



Area Joins Nation In Mourning President

Dallas Reels Under Impact Of Tragedies

Librarian Tells Of Depression In Texas City

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

"It's almost like a fog has surrounded the city, although the sun is shining brightly."

These were the words Joanne Lloyd used to describe the atmosphere in Dallas, Tex., this week.

Miss Lloyd, head of Birmingham's Baldwin Library, arrived in Dallas Friday, shortly after the death of President Kennedy. She was going to the city to spend the Thanksgiving holiday with her sister, Miss Mary Lloyd.

"When we arrived over Dallas' Love Field the pilot told us he couldn't land until after the presidential plane took off," she said.

At that time, she said, the passengers did not know the President had been shot and probably at that very moment Lyndon Baines Johnson was being sworn in as the 36th president of the United States.

"I DIDN'T know what had happened until after the plane landed and my sister met me in the airport terminal," she said.

Miss Lloyd said most of the stores closed Friday immediately after the President's death and remained closed on Saturday.

A tremendous feeling of depression has engulfed the city, according to Miss Lloyd.

"Oh what a blot on Dallas; the people here are so intensely humiliated on the solemnity shown to Adlai Stevenson recently and now this terrible thing had to happen," she said.

ACTIVITY IN her sister's neighborhood, which is three or four miles from the spot of the assassination, came almost to a complete halt on Saturday, Miss Lloyd said.

She did note, however, that a lot of automobile traffic "seemed to be heading for the downtown area."

The Texas School Book Depository Building from which the fatal shot was fired was described by Miss Lloyd as being in "an out-of-the-way" spot on the road to Fort Worth about 25 miles away.

IN THE apartment building where her sister lives, Miss Lloyd said, "much sadness was felt on the part of everyone."

"Everyone was equally stunned after the shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald," she said. "Justice should have been allowed to take its course."

Miss Lloyd's sister had seen President Kennedy from a window of the department store where she works about 10 minutes before the shooting.

When news of the assassination reached the store, it was immediately closed and Miss Lloyd's sister hurried to the airport.

Miss Lloyd said personally she didn't feel the residents of Dallas "as a people could be blamed" for the tragic series of events that have taken place in their city during the past few days.

B'ham Considers Kennedy Memorial

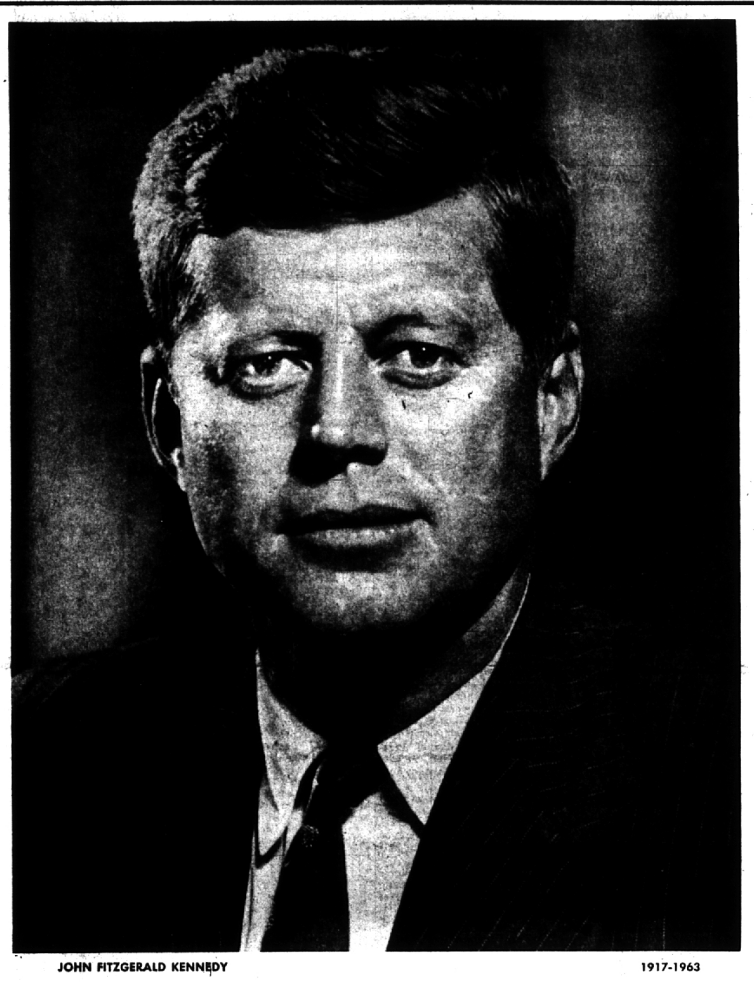
Mayor William H. Burgum has been authorized by the Birmingham City Commission to appoint a committee to make suggestions on establishing a fitting memorial for President Kennedy in the city.

It has been suggested by some that the new recreation center at Lincoln and Cranbrook roads might be named after the late President because of his interest in physical fitness.

Commissioner Charles W. Renfrew told other commissioners Tuesday night he would like to see the city "make some suitable acknowledgment of the tragic loss to the country."

"I WOULD like to see something in Birmingham in commemoration of the late President," Renfrew said. "I feel the city should take some action to show the deep sense of loss and heartbreak the country has suffered."

Renfrew suggested that Birmingham dedicate a park or tree in Mr. Kennedy's honor.



JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

1917-1963

AN EDITORIAL

That He Shall Not Have Died In Vain

WHAT was there in the tragic death of John Fitzgerald Kennedy that so stunned us, shocked us with its unbelievability and so saddened us with the heaviness of an indefinable grief and sorrow that transcended political and ideological differences?

We would quarrel with anyone who suggested these feelings were not sincere. Our common spirituality and humanity were the wellsprings from which these feelings arose. Death has the infinite capacity to span the disparities of mortal minds and human pettiness and binds us into congregations of reverence and spirituality—as individuals and as a nation.

THAT this has happened during the past week is evidenced by the behavior of each of us—in our land and throughout the world. A kind of national and international brotherhood has manifested itself and an alliance of creeds, colors and races seems to have formed for attendance to the observance of the loss of this country's leader and world crusader for the cause of peace. We have been gentler with each other, both in action and in thought, since last Friday afternoon.

Has there, possibly, been another reason for our deep grief and sorrow? Have we been a bit more gentle and a little less hateful because our conscience troubles us? Are we, deep within ourselves, disturbed that we gave so little support to his crusade for human rights and peace? Do we have a feeling of guilt because we complacently continued our old ways of self-centered preoccupation and showed only limited concern and interest in the humanistic principles to which he was dedicated and for which he gave his life? Does his death naggingly remind us that we may have responded poorly to his inaugural appeal: "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." Have we been giving too much lip service to our belief in moral and human values and not enough demonstration in the form of personal action and participation in the fight against bigotry, hatred and selfish complacency?

HAS our grief and sorrow, in part, been born of a guilt that is gnawing within us because of our callousness in allowing men and children to be killed by bigots or zealots with hearts and minds filled with hate? Did we need wait to cry out against this outrage until a President was assassinated?

We cannot comfort ourselves nor trick our conscience by tagging these men of hate with neat categorical labels of fanatic, Marxist or Communist. Each Negro-killer, cop-killer, President-killer is a product of an apathetic society that condones lawlessness, often actually as "a good citizen" practices it, that produces juvenile delinquency at a compounding rate, a most recent incident of which was the throwing of rocks, from a promontory, down upon firemen engaged in fighting a million-dollar blaze. Two firemen had to be taken to the hospital with broken hands!

Are we grief stricken upon the death of our President, in part because of the guilt we felt when we learned that his alleged assassin, a fellow American, showed no remorse or shame but boldly proclaimed: "It's a free country, isn't it? A man is supposed to be able to do what he wants." And this, we know, is the same creed of the delinquent—both juvenile and adult.

IF we are truly grieved by his death and have a deep affection for the benevolence and dedication of his life in serving us, his countrymen, let us join in active support of those programs which will give substance to his goals of freedom, opportunity and equal rights to all mankind, throughout the world. Let us find the peace within ourselves so that we can then learn how to live with others.

Whether from guilt or from a citizen responsibility—we should undergo a national penance for the tragic death of that vital, dedicated and courageous young man of 46 whose life was sacrificed for his country. His death, indeed, will have been in vain if we continue to slough (See EDITORIAL, 2-A)

Start Efforts To Resume Normal Routine

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

Life in the Birmingham-Bloomfield area today was beginning to resume its normal pattern.

After the tragic events of the past week many people found it difficult to get back into familiar routines.

Nearly a week has passed already of the 30-day mourning period proclaimed by President Lyndon B. Johnson in honor of John F. Kennedy. Gov. George Romney also proclaimed a mourning period for the state.

It was a typical grey, rainy November afternoon in Birmingham last Friday when the electrifying news of the shooting of President Kennedy was received.

Traffic in the downtown area came almost to a standstill as motorists pulled over to the curb and turned up their radios so pedestrians might hear the story unfold.

IN APPLIANCE stores clerks and customers alike gathered around television sets to watch as excited newsmen tried to piece together one of the most dramatic events in American history.

Many people were speechless but some were heard to say . . . unbelievable . . . impossible . . . or it just couldn't happen here.

Flags were immediately lowered to half-mast. At the two Birmingham fire stations and the Municipal Building uniformed police and firemen slowly lowered the flags, adding to the drama.

SOME STORES were closed immediately, others decided because of the lateness of the hour to remain open until after it was learned when a national day of mourning would be declared.

It was fast approaching the time for school to be dismissed and Birmingham's 14,000 youngsters were pushing aside thoughts of class work and beginning to think about the upcoming week end.

When the word reached the classrooms, some youngsters dropped their heads in silent prayer. At Seaborn the "Star-Spangled Banner" was played over the public address system.

GOVERNMENT offices in Birmingham were closed and employees were sent home. The regular Monday night commission meeting was canceled and rescheduled for the following night.

In Bloomfield Township, the Monday night board meeting was also postponed until Tuesday.

Bloomfield Hills Mayor Lyman J. Craig sent a letter of condolence to Mrs. Kennedy.

Lathrup Village Mayor Richard N. Cogger in a proclamation designated Monday as a day of mourning in the community.

In Franklin, where the village does not yet have an official flag, a small flag was etched in black and placed in the front window of the Franklin Library.

A memorial service at 12:30 p.m. Monday at the Franklin Community Church was attended by many of the village residents.

BEVERLY HILLS Mayor Marvin B. Cline is expected to issue a proclamation at Monday's council meeting expressing the village's regrets on the death of Mr. Kennedy.

The Bingham Farms council met (See PRESIDENT, 2-A)

State Leaders Pay Respects To President

By DAVE PHILPO
Staff Writer

Michigan's governor, two U. S. senators and congressional delegation paid their last respects to the late President John F. Kennedy this week.

Gov. and Mrs. George Romney flew to Washington Saturday where he joined other governors in the tribute to the slain chief of state.

The governor and Mrs. Romney attended funeral services at St. Matthew's Cathedral and drove to Arlington National Cemetery for the impressive burial ceremony.

Gov. Romney flew back to Lansing Monday night and held a press conference in his office Tuesday morning.

"THE EVENTS in Washington constituted a moving spiritual and patriotic experience," he said. "I question whether ever before in history has there been a comparable experience in terms of joint grief of an entire nation, and to a considerable extent, the entire world."

The governor went on to praise Mrs. Kennedy for her courage and devotion and the remarkable conduct of Caroline and John, Jr.

Gov. Romney said he was moved by the deep sympathy and grief expressed by those in Washington. He was especially impressed by the long lines of people who waited Sunday night to pay their respects.

"I think another spectrum of the experience has been the degree of self-examination going on," he said.

(See LEADERS, 2-A)

Index

Amusements	5-E
Art for Art's Sake	1-D
Arts of Living Page	1-D
Business News	3-E
Calendar of Cultural Events	3-D
Church	6-B
City Beat	1-B
Classified Ads	6, 7, 8-E
College News	2-C
Down to Earth	4-D
Eccentricities	1-B
Editorials	1-B
Movie Guide	2-D
Nature Now	6-D
Obituaries	3-A
Real Estate	D
Society	1, 2, 4-E
Sports	1, 2, 4-E
Theaters	5-E
This & That	3-A
Yesterday's Happenings	1-B

Other Presidential Stories

Churches hold memorial services for President Kennedy, 3-A.

"The Day The President Was Killed"—local reaction stories, 3-A.

President Kennedy lived the shortest period of time after being wounded of any of the four assassinated presidents, 5-A.

Gala festivities end in stricken silence as National Suburban Homemakers Contest winners in Chicago hear tragic news, 1-C.

Mrs. James A. Halsted recalls attempt made on life of her father, the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1-C.

Birmingham-Bloomfield local activity slows to a halt, 1-C.

President John Fitzgerald Kennedy had stored up a treasury of learning in his energetic body, 1-D.

Sports world mourns loss of President Kennedy, 1-E.

Wire service bulletins at Goodbody and Co., Birmingham, blunt out assassination, 3-F.

Lady Bird Johnson declined a speaking invitation, in a letter to Birmingham last year, because it was "impossible for me to look into the crystal ball and plan anything so far ahead of time," 4-F.

A whole nation went into mourning last Friday afternoon as word was flashed that John F. Kennedy, 35th President of the United States, had been cut down by an assassin's bullet as he toured Dallas, Tex. The flags will remain at half-mast for a period of 30 days.