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The Key West Citizen

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PRICE FIVE CENTS

NAL Suggestion To Close Meacham Field Is Rejected By Commission

Airlines Asks County Aid In Boca Chica O.K.

By DENIS SNEHR

A National Airlines suggestion that Meacham Field be closed and that the county help NAL win Navy approval to move to Boca Chica was flatly rejected by the county commissioners, it was learned today.

This suggestion was made by George Baker, NAL president, to Sen. George Smathers (D-Fla.) who in turn passed it along to County Commissioner Joe Allen.

NAL has asked Navy permission to operate at the Naval Air Station's Boca Chica Field.

The NAL suggestion was the latest move in the squabble between the airline and the county, which began Jan. 1 when NAL cut three of its four daily flights in protest of a 50-cent charge for each passenger landing and taking off here.

Hearing Is Likely

Meanwhile, the Civil Aeronautics Board may call a hearing to decide if NAL is adequately serving Key West.

The county complained to the CAB about NAL cutting the flights. The CAB suggested that NAL and the county settle their differences, but the chances of the county and the airline getting together seemed remote.

Baker invited the county commissioners to come to Miami for a meeting.

Gerald Saunders, chairman of the board of county commissioners, wrote Baker and declined the Miami invitation but offered to meet here with Baker or any NAL representative at any time.

Meeting Suggested

Baker replied and said NAL men couldn't come to Key West for such a meeting because it was the peak of the season and that it would mean pulling key personnel away from their desks to attend the meeting.

Baker suggested that the commissioners meet with J. Lancelotti, attorney who represents NAL in Key West.

Allen said today the commissioners probably will meet with Lester early next week.

As for closing Meacham Field, Allen said the commissioners never will close it unless there is another air field ready for use.

Allen brought up this supposition.

Bad Features of Plan

Suppose Meacham were closed and civil air traffic operated at Boca Chica. A war or other national emergency arises and the Navy is forced to tell the civil lines to move out of Boca Chica. That, Allen said, would leave Key West without any civil air (Continued on Page Seven)

New Crawfish Regulations Set By Conservation Board

Auto Dealer Says His Bid Not Asked On Equipment

Dan Navarro, local automobile dealer, said today that he has never been given the opportunity to bid on four Chrysler automobiles that have been purchased by the Overseas Road and Toll Bridge District.

The district commission which regulates the affairs of about 50 miles of toll road on the Overseas Highway, has maintained that whenever possible, they try to do business with Monroe County firms, but Navarro said that if that is true, he has never been given the opportunity to bid on the automobiles.

Band Concert Is Set For Sunday At Park

The 51st Infantry Division Band of the Florida National Guard will give a public concert at Bayview Park on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, Post Commander Bethel P. Johnson of Arthur Sawyer Post 28, American Legion, sponsors of the concert, announced today.

The 42-piece group will be flown from Miami to Boca Chica by the Air Force; transportation form Boca Chica to the Park will be provided by the U. S. Navy; the American Legion Auxiliary will serve a supper to the bandmen after the concert; and the local Legion Post is having printed programs prepared for distribution.

The group is being brought to Key West as part of the nationwide drive to increase voluntary enlistments in the Army and the Air Force, Commander Johnson indicated. The band won the Eisenhower Trophy in 1953 as being the outstanding National Guard Band in the country.

The program will consist of popular, classical, and military numbers under the direction of Chief Warrant Officer Murray Austrian. Mr. Paul Albury, City Recreation Director, is cooperating to the fullest extent with Arthur Sawyer Post in providing the necessary arrangements at the bandstand in the Park.

Post Commander Johnson today extended a cordial invitation to the general public to be in attendance on Sunday afternoon at the Park to hear this fine musical group.

During the intermission of the concert, Post Adjutant - Finance Officer Norman C. Kranich of Arthur Sawyer Post will give a short address in connection with the current enlistment program of the Army and the Air Force.

Galvanized Round Iron—all sizes, at Strunk Lumber

120 Simonton St., near Fish Decks

Johns' Ku Klux Stand Becomes Campaign Issue

Collins Claims Acting Governor Voted No On Klan Unmasking

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Acting Gov. Charley E. Johns' stand on the Ku Klux Klan is an open issue in the Florida governorship campaign today.

At Miami last night Johns told a television audience "I'm against the Ku Klux Klan and always will be."

Almost simultaneously, State Sen. LeRoy Collins was telling a Tallahassee audience that he supported the 1951 act unmasking the Klan in Florida while Johns and his present administrative assistant, G. Warren Sanchez, cast two of the six votes against it.

"He talks about being humanitarian," Collins said of Johns. "He had a chance to be a humanitarian" by voting to unmask the Klan. "I was up there fighting for the bill because I don't believe in terrorism, but he voted 'no'."

Johns didn't add anything to his statement that he was against the Klan and always will be. He merely answered a question from an interviewer and didn't go into detail.

Oil In Park Vicinity

Meanwhile at Gainesville, Candidate Brailley Odham hinted in a question-and-answer session on the University of Florida campus that he may have something to say in a few days about a stock deal tied in with discovery of oil near the Everglades National Park.

He was asked about his stand on exploring for oil in the big South Florida park.

"Don't quote me on this," he replied. "But you might be interested to know we have been doing some research."

Without naming anyone, he said a corporation was formed with five million shares of stock at one cent a share and the \$50,000 worth of stock rose to a value of 18 million dollars after talk of opening oil fields in Everglades.

Oil in relatively small quantities has been found in two wells just outside the park's northern boundary and Johns said he will make a campaign issue out of the right to explore for oil on lands which the state gave the federal government in 1948 for the park. Both Odham and Collins took verbal punches at each other and at Johns.

No Joint Appearances

Johns said he wouldn't participate in any joint appearances with the two candidates because he didn't want to get into a "mud-slinging campaign."

He added later in a statement handed to newsmen that "I wish to place the candidates on notice that I will not engage with either of them, or anyone else, in any newspaper, radio or television name-calling contests, or in any other activity that has the appearance of a sideshow."

Both Odham and Collins have speeches scheduled tonight in Sanford. Odham offered to make it a three-man joint appearance. Collins accepted, but Johns declined.

Collins and Odham also will appear together next week on two Miami television programs to which sponsors invited Johns. He will not participate.

Both Odham and Collins have accused Johns of "dodging" debate.

Collins told his hometown audience he is compiling a list of "professional politicians" he says Johns has put on the state payroll to help the acting governor campaign and will make it public soon.

He had little to say about Odham except that the Sanford candidate differed from a lady whose slip (Continued On Page Three)

Road And Toll Bridge Commission Moves To Act On Webb's Proposal

Concession, Rental Agreements To Be Revised By Commissioners

The Overseas Road and Toll Bridge District at a special meeting yesterday afternoon took steps to follow the recommendations of Cecil Webb, Chairman of the State Road Department.

Webb was in Key West yesterday to complete his investigation of the activities of the district which have been under fire in a Miami newspaper.

But Webb was somewhat less critical of the manner in which the district affairs are conducted than he was earlier when interviewed by reporters at Pigeon Key. A Miami reporter attended yesterday's session but did not ask any questions.

Webb's recommendations: 1. That the district follow State Road Department policy and continue renting heavy road equipment.

2. That the commission put its foot down on a concessionaire who also operates the concession at Bahia Honda.

3. That a more satisfactory method of collecting tolls be worked out.

4. That the commission maintain a policy of close cooperation with the press so that incidents like the present controversy may be prevented.

Commission Confers

The commission, after Webb's investigation, met briefly and took steps to remedy two of the situations.

Commission member Sam Harris moved that Carl Gels, an employee of the district, be asked to resign his position as concessionaire at Bahia Honda, "either give up his job or the concession rights." The members voted unanimously in favor of that motion.

Webb had earlier stated that the district employee operating the concession amounts to the state competing with private enterprise. Commission member Hilario Ramos then moved that the group "follow the State Road Department policy in renting heavy equipment." Harris seconded his motion and the commission voted unanimously to take that action.

Bids To Be Asked

The move will make it necessary to call for bids on each time the district needs the equipment. Contractor Alonzo Cothron has been furnishing the equipment under the terms of a contract awarded him in 1951, it was brought out at the meeting.

When the commission discussed the question of more efficient operation (Continued on Page Seven)



KEY WEST'S NEWEST CITIZEN—This stallion colt was born about 7:30 a.m. today in a lot on Louisa Street, near Simonton Street. When Ellis Finch, Citizen photographer, was at the scene for this picture, no one seemed to know who owned the mare. However, junior and his mother were drawing plenty of interested small fry.

Qualified Man Is Assigned To Welfare Department Here

Monroe County is getting a child welfare worker, it was announced today.

District No. 9 Welfare Board of the State Department of Public Welfare made the announcement. District No. 9 Board covers Dade and Monroe Counties.

The new worker is James L. Johnson, who has been appointed Senior Child Welfare Worker in Monroe County.

His office will be in co-operation with the already established State Department of Public Welfare office at 919 Whitehead St. Until Johnson arrives here, emergency care of neglected, abandoned or runaway children can be referred to the Public Assistance Supervisor, Miss Eliza Fike. Her phone number is 2-7923.

Johnson, a highly experienced man in his field, is employed effective Monday.

However, he is spending several weeks in the District office in Miami. (Continued on Page Seven)

New Advertising Folder Is Mailed Out By C. Of C.

The Chamber of Commerce is in the process of mailing out supplies of its newest advertising folder to cities in upstate Florida and the North, according to Mary Lee Graham, president of the organization.

The new folder, prepared and laid out by the Chamber staff, contains 15 photos of life on the island as well as considerable art work. The reproduction was done by a lithographic process by H. and W. B. Drew in their Jacksonville plant.

The first printing numbered 50,000 at a cost of over 4 cents per folder. Subsequent runs will be less costly due to the heavy expense of having the original plates made up.

In commenting upon the quality of the advertising piece, President Graham said, "This new folder compares favorably with any that are used by other resorts in Florida. It is much more attractive than most and is surpassed by only a few of those used by other Chambers."

32 Die In Crash At Singapore Port

SINGAPORE (P)—A BOAC Constellation airliner crashed and burst into flames on landing at Kallang Airport here today, killing 32 of the 40 persons aboard. BOAC officials said two Americans and one Canadian were among the passengers.

The Singapore Standard said the Americans were believed to be Vice President Grant F. Olson, of the W. A. Shaeffer Pen Co., and Michael Shatin, Far East supervisor of Warner Brothers.

FOURTH AUDUBON SCREEN TOUR

Key West High School Auditorium
Mon., March 15, 8 P.M.
WALTER H. SHACKLETON
Narrating His Color Film "Oddities In Nature"
SINGLE ADMISSIONS (Fed. Tax Included)
Adults 75c
Servicemen (through 1/c) 30c
and Wives 30c
High School Students 20c
Juniors 20c

NIGHTLY AT LOGUN'S



Scintillating Stylist of Piano and Song
HELD OVER BY POPULAR DEMAND and
JO TRANOR
POPULAR SONGSTRESS
Singing and Playing Your Favorite Tunes
Entertainment
FOOD — BAR
Until 4 A.M.
LOGUN'S Ocean Patio

Colorful Murals Brighten Walls Of Chamber Office

The Key West Chamber of Commerce office has undergone a face-lifting during the past week. Six colorful murals, done in oil paints, have been presented by Burt Garrett to the Chamber.

The paintings all maps of Key West and surrounding areas, have drawn considerable comment from tourist visiting the Chamber office.

One of the maps shows the island of Key West as it appeared in the late 1800's, another depicts the Overseas Highway along the Florida Keys to the mainland and another, the largest, is a 4 by 6 foot chart of Key West as it appears today.

The paintings were on display at the Martello Towers Gallery last month, but Key Westers who did not have an opportunity to view them are invited to call at the Chamber of Commerce and inspect this fine collection.

Duffy's Restaurant
American-Italian
PIZZA — 75c
Free Shrimp Cocktail with Each Meal
218 DUVAL STREET

LOST YOUNG FEMALE DACHSHUND
after 2 P.M., Fri. — Long, low, brown. Name Heidi. Chain collar, Humane Society Tag No. 4. Reward immediate return.
214 Elizabeth St.
TEL. D-6774
or HUMANE SOCIETY

BOXING WICKERS STADIUM
Tuesday, March 16, 8:00 P.M.
10 STAR BOUTS
Admission \$1.00, plus tax
Ringside \$2.00, plus tax
Tickets On Sale at
Lou's Radio and Appliance, 522 Duval Street

Stock Car Races
Sponsored by KEY WEST STOCK CAR ASSOC., INC.
Tomorrow, 2:00 P.M.
ROAD TRACK BOCA CHICA
ADMISSION \$1.25

HEY, Conchs, it ain't no use to know English as she is spoken:
An immature politician thinks your way of speech a joke.
Remember he's a collidge man, an engineer, no less.
View your county beach, he engineered that mess!
Economist, too, I hear; the city docks only cost us double.
You may think he's a man, not a puppet.
But some folks give me trouble!
Auld Cloutie.
(Paid Political Advertisement)

FOR SALE: Mobile Kiddie MERRY GO ROUND
Over \$125 per week—3 hrs. work
No exp. necessary — Instant money maker—Owner has other interests — TELEPHONE 2-9475

RAUL'S
SUNDAY SPECIAL
Roast Prime Ribs of Beef au jus
Dancing Tonight, 10:00 P.M.
SUNDAY DINNERS SERVED 12 NOON-10:00 P.M.

NOTICE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION
This office is calling to the attention of anyone who is entitled to Homestead Exemption that April 1st is absolutely the deadline for filing.
CLAUDE A. GANDOLFO, Tax Assessor.