

TELEPHONE MERGERS WARM AND INTERESTING

Manager Gentry, of the Bell, Spoke to Aldermanic Committee and Citizens' Meeting but Did Not Convince

Committee Appointed to See if Another Company Will Take Field Here at Present Rates—Incidental Fight

There was a meeting in the court room yesterday afternoon which lasted more than three hours, in reference to the proposed merger of the Bell and Asheville Telephone companies in Asheville.

It was the meeting which was authorized by the board of aldermen at its Friday night meeting, and it began under control of the mayor and board of aldermen sitting as a committee of the whole, under the aldermanic resolution, but soon became a citizens' meeting with a chairman of its own, and a resolution was passed and a committee was appointed to confer with the aldermen in reference to the telephone situation.

Mayor Rawls called the committee to order and said that it met as the committee of the aldermen as a whole to hear suggestions from the citizens as to the telephone proposition and wanted all the information it could get. He said the franchise would be read if anyone wished it; no one calling for the mayor said the committee would hear amendments or suggestions. Mr. Lipinsky said Mr. W. T. Gentry, vice-president and general manager of the Bell, was present. The mayor said he would be glad to hear from Mr. Gentry or anyone else. Mr. H. Taylor Rogers said that the franchise did not contain a clause specifying rates as the proposition for the merger did. Mr. S. R. Kepler said that the original contract ought to be read, so the people should know what rights the companies had and what the trouble had.

Mr. Carter, attorney for the merger, said that the proposition or proposed contract ought to be read, so the people should know what rights the companies had and what the trouble had. Mr. Carter said that the franchise allowed the use of the streets, etc., to the new company. He said before the aldermen consented to the franchise they should fix the rights and liabilities; that the franchise should specify and refer to the contract. J. D. Murphy asked what the total capital bonded indebtedness of the new company would be. "Why, \$135,000 stock and \$20,000 bonds," said Mr. Carter, "and the Bell \$40,000 and ten thousand dollars more in stock for cash advanced—total \$200,000. On the present company's stockholders will sell \$17,500 of stock to be issued to the Bell," Mr. Rogers moved that Mr. Gentry be heard.

Mr. Gentry said he did not know what point to discuss; that he had read the papers and noted that people were for and against it. He understood that the meeting was for the purpose of hearing from citizens and that he was to answer any questions; but he had not heard many objections and did not know what to say therefore. He suggested that when the franchise was read questions might be suggested and he would be glad to talk afterwards on the general situation. Mr. Murphy asked what should be the net income from an exchange having 600 phones at \$40 and 600 at \$24. Mr. Gentry said this was an average of \$24 and that this should pay operating expenses, but leave nothing for profit. The cost of such an exchange could be \$75,000 or \$300,000. One like that at Norfolk, underground, would be high, so would an underground system in Asheville. At Raleigh it would be. With close management such an exchange might make 4 or 5 per cent, but he didn't think so, and capitalists would not lend on it.

"How deep underground would cables be?" said Mr. Chambers. "From 3 to 10 feet," said Mr. Gentry. "Why \$10?" asked Mr. Chambers. "Because of the contour of the ground, sewers, water lines, etc.; 4 feet was the average." In answer to Mr. Murphy, Mr. Gentry asked Mr. Clarke to state the relative number of business and residence phones. The statement was: 392 business phones in business district, 454 residence phones, 5 phones at \$20, 7 phones at \$40, 15 phones at \$12, 1 phone at \$60, 21 Bell phones, 27 phones at \$20, 27 phones at \$36, 7 phones at \$18, 23 phones at \$6, a total of 991 phones. This in round numbers is 400 business phones at \$24 a year.

The full revenue would be \$19,430; toll line receipts are estimated at \$600 a year; total, \$20,030. "This includes all toll lines but not the Hendersonville exchange, which was small," said Mr. Carter.

Mr. Proctor said there were 112 miles of toll lines. He said to Mr. Chambers that the cost was \$80 to \$100 per mile. \$2,000 was donated for this line, Mr. Proctor said.

Mr. Gentry said that with aerial construction a fair profit could be made at \$24 and \$40, such as the present plant here. He said that he was at Norfolk three weeks ago; the Southern States Telephone company came before the board, rates \$28 and \$35, and submitted a suggestion that it could not make expenses at this rate, and the board granted a raise.

Mr. Murphy then asked about 600 or 400 phones; what money could such a plant make. "I am inclined to think that company," said Mr. Gentry, "at these rates, \$30 and \$40, or I would not put \$48,000 in it," said Mr. Gentry. Mr. Randolph read the proposed contract between the Asheville Telephone company and the Bell Telephone company, and the board of trade, to be executed on the passage of the franchise. This contract bound the company to charge for five years not over \$24 and \$40 for phones for local service, provided the company did not have to reconstruct its plant in that time. A schedule attached showed these rates, including the duplex service for business houses at \$3 a month and for residences \$1.50 for phones. Mr. Gentry said that the company did not have to reconstruct its plant in that time. A schedule attached showed these rates, including the duplex service for business houses at \$3 a month and for residences \$1.50 for phones. Mr. Gentry said that the company did not have to reconstruct its plant in that time. A schedule attached showed these rates, including the duplex service for business houses at \$3 a month and for residences \$1.50 for phones.

An American Woman Heads Unique Exploration Party



Several expeditions have attracted more general interest than the Mount Sorata expedition which has left New York in an attempt to scale the summit of an Andean peak never before reached by man. The most unique feature of the undertaking, apart from its scientific interest, is the fact that a woman is at the head of the party. Miss Anna S. Peck, a mountain climber of repute, leads the group. Her chief lieutenant is Professor W. G. Tlight, of the University of New Mexico. The peak to be scaled is Mount Sorata, 25,000 feet above the sea level. A pigmy city, believed to be in the locality, is also to be sought for. The party has already sailed about July 10th. This will be the starting point. From thence the explorers will plunge inland and it will be several months before anything is heard from them.

TWO WIDELY DIFFERENT VIEWS OF RACE QUESTION ARE PRESENTED

BY A WHITE MAN AND A NEGRO

LAWLESSNESS REAPS CRIME

Level Headed Address by Booker T. Washington

Before an Immense Audience at Louisville, Ky.

DEALS WITH THE RACE QUESTION IN A MOST COMMENDABLE MANNER.

Louisville, Ky., July 2.—Before an immense audience Booker T. Washington, head of the Tuskegee Institute, tonight delivered an address. He said that recent regrettable events in connection with the race question, went to show that lynch law is not confined to any one section of the country. These events, he said, tend to simplify the race problem by making it national. He appealed to the negro to be calm and to exercise self control.

Among other speakers was W. H. Lewis, assistant district attorney of Massachusetts, who was appointed several months ago, by President Roosevelt.

Principal Washington said in part: "In the present season of anxiety and almost despair, which possesses an element of the race, there are two things I wish to say, as strongly as I may: "First, let no man of the race become discouraged or hopeless. There are in this country, North and South, men who mean to see that justice is meted out to the race. Such a man is Judge Jones of Alabama, to whom more credit should be given for blotting out the infamous system of peonage than to any other man."

"Second, let us keep before us the fact that, almost without exception, every race or nation that has ever got upon its feet, have done so through struggle and trial and persecution. "No one should seek to close his eyes to the fact that the race is passing through a very serious and trying period of its development, a period that calls for the use of our ripest thought and sober judgment. "Let nothing lead us into extremes

HANGED HERSELF AND HER CHILDREN

PREVIOUS TO THIS SHE PROBABLY ATTEMPTED TO POISON HER HUSBAND.

Rochester, N. Y., July 2.—A terrible tragedy occurred tonight in the village of Leroy, when Mrs. Wm. Baxter hanged herself and two children, Goodson, aged eight years and Gladys, aged three. When the husband returned to the house at six o'clock, he could not get in. He waited for some time, then broke in a window and searched the house. In an unfinished attic over the kitchen, reached by a ladder, he saw hanging side by side from the rafters his wife and two children.

WANTS NEGROES FOR CONGRESS

Senator Hopkins, of Illinois, Makes Uncalled For Address With Reference to Negro Problem in the South

INDULGES IN STATEMENTS THAT ARE AN INSULT TO EVERY TRUE SOUTHERNER.

Chicago, July 2.—Retaliation against the Southern states that have disfranchised negroes, was urged last night by United States Senator Albert J. Hopkins, of Illinois. Senator Hopkins was one of the speakers at a meeting called to condemn the action of the persons who took part in the Belleville, Illinois, lynching. He denounced the lynchings in strong terms and then discussed the negro question.

"In my eighteen years of service in congress it has been my pleasure to remark the ability of a score of negro congressmen, who represented at one time the states of Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana," he said.

"It is a shame and a disgrace to these states that there are no longer men of color in their congressional delegations. It is a shame to the nation that the hewers of wood and the drawers of water in those states are not represented by men of their own class, and until public sentiment shall be aroused and these states return negroes to congress, it will continue to be a disgrace to the people of the United States."

OSBORNE WAS CAPTURED

May Have Been Lynched Between Indian Trail and Monroe

Charlotte, N. C., July 2.—John Osborne, the negro who committed a criminal assault on Mrs. Lizzie Wentz, a white woman aged sixty years, at her home in Union county, last Sunday, was captured at Indian Trail today. The negro was arraigned before a magistrate who committed him to jail at Monroe. Officers started out with him for that place tonight at 7 o'clock. The route is over a country road, ten miles, and up to 1 o'clock this morning, the prisoner had not reached Monroe.

CLOSE OF EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION THIS MOON

AMERICAN CARS WERE TO LIGHT

Member of German Team Won the Bennett Cup

Moers and Winston Both Failed to Finish

EXCESSIVE LIGHTNESS OF AMERICANS' CARS CAUSED VERY POOR SHOWING.

Bally Shannon, July 2.—The international automobile race for the James Gordon Bennett cup was run today and won by Jenaty, a member of the German team, who covered the distance of 370 miles in six hours, 36 minutes, and 9 seconds, including the stops imposed by the regulations. Two members of the French team ran each other so close for second place that it will not be known until Friday whether De Kniff or Farman is entitled to the honors. Only one minute divided them. It is thought likely that De Kniff's claim to second place will be upheld.

The most remarkable features of the race were its practical immunity from serious accidents and the wretched showing by the American team. At Bally Shannon, which is the headquarters for the race, no news had been received tonight of any one being injured, except one of the contestants, the English creek Jarrott, and his chauffeur, Jarrott had a miraculous escape from death and now lies with a broken collar bone, besides a broken leg. Both, however, are doing well. The accident occurred through the steering gear of the favorite English car getting out of order when going at full speed. Instead of turning a corner the automobile ran straight into the bank at the side of the road and was smashed in twain. How the occupants escaped death is more than they themselves can explain. Stokes, another Englishman, had his car disabled through the same cause, but was not hurt.

Baron De Caters, after making a splendid drive, broke the axle of his car, and Polish Keene retired because of a similar accident.

Moers and Winston, of the American team, both failed to finish, owing to derangement in the mechanism of their cars, and Owen, the third member of the team, only completed five out of the seven laps of the race. Thus only five out of twelve starters completed the course. One of these, Edge, the holder of the cup, came in long after the race was officially declared over.

The poor showing of the American competitors is generally attributed to the excessive lightness of their cars. All the arrangements for the race worked well, and the Irish peasants ought to be once more venturing on the roads though with fearful eye and keen ears for the motors as they come down the hill of Kildare. The Frenchmen received some consolation in not getting the cup, by gaining the prize offered by the Hon. J. Scott-Montague, M. P., to the team whose members all finished.

The general opinion expressed by the British authorities, including the Earl of Mayo, and Henry Norman, M. P., is that the race was the most successful ever run and is likely to do much to remove the antagonism towards similar contests and motors in general.

FAITHFUL SAILOR DROWNED AT SEA

SAD AFFAIR MARS THURSDAY'S TRIAL RACE OF AMERICA'S CUP DEFENDER.

Newport, R. I., July 2.—This afternoon for the first time in the history of American yachting, a fatal accident occurred. Carl H. Olson, a seaman on the old-cup defender Columbia and one of the best men in the crew, was washed from the bowsprit just before the yacht reached the first turn in today's race and was drowned. Two other men who were on the bowsprit with Olson, snatching the big jib topsail on sail, were washed in board by the same sea that swept him away. Both managed to get another hold on the bowsprit and were quickly hoisted on deck by the crew. When the Columbia lifted from the big waves into which she had plunged Olson was seen almost at the stem, clinging to the bowsprit but before assistance could be given him, the sloop dipped into another great comer and he was not seen afterward.

Captain Miller of the Columbia is of the opinion that Olson was struck by the overhang of the craft as it came smashing down and knocked insensible. He was a good swimmer and the fact that he did not reappear after the yacht had swept over him, causes the belief that he sank immediately after being hit by the bow. Every effort was made to rescue the sailor without avail. Mr. Morgan gave up the search with reluctance and out of respect for the dead man, withdrew from the race and headed back to Newport.

There will be no more racing for the three big sloops until they start on the New York Yacht club's cruise.

Professor Francis P. Venable Was Elected President at Last Night's Session

Important Action Looking to Increasing Attendance at Future Conventions

This morning's session will close the convention of the Southern Educational association. Though the attendance has been small the interest has been great and the passage of the resolution at the night session is intended to bring better results at the next convention which will probably be held at St. Louis next year. The resolution was the result of the appointment of the committee for the good of the association and represents its ideas for improving the attendance and reawakening general interest among Southern teachers. A manager for each state will be appointed by President Nicholson, and the executive committee which will be appointed this morning will select a time for the next convention which will not conflict with other meetings. These managers and the executive committee are expected to put force behind the association. It is no secret that there has been a sentiment by some which favors a limited convention to represent the Southern teachers and differences on this subject have injured the association. The advocates of a popular convention, drawing together as many teachers as possible, have, however, prevailed in this convention.

The election of Professor Francis P. Venable, president of the University of North Carolina, as president of the association is a compliment to North Carolina. The retiring president, Col. J. W. Nicholson, has endeavored himself to the delegates as a fine representative of the old type of Southern gentleman, and his address is regarded as a beautiful and thoughtful one.

Morning Session

The morning session of the convention of the Southern Educational association was devoted to the reading and discussing of papers of unusual importance. The interest shown by the audience must have been extremely gratifying to the speakers.

Dr. Charles C. Thach, president of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, referred to this interest when he said that ordinarily newspapers paid but little attention to the discussions at the conventions, but the Asheville papers gave exceptional reports of the convention's proceedings, for which the thanks of the convention were due them.

Prof. T. P. Harrison of Davidson discussed the requirements in the study of English for admission to colleges.

Prof. Harrison said that about 25 years ago there was almost no one in this country or in England whose sole function it was to teach English. Now there is a change and English is a recognized study. John Hopkins brought from Germany his methods of modern language teaching and Harvard followed. The middle states of the west first adopted as a requisite for admission to its colleges examinations in English. But a great deal is yet to be said on the requirements in English for admission to colleges. But such a standard should not be unalterable and the scope and nature of requirements are undetermined and the interpretations of these requirements require further study. What is the aim, scope, method and interpretation of these requirements? A first glance at these entrance requirements show that the chief attention of the teacher of the high school was intended to be directed to the books suggested for the proper reading—English, by those who made the requirements. But the authors intended the study not simply the reading. Attention must be more directed to the primary study of English—arrangement of sentences and words, paragraphing, spelling and understanding of composition. It is because of neglect of primaries, a question whether there has been an advance in English study. Specimen examination papers are used by many teachers as a basis and the scholar is drilled to answer these and like questions—a mechanical process. Equivalents for the books in the prescribed list should be allowed. The teacher must have a love for English study, of literature. Some are born with this love, but they are few. A college president said that boys generally had as much love for literature as a swine. But I think that most boys can be led to a love of literature, but the teacher himself must have this love.

The neglect of composition by reason of attention to English literature, requires attention.

The scope of English study is threefold: 1. Knowledge of its literature. 2. Study of the language in its relation to other languages of the Aryan group. 3. The power of the language to express thought. The history of the language is a valuable aid to the teacher, but this belongs to the college. The interpretation of the thought of the fields in which there is the greatest deficiency of students coming to college. This department is not emphasized. We have reacted too far and neglected the fundamental teaching of a boy the proper interpretation of a written page. "Understand that what thou readest" Ask a boy to put the thought of a sentence in his own words and you will see his failure to comprehend. Exact study dispels half truths. Accuracy, strict interpretation needs more study. The power of communicating ideas to others is generally lacking. Ask a man in a city the way to a certain place; not one in a dozen can give the way. He can only say, "I am sure that he sank immediately after being hit by the bow. Every effort was made to rescue the sailor without avail. Mr. Morgan gave up the search with reluctance and out of respect for the dead man, withdrew from the race and headed back to Newport.

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NEWS SUMMARY

LOCAL

N. M. T. A. and S. M. T. A. elected officers for the ensuing year.

Meeting to discuss the proposed telephone merger was a torrid affair; a fight was a feature.

Values in Asheville's personal property assessments rose a half million during the past twelve months.

Dr. Karl von Ruck donated the \$400 necessary to complete the local Y. M. C. A. gym.

Oliver Gideon took poison for a queer reason.

Educational association will conclude its session today.

GENERAL

Two entirely different views of the racial question in the South are presented, one by a negro the other by a white man.

German won the Bennett automobile cup, Americans not showing in the race.

In the Thursday trial race one of the faithful members of the Columbia's crew was drowned.

NATIONAL

Apparently, the gap between the United States and Russia is widening, although officials are straining themselves to make the situation appear natural.

STATE

Only \$100,000 was lost in the fire at Greenville, N. C., Thursday morning, instead of \$200,000 as first reported.

Four new rural delivery routes are to be established in Mecklenburg county this month. They will serve three thousand people and cause the discontinuance of fourteen county postoffices.