

CITY TAKES OVER UTILITIES

No Suit Against The City Declares C. W. Stevens

Suit Is Against Dr. A. L. Pendleton and Does Not Affect Matters of Town, He Says, and Asks Publication of His Side of Utilities Commission Matter

The following communication was handed The Advance this morning by C. W. Stevens:

"In your issue of January 27th, you write an article which misrepresents the facts regarding Dr. Pendleton and my controversy. There is no suit against Elizabeth City, no more than there is against you, regarding the members of the utilities commission. You leave the impression that the Board of Aldermen seek to get clear of a law suit. There is no foundation for such a statement. I was elected on the commission by the former Board. There were some who opposed me and would not attend the meeting when the commission was to be elected, trying to break a quorum. They had a quorum, however, and I was elected. The present Board is opposed to me. They tried to undo what the former Board did, and attempted to elect Dr. Pendleton. The present Board are endorsing Dr. Pendleton, and he is attempting to act as a member of the utilities commission. I have instructed a suit against Dr. Pendleton, and no one else, and it does not affect the matters of the town at all. It seems that the Board is of the opinion that I am entitled to this place legally, and they want to defeat me. It is not right for four or five men who have been selected on the Board of Aldermen to undertake such high-handed measures to defeat what has been done. I do not believe that the people of this town endorse any such thing, and your article impresses me as apologizing for the way these members of the Board are acting.

SEE SETTLEMENT OF CONTROVERSY

City Council Satisfied with Amendment to City Charter to be Presented to the Legislature.

The outlook for settlement of the controversy as to who constitute the members of the Utilities Commission of Elizabeth City seems in fair way of settlement by an act of the Legislature, although Senator P. H. Williams and Representative J. Kenyon Wilson are opposed to the enactment of an amendment submitted to them by the City Council thru City Manager Ferebee for the abolition of that body.

Though opposed to the amendment drawn at the behest of the City Council, Senator Williams, however, according to the report of City Manager Ferebee made to the City Council in called session Friday, is willing to sponsor an amendment to the city charter naming as members of the Utility Commission Dr. A. L. Pendleton, M. L. Gallup and S. H. Johnson. This would give legislative sanction to the personnel of the Utility Commission as recognized by the City Council and is satisfactory to that body, which so voted at the called meeting Friday and appointed Senator Williams of that fact.

"It is not right that this utilities commission should be composed of members of the Board of Aldermen, and when we go into politics with these utilities, Elizabeth City is going to have more trouble than a little. I was opposed to paying such a big price for the utilities. This Board was proper to pay this enormous price for them, and have, in my opinion, been unjust to the people of Elizabeth City.

"I hope you will be kind enough to publish this so as to right partly the wrong which I feel you do me in this article."

OPTIMISM THE RULE IN BUSINESS WORLD

Richmond, Va., Jan. 31.—"A decided feeling of optimism has recently developed in the business world, and on the whole the Fifth District appears to be in a condition that justifies that feeling," is the statement made in the Monthly Review of Business and Agricultural Conditions in the Fifth District by the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. "No boom in trade seems to be expected, but practically all of our correspondents profess to believe that the next few months will witness enough trade to keep every one busy and to return reasonable profits to manufacturers, retailers, and wholesalers."

NEW PASTOR ARRIVES FREE WILL BAPTIST

Rev. and Mrs. A. H. Outlaw arrived in the city this week to take charge of the Free Will Baptist church. They will reside in their apartment, 111 Burgess street. Mr. Outlaw begins the work Sunday by preaching at the morning service on "The Christian Race," and at the evening service on "The Holy Spirit," and a large crowd is expected to hear him at each service.

TEACHER MEET CLOSES

Raleigh, Jan. 31.—The North Carolina Education Association closes its convention here today.

COTTON MARKET

New York, Jan. 31.—Cotton futures opened today at the following levels: March \$2.62, May \$2.53, July \$2.48, Oct. \$2.46, Dec. \$2.44.

New York, Jan. 31.—Spot cotton closed steady, Middling 24.05, an advance of 15 points. Futures, closing bid, May 24.10, July 24.32, Oct. 24.07, Dec. 24.12.

In New Role



Here we have "Daddy" Vance, star pitcher of the Brooklyn staff, in a new role, putting something on the cue ball. While Vance is hardly in the Hoppe class he plays a good game of billiards.

GOVERNMENT GETS CONFIDENCE VOTE

Paris, Jan. 31.—A vote of confidence of 320 to 237 was given the government by the Chamber of Deputies late yesterday.

SAYS CHOWAN BRIDGE SURE

Willingness of Advocates to Accept Toll Feature Removes Obstacles, Says W. L. Cohoon.

"It is my opinion that the Chowan River Bridge Project is now assured," said W. L. Cohoon, counsel of the State Highway Commission. "The willingness of the advocates of this measure to accept the toll feature," he continued, "removes much of the formidable opposition that has heretofore existed. It is my opinion that it would have been next to impossible to secure legislation looking to the construction of this bridge without providing the tolls necessary for its construction."

"Had there been a fifty million dollar authorization of bonds for road building purposes, then it would not have been possible to build this road out of State Highway funds."

"It is admitted that Mr. Hart has the most undesirable district in this state and from the viewpoint of highway construction. The many swamps and streams, together with other physical handicaps, prevents the money allocated to this district from making as good a showing as is made in certain other districts of the State. For instance the two miles leading to Camden has cost the State Highway Commission in excess of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. There is no other road of equal length that have been so expensive. Think what a little way even a large amount of money will go when road costs seventy-five thousand dollars per mile. I only mention this by way of illustration."

HOPES TO IRON OUT MUSCLE SHOALS BILL

Washington, Jan. 31.—President Coolidge expects a consultation between the Congressional conference and Secretaries Weeks and Hoover to be helpful in ironing out an agreement on the Muscle Shoals bill.

NOME ANXIOUSLY AWAITING DOGS

Nome, Jan. 31.—Five persons have died of diphtheria, 22 cases are reported, 30 are suspected of having the disease, and 50 others were exposed during the epidemic here. It was announced today.

Leonard Seppala, dog racer, is expected today with 300,000 units of antitoxin relayed from Anchorage.

Now Lays Down Law to Dad



When William Brothers was a lad, his father, David Brothers, used to lay down the law to him. But now William is grown and he helps lay down the law for his father. For William has been elected judge in the Chicago Circuit Court, where his father has been a jurist for years.

GOOD HOUSE FOR MONDAY'S CONCERT

Tickets for the concert to be given Monday night in the High School auditorium are selling well and there is every indication for a good house to greet the musicians.

The McFarren Artists together with a noted baritone singer will furnish a program that will delight the music lover with its variety and charm. Details of this program were published a few days ago in The Advance.

GOVERNOR'S SPEECH IS NOW CHIEF TOPIC

Raleigh, Jan. 31.—The address of Governor McLean yesterday advocating a reduction in the proposed highway bond issue and outlining a bill for the executive budget was the chief topic of conversation among legislators as they met today preparatory to adjourning over the week end.

Some minor legislation was expected to be disposed of during the session with adjournment until Monday night to meet the wishes of many members who wish to go home for a day.

SCARLET FEVER IN LONDON

London, Jan. 31.—Scarlet fever is what London is calling the craze for red which is sweeping across the world. Red shoes, gloves and stockings and red lips are omnipresent and lurky in the woman who has rubia. If she has not, and wants them, she must pay fabulous prices at present.

SOUTHERN AUTHOR DEAD

St. Petersburg, Fla., Jan. 31.—George W. Cable, noted Southern author, died here today.

Going To Furnish Answer To Prohibition Question

Northern California and Nevada May Tell It With Sanguinary Gun Battles When They Start After the Bootlegger Kings in Their Midst

San Francisco, Jan. 31.—Northern California and Nevada, during the next six months, according to all present indications, are going to furnish the rest of the country with a definite answer to the mooted question "can prohibition be really enforced?"

Before the answer is written however, if all signs point rightly, there are going to be more sanguinary gun battles, more killings and possibly more arrests of so-called bootleg "kings" than have ever been recorded from any other sections of the country since the eighteenth Amendment went into effect.

TRANSFER EFFECTED AT 11:09 O'CLOCK

Elizabeth City today owns and controls its own utilities, and these utilities are being operated under the direction of the Board of Aldermen.

The transfer was effected at 11:09 o'clock Saturday morning without a hitch and according to schedule except that the City Council and the Utility Commission were kept waiting for an hour while C. E. Thompson and J. B. Leigh, attorney for the city, made the final examination of the deeds and other legal documents involved in the transfer.

FIVE ARE DEAD IN CHICAGO FIRE

Chicago, Jan. 31.—Five persons were killed, four injured, and two are missing in the fire which destroyed an old four story apartment building here today at 59th Street and Blackstone Avenue.

Many leaped into the fire flames, others crawling over planks thrust from the Del Prado Hotel.

The dead are Anthony Harbo, 47, 59th Street; Mrs. Elizabeth Pryor and Doris Hardie, 59th Street; and a woman, name not known, falling from the third story. Bodies seen in the debris believed to be Mrs. Elizabeth Pryor and Doris Hardie.

OHIOAN APPRECIATES BEST CITY SUNSHINE

W. E. Moore of Mt. Vernon, Ohio, who is here on a visit to his son, A. Raymond Moore, says that he noted quite a change in the weather here and Ohio weather, particularly today when Old Sol was doing his best to prove that this is really the Sunny South.

"Last week we had below zero weather in Ohio, 14 to 16 degrees below," said Mr. Moore, "and when I left Columbus Tuesday of this week the mercury was only 14 above. When I reached Elizabeth City it was 40 above. I received a letter from my wife written Wednesday in which she said that the temperature was then 4 degrees below zero at Mt. Vernon."

"We have had the ground covered with snow since two weeks before Christmas, but we do escape the slush and mud which you have here, because it has thawed only slightly once or twice."

Mr. Moore is a locomotive machinist and steamshovel engineer for the Pennsylvania Railroad and has been in continuous service in his capacity for 40 years. His skill and liking for machinery have been inherited by his sons in a remarkable way.

A. Raymond Moore of The Advance is known as one of the fastest and most accurate typewriter operators in the country and when it comes to mending machinery or anything else he can take the disabled article apart and put it back together in a manner that astounds the onlooker.

MISSIONARY MUST LEAVE RUMANIA

Bucharest, Jan. 31.—Rumanian authorities have ordered Rev. Daniel V. Hurley, American Southern Baptist missionary, to leave the country within 15 days. No charges were preferred against him.

FOSTAL BILL FACES CLOSED DOOR TODAY

Washington, Jan. 31.—The postal pay rate bill passed late yesterday by the Senate appeared today to be facing a closed door in the House.

At That Hour Mayor Received Titles in the Three Corporations from Hands of Howard Crook, President of the Utilities, and Handed over to Mr. Crook Checks for \$370,000.

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The properties involved are those of the Electric Light Company and Power Company of Elizabeth City and the Elizabeth City Sewerage Company. Handing over the deeds to these properties to Mayor W. Ben Goodwin, Howard E. Crook, president of the three affiliated utility corporations, received from Mayor Goodwin in turn three checks, totaling \$370,000, one for \$24,827.94 on the Savings Bank & Trust Company, one for \$122,586.03 on the Carolina Banking & Trust Company, and one for \$122,586.03 on the First & Citizens National Bank.

A Mayor Goodwin and President Crook stood facing each other, the Mayor handing over the checks and receiving the deeds. A picture of the scene, which, doubtless, will be preserved in the records of the city.

As the photographer gave his signal that the exposure was about to be made, somebody suggested that Mr. Crook ought to be smiling, and that urbane gentleman obligingly re-interpreted satisfaction in the scene which pressed his bulb; the photographer goes on exhibition in Mr. Zoeller's showcase on the First & Citizens National corner the publicity will see a broad smile on Mr. Crook's face. There is every reason to believe that the satisfaction registered was the genuine article. The price he was receiving was only \$5,000 less than what he had been asking for the properties of his corporations for the last five years. The corporation lawyers present, who saw the long fight of their clients for what they contended was a fair price for their properties, thus brought to successful culmination, appeared even happier than did Mr. Crook.

In the purchase, it is understood, the city acquires the lease of the corporations on their offices in the new building of the Norfolk & Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Company, which, beginning September 15, 1924, is for a period of five years.

Members of the City Council present besides Mayor Goodwin were: W. H. Weatherly, P. C. Cohoon, L. R. Kramer, Louis Anderson, L. R. Foreman, E. J. Cohoon, and L. S. Gordon. Motion for the purchase of the properties was made by Louis Anderson and seconded by W. H. Weatherly. The resolution when Councilman Anderson moved the adoption of it, the minutes of the meeting reads as follows:

"Resolved: that the City of Elizabeth City accept the deeds of the Electric Light Company of Elizabeth City, of the Elizabeth City Water & Power Company and of the Elizabeth City Sewerage Company as tendered by the three companies, purchase the properties and pay the purchase price of \$370,000."

Present for the utility corporations when the deal was consummated were Howard E. Crook and John T. Hill of Baltimore, with their attorneys, E. F. Ayllett of Elizabeth City and George M. Brady of Baltimore. G. B. Gannmer of Baltimore was also present, representing the Safe Deposit & Trust Company of Baltimore, holders of the bonds of the Crook-Hill utilities.

City Engineer William C. Olsen and City Auditor John H. Snowden were also present. It

MINSTREL TICKETS GO LIKE HOT CAKES

Minstrel tickets for the Musical Revue exceeded all expectations Friday morning when the reserved ticket office opened at Selig's store, crowds could be seen on Main and around the corner of Water street, awaiting their turn to exchange their tick-

A continuous line was kept waiting for hours until their turn to approach the office. Notwithstanding the large crowds there are a few good seats left for the first night and a number of seats for the second night.

Judging from all reports the Elks' Fun and Frolic Revue of 1925 will be the best, cleanest, and snappiest snow ever seen here. Filled with wholesome fun, snappy music, clean jokes, witty sayings, pretty girls, and a host of other popular young men, it is no wonder tickets are selling fast. D. Guy Brockert, Exalted Ruler of P. O. Elks Lodge, advises all who wish to attend to secure their tickets and reserve them as early as possible for he predicts a capacity house for both nights.

BREVITIES EDITOR IS GIVEN SIX YEARS

New York, Jan. 31.—Stephen G. Clow, editor of Broadway Brevities, convicted of using the mails to defraud, was today sentenced to six years and a day in the Federal Prison at Atlanta and was fined \$5,000.

Albert H. Brown, advertising solicitor, was given two years.

WESTERN TRAINS ARRIVE DAY LATE

New York, Jan. 31.—Crack trains from the West delayed by heavy snows are arriving today nearly a day late. The steamship Laconia will hold nearly three hours to await 40 passengers from Chicago due to sail for the Mediterranean.

New England and upstate New York are seriously affected by the snow.

FORBES SENTENCE DELAYED IN COURT

Chicago, Jan. 31.—The sentencing of Charles R. Forbes, former Colerick's Bureau director, and John J. Thompson, contractor, convicted yesterday by a jury on charges of conspiring to defraud the government in a soldiers' home contract was held up today by Federal Court pending a hearing of a motion for a new trial on February 4.

J. C. SAWYER HEADS MERCHANTS' BUREAU

Other officers of the Bureau are: J. H. Wilkins, vice-president; C. W. Melick, treasurer; and H. C. Job, secretary.

The directors of the Merchant's Bureau are T. T. Turney, J. C. Sawyer, M. Leigh Shoop, J. H. Wilkins, L. T. McCabe, R. B. Shoop, and C. W. Melick.

C. T. Tillett returned home Wednesday from Hertford and Columbia, where he has been on a business trip.

was from Engineer Olsen, who made an appraisal of the utility properties prior to their purchase that the suggestion came that Mr. Crook ought to look happy when he received the city's checks for his properties.