Mr. Ashelman read a prepared statement when he testified as the last witness of the hearing. Referring to the price check submitted by Safeway stores, he said, "We wish first to reaffirm the fact that repeated consumer surveys have shown that the prices charged by the Greenbelt cooperative are in line with those charged by the largest chains."

The GCS manager challenged several claims made by Mr. Ricker and Mr. Fruchtman, and explained that GCS "enjoys no tax exemptions . . . cannot borrow from the bank for cooperatives, is not exempt from S.E.C. regulations, has no special privileges under the anti-trust laws, and in general appears not to be involved in any of the things which this Committee states that it is investigating."

"A series of persons (part of the statement reads), some with personal axes to grind, have been given an opportunity to air their views, to endeavor to discredit the cooperatives, and in some cases to

give their explanation for the fact that they no longer hold positions they once held in the Cooperative . . . When all is said and done, however, it is evident that the Greenbelt cooperative is itself a small business, struggling to do a good job in the face of problems that face all small business today . . .

We think the Committee could undertake no more useful nor more daring project than an attack upon monopoly—but we must confess that we are amazed to find the Committee's brave sword turned first in our direction."

As Mr. Ashelman was presenting his answers to committee witnesses' accusations, the sub-committee's decision was already typed, according to the Washington Post.

## State Fair Offers Free Chest X-Rays

Free chest x-rays will be available to all persons attending the Timonium Fair, it was announced by Frank T. Jones, Director of Health Education, Maryland Tuberculosis Association. The new mobile x-ray unit, operated by the Maryland State Health Department in cooperation with the Maryland Tuberculosis Association, will be open each day of the fair.

This mobile unit was put into operation by the State Health Department in April of this year. Since that time over 21,000 persons have been given a free chest x-ray. Authorities state that the best way to discover early, more easily cured tuberculosis, is by means of a chest x-ray. It is hoped that over 1,000 persons a day will take advantage of this survey at the fair. All persons having an x-ray will be notified of the result.

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