

# THE ROBESONIAN

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WHOLE NO 2858

## WILL CALL EXTRA SESSION.

**No Adjustment of Freight Rates Reached at Conference — Railroads Offer No Relief From Discrimination Against North Carolina—Governor Craig Declares Matter Will Be Referred to People for Settlement.**

Raleigh Special, April 30, to Wilmington Star.

In dramatically earnest sentences Governor Craig this afternoon declared the conference of the legislative commission for relief from freight rate discriminations against North Carolina at an end, asserting that the matter would now be referred to the people for settlement, unless in the meantime the railroad officials will find some really meritorious proposition on which the commission will be justified in re-opening negotiations. This turn, in the situation, he said, seems most unlikely, judging from the statement presented by the railroads this morning.

A lengthy reply to the final proposal of the legislative commission was made by the railroad traffic managers and it reiterated their proposition that the North Carolina rates are not unjust or discriminatory as compared with the rates enjoyed by other States in the South and that the reductions proposed by the legislative commission, would wipe out the net earnings of the railroads involved, bankrupting or crippling seriously all of them. The features of the amended proposal of the State commission were discussed in detail including the concessions as to Zones No. 1 and No. 2 being consolidated to avert putting in a lower rate to North Carolina than to the Virginia cities from the West and Baltimore. These concessions were summarized as insufficient to relieve the situation, that they interpret to be; that obstacles to acceptance of the proposal were insurmountable.

The statement suggested that the proper and lawful course now would be to get the entire issue involved before the Inter-State Commerce Commission as speedily as possible for adjudication in a manner that will put an end to the differences.

Chairman Travis, of the Corporation Commission, said he had hoped yesterday that there might be a chance to get together on some equitable basis of rate adjustment, but the statement of the railroad officials today seemed to preclude the possibility. He thought it would be folly now to follow the suggestion of the railroad officials and take up the fight before the Commerce Commission. He favored calling the Legislature in extra session and settling the matter there. The Corporation Commission had maintained suits before the Inter-State Commerce Commission and had already won the only concession that the railroad officials now wanted to appear in the position of conceding, that of applying the Winston-Salem and Durham rates through Virginia cities from the West to other sections of the State. Chairman Travis gave the net freight earnings of the several railroads in this State involved to show that they can well afford to grant the concessions.

The railroads had insisted that they could not stand the 33-1-3 per cent. cut in passenger rates in this State some years ago, but now it is admitted that the roads are making more money than ever on the reduced passenger rates.

It was following chairman Travis' remarks that Governor Craig made his statement as to the uselessness of further conferences unless the officials of the railroads should later make some really equitable and fair proposition. He said that the people of North Carolina will be disappointed and many really grieved at the situation. He deplored discord and strife. He had really thought the railroads intended to make sacrifices for the sake of meeting demands of the shippers, but that the faith of those now officers in the conference was not the faith of those who met the commission February 26th, when the Legislature was in session. They were saying now that to give North Carolina the same rates as Virginia would bankrupt the roads. North Carolina has been too long made to support the roads while they gave overshadowing advantages to other States and sections. This conference is at an end. We appeal to the people of North Carolina and that hope will bring results and assure just rates to all who would do business in this State. North Carolina has built railroads from the ocean to beyond the mountains and leased them for long terms to railroad companies at figures that make the present value, owing to business given by the people, many times what the companies pay

for the leases. The people will say that these properties shall not be operated to their disadvantage and the crippling of North Carolina enterprises. We must realize that the people can enjoy only these concessions in rate matters that they compel the railroads to grant.

This afternoon the members of the legislative commission, Governor Craig, Senator Council, Representative E. J. Justice, and N. B. Broughton, were in conference for some time, but Governor Craig said afterwards that there were no announcements yet as to what course will be pursued. It is certain that there will be a special session called, but how soon does not yet appear. However, it is sure to be for the specific matter of dealing with the rate matters and will leave the special session for constitutional amendments to a later date.

## Railroads Submit Lengthy Statement Declining to Grant Better Freight Rates.

Raleigh Dispatch, April 29.

Declaring that there is no power which he will not exercise to bring about better freight rates in North Carolina, Governor Craig this afternoon adjourned until tomorrow the third freight rate conference between the carriers and a legislative commission pending a proposition from the railroads.

Governor Craig was besought by telegrams and delegates to call an extra session of the General Assembly to assert the State's sovereignty in the demand for lower rates. An adjourned meeting from April 15th had been ordered in which the carriers were to present a proposition which was to form the basis of rate readjustment. This morning they offered a document of 48 pages giving reasons for declining to grant rates to North Carolina merchants proportional with Virginia. To do this the carriers declared, "would revolutionize the rates, work irreparable injury and force many railroads into bankruptcy."

The charges brought by North Carolina shippers, one hundred of whom were present, is that freight is hauled through North Carolina into Virginia points and reshipped to North Carolina consumers more cheaply than the North Carolina merchants can supply the home trade. One witness declared a candy manufacturer had left North Carolina because he saved \$10,000 a year in freight on glucose in the Virginia city. The shippers are demanding an extra session within 30 days. Much feeling is shown.

## WAVERLY HOTEL CHANGES HANDS.

Messrs. G. Y. Jones and Theo. Perrin Lease Hotel From Messrs. B. A. Anderson & Son.—New Management Took Charge This Morning—Improvements Will Be Made.

Messrs. G. Y. Jones and Theo. Perrin assume the management of the Waverly hotel, taking charge this morning. They have rented or leased the hotel from Messrs. B. A. Anderson & Son. Mr. H. H. Anderson, who for about two years has had active management of the hotel, will remain in Lumberton and will board at the hotel. He is local agent for the Buick automobile and expects to devote most of his time to this business.

Mr. Perrin is from Jefferson City, Tenn., and he and Mrs. Perrin have been guests at the hotel for about a month. Mr. and Mrs. Perrin have had quite a bit of experience in the hotel business. For a number of years they conducted a hotel at Bedford, Indiana, Mr. Perrin's old home. For the last few years Mr. Perrin has been traveling.

Mr. Jones is local agent for the Virginia & Carolina Southern Ry. and he with his family have been boarding at the Waverly for a year or more. Mr. Jones will still hold his position and Mr. Perrin will devote all his time to the interest of the hotel.

Mrs. Perrin and Mrs. Jones will assist in conducting the hotel and it is expected that many improvements will be made.

## False Fire Alarm.

The unearthly shriek of the fire whistle disturbed the slumbers of many people yesterday morning about 1 o'clock, but those who rushed out anxiously to look for fire found that it was a false alarm. If the misguided wretch who has such a perverted sense of humor as to think it fun to turn in a false fire alarm could be caught and made to see the error of his way it would be equal to converting at least one heathen.

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## HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT.

**Exercises Monday Evening by Class of Ten Girls and Four Boys—Address by Mr. H. E. Stacy—Medals and Many Prizes Delivered by Mr. W. Lennon — School Work Handicapped by Term of Only 8 Months—Another Grade Added, Making 11 and There Probably Will Be No Graduating Class Next Year — Impossible to Meet State Requirements with Ten Grades and Term of 8 Months.**

Short exercises by the graduating class of the Lumberton high school, an address by Mr. H. E. Stacy of Lumberton and delivering of medals by Mr. W. Lennon of Lumberton were enjoyed by a large crowd which comfortably filled the school auditorium Monday evening. It was a rainy evening but it would take much more than that to keep the patrons and friends of the Lumberton high school at home when a graduating class of that institution offers its final exercises.

The class was composed of ten girls and four boys as follows: Annie Olive Blake, Epsie Gibson Fuller, James Montgomery Hester, Agnes Zura Johnson, Lula Mae Johnson, Dora Blanche King, Patrick Murphy McLean, Edward Knox Proctor, Margie Russell, Helen May Seabolt, Richard Lewis Shelby, Euphemia Tyson, John Thompson Warwick, Mary Elizabeth Warwick.

Following is the program rendered by the class:

Song: "We are a Class of Seniors Wise."

Salutatory—Epsie Gibson Fuller. History—Edward Knox Proctor. Poem—Euphemia Tyson.

Class Will—Helen May Seabolt.

Prophecy—Lula Mae Johnson.

Trophies—Agnes Zura Johnson.

Valedictory—Margie Russell.

Song: "Good bye."

Colors: Pink and blue. Flowers: Pink rambler.

This was carried through smoothly and without interruption, each one rendering her or his part well. Miss Ethel Williams, one of the music teachers, presided at the piano as the class marched in and during the songs. The stage decorations were artistic and attractive.

At the conclusion of the program by the class the address of the evening was delivered by Mr. H. E. Stacy. His theme was education and his speech was listened to with marked attention. He showed how education is merely training one for self expression, presenting the subject in a new light to many of his audience. He declared that the compulsory school attendance law enacted by the last Legislature is the greatest law placed upon the statute books of North Carolina during the past half century and that only through thorough training in the public schools can the South hope to develop her resources and occupy a position of leadership.

Mr. Lennon had quite a task, albeit a pleasant one, in delivering the prizes, for there were many to receive them, as the following list shows: First grade, Miss Fannie Knight, teacher, Ernest Tilly, for perfect attendance, Amanda Allen, for perfect punctuality; second grade, Miss Pennie Rowland teacher, Mabel Green, for best record in spelling; third grade, Miss Bunch Rowland teacher, Robert Allen, for greatest number of head marks and perfect attendance, Margaret Durham, for next best speller; fourth grade, Miss Mary Jeffers teacher, Leila Bullard, for best speller, Ruth Edmund, for perfect attendance and punctuality; fifth grade, Miss Margaret Townsend teacher, Lucile Jackson, for highest average, Drine Hedgpeth, for perfect attendance and punctuality, Vernon Townsend, for spelling; sixth grade, Miss Nina Patrick teacher, Hazel Carlyle, for highest average; eighth grade, Miss Elizabeth McNair teacher, Jeanette Biggs, for highest average, Monie Collins, for perfect attendance and punctuality; Miss Ethel Williams' music class, first prize, Carrie Mae Hedgpeth, for faithful practice, second prize, Vista Thompson and Ruth Thompson, for most progress; Miss Mary Weddell's music and elocution class, Drine Hedgpeth for advancement in music, Flora Prevatt for advancement in elocution.

In addition to these prizes Mr. Alf. H. McLeod, a member of the school board, had offered a beautiful gold medal for the best all-round pupil in the school. This prize was won by Rosa Caldwell, 10-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Caldwell. Little Miss Rosa also won a prize in the third grade for best work in drawing. The reporter had the privilege of seeing some of her work and it

is indeed excellent. Her teacher, Miss Bunch Rowland, is justly proud of the fact that her work is superior to some specimens of prize work in a New York school which were sent here for comparison. Another prize delivered by Mr. Lennon was a gold medal to Miss Evelyn Sentelle, daughter of Prof. and Mrs. R. E. Sentelle, for advancement in elocution last year, the prize having been awarded some time ago but the delivery of the medal being delayed because the medal was not ready at the time.

Mention was made in Monday's Robesonian of the sermon delivered before the graduating class at Chestnut Street Methodist church Sunday morning by Rev. J. S. Snyder, pastor of the First Baptist church of Fayetteville. This sermon is spoken of in terms of highest praise by all who heard it. It was decidedly one of the best sermons ever heard here and it is regretted that full report of it was not obtained for the paper.

Supt. R. E. Sentelle and his corps of teachers have done excellent work during the term just closed, but they have been handicapped by reason of the fact that the school term was only 8 months long—the same length it has been for the past 5 years—instead of 9 months, as it should be, as it is impossible to meet the State requirements for a high school under a 9-months term. On account of the fact that the term is only 8 months long it has been necessary to add another grade to the ten, making eleven grades next year. Consequently there will be no graduating class next year, or if there is, it will probably be a class of only three, as Supt. Sentelle says he knows of only three now in town who can complete the work, and he does not know if these will attend. Mr. Sentelle says that if arrangements cannot be made for a term of nine months it will be necessary, in order to complete the work required, to add still another grade, making 12 grades.

Misses Margaret Townsend and Elizabeth McNair left Tuesday for their respective homes at Union, S. C., and Maxton. The following other out-of-town teachers left for their respective homes yesterday: Misses Mary Weddell, Tarboro; Hassie Lou Ponder, ninth and tenth grades, Mars Hill, Madison county; Fannie Knight, Raleigh; Mary Jeffers, Canton, Haywood county; Nina Patrick, and her sister, Miss Lucy Patrick, who had been visiting her, Gastonia.

Miss Pearl Abernathy, seventh grade teacher, chaperoned three of her pupils, Misses Flora Prevatt, Sarah Branch and Margaret Pope, to Wilmington and Wrightsville Beach yesterday. Miss Patrick will go from Wilmington to her home at Caroleen, Rutherford county, and Misses Prevatt, Branch and Pope will return home today.

It is not known just how many of the teachers will return next fall. It is said that one or two have accepted positions elsewhere but this has not been confirmed and Supt. Sentelle asks that no statement be made in regard to who may or may not return until next week, when he will be in a position to give more definite information.

## Mayor Caldwell and Mr. Joe Stone Mix it Up.

Yesterday morning about 8 o'clock in Mr. J. D. McNeill's blacksmith shop on Fourth street Mayor A. P. Caldwell and Mr. Joe Stone had some words, which resulted in Mr. Stone making a pass at Mr. Caldwell with his fist. He struck Mr. Caldwell a glancing blow on the side of the head, but before any more licks could be passed Messrs. J. D. and Dan F. McNeill, who were present, parted the two men and the affray was at an end. Mr. Stone went immediately and offered himself to Chief of Police H. H. Redfern, and then is when the chief had a white elephant on his hands. Chief Redfern made an investigation and finding that nothing of a serious nature had taken place he told Mr. Stone that he could go subject to his call; and so far the chief has had no occasion to order Mr. Stone before any one for a hearing.

Mr. Stone was called into the shop to explain or verify something he had said. Mr. Stone maintained that what he had said was true, Mr. Caldwell said it was a lie, and then Mr. Stone got busy.

Nobody was hurt much and nobody was "kilt."

—The 7-weeks-old infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan F. McNeill died this morning about 9 o'clock at the home of the parents, Second street. Interment will probably take place this afternoon.

## RESULTS TOWN PRIMARY

**Former Mayor A. E. White Defeats Mayor A. P. Caldwell for Mayor by Large Majority—L. T. Townsend, Geo. L. Thompson and S. H. Hamilton Nominated for Commissioners—Other Nominations—A Hard Fight by Friends of Opposing Candidates —Election Tuesday of Next Week. For mayor—A. E. White.**

For commissioners—L. T. Townsend, Geo. L. Thompson, S. H. Hamilton.

For graded school trustees—L. R. Varsar, L. E. Whaley, L. H. Caldwell. For board of audit and finance—Frank Gough, W. S. Britt, H. M. McAllister.

Not in recent years has such intense interest been felt in a primary for the nomination of town officers as marked the primary held Tuesday, the results of which are given above. Lines were closely drawn and every inch of ground was contested by friends of the rival candidates for mayor, and when the polls closed at sundown there were few who were sure as to what the count would reveal. Even those who thought they had kept reasonably close tab on the votes as they were cast were surprised at the size of the majority given Mr. White.

When the result of the vote for mayor became known, only a short while after the polls closed, supporters of Mr. White who were at the polls waiting to learn the results of the count raised a shout of exultant timbre and great volume. Hastening to the front of the court house, where Mr. White was surrounded by other eager waiters for the news, Mr. White was called upon for a speech. Mounting the court house steps Mr. White responded briefly, thanking his friends for the loyal support given him and pledging his best services to the town.

This makes the fifth time during the past ten years that Mr. White has been chosen by the people of the town of Lumberton for their mayor, so he is no stranger to the duties of the office. He has served the town faithfully and efficiently each time.

The votes polled by the various candidates are given below:

For mayor—A. E. White 204, A. P. Caldwell 121.

For commissioners—Jno. T. Biggs 126, L. T. Townsend 173, Geo. L. Thompson 152, E. M. Britt 146, W. A. McPhaul 98, S. H. Hamilton 154, J. F. Roberts 92.

For graded school trustees—L. R. Varsar 204, J. P. Russell 172, J. H. Wishart 146, L. E. Whaley 192, L. H. Caldwell 204.

The board of audit and finance—Frank Gough 238, W. S. Britt 215, H. M. McAllister 231, T. A. McNeill, Sr., 201.

The number voting in the primary was 333. The managers of the primary were W. Lennon, J. D. Norment, Chas. P. MacAllister, Alf. H. McLeod, E. A. Thompson.

Nominations are equivalent to election, but the election to confirm these nominations will be held Tuesday of next week.

Members of the board of town commissioners whose terms expire are M. W. Floyd, W. J. Prevatt and D. D. French. Neither of these gentlemen was a candidate to succeed himself. They have served the town faithfully and efficiently. Mr. Floyd has been a member of the board continuously for the past 7 years; Mr. Prevatt has served several two-year terms, and Mr. French has been a member of the board something less than a term of two years, having been elected by the board to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. H. B. Jennings. Commissioners are elected for a term of two years. Members of the board who hold over are Jas. D. Proctor, C. B. Redmond and D. P. Walters.

The terms of L. E. Whaley, W. S. Britt and L. H. Caldwell expired as graded school trustees, who are also elected for a term of two years. Mr. Britt was not a candidate to succeed himself. Messrs Caldwell and Whaley were nominated to succeed themselves so that Mr. Varsar will be the only new member of the board. The other members of the board, whose terms will not expire until next year, are C. B. Townsend, chairman, R. D. Caldwell, Alf. H. McLeod and Q. T. Williams.

Messrs. Gough and Britt succeed themselves on the board of audit and finance and Mr. McAllister will be the only new member on this board, members of which are elected for a term of one year. Ex-Judge T. A. McNeill, who has served the town faithfully and well for many years as chairman of this board, was defeated for re-nomination. The board elects its own chairman, who receives a salary of

## BRIEF LOCAL NEWS ITEMS.

—Good middling cotton today 11c.

—Rev. J. Frank Gorrell, pastor of the Lumberton Presbyterian church, will preach Sunday afternoon at Baker's chapel.

—Mrs. T. C. Johnson went this morning to Whiteville, where she will spend a day or so. She went in response to a message announcing the illness of her sister's child.

—Miss Beatrix Ivey, of Page's Mill, S. C., underwent an operation at the Lumberton hospital Tuesday for appendicitis. She is getting along as well as could be expected.

—Things are taking on new appearances at the corner of Elm and Sixth streets. Mrs. Lizzie G. Proctor is having her home repainted and the large oaks at the north front of the residence have been trimmed up. The house is being painted white.

—Mrs. B. W. Page returned Monday night from Richmond, Va., where she spent a week with her father, Dr. M. N. Culbreth of Raleigh, who has been in a hospital in Richmond for some time for treatment. Dr. Culbreth's condition is improving.

—Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Caldwell and daughter, Miss Annie Ruth, arrived today about noon from their trip to the Panama Canal. They were away three weeks and visited many places of interest. They came from Pembroke in an auto, missing the morning Seaboard train there.

—The dancing class mentioned in last Thursday's Robesonian was given its first lesson Monday night and its second lesson last night in the old Pythian hall over the postoffice. Mrs. Vaughn and Miss Kate Myers of Wilmington are the teachers. Lessons will be given Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights. About 40 young people have joined the class.

—Mr. I. V. Hooper returned Monday evening from Charlotte, where he spent two or three days on business. He has accepted a position as sales agent for the Charlotte Marble and Granite Co. Mr. and Mrs. Hooper returned last week from Dania, Fla., where they spent six months. Mr. Hooper says that Florida is a fine country, but that Lumberton will be their future home.

—Rev. C. H. Durham and his two older daughters, little Miss Wilma and Miss Margaret, went yesterday to Gastonia to visit relatives and also to visit the grave of the wife and mother, who died two years ago today and whose remains were interred in Gastonia. The Ladies Aid Society of the First Baptist church, of which Mr. Durham is pastor, have sent flowers to decorate Mrs. Durham's grave, which is their annual custom.

—Ex-Sheriff and Mrs. W. S. Clark, who for a year or so have been conducting the Clark hotel on First street, are moving back to Clarkton, their old home. Mrs. Clark's daughter, Mrs. A. A. Pedneau, assumes the management of the hotel. Mr. and Mrs. Pedneau, who have been living on West Fourth street in the residence owned by Mr. E. D. McNeill, moved yesterday to the hotel. Mr. Clark is moving only a few of his household effects and says that he and his family in the future expect to spend quite a bit of their time in Lumberton. Mr. Clark is going back to look after his farming interests at Clarkton.

\$300 per year, being the only salaried officer of the town (among those chosen by a vote of the people), except the mayor, who receives also \$300. The chairmanship of the board of audit and finance is in many respects the most important office in the town government, as he has control of the finances of the town and is responsible for the manner in which the funds of the town are invested and disbursed.

The present mayor and town board will hold their last meeting Tuesday night of next week, the regular time for the monthly meeting of the board, to canvass the returns of the election and declare the result, after which the affairs of the town will be turned over to the new town officers and the members of the various boards who hold over for another year.

Claude Goof was shot and killed by Joseph Goof, his cousin, at the latter's home in Greene county Monday night. It is claimed that the dead man made improper advances to the wife of Joseph Goof and angrily protested against the right of the husband to interfere and started to attack the husband.