

ELIZABETH CITY The Daily Advance

The Weather
Most cloudy with local thunder-
showers tonight and probably
Wednesday.

VOL. XVII. FINAL EDITION.

ELIZABETH CITY, NORTH CAROLINA, TUESDAY EVENING, JULY 19, 1927.

SIX PAGES. NO. 170.

MELON PROBLEM TAKEN BY HORNS BY CITY COUNCIL

Vendors Directed Not to
Sell From Vehicles in
Downtown District Ex-
cept at Curb Market

PARKING DISCUSSED

Mayor Flora Suggests Lease
of Kramer Mill Property
As Means of Dealing With
the Situation

A death blow was dealt to the menace to the dignity of the city embodied in the vending of watermelons in the downtown section Monday night when the City Council, in regular session, passed an ordinance directing that purveyors of melons offer them for sale in the downtown district only at the curb market, beside the City Market. Hours for sale were fixed at from 6 o'clock in the morning to 4 in the afternoon.

In the matter of accomplishment, this was the principal act of the Council in the course of the meeting, though many other things were discussed. Among the latter was the ever more troublesome problem of parking.

The parking situation was brought up by Mayor Jerome Flora. Beginning with the declaration that the problem was becoming more serious each day, he urged that all members of the Council be thinking it over with a view to finding a remedy.

Mr. Flora then offered the suggestion that the Kramer mill property, between Martin and Poin-dexter streets, might be leased for a term of three or four years, with privilege of purchase. He added that he thought a custodian should be employed for it by the city and County together, on a full time basis.

Members of the Council concurred with the Mayor in the opinion that immediate steps should be taken to provide adequate parking, but action on the matter was deferred.

As its closing act, the board went through the routine procedure of granting the city employes their annual vacation. Those employed on a weekly basis are to have a week off, and those employed by the month will be given 10 days.

The watermelon problem was brought before the Council by the Mayor, with the announcement that as acting city manager in the absence of City Manager M. W. Ferebee, he "nearly had a terrible row" Saturday, when vendors with trucks and wagons of melons persisted in vending them on East Main street and elsewhere in the downtown district.

Mr. Flora related that he sent the offending ones to the curb market; but they were "right back again." He asked that they be prohibited from peddling their melons except in a designated area.

Dr. C. B. Williams, who happened to be present, then entered the discussion to observe that it was not "dignified" for melon vendors to ply their trade in the downtown district, and that it tended to make a "chick town" of Elizabeth City. And besides, he said, he couldn't find parking space for his car Saturday because the available room was taken up by melon trucks.

The Council designated the prescribed area as the section between the Suffolk and Carolina Railroad and Elizabeth street and to the east of Broad street. It was ruled that the melon peddlers could huckster them elsewhere in the city, but that they must keep moving, and allow prospective purchasers only a limited time for experimental thumping.

The matter of an increase of ten cents per \$100 property valuation in the budget asked for the graded school, submitted in the budget recently, was brought to the attention of the board by J. C. B. Bringham. He stated that the additional money was needed for the retirement of \$14,000 a year in bonds, of which \$12,000 just began falling due last year.

This item for the retirement of the \$480,000 bond issue of 1922-23, he explained, offering to go into any further explanation if the Council wished. After desultory discussion, the City Fathers proceeded to other business.

In answer to a complaint from H. P. Smith, living at the intersection of North Martin and Elizabeth streets, the Council voted to bill in his lot if he would raise the house on it so as to give sufficient clearance for adequate drainage. A similar complaint then was heard with reference to Mrs. C. A. Dean, living on the opposite side of Martin street, but no action was taken other than to direct City Clerk Snowden to write her with reference to moving a garage said to be partly on the city's property.

ACTS OF COUNCIL

Heard complaints from property owners on North Martin street, at intersection of Elizabeth street, over alleged bad drainage resulting from cutting the latter street.

Prohibited vending watermelons from vehicles in downtown district except at site of curb market, and between the hours of 6 in the morning and 4 in the afternoon.

Asked that a company representative be summoned to look over the city tractors and make a proposition either to repair or exchange them.

Discussed possibilities of solving parking problem through lease of property near business section and employment of man on full time basis to look after it.

More Optimistic Over Conference Declares Gibson

Geneva, July 19—(AP)—“We are more optimistic than we have been some days,” Hugh S. Gibson, chief American delegate to the Tripartite Naval Conference, declared after a conference today between the six principal delegates.

“The discussions are continuing in a most cheerful and friendly atmosphere,” added Mr. Gibson, “we are beginning to see the light ahead.”

Mr. Gibson however, indicated that this morning's deliberations, which were devoted to the broader phases of the cruiser problem as a whole, would have to be followed by several other sessions of the “big six,” and that the harmonious spirit prevailing today did not necessarily signify rapid progress in concluding the work of the conference.

The American delegate stated that there would be no meeting of the executive committee of the conference for three or four days. This indicates that there is little likelihood of another public plenary session of the conference before next week.

The question of defining the obsolescence of cruisers—determining which ships shall be counted as active units and included in the total tonnage limitation of surface craft—appears to have formed the subject of today's discussion.

Replying a question as to whether agreement was in sight on the number of 10,000 ton cruisers carrying eight inch guns to which each of the three powers would be entitled, Mr. Gibson said that that problem had not yet come off-ically before the conferees and that it would be sometime before it was reached.

One indication that there was some progress to report was the decision of the American delegation to receive representatives of the world press this afternoon, these meetings having been suspended several days ago.

Counties Seek Aid From Board Of Equalization

Raleigh, July 19—(AP)—Twenty-four counties have asked the State Board of Equalization for aid from the \$100,000 “stimulating fund.” Leroy Martin, secretary to the board, reported today.

The equalization board which meets Thursday at Morehead City to hear further complaints from counties about the amounts received at the recent distribution of the equalizing fund and also the complaints about the valuations placed upon land, will consider the requests during the meeting at the seacoast city.

Counties seeking aid from the “stimulating fund,” set aside to help out counties encountering unforeseen difficulties, are: Alleghany, Bertie, Camden, Carteret, Caswell, Chatham, Currituck, Dare, Franklin, Gates, Granville, Greene, Haywood, Hertford, Jackson, Jones, Lincoln, Mitchell, Onslow, Orange, Rockingham, Stanly, Vance, and Wayne.

of Ritter & Booker, engaged in reurfacing the Belgian blocks here, that the city take over the remaining odds and ends of the work, was heard by the Council. The representative stated that another carload of material would finish the job, and asked that he be allowed to move his equipment elsewhere. The reason for the request apparently was the extended delay over the building of Poin-dexter Creek bridge, on North Water street. He was asked to submit his facts and arguments in writing.

At the request of Attorney C. E. Thompson, the Council formally passed a motion confirming a recent ordinance giving the Standard Oil Company permission to erect storage tanks on the Commander mill property, on Front street.

Byrd Home With the Bacon



Home from France with honors comparable to those showered on Lindbergh is Commander Richard E. Byrd, intrepid scientist of the air. This splendid NEA Service photo shows Byrd in his best bib and tucker for the gala welcome that awaited him and his comrades of transatlantic adventure in New York.

Byrd Rests A Day But His Mind Is Busy With Plans For Flight To South Pole

New York, July 19—(AP)—A day virtually free of official ceremonies greeted the five returned transatlantic fliers today after their enthusiastic welcome home. A baseball game in the afternoon at which ceremonies were arranged in honor of the twenty-fifth anniversary of John J. McGraw's connection with the New York Giants and a municipal dinner at the Hotel Commodore tonight comprised their official program.

Meanwhile Commander Richard E. Byrd and his crew of the America already are looking forward to their next great adventure—a flight to the South Pole—while Clarence D. Chamberlin, a pilot of the Columbia, is anxious to perfect plans for a transatlantic flying service.

Byrd considers his South Pole flight as another “great air battle,” an undertaking of such magnitude that it will claim all of his time and attention.

“And I hope it will be a conquest in every sense of the word,” he said.

He will be accompanied on the new adventure by the three who flew with him to France and Floyd Bennett, pilot on his North Pole flight, who is recovering from injuries received in a test flight of the America. Byrd said his original plan of accomplishing the South Pole flight in a year must be scrapped. In all likelihood the undertaking will require two years he said and his crew might have to spend three years in the Antarctic in an undertaking of extensive explorations of the region.

“As I see it now we can really expect to get little done our first summer season down there except lay our bases,” he said, “we hope to establish a home base somewhere near Littleton, New Zealand. From there in, on the New Zealand ice cap we have to set up secondary bases. This is hard and trying work and is going to take a lot of time. After we have all this work done we will still have the main flight ahead.”

The main flight will be from the primary base to the Pole and back. He believes the exploration flights will be on the same order. The expedition expects to set out from Norfolk, Virginia, about the middle of September.

Chamberlin is busy planning a new ship with automatic controls for transatlantic flying service.

“It probably will have to be called a “service” by courtesy for a while,” he said. “What I am thinking about right now is a new ship with automatic controls which we can be certain will do the job. How often it can accomplish the flight won't bother us at first.”

Maitland Welcomed To His Native City

Milwaukee, Wis., July 19—(AP)—Heading an aerial procession from Chicago, Lieutenants Lester J. Maitland and Albert Heggenberger arrived at the county airport at 10:30 a. m. to participate in an all-day reception given in honor of the transatlantic fliers by Maitland's native city.

FEAR EPIDEMIC MAY FOLLOW IN WAKE OF BATTLE

United States Marines and
Nicaraguan Constabulary
Are Cleaning Up Big
Grave Yard

VULTURES FLOCK

Birds of Death Descend on
Battlefield Where 300 of
General Sandino's Men
Were Killed

Managua, Nic., July 19—(AP)—Fearing of an epidemic the authorities at Ocotal, scene of Sunday's seventeen hour engagement between the forces of General Sandino, rebel leader, and a joint body of 25 United States Marines and a group of Nicaraguan constabulary, are cleaning up the city which has the appearance of a big grave yard.

Flocks of great vultures descended upon the battlefield over which the bodies of about 300 of General Sandino's men lay, most of the killed meeting death from bombs dropped by five planes ordered from Managua to the rescue of the Marine force at Ocotal, by Brigadier-General Logan Feland. The rebel force, which attacked Ocotal at one o'clock Sunday morning, succeeded in bringing down one American plane but the aviators escaped and landed in Ocotal. The plane was piloted by Sergeant Albert S. Munsch. One bullet punctured the gas tank and another bullet went through the pilot's right holster.

Sergeant Munsch was accompanied by Marine Gunner Michael Wodarszek, who was on a patrol mission in another plane. Wodarszek reported that while looking for General Sandino's forces he saw a group of men southwest of San Fernando, circled over them and then dropped a bomb after he had been fired on. Wodarszek's plane was hit three times.

Captain G. D. Hatfield, in command of the Marine force at Ocotal, reported last night that all was well and that a column under Major Floyd was marching on the town to prevent General Sandino from reorganizing his forces. Late reports indicated that the rebel lieutenant was being deserted by the remainder of his band.

A graphic account of the fight in which a Marine, Private Michael A. Obloski of Touletie, Pennsylvania, was killed, has been received by President Adolfo Diaz from Arnaldo Ramirez Abaunza, one of the leading citizens of Ocotal. The account described the battle of the fiercest in the history of Nicaragua.

Abaunza said that General Sandino attacked the city from all directions Sunday morning, the troops shouting and cheering for Sandino and crying “death to the Americans.” The fighting became general with the Marine force and the Nicaraguan constabulary returning a hot fire with rifles and machine guns.

Calloway Tells How Was Flogged By Masked Band

Oncota, Ala., July 19—(AP)—State authorities directing hearings before the special Blount County grand jury convened yesterday in an effort to bring to justice the floggers of Jeff Calloway, Oncota farm youth, hinted strongly at today's session opened that only two more witnesses would be placed before the grand jury and that from seven to nine persons would be speedily indicted.

Following Judge Woodson J. Martin's charge to the grand jury yesterday five witnesses testified before the inquisitorial body.

Calloway, who was taken from a rural church service June 26 by a masked band, carried into Jefferson County and lashed into semi-consciousness, was the first witness to testify. He was followed by Mrs. A. Trammell, Tarboro, in Jefferson County; Tom Hughes, Mt. Sallie Mokes, and Walter Greel, both of Jefferson County. One hundred and twenty witnesses were subpoenaed for the investigation.

Both Attorney-General McCall, who is personally conducting the hearings here, and Solicitor W. G. Ekins of the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, expressed themselves as “very well pleased” with evidence submitted yesterday and were optimistic over prospective results today.

WRITES TO TAGALONG

The following letter came in today's mail for Tagalong, in care of The Daily Advance:

“Dear Tagalong:

“I think you ought to name your pony ‘Tricky.’ It is a good name for him, I think.

“Yours truly,

“Mary Lillian Mitchell,
“613 Penn. Ave., E. City.”

Here, Tiny! Pay Attention!



Mrs. Coolidge has a new pet at the Black Hills vacation home. He's “Tiny Jim,” a chow dog presented to the first lady by Harry Gillespie of Denver, Colo. Mrs. Coolidge is trying to make Jim peck up for his photograph, but with indifferent results.

Added Free Parking Space Here Assured In Early Future After Investigation By Mayor Flora

Additional free parking facilities will be made available for visitors in Elizabeth City in the next week or ten days, through arrangements undertaken Tuesday by Mayor Jerome Flora on the basis of tentative action on the subject taken by the City Council in regular session Monday night.

Mayor Flora, accompanied by Chief of Police Holmes and Secretary Job, of the Chamber of Commerce, inspected two properties on North Martin street, a vacant lot and a vacant block from the downtown business section, and decided that they were suitable for parking purposes. One is a vacant lot owned by W. T. Culpepper, local hardware dealer, which Mr. Culpepper already has agreed to permit the city to use. The other is a large lumber shed owned by Kramer Brothers Company.

Negotiations are under way for the use of the shed which, it is estimated, will hold 60 cars or more. The Culpepper lot is 80 feet front by 160 feet deep, and it is believed that three tiers of cars, 20 or more to a tier, can be parked on it, without crowding. This lot is to be cleaned up in the next few days, and made available to motorists.

Members of the City Council believe that the lot alone will go far toward relieving the parking congestion in the downtown section, which is particularly acute on Saturdays. If the shed can be procured also, it is felt that the problem will be virtually solved, for the present.

A count made by Secretary Job on East Main street disclosed that 14 to 15 cars could be parked in the block. Hence, the vacant lot and shed on North Martin street could take care of as many cars as the present parking facilities on at least eight blocks of equal length.

Discussion at the Council meeting as favorably toward not only the leasing of property for parking, but also for the employment of a custodian for the parked cars. It is planned in addition to erect a dozen or more signs at various points in the city, directing visitors to the free parking area.

Mayor Flora is hopeful of leasing the Culpepper lot for the nominal sum of a dollar a year, and of obtaining a satisfactory figure on the Kramer shed. The two are only a few yards apart.

A movement to provide additional parking space was launched several months ago by the Merchants Bureau of the Chamber of Commerce, and has been under consideration by Secretary Job and others for some time. As a first step, cards were printed asking Elizabeth City motorists not to leave their cars in the downtown district for more than an hour on Saturdays, in order to make additional space available for visitors.

BOMB EXPLODES IN FRONT OF CONSULATE

Nice, France, July 19—(AP)—A bomb was exploded today in front of the building in which the American Consulate is located.

No one was hurt and only slight damage was done.

The police started an investigation. Presumably the bomb was exploded by sympathizers with Sacco and Vanzetti as there have been similar occurrences abroad since these two radicals were convicted in Massachusetts of murder.

COLD FIGURES SHOW GROWTH U. S. AVIATION

Officials of Commerce Department See Many Difficulties Yet to Be Overcome in Service

NEW ENTERPRISES

Value of Aircraft Produced in Country Since 1926 Had Doubled; Results Can Not Yet Be Estimated

Washington, July 19—(AP)—Cold figures made available today at the commerce department, showed in unmistakable terms the upward sweep of American Commercial Aviation during the months made notable by the record-breaking transatlantic and transpacific flights of American aviators.

Officials of the department's aeronautical section who have studied the plugging, work-a-day performances of infant transport lines now operating in every section of the country are plainly pleased over the developments of the last year but they still see many difficulties to overcome.

Even as they translate the figures that show an unsuspected degree of present day accomplishment, they can point out the need for yet more effort and ingenuity. With it all, the perspective they have from long years of contact with the pioneer period makes them surer of the expansion that is coming.

Operating in commercial service over the country today there is a total of between 3,500 and 5,000 airplanes, according to the best estimate of director Young, of the aeronautics section. The number is increasing so rapidly that the new system of plane regulation which went into effect last February has been unable to catch up with the situation. There are 12 airways under systematic schedule service, with ten transport companies participating.

Possibly the best index of growth of utility is the figures compiled for the air mail. In the fiscal year 1926 the air mail postage was \$60,235 and for the fiscal year 1927 which ended June 30 the total was \$144,595.

Since 1926 the value of all aircraft and air materials produced in the country was \$24,161,775 or twice as much as the \$12,775,181 total for production in 1925.

Much of the enterprise under way is so new that results from it can not yet be estimated. One of the transport companies as recently as July 1 put a fleet of 25 planes on the Chicago-San Francisco route for carriage of mail, express and passengers. The net fare for the 22 hour air trip is \$200 per passenger and the machines take two passengers on each flight.

Brummitt Expected To Head Democrats

Raleigh, July 19—(AP)—With unanimous announced support of Dennis G. Brummitt of Oxford, Attorney-General, made before the Democratic Executive Committee leaders of the State tonight to elect a successor to John G. Dawson of Kinston, who for the last four years has held the post of chairman of the committee.

Mr. Dawson on June 24 announced his intention of resigning in order to devote himself to his personal business.

Mr. Brummitt comes to the spotlight of tonight's rather perfunctory meeting with endorsement of the organization element headed by United States Senator F. M. Simmons and endorsement of C. Max Gardner, of Shelby, embracing the leadership of the party in the State.

MERCHANTS MOVE HEADQUARTERS TO THE STATE CAPITAL

Raleigh, July 19—(AP)—Election of W. L. Dowell, former city clerk of Raleigh, as executive secretary and decision to move headquarters to Raleigh featured a meeting here yesterday of a State Merchants' Association committee.

Mr. Dowell, who takes office August 1 when headquarters will be moved, succeeds J. Paul Leonard, of Statesville, resigned.

Charlotte, July 19—(AP)—Terrel Meng and John McCullough, young white men, will be sentenced Thursday for an alleged attempt to attack Ruby Lee Roberts, 13 year old Greensboro girl. They were convicted in Mecklenburg Superior Court here late yesterday.

The girl accused the two of taking her automobile riding, getting her intoxicated and attempting to attack her.