

TIDEWATER DRAWS FIRE OF SPEAKERS

But Council Declines to Adopt Resolutions Formally Stating Opposition to Rates

The Tidewater Power company for two solid hours was a target at the city council meeting yesterday morning and afternoon, when J. G. McCormick, Walter H. Blair, W. M. Edmundson and William Struthers stood round after round of oratorical shells in opposition to the purpose of the power company to increase gas and street car rates in Wilmington.

Two resolutions opposing the proposed increases were negated, by votes of 3 to 2, and the wind-up of the wrangle left council standing as heretofore, in that the body has already instructed City Attorney Robert Ruark to represent the best interests of the people in this connection. Personally, the council members expressed the opinion that the increased rates were not justified.

J. G. McCormick headed a committee representing a mass meeting held some time ago in opposition to the increases requested by the Tidewater Power company, and he made a lengthy appeal to council, asking that the body instruct the city attorney to use every honorable means in presenting arguments against the increased rates now pending. Walter Blair, W. M. Edmundson and William Struthers made short talks to council, declaring that the proposed increases were not justifiable.

Councilman J. L. Wade offered a resolution in line with the arguments of the citizens who had spoken, but the resolution was not carried.

Walter Blair informed council that the power company would capitalize the defeat of the resolution, in that the company would include the refusal of council to act in this matter in its argument for the increase to the corporation commission. Mr. Blair said the power company might argue before the corporation commission that the city council here is not opposed to the increases. He said the Tidewater simply was not willing to accept the losses which other business houses here are forced to take in disposing of their stocks at a sacrifice. He said that the public was entitled to have the report made by the gas expert, who inspected the plant and records of the Tidewater Power company, but he said that this report should be published. He denounced the one-man car system, and asked: "How can you consistently pass a resolution instructing the city attorney to fight the increase in telephone and telegraph rates, and immediately after refuse to give the same instructions to the city attorney with reference to car and gas rates?"

Councilman W. D. McCaig expressed his personal opinion that he does not regard the company entitled to the increases, either for gas or car rates. He offered the following resolution: "Resolved, that this council views with grave concern the petition of the Tidewater Power company for an increase of street car fares and to make permanent the temporary increase of gas rates heretofore granted and hereby instructs the city attorney to take the position that the increases are not justified and to use every means consistent with fairness to prevent the granting of such petitions."

The resolution was lost.

DECLARES UNIONS ARE BUILDING SUCCESSFULLY

Statement Says Saving of 20 Per Cent Effected

Officials of the Building Trades' Council, the members of which organization entered the building field on their own account after the contractors of the city announced the 20 per cent cut in wages yesterday, declared that they were being congratulated by many persons on the results they are accomplishing in the construction of buildings at a saving of practically 20 per cent.

In a statement issued last night, President Maughlin declared that no outside men have been called upon to aid the local unions.

The statement follows: "In regard to the report in The Star of February 2, that international representatives of organized labor would probably come to Wilmington to look over the situation, the Building Trades' Council wishes to say that they know nothing of this and have no need of any outside help in their present stand."

"The international organization stands back of all locals and all agreements between journeymen and contractors."

"In regard to our former statement of facts whereby 20 per cent or more can be saved in building construction by dealing with the building crafts, a great many statements of approval have been made to the representatives of the council and a number of buildings are already being constructed and arrangements for others are being made."

"The mechanics in the building trades are in a different position along this line from many other mechanics. They do not have to depend on any shop or mill for their job, but can carry on their work to the entire satisfaction of the public by dealing and working directly for the parties who have construction work of any kind to be done."

"The public will remember that during the rush of building last summer a bonus was paid in Wilmington averaging 20 per cent of the scale of wages of the various crafts but when construction slackened in the early winter wages dropped below the scale, and the reported reduction in Miami, Fla., is a similar case and in no instance have wages been reduced below the scale stated in the agreements between the contractors and the workmen."

WILMINGTON WILL BE REPRESENTED AT MEET

City Officials to Attend Municipal Gathering

The city will be represented at the meeting of the North Carolina Municipal Association, in Raleigh, on February 8. City council yesterday authorized Mayor Parker Quince Moore, City Clerk and Treasurer Thomas D. Meares and City Attorney Robert Ruark, to attend the meeting.

This meeting was called by Hon. Galatin Roberts, president of the association, to discuss the various problems now facing the municipalities of this state.

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Body Bore Legion Card, Honored By Strangers

With only a membership card of the Wilmington post of the American Legion, the body of Arthur Baer, former service man who won a citation while fighting with the First division in France, died alone in the city of Chicago, and disposal of his body would probably have been made in the usual manner—either in potter's field or on the dissecting table—had it not been for the North Shore post of the American Legion, which accorded him military honors at the funeral of Comrade Baer and interred his body in a cemetery lot owned by that post.

This information was contained in a letter received yesterday by Commander J. R. Hollis, of the local post of the American Legion, from Leo H. Fischer, adjutant, North Shore post, No. 21 Chicago. The letter related that Comrade Baer was accidentally asphyxiated in a Chicago hotel, and as no relatives appeared to claim the body, a member of the post, who was in the city at the time, with a newspaper and was present at the coroner's inquest, brought the matter to the attention of post officials. The letter further advised that "on January 4, 1921, it was the sad duty of the North Shore post to bury one of our comrades, Arthur Baer."

Local legionaires expressed themselves as being highly grateful for the service performed by the North Shore post.

COMMISSION FORM IS DISCUSSED BY CLUB

Sentiment of Some Kiwanians Is Favorable to a City Manager

After discussing at great length the possible effect a change from the present form of city government to the commission form would have upon the municipality, members of the Kiwanis club, at their regular weekly luncheon held at the Y. M. C. A. yesterday afternoon, decided to secure from State Senator K. O. Burdwin and Representative Bellamy a copy of the bill that is to be introduced into the general assembly by them changing the city government to the commission form, so that it might be more thoroughly discussed and digested at the next weekly meeting of the club.

After it had been unanimously agreed by the club members yesterday that they should take more interest and action in matters of general public interest, James S. Williams, president of the club, brought to the attention of the Kiwanians the proposed bill to be introduced into the state legislature, changing the city government to the commission form. He declared that the matter was of great local interest and asked that it be discussed. Among those who spoke in regard to the proposed change were Kiwanians W. A. Townes, C. C. Chadbourne, Thomas C. Darst and James S. Williams.

President Williams declared that he understood that the bill would provide for three commissioners, one of whom would be the mayor and have charge of the public affairs of the city, while another would be in charge of the municipal finances and the third would be given the conduct and operation of all public works. President Williams stated that he was in favor of the commission form, as he believed anything would be better than the plan the city now has.

Kiwanian Thomas C. Darst related the experience of the city of Richmond, Va., had with the commission form of government. He said that he believed it was a splendid form provided that it provided a city manager and salary sufficient to secure a capable man. He declared that if the commissioners were to rule the city and if the position did not pay a salary big enough to induce good men to run for the office, he could not see where the city would be bettered by the change.

Kiwanian W. A. Townes reviewed the success of some cities which have achieved where a city manager was included in the commission form of government. He was of the opinion that the city manager should be a person from some other city who would not be controlled by local politics. He pointed to the success that the city of Portsmouth, Va., had experienced since it changed to the commission form with a city manager.

NAVAL RESERVE UNIT WINS SUPPORT HERE

Proposed Organization Arouses Interest of Many Wilmington Young Men

Young men of the city are showing much interest in the proposed formation here of an active naval reserve unit, such as was recently advocated by H. E. Quenstedt, of Charleston, lieutenant commander in the United States navy, who is expected to be in the city. There will be a large gathering of the local members of the U. S. N. R. F. at the American Legion hut on Tuesday night when the proposition will be thoroughly discussed. Steps taken towards perfecting a unit for the port of Wilmington.

William M. Shaw, a well known young man of the city who is a member of the naval reserve unit, and who was named by a number of enthusiastic young men to call the meeting, states that he has been approached by many persons seeking information regarding the proposed local unit. Not only has Mr. Shaw had many Wilmington boys who are members of the N. R. F. to call upon him and express their hope of having a unit organized here, but there have been many persons to see him who served in Uncle Sam's navy during the World war and who are anxious to have an organization perfected at this port.

What seems to be the biggest incentive among the local young men towards the formation of the reserve unit is that fact that the navy department will allocate to this port a regular war vessel which will be used for weekend cruises and annual summer cruises without cost to anyone except the government. The craft, whether a submarine-chaser or a monitor, will be permanently stationed in the harbor and upon it will be held the regular number of yearly drills which will be necessary for the men to make in order that they may receive the two months' pay the government will give.

If the unit is formed here no army will be necessary as the craft will serve for this purpose. Upon the boat will be stationed a caretaker's crew, and all uniforms and equipment of the men will be stored there.

In the event decision to form the naval unit is reached on Tuesday night, the commanding admiral of the Sixth naval district will send an officer to Wilmington to go into the details of the proposition and to aid in enlisting the men.

THINK BILLS SHOULD ALL BE MADE PUBLIC

Kiwanians Want to Know About Bills Introduced Into State Legislature

Resolutions which condemned the practice of introducing bills in the general assembly before they had been offered to the public and published in the local press, were unanimously adopted by the members of the Kiwanis club in regular weekly session yesterday afternoon.

A resolution, approving the introduction into the state legislature of the bill which will allow grand juries of this county to be continued six months instead of during a single session of court as is now provided, was adopted. There was, however, a proviso in the resolution which stated that the continuance of the grand juries should be according to the discretion of the judge presiding over the court.

Members of the Kiwanis club unanimously agreed to join with the Rotary club and other local organizations in putting over the day Y. M. C. A. drive next Thursday when an effort will be made to raise \$9,000 necessary to carry out the program that has been arranged for the Young Men's Christian Association for the coming year. Rev. J. A. Sullivan, pastor of Calvary Baptist church, a member of the Y. M. C. A. executive committee, said the proposition before the Kiwanis club.

President James S. Williams ordered a telegram sent to Col. T. L. Kirkpatrick, president of the Citizens' Highway association, announcing that W. A. McGirt and C. C. Cashwell, members of the Kiwanis club, would be in Raleigh today attending the public hearing on the proposed good road law which will be held by the joint senate and house committees. The communication was also to state that the club was unanimously behind the move for better highways.

Bishop Thomas C. Darst announced that he had accepted the invitation to preach the annual sermon to the Kiwanians and that March 6 would suit him most conveniently. The sermon will be delivered in St. James' church.

RED FOAM

PORT AGENT REPORTS ON HIS FIRST TOUR

Tells of Encouraging Reception Among Manufacturers Wherever He Went

Members of the executive committee of the chamber of commerce and local directors of the South Atlantic Maritime corporation are deeply gratified over the results of the first trip made by H. L. Cook, in his capacity as export traffic agent and advertising man for the port of Wilmington. He arrived Tuesday from his initial tour of the middlewest and at a conference with the chamber executive committee and the local Maritime Corporation directors, held yesterday at noon, made his verbal report.

Since leaving Wilmington several weeks ago Mr. Cook has spent a number of days at the headquarters of the South Atlantic Maritime Corporation in Savannah, conferring with General Manager John P. Stevens regarding the schedule of steamers that are being operated between Wilmington and South America points and from this port to Cuba. He also visited Chicago, Indianapolis, Memphis, Chattanooga, Cincinnati, Washington, and other points, where he talked with many of the largest manufacturers regarding the movement of exports through this port.

At the conference yesterday, Mr. Cook told the local directors of the S. A. M. C. and the executive committee of the chamber of commerce that although he had only done ground work on his initial tour of the big cities in the middlewest he was greatly pleased with the interest shown by the large manufacturers when they were told of advantages that the port of Wilmington offered them for the exportation of shipments to South America and Cuba via the South Atlantic Maritime Corporation steamers. Mr. Cook was assured by some of the manufacturers that shipments would be diverted to this port.

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COUNCIL OPPOSES TELEPHONE RATES

Instructs City Attorney to Fight Increases of Southern Bell Telephone Company

City council yesterday passed a resolution offered by Councilman J. L. Wade, instructing the city attorney, Robert Ruark, "to use every honorable means at his command to prevent any and all increases in telephone rates in this city by the Southern Bell Telephone company."

The resolution follows: "Whereas, the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph company has applied to the state corporation commission for increased telephone rates, which we regard as wholly out of place and unjustified by the character of service rendered in this city and other points throughout the state; therefore be it

"Resolved by the city council for the city of Wilmington, that we hereby oppose any increase in telephone and telegraph charges, and hereby call upon the state corporation commission to decline any and all increases in telephone or telegraph charges upon the ground that this is no time for increased telephone charges, and further, because we are already paying enough for the services rendered.

"Resolved further, that the city attorney be, and is hereby instructed, to use all honorable means at his command to prevent any and all increases in telephone or telegraphic rates, and to appear before the state corporation commission, and in this action we feel that we are representing 95 per cent of the people in the city of Wilmington in our policy of opposition to any and all increases in telephone rates."

COUNCIL AUTHORIZES QUARTERLY PAYMENTS

Grants Relief Advocated by Board of Health

City council yesterday passed a resolution making it possible for small property owners to pay in quarterly installments the cost of connections with water and sewerage service, as advocated by the board of health. Dr. A. Hamilton, county health officer, appeared before council at a recent meeting, and explained that there were a number of small property owners, who were anxious and willing to connect their premises with the water and sewerage service, but were unable to pay the required sum in one payment, and he urged council to extend terms to these people.

The resolution passed by council yesterday carries the following terms for the payment for water and sewerage connections: "The cost of service is to be entered upon a copy of this ordinance. The owner of the property is to sign the acceptance of the terms herein prescribed, as written at the foot of thereof.

"1. Said cost to be divided into four equally approximated amounts, payable upon the same dates the water and sewer accounts are made payable.

"2. The amount thereof shall constitute a lien upon said property, and judgment may be taken in any court of jurisdiction, upon presentation of this document and proof of non-payment against said property owner and against said property.

"3. Failure to pay any installment, it is agreed that water and sewerage shall be discontinued and remain discontinued until payment is made, notwithstanding any payment or offer of payment of water and sewerage rents separate therefrom."

BEACH PRESERVATION WILL BE DISCUSSED

Wrightsville Beach Property Owners Will Meet Tonight at 8:15 o'clock

A meet tonight at 8:15 o'clock, in the chamber of commerce rooms, for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken to protect the beach from further damages by storms. Mayor Thomas H. Wright called the meeting in order to bring about some concerted action on the part of the property owners of the resort, who are reported to be much interested in any project that will preserve the resort.

It is considered certain that the discussion tonight will develop some definite plan of action on the part of the property owners, along what lines it could not be predicted last night. There are some who believe no artificial means are necessary to safeguard the beach, for the reason, they say, that the elements will restore the beach carried away by the recent storm. In sustaining this view, they contend that the highest knob on Masonboro beach today is situated directly in the center of what used to be an inlet.

Others believe that jetties or bulkworks be erected at right angles along the beach, saying that these jetties can be built in a way to catch most of the waves, and that the natural action of the currents and winds will return this sand to shore.

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CRUISING LIMITS FOR PILOTS ARE EXTENDED

Board of Navigation Also Rules Regarding Pilots Speaking Ships Built Here

Upon request of Pilot J. J. Adkins, the board of navigation and pilotage, in regular monthly session yesterday morning at 11 o'clock, extended the southern limit of the cruising ground for Cape Fear bar and river pilots to an imaginary line southeast of Cape Romaine Light, thereby making the cruising grounds to the north and south symmetrical. Pilots will be permitted to operate in the new territory on and after Wednesday, February 3. It was ordered by the commissioners that this change shall not permit any pilot boat entering any other port than Wilmington for any reason whatsoever.

The minutes of yesterday's meeting, as written by Mrs. Ida S. Rankin, clerk to the board, was as follows: "The regular monthly meeting of the board of commissioners of navigation and pilotage was held this day at the office of the chairman: "Present: Mr. James Sprunt, chairman, Commissioners C. C. Chadbourne, H. C. McQueen, Wm. St. George and Thos. F. Wood and Mrs. Ida S. Rankin, clerk.

"Pilot J. J. Adkins was present to ask that the southern limit of the cruising ground be extended to Cape Romaine in conformity with the northern limit. The northern limit is eighty-five miles from the lighthouse, and the present southern limit is only sixteen miles from the whistle buoy.

"Upon motion, duly seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the limitations of the cruising grounds to the southward of Cape Fear be limited to an imaginary line southeast from Cape Romaine Light, thereby making the limitations north and south symmetrical, this resolution to take effect one week from this date.

"It was also ordered that this change shall not permit any pilot boat entering another port than Wilmington for any reason whatever.

"Report of soundings on Cape Fear Bar, dated January 20, were received and ordered filed. Report was signed by J. F. Arnold, J. J. Adkins, E. H. Adkins, C. B. St. George, J. N. St. George, Thomas St. George, Wm. St. George, Walker Newton, B. F. Newton, W. J. Newton, I. S. Davis, J. L. Daniels, M. T. Craig and J. A. Williams. Copies of soundings report to be sent to Major Matheson, commanding the river and harbor work, for his information.

"The board ruled with reference to ships built at Wilmington that a pilot may speak such a vessel's official master who is authorized to command such a vessel after her trial trip."

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"The board ruled with reference to ships built at Wilmington that a pilot may speak such a vessel's official master who is authorized to command such a vessel after her trial trip."

CRUISING LIMITS FOR PILOTS ARE EXTENDED

Board of Navigation Also Rules Regarding Pilots Speaking Ships Built Here

Upon request of Pilot J. J. Adkins, the board of navigation and pilotage, in regular monthly session yesterday morning at 11 o'clock, extended the southern limit of the cruising ground for Cape Fear bar and river pilots to an imaginary line southeast of Cape Romaine Light, thereby making the cruising grounds to the north and south symmetrical. Pilots will be permitted to operate in the new territory on and after Wednesday, February 3. It was ordered by the commissioners that this change shall not permit any pilot boat entering any other port than Wilmington for any reason whatsoever.

The minutes of yesterday's meeting, as written by Mrs. Ida S. Rankin, clerk to the board, was as follows: "The regular monthly meeting of the board of commissioners of navigation and pilotage was held this day at the office of the chairman: "Present: Mr. James Sprunt, chairman, Commissioners C. C. Chadbourne, H. C. McQueen, Wm. St. George and Thos. F. Wood and Mrs. Ida S. Rankin, clerk.

"Pilot J. J. Adkins was present to ask that the southern limit of the cruising ground be extended to Cape Romaine in conformity with the northern limit. The northern limit is eighty-five miles from the lighthouse, and the present southern limit is only sixteen miles from the whistle buoy.

"Upon motion, duly seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the limitations of the cruising grounds to the southward of Cape Fear be limited to an imaginary line southeast from Cape Romaine Light, thereby making the limitations north and south symmetrical, this resolution to take effect one week from this date.

"It was also ordered that this change shall not permit any pilot boat entering another port than Wilmington for any reason whatever.

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