

MERCHANTS OPEN MEETING AT BEACH

Annual Session of Convention Meets at Oceanic Hotel.

Address of Welcome Was Made By James H. Cowan—Grant Wright, of Philadelphia, Made Interesting Talk Last Night.

The address of welcome yesterday morning by James H. Cowan, secretary of the chamber of commerce and industrial agent for Wilmington, and the address last night by Grant Wright, of the Eastern Dealer, a farm implement journal published in Philadelphia, were pleasing features of the opening day of the first annual convention of the Seaboard Merchant's association, which is being held in Harbor Island auditorium at Wrightsville Beach.

The convention convened yesterday morning and was presided over by President T. W. Mewborn, of Kinston. Following the formal opening and a prayer by G. B. Alford, James H. Cowan welcomed the merchants, speaking in behalf of the chamber of commerce, the city of Wilmington and Wrightsville Beach and his address was responded to by C. F. Harvey, of Kinston, secretary and treasurer of the association.

President Mewborn reviewed briefly the organization of the association and gave an outline of its activities and accomplishments since it has been in existence and made certain recommendations as to future policies to be followed. He first suggested that a drive for an increase in membership be made, as a large membership is essential for effectual work and the accomplishment of the aims of the association. The goal set is the enrollment of every supply man and the time merchant of consequence in the eastern part of the state.

Mr. Mewborn made it plain that the purpose of the association is not to get time merchants to agree on any arbitrary price to be charged farmers for their supplies, but on the other hand the policy to be pursued is that of co-operation with the agriculturalists to the end that the latter may develop the agricultural resources of eastern Carolina and thereby make possible a larger volume of business for the merchant, as the success of the latter, to a great degree, lies in that of the former.

Mr. Mewborn also recommended the appointment of a committee to be known as the legislative committee, whose duty it will be to assist in getting repealed laws that are detrimental to the interest of the farmer and the merchant and have enacted legislation in connection with the cotton crop. He stated that he had been recently advised that certain grades of cotton are not accepted on contracts in New York, which very materially affects the farmer on account of the low grades of cotton being caused by the labor situation and unfavorable weather conditions. Unless the department of agriculture, through its bureau of markets, can arrange to have this low grade of cotton accepted on contracts in New York, other outlets provided for it, it will cause a slump in the price. The low grades are now selling in some instances at 7 cents a pound lower than the good grades.

Among the subjects touching the loyal cooperation of the association with the food and fuel administrations, the department of agriculture and the war industries board will be drawn up by a committee appointed at yesterday morning's meeting and will be passed at the morning session today.

Last night's meeting was featured by an address by Grant Wright, of the Eastern Dealer, of Philadelphia, which proved highly interesting and his advice given to the merchants will be of much value to them if it is complied with. He confined his remarks principally to the need of the fullest cooperation between the merchant and the farmer and told just how this closer relation could be effected.

He spoke of North Carolina as being among the greatest agricultural states of the union but pointed to the need of more effort along development lines, which will eventually bring the state to the front in its agricultural resources. Especially does he see big things for eastern Carolina when it has been fully developed.

Co-operation was the keynote of Mr. Wright's address while the extension of the organization by the employment of the "Golden Rule" came in for a good deal of comment. He declared that the organization would succeed where its objects are not right.

The time merchants, as well as those selling for cash, will find it greatly to their advantage to co-operate with chambers of commerce, boards of trade and all civic organizations, for he thinks these organizations are working to bring about will profit the merchant as much as any one else and should be in many instances. They should be leaders in any movement started for the betterment of farms, schools and roads for they are the ones who will receive the greatest benefit.

Special efforts should be made to make the farmer realize he is a part of the town or city where he does his trading and that anything that is done to advantage to that community would also help him. He should be induced to connect himself with the commercial organizations of the town and urged to take an active part in all matters brought up for transactions, whether for the good of the town or the rural section. If the farmer helps do a thing for the town when he has a right to call on the people of the town to help bring about improvements for the rural section.

The merchants, Mr. Wright told the convention, should advertise their goods in the local papers. In this day and time the man who advertises is the man who is going to do the business, he said, and there is no better way to reach the people than through the local papers, regardless of the income. (Considered On Page Seven.)

MANY SELECTMEN CALLED TO COLORS

Forty-Three White Men To Be Sent to Camp Wadsworth.

Sixty-One Colored Registrants Will Be Entrained For Camp Green—First of Class of 1918 Were Called Yesterday.

More than one hundred additional registrants in Wilmington were sent notices yesterday directing them to report for entrainment early in August. The first of the class of 1918 to be called by the city draft board were included in the list. Forty-three white registrants will be entrained for Camp Wadsworth at Spartanburg, S. C., during the five day period beginning August 5th, and 61 colored selectmen will be entrained for Camp Greene, at Charlotte, during the five day period beginning August 1st. The county draft board has been directed to send one white man to Camp Wadsworth and 17 colored men to Camp Green, their names having been given in yesterday's paper.

The city board has also received orders to draft three limited service registrants to be sent to Kelly field, San Antonio, Texas, where they will be employed in clerical work. These have not been selected yet, but will be announced within the next day or so.

The white registrants which will be selected the 43 men to be entrained for Camp Wadsworth are as follows:

- 1. Clarence James LeGrand.
- 2. Lansing Burroughs Smith.
- 3. Horace Lundy Gorman.
- 4. Tillman F. Reese.
- 5. Myronia F. Skipper.
- 6. George Howard Howell.
- 7. Charles W. Smith.
- 8. Furney Lee Bell.
- 9. Robert Chadwick.
- 10. Simon Oliver.
- 11. Ernest Linwood Rogers.
- 12. Samuel Jones.
- 13. John Buck House.
- 14. Augustus Foster Sellers.
- 15. Herbert Alphonso Proctor.
- 16. Harper O'Sullivan.
- 17. Greer Bishop Craig.
- 18. Denis Walter Lailhan.
- 19. John Quincy Lewis.
- 20. Ellis Wright Casteen.
- 21. Ferdinand John F. Richter.
- 22. John William Harvey.
- 23. Arthur Leon Howard.
- 24. Willie Ricard Sellers.
- 25. Richard Edward Brown.
- 26. Jeff Gayton.
- 27. Herbert Leslie Walker.
- 28. Johnnie Randolph Stillman.
- 29. Jesse Augustus Bryant.
- 30. S. W. Mearns.
- 31. John Harris.
- 32. Clarence Bellamy Stanland.
- 33. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney.
- 34. Harvey McKinley Jones.
- 35. William M. Hines.
- 36. John Ashford Armstrong.
- 37. Isaham Melton Reynolds.
- 38. Richard Austin Dunlea.
- 39. Randolph Williams.
- 40. Charles Knud Mester.
- 41. Archie Ballard King.
- 42. Lafayette Willett.
- 43. J. C. Friemuth.
- 44. Alva Lee Plexico.
- 45. Fred W. Mohr.
- 46. Walter James Hines.
- 47. Chancey Blackman Hallman.

The colored registrants from which will be selected the 61 to be for Camp Greene are as follows:

- 1. Eddie Dean Stephens, Thomas James Williams, Thomas Lawrence Howe, Charlie King Hill, Henry Mincey, Louis Bittman, Donald Campbell Moore, William Holmes, Joseph Willie, Leslie Johnson, Robert Wesley Daniel, William George, Willie Leask, Kin Hamilton, Heywood Young, Willie Davis, Nixon, John Hilton, Joe Brown, Edward Richardson Green, Archie Burnett, William Howe, James Henry McKoy, Obadiah Sandell, William M. Hines, Peter Davis, Andrew Greene, Morris McKoy, Julius Marshall, Emanuel Wilbert, Robert Randall Reaves, Arthur Walker, William Boyd Cooper, Vance Wortham, Albert Johnson, Ben Nesmith, Charles Kemp, James Peck, William Jefferson Small, Bernice Cromatite, Walter Lee Peterson, Frank Williams, John Stokes, Gibb Bowen, William Robert Swindell, William Moore, Willie Leask, James Henry McMillan, Ephraim Monroe, William Lloyd, Melvin Davis, David Peoples, Willie Hynes Peterson, Eugene Ballard, John Allen, Florence Robert Kennedy, Oliver Lewis, Isaac Webb, Theodore Benjamin Collins, Henry Allen Jackson, John Barnes, Nathaniel Ballard, Garfield Stanley, Henry Richardson, John Brinkley, Moses Bell, Walter Jackson, Corbett, Marshall Lilly, Willie Flood, Timmy Taylor, Jerry Treadwell, Mallard Brown, John Griffith, Arthur Sharpe, Culbreath Payson Webb, Ieasr Small, George Ernest Berry, John McRoy, Luther Carroll, E. D. Sutton, James Chambers, Alonzo James, Herbert Thomas James, Jr., Moses Thompson, Samuel Smith, Oliver Suggs, John Williams, William H. Lewis, Haywood Williams, Ernest Bryant, John Franklin Divine, Joe Small, Joseph Hite, Joseph C. Merritt, David Wilson, James Powell, Joshua Holmes, William Alexander Galloway, Raymond Pope.

COP'S BADGE NO GOOD.

This With Other Credentials Failed To Satisfy Guard.

That the military guards in Wilmington are on the job was well illustrated yesterday morning when a plainclothesman Leon George was not permitted to relieve a fellow officer, S. W. Ketchum, who was on duty at the Seaboard wharf. The plainclothesman arrived at the outpost at 5 o'clock and was stopped by the guard on duty and was asked if he had any business there. He had to wait until the guards went off duty at 6:30 before he could relieve Policeman Ketchum.

Plainclothesman George finally convinced the corporal who questioned his right to enter the "barred zone," but as he had orders to let no one pass he could not do so without consulting his superior officer. Consequently the officer was accompanied to the post office, where the sergeant on duty and the matter up to him. The policeman told the sergeant he was an officer and produced his badge and street card, but the sergeant stood pat and so did the officer until the military guards went off duty at 6:30 o'clock.

In the meantime Policeman Ketchum continued to patrol his beat, at the same time wondering what was detaining the officer who was to relieve him.

TO INVESTIGATE RENT INCREASES

Profiteering Committee Will Outline Policy Today.

Will Take Whatever Steps Necessary to Carry Out Agreement With Shipping Board to Adhere to the Pre-War Rate Scale.

Numerous reports of raising of rents for houses in Wilmington have been made recently and the profiteering committee, named as a result of a mass meeting held several months ago when it was agreed that there should be no raising of rents in the city above the pre-war basis, has been requested to make a thorough investigation. Preliminary to looking into the matter, a meeting of the committee has been called for this morning at 11 o'clock in the rooms of the chamber of commerce. Complaints will not be heard at this time, but it is desired to formulate a definite policy for whatever investigations may be made.

At the request of representatives of the shipping board, it was agreed at the mass meeting of citizens that there should be no raising of rents for residences until next October, the beginning of the rental year in Wilmington, and then only to the pre-war scale, as it was felt that exceeding this rate would be profiteering. However, many have felt that they should put the pre-war rate into effect immediately and some instances have been reported of exceeding this scale. This has caused vigorous protest on the part of several residents and they have demanded that the matter be looked into carefully.

The agreement with the shipping board was only with reference to residences and did not include commercial business houses. However, it has been felt that there should be no profiteering anywhere and to take care of that situation a committee was recently named by the chamber of commerce to make an investigation.

In order for either committee to take definite steps on any reports, the facts must be presented in concrete shape. General reports cannot be considered. There is a strong sentiment here against profiteering and the profiteering committee in the event they are unable to adjust any differences satisfactorily will refer the matter to the fullest publicity in order that the people of the city may have an opportunity to condemn unreservedly any profiteering in these critical war times.

JOHNSON GOLDSBORO NEGRO.

Hero of Big Fight With Hunns Son of Henry Johnson, of Wayne County.

According to the Goldsboro Record, the Henry Johnson, colored sergeant of a New York regiment, who with another negro, Needham Roberts, whipped a patrol of twenty Germans, killing and wounding several, which exploit was chronicled in the paper, is a native of Goldsboro, son of Henry Johnson, well known butcher. The Record says: "If any one doubts the fighting ability of the colored man, the fact that he is taking in this war, we invite them to read the article below, which gives a startling account of a desperate engagement, in the dead hours of the night, between two brave colored boys, Private Henry Johnson, of this city, and a comrade by the name of Needham Roberts, and a party of about twenty Germans, who made a surprise attack on the colored boys, and although outnumbered ten to one, they outthought the whole bunch, killing several, wounding several and completely routing the balance that were glad enough to get away.

"It was a great battle. Don't fail to read the account, it will interest you." "Private Henry Johnson is a Goldsboro boy, a son of the Johnsons, a well known butcher, and is a 'chip of the old block.' Private Johnson is 24 years of age and joined the colors in New York at the outbreak of the war." "Henry Johnson, of Elkesville, tells The Star that Johnson is a kinsman of a colored helper of Capt. James Knight, who worked under the railroad sheds in Wilmington years ago, and who lived in Elkesville. Johnson tells he learns through a prominent Wilmington attorney that Wilmington colored people are the most loyal and patriotic of the whole state, and he thinks they should feel a lot of pride in Private Johnson's fighting ability in France.

NO BAD LANGUAGE.

Councilman Shepard Says It Will Not Be Permitted in Fire Department.

Any member of the fire department using profane or unbecomingly rough and ungentlemanly language to a citizen or member of the department, will be held as violating the rules of the department and will be liable to suspension or dismissal, according to Councilman L. L. Shepard, in charge of this department of the city government.

In this connection, Councilman Shepard yesterday called attention to the city ordinance prohibiting disorderly conduct, which he stated he expected so far as he was concerned, to enforce strictly. The ordinance reads as follows: "Every person guilty of quarrelling or fighting or of loud and boisterous cursing or swearing, or who shall disturb the peace of others by violent, tumultuous, offensive or obnoxious conduct or carriage, or by unseemly, obscene or offensive language or other disorderly conduct calculated to provoke a breach of peace, in any street, alley, house or elsewhere in the city, or in any of the city's parks, shall be subject to a penalty of twenty dollars for each and every offense."

To Sell Valuable Property. Action has been started in superior court for the sale and division of the P. H. Hayden property on Third street, opposite the court house, on which is now located a large wooden building. The court will be asked to order the property sold in order that the proceeds may be divided among the heirs.

WAR SAVINGS WORK GETS A BIG BOOST

Conference at Chamber of Commerce Largely Attended.

Assembly Hall Filled With Merchants Seeking Information on How to Sell Stamps—Pledges Made and Stamps Sold.

The visit to Wilmington yesterday of Holman C. Rawls, of Durham, and L. H. Cutler, Jr., of New Bern, representing the state W. S. S. headquarters, resulted in a big boost for the sale of thrift and war savings stamps and will go a long way in helping Wilmington and New Hanover county "over the top." Every seat in the assembly hall of the chamber of commerce and a big portion of the standing room was occupied shortly after 6 o'clock for the conference of the retail merchants of the city. The audience consisted of large and small merchants of both races, men and women, and the enthusiasm displayed by them was very gratifying to the visiting workers.

George Honnet presided and introduced Messrs. Rawls and Cutler. In addressing the meeting Mr. Rawls told of his canvass of the city during the day, to ascertain as near as possible what the people of Wilmington are doing in the way of helping sell thrift stamps. What he found was not very encouraging but should be returned in a week from now it is a safe wager he will find things different and very much more to his liking. He found stamps on sale at a low price but it was plainly seen that the interest was not what it should be.

Declaring that the only way to sell stamps is to have them, Mr. Rawls urged the merchants to buy and sell them as they would any merchandise. Invest a certain amount in stamps and increase the investments as the demand grows. He said it was a mighty easy thing for the clerks to ask customers to take thrift stamps as a gift in making a purchase, but said one would be astonished at the results, for 99 out of every 100 customers would buy one or more stamps.

At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Rawls asked everyone to purchase a few stamps to place on sale in their stores, stating that those who did not have the cash with them might make the payment by a personal check. Twenty-four thrift stamps and a war savings stamp constituted what he termed an outfit and sold for \$10.18. A great many took the full outfit, while others bought a smaller amount. Everyone seemed anxious to do his part. The stamps were sold yesterday will do so in the near future, it is believed, and will place them on sale. Anyway, war savings and thrift stamps will be on sale at many places today where they have not been before.

SEPA GROTTO TO HAVE SPECIAL CEREMONIAL TONIGHT

Large Number of Kandy-Dates to Be Inducted Into Order By Prophets.

There will be considerable happening in the Masonic Temple tonight at the special ceremonial of Sepe Grotto when a dozen or more Kandy-Dates are to be inducted into the order. Previous to the journey across the River Styx, a watermelon feast will be served on the roof garden at 7 o'clock for the special delectation of the Kandy-Dates. It is expected that the city air is expected to be on hand. One of the Kandy-Dates is of rather portly size and Monarch Paul Baker Bell has been assigned the task of seeing him through safely. He is sure to get his money's worth, according to Secretary Alex. Holden. The ceremonial session was arranged for the special benefit of several who wanted to get in while it is hot.

Deeds For Realty Filed.

The deeds for realty were filed in the office of the register of deeds yesterday as follows: L. F. Duval to Victory home company, for \$600, lot on west side of Fourth, 100 feet south of Greenfield; T. P. Sykes to R. H. Sykes, for \$10 and other considerations, lot in "The Elks" building, Wilmington Suburban Co., to M. S. Willard, for \$10 and other considerations, lot on east side of Fourth, 149 feet south of Greenfield.

Sent To County Roads.

Willie Sheridan, colored, was sent to the county roads for 18 months with the privilege to the commissioner to hire out as he saw fit, having a suspended license for a year on account of non-support. Judgement was suspended upon payment of the costs in the case against Eunice Dixon, colored, charged with assault, and a similar penalty was imposed upon Walter McGuire, also colored, charged with reckless riding of a bicycle.

Railroad Men There.

Yesterday's Fayetteville Observer: Federal manager Lyman Delano, of the Atlantic Coast Line, and Superintendents Percy Albright and W. H. Newell are in Fayetteville today looking over ground with many engineering men in view of doing double tracking, making terminals and sidings etc., for the military camp. We understand that the work of getting gravel for the construction of roads has begun.

Wilmington Man Taken.

Report has been made that W. D. Rice, a white man who was formerly janitor at the Hanover Seaside club at Wrightsville Beach, has been inducted into the army in Detroit, Mich. He registered last year but failed to return the questionnaire sent him and was later reported to be in Newport News, Va. The local board, however, failed to get in touch with him there and when it was learned that he was in Detroit, the draft board in this city were instructed to induct him into service.

First New Chaplin.

"A Dog's Life," Three Reels, Bijou Adv.

Since the beginning of the war this bank has felt it a patriotic duty and privilege to assist our government by selling Liberty Bonds and War Savings Stamps and by purchasing U. S. Treasury Certificates of Indebtedness at each call by the Treasury Department.

We endeavor to render the best of service to our government, our depositors and the public. May we not serve you and have your savings account?

EST-BLISHED 1900.

The Peoples Savings Bank
Corner Front and Princess Streets.

THE PRINCIPAL

The Savings Bank is For Those Especially Who Want to Guard and Keep Their Principal. It does not pay as high a rate of interest as business enterprises, because its main object is security. Yet, all the while your money lies in the Savings Bank it is earning interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, compounded quarterly, and your principal increases and does not dwindle. Consult us freely.

The Wilmington Savings & Trust Company
110 PRINCESS STREET.
Oldest and Largest North Carolina Savings Bank.

In The Local Hotels

To Subscribers to Third Liberty Loan

Under government plan of payment, 35 per cent. of subscription will be due July 18th. Please call and make settlement.

The MURCHISON NATIONAL BANK

An Announcement by the Wilmington Grocery Company

We wish to emphatically contradict current rumors and reports to the effect that our business is to be discontinued or sold to other parties. Such reports are absolutely false.

It will be necessary for us to move in the fall, as we were unable to secure a renewal of our present lease. This will in no wise interfere with our regular business and we feel confident that our patrons will congratulate us on the move when we occupy our new quarters.

WILMINGTON GROCERY COMPANY.

Read Star Business Locals.

MEN'S SUMMER WEAR
SPECIALLY PRICED

It is worth something to know that the clothes you wear are absolutely right, and these days it is worth a whole lot to know that you can buy such clothes under regular prices.

We have assembled this special lot of summer clothes which men can buy at savings with every assurance that they are absolutely correct for summer.

The man who is at all particular, who appreciates that a good appearance is a valuable asset, is not going to go about now looking like January in June. Every suit here comes in smart materials and in vigorous styles and a fine choice is today offered you at these surprising prices.

Palm Beach Suits, cool, natty and nifty, at\$8.95, \$9.95, \$10.00 and \$10.50

Arctic Breeze Cloth Suits, a fine looking suit, at a very reasonable price— \$9.95, \$13.50, \$18.00

Priestley's Cravanette Mohair Suits, for the conservative man, \$15, \$16.50, \$18

New lot of Bathing Suits just received from\$1.25 to \$6.50

BUY W. S. S. NOW

MEN'S DEPARTMENT **Beck-Williams Co.** **MEN'S DEPARTMENT**