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STRONG PLEA FOR LONGER CANAL

PROMINENT SPEAKERS PRESENT ELIZABETH CITY'S CLAIMS SHOWING WHY THE DISMAL SWAMP CANAL SHOULD BE MADE A PART OF THE INLAND WATERWAY.

The National Board of Engineers, composed of Col. William T. Russell, Col. S. W. Roessler, Col. W. C. Langfelt, Maj. Herbert Deakins, Maj. W. J. Borden, and Mr. A. H. Weber, secretary, arrived here last Tuesday evening about 6:30 on the U. S. government yacht, McGregor through the Dismal Swamp canal, and held a hearing in the county court house beginning at 7:30 o'clock, in regard to the selection of one of the canals as a part of the Inland Waterway route. A large number of interested citizens were present to hear the speeches.

Mr. E. F. Lamb, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce was the first speaker to present the claims of the Dismal Swamp canal to the board. He did this in a very forcible manner, citing statistics, at length, to show to the board the importance of the Dismal Swamp canal to the commerce of this section, and how that Elizabeth City's commerce would be crippled, should this canal be closed, as it will be should the Albemarle and Chesapeake canal be selected. He spoke at length on what the canal means to the people of the upper Pasquotank, and how they would be greatly injured in their enterprises and their lands depreciated in value on account of the isolation that the closing of this canal would entail. He appealed to the members of the board in behalf of the people of this city and community to select the Dismal Swamp canal. Mr. Lamb's speech was heard with a great deal of interest and the members of the board gave the strictest attention to it.

Ex-Judge J. B. Leigh followed Mr. Lamb, and spoke at length upon the relative merits of the two canals as a part of the waterway. He cited two reasons especially that made the Dismal Swamp canal superior. They are the shifting sand bottoms of the Albemarle and Chesapeake canal and the exposure to the ocean, which would make it an easy prey to enemy in time of war. The difference in the length of the two canals, is not enough to cause any preference to be shown to the Albemarle and Chesapeake canal. "Even if it does cost a few hundred thousand dollars to build the Dismal Swamp canal," said Mr. Leigh, "what does that matter with the United States government, when it is building for all time."

Mr. Leigh spoke of the valuable lands that will be reclaimed from the swamps and marshes along the banks of the canal, when it is made sea level. He related how the Dismal Swamp canal will put Elizabeth City and this community in close touch with transportation and put Elizabeth City nearer the ocean by twenty miles, and how all this will greatly improve the prosperity of a very great number of people while the Albemarle and Chesapeake canal will help no one and develop nothing.

Mr. Leigh was followed by Mr. Aydlett who spoke advancing many strong reasons for the Dismal Swamp canal. Mr. Aydlett declared that the purpose of the government was to finance projects that would result to the most good to the greatest number of people, and in this case, the greater number of people will be benefited by the Dismal Swamp canal. He showed to the board how more than 20,000 people will be affected by the decision of the board in making this selection. If the Dismal Swamp canal route is selected, these 20,000 people will be benefited, but if

MORE DELAY AND NO GAS

KNOCKED OFF THEIR FEET BY AN ANONYMOUS PETITION THE CITY FATHERS POSTPONE ACTION UNTIL NEXT MONTH. THE MATTER TO BE ADVERTISED IN THE MEANTIME.

At a call meeting of the board of aldermen Monday night, the petition of the North Carolina Gas Company for a franchise to establish a gas plant here was for the present at least denied.

The board justifies its action on the ground that the stipulated price at which this company agrees to furnish gas is too high. Two facts probably led the board to this conclusion. In the first place, the committee to whom the matter had been referred brought in a report unfavorable to granting this company the franchise. In the second, Mr. C. E. Thompson, acting as agent for nobody knows who, put in a bid to furnish gas at a rate 25 cents lower than that stipulated by the North Carolina Gas Company. It was decided, therefore, to advertise the fact that Elizabeth City desires to grant some gas company a franchise, in order that competing companies may be given an opportunity to make offers. No matter what has been set for the next hearing, and it is hoped that a number of petitions for the franchise will at that time be received. The delay may result in cheaper gas, but it seems a pity that the idea of advertising did not occur to the board four weeks earlier. Some, it seems, are opposed in their power to work for delay.

DECISION IN TALBOTT CASE AFFIRMED

Interesting and Hard Fought Case Attracting Wide Attention at Last Settled.

The United States Circuit Court of Appeals at Richmond, has affirmed the judgement of Judge H. G. Connor in the case of J. F. Talbot vs the Norfolk Southern Railroad Company. This case has been in litigation since 1906, and has been fought with much feeling upon the part of the railroad company, to the extent of attempting to put Mr. Talbot, Mr. E. F. Aydlett, his attorney, and sheriff Reid in contempt because of their efforts to collect the judgement.

Mr. Talbot is to be congratulated upon his victory.

\$90,000-ON STREET PAVING

The street paving work is progressing very rapidly, and most of the work is already done.

Last Saturday, when City Clerk Brochet issued the orders for the month of September, the amount that has already been spent, totaled more than ninety thousand dollars.

the Albemarle and Chesapeake canal is selected, these 20,000 people will be injured and no one will be benefited. Mr. Aydlett's argument was very strong and convincing, and the members of the board listened with great interest while he spoke.

He was followed by attorney J. Konyon Wilson, who made a very forcible speech in behalf of the Dismal Swamp canal, laying much stress upon the great impetus that the natural drainage, of this canal, will give to increasing artificial drainage. Congressman John H. Small, who accompanied the board, made the closing speech. He spoke on the development of the Inland Waterway scheme, and the efforts that he has made, in behalf of the movement. After the hearing the Board of Engineers left on the revenue Cutter Pamlico.

CIRCUS DAY IN BETSEY

LARGE CROWDS WILL PROBABLY BE HERE TO-MORROW TO ATTEND THE JOHN ROBINSON BIG SHOWS - "THE REPRESENTATIVE SHOW OF THIS COUNTRY."

Tomorrow will be circus day in Elizabeth City. The John Robinson Shows, which have been before the public for many years will appear here and probably a great crowd from the city and the surrounding country will be present at their performance. If the show given here measures up to the reputation of this aggregation, those coming to the city expecting to see a first class circus will not be disappointed. A statement provided this paper by the management of the show is as follows:

The John Robinson Ten Big Shows Combined which is to be here Saturday, Oct. 14th, is the only show of magnitude that has not fallen to the blandishments of the circus trust. There is no danger that it is going to for should it do so it would only strengthen the syndicate and weaken its own good name and merit. The trust has made all possible overtures to Mr. Robinson but in vain. He has only had to laugh at both their threats and promises. Should the octopus of a trust ever succeed in getting the Robinson show within their fold they would then control the world of tented aggregations, can only dictate to these and cannot the three shows they now control and their power is so limited that they can only dictate to these and cannot direct the movements of the others as they would like to do.

When one considers the reputation of the Independent show and that of the ones in the trust the wisdom of Mr. Robinson becomes apparent. Of the three syndicated shows two of them are operated under the titles of men who have long since passed away from the successes they made in the world. The prime mover in the trust are men who until recent years were wholly unknown to the show world and whose spasmodic elevation has been of a sudden and of an uncertain nature. The Robinson show has been a fixture in the tented aggregations of this country for eighty-seven years. Its perfection has thus not been sudden but one of a steady, healthy and permanent growth. It is the result of the work of many generations and the experience that had thus been gained the people of the present day are profiting by. Long before any of the syndicated shows were ever thought of the Robinson show had established a reputation that the weakly organized trust would like to strengthen itself with. Every possible thing that could be thought of to harass a reputable show has been resorted to by the syndicated shows to annoy their great Independent adversary. All of this has been in vain and in every instance where the shows have met in opposition the reputation of the Robinson show has stood in it good stead and the patronage the trust sought to divert from it came to it naturally. The result has always been that the trust has received just what they sought to hand the John Robinson Ten Big Shows Combined. In not one instance of opposition has the Ten Big Shows been damaged and this fact is due simply to the reputation that it has made and retained by fair dealing with the public ever since its organization nearly a century ago. It needs but a glance at the life of the John Robinson Ten Big Shows Combined to see that it needs no affiliation with any other aggregation or set of aggregations. America is truly and suitably represented in the John Robinson Ten Big Shows Combined and would be detrimental not alone to the show it

NAGS HEAD IN LIME LIGHT

ANOTHER INTERESTING RELIC BROUGHT TO LIGHT STRENGTHENING DR. HATHAWAY'S THEORY THAT LOST COLONY PERISHED AT NAGS HEAD.

Proof still continues to come from the Indian village on Nags Head of the probable movements and fate of the first English colony that came to North Carolina.

Dr. J. D. Hathaway, who is developing into an archaeologist of great ability, as well as a tireless explorer of ruins of the Indian villages of our coast country, brought back with him from last Sunday's trip to Nags Head, a fishing spear, the like of which has never been seen in this town or in Nags Head. That is what one of the oldest settlers of Nags Head says as to that part of the country. It resembles but very slightly any kind of spear or harpoon ever found here or anywhere between here and the coast.

This spear or fishing hook is a rod of iron, possibly when new about three-fourths of an inch in diameter. At one end of this rod, there is a socket, rust eaten and partly gone; but enough there to indicate that a wooden handle was fitted into it. On the other end of the rod there is a pointed instrument, crudely wrought, that is an exact reproduction of an Indian arrow head. This instrument was evidently used in catching fish of considerable size.

When this instrument was shown to a gentleman in this city, he examined it curiously and advanced the following opinion: "The instrument is crudely constructed, the point of it shows that, and it was evidently an invention of necessity, quickly constructed, of material at hand to supply an immediate need." "Who knows," continued the gentleman, "but that the ammunition of the colonists became exhausted, and this was manufactured for the purpose of providing game and fish, too." Dr. Hathaway informs us that this curious relic was found in close proximity to the site of the Indian village.

A "NUT TO CRACK" FOR THE COLORED POPULATION OF THE SOUTH

Our colored friends in the South who enjoy the taste of coconuts from Thanksgiving to New Years, are up against it.

A Coconut Trust has been formed by New York and Philadelphia Importers, and while coconuts are plentiful, prices are away up. Coconuts are not easily digestible and the more one has to pay for them the harder a man will digest both nut and price. Maybe the colored people will swallow and digest a suggestion how to "knock the trust on its 'coconut'" by saving their money and digestion for the holidays, giving coconuts the go-by for Thanksgiving. The dealer must realize on his coconuts because they spoil within a short time unless put in cold storage, and prices will tumble.

If the colored people will digest this point, they will have coconuts in plenty right after Thanksgiving and at such low prices that they can out to test their digestion as never before.

ANTI-COCOANUT TRUST L. C. CUMMINGS, New York Oct 10th, 1911.

self but to the whole United States to have this great enterprise in any other position than it is—the representative show of this country.

VICTOR'S BAND MONDAY NIGHT

THIS ATTRACTION SO FAVORABLY RECEIVED LAST YEAR SECURED BY SPECIAL EFFORT AT NO LITTLE EXPENSE—LARGE AUDIENCE EXPECTED.

Music lovers hail with delight the announcement of the coming of Victor's Venetian Band, which won great favor on its first appearance in this city. The performance will take place next Monday night in the auditorium of the high school building. Tickets are now on sale at Seligs.

This performance is a rare opportunity for those who love high class band music. It's a veritable feast of good things, that Elizabeth City will not likely attain etoai etoai taio audiences do not get every day, and they will not likely let this opportunity pass by.

Victor's Band was a number in the Star Course last year, and played before a large audience, which pronounced it a splendid performance. It will be just as good this year or even better than it was last.

The program rendered at the performance will be varied to suit the musical tastes of the most critical audience.

Among other features are the Brass Sextette, and Miss Evangeline Helz, vocal soloist.

This is not a regular number in the Star Course, and it was secured by special efforts at considerable expense. The Elizabeth City people should appreciate these special efforts on the part of Prof. Sheep to give them high class performance by patronizing liberally this entertainment.

Y. M. C. A. WORK TO OPEN SOON

Steps are now being taken to finish the Y. M. C. A., so that the active organization can begin its work after a suspension of five years.

The building has been completed for several months. All that is necessary now is to furnish the building, install a heating plant, and the Y. M. C. A. is ready to begin its work. It is estimated that the sum of four thousand dollars will be necessary to equip the building properly for the work and to provide a secretary. This amount can very likely be secured from a collection of the unpaid pledges, that are considerably past due.

A meeting of the directors was held several nights ago, in the parlors of the institution. Secretary Huntington was present at this meeting and helped the directors to plan for opening of the work. It was decided in the meeting to begin a canvass to secure the collection of the unpaid pledges; and the collectors are now busy collecting these funds. The directors feel confident that they will experience no difficulty in getting the money necessary to start the Y. M. C. A. work.

The board is now on the lookout for a first-class secretary for the Y. M. C. A. At the meeting several names were suggested, but none proved satisfactory. By the time the building is properly equipped, the board is confident that it will have secured a proper secretary.

The five years suspension of the local organization has most forcibly impressed upon the people of Elizabeth City the need for such an institution, and the absolute necessity for its existence in our midst. The young men are Y. M. C. A. hungry, and will hail with delight its opening, which it is hoped will take place in the near future.

"Generosity does not consist in giving money or money worth. We owe to man man." —Emerson.

FEDERAL COURT IN SESSION

SEVERAL IMPORTANT CASES TRIED BEFORE JUDGE CONNOR—SAUNDERS PLEADS GUILTY TO CHARGE AGAINST HIM—GETS OFF WITH LIGHT FINE AND A WARNING.

The fall term of the Federal Court for the eastern district of North Carolina, convened last Tuesday morning in the United States Court room in this city.

The morning session was devoted to organizing the court. The following is the list of jurors:

W. H. Hampton, James E. White, R. A. Kohlass, S. W. Morse, Will Stanton, W. W. Burgess, S. T. Pinner, Kindred Parker, W. J. Simmons, T. W. Blount, Roland Sprull, T. S. Robertson, R. J. Poyner, Hugh Copeland, John T. Williams, L. R. Howell, James Key, E. Overman, W. J. Broughton, W. E. Whaley, A. F. Stanton, W. G. Morgan, W. R. White, H. L. Belanga, Joshua T. White, Vic Hoffer, J. W. Parker, L. F. Zeigler, H. B. Burgess, Elijah Sawyer, H. A. Tarkington, R. F. Tuttle, J. L. Decornis, J. F. Gray, Charles Laster, S. Jaffe, Willis Owens, L. D. Bond, J. S. Creel, R. C. Hewitt, F. M. Gordon, Edgar Reynolds, Web Hassel, Oswald Ballinger and S. G. Pugh.

The afternoon session of Tuesday, and a greater part of the morning session of Wednesday was devoted to the case of United States against W. E. Bateman, post master at Gudder, N. C.

Attorneys H. S. Ward and R. W. Turner represented the defendant. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty and Mr. Bateman was discharged.

This case grew out of illegal irregularities in the post money order department of the Gudder postoffice, in which the postoffice inspector alleged he was short \$255. The money was paid by Mr. Bateman more than a year ago; and he has been retained as post master ever since and is post master now.

Mr. Bateman is a man of good character, and has the confidence of the people of his community. Although these charges have been pressed against him by the inspector, yet the United States government still has confidence in him, or he would not be retained as postmaster.

In the case of United States against W. O. Saunders, publisher of the Independent, upon the charge of using the United States mails for the circulation of vile, vulgar and indecent literature, attorneys for Saunders asked for a "nolo contendere." District Attorney Sewall refused to accept this, and demanded that Saunders should plead "guilty" or "not guilty", whereupon attorney W. D. Pruden entered a plea of guilty for Saunders and Judge Connor fined him one hundred dollars and the cost of the action.

Judge Connor took occasion to lecture Saunders severely, upon the seriousness of his crime and delivered a most scathing denunciation, which was the most beautiful language that was ever heard in a court house here.

Judge Connor said that as this was the first time that Saunders had been in his court, that he would make the fine very light, but that Saunders must not be led into the error of regarding his crime as a small one because the fine was small, for should the attention of the court be called to offenses of this nature again; a severe punishment would be imposed. He said that he hoped that this would be a lesson to Saunders and that he would not be guilty of such a serious crime again. Judge Connor continued, saying that he could not

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