

THE CITY AND THE CO'S

THE SITUATION REVIEWED

Admiral Committee to Meet Tomorrow Afternoon. Consider the Position of the Charlotte Electric Railway, Light and Power Company to Transfer Franchise For Gas and Electric Power Privileges to Charlotte Gas and Electric Company. Conjecture as to Why Such Step is Being Taken—The Franchise Proposition—Will the City Gain by Reason of Transfer—A Backward Glance.

Interest centres about the action of the admiralty committee, consisting of Messrs. W. J. ... R. A. Lee, M. M. Murphy, ... Cave, W. S. Shelor and E. S. Williams, which is to consider the position of the Charlotte Electric Railway, Light and Power Company to transfer its franchise to the Charlotte Gas and Electric Company.

THE ADVANTAGE BENEFIT. As to the benefit to be derived by the public, that is the portion of the public using gas, those who have invested in the matter say that it will result in a material saving of expense. The rate for illuminating gas at present as fixed by the contract between the city and street railway company is \$1.50 per thousand feet and for fuel gas \$1.25 per thousand feet.

ALL ROADS TO ROME. The Charlotte Electric Railway, Light and Power Company depends for its financial sustenance, so to speak, upon the sale of its bonds. The effect of which is as yet uncertain and doubtful. It would be much more advantageous for the company to be able to show that there was no possibility of harm from this source.

him to seek to anticipate the contingencies. He will separate his gas and electric business from his street railway and whatever may happen to the one will not affect the other. He has anything happen to either. It has been known for the past few years that Mr. Latta's ambition to extend his line to the river. To do this he will probably have to issue bonds. These will have to be sold. They would be disposed of much more advantageously if it could be shown that there was no danger of the company's resources being sapped by reason of other contingencies.

ONE OLD FRANCHISE. The following is the franchise granted Randall & Wolfe & Co. on January 18th, 1875. "Mr. F. S. DeWolfe came before the board to ask for the passage of an ordinance in relation to a gas and electric company in this city, with a view to the following: To be granted to the said company, the right to lay and maintain gas and electric pipes in any street, alley, or public square, and to use the same for the purpose of lighting, heating, and other purposes, and to use the same for the purpose of generating and distributing gas and electricity for lighting and other purposes in the city, and to use the same for the purpose of operating under the said franchise for the term of 99 years from the date hereof.

Section 1. That the said F. S. DeWolfe and associates are to lay, erect and establish suitable and appropriate buildings and appurtenances for the manufacture and furnishing of illuminating gas, and by the necessary mains and pipes to conduct the same to the various portions of said city, as soon after the passage of this ordinance, as may be practicable.

Section 2. That if the board of aldermen shall at any time decide to erect lamps at points or points near which, or to light any street, avenue, or alley, in which said company has no main pipes, then said company shall, for a fair compensation, and in said city, lay down in reasonable time, the necessary main pipes and appurtenances, as ordered by the board of aldermen, and the lamps thus erected shall be supplied with gas by the company on the same terms as other street lamps.

Section 3. That the stock of said company and the machinery and fixtures necessary for the manufacture and sale of gas, shall be exempt from taxation for the term of three years from and after the execution of said gas works, and the manufacture and sale of gas by said company, said exemption from taxation shall extend to any real estate owned by said company.

Section 4. That the said F. S. DeWolfe and associates are to lay, erect and establish suitable and appropriate buildings and appurtenances for the manufacture and furnishing of illuminating gas, and by the necessary mains and pipes to conduct the same to the various portions of said city, as soon after the passage of this ordinance, as may be practicable.

Section 5. That the stock of said company and the machinery and fixtures necessary for the manufacture and sale of gas, shall be exempt from taxation for the term of three years from and after the execution of said gas works, and the manufacture and sale of gas by said company, said exemption from taxation shall extend to any real estate owned by said company.

the city as the franchise to carry on this business was granted to the Charlotte Electric Railway, Light and Power Company by the State of North Carolina and not by the City of Charlotte. The city, therefore, granted the street railway company permission to lay its pipes and mains in its streets and highways, and this permission having been once granted, it is claimed by the company that it cannot be revoked by the city. The State has granted to the new company a franchise to carry on the gas and electric business, as well as the right to purchase the plant of the old company. This being so, it is contended that the transfer of these properties can, and if necessary will be made from the old to the new company without the sanction of the city authorities. But if this sanction is not given, then the people will have the opportunity of entering into an arrangement by which, it is claimed, they would have secured considerable money for the gas and electric business, and the right to compel the new company to furnish them gas for use in emergencies, though they might be selling upon the electricity of a rival company for their illumination.

Section 6. That the said F. S. DeWolfe and associates are to lay, erect and establish suitable and appropriate buildings and appurtenances for the manufacture and furnishing of illuminating gas, and by the necessary mains and pipes to conduct the same to the various portions of said city, as soon after the passage of this ordinance, as may be practicable.

Section 7. That the said F. S. DeWolfe and associates are to lay, erect and establish suitable and appropriate buildings and appurtenances for the manufacture and furnishing of illuminating gas, and by the necessary mains and pipes to conduct the same to the various portions of said city, as soon after the passage of this ordinance, as may be practicable.

Section 8. That the said F. S. DeWolfe and associates are to lay, erect and establish suitable and appropriate buildings and appurtenances for the manufacture and furnishing of illuminating gas, and by the necessary mains and pipes to conduct the same to the various portions of said city, as soon after the passage of this ordinance, as may be practicable.

Section 9. That the said F. S. DeWolfe and associates are to lay, erect and establish suitable and appropriate buildings and appurtenances for the manufacture and furnishing of illuminating gas, and by the necessary mains and pipes to conduct the same to the various portions of said city, as soon after the passage of this ordinance, as may be practicable.

Section 10. That the said F. S. DeWolfe and associates are to lay, erect and establish suitable and appropriate buildings and appurtenances for the manufacture and furnishing of illuminating gas, and by the necessary mains and pipes to conduct the same to the various portions of said city, as soon after the passage of this ordinance, as may be practicable.

Section 11. That the said F. S. DeWolfe and associates are to lay, erect and establish suitable and appropriate buildings and appurtenances for the manufacture and furnishing of illuminating gas, and by the necessary mains and pipes to conduct the same to the various portions of said city, as soon after the passage of this ordinance, as may be practicable.

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Notice of Stockholders' Meeting. The regular annual stockholders' meeting of the CHARLOTTE BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION will be held Tuesday night, February 23d, 1908, at 8:30 o'clock at their office, 203 N. Tryon street. WILLIS BROWN, Secretary.

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