

Goldsboro Semi-Weekly Argus.

\$1.00 a Year.

"This Argus o'er the people's rights
Doth an eternal vigil keep;

No soothing strains of Maia's son
Shall lull its hundred eyes to sleep."

\$1.00 a Year

VOL. XXIV

GOLDSBORO, N. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1909.

NC. 83

A GREATER GOLDSBORO Board of City Aldermen Grant Franchise for Modern Gas Plant.

A Great Stride Forward for the City's
Physical Development and the
Greater Convenience of
Housekeepers.

From Thursday's Daily.

Goldsboro made a great stride forward last night when our progressive and sagacious board of city aldermen negotiated a gas plant franchise whereby the city is to have within the coming year a modern gas plant, commensurate not only for the present demands of the city, but for those of forty years to come.

The construction of this plant, which is to be completed and in full operation within a year, means the expenditure in Goldsboro, in its physical construction alone of at least one hundred thousand dollars of outside capital, and this cannot be done without consequent large development in various avenues of enterprise that will make speedily and permanently for a Greater Goldsboro.

The personnel of the men who are behind this franchise is ample guarantee that the movement is no mere speculation, but is a bona-fide enterprise that will within the year be a tangible reality.

Here is the full text of the franchise as enacted by the board of aldermen at their adjourned meeting last night:

AN ORDINANCE.

Granting to William M. Crane F. H. Sawyer and L. I. Moore, their associates, successors and assigns, for the full term of forty years from the date hereof, the right to erect, use, maintain and operate gas works in the City of Goldsboro, State of North Carolina, and for this purpose to use the streets, alleys, sidewalks, avenues and highways of said City of Goldsboro for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and operating a gas plant, and to locate, maintain and repair pipes, mains, conduits and service connections in and upon said streets, alleys, sidewalks and avenues in said City of Goldsboro.

Be it ordained by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Goldsboro, State of North Carolina:

Section 1. That permission and authority is hereby granted to William M. Crane, of the city of New York, State of New York; F. H. Sawyer and L. I. Moore, of the city of New Bern, State of North Carolina, their associates, successors, heirs and assigns (hereinafter called the grantees) to establish, construct, maintain and operate a system for the manufacture and distribution of gas for public and private use in the City of Goldsboro, State of North Carolina, for fuel, power and illuminating purposes, and to erect all necessary buildings, holders and other machinery for the purpose of the manufacture and distribution of gas to said city; and for that purpose the aforesaid grantees, their associates, successors, heirs and assigns are hereby granted permission to use the streets, alleys, roads, avenues and public places within the corporate limits of said city as same may be now incorporated or may hereafter be during the continuation of this ordinance be extended, for the purpose of placing, replacing, taking up, repairing and installing gas mains, pipes and valves for the distribution of gas for the use of the citizens of said city, or other customers and for the use of the said city for fuel, power and illuminating purposes as it may desire and as may be required for its customers.

And the rights and privileges under this franchise herein granted, if accepted and acted upon as hereinafter provided, shall be vested in the grantees, their associates, successors, heirs and assigns for a period of forty years from and after the passage of this ordinance.

Sec. 2. That the use of the streets, alleys, roads, avenues and public places hereby granted to the grantees herein mentioned shall be made with the least possible inconvenience to the inhabitants of said city. Wherever excavations shall be necessary same shall be lighted at night, and all sidewalks and pavements, streets and other places that may be used by said grantees shall be replaced by them at the expense of said grantees and in such manner as to restore said streets, sidewalks, roads and pavements and other public places to their former condition without unnecessary delay.

Sec. 3. That the location and putting in of said pipes, mains, valves and drains as may be necessary for the grantees hereunder to carry out

the rights and privileges herein granted for the purpose of the distribution of gas for lighting, fuel, cooking and such other purposes as same may be used, shall be done under the direction of the City Council of the City of Goldsboro, or such other officer as may be designated by said council; and such work shall be performed in accordance with the usual custom of laying mains, pipes and drains for the purposes herein contemplated.

Sec. 4. That the aforesaid grantees, their associates, successors, heirs and assigns, shall have right to lay, re-lay, operate, maintain and repair under the streets, alleys, sidewalks, avenues and highways of the said City of Goldsboro, ducts, mains, conduits, pipes, manholes and drips, and such other necessary appliances for the purpose of maintaining and distributing there through and there under gas for the use of said city and the residents thereof, and to connect such pipes when so placed and laid with the necessary pipes to consumers, stations and other points where same may be desired, and in such manner and by such means and in accordance with the usual method and most adapted to the locality for the purpose of conveying gas in all its forms therein and thereunder. Such work to be done as herebefore provided, under direction of the City Council of said City of Goldsboro, or such other officer as it may select for this purpose, and after said work shall be completed, said grantees shall restore, at their own expense, that portion of the streets, highways, alleys, avenues and sidewalks which may have been disturbed to their original condition with the same kind of material.

Sec. 5. That said grantees, their associates, successors and assigns, shall not at any time make any unnecessary excavations or unnecessarily encumber or obstruct the passage of any street, sidewalk, alley or road longer than shall be necessary to properly perform the work contemplated in a proper manner, and when said pipes, mains and valves shall be laid in said streets, same shall be done so as not to encumber, obstruct and interfere with public travel thereon, nor damage or injure public or private property. And the aforesaid grantees whenever required so to do by the Board of Aldermen of said City of Goldsboro, will construct, lay down, maintain and operate mains, pipes and valves along upon and under any of the streets, sidewalks, alleys, roads and avenues within the corporate limits of said city as it is now and may hereafter be laid out, and will supply gas to consumers residing along such streets, alleys, highways and avenues, provided that no such extension shall be required, and the aforesaid grantees shall not be expected to make and extend their said pipes and mains under this provision unless the consumers to be supplied by such extension shall average at least one consumer to every 100 feet of additional main which may be required by said Board of Aldermen.

Sec. 6. That the aforesaid grantees, their associates, successors and assigns, utilizing the privileges under this franchise shall at all times have notice by the City of Goldsboro of its purpose to repair or lay sewer, water or other pipes and shall proceed to protect such pipes, mains and other works as it may have erected upon said streets hereunder without cost or charge to said City of Goldsboro and without unnecessary delay to the contemplated work.

Sec. 7. That said grantees hereunder shall furnish to the consumers of said City of Goldsboro gas of a good quality and in sufficient quantities for supplying said consumers, and shall furnish and install metres for measuring the same, and when said metres shall have been established as hereinafter provided, said grantees shall be authorized to charge a rate or price therefor which shall be fixed by them, their associates, successors and assigns, the maximum charge for which shall not exceed \$2.00 per one thousand cubic feet for illuminating purposes and not exceeding \$1.50 per one thousand feet for fuel purposes of gas consumed, payable monthly, or by pre-paid metres, and said grantees shall have the right to charge not exceeding \$1.00 per month for each metre where that amount of gas is not consumed through the metre. And said maximum rate herein fixed shall not be increased to the consumer without permission of said City of Goldsboro.

And the grantees hereunder shall make and establish and enforce such regulations for the protection of the plant and the distributing system as may be reasonable, necessary and proper to prevent wastage thereof, and to protect themselves against fraud and imposition, and may in their discretion refuse to furnish gas and cut off the supply from any customer who is in default in the payment of any gas bill rendered under the limitations herein imposed.

Sec. 8. That said grantees, their associates, successors and assigns shall hold the City of Goldsboro free and harmless from all liability for any damage or injury that may result to any person or persons by reason of injury or damage to property, growing out of the construction, maintenance and operation and repair of the work done under this ordinance, or from any defect or lack of repair caused to be performed by said grantees, their successors or assigns on any street, alley, sidewalk, road or public place which may be occupied and used by virtue of this ordinance. And if the aforesaid City of Goldsboro shall be sued by reason of any such injury to person or property, the aforesaid grantees shall upon request of said City of Goldsboro cause the proper defense to be made to such suit or action, and if final judgment shall be obtained against it, said grantees shall pay the same, together with the costs therein; and, if the said City of Goldsboro shall be made to suffer any pecuniary loss from the acts of omission or commission on the part of the party or parties exercising this franchise, individually or as a corporation, then it shall hold said City of Goldsboro harmless.

Sec. 9. That said grantees hereunder, their associates, successors and assigns shall within ten days from and after the adoption of this ordinance file or cause to be filed with the Board of Aldermen of said City, a bond with good and sufficient surety in the penal sum of \$1,000.00, conditioned for the acceptance of this ordinance and the beginning of the work hereunder and the construction of the plant within the time hereinafter specified, in accordance with the terms of this ordinance. And the aforesaid grantees shall commence the work of construction of their mains, pipes and gas plant contemplated by this ordinance within six months from and after the date of its adoption, and shall have the aforesaid work ready to manufacture gas to consumers within twelve months from the date of the adoption of this ordinance, and after the expiration of this term, however, to strip and other delays be required, unless the time extended by said City.

Sec. 10. The rights herein granted and the limitations herein contained on the said W. M. Crane, F. H. Sawyer and L. I. Moore, their associates, successors and assigns, shall be subject to change. In several changes have already been made recently on account of changes in the construction of the canal itself.

The War Department is anticipating any action which Congress may take in the matter of providing for the defense of the canal. There has been an discussion of some sort of an international agreement which would guarantee the neutrality of the canal. Such an agreement would be necessary there would be no necessity of building defenses for the canal. The State Department and Congress would have to decide that. There is little doubt, however, that the United States will prefer to have the canal protected that it will be impossible to be successfully attacked by other nations in the event of war. If Congress provides money for the fortifications a special board will be appointed to have charge of the whole matter. Of course the actual work of beginning the work of fortification is a long way off, but the War Department will be ready with the plans long before Congress provides the money.

The plans provide for the expenditure of about \$4,000,000 at the Pacific mouth of the canal, and \$3,600,000 on the Atlantic side.

The plans for the Pacific side include powerful and extensive batteries of 12-inch guns on four small islands, lying off the mouth of the canal from five to ten miles. These are Flamenco, Culebra, Naos and Tabago. In addition to batteries on these islands the plans include forts at Ancon and San Juan, respectively on each entrance to the canal. The battery at Ancon would be adjacent to Balboa, the new name for the port to be located near the place where the canal will empty into the Pacific ocean. It is proposed to construct another great fort at Pedro Miguel, six miles inland. The great locks of the canal will be located at this point, and this fort would be for their immediate protection.

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ALMOST IMPREGNABLE Canal Will Be Defended By Greatest System of Forti- fication in World.

Congress at Next Session Will Be
Asked to Appropriate Big Sum
for Fortification of Ditch
Across the Isthmus.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 16.—When the Panama Canal is completed it will be defended by one of the greatest systems of fortification in the world. Yesterday an American News Service representative saw the sketches and plans for the defenses of the greatest engineering work of modern times. It was learned that the plans for the forts and other means of defense for the canal were carefully gone over by Secretary of War Dickinson and Major-General Bell, chief of the general staff of the army, during their visit some months ago to the isthmus.

The locations on which forts will be erected were inspected with great care, and the general plans of the fortifications for the canal discussed at length, and from every angle.

The plans, which later were begun by engineer officers of the army, have been in process of formation ever since. Congress, at the next session, will be asked to appropriate an immense sum for the forts to protect the big ditch. These plans are very comprehensive, and provide for an outlay of more than \$7,500,000.

In discussing the fortifications and uses for the canal a high War Department official whose name under army regulations cannot be disclosed, said yesterday:

The ground was gone over thoroughly by Secretary Dickinson and General Bell. The plans decided upon the most comprehensive. Of course they are subject to change. In several changes have already been made recently on account of changes in the construction of the canal itself.

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HISTORICAL HALIFAX. Interesting Reminiscences of Men of Other Days and Incidents That Should Be Kept Green.

Rocky Mount Echo.

The tearing down of the old court house whose history reaches back almost to the days of the colonies and building of a magnificent judicial building of stone and iron that cost above fifty thousand dollars, marks the beginning of a new era, perhaps, in this famous North Carolina town that has slept seemingly unconscious of its glory here in the shadow of the giant oaks on the banks of the Roanoke. The old court house, now gone, to make place for the new one, is suggestive of the stirring times and strong men of other days. Here was the scene of many great forensic battles between such men as Congland, the great Irish lawyer; R. O. Burton, Jr., the bright son of the famous old Methodist preacher; W. H. Day, Thos. N. Hill, Spier Whitaker and the young galaxy of John A. Moore, W. C. Thorne, P. T. Hyman, David Bell and W. A. Dunn, now all gone.

The new court house will be finished by January 1, 1909, and in every detail so far as the funds set apart for the purpose will afford, will be a model of its kind. The courts in the meantime are being held in an old store house down on Main street. It was a curious sight this week to look on the court being held there. Perched upon an improvised platform behind an old table, sat his honor, the Judge, near the old door-way hoar with age, behind sundry desks and tables, always nervous, alert and smiling, was Sterling Gary, the clerk. Sheriff House first in one way and then out another constantly impressing his aged deputy "Sheriff Green" to keep the crowd out of the windows and of the shelves and "keep order in court." The lawyers as usual had provided themselves with all the chairs to be had and appeared to be well content with themselves and all else, except when an occasional pass with Judge Peables would disturb the serenity and peace of it all.

We say the new court house possibly marks the beginning of a new era—an epoch, if the you please—and we hope it will take in hand the preservation of some of the historic memories of Halifax town. To save from utter decay and ruin the old chapter of the street leading to the river and some attention to graves of former distinguished citizens of the county and State who lie buried near by would be a Christian and patriotic service. The old tombstones and monuments, bearing on them legends of the birth and achievements of men who have been dead for more than a century, have sprouted around on broken masonry and in some cases actually far removed from the place where the dead sleep whose virtues and abilities they commemorate. Here met the Provincial Congress, the General Assembly of the State, and times without number in the hour of public peril the great and good men of the Old North State have come to this town—a classic in the heroic and civic memories—to take counsel, devise action and create thunderbolts of State and national history. We do not want to be a town alone of the past, but from this time onward to take on more life and accomplish more; at the same time we ought not to permit the evidences here of the town's and State's achievements to perish from the earth.

Justice of the Peace Can Obtain Copy by Sending Postage.

Heriot Clarkson, Esq., of Charlotte, solicitor of the Twelfth Judicial district, has compiled the laws of North Carolina in their relation to prohibition and this compilation has been issued in pamphlet form by the State Anti-Saloon League. The pamphlet also contains reports of important court decisions bearing on prohibition laws. The compilation is decidedly valuable, as it enables a person to get at the "milk in the coconut" and that, too, without long search and careful study.

Justices of the peace should be provided with a copy of this pamphlet, and can obtain same by writing to the Anti-Saloon League or Clarence H. Poe, Raleigh, N. C., and enclosing a two-cent postage stamp.

JUDGE CONNOR ISSUES ORDER.

Citing J. B. Winders to Show Cause Why He Should Not Be Enjoined.

Raleigh, N. C., Sept. 15.—In the matter of the American Trust Company vs. the Norfolk & Southern Railway Company, Judge Connor has issued an order to J. B. Winders to show cause Monday, October 4, before him in Raleigh, why he should be enjoined and restrained from interfering with the assets of the estate of the Norfolk & Southern, to-wit: certain timber rights in Duplin county.

NEARBY NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD.

Roanoke Rapids is a growing town and we think that after the new mill is completed the vacant lots between Rosemary and Roanoke Rapids will soon be built upon and the two towns will unite into one town, which will probably be the largest in the county. —Weldon News.

New Bern looks 50 per cent. better now than it did before we had paved streets and sidewalks. The man who doesn't believe in permanent improvements hasn't much civic pride! —New Bern Sun.

Mr. W. B. Matthews brought to town yesterday and presented to Mr. J. Sprunt Newton a pure white squirrel, killed that morning by Mr. Adam McArthur. Mr. McArthur saw several of these white squirrels, but could get a shot at only one of them. The one he killed is a beautiful little animal, every hair being as white as snow. —Fayetteville Observer.

The Salvation Army, by permission of the pastor, Rev. G. H. Detwiler, will conduct a meeting at the Tryon Street Methodist Church tonight. The service will begin at 8:15 o'clock and will be led by Maj. M. Elizabeth Barber and her staff. A cordial invitation is extended to all. —Charlotte News.

Sunday night Mr. Sol Dixon, who recently removed from this city to his Greene county farm, lost his pack house containing his entire tobacco crop consisting of forty-one barns. The loss was occasioned by fire, which is supposed to have been of incendiary origin. The fire occurred at one o'clock, in the dead of night, and an empty vessel which has contained kerosene oil has been found near the place. —Kinston Free Press.

The formal record of the transfer of the Bellville Cotton Mills to the new owners was made at the office of the register of deeds today. Announcement was also made this morning of the officers of the new corporation. These are: John D. Bellamy, president; William M. Bellamy, vice-president, and J. Walter Williamson, general manager, and secretary and treasurer. —Wilmington Dispatch.

Mr. John B. Kilpatrick, an excellent citizen of Swift Creek township, died at his home near Grifton a few days ago. He was about seventy-five years of age, represented his county one term in the Legislature, and was for many years a justice of the peace. He was a prosperous farmer and held in high esteem by all who knew him. —Greenville Reflector.

A number of interested patrons have on foot a move to buy from the Southern Investment Company all its telephones and lines in Greene county. There appears to be no doubt that the deal will be made, the terms having been agreed upon and an investigation of titles to the properties is now being made which, if shown to be clear, will close the deal at once. —Snow Hill Standard-Laconic.

THRONGS GREET PRESIDENT.

Flags Flying From Every Staff in the Downtown Section of Chicago.

Chicago, Sept. 16.—For the first time since he became the nation's head, William H. Taft visited Chicago today, and was given a welcome in keeping with his high station. The presidential special reached the city at 11:30 o'clock this morning over the Lake Shore Railroad. Awaiting the arrival of the President was a reception committee of the Commercial Club and also an enthusiastic delegation made up of thousands of children from the public schools.

The day proved an exceedingly busy one for President Taft. A luncheon at the Congress Hotel as the guest of the Commercial Club was followed by a visit to the Art Institute. Later in the afternoon the President attended the baseball game between the New York and Chicago teams of the National League. For the remainder of the afternoon and evening the program provided for an automobile ride, a dinner with members of the Hamilton Club and city and state officials and a public address in Orchestra Hall, concluding at night with an appearance at the ball of the American Bankers' Association.

The President found Chicago awaiting his arrival in gala attire. Flags were flying from every staff in the downtown section, and bunting was liberally displayed. Throughout the day the President was greeted with tumultuous cheers at his every appearance. Crowds filled Michigan boulevard and the park in the vicinity of the Congress Hotel, anxious for a glimpse at the chief magistrate, and his appearance was always the sign for an enthusiastic outburst of cheers.

SECOND CENTENNIAL

The Man Made Most Famous By His Biographer.

Dr. Johnson Almost Invariably Put Up at the "Three Crowns" When He Came Down to Lichfield From London.

London, Sept. 16.—To mark the beginning of the three days celebration by the city of Lichfield of the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Dr. Samuel Johnson, next to Shakespeare probably the most popular of British authors, the venerable house in Market Square, Lichfield, where the grouchy old philosopher and writer first saw the light of day on September 18, 1709, was thrown open to the public. All day long the picturesque old house, which contains numerous relics of the famous man, was thronged with visitors from all parts of Great Britain and a fair percentage of tourists from the United States and Canada.

There is no doubt about the authenticity of Dr. Johnson's birthplace. Luckily the quaint, two-story house with pillars where old Michael Johnson kept his bookshop, became the property of the corporation of Lichfield a few years ago. Since then it has been carefully restored and it is now in as good condition as when Samuel Johnson lived in it. Part of the relics which the house contains is a permanent collection which has been formed and placed in the building by the corporation which is not a little proud of its famous citizen.

The second day of the Lichfield celebration will be devoted mainly to visits to places of interest associated with Johnson and his friends. One of them will be the "Three Crowns" inn, which stands next door, but one to the Johnson homestead, and regarding whose claim of having housed the choleric scholar and his famous biographer James Boswell, there is no question. Dr. Johnson almost invariably "put up" at the "Three Crowns" when he came down to Lichfield from London, and he first brought Boswell with him in the historic year of 1776. The old inn is said to be practically just as it was when Johnson and Boswell drank innumerable cups of tea there.

Other points of interest are St. Mary's Church, where Dr. Johnson was baptized; St. Chad's Church, which the philosopher never failed to visit on his occasional trips to Lichfield and St. Michael's Church, where Johnson's father and mother are buried under a gravestone erected by the doctor when he was seventy-five years old.

In the afternoon there will be a lecture on "The Life and Influence of the Master" at the Lichfield grammar school, where Johnson was a pupil under Hunter. Garrick also attended that school before he became Johnson's pupil. Another famous man once a pupil at that school was Joseph Addison. In the evening there will be a performance by local amateurs of Goldsmith's comedy "She Stoops to Conquer," which was dedicated to Johnson.

The main celebration will be on Saturday, the actual anniversary day of Johnson's birth. On that day there will be a great gathering on Market Square, with addresses and singing by a chorus. Later the mayor of Lichfield will hold a reception at the Guild Hall and the Johnson Club will hold its annual meeting. In the evening there will be a Johnson supper at the old George Hotel.

AIN'T IT A SHAME!
The Proverbial "Salpe Hunt" Is Worked Off on Another Victim.

Wilmington Star.

Weary of the quest, a party from the freight traffic department of the Atlantic Coast Line returned to the city at a late hour last night from a snipe hunt up the Cape Fear river given in honor of Mr. Joseph Turner, of Montgomery, Ala., who recently came to Wilmington to take a position in the general offices of the Coast Line in this city. Among those who participated in the hunt were Messrs. C. E. Hobbs, J. G. Kensett, Lee Penner, Charles Parmele, T. H. Davis and Guy LeMoine. It was reported that Mr. Turner is such an ardent sportsman that he refused to return to the city with the others and so far as is positively known he continues at the present writing to hold the proverbial receptacle for the feathery tribe.

A Chicago man was shot for going about nipping people's ears with a pair of pliers. He couldn't expect to be very popular.