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## MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP RECEIVED A QUIETUS FROM WHOLE BOARD

### New Water Contract Along Line of Company's Original Proposition

### NEW TELEPHONE CO. WANTS A FRANCHISE

W. A. Maupin of Atlanta, Director of New Company, Tells Board What Has Been Done and Urges Immediate Consideration of Franchise to The Capital City Telephone Company—Raleigh and Durham Car Line Again—City Extension Urged—What to Do With Stagnant Pools Southeast of City.

By a unanimous vote, without one word of discussion, the board of aldermen last night gave the Wake Water Company a new franchise for fifteen years, and thus dealt a quietus to the municipal ownership agitation that was supposed at one time in some quarters to be shaking the conservative citizens of North Carolina's capital. The rates will be about 40 percent less than they are now, and the new rates will go into effect April 1, 1907.

So ends the agitation for municipal ownership of water works which has been going on spasmodically in Raleigh for four or five years, and has raged bitterly since last February. This franchise is along the line of the proposition which the water company voluntarily made last March, when it offered to reduce the existing rates and to make a new contract with the city.

That of course was the principal business transacted by the board, and outside of the reading of the ordinance containing the new contract with the water company, which is rather lengthy, it took less time to get through with it than almost anything else that came up last night. When the stenographer tones of City Clerk Willson's manly voice at last dropped at the end of the long document, Alderman Harden simply moved that the rules be suspended and the ordinance voted on at once. It was done in the twinkling of an eye. Then Mr. Harden, the ordinance was adopted, and that was done as fast as Mayor Johnson could put the question. It was a very tame finish to what was supposed to be a big fight.

The meeting of the board last night was one of the longest and one of the most thickly crowded with business ever held in this city. It began at 8 o'clock, and school never let out till long after 11. Nearly a dozen special committees were appointed, and there will have to be a called meeting of the board next week. It appeared as if all the forgotten things were suddenly remembered.

There were discussions on topics that ranged in variety from the speckled winged mosquito all the way to extension of the city's limits. Even the Raleigh and Durham Passenger and Power Company did the Rip Van Winkle act, coming back to the scene of its ancient activities to ask through its attorney, Mr. Thomas Staples Fuller, that the franchise of the company be amended so as to keep the dates straight. It appears that the franchise was not finally accepted until March 3, 1906, although it bears date of December 21, 1904. The company is required to begin work on its car line to Durham and in this city within two years from date of franchise, so according to the ordinance as it stands work must begin by the 21st of this month, or the company loses its franchise.

A committee consisting of the mayor and city attorney and Aldermen Upchurch, Harden and Lee, was named to investigate and report to a called meeting. This meeting will probably be called for this day.

**New Water Contract.**  
The principal features of the new contract with the Wake Water Company are as follows:  
The charge against the city for fire protection hydrants is reduced to \$2.50 each per year; water company can be required by city to extend its mains not exceeding two miles in any one year, provided the city rents at \$22.50 each per year, ten additional hydrants for each mile of extension, and the company is required to extend its service pipes upon the application of the owners of five houses, provided the company cannot be required to make an extension of more than two blocks on any one application, and provided such applicants guarantee a total rental of \$25.00 a year for each block of extension; the new rates to consumers are to go into effect on April 1, 1907.

at which time the minimum meter rate will be \$2.25 per quarter for 9,000 gallons, and the flat rates are to be reduced, and the meter rates are to be reduced according to a graduated scale, starting with 25c a thousand gallons for the first 20,000 gallons a month and running down to cheaper prices according to the quantity of water consumed; at the end of the first ten years there is to be a further reduction of meter rates, at which time the minimum meter rate will be \$1.50 per quarter for 9,000 gallons per quarter, and the graduated meter scale will commence at 25c per thousand gallons for the first 20,000 gallons and go down to cheaper prices according to the quantity used; the water company is to furnish the city water for sprinkling streets, flushing gutters and sewers, drinking fountains, city offices, public schools, public fountains, etc., in lieu of charges by the city for taxes, privileges and licenses; the failure of the water company to keep and carry out its part of the contract entitles the city to revoke the franchise. It is understood that the water company will have the rates printed in full in pamphlet form and distributed among its consumers, that there may be a clear understanding of the prices to be charged.

Perhaps next in importance to the water franchise was that of the new telephone company to take the place of the Bell and Interoceanic in this city. An ordinance was introduced to give a fifty year franchise to The Capital City Telephone Company, which is to buy the property of the other two phone companies.

Mr. W. A. Maupin of Atlanta, a director of the new company, addressed the board, stating that he hoped the ordinance carrying the franchise would be acted upon as early as possible, preferably next week, as nothing could be done now until the company was given the right to proceed. As it was, the company owned not a bit of property in Raleigh, and could do nothing further until it secured the franchise.

Mr. Maupin said that he had been at work for months perfecting plans to give this city an absolutely first class telephone system, and everything was ready to begin work. A site had been selected for an exchange, a corps of men had been here doing the engineering work, and it was proposed to have the wires in the business section underground.

A committee, consisting of Messrs. Harden, Grimes, Lee and the city attorney, was appointed to take up the matter at once and report to a called meeting.

**City Extension.**  
On motion of Alderman Grimes, the mayor, city attorney and three members of the board are to constitute a committee to look into revisions of the city charter before the meeting of the general assembly. Mr. Grimes was put on this committee and the others will be named later.

Col. F. B. Arendell and Mr. F. H. Busbee, representing the chamber of commerce, and Mr. R. N. Simms, representing the Young Men's Industrial Club, spoke strongly for extension of the city limits and for eliminating all personal interests in so doing. Col. F. B. Arendell showed a plot for extending the present limits so that the distance from the capitol in each direction should be one mile, the shape to be an exact square.

Mr. Simms mentioned one big enterprise that Raleigh had recently lost because it was not known how the limits would be extended. Mr. Busbee was in favor of every dollar raised in the added portion being spent for improvements in those localities.

The whole matter was referred to the charter committee provided for.

**Condition of Hillsboro Street.**  
Mr. John W. Hinsdale, Jr., addressed the board on the conditions of Hillsboro street, saying that when the street car company finished the double tracking work it had thrown the macadam and red clay subsoil all together back on the tracks without obeying the ordinance by replacing the paving as it had been found. In wet weather now, Mr. Hinsdale said, one would sink down to his ankles in the mud.

Alderman Jackson suggested that the street commissioner investigate the whole line of the car track for like violations, "and have no more monkey business." Mayor Johnson and City Attorney Show both held there was no excuse for the condition of Hillsboro street. The street commissioner said the company was starting now to fix it.

**To Get Rid of Nuisance.**

Mr. James H. Pou and Mr. F. H. Busbee of the chamber of commerce urged that the city take action in regard to the lake of foul and stagnant water southeast of town near the Southern Railway track, caused by the overflow of Walnut Creek and Rocky Branch. They said there was no doubt it caused a great deal of malaria in the southern part of town, and the state biologist had found that along those branches and pools the speckled winged or malaria carrying mosquito was fifteen to eighteen times as numerous as (Continued on Page Five.)

## CHARGE AGAINST M. S. GRIFFIN

### Taking Illegal Fee for Collecting Widow's Pension

## TRUE BILL RETURNED

### Will Be Tried in United States Court Here—Is Democratic Representative-Elect From Nash and an Old and Highly Esteemed Man—He Claims Ignorance of Law.

Yesterday afternoon in United States court here the grand jury brought in a true bill against M. S. Griffin, the democratic member-elect of the lower house of the legislature from Nash county, for taking an illegal fee from a widow in payment for services in securing her a pension from the United States government.

The charge against Mr. Griffin is that he took as fee from Mrs. Charity V. Follenbee, widow of Nathan Follenbee, who served in Company D, 115th New York regiment, one-half of the first payment, \$1,355, on her pension, and entered into an agreement with her, whereby he was to get one-half of each quarterly payment of \$24 made to her as an allowance for the remainder of her life, that he then offered to release her from the payments each quarter if she would give him \$100 more on the first payment. It seems that he says he received \$65 of this additional \$100, but Mrs. Follenbee says she gave him the entire \$100.

Mr. Griffin claims that he had no knowledge that his act was illegal. He is an old man and is highly esteemed in Nash county. He is prosperous and has influential friends. When the matter became known considerable pressure was brought upon the department of justice at Washington in behalf of Mr. Griffin, but it appears that in the meantime a report of the affair was made to the pension department to the effect (Continued on Page Five.)

## TWO RECEIVED BY CONFERENCE

### Full Connection for B. E. Stanfield, E. M. Hogle

## J. V. WILLIAMS' CASE

### Every Man's Character in the Conference Has Been Passed, No Charges Against Any One—Pulpits of Rocky Mount to Be Filled by Members Sunday.

(Special to the Evening Times.)  
Rocky Mount, N. C., Dec. 8.—The conference session was called to order by Bishop Wilson at 9 a. m. Rev. T. H. Ben and J. H. Giles conducted religious services. The proceedings of yesterday were read and approved. The application of J. V. Williams for admission was then called up, he being 54 years old. He was heard, the committee was heard. The presiding elder could not vote for him. Conference cast only three votes for him. Under question 20, preachers of Fayetteville, Rockingham, Wilmington, New Bern and Warrenton districts passed examination of character.

The conference telegraphed greetings to the Baptist State Convention. B. E. Stanfield and E. M. Hogle were received into full connection. Dr. W. W. Pinson, Nashville, Tenn., was introduced to the conference. Bishop Wilson delivered the fourth of his series of lectures at 11:40, and at 12:30 the conference adjourned till 3:30 p. m.

Sunday the pulpits of the town will be filled by the members of the conference. Every man's character passed—not a charge of any kind being found against them.

**Conference News Miscellaneous.**  
Rev. W. S. Rone, one of the most quiet and dignified men in the conference, is the host here, and asks every day for any straggler without a home. He has plenty of them and is a most agreeable gentleman in every way. The conference will long remember him and the Rocky Mount meeting. Mr. Rone may go to the presiding eldership again this year.

Mr. R. M. Phillips, a well-known newspaper man of Raleigh, Greensboro and other places, is present at the conference and slugs in the conference quartette. He has a voice that ought to make him a living. One seldom hears a deeper or fuller bass voice. His singing with the others is indeed a feature.

Mr. M. O. Sherrill, the state librarian, is a lay delegate to the conference and a most useful church man. He has friends from everywhere and makes them new everywhere he goes.

Rev. Jesse L. Cunningham, a namesake of the late J. A. Cunningham, of this conference, and a bright young member of this body, has charge of the correspondence school for young preachers in Vanderbilt University for the whole southern Methodist connection, and is doing a great work in helping the undergraduates in the conference in completing the course of study while doing regular work. A young man taking these courses does not have to go before the examining committees at the session.

When the committee on books and periodicals report, they will most likely deal with the proposed increase of postage on newspapers. This subject needs to be touched on in no uncertain way by all bodies having an organ, as well as papers themselves.

The Record, a local paper, is publishing a daily for the conference session, a creditable little afternoon paper, handling the proceedings nicely.

The names of Revs. J. J. Renn, T. J. Gattis and John W. Jenkins were called, their decease suggested, and referred to committee on memoirs. The passing of these men removes three landmarks familiar to a large circle. Their memoirs will be read at memorial service Sunday.

## AN AGED PREACHER DIES OF EXPOSURE

(By the Associated Press.)  
Somerset, Pa., Dec. 8.—Uriah D. Brougher, 72 years old, a German Baptist minister here, died today as a result of exposure. On Monday while driving from here to Kingswood he suffered an attack of apoplexy and fell out of the buggy. When discovered some hours later his body was almost buried in the snow, his face was covered with a thin coat of ice and his hair frozen in a solid mass.

## TWO MEN DEAD IN A COLLISION

### Another Will Die; Several Are Injured

## A THOMASVILLE MAN

### George Kinney, One of the Two Who Were Instantly Killed—The Wreck Was at Danville—A Mixed Passenger and Pullman Train Ran Into a Freight.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Danville, Va., Dec. 8.—Shortly after 4 o'clock this morning a wreck occurred in the yards of the Southern Railway in this city, resulting in the instant death of two men and the injuring of a number of others, one of whom will die. The dead are: George C. Kinney, of Thomasville, N. C.

Unknown man, probably a tramp, whose body was mangled and burned beyond recognition. The accident occurred on the main line, train No. 34, a mixed passenger and Pullman crashing into a freight train standing on the track. Fire which followed the wreckage was brought under control by the Danville fire department after four freight cars were burned. George Ford, a negro fireman, probably will die. The names of the other injured have not been secured, but they included several postal clerks on No. 34 and a number of passengers, who were shaken and bruised but are not considered as being seriously hurt.

No. 34 is the opposite of No. 33, the train on which President Spencer was travelling when he was killed Thanksgiving Day. Engineer Kinney was a brother of W. A. Kinney, the engineer on No. 37, the train which ran into President Spencer's car and who had such a remarkable escape from death. It is stated that the passenger train was not flagged in time to prevent the collision.

## TAX COLLECTED SHOWS INCREASE

### Reports from All Sheriffs Show \$4,824,298.30

## THE LISTING OF TAXES

### Wide Variance as to Method in Various Counties of Assessing Property—Gain in Taxes Received is Little Over \$362,000—Does Not Include Tax Paid to State Treasurer.

Reports have been received from all of the sheriffs in the state, and the recapitulation of the value of real and personal property in the state and the amount of taxes collected, as prepared in the state auditor's office, shows that the taxes exceed the past year by a little more than \$362,000. The total value of real estate is \$226,190,110, and the tax on same \$174,999,222; personal property, \$142,953,698, and the tax \$300,412.55, making a total of \$775,411.77. To this should be added income tax, amounting to \$27,844.12; Schedule "B" tax, \$112,073.02, and Schedule "C" tax, \$34,008.08, making the total general tax \$949,337.

The pension personal tax amounts to \$147,597.48, and pension poll tax \$33,726.72, making a total of \$181,324.20. School tax as payable to county treasurers is \$1,319,718.10, and county taxes payable to county treasurers \$2,373,919, making a total of \$3,693,637.10. The grand total of all taxes collected in all counties for all purposes and from all sources for the year 1905 amounts to \$4,824,298.30, against \$4,461,569.63 for the previous year.

The above does not include certain special taxes which are paid direct to the state treasurer. State Auditor Dixon, in speaking of the manner of assessing property, said that some system should be devised whereby a more uniform method could be adopted than that followed at the present time. In some counties property is taxed as high as 80 per cent of its real value, and sometimes in an adjoining county, or one near by, the valuation may not be more than 50 per cent of the real valuation.

**SERIOUS LETTUCE DISEASE REPORTED.**  
A very serious lettuce disease has spread over a portion of the lettuce growing section of eastern Carolina, particularly in the vicinity of New Bern, Wilmington, Fayetteville and Maxton, and in some instances it is proving very destructive. In a letter by Prof. F. L. Stevens issued by the agricultural experiment station, he says:

The disease begins with the wilting of the outer leaves, which droop and fall flat upon the ground. A similar flat rapidly overtakes the inner leaves, and so on over the whole plant, till within a few days the entire plant is dead, lying flat upon the ground.

As soon as any plant shows an indication of this disease the plant should be pulled up, buried with lime, or destroyed by fire. The spot from which the plant was pulled should be thoroughly drenched with Bordeaux mixture. If these precautions are followed, by those people who are not at all or only slightly affected with this disease, it will probably be possible to hold the disease in check.

**THE SHAH REPORTED DEAD.**  
London, Dec. 8.—A dispatch received here this morning from Paris announced that it was reported there that the Shah of Persia was dead. Neither the Persian legation nor the Persian Bank here have received anything confirmatory of the rumor. The British foreign office also discredits the report.

**TAKING DEPOSITION IN WATER WORKS CASE.**  
Mr. A. L. Quickel, representing the mayor of Lincolnton and a part of the board of aldermen, and Mr. Mouser, representing the remainder of the board, are here today taking the depositions of Prof. Gerald McCarthy, state biologist, who recently made an analysis of the water from the pipe of the Lincolnton water system. It seems that the mayor and a part of the board wanted to change the water mains, which move was opposed by several members of the board, who got out an injunction to prevent the work from being done. The case is to be heard in the superior court at Lincolnton next week. It is claimed that by changing the pipes the water will have a better pressure than at present time and that under existing conditions the water is sometimes stale. The deposition of Prof. McCarthy is in regard to the condition of the water supply as taken from the pipes.

## BLYTHER'S HEAD OF GRIDIRON CLUB.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The annual meeting of the Gridiron Club was held at noon today, preceding the dinner of the club, which will be held tonight at the New Willard. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Samuel G. Blythe, New York World; vice-president, James S. Henry, Philadelphia Press; secretary, John S. Shriver, Baltimore American; treasurer, Louis Garthe, Baltimore American; executive committee, Charles A. Boynton, Associated Press; Scott C. Bone, Washington Herald; James R. Young, Clifford K. Berryman, the well-known cartoonist of the Washington Post, was elected a limited member.

**DEFICIT SHOWN BY BANK STATEMENT.**  
(By the Associated Press.)  
New York, Dec. 8.—The weekly bank statement today shows a deficit of \$5,702,175.

## IS GERMANY IN A GAME OF GRAB

### Suspected of Territorial Designs on Persia

## SHAH DEAD OR DYING

### Suspicious Eyes Turn On Berlin Whence Comes a Denial That the German Government is Pursuing Mysterious Political Objects in the Land of Xerxes and Cyrus.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Berlin, Dec. 8.—Although the German foreign office does not believe that the Shah of Persia is so near to death as is reported from Teheran, it is well understood that his passing cannot long be delayed as his maladies are in their final stages.

Germany is popularly supposed, in Great Britain and France especially, to be pursuing mysterious political objects with the ultimate design of acquiring territorial advantages in Persia. The German policy, the Associated Press is informed, is simply equal trade privileges in Persia for all nations. The principle of the German policy in Persia has been clearly explained to the foreign offices of Great Britain and Russia, and misunderstandings, such as those which made the Moroccan question serious, are not likely to arise. The offer of the banking concession by the Shah was voluntary and was part of his plan to borrow money from Germany. He had already borrowed through the British-owned "Imperial Bank of Persia" and the Russian-owned Banque D'Escompte. The activity and enterprise of the German traders led the Shah's advisers to suggest the establishment of a German bank in Persia. The German foreign office considered that Germany already possessed the right to form such a bank under the most favored nation clause of the treaty between Persia and Germany, and therefore the Shah's offer aroused no particular feeling of gratitude. The foreign office eventually turned over the concession to a group of Berlin bankers, but they have not done anything with it as yet except to agree to send representatives to Persia sometime this winter to see if any money can be made out of the concession. If no profits are discernible in a legitimate banking business no further steps will be taken in the matter.

Russia is more the rival of Germany for the trade of Persia than is Great Britain, possessing as she does a treaty under which the customs dues on overland imports are lower than those imposed on sea-borne imports, and both Great Britain and Germany have a community of interests in obtaining an equalization of the seaport and land frontier dues.

The Shah Reported Dead.  
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