

Get On With Expressway

To The Commercial Appeal:

I'd like to take the opportunity to sound off on the building of the much needed expressway whether through Overton Park or elevated above Parkway. There are a handful of squabblers who have no business calling Memphis "home." They would stand in the way of finishing an important job as completing the expressway through Memphis.

Why won't these few stupid people shut their traps and help join hands with everyone else and get this thing built before it costs too much money to build it? It should go through the park as originally planned. There are already roadways through the park, and a federal roadway would hurt no one. These environmentalists don't know what they are talking about, therefore they should shut up and not delay progress. No wonder Memphis is far behind other cities.

If the city is not allowed to grow, the city limits may as well have remained at Crosstown, where it was a few years back. What gives a few citizens or so-called citizens the right to say what should or should not be done for the city? They should be concerned with helping put Memphis on the map.

If the expressway was under construction, it would draw visitors from east and west to and through Memphis. Spend-

ing would increase, more sales tax would be returned to the city, and everyone would benefit directly or indirectly.

If Mr. Crump were still living the expressway would have long been completed. If it was for Memphis, he'd see to it that it was done. And no one, but no one said no to Mr. Crump, if it was something that would benefit the city, its citizens and visitors.

Memphis is a good city but could be a better place if it were allowed to be. So to the environmentalists and the North Parkway squawkers, admit that you're selfish and back off and let progress move. If you don't like it, then leave it. No one is asking you to live here. There are other places where you could live, say a desert somewhere out west where you won't have to worry about expressways.

WILLIAM A. BELL

788 McConnell

Vote On It

To The Commercial Appeal:

Before Mr. Guinness records the Overton Park expressway farce as the longest clown act by the fewest clowns, why don't the people of Shelby County request a referendum to see if the majority would like to build it without the federal aid for which we pay so dearly.

there will be no time for any student. The smarter students will become frustrated because they have to be kept back by those who cannot learn as fast, and the latter will suffer because they are completely lost in confusion and bewilderment. The children who really want good educations will not receive them, and those who do not care and want to drop out of school will be greatly reinforced by the lack of good attention and encouragement they could have received.

It really is a shame that the parents of these children will not speak out for those that they are supposed to care about so much. We care and it is a pity no one else seems to.

LYNN NEAL, SALLY WILSON,
ANN JONES

2755 Meadowlake Drive East

I, for one, think the referendum would pass with flying colors. Then we could proceed without delay in completing this vital leg in our transportation system.

PAUL BLANCO

142 Clark Place

Quieter Now

To The Commercial Appeal:

The bridging over of North Parkway was my second choice to the bridging over of Overton Park, and is undoubtedly the best alternate plan available.

I am writing this to point out that there has been a very significant change in conditions since the litigation of the expressway route through the park. The reduction of the speed limit to 55 mph reduces noise levels 25 per cent.

There is no way to know how much weight this noise pollution was given in the decision of the court, but there was testimony on this subject. The first decision of Judge Brown to permit the construction through the park was overturned on split decisions by higher courts.

The reduced speed limit is apparently a permanent one, and it undoubtedly will be permanent within city limits.

All the testimony relating to noise in the litigation is invalid and materially changed from conditions at the time of the Overton Park case.

One of the most objectionable features of expressways is now greatly reduced from what it was, as has the reduced use of leaded gasoline.

There is no decision that will not be objectionable and that will not be opposed, but it is to be hoped that some solution will be made soon.

A. M. MALLORY JR.

57 North Somerville

Education Moving In Reverse

To The Commercial Appeal:

We feel it is a shame that a city as large and supposedly progressive as Memphis cannot awaken to the fact that the public school system is gradually regressing. The people of this city, especially those directly involved, in the educational system, do not seem to realize the dire need for good quality education for the children.

The services that have been cut down were beginning to open doors for many students. Now there will be fewer special education teachers, fewer counselors, and fewer mental health staff, and not only some children will suffer, but each and every one will.

Yes, it will be great for the teacher-student ratio to be increased. That way

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