

Mayor's Committee In Final Plea for Passage of Amendment

A last minute appeal for passage of the charter amendment April 6 permitting expansion of Birmingham's dangerously overloaded sewage system is being made by members of the Mayor's Committee on Health and Sanitation.

Warning voters against the efforts of a "small, willful group" to block passage of the amendment, W. A. P. John, chairman of the Citizens' Committee, said:

"This is a matter which directly concerns the health, welfare and pocketbook of every Birmingham citizen. It will permit the most far-reaching revision you will be asked to vote on for many a year.

The amendment has the approval of every civic official, including Mayor Dean G. Brier and City Manager D. G. Eblert. Members of the Mayor's Committee have the representation of every civic organization and almost all of Birmingham's former mayors—men who have devoted much time to the problems of health and sanitation in a rapidly growing community.

"PEOPLE SAY that, these days, it is lighty to have a measure not in their endorsement easily won.

In opposition, we may expect to be about equal if the amendment is not approved. We are a community which has no program to advance, apparently, except to bring about defeat of the amendment. Their arguments, apparently, are the result of hearsay and prejudice, and have been effectively dealt with by City Manager Eblert and other experts.

"TAXPAYERS on their way to the polls. And I will might ask them: How much do they wish the \$367,000 in unnecessary taxes which would be levied to pay for the expansion of the Birmingham sewer system? If the east side of the city drains into the S.W.S.M.D. addition to the present city plant will cost in the neighborhood of \$200,000. If the plant to take care of the entire city, it will cost about three-quarters of a million dollars in plant additions.

THE SAME taxpayers also should ask for the motivation behind any handful of opposition experts who may attempt to resist a just and constructive proposal with carrying large bills, and who have openly questioned the integrity of The Birmingham Eccentric, a community champion for three quarters of a century.

WITH these thoughts in mind, it is quite likely you will vote more than the amendment on April 6.

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Birmingham Public Library circulation per registered borrower is 12.8 books

IN BOOK STOCK

70,000 books needed by Baldwin Library to meet maxima standards.

10,000 books needed to meet minima standards.

100,000 volumes is present book stock of Baldwin Public Library.

IN PROFESSIONAL SALARIES

Average salary to professional librarians in 8 neighboring towns.

Average salary to professional librarians in Baldwin Public Library.

IN CLERICAL SALARIES

Average salary to clerical workers in 8 neighboring towns.

Average salary to clerical workers in Baldwin Public Library.

American Library Association Standards in eight neighboring towns are: Warren, Ferndale, Grosse Pointe, Hamtramck, Highland Park, Pontiac, Royal Oak and Wayne County.

Sewage Disposal Fate And Library Operation Confront City Voters

Ed Note—This is the third and final article in a series outlining the city charter amendment to go before voters Monday, April 6, concerning the city's membership in the Southeastern Oakland County Sewage Disposal District. This article also includes an explanation of the charter amendment to improve public library operations.

By NORMAN DOUGLAS

City voters Monday will, in part, decide the future operation of two city services when they apply Monday for their election ballots.

They will determine what action the city takes to improve sewage disposal services and they will also settle the question of whether or not the public library can get more money to improve its services.

The fate of future sewage disposal services may be decided immediately. The state Water Resources Commission has been to the city to discuss the present pollution of the Rouge River. The commission has ordered that the city prepare facilities for sewage treatment. This may be done by either enlarging the capacities of the present plant or by diverting the sewage from the city's east side into the Southeastern Oakland County Sewage Disposal District (SOCSDD).

CITY OFFICIALS who have promoted Birmingham's membership in the SOCSDD fear that enlarging the city's own treatment plant would be an expensive and risky venture.

State authorities already have recommended that the present plant's life is only about 10 years longer, based on the belief that a large sewage sewer eventually will be built from the city's east side to serve the North Woodland area. This would render the city's plant obsolete.

To escape the over half-million dollar plant expansion project and to gain adequate sewage treatment for nearly 40 percent of the city's sewage, city officials have recommended membership in the SOCSDD.

LIBRARY BOARD members have sought additional funds to work with to bring the library's book shelves up to national standards. The most imminent need of the library are improved reading room lighting facilities and more book shelves.

LIBRARY OFFICIALS will also like to bring employee salaries up to comparable salaries for library work in other communities.

Maintenance and repair work on the 25-year-old building is being carried on by the building's owner. Money for needed repairs must come from the budget that library officials say is already being depleted.

For these two reasons they hope that voters will approve the city's acceptance of these building duties. The job of handling the library's finances is a big one and should be placed in the hands of a financial expert who could efficiently and quickly do the work of the library's treasury, according to library officials.

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Commission Asks Detailed Report

The Birmingham city commission has asked for more information on the proposed northwest quadrant of street parking lot.

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Premier, No. 2 Can HAND PACKED TOMATOES 19c

GOLD MEDAL FLOUR 5lb. Bag 48c

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Green Giant, No. 303 Can Peas 2 for 37c

Kellogg's, 8 oz. Pkg. Sugar Pops 19c

Campbell's Tomato Soup 10c

Durkee's, 1 Quart Salad dressing 39c

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