

Mayor Chiles Pleads For Right Of Kenilworth

TOWN MUST HAVE SOLE DECISION CITIZENS FEEL

Issues Statement Showing Why Kenilworth Is Opposing Move

Declaring that any plan of annexation of the Town of Kenilworth to the City of Asheville which allows the people of Asheville to vote on whether the people of Kenilworth shall come into the city is completely unjust, Mrs. J. M. Chiles, Mayor of Kenilworth, yesterday afternoon made public a statement, covering the attitude of the people of Kenilworth toward the annexation movement, which was prepared by a leading taxpayer and resident of Kenilworth.

"The statement," said Mrs. Chiles, "states my sentiments about annexation exactly. There is only one fair and square method of voting and that is one which will leave it up to the individual community to decide for itself whether it is to be made a part of Asheville."

The full statement setting forth

the sentiments of the people and the Mayor of Kenilworth follows:

"As a citizen of the Town of Kenilworth, I view with considerable astonishment the progress of the plans looking to the forcible annexation of our municipality to the Town of Asheville. It seems as if these plans completely overlook the fact that we who live in Kenilworth, which as a town in its own right, built by its own efforts and supported by taxes and assessments for its own properties and improvements thereon have any say in the matter. In reading the many and various arguments advanced by those in favor of this annexation, I am struck with one statement so often used—'The people living outside of Asheville are getting Asheville privileges without paying for them—and Asheville advantages for which they contribute nothing. This is the sum and substance of the argument, although it is stated in many different ways. Where, as far as we who live in Kenilworth are concerned, are the facts to support the truth of such a statement?

Privileges

"Suppose we catalogue our privileges. We get water from Asheville it is true. But, and it is cannot be gainsaid, it is piped to our homes through pipes for which the Town of Kenilworth has paid, and which pipe system is maintained by our own town government. Each of us who use that water pay just exactly double for the privilege. In Asheville the city supplies water through mains which have been installed by the city and which are maintained by the city at ONE-HALF the rate we of Kenilworth have to pay, even though our own system of mains is used for the purpose. So much for that.

"We have our sewer system. This is a privilege we have supplied ourselves and for which Asheville can take not the slightest bit of credit. Our telephone service is paid for at an advanced rate.

Sanitary System

"We have our own sanitary system—and from what friends tell me, it is far superior to that now in operation in Asheville, and which would serve us if we are annexed. Our garbage and ashes are removed at least twice as often as such service is provided in the residential districts of the present Asheville.

"We have our own street lighting system—and from what we see of the present program in Asheville we can expect a prompt reduction of its valuable feature of our present facilities, since we have far more lights on our streets than will be found

in the outlying sections of the present Asheville.

"We have our own paved streets—and these streets are maintained by the present town government. Incidentally it might be remarked in passing that there is an ordinance prohibiting the digging up of our pavements and taking them from one part of our town to another, and they will be found smoother and in better condition than the streets in the very heart of Asheville today.

"We have parks that are maintained as beauty spots now. What would become of them after annexation?

Property Restrictions

"And as a property owner with a reasonable interest in the upholding of present property values, how about the so-called restrictions that now obtain in our pleasant and beautiful little town? As things stand now, we do not have to fear the establishment of some outlandish looking filling station next door to the home we have built to live in and enjoy. We do not have to worry about houses of the shabby type built to rent at a low figure. There are only two places in town under the present plan where stores or places of business can be built. We look at Asheville—at Charlotte street, Montford avenue, Merrimon street, and many other former pretty residential spots, and see the unhand-some store buildings that have been permitted, and we wonder just how long we would enjoy our present freedom from such under the proposed extension. This question of restriction is, to my mind, one of utmost importance. Certainly we as citizens of Kenilworth have a right to know what is ahead of us as to continuation of those restrictions which were conceived and placed on our book of ordinances as protection for our property investment.

"We have our own fire equipment. What of it? Will we have the protection of a sub-station as convenient as the present one, with at least two men available for call, as we have at present? Or will we have to depend on a more distantly located department? And how about an alarm system? Will the present plan include that provision for the enlarged territory that must be served by Asheville facilities?

Police Protection

"Under our town government I have the secure feeling of knowing that a policeman rides past my front door once every hour, day or night. I know also, that in event of need, I can call, or my wife can call 200, and get prompt attention in the shape of an efficient police officer. What will annexation bring to the town of Kenilworth in the way of police protection?.....

"We have electricity, and we are told that it will not be very long before we have gas. Since neither of these facilities are sold by the city of Asheville we are not being favored in this respect. Like Asheville citizens we pay for what we use.

"Frankly, Mrs. Chiles I am getting fed up on this constant reference to our state of obligation to the city of Asheville. It is my own humble opinion that, instead of Kenilworth residents being under direct obligation to the city of Asheville, quite the reverse is true. Consider the fact that probably 98 per cent of the present Kenilworth population contribute to the business activity of

Asheville. Where do I have my business? In Asheville, I pay salaries to quite a few citizens. My family buys everything that it eats and wears from Asheville stores. I drive my car to an Asheville filling station for oil and gas. We, the citizens of Kenilworth, belong to the Asheville Chamber of Commerce. Our contributions go to Asheville charities—we are active in the community chest. We work with Asheville. Where is there any obligation on our part. We can understand such a reference to Norwood park—since it is not a municipality.....

Ack. Sale Vote

"Now can I see the justice of allowing Asheville citizens to vote on this question. They have everything to gain and nothing to lose and of course if this matter is put to a vote of the majority, taking in Asheville, there would hardly be any need of our voting. There is only one fair and square method of voting and that is one which will leave it up to the individual community to decide for itself whether it wants to be made a part of Asheville.

"What matters it to a citizen of Asheville if I vote as in past to be able to point to a larger population. No concern of his whether we citizens of Kenilworth have to carry on with the Haw Creek school taxes or not. No concern of his whether we lose the things he has never had in the way of municipal facilities.

Tax Rates

"It has been publicly stated that Kenilworth would have to increase taxes in order to carry on. Personally, I don't believe this. But this is our own affair and I don't believe any citizen of Kenilworth would be put through supposing the annexation bill by fear of an increase in taxes. As far as that goes we have only heard that Asheville's tax rate would be lowered after taking on the larger territory. What do we know that would tell us that it would not be greater?

"It is my candid opinion that until definite answers have been given to many questions, residents of the town of Kenilworth will stand together in their decision to be decidedly against annexation which certain officials seem determined shall be put through regardless of the will of those who have a greater interest at stake.

"This," said Mayor Chiles "is such a succinct, comprehensive statement of the position of myself and other citizens of Kenilworth that we intend to stand upon it as our position on the matter of Asheville's annexation move."

The above statement of a leading citizen of Kenilworth has been embodied in the records of the Town of Kenilworth, Mayor Chiles announced.

Harris Charged With Driving While Drunk

Carl Harris, of Westerville, was arrested by members of the Police Department yesterday, on a charge of driving while intoxicated. He will be given a hearing before Magistrate Pearson this morning at 10 o'clock. Harris is reported to have driven his automobile off a fill at Lake View Park slightly damaging the car. He escaped unhurt. He was released under bond of \$200.

More than \$10,000,000 worth of motor trucks and busses were shipped from America to Argentina last year.

Bill Is Planned Add Madison To No. 6 To This

A delegation of Buncombe county citizens, residents chiefly of the Sandy Mush section of the county, near the Madison county line, will go to Raleigh within the next few days to support the movement for the annexation by Buncombe of Number 6 or Little Sandy Mush township of Madison county. It was learned yesterday.

A bill will be introduced in the General Assembly providing for the annexation scheme, probably by a member of the Buncombe delegation, within the next week or so it was stated.

The Buncombe delegation probably will be headed by H. B. Teague, chairman of the county school board, and prominent citizen of the Sandy Mush section.

WILL ARBITRATE BEECH DISPUTE

Factions Will Be Heard At Brown's Chapel Friday At 2

Hearing has been set for February 8 before Magistrate E. M. Mitchell in the case arising from the disagreement of two factions of the Beech Baptist church and which led to the arrest of six men, three of them deacons of the church, and three not deacons. The six were under \$200 bond each. The arrest was made by rural police after H. O. Buckner, who is not one of the regularly ordained deacons of the church, and several of the other men, had an argument about allowing the Rev. J. S. Burnett to open church.

The men under arrest are L. D. Maney, chairman of the board of deacons, and a trustee of the church; J. O. Buckner, R. S. Bradley, Curtis Lunford, Willie Bradley, and G. Maney, all residents of Beech.

It was announced yesterday that an arbitration board had been called to settle the dispute between the two factions. The Rev. Mr. Bennett of Candler, and the Rev. Will Edwards of Barnardsville have been chosen by the opposing sides to meet at Brown's Chapel Baptist church Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock to hear the dispute and pass on it, and if the two parties do not agree they are authorized by the factions to call in a third Baptist pastor to pass judgment.

NEGRO DOCTOR TO BE BURIED HERE

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NOTICE!

Due to the fact that alterations in our new home, No. 3 Flatiron Bldg., are not completed, we will be unable to make any examination before Wednesday, but will receive patients for interview and appointments to be filled Wednesday. Repair work can be done today.

CHAS. H. HONESS
OPTOMETRIST

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