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SECOND EDITION

# ORIGINATOR SOF THE

Staunton, Va., was the first twon in the country to adopt the "City Manager Plan." The present manager is S. D. Holsinger. Mr. Holsinger in a letter to The Free Press states that the idea was adopted there on January 13,1908. The State laws were in the way of Staunton having a commission form of government, so the committee appointed to devise a better plan of government than the existing one hit upon the "General Manager" scheme. Other corporations had General Managers, why not a this end of city government that has city. No classified accounts were kept suffered and needed a remedy. The previous to the establishment of the legislative end has always had sufoffice of General Manager, so Mr. Holsinger would not assert that the overworked. Neither function of a present plan is the most economical, city government should be disregardbut the tax rate has been lowered \$1.35 to \$1.30. City council selects the city er. They are both vital, separate and year, and does not have entire charge healthful for both and the most pro-

Staunton and the enabling ordinance er the public's representatives are

now engaged in a study of the quescities have adopted new forms in place tives should be so clothed with authorof the old ones. Radical changes have been made. The first is known led in a fair, safe, intelligent and exas the Commission plan, and then fol- peditious manner. They should not be lowed the City or General manager Plan. Galveston, Texas, was the first tions that they cannot act freely with city to adopt and successfully operate authority delegated to them. No systthe Commission Plan, and Staunton, Virginia, was the originator of the which would be to evolve a city "Boss" General Manager Plan and the first or Dictator, and all chances or opto adopt it.

"The General Manager Plan was put should be minimized. into effect by the City of Staunton the Council on January 13th, 1908. This ordinance and its adoption are the ion of expenditures. Misappropriaresult of the work if a special com- tion is mostly due to lack of knowmittee headed by John Crosby, Chairman. Hugh C. Braxton, H. L. Lang penditure to lack of supervision by a and J. M. Spotts. This Committee had responsible person. So to cure the been appointed by the Council for the purpose of investigating and reporting upon the expediency of creating end of it. a more efficient and economical administration of the City's affairs

ible provisions which necessitate the retention of councils, delegating to ficient methods. them certain fixed and enumerated powers. This barrier, of course, made it impossible for Staunton to avail itdifficulty really resulted in a benefit to the Committee, it served as ameans of bringing out a new plan which is not only adaptable to all municipalities, but is based upon sound business principles.

"The Committee conceived the idea that the business of a municipal corporation was not different from that of a private corporation and what the ciples. The following ordinance will municipality lacked was good comthe administration of its affairs. In er. the analysis of the two it was ascertained that the only difference was, the private corporation had a Gener- the City of Staunton, Va.: al Manager and the city did not; otherwise they were alike. The Mayor corresponds to the President, and the Council to the Board of Directors. Now the only thing that could be done was to equip the City with a General Manager and its government would be complete. This was a very happy solution of the problem, not only because it was in accord with the State code and City Charter, but because it was a good, if not the hest form of city government. Therefore, the Charter of Staunton was not changed in the creation of the Gen ral Manager

"The General Manager is a new official in city government and his duties are different from those of any official aid an annual salary of——Dolin the old form. Cities have had ars, and he shall have the right to their purchasing agents, engineers and employ one clerk at a salary of other officials, whose duties to a certthose of the General Manager but fixed by the Council. Such officials are subordinates and are a part of his staff.

KINSTON, N. C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1915

FOUR PAGES TODAY 28 COLUMNS

PRICE TWO CENTS

#### in the fact that officers of both are paid to give their entire time and attention to the affairs of the City in any other feature. They differ in the following points: "The General Manager is appoint-

ed by a Council or Commissioners elected by the people. "Commissioners of the Commission

Plan are elected by the people. "The General Manager has only ad-

ministrative functions and not legislative. "Commissioners are clothed with

both administrative and legislative functions. "In the General Manager Plan ad-

ministrative authority and responsibility are not divided but placed upon one person.

"In the Commission Plan they are divided among several persons.

"The General Manager Plan is strictly a unit government so far as the business end is concerned. It is ficient attention and really has been ed nor one confounded with the oth-

Manager, and to that body, mostly distinct in their natures, and to seplegislative in its offices, he makes his arate them by placing them in the reports. He is appointed for one hands of different bodies is the most of the appointment of such ordinates. ductive of good results. Misapprop-Following is the story of the adop- riations and arbitrary acts can thus tion of the Gneral Manager Plan by be restrained and controlled. The clos-

bound to it safer and the better gov-"So necessary is better municipal ernment. Citizens at large connot exgovernment that the whole country is peditiously handle business or adopt laws. They have their representatives tion. During the last ten years many to act for them, and these representaity that all public affairs can be handso cramped or hedged with restricem should be adopted the tendency of portunities for evil or wrong-doing

"The greatest evils of municipal of money and the improper supervisledge of its needs; and wasteful exills of municipal government is to administer the medicine to the business

"The General Manager Plan offers e solution. The General Manager investigation was made of is an officer in the hands of the peowhich the Galveston-Houston plan ple's representatives. Both are chargcuation it could be adapted to Staun- ed with separate and distinct dutton's needs. The research did not pro- ies-the Representative, the legislaceed very far before it was discovered tive; and the General Manager, the adthat the constitution of the State of ministrative. Each helps and checks ment for its municipalities by inflex- the greatest protection to the tax payers and the most economical and ef-

ly the same as that of a private corporation. It is not a new idea but a self of the Commission Plan. This new application of an old one. It has been thoroughly tried and found absolutely satisfactory in every respect.

"The new application has been highly satisfactory to the citizens of Staunton and each day the results grow better. There seems to be no opposition to the office whatever, which is

substantial proof that it has been a show how the office was created here,

"Jan. 13th, 1908 " Be it ordained by the Council of

"1. That there be appointed by the two branches of the Council in joint session as soon as possible after the adoption of this resolution, and thereafter annually at the regular election of City officers in July of each year an officer to be known and designated as "General Manager."

"2. The General Manager (except in the case of the first appointment under thi sresolution, which shall be until the next election of City officers in July, 1908), shall hold office for the term of one lear and until his successor is duly appointed and qualified, unless sooner removed by the

Council at its pleasure. "3. The General Manager shall be

merely ministerial, covering detail " 4. The General Manager shall dework in only one or two capacities. vote his entire time to the duties of his office, and shall have entire charge placed under the General Manager as and control of all the Executive work this plan are innumerable. By proped by trained men. of the city in its various departments, The General Manager and Com- and have entire charge and control of locate inefficiency resulting either

## IS WELL PATRONIZED

(Special to Free Press.) Oak Ridge, N. C., Jan. 22. There are as many if not more students at Oak Ridge Institute this spring than were here last fall. This is very gratifying, in view of the financial condition of the South.

The new building has been completed, and is a model of convenience and comfort. The handsome chairs purchased for the literary societies have been received. These chairs were given by seudents of the school, old and new, and the name of the giver stamped on a metal place, will be placed on each chair. Literary society work has, for thirty years or more, been one of the leading features of the school.

The school grounds have not been entirely cleared of rubbish, but, with the coming of spring, it is hoped to put the campus in shape, and to park the fine body of original oak forest lying to the front of the school building. The underbrush will be cleared away, walks and drives constructed This can be made one of the most beautiful parks and recreation grounds in the State.

The church on the campus is receiving its finishing touches this week and on Sunday the first services will be held in it by the pastor, Rev. L. W. Garringer, On February 4 the president of the M. P. Conference will preach in the tne church.

ployees of the City. He shall make all contracts for labor and supplies and in general perform all of the administrative and executive work now performed by the several standing committees of the Council, except the Finance, Ordinance, School and Auditing Committees. The General Manager shall discharge other duties as may from time to time be required of him by the Council.

"5. The General Manager, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall execute a bod before the under the passage of an ordinance by government are the misappropriation Clerk of the Council in the penalty of \$5,000,00 with good and sufficient surety, conditioned for the faithful performance of the duties of his of-

"While the ordinance is written in

a general and comprehensive way, yet it is sufficiently clear and specific to define accurately just what the Gened in full charge of the administrative arrived in Wilson yesterday, . partment heads, employees, work, purchasing and the execution of all contracts. He is accountable to the and detailed estimates. This places the City Council in a position to make manner, and thereby avoid misappropriations. By this means a whole year's work is laid out and planned. At the close of each year he is rethe best advantage. He personally are around his desk and the Council over his head. He is the medium between the public and the Council, and as such is compelled to render good service and give every man a "Square Deal." In case he does not, there is a chance for an appeal in a practical way for justice. This is one decided has over the Commission Plan. In the Commission Plan the public is the watchman and in the General Manag- best they cannot afford to take sufficer Plan the public's representatives. ieient time from their own business The General Manager must give a

"The economies and advantages of er methods the General Manager can mission Plans are possibly more alike) the heads of departments and em- from incompetency or non-union of

ed and another selected.

#### 'TARGET FOR TURKS' "FRIENDLY" SHOT



This is the launch of the U. S. S. Tennessee at which a Turkish fort in the harbor of Smyrna fired a shot, which afterward was declared to be only a "friendly" warning that the harbor was mined and closed to allen vessels.

The Free Press was unavoidably delayed today by an unexpected mechanical trouble, which local mechanics have been unable to remedy. Hence it is necessary to send out this incomplete edition. The trouble occurred early in the day, and hence very little local ard practically no telegraph news was set. We hope our readers will make allowance. The Zudora story and other Saturday's matter will be run in Monday

#### CHANGE OF MANAGEMENT OF WILSON WAREHOUSE.

Wilson, Jan. 22 .- A big deal has just been made here wherein the Watson Warehouse changed hands. Heretofore the business has been owned by Messrs, W. P. Anderson and Ralph Pitt. Mr. Anderson has sold his half interest to Mr. H. G. Whitehead, the consideration being \$35,000.

JUDGE G. H. CONNOR OUT OF HOSPITAL

Wilson, Jan. 22 .- Judge George W. Connor, who has been in Johns Hopkins Hospital for the past several eral Manager's duties are. He is plac- weeks, recuperating from over-work, ed the dog tax of assessment county

work or principles. All matters pertaining the city's business come under his attention, which enables City Council and his acts must be ap- him to make a thorough analysis of proved by it. At the beginning of all parts, and produce a complete each fiscal year he is called upon for structure without useless, idle and ov-Virginia prescribes the plan of govern- the other. In this arrangement lie a report as to the needs of all City de- er paid employees, and unnecessary, partments, with his recommendations wasteful and overvalue materials. He can fit all parts together and set proper standards which will enable him to "The principle of this plan is exact- all appropriations in an intelligent check the records of every man and tell whether the city is getting value received for every dollar expended. Good methods are always productive of economy. Through the General quired to make to the City Council an Manager Plan Staunton has reduced itemized and detailed report of all the cost of concrete sidewalks from work done and every cent of expend- \$2.00 and \$2.25 to \$1.00 and \$1.25 per iture made through the year. The cost square yard. The saving was effected of each piece of work is kept in detail by the city doing its own work, under tative George Pickard of Orange and the quantity done. An account the right kind of supervision, While county brought forth the startling of every transaction is systematically all the difference cannot be attributed announcement that the county comsuccess and founded on the right prin- kepe; all departments are co-ordinated to the change, as the cost of materi- missioners, at a single meeting, honand harmonized; and authority and als in some cases has decreased yet ored bills for cur-slain mutton to the responsibility concentrated. The of- the quality of work done now is far amount of \$276.50. The rate of \$200 mon-sense, business-like methods in and the duties of the General Manag- fice is really a bureau of information superior to the contract work. Where a month for sheep-killing dogs by a for the City Council, the departments contract work is still done it must be single county was staggering, to say and the public. The General Manager done at the right price and with good the least. is required to give his entire time and materials and workmanship. The attention to the best interests of the City's public utilities are run in the city. He is in a position to keep him- most productive and economical manself abreast of the times, and inform- ner. Its public buildings and other ed as to the markets so he can buy to property are turned into proper uses and some of the buildings made to studies the needs of the municipality produce an income instead of being and is in constant touch with the cit- a dead expense. The fiscal affairs at izens who always make known their the end of the ear are closed with a wants. He has to be fair and careful balance instead of a deficit and a in his dealings because the citizens bend issue to take up a floating debt. All expenses for public improvements such as street work and extension of water mains are carried within the regular and ordinary income and no special assessments are made for them-"The 'Keystone' of the General Manager Plan is efficiency and economy based upon a unit government. Counadvantage the General Manager Plan cils are relieved from looking after the business irregularly and without

pay. Even though councilmen do their to look after the public's affairs as ed. good account of his stewardship and they should be looked after. It is a if he cannot he may be easily remov- strong, reliable, and practical form of dents of the University. R. B. House municipal government based upon of Halifax county, and Marion Fowlsound business principles and direct- er of Durham county upheld the af-

> "S. D. HOLSINGER. "General Manager,

### THE UNIVERSITY DEBATERS FOR STATE DOG TAX WIN

Chapel Hill, Jan. 22 .- "Resolved, That North Carolina should adopt a State-wide dog tax for the benefit of public schools," was the query discussed by the North Carolina Club at its recent semi-monthly meeting. The debate was supplemented by the audience's vote on the subject, which the firemen were engaged with the favorably voted for a State-wide levy on dogs, the decision standing 22 to

The debate on the insistent, everrecurring theme produced an effective array of facts and figures on both sides of the argument. The enactment of such a State-wide law would FIVE MEN AND COW yearly reinforce the coffers of the educational fund \$75,000-levying only 50 cents or \$1 on each dog. The estimated supply of dogs in the State was placed at 150,000.

The effective, revenue-deriving dog law of Virginia was the basis around which most of the affirmative argument was woven. Virginia repudiatby county, after repeated failures, The revenue from this tax nets annually to the school system of the State \$90,000, after an allowance for all sheep killed and cost of collecting the tax. Similar laws in South Carolina and Rhode Island, nets each of these States, \$60,000 and \$30,000. Indiana derives \$104,000 from a similar

Figures tabulated from twenty North Carolina counties imposing a dog tax, exhibited the fact that Wake county receives the highest revenue--\$515 yearly. Onslow county, levying \$1, receives the lowest returns. The recent agitation, which assumed state-wide proportions, relative to the county deg tax enacted by Represen-

The opposing side of the proposed indicate that the failure of the county system for collection of a dog tax tual failure of a State-wide system. in the State would signify the even-The burden of the tax would disproportionally be levied on the poor man. The farmer who owns a dozen fox, opossum, rabbit and econ dogs would share the burden of the \$75,000 collected for the public school systemhence the inequity of a State levy. The opposition was convinced that the masses disfavored such a law, and that the wishes of the majority should prevail. The report of Sheriff R. D. Bain of Orange county, after the enactment of the dog law, showed a falling off of 323 dogs listed on the books in comparison with the previous year-thus testifying to the tendency of disregarding the requirement to list actual number own-

The debate was conducted by stufirmative; C. S. Harris of Montgomery county, and S. C. Hodgin of Ran-"Staunton, Va." side of the controversy.

# FIRE THREATENED KINSTON COTTON MILLS FRIDAY N'T

machine room about 1 o'clock this morning sent the department at breakneck speed to the Kinston Cotton Mills, on East Caswell street. The blaze was a triffing affair but very in months by departing for Kentucky hard to combat because of the difficul- and leaving in the minds of his ty in getting to it. A small section townsmen the belief that he would of the flooring had been burned through when a watchman discovered the flames and sounded the alarm on the big whistle of the mills. Or dinarily automatic fire extinguishing his good faith. Carlon has fully reequipment, which had been installed established himself in the good graces in the mill, would have stopped the blaze, but because of location of the blaze, in this instance availed nothing. After the firemen had attacked it with their hose it was some time before they could subdue the stubborn flames.

The fire was not an unnatural one It originated in lint trash, susceptible to ignition, and probably had smouldered for some time. That it was discovered when it was and the quick arrival of the firemen were fortunate.

Several hundred thousand dollars worth of property was at risk. The mills employ several hundred people and the fortunes of many would have been affected by the destruction of the big plant. It was but a few minutes after the first alarm from the big whistle and almost before the hells had ceased tolling off the number of the alarm box at the mill that blaze. The loss has not yet been estimated. It was probably between \$100 and \$300, fully cov ered by insurance.

## BY SHELL, WOMAN IN THE CROWD UNINJURED

By P. M. Sarle London, Dec. 28. (By mail to New York)-Thrilling personal experiences in the Belgian trenches are related by Miss Jessica Borthwick of the late Lord Glenesk, who has just returned to England to en large the equipment of the field ambulance corps which she organized in conjunction with Dowager Lady Suf folk, Lord Methuen and others, and whose work she has been superin

tending.

"The other day," she said, "I was standing in the road on the way to Dixmude talking with an officer when a shell fell, taking off his left arm completely as though it had been chopped off with an axe, killing five others and shattering a nearby house to the ground. A cow standing near was also killed, but another few yards away simply looked around and went on eating. For a moment I felt stunned, but was conscious of a shower of every kind of stone and dirt. One man, not otherwise wounded, was struck deaf and dumb by the shock.'

#### PRISONER TAKEN TO PITT COUNTY FOR TRIAL

Jesse Phillips, colored, who was held here for carrying a concealed weapon, was last evening

weapon, was Thursday evening taken to Greenville by the sheriff in compliance with an order from Judge H W. Whedbee, directing that Phillips be turned over to the Pitt county authorities. The black was wanted there for crimes more serious than the one held against him in Kinston among them being housebreaking and

#### CREW OF STRANDED STEAMER TAKEN OFF

Wilmington, Jan. 22.—Capt. Moo and crew of eleven men from the fishing steamer Mindora, Norfolk to Mobile, were landed at Southport late today by the members of the Cape Fear and Oak Island life-saving stations, by whom they were rescued from their ship at daylight this morning when the Mindora went ashore three miles off the poitn of Cape Fear Bar, where she now lies deserted.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 22 .- After two days of debate on the general state of the national defense, the House tonight passed without a roll dolph county defended the negative call the army appropriation bill carrying \$101,000,000.

## VINDICATION OF CARLTON OF SNOW HILL COMPLETE

R. W. Carlton, the Snow Hill tobacconist, who Monday caused more excitement than that town had known forsake obligations against him and get away with about \$12,000, is said to have fully satisfied them now of of the Snow Hillians and assured them that he will make good his word in every dealing with them.

Carlton Monday left his affairs in the hands of a brother and started to the burley tobacco belt of Kentucky to remain a short time. Snow Hill was immediately thrown into a furore. He was twelve thousand dollars behind in his accounts with the tobacco warehouses there, was the news that spread through town with lightning-like rapidity. Warrants were about to be issued, and the authorities ni five or six points in North Carolina and Virginia through which he might pass were actually wired to arrest him in case he came their way. The tobacconist got wind of how matters stood when he had got only as far as Goldsboro, and immediately sent \$2,500 to Snow Hill as evidence of his good faith. Tuesday he returned there and faced his ac-

This morning it was said at Snow Hill that Carlton was again in the good grares of his business acquaintances and that they are fully convinc ed that he had meant to do no wrong.

Carlton is a likeable young man, and is said to have purchased property in Greene county, and made himself generally popular there during his short residence. On Monday when the news spread of his departure there were a number among the business men of Snow Hill who immediately championed him and declared their belief that he was guilty of no wrong intent. His return Tuesday confirmed their confidence.

# THE CHUR**ch** A SOCIAL CENTER

A Broader Sphere for Religion-New Field for the Rural Church.

By Peter Radford

Lecturer National Farmers' Union The social duty of the rural church is as much a part of its obligations as its spiritual side. In expressing its social interest, the modern rural church does not hesitate to claim that it is expressing a true religious instinct and the old-time idea that the social instincts should be starved while the spiritual nature was overfed with solid theological food, is fast giving way to a bronder interpretation of the functions of true religion. We take our place in the succession of those who have sought to make the world a fit habitation for the children of man when we seek to study and understand the social duty of the rural church. The true christian religion is essentially social-its tenets of faith being love and brotherhood and fellowship. While following after rightedusness, the church must challenge and seek to reform that social order in which moral life is expressed. While cherishing ideals of service, the rural church which attains the fullest measure of success is that which enriches as many lives as it can touch, and in no way can the church come in as close contact with its members as through the avenue of social functions.

The country town and the rural community need a social center. The church need offer no apology for its ambition to fill this need in the community, if an understanding of its mission brings this purpose into clear consciousness. The structure of a rural community is exceedingly complex; it contains many social groups each of which has its own center. there are many localities which have but one church and although such a church cannot command the inter-est of all the people, it is relieved from the embarrasi divided communities.