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BOARD TOLD STRIKE CONDITIONS HERE

1934 Hectic Year In City

DOOLEY TAKES STAND TO REFUTE TESTIMONY

For nine hours last Friday and Saturday, the Textile Labor Relations Board at Washington listened to testimony in the case of Local 2230 United Textile Workers vs Rosemary Manufacturing Co. in which it was charged that the defendant company had discriminated against members of the Local because of their union affiliation, while the Rosemary Mfg. Co. contended that it has not discriminated, has only given preference to workers who wanted to work during the strike, has put many union members back to work and has a few employees who were guilty of law violations, something against the known, set rule of the company for many years.

The company recognized the right to organize, even the right to strike, but it recognized also the right to work and contended that a majority of its employees wanted to work when the national textile strike was called and were kept from their work by unlawful picketing and that among these picketers were some from their own company, altho a vast majority of them were from other mills and even other towns.

Judge Stacy, chairman of the Board, was absent all of Friday on account of illness and was present only part of Saturday. However, the entire testimony was taken down, word for word, by the board stenographer who used an automatic, short-hand recording machine.

Admiral Wiley acted as chairman and he, with the third member of the Board, Colonel Douglas, heard most of the testimony and even took a hand in some of the questioning. It was Admiral Wiley who provided the fireworks of the hearing by suggesting that J. Dooley, local organizer, go on the stand to testify under oath. This was not done Friday afternoon, so the Admiral, Saturday morning directed Dooley to take the stand and counsel for the plaintiff, J. Winfield Crewe, Jr., finally agreed.

As the Friday testimony mounted, it showed Dooley representing himself to be a representative of the administration, a friend of President Roosevelt who had "patted him on the shoulder" and thanked him for the work he was doing in organizing. A picture of conditions during the strike, as

testimony showed that people wanting to go to work were kept from it by overpowering numbers and even mill officials and maintenance crews were kept off mill property and out of plants they were entitled to enter, cars carrying pickets flying the American flags to identify them, altho Mr. Dooley, under oath, testified that his car carried no flags.

Bill Pace's testimony late Friday paved the way for Mr. Dooley's appearance. Bill told how Dooley had told in his speech that the government was backing the strike and was going to send food into Roanoke Rapids by the truckloads. But, he added, the trucks never came. He said Dooley represented himself as a special representative of the United States government and said that President Roosevelt had congratulated him on his fine work. Pace also said that jobs were threatened by union leaders, that he was told by union officials that he would not have a job after the strike nor would he get any Federal relief during the strike. He said most of the people in Roanoke Rapids joined the UTW because they really believed all this and were afraid not to join.

During this testimony, Mr. Crewe laughed and said that Mr. Dooley denied all these charges, whereupon Admiral Wiley said, "Then the Board suggests that Mr. Dooley take the stand and refute the testimony."

The suggestion was not accepted that afternoon. But as the

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Mrs. Mary Hawkins Funeral Sunday

Mrs. Mary E. Hawkins, 87, died Saturday at the home of her son, Willis E. Hawkins, on Washington Street. Funeral services were held Sunday at the residence by Reverends V. H. Grantham, J. J. Boone and Vickery with interment in the Hawkins family cemetery.

UP AND DOWN The Avenue WITH THE EDITOR

Again we turn to the Avenue, that main artery of Roanoke Rapids, and find it torn asunder by the machines of man. But it is always for betterment and today a crew started work between 9th and 10th Streets, removing dirt for the laying of curbs and the paving of that section of the city from one curb to the other for the first time. Such is progress.

Gassaway & Owen Inc., Winston-Salem firm, has the contract from the State which means a curb to curb from 9th to 11th and the tearing up and new paving from 1st to 3rd. All will conform to the rest of the new Avenue. Completion of the job depends on property owners who must help pay for storm sewers promised the State when the present contract was let. Sign up today.

Announcing the approaching marriage in the Spring of two of Roanoke Rapids most popular and lovable young people: Margaret Clark and Ned Manning.

At Charley Kelly's out at Aurelian Springs tonight a dozen or more from various parts of the county are partaking of a real Christmas feast at the Kelly's annual spread. Julian Allsbrook and Dr. Johnny Martin from here are there. How we envy them.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF NEWS IN CITY AND COUNTY

The last issue of The Herald for 1934 begins the year's history of Roanoke Rapids and Halifax County as reviewed from the files of The Roanoke Rapids Herald. The minor "scraps" of a growing town are overshadowed by the first major labor troubles in the history of the city and county. The textile strike and its aftermath provides the biggest story of the year in a community dependent entirely upon cotton mills. It eclipses the primary of June, 1934, which would ordinarily hold the limelight.

Following is a brief description of the year from each issue of The Herald.

Jan. 4th—Criticism of CWA in Halifax County. Charges range from cries of "politics" to wage being paid. Willie Taylor held to Superior Court on charge of criminal assault on 17 year old Virginia girl. C. W. Davis installed as 1934 president of Kiwanis Club. Jeff Welch lands job as deputy collector of Internal Revenue. Womans Club opens library. Fire routs teachers at Mrs. B. J. Dunning's boarding house. Congressman Kerr guest speaker at Aurelian Springs meeting. Plea made to CWA by Aurelian Springs community for lake and park project. Local banks insure deposits up to \$2,500. Citizens complain of shooting fireworks all night long. Fletcher Dickens tells of history of Roanoke Rapids and its relation to electric power at Kiwanis Club. Wm. Alfred Thorne named director of Farm Production Credit Association.

Jan. 11th—CWA administrator J. B. Hall cleared of "politics" charges which are traced to Raleigh where Mrs. OBerry states a general cleanup will be instigated. Ten miles of sidewalks for Roanoke Rapids approved by CWA at expenditure of \$50,000, after months of work by city officials and Kiwanis club committee, Congressman Kerr supports airport project for Roanoke Rapids. Graham Poyner, local High School teacher, goes to WPTF as promoter of programs. J. T. Chase, president Roanoke Rapids Hospital, tell how hospital paid off \$10,000 of \$13,000 operating debt in 1933. High School basketball team wins first three games. N. B. Nisholson resigns as assistant county agent. City Choral Club

organized by S. A. Lipscomb, Jr. W. L. Long moves to Raleigh. H. L. Meachem new county agent to succeed N. B. Nisholson.

Jan. 18.—Sidewalks project held up as all new CWA projects stopped. Excessive payrolls on other projects reason. Robbers crack safe at Express office and steal money from New Bakery lunch room. Merchants Association reformed as Willard Dowell secretary State Association, is principal speaker here. Simmons Company refutes false newspaper article in News & Observer about change in mills ownership. P. T. A. discusses traffic problems and asks for stricter enforcement of speed laws. Plans for President's Ball at Scot'and Neck. A. C. Sledge of Emporia makes express survey of city. CWA goes on stagger system. Art Exhibit at Womans Club. C. C. Shell elected president Merchants Association. Jack Thorne, Weldon Policeman, held under bond in death of Weldon Negro.

Jan. 25—Dr. Long elected Chairman Democratic Executive Committee to succeed W. L. Long. 4,000 barrels cement shipped for Roanoke Rapids sidewalks. Bond issue authorized for new municipal building and Dept. Womans Club reports \$150 milk fund for underprivileged children. Ogletree-Hobbs wedding. Bi-county basketball meet sponsored by Kiwanis Club, which meets out at Aurelian Springs and donates kitchen range for new Home Economics Dept. at that school.

Feb. 1—E. A. Matthews, former local lawyer, sentenced to from 4 to 8 years in penitentiary after being brought back from Hawaii. Five homes entered by boys and

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