

(ROLL FILM)

Former Roanoke City Fireman Wallace Mattox and a group of his supporters---picketed the

(SHOW FILM)

Municipal Building today--in an attempt to get Mattox re-hired. Mattox ~~xxx~~ was fired in October 1963--for insubordination. The matter--which brewed into a controversy late in 1963---was apparently settled--until last week. The Roanoke City Democratic Committee passed a resolution---urging thā City-Manager Owens re-instate Mattox in the Fire Department. It was at this time the matter re-kindled into an explosive issue once again. Speculation is that Council is considering re-hiring Mattox--who has a great deal of public support. Mattox collected 4,600 votes in last June's Councilmanic election--a figure not to be disregarded by city officials. Mattox says today's boycott was organized by his friends---but gave no names. Placards carried by the pickets asked whether free speech exists in

IN Roanoke--and questioned the policies of the City-Manager.

Channell10 Newsman Bill Mason asked Mattox about the picketing.

(SOUND ON FILM:SOF))

end cue " _____ "

Roanoke Mayor Benton Dillard has long been seeking to have Mattox re-hired. Dillard says the Mattox ~~affair~~ affair "has certainly been a sore thumb."

(live on)