

OBJECTS PAYING EXTRA CHARGES ON WATER BILL

Citizen Thinks He Should Not Be Charged For Turning On Water.

LAI D CASE BEFORE CITY COUNCIL TODAY.

Several Routine Matters Disposed of—Board Was In Session Less Than An Hour.

The only matter of the least importance to come before City Council, in regular session Wednesday morning, was the question of whether Mr. T. B. Priest should pay the city a half dollar for turning on his water after it had been cut off following his failure to pay his rent within the specified time. The matter was referred to Councilman Jones, head of the water and sewer department, with power to act.

Mr. Priest appeared before Council in person and explained why he thought it unjust that he should be charged to pay this amount in view of the fact that he turned his water on immediately after an employee of the city had turned it off; he explained further that he merely forgot to pay the water rent and had no intention of not paying it. He explained in detail that he was put to much inconvenience before he was able to get city water and explained that he spent two days time in locating a water main which was possible to tap and connect his house with and that in view of this he did not think he should be obliged to pay the extra charges of fifty cents that is imposed for cutting on water that has been turned off upon the failure to pay the rent.

The meeting was of short duration and was presided over by Mayor Proctor B. A. Merritt, in the absence of Mayor P. Q. Moore.

Mr. L. G. Hicks, representing James & James, Inc., appeared before the board and explained that a number of houses that had been condemned were to be put in living condition and asked for some assistance toward equipping them with sewer accommodations. He stated that it would be necessary to extend sewer main up a private alley and told Council if the city would place this piping for a distance of 75 feet he would be willing to bear the remainder of the expense in connecting up all the houses which will entail a cost of approximately the same amount. The motion of Councilman Jones that the matter be referred to the City Attorney with power to act was carried.

The resignation of Mr. A. H. Simpson as fireman was laid before the board by Councilman Bunting, who explained that there was not a substitute to fill this position and that it would be necessary to place some one in the position temporarily until an examination could be held and a member elected.

Councilman Bradshaw reported that the Tidewater Power Company had already started work on the proposed improvements on South Front street. The removal of the pest houses at the county farm was brought to the attention of the board but no action being had on the matter, the opinion being expressed and apparently universally shared that the city really had little to do with the removal of these houses and their replacement with a smaller and better house that could be used in a case of emergency. However, the board expressed itself as willing provided the other governing bodies interested thought such an arrangement for the best.

Four or five dozen pairs of boots to be purchased by the laborers employed by the city, this decision being arrived at upon the recommendation of city purchasing agent Bunting. Another development was that the gravel for grave delivered by the Cape Fear Gravel Company is not up to the high standard expected and formerly received from this company and shipment of the additional lot will be held unless better gravel is sent.

BANQUET THURSDAY NIGHT.

Prof. R. L. Flowers, of Trinity College, Will Be Honor Guest.

Prof. R. L. Flowers, of the department of mathematics of Trinity College, Hartford, N. C., will be the guest of honor at the annual banquet of the local alumni association of Trinity College tomorrow at 8 o'clock at the Y. M. C. A.

Interest is running high and it is expected that a large number of Trinity alumni from New Hanover and adjoining counties will be in attendance at the banquet.

In addition to glee and choruses featuring Prof. Flowers, who is an unusually entertaining talker, a number of original local alumni will be on the program for addresses. Rev. W. C. McKee, pastor of Trinity Methodist church, of this city, will act as toastmaster.

AFTER NEW MEMBERS.

Local Red Cross Will Wage Strong Campaign Next Week.

Members of the Wilmington Red Cross Society will devote three days of next week for campaigning for new members for the local organization which is in accordance with instructions received from the national headquarters in Washington for all Red Cross Societies in the United States to make strong efforts to enroll 1,000,000 members at once.

Committees of the local Red Cross will make a thorough canvass and will endeavor to enroll many persons in the higher grades of membership. Because of the interest in the present situation it is hoped by the Red Cross

MANY MINISTERS IN ATTENDANCE

Two-Day Conference Was Convened at First Baptist Church This Morning.

The two-day conference of Baptist pastors was convened in the First Baptist church, corner of Market and Fifth streets, Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock, by Rev. W. N. Johnson, of Raleigh, secretary of the Board of Missions of the Baptist State Convention, with a goodly number of pastors from nearby points present and with additional ones expected in the afternoon and evening. The conference which was called to order this morning will be in session today and Thursday.

The ministers have three vital questions before them for consideration and they are giving them their undivided attention. They are:

First—Consider preparations for enlistment in revivals.

Second—Preparations for a mission campaign.

Third—Ten-day school for pastors. The principal sermon or address of the conference will be delivered in the First church this evening at 8 o'clock by Rev. Mr. Johnson and will be open to the public. Others may give short addresses but the one by Mr. Johnson will be the principal talk of the conference and should prove highly interesting and enterprising. It is hoped that as many as possible can will attend.

The visiting ministers are being served luncheon and supper by the ladies of the church and this is proving a delightful feature. The following ministers are in attendance and others are expected before the conference is brought to a close.

Rev. A. D. Carter, Garland; Rev. C. V. Brooks, Wallace; Rev. B. G. Early, Rose Hill; Rev. R. H. Herling, Mt. Olive; Rev. L. M. Holway, Southport; Rev. J. H. Poole, Whiteville; Rev. W. N. Johnson, Raleigh; Rev. Jno. Jeter Hurt, city; Rev. W. G. Hall, city; Rev. E. L. Weston, Burgaw and D. H. Wilcox, city.

GERMAN DRIVE PREDICTED IN WEST.

With the British Armies in the Field, Feb. 15 (By Mail)—Every indication today leads to the belief that the Germans will attempt an offensive on the western front this spring, but the British regard this probability with calm.

"As usual," an officer declared, "the Germans are trying to muddy the waters to keep us from seeing which way they jump. From what one usually describes as 'reliable sources' we learn that there is to be a drive on Odessa, a drive against Saloniki and a drive against the western front."

"Obviously all these drives cannot materialize. The German commanders encourage the circulation of these reports if not actually start them themselves. They hope to fool the Allies by this means; to keep us guessing at their intentions until the last moment, then strike before we have time to prepare against their offensive. They must attempt something on this front, even if it is only in the hope of spoiling what they believe to be our plans." It has been reported that the Kaiser had some idea of forcing peace after a smashing invasion of Russia, after the fall of Verdun and after the Rumanian adventure, but as Russia was not smashed and Verdun did not fall his peace move was postponed until Rucharest was taken. Now German rage against France and England because of their reply to President Wilson's peace note, is such that the popular feeling is that Field Marshal Hindenburg and Mackensen should drive against the Allies on the West and make them listen to reason as they understand it.

Furthermore it is reported that the situation in Germany is much worse than the outside world has been led to believe. Friction is said to be great between the heads of the various German states. The country people are described by neutrals as being bitter against the people living in towns because they believe the hard times produced by the war than they.

It is now or never with Germany, according to the belief of many. She must win or lose within the next few months, and as the western front is coming more and more to be considered as the theatre of the war's settlement, an offensive in the spring, or even earlier, is expected.

That Germany at the last moment will bring out her navy for one titanic struggle for supremacy on the sea, is also the opinion of many on the theory that a navy becomes obsolete anyway after a few years and if things go badly on land Germany might as well risk her feet too, as a gambler his last dollar, it being of little use alone.

AT WALLACE THURSDAY.

Wilmington Symphony Glee Singers To Appear There Tomorrow.

A full concert program will be given at Wallace Thursday, Washington's birthday, by the Wilmington Symphony Glee Singers, contract having been closed with the Wallace Christian Endeavor Society. The society was recently organized and has been trained by Mr. Bert G. Jones, of this city and formerly of Great Britain. Mr. Jones has had considerable experience in handling choruses and the society has made wonderful progress under his able direction.

In addition to glee and choruses the society is able to put on instrumental and vocal solos and duets. Included on the program at Wallace are the names of Miss Ruby Duncan and Mr. J. R. Eddy, both of whom are vocalists of reputation. These singers will assist the chorus in rendering "The Miserere" from "Il Traviatore."

The glee singers recently appeared in public at St. Andrew's Brotherhood and were enthusiastically received. Their renditions of the descriptive

SAYS COMPULSORY TRAINING IS GOOD

Dr. Charles T. Nesbitt Explains Best Method of Preparedness.

Dr. Charles T. Nesbitt, county health officer, who for many years was an officer in the United States army, is a strong advocate of compulsory military training for young Americans. Dr. Nesbitt believes that a youth arriving at his 16th birthday should begin to serve eighteen months with Uncle Sam's army in six months periods equally divided during three years or until he was 19 years of age and ready to enter college. A plan such as this will solve the preparedness problem which now faces the country, thinks the county health officer.

Dr. Nesbitt believes that there should be field camps maintained in various parts of the United States where for six months out of each year for the three years where all American youths who have reached their 16th birthday should be called for training. If the first six months in camp was devoted to the school of the soldier, that is teaching the young man to handle the rifle, shoot, drill, march and care for himself; and the second six months was devoted to the school of the non-commissioned officer, sergeants, corporals, etc., upon whom the responsibility of training the green recruits and leading small detachments of men, rests, and the third and last year was devoted to training the soldiers for officers. Dr. Nesbitt thinks that the problem of arming the United States is solved.

This plan would not only provide a large army for the country, but would not work any great hardship upon anyone, the service being compulsory, every young man, physically, able would have to serve. And during the entire three years when he received the training the young man would not be so tied-up in the regular army that he could not go to school as with the plan as set forth by Dr. Nesbitt only the six summer months would be utilized for the training thus giving the youth all of the winter months to attend High school.

When the soldier had reached the age of 19 years he would have completed his soldier training and be ready for college, should he be so fortunate as to be able to go. Also the government would have a well-trained soldier to be called to the colors at an instances notice. Should, during the three years period, the young man show a real enthusiasm for the soldier life, he could, with the training in the third year, show marks for an officer and continue to train until he had been accepted as such. But in any event all soldiers would be given the fundamental training for an officer.

Dr. Nesbitt believes that such compulsory military training would be of the greatest benefit to the young man and he would be a much better citizen, morally, mentally and physically. Under regular army office and strict discipline he would meet that force which he could not overcome and would be taught correct and proper submission. This would work wonders for the young in college and in business life which would follow. It would eliminate the "graduate loafer."

GOLF TOURNAMENT.

Members of Cape Fear Country Club Will Hold Annual Event.

Members of the Cape Fear Country Club will observe Washington's Birthday by engaging in a golf tournament. On Thursday morning the play event will be held and in the afternoon the mixed foursome medal play for nine holes will be staged. There has been a large number of entries.

The men of the club will engage in the morning event. The lowest handicapped players will be made captains of the opposing teams and will choose their players from the members present. The winners will receive golf balls. The chief event will be the mixed foursome medal play in the afternoon. The club trophy will be offered in this event.

Winners of the trophy during the last eight years are as follows: 1910, Miss Alice Boatwright and Mr. W. D. MacMillan, Jr.; 1911, Miss Lucille Murchison and Mr. J. Wallace Large; 1912, Miss Annie J. Northrop and Mr. C. E. Taylor; 1913, Mrs. J. V. Grainger and Mr. F. W. Dick; 1914, Miss Marguerite Walker and Mr. J. Holmes Davis; 1915, Mrs. F. W. Dick and Mr. J. Allen Stewart; 1916, Miss Fannie Grainger and Mr. W. A. French.

SPEAK ON MISSIONS.

Miss Chadsey at Fourth-Street Advent Christian Church Tonight.

Miss Maud M. Chadsey, of Boston, Mass., president of the Home and Foreign Missionary Society, will speak at the Fourth-Street Advent Christian church this evening at 7:45 o'clock on the subject of "Missions." The address promises to be of an unusually interesting nature and it is hoped that as many will hear her as can crowd into the church. Miss Chadsey comes to Wilmington highly rated as a mission worker and those who were instrumental in bringing her here feel that all should make a special effort to hear her.

MUCH INTEREST MANIFESTED.

Rev. John R. Matthews Impressing All With His Sermons.

Interest continues high in the services that are underway at the Church of the Good Shepherd and Rev. John R. Matthews, of Barnesville, Ohio, who is in charge, is preaching to large congregations nightly. Services were held at 11 o'clock this morning also. Last night's sermon was an unusually able one and was listened to with pro-

BOY SCOUTS COULD MUSTER BIG FORCE

Boys' Organization Head Says Active and Ex-Members Ready For Service.

There are 250,000 active and 350,000 former members of the Boy Scout organization of America ready for any service that may be required of them, according to an announcement that has just been made by Mr. Colin H. Livingstone, president of the organization. In a bulletin that is to be issued from National headquarters, in New York, it will be stated that to date there have been trained in this country about 600,000 Boy Scouts and of this number 200,000 are boys between the ages of 12 and 18 years.

"Fully 350,000 boys have within the last seven years," the announcement will read, "come within the influence of the scout program and training. This constitutes a group of 600,000 which will be immediately available for any service which the Nation may require of them." The 600,000 include both former and active members.

The duties which the Boy Scouts will be called upon to perform in the event of war are similar to those performed by the Boy Scouts under General Baden-Powell in Great Britain. Some of these duties, which are indicated in the forthcoming statement are given as follows.

"Members of the Boy Scouts of America who are yet boys will not be acceptable for military service because our country will not permit a boy to do the work of a soldier, which requires a matured and fully developed man. This will not, however, restrain boys who have had scout training, many rendering very definite service to their country."

"Every Boy Scout and every official of the Boy Scout movement will leave no room for doubt as to their patriotism and loyalty to the President and the government of the United States. From every scout home will fly the American flag."

"As troops or groups in our larger cities, services of the scouts will be made available to the civic authorities for either temporary or, in some cases, permanent service, as the needs may make necessary."

"Service of this character will include: "Distributing notices and gathering statistical information for the use of the civic and military authorities."

"Co-operating in the protection of property by accepting definite assignments for the purpose of giving alarms in case of danger."

"Collecting information as to supplies."

"Acting as messengers and orderlies."

"Co-operating with agencies organized for relief effort, and, "Assuming some definite part in the program of the American Red Cross Society."

"In every scout centre where there is a local council, and in all other communities, committees should be formed without delay for the purpose of tendering through the proper authority, that is, the Mayor, the secretary of the Rotary Club, the Boy Scouts of America in accordance with the foregoing."

"With a view of further preparing for any possible emergency, it is suggested that in every community where there are two or more troops of scouts through the duly constituted authorities plans be made and actual practice be had of mobilization of scouts in the shortest possible time."

"In case of doubt by local committee or local councils, or by individual troops when they do not have the benefit of such leadership, as to the propriety of the Boy Scouts doing any particular service the National Headquarters will gladly respond promptly and when necessary, by telegram, to all requests for advice."

"Adequate for Emergencies. "The Boy Scout movement will prove adequate for any emergency. Everywhere our boys will do their duty to God and their country, and obey the scout law."

"They will help other people at all times."

SMALL ESTATES

The Trust Company welcomes the management of small estates. The same care, economy and experience is applied to their management as to large estates. If you have not yet made your Will, or if you have not named our Company as your Executor or Trustee, we shall be pleased to consult with you about the same and advise you without charge. May we do so?

The Wilmington Savings & Trust Company

Capital and Surplus.....\$ 400,000.00
Resources.....\$3,000,000.00
Established 1887.

MUCH DECORATING FOR CELEBRATION

Hundreds of Flags Are Flying For Washington's Birthday on Tomorrow.

The Stars and Stripes are being flung to the breeze from practically every vantage point on the buildings of the down-town section Wednesday in preparation for the celebration of George Washington's birthday on Thursday, at which time every State in the Union will pay homage to the memory of the first President of the United States and the Father of the Country. Older citizens say that never in the history of the city has Wilmington showed its patriotism in such a large way as it has of late. Since the country has been faced with a war with Germany Red White and Blue flags have been displayed on every hand.

Many business houses in the city will close doors Wednesday night not to open until Friday morning on account of the occasion. The banks, both savings and national, in the city will not open for business tomorrow. All Federal offices will be closed and many of the city and county offices will not open for the transaction of business Thursday.

Holiday hours will be observed at the postoffice. The general delivery window will be open only one hour—from 11 to 12 o'clock. Stamps will be sold at this window at that time. Only one delivery and one collection of mail will be made by the carriers.

Members of the Wilmington Rotary Club will indicate their patriotism on Thursday by displaying flags in front of their places of business. Rotarian Carl W. Polvogt is lending each member of the Rotary Club a flag particularly for this occasion. Rotarian Meares Harris has mailed a card to each Rotarian requesting that he call at the C. W. Polvogt & Co. store and secure the flag.

At noon tomorrow the coast guard cutter Seminole will render the prescribed salute of twenty-one guns in honor of George Washington. Every warship in the coast guard and naval service will pay homage to Washington by firing a score and one salutes from one of their guns.

NEW SPRING SHIRTS

In White or Colors With Either Soft or Stiff Cuffs

MANHATTAN

—AND—

EMERYSHIRTS

\$1.00 to \$6.00

J. M. SOLKY & CO.

One-Price Clothiers & Furnishers.

BURIED WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

Death Occurred Monday Night—Former Member of Police Force.

The remains of Mr. John A. Martin, former member of the Wilmington police force, who died Monday night at his home on the Cape Fear river, near the Carolina fish factory, were interred in the family burying grounds near the old home place this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock following funeral service conducted from the late home. The deceased was 47 years of age.

Mr. Martin was a member of the First Baptist church of this city and was held in the highest regard by all who knew him. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. E. H. Harker.

ESTABLISH NEW BUOY.

Obstruction Buoy in Cape Fear River Will Be Re-numbered.

Shoal buoy 7 A, a second-class can, will be established in the Cape Fear river in 24 feet of water, at the edge of shoaler water on the following bearing: New channel range rear light, 127 degrees; Bald Head Lighthouse, 155 degrees; Fort Caswell Tower, 291 degrees, according to the weekly notice of mariners, issued February 10th. In the vicinity of this buoy deep draft vessels should keep about 200 yards Northeastward of the Fort Caswell Range. Obstruction buoy 7 A will be re-numbered 9.

Bon Marche

(Incorporated)

New Garments for Spring

Kayser Silk Gloves

A large shipment of Kayser silk gloves arrived yesterday. The "Kayser" is the recognized standard of silk gloves in America and are acknowledged the best value that can be procured in purchasing silk gloves. We deem ourselves fortunate in being able to present this varied line so early in the season, as it is a known fact that the Kayser factories are some six months over sold.

At 65c a pair we show a line of solid white, gray and black gloves in all sizes from 5 1-2 to 8.

At 75c we show a line of solid black and white, also black and white in contrasting stitching.

At \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$1.65 the line is composed of the heavier qualities of Kayser silk and a number of high class novelties.

We advise the purchase of at least two pairs for the beginning of the season, as we cannot re-order any of these numbers.

Crepe de Chine Windsor Ties In the New Colorings

We want you to come in and view the brilliant new designs in the crepe de chine windsor ties at our neckwear counter. They are priced at 50c each.

The "San Toy" neck cords are one of the big hits of the spring season, in all the desirable colors; priced at 25c.