

News Without
Bias
Views Without
Prejudice

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BILL CHANGING CITY CHARTER KILLED IN COMMITTEE TODAY

Highway Commission Fight To Be Staged In Senate At Four O'clock This Afternoon

BIG LOCAL DELEGATION ON HAND

Pasquotank Well Represented and Local Fight Will be in Spotlight—Opponents of Scott's Bill Hope to Kill it by Fabian Tactics.

By I. P. DAVIS

(Advance Staff Correspondent)

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 8.—The bill to change the city charter of Elizabeth City was killed in the committee room of the senate at 11 o'clock this morning.

Its death was due to the failure on the part of the opponents to give the constitutional required 30 days notice of its introduction. Representative Scott said the bill would not be introduced again.

Up to this time no bill has been introduced relative to the return of the county officers of Pasquotank to a fee system.

Scott has such a bill in hand but will not commit himself as to whether or not he will introduce it.

Scott's bill to abolish the highway commission of Pasquotank County will come before the Senate Committee at four this afternoon.

It is probable that some time will be consumed in discussions by the members of the pro and con delegations which arrived here this morning.

The object of these opposing the bill will be to delay it from coming before the senate to-night. Should this be done, it cannot pass the required number of readings to make valid its passage.

With a delegation of more than twenty-five, divided about fifty-fifty for and against Scott's Highway Commission bill, Elizabeth City and Pasquotank County are well represented at the Capital City today.

Scott's supporters and those who will appear before the Committee of the Senate this afternoon are led by Sheriff Reid, Mayr Sawyer, Roscoe Turner, T. J. Markham and others.

The anti-Scott crowd are led by the big Republican, I. M. Meekins who is accompanied by W. O. Saunders.

Scott is on the job. He says the bill must pass and that the senators from his district are both pledged to go before the committee to favor its favorable report to the Senate. Whether or not the bill gets a favorable report in committee it will, unless too long delayed, go to the floor of the Senate where heated debate is promised.

T. J. Markham and City Manager Commander are here primarily to oppose the passage of the bill to change the city charter.

BIG CLOCK ON MAIN

no longer will your neighbor have reason to pester you with the question "What's the time?" The big clock just in front of the new store of H. C. Bright Company, illuminated at night by gas, can be seen from almost any part of the business section on Main street. It is just in place today and is ready to be seen by down town visitors tonight.

PROTECT LIBERTY NEUTRAL NATIONS

LESSONS LEARNED FROM GERMAN SUBMARINING AND BRITISH COMMERCIAL INTERFERENCE BASIS OF NEW CODE

Washington, Jan. 8.—A new international code to protect "the liberty of neutrals" has been worked out by leading North and South American experts on the basis of lessons drawn from the present war. President Wilson and Secretary Lansing are said to be its original proponents. Ways and means of formulating in terms the new principles will be discussed at a meeting of international lawyers at Havana, Cuba on January 22nd it was learned today. German submarine warfare and British Commercial interference are said to be the main reasons behind the move.

Mrs Wilson Social Head

(By United Press)

Washington, Jan. 2.—Mrs. Wilson today is the "ultimate authority" on all invitations to White House social functions. For the first time in years, management of these events has been transferred from the Executive offices to the mansion proper. As a result, the number of invited guests to the state events has fallen off between fifty and sixty per cent.

Incidentally the new regime has brought joy and peace to the minds of assistant secretaries in the business wing of the White House. In the past, the functions given by the President have been attended about equally by those on the regular White House lists and by those who request special invitations. Each reception is preceded by letters and phone calls from Senators, Congressmen and others, appealing in behalf of themselves or others for precious cards of admission.

Cuba's Suit Is Dismissed

(By United Press)

Washington, Jan. 8.—Supreme Court today granted the motion by Cuba to dismiss suit against North Carolina growing out of repudiation railroad bonds issued by Carpet baggers.

Seats Selling For September Morn

Seats are now selling for the first big musical comedy of the season at the Alkrama Theatre, Tuesday night, January 9th, which will be the most talked of "September Morn", with its wealth of song, mirth, melody, happiness and joy. The book and lyrics are by Arthur Gillespie and the music by Aubrey Stauffer, two young men who fairly outdid themselves in this successful musical play for there are no less than six emphatic song hits. The title chosen from the famous painting by Chausser serves its purpose in the story only and this novel entertainment will prove a treat to the theatre goers.

The story has to do with one Rudolph Plastric, masquerading as an artist and sets claim to the originator of the famous painting. Complications arise wherein Plastric gets himself into all sorts of trouble through the appearance of an actress, who claims to be the originator and actually was the lady who bathed in the open. There are a dozen principals and the show goes with a burlesque from the rise of the curtain.

The leading comedy role is in the hands of nimble William Moore, who has played in many Broadway successes supported by an excellent cast and a sprightly singing and dancing chorus who trip through the seemingly difficult dancing and ensemble numbers fetchingly.

Among the many song hits that are now being whistled throughout the country are: "O! You September Morn," "When a Little Boy Loves a Little Girl," "A Spare Rib from the Butcher Shop of Life," "Beautiful Dreams I'm Dreaming," "In Paree"—"Where is the Pleasure in Wine and Song if the Woman is not there?" etc.

"September Morn" scored a long run at the LaSalle Opera House (Chicago) and is making its eastern tour in all its merry making. Seats now at Sells' Jewelry Store. adv

Urges Development Of California

(By United Press)

Sacramento, Jan. 8.—With the development and colonization of California's agricultural lands as the chief business at hand the state legislature convened here today. Governor Hiram W. Johnson, United States Senator elect, emphasized the importance of this work in his message to the lawmakers. The Water problems conference, appointed by the governor, called attention to the vast possibilities of the state's water resources which, it was pointed out, can be made a source of great wealth to the state. The greater portion of the great Sacramento valley for instance, is not being cultivated because there is no method of water storage for irrigation.

EPISCOPAL CEMETERY SOCIETY MEETS

The Episcopal Cemetery Society meets with Mrs. C. E. Kramer Thursday afternoon, January 9th at 3:30. All members are urged to be present.

FOR SALE Young black horse. Good saddle. Will work in all harness. Will sell cheap. CLIFF MADRIN, Elizabeth City, Jan. 5 6 8 pd

AYDLETT WINS IN DAMAGE SUIT

PASQUOTANK JURY'S VERDICT DECLARES HE HAD PROBABLE CAUSE FOR LIBEL SUIT AGAINST SAUNDERS

The case of Saunders vs. Aydlett came to a dramatic close Saturday afternoon when the jury between four and five o'clock brought in a verdict in favor of the defendant. In the long series of suits in which these two have been litigants, no jury has come to such prompt decision. They took the case at the close of the forenoon session.

The changing of the court house bell, shortly after four o'clock, brought a crowd that filled about half the building during the moments of delay before the presiding judge took his seat on the bench. The jury then filed into the box and handed their verdict to the clerk of the court who passed it to the judge. Judge Daniels glanced at the paper and handed it back to the clerk directing him to read it.

In the tense silence of the courtroom the clerk's voice intoned the issue, and the answer thereto. The first two, "Did the defendant prosecute the plaintiff as alleged in the complaint?" and "Has said prosecution been terminated as alleged?" were answered in the affirmative.

The jury's answer to the third issue "Was said prosecution instituted without probable cause?" was "No."

The victory for the defendant was a complete one. The questions at issue before the jury were whether Aydlett in the Chowan county libel suit of 1915 brought action against Saunders without probable cause, whether in bringing this prosecution Aydlett was actuated by malice and what damage, if any Saunders was entitled to recover.

In answering the first contested issue in favor of Mr. Aydlett, the jury at one stroke, decided the case in his favor and made answer to the other two issues unnecessary.

The verdict terminated one of the most long drawn out and hardest fought legal battles in the history of the county. When the case first came on for trial the plaintiff took a non suit because he did not believe that one of the jurors was unprejudiced against him. When the case came up for trial a second time Saunders got his contentions before a jury only to have the action result in a mistrial. Last week the plaintiff gathered his forces by sea and land for a third attempt to secure a verdict in his favor. When the issue went squarely against him, his attorneys noted an appeal to the supreme court.

The suit, in which the plaintiff was asking damage in the sum of \$25,000, as is generally known here, grew out of a series of prosecutions instituted against W. O. Saunders by E. F. Aydlett for libel. The libel suit in Chowan was made the basis of Saunders damage suit because this was the only case in which a court of competent jurisdiction did not find Saunders guilty. In both Pasquotank and Beaufort Saunders was adjudged guilty by the recorder, though in superior court his attorneys succeeded in securing a verdict of acquittal from a jury.

WANTED, Colored Laborers to

work in our lime and crushed shell mill. None but good men need apply. Steady work guaranteed. Wages 20c. per hour. Apply at mill, KEELING-EASTER CO. Inc. Foot Southampton Avenue, Norfolk, Va.

Portuguese In Fight

WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS

With the British Army, Jan. 8.—Officers of the Portuguese expeditionary force have arrived here preparatory to fighting on the Western front are tackling enthusiastically their new problem.

Authorization of this cable was given for the first time today. The presence of these "Portuguese" officers in France marks the beginning of Portugal's actual participation in fighting activities.

ACTIVE WORK FOR SERVICE MONTH

SUPT. HINTON AND HIS HELPERS TOUR THE COUNTY TO AROUSE INTEREST IN COMMUNITY SERVICE MONTH

January 8th to February 3rd has been designated Community Service Month in Pasquotank County.

The active work of Community Service Month begins today as County Superintendent of Education W. M. Hinton with a corps of helpers, begins a rapid tour of the schools of the county to acquaint the people with the plan and scope of the work and to interest them in attending the meeting to be held here on January 13th, when Dr. Clarence Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer will be the principal speaker.

Next week W. C. Crosby of Raleigh, Secretary of the State Bureau of Community Service, will be here and he will endeavor to make a complete tour of the county, visiting the schools and other community centers, bringing the lessons of Community Service to every neighborhood and awakening such enthusiasm as will insure great gatherings here for the other three meetings on January 20th, January 27th and February 3rd.

Meantime committees have been appointed on the various phases of Community Service. The chairman of each committee is chosen from Elizabeth City and one from each township make up the other members. These sub-committees will co-operate with the Central Committee in carrying out the plans of Community Service month.

The general subject for the first week and the general theme of Dr. Poe's address will be Preventable Ignorance. The committee of this phase of Community Service work is as follows: G. F. Seyfert, Chairman, B. T. James, A. S. Moran, O. L. Bundy, W. S. Stafford, W. N. Brothers.

The theme for the second week will be Preventable Poverty, the discussion being directed along the line of better production and better marketing and the following has been named as the committee on this phase of the work: J. H. Winslow, chairman, Seth W. Scott, Richard S. Pritchard, W. C. Riggs, Elisha Bright, J. R. Bright.

Preventable disease will be taken up the third week and those who will be responsible for the preparation for the subsequent application of Dr. Watson S. Rankin's address on the subject are: A. B. Houtz, chairman, J. C. Jones, S. M. Brothers, J. W. Perry, M. P. Jennings, W. J. Williams.

Preventable Social Defects is the last topic and the committee on this problem are: Mrs. Cam W. Melick, Chairman, Miss Margaret Hollowell, G. H. Winslow, Mrs. M. P. Jennings, A. L. Stafford.

The chairman in each case will map out the work of the respective committees and the members of the various committees should get in touch with the chairman they will work with and learn what is expected of them.

JUDGE IS STILL N CAROLINIAN

TALKS INTERESTINGLY OF THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF WEST AND IS PLEASED WITH GROWTH OF HOME TOWN

"I went West in 1883" says Judge Robert Brooke Albertson who is here for a visit to his sisters, Misses Albertson on Church street, "with my college diploma from the University of North Carolina and my law license as my sole assets. I had no practical equipment for making a living,—which by the way is one of our greatest troubles in educational work in the South.

"I had to work beside a chinaman in a saw mill for a while, had to pick up what ever came my way in the way of a job. I tried newspaper work and might have been in it yet, but the morning paper on which I was reporter and general man-of-all-work "broke" and I "broke" with it."

Judge Albertson is now Superior Court Judge with headquarters at Seattle, Washington and is beginning his fifteenth year on the bench in his district, having been elected in November for another four year term.

"We have tried all of the constructive and new legislation," says the Judge, "not on the dog, but on ourselves."

"The initiative, referendum and recall, woman's suffrage and prohibition,—we have them all and seem none the worse for them. Many of our most progressive steps have been made through the initiative,—by petition from number of voters."

Judge Albertson showed a very interesting photograph of one of his juries, composed entirely of women. In the case on trial a railroad was sued for the death of a woman, and the jury's verdict gave the woman's children \$15,000.

"The rapid growth of our Western cities" continued Judge Albertson, "is extremely interesting. To live in a town while it grows from three or four thousand to a population of several hundred thousands, for example, is to watch an unceasing panorama of development, and such has been my experience."

"However the changes in Elizabeth City since my last visit impress me as most encouraging. On Main street there has been an entire transformation with its creditable Federal building, the new Hinton Building and a number of new residences. The paving of so many of the city's streets was the next thing that caught my attention as I came into my home town."

"I have never gotten away from being a North Carolinian. Ever since I have been away I have subscribed to and read The Charlotte Observer and my home town paper. When I was here last Colonel Creecy was still living. Although then in his nineties, he was alert and vigorous in mind and declared that his old age was the happiest period of his life."

"I read The Advance regularly,—I might say, religiously,—even the advertisements, for I learn much about the progress of the home business men from this latter source, and I am interested in every advancement which my city and section makes."

MEETS THURSDAY NIGHT

The Fidelity Class, No. 1., of the Blackwell Memorial Sunday School will meet Thursday night with Miss Carrie Burgess on Cypress street at 7:30. All members are urged to be present.

VESTRY MEETING TONIGHT

There will be a meeting of the Vestry of Christ Church tonight at 7:30. All vestrymen are urged to be present.