

Has The Board Of Aldermen Kept Faith With The Public?

HAVE THEY BEEN TRUE TO THEMSELVES?

\$150,000 Bond-Issue Passed by General Assembly of 1913; \$130,000 to Be Used For Buying or Constructing Water Works Plant and Installing Sewerage System; \$20,000 to Be Used For Building Extension to Old Electric Light Plant. \$210,000 Has Already Been Expended.

ASK FOR \$30,000 ADDITIONAL BOND ISSUE

Prior to March, 1913, there was a great agitation in Washington for a new water plant, surveys were made, plans and specifications drawn, estimates submitted and the charter of the water company was declared revoked by the city.

There was some correspondence between the water company and the city officials, propositions and counter propositions were made with the result that nothing was done.

On March 3rd, 1913, Mayor C. H. Harding in a signed article published in the News says: "Estimates made by a competent engineer show that an entirely new plant properly installed under the direction of a competent engineer could be obtained for \$69,850.00." At that time there was an inclination among some of the city officials to install a new plant and thereby render valueless the plant which had been installed by private capital at a time when Washington needed a water supply and the city could not or would not erect a plant.

On April 1st, 1913, a call was issued for an election to vote \$150,000.00 in bonds to build an extension to the electric light plant and for water works and sewerage. The call for the election was as follows:

"NOTICE OF ELECTION"

Notice is hereby given to the citizens of the city of Washington, that at a meeting of the Board of Aldermen, held on the 31st day of March, 1913, an election for the City of Washington was ordered to be held in the various wards of the city on Monday, the 5th day of May, 1913, for the purpose of voting on the bond issue of \$150,000 dollars as provided for in an act of the General Assembly of North Carolina, at its session of 1913, entitled "An Act to authorize the City of Washington to issue bonds."

The funds arising from said bond issue will be used for the following purposes, to-wit:

(A) \$130,000 dollars will be used for the purpose of buying, building or constructing a water works plant and installing in the city of Washington a sewerage system.

(B) \$20,000 dollars will be used for the purpose of building an extension to the present Electric Light Plant.

At such election, those electors favoring the issue of bonds for the purpose of establishing a sewer system, and buying or building a water works plant, shall vote a ballot on which shall be written or printed the words: "For Sewerage, and Water Works," and such of said electors as shall be opposed to issuing bonds for the purpose of establishing a sewer system and buying or building a water works plant, shall vote a ballot on which will be written or printed the words: "Against Sewerage and Water Works," and such electors as shall favor the issuing of bonds for the purpose of extending, increasing, or adding to the present electric light plant, shall vote a ballot on which shall be written or printed the words: "For Extension of Electric Light Plant," and

such as shall oppose the issuing of bonds for said purpose, shall vote a ballot on which shall be written or printed "Against Extension of Electric Light Plant."

Resolution by Board of Aldermen.

Whereas the General Assembly of North Carolina, at its session of 1913, passed a law, authorizing and empowering the Board of Aldermen of the City of Washington to submit to the qualified voters of said city the question of issuing bonds for the following purposes, to-wit:

(A) The buying, building and construction of a water works plant, and a sewer system for said city.

(B) Adding an extension to the present Electric Light Plant.

And whereas said Board of Aldermen in their opinion think it for the best interest of said city that said election be called, so as to give the citizens of said city an opportunity to express their wishes in regard to said questions above set out:

Now, therefore, be it resolved by said Board of Aldermen in regular adjourned session held on the 31st day of March, 1913, that an election be called in the said city of Washington and the same is hereby ordered to be held on the first Monday in May, 1913, for the purpose of voting on the issuance of bonds in the amount and for the purpose herein declared, namely:

(A) The issuance of bonds in the sum of \$130,000 dollars, for the purpose of buying or building and constructing a Water Works Plant, and Sewer System in said city.

(B) The issuance of bonds in the sum of \$20,000 dollars for the purpose of building an extension to the Electric Light Plant.

This call was clear and specific; it left no room for doubt as to how the money was to be spent and separate tickets was voted for Electric light extension and for Sewerage and water.

In April, 1913, announcements were made for mayor and aldermen. Mr. Sterling and Mr. Kugler were the candidates for mayor and the charge was made against Sterling that if elected he and his board would purchase the old water plant. This was the only argument used against him and he was defeated with the promise by some of his opponents that they would not buy the old plant and that they would sewer the entire city.

The best evidence that the present board thoroughly understood how the \$150,000 bond issue was to be spent is contained in a statement signed by F. C. Kugler, Jno. G. Bragaw, Jr., M. T. Archbell, J. F. Buckman, C. G. Morris, R. L. Jones and E. B. Cossens, F. P. Whitley and F. J. Berry and published in the Daily News on April 28th, 1913. (This was after the primaries and the above named parties were declared the nominees and their election assured.) The article was addressed "To the Citizens of Washington," and the first paragraph thereof is as follows: "On May 5th, 1913, there will be submitted to the qualified voters of the city a proposition to is-

ssue bonds in the amount of \$130,000 for water works and sewerage and in the amount of \$20,000 for the extension of the present municipal electric plant."

There is no suggestion in this article that the money would not be spent as provided in the call for the election and they were urging the people to vote the bonds for the purpose as outlined above and had the money been so spent the city would have a complete water works and sewerage plant with \$69,850 less bonded indebtedness than it now has (this was forced on the people by the present city administration at the special session of the legislature of 1913 without any notice) and the city would not now be called upon to vote \$35,000 more to partly complete the work on which \$210,000 has already been expended and \$30,000 more wanted when it could have and should have been done for the original \$150,000.

The question will be asked how could it have been? Here are the figures: \$20,000 for extension to the electric light plant (this is all that was ever asked for before the election) \$69,850 for complete water plant as suggested by Mayor Harding's administration (some of whom are members of the present board), this would leave a balance of \$61,150 to be spent on sewers which would have been \$22,150 more than has been spent for sewerage up to the present time.

Soon as the election was over some of the board forgot the promises made to the people while endeavoring to secure their votes, and immediately began to work out plans whereby they could spend all the money which could be had from every source. Their charge to Mr. Sterling if elected would purchase the old water plant and that they would not was only the holdfast subterfuge and they never meant to live up to their statement. It was only political thunder which served its purpose. Negotiations were immediately begun for the purchase of the old water plant and were consummated at a price of \$55,000. The board could have taken the difference between \$55,000 and \$69,850 (the cost of a new plant) and have located a new water supply and made all necessary improvements to have put the plant in first class condition with a good supply of water.

There has been some attempt by some members of the board to shift the responsibility to the improvement committee. This is another rank subterfuge by such parties to relieve themselves of a predicament which to say the least is embarrassing. The improvement committee had absolutely nothing to do with apportioning the money which has been spent. There has been fixed amounts which were set aside by the Board of Aldermen, turned over to the improvement committee for specific purposes and the money has been spent by the committee as allotted by the board. For illustration out of the entire \$210,000 only

ELKS CHARITY VAUDEVILLE PLEASURES ALL

The Elks Charity Vaudeville and Extravaganza Company, for two and one-half hours, more than pleased the large audience which greeted their first performance at the New Theater last night.

The first act was the scene of a reception in front of the North Carolina building at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. Introducing Washington's favorite singers, dancers and comedians, Mr. S. H. Clary acted as interlocutor, and played the part like an old veteran. Z. Mill Potts, S. B. Forbes, Herman D. Carrow, and B. W. Taylor were guests of honor, and the principal fun makers of the evening, keeping the audience in a steady uproar by their antics and witty sayings.

The songs rendered during this set were all tuneful, the company joining in the choruses with a vim and snap, singing like professionals. Judging from the applause the two most popular were, "When You Wore a Tulip, etc." by Joe. W. Smith and "Virginia Lee," by Walter E. Beatty.

As the curtain went up on the Olio, R. W. Rose, the spic, introduced the bearded lady, cannibal, wild man, dope fiend and snake charmer with a vivid description of their history and peculiarities. C. J. Jones then appeared in pianoforte and was loudly applauded for his efforts. Experts of physical culture then displayed their prowess to the vast delight of the audience. B. W. Taylor and I. W. Hughes then appeared on the scene in a singing and talking act, furnished much of the amusement. An old fashioned "Mississippi Barbecue" was then attended by all, introducing the "Hambone Quartette," dancers and etc. Two "niggers" appeared and "shot up the place" and skipped, and the curtain fell on one of the best local productions seen here in many days.

The proceeds realized will go to the charity fund of the order, and the patronage given was pleasing to the committee in charge.

With a change of many songs, jokes and of the Olio, a second performance will be given tonight. The price of admission being 50c for seats in any part of the house for grown people, 25c for children. First to come, first served.

DANCING CLASS.

Miss Lizzie Hill will open her dancing class Wednesday, April 7th, in the Armory. Those wishing to join will please notify her. Dancing in the class will be one-step, hesitation, lame duck waltz, fox trot, and lulu fado. No spectators.

4-3-3p.
4-4-1p.

KODAK WORK.

Says Baker:—The amateur business has grown to be a big thing with us, so much so, we have installed a regular tank developing outfit. By this method we can handle a great deal more business with less trouble, and twenty-five per cent better results.

BAKER'S STUDIO.

\$39,000 was turned over to the improvement committee for sewerage and that amount has been or will be spent on the sewers, therefore the plea that the improvement committee has had the spending of the money is a rank attempt at deception.

You will be called upon to express your wishes at the primaries April 9th and you should do so in terms which can be unmistakable.

ALDERMEN IN SESSION ON MONDAY NIGHT

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Monday night at eight o'clock, Mayor Frank C. Kugler, presiding. Aldermen present: M. T. Archbell, J. G. Bragaw, Jr., J. F. Buckman, C. G. Morris, R. L. Jones, F. J. Berry, and F. P. Whitley.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved.

The clerk was instructed to investigate the claim of Warren Watkins, colored, for relief from taxes, and if claim was found to be just to refund same.

On motion the following named persons were appointed pollholders to serve at the election to be held on Monday, May 3:

First Ward—Caleb B. Bell and T. H. Davis.

Second Ward—W. R. Bright and F. T. Phillips.

Third Ward—Joe Harper, and E. F. Burbank, Jr.

Fourth Ward—John G. Latham and W. Y. Cole.

On motion Mr. J. B. Fowle was appointed to fill the unexpired term on the school board of Mr. E. K. Willis, deceased, in July, 1915.

It appearing to the Board that a bid of Mr. N. M. Berry being the lowest he was given the contract for furnishing feed for the city team for the month of April.

All vouchers as audited were ordered paid. The Board then adjourned.

ORGANIZATION OF COMPANY IS ADVOCATED

Mr. Editor—We notice from the News and Observer that Company of the Second Regiment, North Carolina National Guard, located at Wilson, N. C., has been recommended for disbandment by the Inspector General. The idea occurs to us that now would be a good time to organize another company here. In an interview with Col. W. C. Redman, commanding the Second Regiment he stated that he was not positive that a vacancy would occur at present but that if it did he would be greatly pleased that Washington should again furnish a company to the Regiment. Washington has a ways had a company from 1876 to about a year ago when the company was disbanded. I know that there is plenty of good material left of a company and with a competent man for captain we would have but little trouble in taking our place again in the guard. To establish such an organization here, it will have all things be necessary that the business men of the community give their undivided support and encouragement, by allowing their employees who wish to join, the necessary time to attend drills and appointments which are absolutely essential for the maintenance of an efficient company. Now is the time to get to work if the people of Washington wish a military company, for should a vacancy occur application should be made at once to the Adjutant General or some other town might get in ahead. There are other towns in the state with a population not half as large as Washington which maintain companies of 65 men the minimum demanded by the War Department. So let's get together and organize.

A CITIZEN.

NEW ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER PLANT OF CITY OF WASHINGTON IN OPERATION

For more than a week the city has received its supply of electricity from its new plant located on the Grimes property just west of the city.

With the completion of this plant Washington should have a plant which will take care of its requirements for several years to come.

The building is a two-story brick structure with concrete floors, both lower and upper and divided into rooms, the north end containing two boilers, each of the two boilers a horsepower and 500 horsepower.

The second floor is located the two Curtis Turbines, each having 750 horsepower capacity, under normal load and a maximum capacity of 1,000 horsepower each. These turbines will generate 500 kilowatts each, the maximum now used in the city is 250 kilowatts with an average load of 100 kilowatts. In addition to the turbines on this floor will be found the 2500 K. W. Curtis Turbine generators with all the usual and latest switchboards and all necessary auxiliaries, also an 18-ton movable crane is located on this floor. This crane is for the purpose of handling any part of the turbine when repairs become necessary.

In the south end of the building on the first floor is located the two water pumps with a capacity of 150 gallons each per minute.

On the second floor will be found the office and supply room. Adjoining the main building is located the filter for the city water supply, and the reservoir. To the uninitiated it will be rather interesting to inspect that part of the new plant and learn the process through which the water passes before it is turned into the mains of the city.

The reservoir is kept filled for use in cases of emergency and has a capacity of 500,000 gallons.

This plant has been commended upon by engineers from other sections as being one of the most complete in the South.

While the new plant is a great deal larger than the old one it is expected that the cost of operation will be from \$5.00 to \$8.00 per day less.

Samples of the water will be sent to the State Laboratory for examination and it found satisfactory it will be turned into the mains during the next week.

DAVIDSON IS MANAGED BY LOCAL BOY

Davidson College has announced its football schedule for next fall, which will doubtless prove of interest to many persons in this section. To those who have followed Davidson's athletic career it will be noticed that they have undertaken an hard schedule and make an unusually hard beginning. At the very outset they meet Washington and Lee in Lexington, Va., and follow this game the next week in a struggle with the strong Clemson aggregation, and the following Saturday meet Georgia Tech. at Atlanta.

Thos. D. Sparrow, son of Mr. Jno. B. Sparrow, cashier of the Savings and Trust Co., of this city, is manager of the football team and S. R. Fowle, Jr., son of Mr. S. R. Fowle of this city, was on the first string last year playing in most of the games and will doubtless find a regular position in the backfield next season.

In spite of the formidable teams the "Red and Black" will meet next year a successful season is anticipated. With the exception of the first three games and barring North Carolina and Wake Forest which come near the close of the season, the rest of the schedule will not be so difficult. Davidson defeated Wofford last year 31 to 6. The game with Furman was cancelled, but comparative success showed Davidson to be much the stronger team. Wake Forest defeated Roanoke College last fall and hence comparative scores would give Davidson an edge on the Virginia team.

Davidson has a number of Alumni in this section among whom are Mr. E. L. Johnson, principal of the Washington High School and several other Washington boys are at present matriculates at this well known institution.

The schedule is as follows:
Sept. 25—Washington and Lee at Lexington, Va.

Oct. 2—Clemson at Clemson, S. C.

Oct. 9—Georgia Tech at Atlanta.

Oct. 13—Wofford at Davidson.

Oct. 23—Roanoke College at Winston-Salem.

Oct. 26—Open.

Nov. 6—Furman at Davidson.

Nov. 13—North Carolina at Winston-Salem.

Nov. 25—Wake Forest at Charlotte.

GUEST OF MR. TAYLOR.

Mr. W. W. Leinster of Statesville is spending a few days with Mr. Joe Taylor. Mr. Leinster has been with Senator Simmons for the past ten years.

MINSTRELS NEW THEATRE ON FRIDAY

With everything new every season J. A. Coburn's Greater Minstrels has presented clean comedy, splendid singing and the latest and best in minstrelsy for many years. Always progressive and original, the new scenic novelties "The Palace of Neptune in the Land of the Nymphs" representing the deep sea home of Old King Neptune with its seashell grotesques, mermaids, sunken castles, ships and submarine vistas of aquatic life in old ocean's bed, is unique in the extreme as a stage picture for the presentation of modern minstrelsy. Beautiful costumes, and electrical effects, an all new company and strictly first class production stamp it as one of the best attractions of the season. The comedy element, the "fun-folks" headed by those supremely comical characters, Charley Gano and Nicodemus Glynn (of Al G. Fields Company), Vermond and Hellman, Strik and London and Tom Post from "Ole Virginia" comprise a corps of mirth provoking, care destroying entertainers which guarantee satisfaction. Lester Lucas, basso and interlocutor, William Church counter tenor, Joseph Maguire, robust baritone, and Justin McCarty, the Celtic tenor and Yodler, assisted by Geo. Baber, soprano, Archie Milton, tenor, rhapsodist, and J. W. Williamson baritone, and Adrian Arnold male alto furnish a male choir of exceptional merit and musical ability. Six big minstrel vaudeville specialties closing with a screaming farce satire "The Scating Mexicano" in which the entire company appear in grotesque burlesque and comedy characters, provide a most diversified and enjoyable program undoubtedly the best Manager Coburn has ever produced. Thirty people, band and orchestra. Don't miss this guaranteed attraction. Daily parades and band concerts. Don't forget the date, Friday, April 9th at the New Theater. Seats on sale at Worthy and Etheridge Drug Store Thursday morning.

New Theater

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