

AGREES ON A COMPROMISE

CITY EXTENSION UP AGAIN

The Charter Revision Committee Asks Board of Aldermen for Instructions. After Explaining That Senator H. N. Pharr and Representatives W. C. Dowd and W. A. Grier Will Not Advocate an Extension of More Than Two Miles—City Fathers Are Bull-Headed, but Finally Adopt Resolutions Embodying a Suggestion of Judge A. Burwell That the Limits Be Two and One-Half Miles on the North and on the South, but Only Two on the East and West, Thus Leaving Out All Unimproved Lands Beyond the Two-Mile Line and Taking in the Built-Up Districts in the 2 1-2 Mile Circle.

After much discussion, a strong display of bull-headedness on the part of some of its members and some pretty strong remarks by others, the city board of aldermen, at a called meeting last evening, passed a resolution receding from its previous stand for a two and one-half mile extension of the city limits and asking the Mecklenburg delegation in the Legislature to advocate and vote for the amendment to the city charter making the limits extend two and a half miles on the north and on the south and two miles on the east and on the west.

The meeting last night was called at the instance of the committee appointed by Mayor S. S. McNinch to revise the city charter to make its provisions conform to the needs of Greater Charlotte. Alderman I. W. Faison, chairman of the committee, had written to Senator H. N. Pharr and Representatives W. C. Dowd, E. R. Preston and W. A. Grier asking them to state exactly what extension they would advocate. A reply to this letter of inquiry was read at a meeting of the charter committee yesterday afternoon and the committee, not knowing how to proceed with the delegation in the Legislature and the board of aldermen at variance, asked the mayor to call a meeting.

THE SITUATION EXPLAINED. Mayor McNinch explained the purpose of the meeting and called upon Judge Burwell to explain the situation with which the board and the charter committee was confronted. The judge explained Dr. Faison's letter to the delegation at Raleigh and stated the position of the Representatives as explained in the reply. Senator Pharr and Representatives Dowd and Grier will advocate an extension of the limits to a line two miles from Independence Square, but will not advocate a further extension. Representative Preston is still in favor of the two and a half mile line, or rather a many-sided line that will include all the built-up territory within that limit. The entire delegation suggested that the limits should be many-sided.

"In the light of these changed circumstances," said the judge, "your committee does not know how to proceed. If we make the limit two miles we are up against the previous instructions of the board and the recommendation of the extension committee of 100; if we fix the limit at the two and a half mile line we are up against the delegation at Raleigh."

SCHOOL COMMISSION WANTS TWO AND A HALF MILE LINE. Messrs. D. B. Smith and J. Arthur Henderson, for the city school commission, stated that they had conferred with Mr. R. J. Cochran, county superintendent of education, and learned that the two-mile limit would take in practically every school building in Charlotte township, but would leave out a great part of the children who attend these schools and that this would make it necessary for a large number of children to go great distances to reach the nearest school in the county. The two and a half mile line would take in between 80 and 90 per cent of the children having only two or three hundred in the remaining strip of Charlotte township. These could be easily taken care of in other schools. It was stated that both the city and county school authorities are heartily in favor of the two and a half mile line.

JUDGE BURWELL SUGGESTS A COMPROMISE. It was at this juncture that the compromise as finally agreed upon was suggested by Judge Burwell. He stated that, in his opinion, it would be unwise to antagonize the Senator and Representatives and that he thought they would agree upon a fair and reasonable compromise. He had just examined a map of the city and township and he suggested that an extension to a point on the North Carolina Railway, two and a half miles from the square, on the north, and to a point on the Charlotte, Columbia & Augusta Railway, two and a half miles from the square, on the south, and to 10 other points only two miles from the square on the east and west, would take in all the built-up section that would be taken in by the two and a half mile circle, including Highgate Park Mill No. 2. He stated that he thought if the proposition were put up to the legislators with that recommendation they could not but vote for it.

CITY FATHERS ARE BULL-HEADED. After the judge's suggestion the question was taken up by the aldermen. The city fathers were not at all pleased that the Senator and two of the Representatives from this county should refuse to support the extension of the city limits to the line agreed upon by a committee of 100 appointed for the purpose of investigating the matter, the line asked for by the board of aldermen on two or more occasions and would take in by probably four-fifths of the territory of the people in the territory to be affected. "Do these men represent the people or themselves and their private interests?" asked one alderman. Most of them had blood in their eyes, and there was danger that the compromise offered by Judge Burwell, which would leave out all the unimproved lands outside the two-mile line, and would take in all the built-up section in the territory between the two-mile circle and the two and a half mile circle, would not pass.

ALDERMAN DOWD'S POSITION. Alderman Dowd was the first to explain his position. He has been in favor of the greater extension. He said he thought the delegation at Raleigh was doing wrong in opposing the two and a half mile extension, and that their opposition failed. "But every measure is arrived at by compromise," he said. "I am in favor of whatever thought I can get in favor of adopting Judge Burwell's suggestion.

We must get together on something. This thing is tremendously important and the time is short. If we recommend the limits suggested by Judge Burwell those men can't afford not to agree to it. They say they don't want to take in any undeveloped lands outside the two-mile line. The limits fixed by the judge will not take in any of these lands. On the other hand, we get what we want—the developed section of the territory included in the two and a half mile line."

ALDERMAN KIRBY WRATHY. Alderman Kirby didn't say he was bull-headed about the matter, but he made the fact known by his stand. He said the men in the Legislature were sent there to do what the people wanted and yet they refuse to listen to the board of aldermen, the extension committee of 100 and the expressed desire of a large majority of their constituents. "I don't want to eat dog, and if we have to I don't want us to swear we love it," he exclaimed.

THINGS WARM UP. Alderman Ross, who had been opposed to the two and a half mile line always, said that the suggestion of Judge Burwell struck him as being exactly the thing to do. "It's what we all really want," he said. "Question!" shouted some one and the Kirby motion was put. The vote was 6 to 4 in favor of the stand-patters. "I move we adjourn," said Alderman Ross. "I don't see any need of discussing the matter further." There was considerable uneasiness here upon the part of those in favor of the compromise. Alderman Faison moved that the matter be reconsidered. The motion carried by one vote. The matter was discussed at length. Judge Burwell again explained his suggestion fully, and City Attorney Harris urged the need of some action looking toward an agreement between the board and the delegation at Raleigh. "They (the legislators) will be glad to pass the amendment with the compromise suggested by Judge Burwell," he said. "If they should not, it will be clear that their private interests conflict with the interest they have in the welfare of the city and county they represent," he declared.

THE NEW BOUNDARIES. Finally, on motion of Alderman Long the following resolution was adopted: "Whereas, By a letter herewith filed our Senator and two of our Representatives have informed us positively that they will not advocate an amendment extending the city limits to a line one-half mile from Independence Square in all directions, but that they will advocate an extension of two miles in all directions, and, whereas, it is desirable to agree without delay upon an extension of the limits, be it resolved: "First, That we request our Senator and Representatives to approve an extension of said limits as follows: To a line beginning at a point on the North Carolina Railway, two and one-half miles from Independence Square and running to a point on the Derita road two miles from the square; thence to a point on the Davidson College road two miles from

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Use square; thence to a point on the Beattie's Ford road two miles from the square; thence to a point on the Carolina Central Railway two miles from the square; thence to a point on the Tuckasee Ford road two miles from the square; thence to a point on the Longgan Ferry road two miles from the square; thence to a point on the Atlanta & Charlotte Air Line Railway two miles from the square; thence to a point on the Carolina Central Railway, south of the city, two and one-half miles from the square; thence to a point on the Sharon road two miles from the square; thence to a point on the Providence road two miles from the square; thence to a point on the Monroe road two miles from the square; thence to a point on the Lawyers road two miles from the square; thence to a point on the old county home road two miles from the square; thence to the beginning of the square. "Second, That we authorize our committee on revision of charter to incorporate said limits in the bill now being drawn by them, and that we earnestly request our Senator and Representatives to have the same adopted."

Confederate Veteran Kills Young Farmer in Shot-Gun Duel. Montgomery, Ala., Jan. 28.—A special to The Advertiser from Elba, Ala., says that Richard Parker, an aged Confederate soldier, shot and killed Arch Mixon, a young farmer, after a desperate shot-gun duel in front of Parker's home. The men quarrelled over business matters and Parker was put on notice to expect an armed conflict.

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