

State Library

POLICEMAN BRASWELL IS EXONERATED

By Board of City Aldermen Last Night—Public Hearing on Two Charges.—Mr. Braswell Resigns.

After being the bone of contention for two months or more the much discussed Braswell case, wherein Policeman John Braswell was charged by about 200 citizens of being unfit for duty as an officer of the law, was brought to a close last night when the board of aldermen exonerated the officer of the two specific charges filed against him.

The hearing was public and was held in the court room at the city hall. Mayor Wagoner presided and every member of the board was present. The defendant appeared in court with his attorney, Mr. W. G. Means. A number of the petitions against the officer were there, but their counsel, Mr. E. Randolph Preston, of Charlotte, who represented them at the two previous hearings, was not present.

Mayor Wagoner said that the board had met for the purpose of hearing the charges against the officer and that it was the sense of the board to give everybody a courteous hearing. He then ordered the clerk to read the charges. The clerk read a petition containing the names of about 200 citizens requesting the board that the officer be dropped from the police force of the city, alleging that the good name and decency of the city demanded that he be taken from the force. The clerk then read an affidavit setting forth that on the night of September 26th the officer used loud and profane language on the streets that could be heard a block away. An affidavit was also read from several ladies alleging that the officer visited a certain house on Church street frequently but did not name the house. The clerk also stated that several ladies on the petition had requested that their names be taken off.

Mayor Wagoner said that if there was any citizen present who wished to testify against the officer to please do so as the board was there for the purpose of hearing the charges.

For some time there was absolute silence in the court room. Not a man offered to testify. The invitation was repeated and still no response. Alderman King moved that the charges be not sustained for lack of evidence. The motion was seconded by Alderman Brown. Alderman Barrier said that he did not think the matter should be dismissed and that the board should summon witnesses here and make them testify and have a thorough investigation. "The public demands some action and I don't believe in doing anything behind closed doors."

Dr. King said that the board had gone into the matter fully and he did not think the witnesses should be made to testify unless they wanted to.

Mr. Means said that the trial had been postponed at the request of Mr. Preston and that his client was virtually under arrest and he wanted some action at once. Mr. Charles Widenhouse then said that he would testify as to the charges and he was sworn as a witness. Mr. Widenhouse said that it had been a matter of common knowledge in that section of the city for two years that the officer frequently went to a certain house. He was asked by Attorney Means to name the house but refused to do so, stating that he had been told that any man that did so would be indicted. He then testified that he heard the officer curse on the night set forth in the affidavit and that he used such words as d— and h— and that you could have heard him for some distance.

Mr. Braswell took the stand then and testified that he used such words but only in a conversational tone, while talking to one of his fellow officers, Tom Miller.

Mr. Miller corroborated Mr. Braswell.

Mr. Jesse N. Parker was then called to the stand. Mr. Parker testified that if it was his house the affidavit had reference to; that Mr. Braswell boarded there and had been doing so for two years or more and that they were good friends and had been for many years.

Mr. Means argued to the board that the charges be not sustained for lack of evidence. The motion was seconded by Alderman Bruton and passed unanimously except on the charge of using profanity. Alderman Barrier voting against the policeman on that charge.

Mr. Means then presented a petition signed by about 400 citizens asking that Mr. Braswell be retained on the force. In presenting it the attorney said that he had waited until his client had been cleared of the charges in order that the petition would not prejudice the board in any way. It was ordered recorded as a part of the records of the trial.

Mr. Braswell Resigns.

Early this morning Mr. Braswell tendered his resignation as policeman

in a letter to Chief of Police Boger, as follows:

"The Honorable Mayor and Board of Aldermen,

"Gentlemen: I hereby tender my resignation as a policeman of the city of Concord.

"JOHN S. BRASWELL."

Mr. Braswell told a representative of The Tribune this morning that he resigned his position on the force in order to keep down a continual quarrel between his friends and those against him. He stated that he would have tendered his resignation sooner but that he wanted to be cleared by the board of the charges preferred against him. He was positive he would be cleared for he knew none of the charges were true, he said.

Mr. Braswell said that he had not yet decided just what work he will take up.

RAILROAD TALK.

Newspapers All Agree That the Present Railroad Movement Means Great Things.

No movement in the State for a long time has created such profound interest as the Norfolk Southern's purchase of the Durham & Charlotte the Raleigh & Southport and the Asheboro and Aberdeen and the proposed completion of a railroad from Raleigh to Concord, using the above roads as links.

The Greensboro News says:

"That not half has been told about railway developments affecting this State as presaged by the purchase by the Norfolk Southern of the Raleigh and Southport, the Durham and Charlotte and the Aberdeen and Asheboro systems is the opinion of those who have watched for several years past the trend of events in this State. Besides linking the cities of Raleigh and Charlotte by a line cutting through Central Carolina, one must look beyond the borders of North Carolina; across the Appalachian mountains; yes, even to the banks of the Mississippi, to find the length and breadth of the system backed by the Norfolk Southern interests, a young road that has shown a most progressive spirit."

And the Charlotte News has this:

"The Raleigh News and Observer devotes considerable space in Sunday's issue to a discussion of the possibilities of development opened up by reason of the fact that the Norfolk Southern has just taken over several short lines of railway. The coming of this big system to Charlotte will give this city the best railroad facilities of any city or like size in the South. It means big things. The Norfolk Southern, like the Southern and Seaboard, is a great booster of the section through which it passes. It aids in development. It strives to attract capital. It makes effort to bring in settlers."

Says the Winston Sentinel:

"Railroad developments in North Carolina and the South furnish the chief topic of discussion here just now. Reports of new moves by various railroads have been coming thick and fast recently. Much interest was aroused a few days ago by the report of the developments planned by the Norfolk Southern and the possibilities that might arise therefrom. Various views have been expressed as to the extent of these possibilities."

The Raleigh Times says:

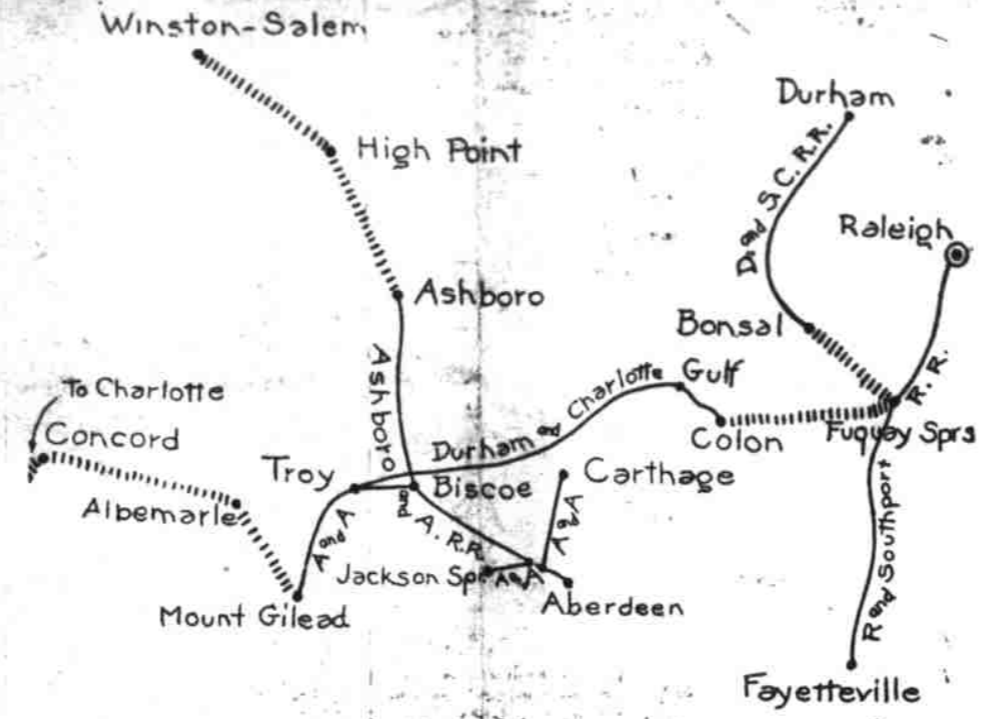
"The purchase by the Norfolk Southern of three railroads has led to much speculation. A number of persons seem to think that the Norfolk & Western Railroad, which is controlled in part at least by the Pennsylvania Railroad, is behind the scheme. In such an event the deal would appear bigger than it really is, which is saying a whole lot. It is almost certain that the owners of the Aberdeen and Asheboro will extend their line from Asheboro to High Point, a short distance, and from there to Winston-Salem and Greensboro. The Norfolk Southern corporation, with its acquired lines, controls the cream of North Carolina territory, and it is natural to infer that it will continue to expand."

This from the Durham Sun:

"From the large railroad development now under way in this section, Durham is to be a large beneficiary. In the scramble, the fact must not be lost sight of that Durham is to have the main line of the Seaboard. This will give the city the many advantages that accrue from a through-trunk line. It is also now practically settled that Durham is to be directly connected with the new Norfolk Southern system by way of the Durham and South Carolina. This road is being extended now to connect with the Raleigh and Southport, which is to be part of the main line of the Norfolk Southern when it is extended to Concord and further south. This outlet will be almost as desirable as the completion of the Durham and Charlotte as originally designed. Raleigh will be compensated for the loss of the Seaboard main line by the extension of the Norfolk Southern."

News and Observer: They build a new railroad almost every day on paper and by this date of 1912 these roads will be carrying trains from Raleigh to Concord.

FROM RALEIGH TO CONCORD



We produce above a map of the proposed new railroad from Raleigh to Concord. It will be seen from this that a large part of this route is already in use. A line is now completed from Raleigh to Fuquay Springs, and from Colon to Mt. Gilead. The only gaps that will have to be built is the short line from Fuquay Springs to Colon, and the line from Mt. Gilead or Troy to Concord. The Durham & Charlotte now has a line completed from Durham to Bonsal, via Gulf and Star. By using the Durham & South Carolina road, which is now completed from Durham to Bonsal, only a very short distance, from Bonsal to Fuquay Springs, will have to be built to put Durham on the line.

RAILROAD TALK AT MOUNT GILEAD.

Much Rivalry Between Troy and Mt. Gilead for Starting Point of New Line to Concord.

Special to The Tribune by Concord Telephone Co.

Mount Gilead, Nov. 21.—The people of Mount Gilead and vicinity are rejoicing over the fact that the Norfolk Southern will extend their lines to Concord. This will give this progressive little business center a direct route to the Piedmont section of the State and will put them in much closer touch with the outside world. There is much rivalry between Troy and Mt. Gilead as to which point will be used to run the new road when the line to Concord is constructed. Both places are preparing to make strong inducements. The natural location of Mount Gilead is greatly in its favor for if the road leaves the line of the A. & A. road, which was recently purchased by Norfolk Southern at Troy, it will have to go across the range of Uwharrie mountains and will be one of the most expensive lines ever constructed in the State, whereas if it leaves the A. & A. line at Mount Gilead it can follow the valley of the Yadkin across to Albemarle.

Another advantage set forth by the people here is that if the new road left at Troy it would be necessary to operate a short line from Troy to Mount Gilead and this would require the expense of train and crew. It is also rumored here that the new road to Concord may go by Norwood but the business people here do not give much credit to the report as a majority of them are of the opinion that the straight route from Mount Gilead to Albemarle along the Yadkin and just at the foothills of the mountain range is the most feasible and the most likely to be adopted.

Mr. H. A. Page, who was president of the A. & A. has been retained for the present in that capacity for both the A. & A. and the Durham & Charlotte, as also Mr. J. R. Page, superintendent. They will assume their duties with the Durham & Charlotte in a few days under the new management.

Battleship Figures in Murder Trial.

Boston, Mass., Nov. 21.—To further the ends of justice the United States battleship Nebraska left her place with the North Atlantic squadron and is now berthed at the Charleston navy yard awaiting inspection by the jury in the case of James Beeks, who was placed on trial in the United States circuit court here today for the alleged murder of Alexander Allen. Beeks and Allen, both negroes, were messmates on the Nebraska. The killing of Allen occurred on the battleship while she was at the Charleston navy yard last May. It is expected the jury will be asked to view the scene of the tragedy. On application of counsel for the accused negro the Navy Department ordered the Nebraska to return to Boston for the trial. Beeks claims that the shooting of Allen was in self-defense.

News and Observer: They build a new railroad almost every day on paper and by this date of 1912 these roads will be carrying trains from Raleigh to Concord.

BEATTIE CAN LIVE A MONTH IF HE CONFESSES.

Gov. Mann Makes Astonishing Proposal to Man Sentenced to Die Friday.—Beattie Faces Problem.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 20.—Henry Clay Beattie, Jr., sitting in the death cell of the penitentiary here, less than ten feet away from the electric chair in which he is to die next Friday, debated with himself Sunday a problem about as strange, as tremendous, as ever a man faced.

It was this: "Would 30 additional days of life be worth while accepting in exchange for a confession of guilt? Would one more month of breath be a sufficient recompense for a final and eternal blackening of his name by himself?"

Governor Mann, it has developed, approached by all sorts of influence to grant the rich young wife slayer a short reprieve, made this grim proposal:

"If Beattie will make a full and frank confession, he can live until December 24, Christmas Eve. If he does not, he shall be electrocuted at the time now fixed. Let him decide for himself."

It is understood that Beattie's lawyers informed him of the proposal yesterday, and that he said in reply: "Give me time to think. Give me time. I would like to live 30 days longer. God knows what might happen in thirty days. I cannot decide now. It is too great a question."

And so, contrary to his usual custom of spending the day reading light novels, he spent this Sunday pacing up and down his cell, or sitting on his cot with his head buried in his arms, wrestling with his big problem.

Naturally the boy wants life. He wants every minute of it he can have. He has many times exclaimed passionately: "Oh, God, if they'd only give me a few more weeks."

The amazing nerve that kept him up through his trial ordeal undoubtedly has begun to break. Within the past few days, at intervals, he has gone into fits of violent weeping, followed by outbursts of rage in which he would rant and swear.

Baptists in Norfolk Insist That Virginia Have Prohibition.

Norfolk, Va., Nov. 20.—The feature of today's final session of the General Baptist convention of Virginia, was the adoption of a strong report by its temperance committee, calling upon the next legislature to pass an enabling act, such as will provide for an election on State-wide prohibition. Rev. E. J. Richardson, speaking of the report declared that the people of Virginia will stand for no "monkey business" in this connection, and that something will explode if a statewide election is not soon provided for.

A sensation was sprung during the temperance report when 23 yards of liquor advertisements from one issue of a Richmond Sunday paper were stretched through the church where the convention is being held.

The Southern Railway desires to announce that it will offer reduced rates for the aviation meet in Salisbury November 21 and 22, Tuesday and Wednesday, today and tomorrow.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Some of the People Here and Elsewhere Who Come And Go.

Mrs. Eli Honeycutt is spending the day in Charlotte.

Mrs. J. M. Grier is visiting relatives in Rock Hill, S. C.

Mr. M. B. Stickleby is attending Rowan Superior Court.

Mr. Mark Linker has gone to Salisbury on a short business trip.

Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Maness are spending the day in Salisbury.

Mrs. C. W. Johnson, of Charlotte, is a business visitor in the city today.

Mrs. W. C. Correll and Miss Wilma Correll are spending the day in Salisbury.

Mr. M. E. Nathan, of Charlotte, is a business visitor in the city today.

Mrs. P. B. Means and Mrs. J. S. Lafferty are spending the day in Charlotte.

Mr. Samuel Hubbard, of Raleigh, State bank examiner, is here on official business.

Mr. W. W. Watt, of Charlotte, was a business visitor in the city yesterday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Propst, of Lexington, are visiting at the home of ex-Sheriff William Propst.

Miss Elizabeth Van Poole, who has been visiting Miss Ada Stirewalt in Mount Pleasant, has returned to her home in Salisbury.

Mr. J. Lee Stone, of Hickory, was here Monday. Mrs. Stone and children are now visiting relatives at New London.

Miss Bessie Heilig, of Mount Pleasant, returned yesterday afternoon to Elizabeth College, after visiting her parents for several days.

Miss Ashlyn Lowe has returned from Fort Mill, where she has been visiting Miss Dora Grier. She was accompanied by Miss Grier.

Rev. A. O. Lindley, Rev. D. A. Braswell and Rev. W. W. Bean have gone to Henderson to attend the annual conference of the Methodist Protestant church.

Mrs. E. C. Barnhardt, Mr. Eugene Barnhardt, Jr., Miss Louise Means and Mr. A. H. Howard are spending the day in Salisbury traveling in Mr. Barnhardt's "Interstate."

Meeting of Board of Stewards.

The first meeting of board of stewards for the conference year was held at Central Methodist church last night. W. D. Pemberton, J. L. Hartwell and J. B. Sherrill were appointed a committee to make the assessments for another year. J. E. Smoot and A. S. Webb were appointed a calendar committee. Dr. W. C. Houston, who for years has been the highly efficient treasurer of the church, resigned and his resignation was reluctantly accepted. Mr. R. A. Brower was chosen to succeed him, and Dr. Houston consented to serve as assistant treasurer. The pastor's salary for next year was fixed at \$1500.

The more you have to pay for a thing to buy it the less you would get for it if you were selling it.

PRESENTATION OF WATCH TO REV. W. L. HUTCHINS.

Beautiful Scene at Forest Hill Methodist Parsonage Last Night.—Touching Scenes of the Farewell Hour.

Last night about 7:30 o'clock, the parsonage of the Forest Hill Methodist church was a scene of a very interesting thing, the like of which has never before been witnessed there. More than the house could accommodate of the young people and other members of the church gathered to participate in an expression of the love and esteem manifested, especially by the "boys of Forest Hill," who selected Rev. W. C. Fink to formally present Rev. W. L. Hutchins a handsome gold watch.

The speaker, in a brief address of well chosen words, told the retiring pastor of some of the results of his life and ministry before his congregation and his influence for the uplift of the manhood and morals of the community in which he has worked for the past four years.

The entire company, as well as Mr. Hutchins, were visibly affected by the touching scenes of the farewell hour, and tears were in evidence to testify of the deep feeling which attended the occasion.

Quite a number of personal gifts were privately presented to the departing preacher and his good wife, many of which will doubtless linger to remind them in years to come of the friendship of an appreciative people.

Mr. and Mrs. Hutchins left on the early train this morning for their new field of labor in Winston-Salem, where they go to take charge of Burkhead church there.

Rev. W. M. Robbins, the new pastor of Forest Hill church, will arrive this afternoon on No. 46, and he will doubtless be heartily received by his people, who always show themselves loyal to good works in that part of our city vineyard.

Seats will go on sale tomorrow morning for the "Girl From Reno's." Prices 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.50 and 25 and 50 cents in the gallery.

BIRD HUNTING SEASON

Opens in Cabarrus and Rowan December 1.—Written Permission of Land Owners Required.

The bird hunting season in Cabarrus begins December 1, and closes March 1. The statute says: "The closed season, or time in each year during which quail and partridges shall not be shot, killed, wounded, or in any manner hunted, taken or captured, shall be from the first day of March until November 1." To this act there is an exemption of four counties, Cabarrus, Clay, Davie and Rowan, which says the closed season shall be from March 1 to December 1. Any killing or capturing of these birds in Cabarrus and Rowan then until December 1 is a violation of the game law and parties so doing are guilty of a misdemeanor.

A further act of importance, Pell's revised section 3469a says, under heading catching quail for shipment out of State, "It shall be unlawful for any person to catch, net or trap any quail or partridge for the purpose of shipping or transporting the same without the State of North Carolina, and any person doing so shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and be fined or imprisoned in the discretion of the court."

Section 3481 of the revival of 1905 says under head without written permission, "If any person shall hunt with dog or gun upon the lands of another without the written consent of the owner of the land he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. The punishment for the violation of this section shall, as to the several places to which it applies be a fine of not less than five dollars, or imprisonment of not more than thirty days.

A report that is most encouraging to local business is that the Gibson mill will begin operating at night within a few days. The Gibson mill is one of the largest mills in the city and employs the highest class of textile help, making a fine grade of goods, and its operating at night will considerably increase the total payroll of the city's industrial enterprises.

A Surprise For The Children

25c DRINKING CUP, 15c.

A combination white metal collapsible Drinking Cup and Black Patent Leather Bag, with long cord handle, a 25c value—only two gross at this special price 15c Each

Boys' and Girls' School Hose

Every Pair Guaranteed to Give Good Wear.

15c Double-knee Stockings 10c Pair

Other ones in heavier and better quality, at 25c Pair

GOOD VALUES IN TABLETS, PENCILS, ETC.

NEW SCHOOL SHOES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

Ask to See Them—No Trouble to Show Goods

H. L. PARKS & CO.