

MR. LATTI'S POSITION

MARKS FRANK STATEMENT

Will Not Push the First Street Extension... The Board of Aldermen... The People of the City... The Car Line to the River at Present—He Gives Some Figures and States Facts in Connection With Other Improvements Already Made—The Proposed Extension of the Railroad at Eleventh Street—The Brevard Street Crossing—Mint Street Line to Be Abandoned.

An Observer man, knowing the importance of the expansion of the lines of the Charlotte Consolidated Construction Company to this community, called yesterday to see Mr. E. D. Latta to learn what steps he would take toward getting to the Catawba river. The reporter found Mr. Latta in a very agreeable mood. He had thought the matter over and took a sensible view of the situation. He bears no ill-will toward any one who voted against the proposition to open First street, for, he says, if the aldermen representing the people, will in the way it now stands, he will be able to do it. He will operate his lines to the Hoskins Mill over the Southern Railway tracks, at the West Trade street crossing. The Mint street line, which was double-tracked with the hope and promise of getting out through First street, will have to be discontinued for it was put down to carry out the Hoskins cars. This will leave the third ward without any line. The river project will be abandoned for the present at least. For Mr. Latta considers the Trade street crossing a dangerous proposition to run any more cars than is absolutely necessary over it. It will be recalled by those conversant with the facts in the case that the proposition defeated Monday night was not the 4C's, but the Southern Railway's. MR. LATTI MAKES A STATEMENT

Speaking definitely Mr. Latta said: "I have neither the inclination nor the purpose to enter into controversy respecting the opening of First street, but I do wish to correct certain statements, appearing in The Observer of yesterday, as reported from Mr. W. C. Maxwell's speech before the board of aldermen Monday night.

With respect to the Eleventh street bridge costing the city between \$12,000 and \$20,000, as was stated, in point of fact, the bridge was built by and at the exclusive expense of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, while the damages to contiguous property and the construction of approaches to the bridge were borne by the city at a total cost of \$3,500, as I am reliably informed by the chairman of the street department of that administration. And it is now an active thoroughfare, used by the general public, being the only means of safe communication between the two sections of the First ward north of Ninth street.

"The North Brevard street extension was referred to as a grant to us. This was opened and extended across the Seaboard Air Line tracks by the city, at the request of the Highland Park Mills and other property interests in the northern portion of the city, and our company never asked the city to make this crossing, nor ever consulted with any of the city officials in regard to it."

HISTORY OF FIRST STREET CONTROVERSY.

"What about the history of the First street controversy?" Mr. Latta was asked. "Negotiations for a subway were carried on for some time, between the Southern Railway and our company, finally resulting in an agreement on the part of the Southern to build a subway on First street, large enough for the use of our company only, provided we would agree to perpetually abandon the grade crossing at the Southern depot, and detour our Severaville cars by the way of Mint street, through the subway and up Cedar to Trade. After this agreement was reached the Southern Railway decided that it preferred to build a 50-foot subway on First street, if the city would build a 50-foot street from Graham to Cedar, in order to relieve the West Trade street crossing of some of the travel by the general public.

"At the earnest solicitation of a number of the property holders in that section of the city we agreed to await the action of the city authorities as to whether or not they would open a 50-foot street, thereby meeting the condition offered by the Southern, and wishing the stand in the way of the city's securing such a subway if it wanted it. We have never preferred that a 50-foot street be built if any agreement could be reached, by all parties concerned, by which we could secure a private underground outlet for the cars, of course not being expected to bear any of the expense of the construction work of such an outlet."

WILL DROP THE MATTER.

"Will you try to arrange for a private outlet, such as you suggested?" asked the reporter. "No, I shall leave the matter as it now stands for the reason that I take the action of the board of aldermen to mean that the people of the city do not care for the extension of the car line to the river at this time. I am Democrat enough to abide by the will of the majority."

It is a matter of fact that Mr. Latta was, personally, opposed to the 50-foot proposition of the Southern on the ground that, if it were received with favor, he and his company would be charged with trying to get the city to spend money in the interest of the 4C's. His prediction, made when the matter first came up, has fallen out just as he made it.

Cow Failed to Make Good.

An unusual case was that in Squire Hilton's court yesterday, when Mr. Bob Paul was in court to explain why he had sold to Mrs. C. O. Robinson a cow which, it was alleged, he had guaranteed to give three gallons and which had failed to do so. His defense was that he had not said that the cow would make good at once, but would soon, and accordingly three weeks were given that the bovine beast might have a chance to sustain her one-time reputation.

To Give an Oyster Supper.

The Round Dozen Club of the Second and Presbyterian churches will give an oyster supper Friday night in the primary room of the Second church. The proceeds will be devoted to worthy causes and the public is cordially and sincerely invited to call and partake of the delicacies which skilled hands will prepare and gentle hands will serve. The prices will be moderate.

Sluggish Liver a Foe to Ambition.

You can not accomplish very much if your liver is inactive as you feel dull, your eyes are heavy and you are nervous. You can not do much if you are sluggish. Orin's Laxative Fruit Syrup stimulates the liver and bowels and makes you feel better and active. Orin's Laxative Fruit Syrup does not irritate or grip and is mild and very pleasant to take. Orin's is more effective than any other laxative. Refuse cheap imitations. S. H. Jordan & Co., W. 14th Street & Co.

"COTTON THIEVES" SAYS COURT.

Sam and Arthur Reid and Tom Shankers, colored, bound to Superior Court on Charge of Stealing Cotton From Henry Neely, an Old Dorky—Bonds Fixed at \$50 Each—John Hudson Turned Loose.

Tom Shankers and Sam and Arthur Reid, all negroes, were found guilty Squire H. C. Severs' court, yesterday afternoon, on the charge of stealing cotton from Henry Neely, colored, of Paw Creek township. Col. T. L. Kirkpatrick prosecuted and Mr. Frank L. Shannonhouse appeared for Shankers and the Reid and Mr. Jake F. Newell, for John Hudson, a fourth negro, who was implicated by the ones accused. The guilty ones were bound over to Superior Court under a bond of \$50 each.

Cotton stealing is considered a very serious crime in this section of the country. The farmers of Mecklenburg would rather imprison a negro for taking cotton than to attend a meeting of the Southern Cotton Growers' Association. Cotton thieves can make no end of trouble.

The evidence produced against the Reid and Shankers was to the effect that a broad tired wagon, like the one owned by Sam Reid, drawn by a mule and a horse, had stood in front of Henry Neely's cotton house Friday night last, and that it came from toward Sam Reid's house. Mr. J. A. Hipp and Henry Neely testified to these facts. It was proven also that Sam Reid and Tom Shankers took a bale of cotton to the ginney of the North Carolina Oil Mill on the following Saturday and had it ginned in the name of John Hudson, whom they explained was a renter. Sam Reid claimed to be hauling the cotton for Shankers. John Hudson, who is the fireman at the North Carolina Oil Mill, declared that he had nothing to do with that or any other cotton. Chief of Police Christenbury testified that Shankers told him that the cotton belonged to Hudson. The circumstances seem to be against the negroes. They will have a chance before a jury at the next criminal term of Superior Court.

It is alleged by Henry Neely that they drove the wagon to his cotton house, loaded it and drove to the ginney, had the cotton ginned and then sold it the same day and unloaded the bale at the local platform.

John Hudson, who had been in custody, was released. Colonel Kirkpatrick asked the court to let him go.

COCOAINE EVIL GROWING.

The Habit Said to Be on the Increase—Use General and Confined to No Condition or Age.

"The use of cocaine among negroes is on the increase," declared a well-known physician to an Observer man yesterday. "My practice carries me into all sections of the city and I have watched with deep concern the spread of the habit. So common has its use become that there are few negroes left who are not slaves of the insidious drug. Not only do the grown men and women use it but the boys and girls as well. As with all such ailments the first effect is pleasant producing that semi-conscious, dreamy state which is so delightful to the African mind. The habit is a progressive one, the Jones becoming more frequent and larger as it continues. Few dorkies ever break away from the drug for it undermines their will power. I speak advisedly when I say that the dope evil is one of the greatest dangers which confronts the negro race to-day. I am sure that the two dorkies who fell dead the other day were victims of the habit."

Goslings Admitted to Order of Blue Goose.

A meeting of the Ancient and Honorable Order of the Blue Goose was held in Charlotte Monday and the following new members were admitted: Messrs. Gus E. Thornton, of Lynchburg, Va.; Fred C. Clarke, of Charlotte; G. T. Buxton, of Charlotte; C. S. Burgess, of Atlanta, Ga.; and Mr. J. W. Nash, of Greensboro. Mr. Jordan S. Thomas is the Most Loyal Gander; Mr. Eugene H. Chisholm, the Supervisor of the Flock; Mr. Benjamin J. Smith the Custodian of the Goslings; Mr. N. J. Hayward, Wielder of the Goose Bill; Robert C. Hayes, Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg; and Mr. M. G. Hunter, Guardian of the Nest.

County Commissioners Meet Again.

An adjourned session of the board of county commissioners was held yesterday morning at the court house. Those present were: Commissioners W. C. Long, chairman, John B. Ross, W. N. McKee and E. A. Henderson, Mr. C. V. Furr being the only absent member. Certain assessments on real estate were canvassed and rebates granted in cases where the commissioners found that property had been taxed too high. The board adjourned shortly after noon. There will be no further meeting, so far as is now known, until the first Monday in December.

To Attend Convention in Washington.

A half-dozen delegates from the Charlotte Young Men's Christian Association will attend the international convention of the Y. M. C. A. at Washington November 22 to 26th. An extensive programme has been prepared. President Roosevelt will speak and later receive the representatives at the White House. Hon. James Bryce, ambassador from England; William J. Bryan and Governor H. H. Wood of New York, as well as Governor Robert Brodnax Glenn of North Carolina, will speak.

Youthful Thief Caught.

Charles Waddell, a negro boy, an employe of the Burwell & Dunn wholesale drug store on South College street, was nabbed by the officers yesterday morning, charged with the larceny of many articles from his employers. In his possession were found druggists' supplies, patent medicines and other small articles. The thievery, it is believed, has been of long continuance. The boy's bond was fixed at \$50, pending the trial this morning.

Automobile Hits Wagon.

The automobile of Mrs. Simmons B. Jones, driven by Dr. Baxter S. Moore and occupied by Dr. and Mrs. Moore and Misses Stuart and Sarah Jones, Lucy Robertson and Kate Seddon, ran into a wagon 7 miles from the city on the Pineville road Monday night. They were homeward bound from Fort Mill. S. C. Miss Seddon was thrown from the front seat, but no one was hurt, though about \$100 damage to the car was done.

New Fire Hose Arrives.

Two thousand five hundred feet of fire hose was received yesterday by the local fire department, this being part of the new equipment ordered some time ago. The cost is 90 cents a foot, making the total expense between \$2,000 and \$2,500. Most of the hose is of the regulation length, 50 feet, but there are several sections of more than the average, for use in emergencies and for fighting fire at a considerable distance from the water supply.

SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS MEET.

A Quiet and Uneventful Session Last Night—Reports on Schools From Superintendent Graham.

In marked contrast to the sometimes stormy scenes which marked the 4-hourly aldermanic session of the night before in the same apartment was the hour's meeting of the school commissioners last night in monthly session. Not a ripple disturbed the calm of the waters. Mayor Franklin was in the chair and nearly all the commissioners were in their seats.

To begin at the beginning, the board, on motion of Commissioner J. C. Baird, voted to suspend the by-laws to allow Prof. W. W. Davidson to tutor as heretofore in the afternoon in one of the rooms in the south graded school.

A petition from the teachers of the sixth grades for a raise in salary was referred to the committee on corrections and the finance committee. Mr. Sexton's committee was authorized to correct the provision in the by-laws inserted under a misunderstanding, which would unintentionally lower the salaries of the janitors at the south and north graded schools to a point below the regular rate of pay. The buildings and grounds committee has power to act in the matter.

Superintendent Graham presented an exhaustive report as to the enrollment in the schools and as to that part of the finances with which he has to do.

The south graded school has an enrollment of 1,208 with a monthly attendance of 1,128; the north school, 824 and 741; the Dilworth school, 145 and 150; Belmont, 367 and 335; Myers Park, 24 and 23; Elizabeth Mills, 20 and 25; Severaville, 24 and 23; Groverton, 40 and 36. The total of the white schools is therefore 2,882, with a monthly attendance of 2,660. For the colored schools, Cherry street has 83 and 83, Biddleville 15 and 75, and the second ward school 1,484 and 1,450. The total enrollment therefore in all schools is 4,374 with monthly attendance of 3,937.

CAR MEN FOUND GUILTY.

Former Conductor and Motorman Are Fined For Intoxication and Bound to Court on Charge of Running Street Car When Not in Normal Condition.

After a trial lasting for two hours and a half before Recorder Smith, Mr. Frank M. Shannonhouse appearing for the defendants and Col. T. L. Kirkpatrick for the prosecution, C. A. Smith, until recently motorman for the 4C's and J. T. Ross, conductor for the same, were yesterday found guilty of being drunk and acting in a disorderly manner and of running a street car while in the condition. In the case, which had reference to their personal conduct, they were fined the costs and an appeal was taken, the bonds being fixed at \$50. In the case of the charge which had reference to them in an official capacity, they were bound over to Superior Court in the sum of \$100.

The alleged offense, it will be recalled, occurred Friday night, the complaint being made by Mr. L. E. Priddy, who testified that the motorman was so drunk that he did not stop the car at the point where the line crosses the Seaboard track on Brevard street.

Ed Wilson and Dock Baker were bound over to court for the affray which occurred some nights ago. W. F. Hayes was fined \$15 for entering the building of Mr. John VanLandingham without permission from the city electrician. He had asked for permission but had not waited until it was received.

PRESBYTERY IN SESSION.

Adjourned Meeting of Mecklenburg Presbytery Held—Rev. J. A. Calligan Received.

The adjourned meeting of Mecklenburg Presbytery was held in the parlors of the First Presbyterian church yesterday morning. While a number of questions came up for settlement, nothing of noteworthy interest transpired.

A certificate of dismission was granted Rev. E. D. Brown, who has accepted work within the bounds of the Concord Presbytery. Mr. John R. Pharr was elected a trustee of Davidson College to fill out his unexpired term. Rev. Alexander Martin was chosen to fill out his unexpired term as trustee of the Presbyterian College.

At the request of Rev. George F. Robertson, pastor of Steele Creek Presbyterian church, his resignation as chairman of the General Assembly's home mission committee was accepted, and Rev. W. T. Walker was elected his successor.

Rev. J. A. Calligan was received from the Fayetteville Presbytery and given a cordial welcome.

A resolution of sympathy for Rev. Mr. Walker, who recently lost his brother and son, was passed by a rising vote.

HE FOUGHT AT GETTYSBURG.

David Parker, of Fayette, N. Y., who lost a foot at Gettysburg, writes: "Electric Bitters have done me more good than any medicine I ever took. For several years I had stomach trouble, and paid out much money for medicine to little purpose, until I began taking Electric Bitters. I would not take \$50 for what they have done for me." Grand tonic for the aged and for female weakness. Restores appetite and builds up; best of all for lame back and weak kidneys. Guaranteed by W. L. Hand & Co., druggists, 25c.

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EDGAR B. MOORE, Proprietor.

THOSE OMINOUS SOUNDS.

Not the Fore-runners of a Disastrous Earthquake, But the Aftermath of strenuous efforts to excavate for Y. M. C. A. Building. "Boom! Boom!" That is the thunderous sound which made Charlotte people prick up their ears and exclaim, "What's that?" a dozen times or less yesterday. "The Y. M. C. A. has struck a hard proposition," said the ones who knew, as they smiled knowingly. It was true. For says the hosts of Contractor J. A. Jones have been burrowing industriously into the earth on the lot on South Tryon street where the magnificent new Y. M. C. A. Building is to be erected. Soon, however, they struck a solid bed of rock, through which it is necessary to cut for about three feet. Hence the blasting which caused the nervous to exclaim. The workmen were surprised also to discover two springs in the course of their excavation.

A. M. McGLAMERY, Mayor, Mocksville, N. C.

AN ELOQUENT TESTIMONIAL

The following letter is more eloquent in praise of the Artistic Stieff Pianos than any testimonial Mr. Clewell or ourselves could write.

Rev. Mr. Clewell is the head of Salem Academy and College, Winston-Salem, N. C., and shows the high esteem and confidence in which the firm of Chas. M. Stieff is held by one of the best known educators in the South.

Winston-Salem, N. C., Sept. 20, 1906. My Dear Mr. Wilmoth:

Regarding the letter for the Stieff Pianos, please write such a letter as will suit your purpose and sign my name to the letter. Or, if you prefer to do so, write the letter and send to me and I will sign it and return to you. I know that I can endorse anything you claim for your pianos. We have always been well pleased with them.

Very truly yours, J. H. CLEWELL, Principal.

Chas. M. Stieff, Manufacturer of the Artistic Stieff, Shaw and Stieff Self-Player Pianos.

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