



Staff Photos by John Freeman

PROTECTION MAYOR TOMMIE HOPKINS
... "I've given them enough free, gratis work"

Few Willing to Serve In Small-Town Offices

• From Page 1E

Tommie Hopkins, who has had the job of Protection mayor four years, said that if he was elected by write-ins, he would resign.

"I've given them enough free, gratis work. A mayor shouldn't have, other than holding a meeting and a little trouble here and there, a full-time job," he said. Hopkins was talking while taking a break from repairing some of the town's mechanical equipment.

AT AGE 70, he is a retired auto mechanic. But when city equipment breaks, he goes back to work. He found it the fastest way to get the machinery back into service and his work helps save the financially troubled city some money.

"I'm a little more conscientious than other people," he said, estimating he puts in at least 30 hours a week for the \$20 monthly salary.

He also helps the two city employees by repairing water and electric meters.

"At my age, I'm gonna quit. I've enjoyed it up to a point," he said. A councilman who serves with Hopkins, Dr. L.G. Glenn, hasn't retired. And his politics has cost him some business.

"PEOPLE GET MAD at you," he said. "They don't like you. They go to some doctor other than me. They don't want me to take their money. Some are dead and buried and their relatives still are mad at me."

Glenn didn't file for re-election, but, "let it slide." He said he would serve if he won by write-in.

"It hurts the town," said Walter Tschanz, a city councilman who is not up for re-election. "It seems like nobody is interested. Still, if we make a mistake, they blame us for it."

And the complaints do roll in, ranging from snow on the streets to dogs in the yard.

"The satisfaction is not there of serving any more," said Democrat chairman Bengtson. "You catch more flak than you do praise."

CARL O'HAIR, a social science teacher at Coldwater High School, said the lack of mayoral candidates was "a little scary. When people lose interest in their community like that, when you give up trying, you got nowhere to go but down. It is what I call apathy."

Warren Bransom has not fallen victim to apathy. He has served as mayor of Coldwater for 14 years. He didn't file for re-election, saying he thought the people in town wanted a change. But he hasn't elected himself serving again if he is defeated by write-in.

Although he likes the job of heading the town of 1,000, he said it was getting more and more complicated and it might deter some would-be candidates.

"THE RULES AND regulations out of Topeka are making it worse. It is getting to be almost a full-time job," he said, citing additional state reports and bookkeeping.

Other problems include the lack of water and not enough money for government, Bengtson said.

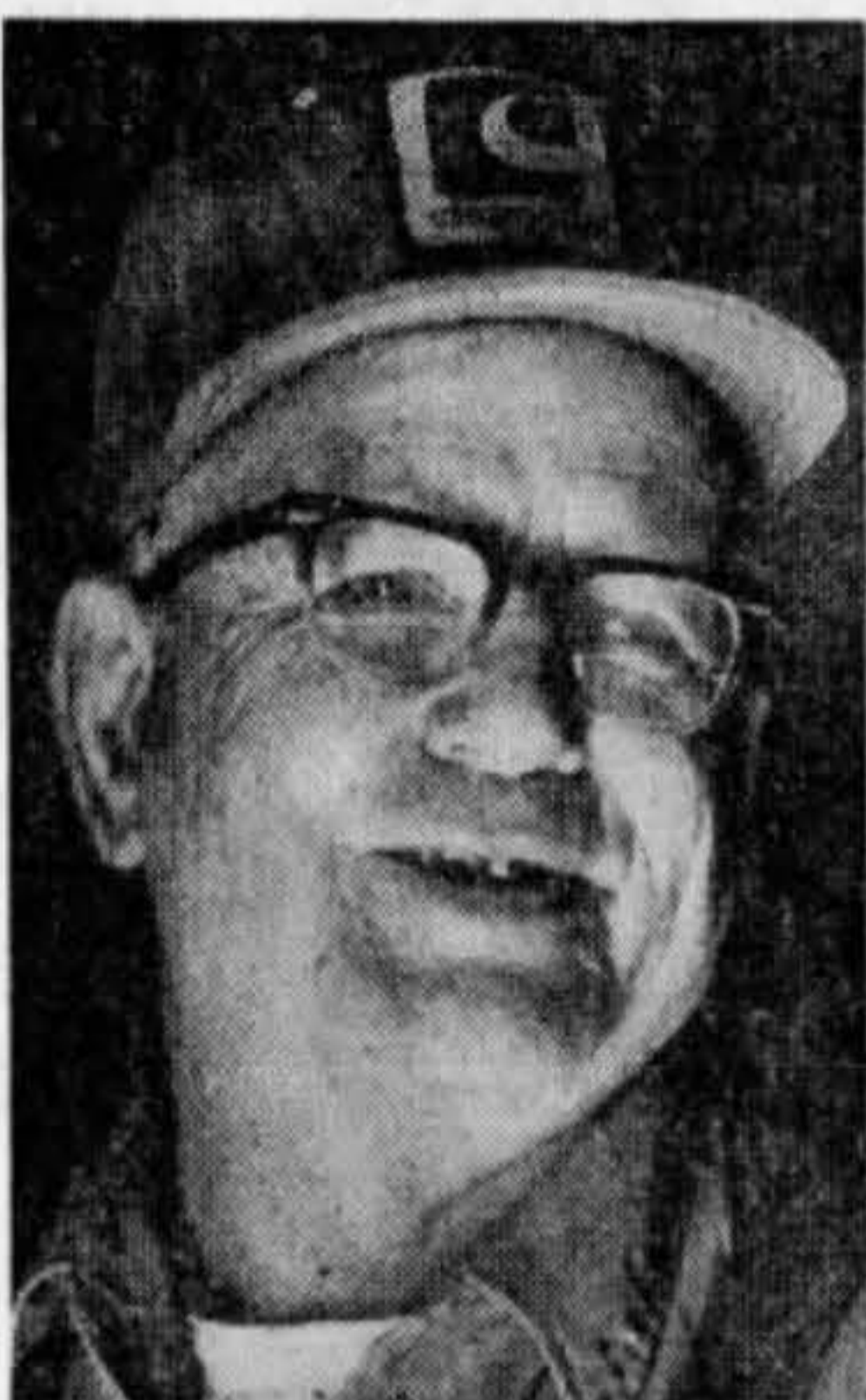
"There is a lot of work involved, the possibility of lawsuits, state regulations and federal regulations," said Douglass.

But in Wilmore, a town of 94, Mayor Al Martens said the job wasn't that demanding and regulations get a new twist.

For example, the town considered applying for revenue sharing. But, Martens said the cost of the required printing of the legal ad exceeded the money the city would have received from the grant. Wilmore dropped the project.



BILL KAY JR.
... Protection councilman



GLENN DILLINGER
... 23 years of service

BUT THE CITY did build a wheelchair ramp to the U.S. Post Office while doing other remodeling work, as required by the federal government. However, there are no wheelchairs in Wilmore, Martens said.

Martens, a Santa Fe Railway agent in Ashland, and five councilmen in Wilmore are up for re-election and, as had been the case for a decade or so, no one filed for the jobs.

"You don't need to. You're gonna have it anyway," said Glenn Dillinger, 56, who has been mayor or on the council for 23 years. His name always is written in.

"I wouldn't mind being out myself," he said. "I've served my time."

In fact, he doesn't even write in his own name, just "anybody who happens to come to mind on that day."

MARTENS SAID, "It is not that we don't have an interest in the city. It is just that we'd like to have someone else in. Maybe they would have some new ideas. It's new blood."

"I don't think there is any pressure at all," Martens said. The council meets for about an hour a month to pay the bills, mostly dealing with maintaining the sidewalks, dirt roads and the drainage system.

If a heavy rain makes the streets rough, then the job takes a little more time. The city's annual budget is about \$4,000, Martens said.

"It has been the same group of guys on the council for eight to 10 years, and some longer than that," said Martens who wasn't sure of the length of his term.

And Martens doesn't think the town suffers from the slim political involvement since there isn't much the town can do with its small tax base and limited labor force.

Said Mike Snyder of Wilmore, "We always have an officer. Somebody is going to be it anyway."

Flower's Memory Takes Wing in the North

By BARBARA CORNELL
Staff Writer

It was an unusual, but fitting memorial for a man who devoted his life to the aviation industry and developed an international reputation for business brilliance with care for the individual.

After a brief dedication ceremony in Wichita Saturday morning, a 1979 Cessna model A185F mounted on amphibious floats took off for Canada where it will be registered to call letters that include DCF — for Don C. Flower.

Flower, no doubt, would have approved.

The aircraft's ultimate destination is Manitoba, in northern Canada, where winter snows melt to summer waters, creating pockets of humanity who suffer year-round isolation. It will join a fleet of six other planes used by the Lutheran Association of

Missionaries and Pilots to help bridge the emotional and tangible gaps that isolation entails.

IT WAS CONCERN about such isolation that led Flower to be one of the charter members of Wings of Hope, a non-profit, apolitical, non-sectarian aviation organization dedicated to breaking the barriers of inaccessibility to help the world's poor and suffering.

It was this part of Flower's past that Wichitan Willard Walpole sought to memorialize when he donated the amphibious plane to Wings of Hope. From there, the organization raised thousands of dollars for operating funds that will keep the plane aloft and searched for a year before deciding that LAMP's needs provided the best use for the plane's special amphibious qualities.

AT THE HELM of the plane, as it headed toward Canada, was the Rev.

Stahlke...
licensed pilot,
mechanic
and pastor



Les Stahlke — a licensed aircraft mechanic, pilot and pastor. He compared the 50,000-square-mile mission to taking a Wichita congregation, scattering it across Kansas to be missionaries wherever they landed, and giving the pastor an airplane to shuttle between them all.

The area's settlements, he said, are both native populations and those transplants who have followed industrial development in such areas as oil,

natural gas, hydroelectric power, coal, zinc and lead. The transplants, in particular, he said, rely on the missionaries to help ease the strain of adapting to the northerly isolation.

In donating the plane and the funds to keep it going, Flower's friends wanted to see that his years of dedication didn't die with him. As a businessman, Flower is remembered as the man who pioneered Cessna Aircraft Co.'s export trade and doggedly built the company's sales to the industry's top slot.

FLOWER RETIRED from Cessna in 1962. Although his business prominence could have afforded him years of leisure, friends said that just wasn't his style. He founded Don Flower Associates Inc., an insurance company based on his opinion that existing aircraft premiums were too high. Again, he built the company into a leader in its field.

End-of-Month STOREWIDE SALE

38% Off! 43-Range Multitester

A Great Workshop Addition!

By Micronta*

Save \$15⁰⁷

24⁸⁸

CHARGE IT (MOST STORES) Reg. 39.95

Batteries extra

One of our best VOM's! It features single-knob function switch and a carrying handle that doubles as a stand. 4 1/2" color-coded mirrored scale. Range-doubler on volts and amps. Includes leads and instructions. #22-204

Clean Records for Cleaner Sound

Save 20%

3⁹⁵

Reg. 4.95

Velvet-covered cleaner protects discs. With fluid. #42-101

Handy Record Rack

Save 15%

2⁷⁹

Reg. 3.29

Molded smoke-gray rack keeps up to 40 discs organized and protected. #42-136

Half Price Stereo Cartridge!

R1000EDT by Realistic/Shure

Save \$20

19⁹⁵

Reg. 39.95

Ultra-light tracking at 1/4-1 1/2 grams. Response: 20-20,000 Hz. #42-2769

Cassette Storage Albums

Save 15%

5⁴⁹

Reg. 6.49

Holds 24 Cassettes

Stores easily on book shelf, under car seat. #44-609

12-Cassette Album. #44-612 Reg. 3.49... 2.99

Tapes not included

Record Sleeves

Save 14%

1⁸⁹

Reg. 2.19

Protect albums with vinyl-lined sleeves. #42-132

Half-Price! 8-Track Recording Tape

40 Minute **2 for 1⁹⁹** Reg. 1.99 Each

80 Minute **2 for 2⁵⁹** Reg. 2.59

Captures all the music with less noise. Stock up! #44-840/841

Telephone Extension Cords

Save 18% to 25%

4⁸⁸

Reg. 5.95

Modular Plug

25' Extension. Modular plug on each end. #279-356

30' Extension. 4-prong jack and plug. #279-1261. Reg. 3.99... 2.99

Pocket-Size Penlight

Save 22%

1³⁹

Reg. 1.79

Batteries extra

Spots key-holes, aids in reading. #61-2626

Portable Automatic Phone Directory

Save 29%

4⁹⁵

Reg. 6.95

Batteries extra

Find phone numbers fast. Rapidly locates any of 390 names and numbers, in forward or reverse. #43-112

GREAT BUYS ON RADIO SHACK ELECTRONIC TOYS!

Exciting Electronic Hand-Held Games for Hours of Fun!

Save 37% to 50%

- A Memory Match. #60-2122. Reg. 19.95 ... 9.97
- B Zingo. #60-2123. Reg. 19.95 ... 9.97
- C Pocket Repeat. #60-2152. Reg. 15.95 ... 9.97
- D Shooting Gallery. #60-2155. Reg. 12.95 ... 7.88
- E Sports Arena. #60-2158. Reg. 29.95 ... 15.88

Batteries extra

Radio-Controlled Robot—Over 3 Feet Tall!

Save 32%

14⁹⁵

Reg. 21.95

Remote control transmitter puts the "alien" at your command. Forward and reverse/turn. #60-3023

Big Savings on Toys For the Kids!

Save 50% to 57%

- A "Computer-Cam" Controlled Fire Engine. #60-2375. Reg. 6.99... 2.99
- B Fire Chief's Helmet. #60-3005. Reg. 7.99... 3.99

Batteries extra

Check Your Phone Book for the Radio Shack Store or Dealer Nearest You

PRICES MAY VARY AT INDIVIDUAL STORES
A DIVISION OF TANDY CORPORATION