

SMALL'S BILL ON PILOTAGE GIVEN HEARING

BROUGHT UP BEFORE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON MERCHANT MARINE AND FISHERIES

IS IMPORTANT

Will Effect Every Coast City Between Florida and Virginia. Does Away With All Compulsory Pilotage on Barges.

Washington, Feb. 2.—Friends of the Small bill, which it passed will do away with compulsory pilotage for barges in tow of tugs, had what they termed a very successful hearing before the house committee on merchant marine and fisheries. The bill is of vital importance to Wilmington and all coast cities between Virginia and Florida. Mr. Small believes the bill will be adopted by both houses and that its passage will greatly stimulate and encourage barge shipping to eastern Carolina points.

Every seaboard state north of and including Virginia has abolished all compulsory pilotage on coastwise shipping of every kind. Congress more than 40 years ago passed a law exempting steamers from pilotage, leaving only schooners and barges. With the recent establishment of barge traffic from Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah and Jacksonville to New York, Baltimore and Philadelphia through the Norfolk-Bosport inlet waterway inside of Hatteras, it was found that each of these southern ports attempted to enforce compulsory pilotage on the barges in tow of the tugs, although the tugs were exempted under an act of Congress. As an illustration of the burden thus imposed, it may be stated that on a tow of these barges having a draft of between eight and nine feet, the charges in and out of Beaufort inlet amount to \$135. The charges at Wilmington, Savannah, Charleston and Jacksonville are substantially the same.

The barge traffic is in its infancy and there has been a well grounded fear that this unnecessary burden would operate in the discontinuance of these barges. There were present today at the hearing, and who advocated the bill, speakers from Philadelphia, Baltimore, Charleston and Savannah. Mayor Moore, of Wilmington, was also present.

Mr. Small also submitted resolutions in favor of the bill from the chambers of commerce of Norfolk, Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah and Jacksonville. There were general expressions to the effect that the hearing made a strong showing in favor of the bill. It was demonstrated by witnesses that state pilots on the barges rendered no service and were not necessary.

It has always been contended that the establishment of a free waterway inside of Cape Hatteras would develop a barge traffic between ports south of Hatteras and those north of Hatteras, and Mr. Small emphasized the great importance of encouraging this traffic, and insisted that it ought not to be throttled for the mere purpose of affording a revenue for the pilots.

The further hearing was continued

IMPORTANT CASE BEING TRIED

Involves 1,000 Acres of Land, Roper Lumber Co. Suing T. E. Allen. Being Tried Today.

An important suit, involving the title to more than 1,000 acres of land at the head of the Pungo river and in which nearly every resident of Pungo river section is interested in either as a party or witness, is being tried in Federal court today with Frank Bryan acting as referee. Mr. Bryan was appointed referee in the case by Judge Connor, Federal Judge.

The suit is that of the John L. Roper Lumber Co. vs. T. E. Allen. The hearing will probably take three or four days. The law firm of Small, MacLean, Bragaw & Rodman is representing the plaintiff; while Wilford Whitley, Ward & Grimes, Daniel & Warren, John Paul and Harry McMullan are representing the defendant.

308 INQUIRIES ABOUT BONDS

Have Been Received Since Election Last Month. Believed Bonds Will Sell Above Par.

Three hundred and eight inquiries regarding the Washington Town ship good roads bonds, have been received by County Attorney Lindsay Warren since the election was carried a month ago. From the number of inquiries and the fact that the bond market is in particularly good condition at the present time, it is not believed that the county commissioners will have any trouble in selling the bonds next Monday, when they will meet for that purpose.

It is also believed that the bonds will be sold above par. Due to the fact that bonds of this kind are exempt from the Federal income tax, they are even more desirable than railroad bonds.

BIG WHITE SALE WILL BEGIN ON TOMORROW

Many Bargains in "White Goods" Being Offered at Store of James E. Clark.

On another page of today's issue, James E. Clark is advertising the opening of the annual white sale of that store, which will begin tomorrow. A great number of exceptional values will be offered during this sale. A few of these are being published in their advertisement.

W. C. T. U. MEETING.

The W. C. T. U. will meet tomorrow afternoon at four o'clock with Mrs. O. B. Carmalt. Members are requested to bring their annual dues (seventy-five cents) with them. Several important matters will be brought up for discussion and it is earnestly hoped that every member will make an effort to be present.

until next Tuesday, the 8th instant, at which time additional evidence will be presented in favor of the bill, add also by the pilots who oppose the bill.



MUCH COMMENT OVER THE OYSTER SITUATION

The condition of the oysters which are being brought into Washington is causing considerable comment on the part of those citizens who have watched the loads that the boats are bringing in. One man stated this morning that there were four boats in port and that three of these boats ought to be sent back to the oyster rocks and be made to throw their cargoes overboard. He added that at the rate the oystermen were going at present, it would not be long before the oyster beds would be entirely depleted.

GROUND HOG IS UNABLE TO SEE HIS SHADOW TODAY

Today is Ground Hog day—not the kind of ground hog that goes into sausages, but the animal which also is known by the name of woodchuck. Tradition has it that if the ground hog comes out of its winter quarters—which quarters consist of a hole in the ground—and see its shadow on the ground today, the animal will have a stroke of apoplexy, neuralgia, grippe, whooping cough, or some other malady which will necessitate its staying in its before-mentioned place of residence for the balance of the winter.

J. H. McMULLAN JR. RAPS CONGRESSMAN JOHN SMALL

Candidate for Office of Postmaster at Edenton Believes Injustice Has Been Done HITS AT BOTH SMALL AND McLEAN

The following letter was written by J. H. McMullan, Jr., of Edenton, regarding the appointment of Mr. Bond as postmaster of that city. Mr. McMullan himself was a candidate for that office and claims to have been endorsed by the big majority of Mr. Small's constituents in the Edenton district.

NEW THEATRE TO-NIGHT Lubin presents 'Voices from the Past' 3 reel feature 3 reel presents 'Between Matinee & Night' 1 reel Biograph presents 'From the Shadow' 1 reel Prices 5 & 10

WHEN YOU WANT TO FIND A TENANT If your vacant property is desirable—if it is the best place for some family to live, or the best place for some man to conduct his business—then it is "rentable."

BOWLING LEAGUE TO BE FORMED A meeting of bowling enthusiasts of the city will be held at the Monarch alley on Market street tomorrow evening at 8:30 o'clock.

bowling and who desire to secure a place on the teams that will be formed tomorrow night, are requested to be at the meeting promptly at 8:30 o'clock.