

HICKORY MERCHANTS PLAN GREATER HICKORY

Buy at Home Movement Given Impetus at Annual Meeting—Old Officers Relected by Acclamation—Members Alive to Responsibilities of Their Association.

The collection of all former officers, an increase in the number of directors and a determination to buy at home were the features of the annual meeting Thursday night of the Merchants' Association. Every member present was interested and it was freely declared that this session, though not the best attended in the history of the organization, was productive of more real ginger and cooperation of any ever held. The officers elected follow:

- President—Geo. E. Bismar.
- First Vice-President—S. L. Whitener.
- Second Vice-President—J. A. Moretz.
- Secretary—Miss Annie Downum.

All these officers have served two terms, but rotation was not insisted upon by the members who declared that the rule with them. President Bismar had just stated that he would not be a candidate again, even if the association desired him, when the members put him through the third degree without giving him a chance. The same treatment was administered to the other officers. The board of directors, enlarged to include practically every class of business in the association, is as follows:

- A. M. West, Geo. C. Yoder, Dr. W. P. Ramsey, J. W. Shuford, J. A. Bowles, L. E. Abernethy, H. C. Lutz, D. T. Applegate, R. E. Martin and E. H. Yoder.

President's Address
In closing the meeting to order President Bismar asserted that the past year had been very successful, that a great deal had been done by the cooperation of members and that it was now realized that it would be impossible to move forward without an organization of this kind. He said the merchants had been loyal and that when they were called on they responded liberally.

The report of Miss Annie Downum was then called for and she showed that the finances of the association, while not as good as last year, could be placed in better position by a little effort. This was determined on without a dissenting voice. In commenting on the secretary's report, the president said that those merchants who are not as enthusiastic as others are more, or less lukewarm for the reason that they do not take advantage of their opportunities. The facilities of the association are at the disposal of each member.

Advertising Committee
As chairman of the advertising committee, which keeps schemers from swerving the members and saves hundreds of dollars each year for individual merchants, Mr. Moretz detailed briefly the work of the committee. Nobody except the president, secretary and committeemen knows who stands between the association and worthless advertising schemes until the end of the year, when a report is made. If persons who want to put something across on the association, insists in going over the heads of the committee, they have a remedy, but there are not many people who believe they will profit, so the members generally are not pestered. Mr. Moretz said \$1,000 was saved the past year and that schemes representing a money loss of at least \$1,800 were kept at a safe distance by reason of the association. He made this point year after year by comparing what the merchants were up against several years ago and what they are up against now.

THINK STEAMERS BILL FOR JUDGES EXTRA SESSION OF SENATE TO BE CALLED

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 23.—President Wilson, it was officially announced at the white house today, has decided to call an extra session of the senate to consider nominations.

The president's decision to have the usual extra session, it is believed, paves the way for the customary inaugural ceremony in the senate of the vice presidency, including senators who are to be sworn in.

Eight Democrats voted today to give Sampson county the right to elect its school board. This was a big increase in Democratic votes over the last measure.

In the house the Warren senate bill creating four new judicial districts and providing four emergency judges was lost after the most interesting parliamentary contest of the session. Western men were willing to give the east release, but Ray of Macon, fighting all increases by compromise measure, through parliamentary tactics, put the main question and on second reading the Warren bill was lost.

Representative Doughton introduced a new bill providing for emergency judges.

The house committee reported unfavorably the Page bill to create a commissioner of prohibition at a salary of \$3,000.

Roberts of Buncombe introduced an initiative and referendum bill.

(By Associated Press.)
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(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 23.—The eighth company coast artillery, Arlington national guards, recorded the highest mark in the 1916 target practice, according to the war department.

WILL TAKE OATH ON SUNDAY, MARCH 4

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 23.—It was definitely decided today that President Wilson will take his new oath of office in private in the white house on Saturday, March 4.

Whether he will take it again at the public ceremony on March 5 or merely make that the occasion for the delivery of his inaugural address, has not been decided.

(By Associated Press.)
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PREMIER LLOYD GEORGE ISSUES STRONG WARNING

(By Associated Press.)
London, Feb. 23.—Premier Lloyd George said in a speech in the house of commons today that the success of the allied cause depended on the ability to solve the tonnage shortage which now was affecting the ordinary needs of the nation and military exigencies. The situation, he declared, called for the gravest measures.

The premier said there was no sure way to victory without hunting the submarine from the deep.

Enormous sacrifices were necessary from the British public, said Mr. Lloyd George. He said the government had determined to dispense with all non-essential imports.

The tonnage of Great Britain was lower than it had ever been before, Mr. Lloyd George said. He said that it was necessary to encourage the production of agricultural products.

The premier said that the ultimate success of the allied cause depended on the solution of tonnage. Before the war British tonnage had been just adequate and since that time there has been a greater demand both for the civilian population and the military.

More than 1,000,000 tons of British ships had been allocated to France and a very considerable amount had been set aside for Russia and Italy. In addition a considerable tonnage had been sunk.

(Mr. Lloyd George said there had been a shortage for the needs of the nation and even a shortage of tonnage for the needs of the navy. The nation should realize absolutely the dangers that face it.

"If we take drastic measures," he continued, "we can cope with the submarine menace, but if the nation is not prepared to take drastic measures for dealing with the menace master is before us."

In announcing the decision to restrict the importation of paper, Mr. Lloyd George said the government had decided that a very material reduction was necessary, and the importation will be cut in half. This will reduce the allowance to 64,000 tons.

(By Associated Press.)
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LET PRESIDENT SEIZE FOOD STUFFS

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WHOOPING COUGH CASE TO BE TRIED

An interesting assault case, the result, it is said, of an alleged case of whooping cough in a public school will be heard before Recorder Campbell this afternoon. Mr. Nathan Deal is the prosecutor and Mr. Perry Sigmon, member of the school board of Bowman's school, eight miles northeast of Hickory, is the defendant.

On authority of the county physician, it is said, Mr. Sigmon ordered Mr. Deal to take his children out of school until they presented a certificate signed by a physician saying they did not have whooping cough. Mr. Deal did not like it, and he and Mr. Sigmon met in the public road in Hickory township and an assault is said to have followed. Neither man was injured, but the law and the evidence will have an inning this afternoon.

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 23.—No actual fuel or food shortage exist anywhere in the country and the present high prices should not be attributed to the present railroad congestion, the interstate commerce commission pointed out today. There are adequate stocks for immediate domestic consumption and the railroad situation will steadily improve. The situation was better today than it was 24 hours ago and the congestion will be relieved every day.

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MARKETS

(By Associated Press.)
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THE WEATHER

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DAVIDSON AND TRINITY ARE TO BE PLAYED HERE IN APRIL BY LENOIR COLLEGE TEAM

Both Trinity and Davidson will be played here about the middle of April by Lenoir College, and these games are sure to draw large crowds. The date with Trinity is April 11, but that with Davidson probably will be a few days later.

This is the first time the local college has met either of these teams in baseball, and friends of the Hickory collegians will be interested in seeing how they match up against two of the admittedly strongest nines in the state. Last year Davidson and Trinity met here before a large crowd, and the managers of both agreed to return for a session with the locals.

Prof. J. F. Coble, faculty director of athletics, has received assurances that both teams will come here in April.

Other teams to be played are Guilford, Oak Ridge, the usual series with Catawba and some others, the dates for which have not been arranged.

Fractured started on the Lenoir College diamond this week, and Manager E. O. McCoy is confident of having a first class aggregation when the umpire cries, "Play ball." Plyler and Emory Miller are expected to be the mainstays in the pitcher's box, while Cline, regarded by many as one of the best catchers in the state will be at his station behind the bat. The battery will be the best anywhere. Frigo and Paul Voder, both infielders, are back and Mr. P. W. Carver, who is acting as coach, has a nucleus around which to build a fighting combination.

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