

MERCHANTS ARE HIGHLY ELATED

Freight Rate Victory Stirs Convention of State's Merchantmen.

Greensboro, June 23.—With two business sessions during the day at which the officers of the North Carolina Merchants' Association will be elected for the new year and the convention city of 1922 chosen, the annual convention of the merchants will adjourn tonight after hearing Dr. D. W. Daniels, notable orator of Clemson College.

The sessions of the convention Thursday were filled with interesting speakers and lively discussions. The merchants were greatly rejoiced at the news of the State's victory in the freight rate controversy and many references were made to the triumph as it would reflect itself in the merchandising business of North Carolina in the future.

President Andreas Burkhard, of the National Association of Retail Clothiers, made the opening address at the morning session.

The first big question which Mr. Burkhard took up was transportation, which he declared has grown more and more inefficient as production has increased. He gave the alibi used to explain this contradictory principle in modern life. People said the railroads had been exploited, that government control had destroyed private initiative, that labor had become a disintegrating force. He was perfectly willing to see that "the railroad stock exchange had absorbed water to the limit," but for all that, the remedy is not visible.

Freight rates have become prohibitive and production lays a greater burden on transportation which he regards the paramount issue before the merchants. He saw no hope immediately, save through the "resort to government ownership, but never commerce is readily possible."

But even then he warned the dealers that they will have their troubles. The railroads are there in danger of congressional legislation which may nullify the natural gains made in the construction of this canal. If tolls are made so high that water hauls are unprofitable the very canal is defeated.

He addressed himself then to the Federal trade commission's attack on the retailers. He told the association that he would personally appear before President Harding and Secretary Herbert Hoover to put the retailers' case before them. He read from telegrams and interviews which he had given in answer to those who censured the retailers for blocking trade.

He set himself right on the labor question, asserted the right of labor to organize and bargain collectively; but he attacked what he denominated the un-Americanism of the Amalgamated Clothing division of labor "who know this country only as a meal ticket." He brazenly world bigots he called them and gave a long soliloquy between Hilman, the head of the organization and United States senators seeking to know something of the organization's purposes. He had a few remarks to make on the college and parlor talker. He warned the people against that inbred opinion of Americans that are invincible and that no dangers can come to this great country from the wretched dogmas of the old world.

At this juncture President Peters left the chair and turned the meeting over to the Merchants Mutual Fire Insurance company.

This lively youngster had a sizeable time for an hour. J. Frank Morris, of Winston-Salem, presided and Paul

Leonard, of Statesville, read the secretary's report. The company has \$509,400 insurance in force, with \$93,100 of re-insurance, leaving the total at \$602,500. It has assets amounting to \$30,801.64 and cash on hand, in United States Bonds of deposits and \$5,812.06. It had a net gain in assets amounting to \$6,210.26. There was a gain in new insurance amounting to \$101,400 for last year.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Mr. Leonard told how the big Northwest greatest of them all, is seeking to come here. This insurance company yesterday looked to be the pepperiest thing of them all. The latter paragraphs of the secretary's report support the suspicion:

"Our present reinsurance arrangements, perfected through the Mutual Insurance Agency of Washington with some of the largest and most successful mutual companies in the country, individual risks and give the company volume to make it profitable. These reinsurance arrangements without increasing its own liability above our limit of \$2,000 on any risk. These reinsurance arrangements were made by the president and secretary before the close of our last fiscal year, and were approved by the directors at their January meeting. They have been in operation since January 1. Our largest individual policy in force is \$10,000, of which \$8,000 is re-insured in two large companies.

"Considering the shrinkage in inventory values and the general cancellation of insurance, the Merchants Mutual is to be congratulated on its record of only \$8,500 cancellations during the year, from all causes. And it is considered quite remarkable by insurance men that our losses have amounted to only \$32.69, including adjustment expenses.

"What the company needs to make it the big company it is due to be, is volume of business. We have certain fixed expenses, such as license fees, taxes, etc., and the dividends on the guaranty fund, which will not increase with the increase in volume of business, but which are a heavy drain on the company with its present small volume. If all members of the Merchants' association, to whom policyholders are limited, would give their business during the coming year, even with average losses, we would show big earnings a year hence. The manner in which some members are supporting the company is highly commendable, but there are many, even a few guarantors, who have not given the company any business whatever."

"The secretary believes the payment of a 10 per cent dividend on premiums of policies expiring during the present year is warranted, and would be the means of greatly increasing our volume, and the declaration of such a dividend by our directors is recommended. It is also recommended that our by-laws be changed so that this dividend may be issued by check instead of credit on renewal."

CONVENTION COMMITTEES.

President Morris advertising to the enforced absence of C. F. Nesbit, of Washington, and former superintendent of insurance for the District of Columbia, suggested some later dates for this authority and he will make these speeches in the state. A telegram was sent Mr. Nesbit offering sympathy in the serious illness of his son. A long letter was read from him on insurance. The following committees were then announced:

Credentials committee—A. Nichols, Asheville; Bernard Allsbrook, Scotland Neck; R. W. Miller, Charlotte.

Auditing committee—L. B. Whitted, Burlington; W. S. Reich, Elkin; C. H. McKnight, Greensboro; J. O. Temple, Kinston; W. E. Wilkinson, Mebane.

Constitution and by-laws—Cyrus Hogue, Wilminton; J. D. Foster, Tarboro; H. C. Joyner, Rocky Mount; B.

F. Roark, Charlotte; W. H. Morrison, Statesville.

Ways and means—Elmer R. Oettinger, Wilson; S. P. Burton, Asheville; L. B. Markham, Durham; R. L. Poston, Statesville; W. E. Linebach, Winston-Salem.

Resolutions—F. E. Griffith, Winston-Salem; J. E. Dye, Charlotte; Mrs. Mayme Moore Sifford, Charlotte; B. E. Harris, Concord; A. A. Joseph, Goldsboro.

Nominating—J. N. McCausland, Charlotte; J. Frank Morris, Winston-Salem; W. A. Bulluck, Rocky Mount; W. W. Morrison, Greensboro; Geo. J. Starr, Wilson.

MEETING OF EPWORTH LEAGUERS IS ENDED

Morganton, June 23.—The Epworth League conference which has been in session here for two days closed Wednesday night after the election of officers.

W. W. Edwards, of Asheville, was re-elected president; B. L. Lunsford, of Marion, was chosen vice-president; Miss Louise Wilson, of Morganton, secretary; P. L. Plyler, of Fastonk, treasurer; Miss Mary Belle Unberger, of Concord, Era agent; Rev. J. F. Armstrong, of Concord, editor. Address the page; Miss Grace Bradley, of Asheville, field secretary; Miss Gertrude Pals, of Charlotte, junior superintendent, and Rev. L. A. Falls, of Charlotte, superintendent of life work department.

The day's program opened with sunrise prayer meeting conducted by Rev. J. Q. Ervin, of Sparta. Mrs. Ira Askew, of Asheville, led the devotional at the morning session after which a mass of business, including the election of officers, was entered upon.

In the afternoon reports from Miss Grace Bradley, of Asheville, and Miss Gertrude Pals, of Charlotte, on the work of the junior leagues, were listened to with much interest. Mrs. H. M. Stafford, of Glendale, conducted the afternoon devotional service.

For the close of the conference Dr. E. K. McLarty, of Asheville, conducted a very impressive consecration service. This followed a pageant that was well presented by a large number of the leaguers.

Charlotte, Rutherford College and North Wilkesboro extended invitations for next year's meeting but North Wilkesboro won and the next conference goes there.

FREAK HOG SHOWN AT HIGH POINT

High Point, June 23.—Morris C. Parfield, a disabled soldier of Mount Olive, brought to High Point a freak hog that the manager of any circus would be tickled to get. Mr. Parfield is traveling with the animal in an automobile truck from place to place, exhibiting it to hundreds of persons. Those who saw the hog today went away to tell their friends what a wonderful animal they had seen.

It is a Red Duroc Jersey sow perfect in every respect except for the fact that it has no hind legs, not even a sign of them and no tail. One of the most marvelous things about the animal is that it moves from place to place with as much ease as the hog possessing four limbs, walking on its two front feet like a duck, waddling a bit. The hog was raised near Clinton, Sampson county, is 13 months old and weighs 105 pounds. It is in good flesh and apparently perfect health.

Mr. Parfield was a member of the 30th division in the World war. He charges an admission price of 10 cents for children, while grown-ups are admitted for 15 cents. The hog will probably be kept on exhibition for several days on the lot opposite the postoffice.

IVEY'S

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From a whole Storeful of attractive merchandise, we have selected the following Items---Specially Priced for Today's Selling---as being representative of many other values to be secured here

Pretty Dotted Swiss 89c Yard

In light and dark shades, and in pretty color combinations is this group of the Summer's most popular fabric. Values to \$2.00 at the yd 89c



\$2.25 Pretty House Aprons, \$1.79

You'll find one or more of these pretty Aprons very convenient and you'll like the pretty materials and styles. \$2.00 and \$2.50 values at **\$1.79**

Fancy Embroidered Organdies, \$1.29 Yard

Sheer, lovely organdies, in pretty color combinations that are very effective when made into summer frocks. Per yard just **\$1.29**

\$15.00 Summer Frocks, \$7.95

Of course you'll be delighted with an opportunity to purchase so inexpensively a frock of gingham, voile or organdie in just the style that you're needing now for warm weather wear. For, just think **\$7.95** they're only

New Summer Gowns \$1.89

A big lot of Plume Brand Gowns, made of fine batistes and Crepes, in both white and flesh. Special values for one day only **\$1.89**

Imported Colored Organdies 88c Yard

All wanted colors in a sheer, pretty quality of imported Organdie. Special at the yard **88c**

Dainty Patterns In New Summer Voiles 49c Yard

Light and dark patterns in dainty Fancy Voiles—just the thing from which to make a cool, summery frock for warm days. A real value at only the yard **49c**

\$6.00 Attractive Georgette Blouses, \$3.95

Attractive Georgette Blouses, in elaborate modes that are as pretty as they are smart. And they're real \$6.00 values—marked for today at just **\$3.95**

\$3.50 Boys' Rompers \$2.69

Ideal for playtime are these attractive new Rompers of Chambray and Peggy Cloth. They are \$3.00 and \$3.50 values, marked **\$2.69** for tomorrow at

\$3.50 Children's Gingham Frocks, \$2.79

Sizes 2 to 14 years in attractive Gingham Frocks that are ideal for summer wear. Regular \$3.00 and \$3.50 values at **\$2.79**

\$6.00 and \$8.00 Tubable White Skirts \$3.95

White gaberdine and tricotine skirts, in pretty styles that you'll surely like. Why not purchase one now, while they are marked at such a low price? You'll find one convenient all through the summer.

SALE OF COLUMBIA RECORDS AT 69c

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COLUMBIA RECORDS 69c

Regular prices, \$1.00 and 85c--To close out our Columbia Records we are offering them at the very special price of **69c Each**

J. B. Ivey & Co.

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