

## MAYOR SPEAKS UPON UTILITIES

### At Weekly Rotary Luncheon Sets Out Briefly Reasons for Terminating Long Litigation.

Speaking to the Elizabeth City Rotary club at its weekly luncheon Friday, Mayor W. Ben Goodwin set out briefly some of the reasons why the City Council decided to terminate the long drawn out litigation in which the city was involved with the private corporations supplying it, after a fashion, with water, sewerage, lights and power, and to embark at once on the development of municipal utilities.

Mayor Goodwin also set forth in general terms his new line of policy in the construction of new utilities in competition with the privately owned ones. The conflict would have given trouble and the fiscal result, if peace were ever established, would have been the taking over of these properties by the city. A postponement of the inevitable day was only the making worse of a bad proposition.

"Right here," said Mayor Goodwin, by way of preface in making his remarks, which were informal, "I am reminded of the admonition we often hear never to speak upon a question with which we are unfamiliar. To illustrate: A city-boy upon his first visit to the country for the first time saw among many other novel and interesting things, the milking of a cow. Now you know where the milk comes from, don't you? he was asked. Sure, replied Johnnie, you give her some breakfast food and water and then drain her crank case. Although associated with the city administration for nearly four years I am still lacking in a knowledge of many of the essentials which go to make up a complete understanding of this important question.

"I feel sure that every member of this Club is familiar with the history of the utilities problem which has confronted the present, and the past two or three city administrations; how that many surveys and appraisals have been made for the purpose of determining municipal ownership, and the establishment of a price, fair and just from the City's viewpoint, for these privately owned properties; how that every proposal made by the City was rejected and how, as a final remedy, the determination was reached to build our own plants. We were just upon the verge of opening bids for the purchase of the original offering of bonds, when we were enjoined from proceeding further and thrown into the courts where we fought legal battles back and forth for a period of over two years. During this period our City was suffering innumerable inconveniences and real hardships. Our utilities companies, from an alleged inability to borrow money with which to do so, made no improvements or extensions of the sewer and water systems and the light and power plant operated almost continuously upon a poor service basis. Our streets, getting in worse condition every day, could not be mended without entailing an expenditure which it was felt would be practically wasted in the face of the contemplated work presently to be taken up upon sewer and water mains.

"With a period of indefinite litigation facing us, I welcomed the opportunity of casting a vote which would end our progressive stagnation and enable us to start some development which would place us upon a par with other cities of our wonderful State. While we all agree that the price to be paid the utilities companies is exorbitant we must further admit that many considerations enter into the proposal which, when considered, give an entirely different viewpoint to the question. With only a small area of the town sewered and the remainder poorly equipped in toilet facilities, we have been held up as violators of the State law on sanitation and have only gotten by through kindly consideration of a State Board of Health who knew our situation and the efforts we were making to reach a solution of the problem. Had we been forced by the State Board to install sanitary privies, as would have been, the cost upon our citizens would have been between 60 and 75 thousand dollars. Then upon an adjustment of the utilities question, and the installation of sewers, this expenditure would have developed into a wasted item through the scrapping of these makeshifts and the connection with the sewer system, which would have been compelled.

"Taking our water situation: Large territories of our city have poor fire protection. Some parts of the corporate limits have no protection whatever. Our citizens in these areas are paying excess insurance rates and taxes, for something they are not receiving. The economic loss to our town, brought about through the adverse criticism of our poor facilities, respecting our public service utilities; the condition of our paved streets, which cannot be improved, pending the improvement of underground work, without great financial loss, is one which cannot be estimated in its effect upon the outside world and,

## NORWAY TRYING TO STOP RUM RUNNING

(By The Associated Press) Oslo, Norway, Jan. 17.—The Norwegian government is considering legislation to prevent the participation of Norwegian vessels in rum running trade to America. The foreign office, through the Washington Legation, has obtained the names of 10 Norwegian vessels on the rum run. The list has been sent to the Shipowners Association and the Justice Ministry for further action. The shipowners have already been cautioned against rum running.

In view of these circumstances, and the fact that it is of great importance and of just material benefit, I feel the town was justified in buying the properties so it would be hands-free to go ahead in their development without the handicap which they always would have presented, even though we had finally won out in the courts and been permitted to go ahead in the construction of new utilities in competition with the privately owned ones. The conflict would have given trouble and the fiscal result, if peace were ever established, would have been the taking over of these properties by the city. A postponement of the inevitable day was only the making worse of a bad proposition.

"Arrangements have been made for the local transfer to the city of the utilities properties on Saturday, January 21. Our consulting engineer is now working upon plans which contemplate the taking up first of the sewer development. Specifications will be ready so as to solicit bids upon pumping stations and sewer excavations and laying of pipe so as to let same and have construction start early in March.

"It will be unreasonable to expect an immediate improvement in utilities service. It will take time to plan and construct. An entire new filtration plant must be constructed before an improvement in the quality of water can be expected. An investigation will be made in regard to the bringing from Norfolk of a line to furnish power and light to see if this will be more economical or advantageous than local production. Upon this investigation will depend whether or not vast improvements will be made in the local power plant or just enough to make it an auxiliary which can be depended upon in connection with the high power line.

"We are just moving into a new era of city development, and men such as I face here are those upon whom dependence must be placed for the carrying forward of this work. Above all we must stick together, work together, pull together and above all co-operate together which will forever ban from our midst the cantankerous howler, the dissection creator or any other personage calculated to destroy a united front, working in unison for our city's uplift, advancement and ultimate pre-eminence."

## Coney Island Now in Much Favor As A Winter Resort

### Not Short of Palm Beach Will One Find Bigger Crowds Than Now Enjoy Ice and Icicles at New York's Famous Bathing Beach

(By EDNA MARSHALL) (Copyright, 1924, By The Associated Press) New York, Jan. 17.—Sheets of ice and icicles, and great open sandy beaches used to be, have turned Coney Island, New York's most popular winter resort, into one of the most popular winter resorts this side of Palm Beach. Under a cutting wind that favored a snow storm soon to come, or by the bleak coldness of the roller coasters and other concessions that lure them in summer, more than forty thousand pleasure seekers flocked about the island Sunday.

Forty persons sought their fun in the bounding waves, stopping to urge the passing crowds to join them as they poked with warm and glowing toes among the snow drifts on the shore. The rest of the forty thousand paraded on the board walk, where workmen with shovels were busily clearing away snow and pouring salt and cinders on icy places.

Along the board walk a few concessioners, with overcoats wrapped tight above their necks and fur caps pulled low, barked the worth of their hot dogs. A throng of fur coated men stopped to play skee ball, or have their weight guessed, or take a shot at the hundred old tricks that wait in the shooting gallery to attract the skill of the passerby. On the beach, a hundred children took turns riding the wee ponies that romp about the heated sands in summer.

Snow covers the minarets and spires, the ferris wheels and merry go rounds. Long icicles decorate the tracks of the roller coasters. Except for the board walk promenade, the children and bathers, and the enterprising concessioners, Coney Island is forlorn. The streets of the city itself are almost deserted. Luna

## WINDOW SERVICE HOUR CHANGE AT POST OFFICE

J. A. Hooper, postmaster Elizabeth City post office, announces that on and after the twentieth of this month, in compliance with instructions from the Post Office Department, hours of window service for the money order business will be the same as at other first class offices, from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m., instead of from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m.

## ASSEMBLY MERELY IS MARKING TIME

Raleigh, Jan. 17.—Both houses adjourned this afternoon until 7:30 Monday night when they will adjourn in honor of the memory of General Robert E. Lee. Representative Julia Alexander introduced a bill today appropriating \$25,000 to building a home for delinquent negro girls at England.

Governor McLean went to Lumberton for the week end. Treasurer Lack was reported better today. Raleigh, Jan. 17.—The prospect when the Legislature convened today was that the session would be short and would adjourn until Monday night. Many members were excused yesterday. The Assembly is marking time awaiting the reports of the Budget Commission and the Board of Assessments on appropriations and finance bills by Chairman Townsend of the House Finance Bill, Chairman Townsend of the House Finance committee, conferred with Governor McLean regarding financial matters this morning, but nothing was given out regarding the conversation. A sub-committee of the finance committee composed of Representatives Whitaker, Howie, Connor, Tullington, Hart, Cox, and Geer will begin work on the bill.

## NEW AMBASSADOR ON WAY TO AMERICA

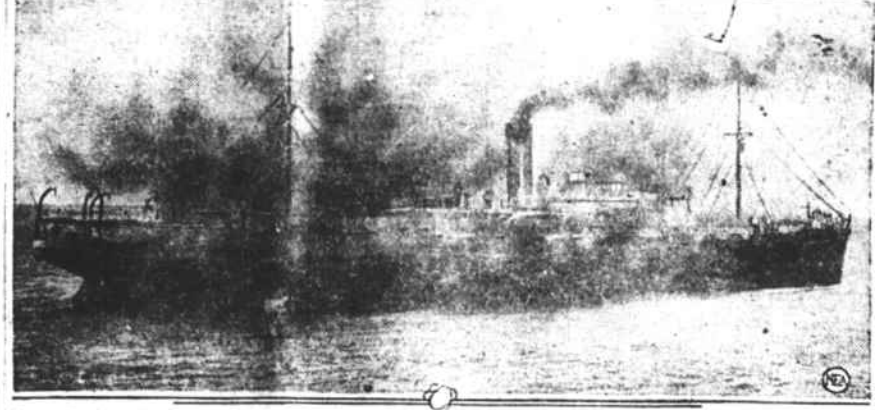
(By The Associated Press) Paris, Jan. 17.—Emile Daeschner, the new French Ambassador to the United States, left here today for Havre, where he will sail this afternoon for New York. Daeschner goes with complete instructions concerning the war debt matter as well as other important questions between the two countries. It is understood for the time being that his work on the debts will be confined to transmitting communications from Finance Minister Clementel.

## ELIZABETH CITY GIRLS LOSE BELHAVEN GAME

Belhaven defeated Elizabeth City 32 to 14 Friday night at Colhaven, according to a telegram received here Saturday. Margaret Sawyer made six points, Belle Miller six and Monterey Cartwright two.

Tonight the Elizabeth City and New Bern girls play at New Bern. Mr. and Mrs. Barney Berry and little son, Elmer Trent, of Weaverville, spent Thursday in the city.

## Japanese Vessel Burns at Sea



This is how the Japanese steamer Ginyo Maru of the T. K. K. line looked when more than 100 passengers and members of her crew abandoned the burning vessel off the west Mexican coast and took to lifeboats. Two were burned to death and several injured, while all were imperiled by the explosives the Ginyo was carrying as part of her cargo.

## WAGE FIGHT FOR FIRE PREVENTION

### Two Bills in General Assembly to Make State Safe from the Fire Demon

Raleigh, Jan. 17.—A fight against the great destructive demon, fire, has been launched in the North Carolina Legislature. Two measures designed to decrease the fire hazards, in the state have been introduced in the House of Representatives by Representative David P. Dellinger, of Gaston. One would require hospitals to be built of fire-resistant materials and the other would increase the stringency of the present statute regarding electrical wiring. The last measure would make it necessary for all persons doing electrical wiring work to secure a license to be granted only after he has shown that he is capable in this line.

The main clause of the bill concerning "fire-proof" hospitals follows: "That all hospitals, sanatoriums and asylums and other buildings used for the treatment of, prostration or restoration of sick, wounded, insane or infirm persons, hereafter erected in this State, shall be so constructed of fire resistant materials throughout as to afford reasonable safety to all occupants of such buildings."

The Insurance Commission, who is ex-officio fire marshal, will be charged with the duty of inspecting all plans for new hospitals. Hospitals already erected would be required to conform to the clause quoted above as far as practicable in the opinion of the Insurance Commissioner within three years and all hospitals to be built from existing buildings also would be required to conform with that clause.

Failure to comply with the law would be classed a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$50 for each day's neglect. The Insurance Commissioner also would have supervision over the proposed regulation of electrical contractors. He would pass on applications for licenses in many cases. However, electricians licensed by some city or town would not have to secure another license from the State. The fee for a State license would be \$1.

An examining board to pass on applicants for license as electricians would be created in each town, consisting of the local electrical inspector, one wireman, one contractor, the mayor or his representative and an appointee of the Insurance Commissioner. The law would not apply to employees of an electric light or power company, or street railway company, engaged in the installation of machinery or wiring on its own premises.

## STEAMERS COLLIDE IN THE DENSE FOG

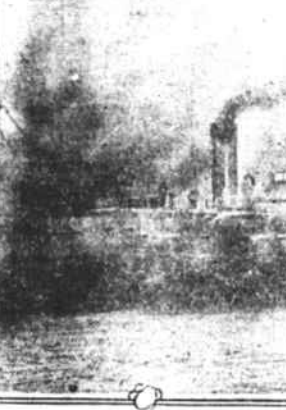
Chatham, Mass., Jan. 17.—The steamers Munnabro and Robin Adair collided early today off the Handkerchief Light shoals. The Coast Guard cutter Acushnet and the destroyer Cassin were sent to assist them. Both ships, which apparently met almost head on, were anchored in the fog, saw a radio report.

## COLORFUL RANGERS PASS INTO HISTORY

(By The Associated Press) Austin, Tex., Jan. 17.—The ruling of the district court that the law creating Texas rangers is unconstitutional threatens to eliminate the colorful band of riders who for nearly a century have been the power for law enforcement in the State. Rangers were enjoined from action as State policemen. The decision will be appealed.

Mrs. D. D. Dudley is improving at her home on North Road street after suffering several days with an ulcerated throat.

## TO LONDON



Almon B. Houghton, Jr., new ambassador to Germany, is to be transferred to London, succeeding Ambassador Frank B. Keeler, newly appointed Secretary of State, according to reports prevalent in official circles.

## ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE TO MEET NEXT WEEK

Raleigh, Jan. 17.—The North Carolina Anti-Saloon League will hold its annual convention on in this city on Thursday and Friday, January 22 and 23, according to an announcement made by H. L. Davis, superintendent of the league. Mr. Davis has mailed out notices of the meeting to all ministers in the state and expects a large attendance at the convention.

## COTTON MARKET

New York, Jan. 17.—Spot cotton closed quiet, unchanged; middling, 24.99. Futures, closing bid: January 23.50, March 23.72, May 24.05, July 24.29, October 23.82, December 23.70.

## SAYS BOWIE LAW UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Raleigh, Jan. 17.—Attorney General Bennett last night expressed the opinion that the Bowie law passed in 1923 authorizing a \$10,000,000 bond issue for a railroad connecting Eastern and Western North Carolina is unconstitutional, which is in accordance with the opinion of former Attorney General Manning.

## IN CABINET?

Robert D. Lacey, former Governor of Wyoming, is being prominently mentioned as a possible successor to Howard H. Gore, Secretary of Agriculture. He is chairman of President Coolidge's agriculture commission.

## NEW YORK GETS NERVOUS AS ECLIPSE APPROACHES

(Copyright, 1924, By The Advance) (By ROBERT T. SMALL) Street at the same time it is daylight at 11:00. They are like a lot of Missourians. You've got to show them. Furthermore they think it very inconsiderate of the eclipse to happen in Harlem and the Bronx at a time when nearly everybody is either at work or on the way to work in lower Manhattan. Mayor Hylan is being personally blamed in some quarters for arranging the eclipse in this manner. And anyway a total eclipse doesn't mean an awful lot in the life of a population which spends a couple of hours or so under ground every day. The New Yorkers go into an eclipse every time they enter the subway and there will be thousands upon thousands of them clinging to the old straps and packed on the platform as an event of the centuries passes calmly above their heads. The mere fact that this is the first time such a phenomenon has happened within the confines of greater New York doesn't spell a thing. New Yorkers get so many kicks out of life and in life that a mere two minutes or so of unearthly moonlight as they rush to work means little or nothing in their hectic existence.

Nevertheless wild tales are being told around the city. Radicals are being warned not to send their messengers out with valises during the scheduled minutes of the eclipse, unless they are guarded in some unusual way. The traffic cops are wondering what to do when the gloom of night suddenly settles down in the midst of what should otherwise be a fair and crisp morning. The suggestion has been made and strongly advocated that all traffic stop dead still during the period of total eclipse. It has been suggested that all sound should cease and thus make the spectacle even more awesome than if the busy city were to keep right on about its business.

Either fortunately or unfortunately for New York, the eclipse is to visit only the Northern sections of the city, Harlem and the Bronx, so well known in the so-called funny jokes, coming into their own at last while the greater part of proud Manhattan and home loving Brooklyn must be content to look outside the black border.

Wall Street is to be spared the visitation of totality and someone has been mean enough to remark that Wall Street's ways are dark enough without any sort of celestial help. The trading hours in the "market" were set for the day. If the busy city were to keep right on about its business, there should be no disturbance of the system by any uncertainty.

## SCHOOL SAVINGS PLAN POPULAR IN SECTION

### Two Thousand Accounts Have Been Opened By Pupils in the Schools of Camden, Currituck and Pasquotank Counties

The question of whether School Savings should be continued in the white schools of the City came up for consideration at the meeting of School Trustees Tuesday night, January 13, and by a vote of six to five the system installed some weeks ago was authorized.

## FEDERATION SERVICE AT CORINTH SUNDAY

Service at Hall's Creek, postponed on account of bad weather. The Men's Christian Federation will conduct the services at Corinth Baptist Church Sunday afternoon at 3:15.

Part of the Federation had planned to go to Halls Creek but on account of bad weather it was necessary to postpone this service until some date when the roads are in better shape.

Members of the Federation who have cars are asked to have them at the Kramer Building in time to leave at 2:45.

Sunday School is held at Corinth at 2:30 and preaching services follow at 3:15.

## COAL PRODUCTION IS PICKING UP NOW

Pittsburgh, Jan. 17.—Coal production is beginning to edge upward again in the Pittsburgh district and combination rail and river mines are now running close to 50 per cent of capacity. Consumers are now getting coal at a much higher rate than commercial mines but demand is improving.

## PHYSICAL CULTURE IN CITY HIGH SCHOOL

Physical culture in the High School each afternoon. The program started early this year. Under the present plan the High School pupils take one afternoon study period for physical drill. The students are divided into three classes, the first beginning at 1:30 and the last class beginning at 2:30, allowing 40 minutes for each class.

The exercises are conducted by Rev. Frank H. Senterwood every Friday afternoon. Mr. Senterwood volunteered to give his services to the school and the students believe that the physical drill work will increase their efficiency mentally as well as physically.

## PRESBYTERIAN LAYMEN MEET AT GREENSBORO

Greensboro, Jan. 17.—A meeting of the laymen of the Presbyterian Synod of North Carolina will be held here February 19 and 20 for the purpose of organizing a layman's organization in the State within the Presbyterian church. Delegates from every Presbyterian church in the State are expected to attend this meeting. It is stated.

Those sponsoring the movement say that the February meeting will be the first of its kind to be attempted by Presbyterians in the State. The meeting will be addressed by a number of the leading churches of the denomination in this and other states.

## SCHOOL SAVINGS PLAN POPULAR IN SECTION

### Two Thousand Accounts Have Been Opened By Pupils in the Schools of Camden, Currituck and Pasquotank Counties

The question of whether School Savings should be continued in the white schools of the City came up for consideration at the meeting of School Trustees Tuesday night, January 13, and by a vote of six to five the system installed some weeks ago was authorized.

School Savings was originated by Educational Thrift Service, Inc., of New York City, and has been in operation for eight or ten years, first in the North and East, then in the Middle West, and recently coming South. In Norfolk and Currituck County, where School Savings have been in operation a year, nearly 15,000 school children have already saved nearly \$100,000. In the city of Pittsburgh where School Savings is sponsored by the Mellon National Bank, school children have saved over \$2,000,000, while school children throughout the country have accumulated savings of about \$20,000,000.

The plan, which is simple in operation, provides a bank pass book for each student opening an account. A special day of each week is designated as "Bank Day," and on this day the students are encouraged to bring any amount from one penny up for deposit. The pass books are returned to them showing the correct balance to their credit in the bank. Proper safeguards are provided for withdrawals, each depositor's signature card being filed along with other information at the bank.

At the bank the School Savings are under the care of a special School Savings Teller, who checks and balances each account each week, and for the protection of students and teachers acting as cashiers, the bank assumes full responsibility for all money as soon as the student gets his or her receipt at school.

Depositing is optional with students and no pressure is brought to bear to induce them to deposit. The opportunity and the amount paid in a bank book with increasing balances is the only incentive required. Friendly rivalry between different rooms and different schools, in the number of deposits, but never with respect to amounts, stimulates interest.

Teachers in a number of the schools report better attendance and better morals among the students on "Bank Day" than on any other day of the week. The Principal of one large school, in Camden reported a noticeable falling off in the wasteful buying of candy, chewing gum, pop and pencils at the corner store since School Savings started.

The bank pays the School Savings the usual rate of interest. City, Pasquotank and Currituck Counties is sponsored by the First & Citizens National Bank, which saw in the movement a practical and effective method for promoting and teaching the principles of thrift and better citizenship. The bank reports a most encouraging response on the part of students in all the schools, having opened nearly two thousand accounts.

Those opposing the system were E. F. Aydtell, Dr. C. B. Williams, Dr. R. W. Gregory, J. C. Sawyer and W. H. Jennings, who voted against it because, in their opinion it provides an advantageous advertising medium and ultimate new business building for the particular bank used as a depository. Chiefly for these reasons they claimed that the Board should not be put to the light of public opinion by the installation of any particular institution.

Voting for the motion were W. T. Culpepper, W. C. Sawyer, N. S. Leary, D. G. Brockett and C. E. Thompson, who favored the system because of its practical value in teaching thrift to the students and the hearty and successful response with which it had been received here and elsewhere. These stated that in their opinion any ultimate advantage derived by the bank promoting the system and meeting the expenses should not enter into consideration because the schools of the country have always been open to legitimate thrift plans of banks and bankers, including the talks on Banking and Economics prepared by the American Bankers Association and presented by local bankers, and also the thrift stamp machines installed in the schools here by one of the local banks.

## HOOVER REFUSES CHANGE HIS JOB

Washington, Jan. 17.—Herbert Hoover has refused the Agriculture Department portfolio. He insists to remain in the cabinet but prefers to stay at the head of the Department of Commerce.