

WANTS COMMISSION GOVERNMENT, BUT IS OPPOSED TO PLAN 'C'

Ruark Believes Special Local Needs Not Covered by Proposed Plan

Maintaining that the commission form of municipal government known as Plan C of the general statute would not meet our special local requirements but that commission government, re-enforced by certain highly desirable provisions, should by special act become operative in Wilmington, Mr. Robert Ruark, city attorney for six years, has presented his views on the subject in an interesting interview.

Petitions in support of Plan C are being circulated among the voters, and Mr. Ruark, in the light of his experience, was prevailed upon to give his opinions touching the matter, in order that citizens may be apprised of the issues involved. Mr. Ruark, speaking for himself, is entirely favorable to a change in the form of the city government, and is in general sympathy with the commission principle. That plan, as stated generally, appeals to him as going far in the direction of remedying a situation, which he feels ought to be corrected. But he can not bring himself to support the adoption of Plan C, as written, because it would set aside some hard-earned and important institutions which are already established.

"It would greatly disturb," Mr. Ruark declares, "some of the features of our present government which should not be sacrificed. Plan C commits all authority concerning matters of health and sanitation to the city government. This would result in the abolition of the present health department, putting us back under the old and had arrangement of two separate health boards, imposing additional expense upon the taxpayers and greatly handicapping efficient, modern work in health and sanitation.

"Another effect of the adoption of this plan would be the practical abolition of the city board of elections and would mean a material change, in the laws and regulations governing primaries and elections in Wilmington. The present laws on the subject are the result of wise thought and wide experience, and I consider that it would be unfortunate to change them.

"A third defect has to do with the salaries designed. Under Plan C, the mayor would receive \$3,500 a year, while each of the other commissioners would get \$2,500. I don't believe that it will be possible to enlist the best talent and require the entire time of commissioners within these limitations. I doubt whether the general public appreciates the extent and importance of the city's business. An annual turnover of about a million and a quarter dollars indicates the size of this enterprise. I think that the salaries should be such as to attract men of large capacity to enter the public service.

"Two years ago, an act was prepared to abolish sewer charges, which was indorsed by council, passed by the senate, but failed to become a law, because it was held up in the house. If Plan C were adopted, it would be necessary to have additional legislation in order to make possible the assessment of the cost of sewers against owners of abutting property and in that way do away with the present method of sewer charges. Such a development is much to be desired and has already received the most cordial public approval.

"It is my opinion that it would be best to have a special act incorporating pretty largely the provisions of Plan C but preserving the status quo with respect to the board of health and the board of elections, and providing for attractive salaries and for free sewerage. This would be a vast improvement on the naked plan which is being pressed, and it can be brought about only through special legislation. There is no reason why we should accept the general proposition intended for universal consumption, when this acceptance means in some respects a step backward. The wise thing to do is to use the general plan as a foundation and to build upon it the form of government which shall most adequately and fruitfully meet the community's needs.

Local High Teams Overwhelm Sanford Victories for Boys and Girls of Wilmington Scored Last Night

In two games of basketball played at the Y. M. C. A. last night, before a large number of spectators, the boys of the Wilmington High school defeated the boys of the Sanford High school by an overwhelming score of 68 to 4, and the girls of the local High defeated the girls of the Sanford High to the tune of 2 to 6 to 12. In the game between the boys the visitors never had a look in, the locals playing rings around the visitors at all times. In the girls' contest, however, the two teams were more evenly matched and until the last few minutes either side had a chance to win.

For the boys of the local High school, Westbrock and Turentine starred, while for the girls of the Wilmington team, Misses Creasy and Fore were the high scorers.

The boys' team of the Wilmington High school will go to New Bern next Saturday to play the High school team of the Craven county school.

The line-up of the boys' game last night follows:

Wilmington.....	Sanford.....
Shepard.....	King.....
Westbrock.....	forward.....
Duis.....	center.....
Kelley.....	guard.....
Koonce.....	guard.....

Goals: Wilmington, Shepard 14, Westbrock 6, Duis 3, Kelly 2, Koonce 1, Schuster 1, Turentine 6, Holden 2; Sanford, Kelly 1, Hakepeace 1.

The line-up of the girls' game:

Wilmington.....	Sanford.....
G. Fore.....	M. McCauley.....
E. Creasy.....	Mary McCauley.....
M. Bonitz.....	M. Makepeace.....
K. Price.....	L. Kent.....
E. Sparrow.....	J. Vestal.....

Goals: Wilmington, Gladys Fore 6, Edith Creasy 5, Majorie Bonitz 2; Sanford, Myrtle McCauley 2, May McCauley 1, Marie Makepeace 2.

The officials of the boys' game were: Referee, H. Register; time-keeper, J. B. Taylor; scorer, McNair.

NEWARK SHOE STORE TO BE OPENED HERE

Leasing of Stores at No. 26 and No. 28 North Front Announced

Announcement was made yesterday afternoon by L. W. Moore, well known real estate dealer, that the firm of M. Samuels and company, of Baltimore, owners and operators of the famous chain of Newark shoe stores, have leased the stores, Nos. 26 and 28 North Front street, and would shortly open at that place one of their stores.

The lease on the stores was secured by the Baltimore firm through the real estate agency of L. W. Moore. The lease is for a period of five years and involves a considerable sum. The building in which the two stores of the Newark Shoe company will be located is owned by the French estate. The three upper floors of the building are not involved in the deal.

A representative of M. Samuels and company was in the city recently making final arrangements for locating in Wilmington. In a few days workmen will begin remodeling the place and just as soon as this work is complete the shoe concern will move. It will be open for business in a few days.

Several thousand dollars will be spent in remodeling the place. The partition which now divides the lower floor of the building into two stores will be removed and the entire interior will be torn out and rebuilt. Modern display windows will be installed and it is said that when this work is completed the store will be one of the most up-to-date along Front street.

At the present time No. 28 is occupied by the Wilmington Tonsorial parlors, operated by Wesley Yarborough. After having been at this stand for many years Yarborough will move early next week to Front and Grace streets, Store No. 26 is unoccupied now. The firm of M. Samuels and company at present has a Newark Shoe store in practically every large city on the Atlantic coast. They have been making an effort to get a suitable location for many months and were successful only a short time ago.

New Clinics Here Now In Prospect

County Health Officer Would Have Dental and Maternity Clinics

Dr. J. A. Hamilton, county health officer, said last night that the board of health contemplated the establishment of dental and maternity clinics, which will be administered to by Dr. L. P. Williams, county physician. Dr. Williams is now conducting infant, general medical and venereal clinics in the basement of the courthouse.

The establishment of the dental clinic would do much good in this community, Dr. Hamilton says, because it would serve a number of people who, otherwise, might not ever have their teeth inspected or worked on.

Many of the prevalent diseases are traceable to bad teeth, and well known medical authorities declare that good teeth mean good health, and the only way in which to insure good teeth among a certain element in every city is through these dental clinics.

There is also a pressing need for the institution of a maternity clinic in this city, said Dr. Hamilton, because such a clinic places this necessary service in the reach of a certain class of people, who, for financial reasons, are not able to employ physicians.

Much good service is being given to the public by the infant and general medical clinics.

CHESTER, S. C., Jan. 8.—The Baldwin Cotton mills, one of the largest textile plants in the Carolinas, will be operated on half-time until more of its goods can be sold, it was announced tonight.

MANNING TO DISCUSS FOREIGN TRADE HERE

Former Governor of South Carolina Accepts Invitation of Chamber

Next Friday afternoon the citizens of Wilmington will have the pleasure of hearing a distinguished southerner in the person of former Governor Manning, of South Carolina, who will be in the city to address a meeting called under the auspices of the Wilmington chamber of commerce. The fact that ex-Governor Manning will come to this city to address the citizens was announced at the chamber of commerce yesterday.

Responding to the request of the American Products Export and Import company for an opportunity to present its cause to the business people of Wilmington and the farmers of New Hanover county, President Herbert E. Boney, of the chamber of commerce, has called a meeting for Friday, probably in the afternoon, and the speaker of the occasion will be the well known former executive of the Palmetto state. Ex-Governor Manning, in his address to the Wilmington people, will explain the object of the corporation and will discuss the general agricultural situation of the south and the specific condition of the southern farmer. As the matters upon which he will speak are vital at this time, the address will no doubt, be of a highly interesting and informative character.

Mr. Manning will come to Wilmington from Raleigh, where a big meeting will be held Thursday. He will go from here to Columbia.

Hon. Walter E. Duncan, comptroller-general of the state of South Carolina, is expected to arrive in Wilmington tomorrow for the purpose of discussing with the officials of the chamber the time and place for the meeting, though it is probable that the meeting will be held Friday afternoon in the rooms of the chamber on Chestnut street.

Owing to the prominence of the speaker and the highly interesting matters upon which he will speak, President Boney, of the chamber, is desirous of having a large audience present to hear the address.

KNOX MAY SEEK PLACE AS FEDERAL MARSHAL

Chairman John J. Knox of the board of commissioners of Brunswick county, was in the city and it is reported that he announces that he will be a candidate for the office of United States marshal for the Eastern District of North Carolina to succeed George H. Bellamy, the incumbent.

Chairman Knox has served six years as a member of the board of commissioners of Brunswick county and prior to his election to that office, served as sheriff of the adjacent county for four years. Chairman Knox is one of the most prominent Republicans of Brunswick.

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