

POWER COMPANY PRESENTS OFFER TO CITY COUNCIL

Virginia Concern Would Buy Present Plant outright, or Would Wholesale Its Current to City

TO HOLD CONFERENCE

Mayor Demands Payment From Policeman Twiddy For Windows Smashed by Colored Autoist

Scotiations with a view to the possible purchase of electric power outside Elizabeth City were begun last night by the City Council after a representative of the Virginia Electric & Power Company, now operating high power mains in Tidewater Virginia, offered two alternative proposals to the Council as a means of reaching the way toward an agreement later.

Neither of the proposals was given in concrete form, both being merely preliminary. The first was that the Virginia company purchase outright the present plant of the city and build a power line from a point near Portsmouth to this city at its own expense with a view to operating on a long term franchise.

The second proposal was that the city buy power wholesale from the company and retail it to consumers here. In the event this was accepted, the representative, Mr. Throckmorton, stated his company probably would expect the city to build the power lines.

The Council disposed of the matter by the appointment of a committee consisting of D. Roy Kramer, E. J. Cohoon and City Manager Ferbee to investigate and report. In making the appointments, the mayor suggested that they have S. H. Johnson, of the Utilities Commission, meet with them, and that the four arrange a joint conference with City Engineer Olsen and Mr. Throckmorton, of the power company, at the earliest date convenient for all.

In answer to a question, Mr. Throckmorton expressed the opinion that his company would prefer to buy out the power plant and installations here, and deal direct with the consumers. In the event, however, that the other proposal was accepted, he stated that power would be supplied to the city at about 1 1/2 cents a kilowatt, metered at Portsmouth. This would mean that the city would have to carry a loss of about 10 per cent in carrying the current from that point here, he said, declaring that loss would be offset largely by certain discounts which the company would allow.

Gas Measure Passed

Except for Mr. Throckmorton's visit, the Council session was uneventful. The long discussed gas main ordinance was passed, resulting in effect that the company put down mains accessible to the Council or its agents and install connections to the curbing on all streets about to be hard surfaced. The material to be used for gas pipes must be approved by inspectors to be appointed by the city.

The Council also modified an earlier ordinance with reference to the erection of billings stations, changing it to require that none be erected within 200 feet of the intersection of Main and Road streets. This action was taken in response to a petition from the Standard Oil Company to place a station diagonally across from the Southern Hotel.

City Manager Ferbee reported that gravel had been placed on Cherry street for a length of 600 feet, on Cedar for 1,000 feet, and on Elm for 200 feet. He recommended that these be surfaced with Tarriva or a similar product as soon as they had settled sufficiently.

Chief of Police Holmes reported that the department had made arrests during November, resulting in three acquittals and 25 convictions. In all, 2 1/2 gallons of liquor were seized.

City Auditor Snowden was empowered to borrow not more than \$5,000 to meet city expenses in anticipation of tax collections.

That Window Episode

The Council referred to the Police Commission and City Manager a request from Mayor McCabe that the city help him in collecting \$150 which he claimed Policeman Twiddy owed him for damages to the front windows of McCabe & Grice's store last month when an automobile driven by a colored woman backed into them. Councilman Anderson expressed the opinion that the city "had allowed

KIPLING IMPROVES



Burwash, Sussex, England, Dec. 8.—The medical bulletin issued from Rudyard Kipling's home at noon today says the author, who is suffering from broncho pneumonia, is maintaining his improved condition.

IS INTERESTED IN WAR VETERANS

Congresswoman Rogers of Massachusetts Served As Red Cross Nurse

By EDWARD P. TALLMAN

Lowell, Mass., Dec. 8.—Mrs. Edith Nourse Rogers, widow of the late Representative John Jacob Rogers and one of the three women members of sixty ninth Congress, is in Washington to carry out some of the things her husband was most interested in—particularly to see that the Veterans of the World War get a square deal.

Mrs. Rogers, who for years has been known in Washington as "the angel of Walter Reed Hospital" was drafted for her husband's seat after his death last spring. It was difficult to find a Democrat to run against her, but finally ex-Governor Eugene N. Foss was pressed into the race, only to take a three to one beating at the polls.

Mrs. Rogers served as a Red Cross nurse during the war and her late husband enlisted in the Army as a private, but failed to get overseas before the Armistice was signed.

Mrs. Rogers' interest in disabled veterans inspired two republican presidents—Harding and Coolidge, to name her as special representative to visit veteran hospitals throughout the country.

Friends of Mrs. Rogers, who was wealthy in her own right before her husband's death, say that she is admirably equipped for her work as Congresswoman. She always has been keenly interested in politics and in government affairs and was closely in touch with Representative Rogers' work in Congress.

NO SPECIAL SESSION SAYS MRS. FERGUSON

Austin, Texas, Dec. 8.—Governor Miriam A. Ferguson today issued a statement declaring that she will not call a special session of the Legislature as requested by Speaker Lee Satterwhite and other members of the House.

COOLIDGE'S RETURN FROM CHICAGO TRIP

Washington, Dec. 8.—President Coolidge and Mrs. Coolidge returned to Washington today from Chicago, where the President addressed the meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

COTTON MARKET

New York, Dec. 8.—Cotton futures opened today at the following levels: Dec. 20.66, Jan. 19.48, March 19.43, May 19.06, July 19.17.

New York, Dec. 8.—Spot cotton closed quiet, middling 20.60, an advance of five points. Futures closing bid: Dec. 20.07, Jan. 19.45, March 19.46, May 19.10, July 18.75.

ANNUAL MESSAGE COOLIDGE SENDS CONGRESS TODAY

Renews Number Recommendations and Outlines Legislative Program Domestic and International

TAX REDUCTION

Adherence to World Court, Strengthening Aviation Without Radical Change in Organization

Washington, Dec. 8.—Renewing a number of recommendations he already had made to Congress, President Coolidge, in his annual message transmitted today to the House and Senate, outlined a comprehensive legislative program dealing with pressing domestic and international problems. His suggestions included:

Tax reduction along lines mapped out by the House Ways and Means Committee.

Adherence to the World Court.

Continued effort to strengthen aviation, without radical change in the organization of the Army and Navy air services.

Curtailment of the Shipping Board's powers, with the government fleet under the control of a single executive.

Increased authority for the President and Departments of Commerce and Labor to deal with labor disputes in the coal industry.

Encouragement of cooperative marketing as an aid to agriculture.

The President devoted a section to the prohibition question, appealing for law observance by the public and vigorous action against violators by enforcement officials.

He also renewed his advocacy of railroad consolidations and development of inland waterways, recommended retention for the present of property seized from aliens during the war, reiterated that reorganization of government departments should be authorized, and declared that states and local communities must cooperate more with the Federal Government in reclamation work.

Urging sale of Muscle Shoals to the highest bidder who will agree to produce nitrate primarily with power development incidental, he contended that the Muscle Shoals problem had "assumed a place all out of proportion with its real importance."

"It probably does not represent in market value much more than a first-class battleship," he added, "yet it has been discussed in the Congress over a period of years and for months at a time."

Predicting his recommendations with a statement that "the country does not appear to require radical departures from the policies already adopted so much as it needs further extension of these policies and the improvement of details" and an appeal for continued vigilance against extravagant governmental expenditures, the President emphasized the need for further tax reduction and declared he approved "in principle" the bill drafted by the Ways and Means Committee.

ARMY KUO SUNG LIEN MARCHING ON MUKDEN

Tokio, Dec. 8.—Latest dispatches received by the Japanese foreign office declare that the army of General Kuo Sung Lien, former hero of the Russo-Japanese war, is expected to enter Mukden, capital of Manchuria tomorrow.

FLEETWOOD FARM TO BE SOLD THIS WEEK

Hertford, Dec. 8.—The J. J. Fleetwood farm on the Hertford—New Hope highway, about two miles from Hertford is to be sold at auction on Friday, December 11, it has been learned here.

LETTUCE BY CARLOAD

Los Angeles, Dec. 8.—First shipments of Imperial Valley winter lettuce crop are starting east in carload lots. Fancy prices are being offered.

COLUMBIA MAN IS KILLED MONDAY AT COINJOCK BRIDGE

Coinjock, Dec. 8.—Jerry Litchfield of Columbia was killed here about 1 o'clock yesterday morning when the Coinjock bridge crashed upon him.

Mr. Litchfield was in the house section of a barge which was being towed to Norfolk by a Norfolk boat. The barge was not lighted and the bridge tender did not see that the boat had a barge in tow and started the bridge downward as soon as the boat had passed and it smashed into the barge just as it passed under.

Mr. Litchfield, it is said, was on his way to a Norfolk hospital for treatment.

The bridge tender at Coinjock has a reputation for being very careful and he is not blamed for the accident.

B. P. O. Elks Offer Reverent Tribute to Their Deceased Brothers at Sunday Service

Reverent tribute to those who had passed across into the Beyond was paid by the members of Elizabeth City Lodge 856, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, at the annual Lodge of Sorrow Sunday afternoon at the Akrama. There were the usual impressive ceremonies and an address by the Rev. F. S. Love, new pastor of the First Methodist Church. An appropriate musical program was given by the First Methodist Choir.

The Rev. Mr. Love discussed interestingly and at some length the cardinal principle of the Elks, charity, brotherly love, justice and fidelity. The service was attended by some 65 Elks, who marched to the Akrama in a body from the club, led by their officers. Many other Elizabeth City residents were present also.

The service opened with an invocation by the Rev. G. F. Hill, rector of Christ Church and chaplain of the lodge, and the roll call of deceased brothers was read by C. B. Wood, secretary. Those included Louis Selig and N. Earle Griggs, who had died during the past year. In all, 18 members have died since the formation of the lodge in 1903.

One of the most impressive numbers on the program was the singing of "The Vacant Chair," by the "quiet" quartet, comprising J. G. Kramer, W. C. Sawyer, E. E. Skinner and W. B. Foreman. Past Grand Exalted Ruler D. Guy Brockert presided at the service.

Officers of the lodge are: J. T. McCabe, exalted ruler; W. C. Dawson, leading knight; W. H. Zoeller, loyal knight; C. D. Gallop, lecturing knight; C. B. Wood, secretary; Ray Toxey, treasurer; C. C. Parker, exquire; R. M. Jennings, Herby J. Bowden, inner guard, and the Rev. Mr. Hill, chaplain. The trustees are T. P. Nash, Brad Sanders and Dr. I. Fearning. Members on the committee on program and music for the memorial service were W. C. Dawson, Dr. J. W. Selig, M. H. Toxey, Mayor A. G. McCabe and W. C. Sawyer.

Club Stockholders Will Hold Meeting

Festivity and business will be combined by the stockholders and directors of the Elizabeth City Country Club at a meeting to be held on Monday night, December 21, at 8 o'clock for action on a proposal for the authorization of an additional bond issue of \$20,000 to \$25,000 for further improvements on the club property. The meeting was called today by W. P. Duff, president of the club, on behalf of the board of directors.

Besides the proposed bond issue, several relatively unimportant modifications of the club's by-laws will be considered. A special invitation has been issued to the wives and "lady friends" of club members to attend also.

It is announced that the board of directors will meet immediately after the general session of the stockholders, and in order that an action taken may have the approval of as many members as possible, all who may not be able to attend in person have been asked to mail their proxies, properly filled out, to G. W. Bell, secretary.

Improvements tentatively proposed on the club property include the extension of the present nine hole golf course to 18 holes, additional work on the grounds about the club house and on the road leading to it, and possibly later the erection of a suitable dock and improvement of bathing facilities on the club's waterfront on Pasquotank River.

FUNERAL LITTLE SON

Wanchese, Dec. 8.—The funeral services for Arthur Harold Little, the four months' old son of Mr. and Mrs. Claud Ballard, who died Friday night at 8 o'clock, were conducted Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock by Rev. W. R. Hardesty. His body was laid to rest in the family burying ground in a flower covered grave.

HEAR BISHOP DART

Hertford, Dec. 8.—Quite a number of Elizabeth City people were here Sunday night to hear Bishop T. C. Dart, who preached at Holy Trinity Church.

Rev. G. F. Hill of Elizabeth City assisted the Bishop in the services in the absence of the rector, Rev. Mr. J. T. Dillon, who was ill in his home here.

Among those here from Elizabeth City were Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Pool, Dr. and Mrs. A. L. Pendleton, Mrs. G. F. Hill, Mrs. S. H. Harney, Mrs. C. O. Robinson, Mrs. T. W. Baxter, Miss Hattie Harney, Miss May Seiden, Mr. and Mrs. Mills Bell, Mr. and Mrs. William Skinner, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Melick, Mrs. T. G. Skinner, Dr. and Mrs. Mora Bulla, C. W. Galther, Will Galther, Misses Helen Galther, Billy Melick, Isabelle Jenette, Lily Hathaway, Jeanne Houza.

BERENGER COMING SEE ABOUT DEBT

Paris, Dec. 8.—Senator Victor Berenger whose nomination as ambassador to the United States was approved at a cabinet council today is going to Washington with a special mission of settling the French war debt to America. It was declared in official circles this afternoon.

NEW CHILD LABOR AMENDMENT SOUGHT

Washington, Dec. 8.—New child labor amendment to the Constitution is sought in a joint resolution introduced in the House today by Representative Griffin of New York. The amendment would prohibit persons under 16 from working in mines, quarries, mills, factories, or like industries.

CONGRESS HAS BEGUN TO HEAR LAMENTATIONS

There'll Be No Cessation Until About Next July When Somebody Moves to Adjourn

COMPLAIN BITTERLY

Heads of Department Realize Intend Much of Their Talk for the Director of the Budget

By ROBERT T. SMALL
Washington, Dec. 8.—Congress on its fourth day here has already begun to hear the lamentations of Washington. These cries from the wilderness of Legislative government have been filling the air of the capitol for in those many months but Congress has not been here and the lamentations are being set up on the threshold of Senate and House and there will be no cessation until about next July when somebody moves to adjourn on account of the hot weather.

Each man must fall much snow and must try to keep his feet from being washed and meantime there will be the annual battle between the legislative and executive branches of the government.

Hattered heads of departments are complaining bitterly of Congress' neglect. Probably much of the blame which is being passed on to Congress really is intended for General H. M. Lord, the Lord high executioner of the Budget. General Lord has a misfortune which lashes out to the right and left, beheading every proposed expenditure in sight. The general feels that some day the entire country is going to arise and call him blessed for holding down expenditures and cutting Congress to cut the onerous taxes which have been heaped upon the people ever since the opening days of America's participation in the world war. But until that time arrives the General must endure the maledictions of cabinet officers, under cabinet officers, bureau heads, chief clerks, janitors and charwomen. They are all hot on his trail. Even Congress is beginning to look a little more than askance at the director of the budget and there is no question that if the situation persists too long for Congress to handle the general will be blamed as justly and as soundly on capitol hill as he is being blamed in the executive branch today.

The cabinet and other executive officers don't dare openly to blame General Lord, for he is the right hand of President Coolidge himself and therefore is a part of the executive branch. The general is something of an amphibian. He not only consors the estimates of the various executive departments, but he exercises a deterrent influence on the legislative branch as well.

When the disaster to the Shenandoah followed by the Billy Mitchell outburst at San Antonio brought something of a crisis into the aviation affairs of the country and set several investigations under way it was stated in those dispatches that conditions in the army and navy tending to inefficiency were due in large part to the personality of both Congress and the director of the budget, under the urgings of Mr. Coolidge himself. It was stated that appropriations had been cut to such an extent that both army and navy felt the people of the country no longer had any interest in them or in the preparedness of their country for national defense.

Army and Navy officers have been loath to come out with direct attacks on General Lord and Congress, but their opinions in an unsentimental but nonetheless effective way have been written into the records of aviation inquiries and the Mitchell court martial. The new secretary of war, Dwight Davis, has not hesitated in his very first annual report to the President of the national defense act of 1920, its failure to provide proper housing for the soldier of the existing skeleton army, and its responsibility for the low morale prevailing in certain units and branches of the Army.

Admiral Eberle, chief of naval operations, has not hesitated to blame Congress for its failure to provide enough helium gas to keep the Shenandoah and the Los Angeles, the two dirigibles, at one time owned by the Navy, both in commission. The Navy was able to manufacture helium only for one ship and this gas had to be transferred from one to another of the sky vessels in an effort to keep the crews of both ships in training.

There has been much talk of a Congressional investigation of the Army and Navy. Both the Army and Navy hope there will be one. Then Congress will hear more about itself.

TICKETS FOR CONCERT ON SALE AT BRIGHT'S

Tickets for the concert Thursday night in the High School auditorium by the All Sisters Quartette will go on sale at Bright Jewelry Company store Wednesday.

Those who have not secured their tickets from members of the Woman's Club may get them at Bright's and those who have bought their tickets may have their seats reserved for them.

OPPOSED TO FEDERAL BLUE SKY STATUTE

St. Petersburg, Florida, Dec. 8.—Opposition to the Federal blue sky statute is voiced in the report of the committee on securities presented here today to the Investment Bankers Association of America at the second day of its fourteenth annual convention.

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New Envoy



Senator Henri Benzeval of France will be the next French ambassador to the United States. He will replace the present envoy, Emile Frossier, who is detained in Paris for the failure of the French debt funding commission to reach an agreement with American commissioners.

HIT BY TRAIN, WILL RECOVER

Elderly Hertford Resident Today Apparently Not Seriously Injured

Hertford, Dec. 8.—Despite the fact that he was dragged at least 75 yards in a Ford coupe along the Norfolk Southern tracks after his car had been struck by a yard engine at the Grubb street crossing here yesterday afternoon, William H. Cannon, 69 years old, apparently has every chance to recover. His car was wrecked in the collision, but he was able to clamber out of the wreckage and walk to his home, two blocks away.

Mr. Cannon sustained a severe cut on the right temple, a broken rib, and relatively serious bruises and lacerations on his right leg. He was treated by Dr. G. E. Newby, who stated early today that thus far the patient had developed no symptoms of internal injuries.

Persons who saw the accident claim the bell on the yard engine was not ringing at the time. They express the belief that Mr. Cannon observed the engine casually but, hearing no warning signal, took for granted that it was at a standstill.

COTTON PRODUCTION FIFTEEN MILLIONS

Washington, Dec. 8.—Cotton production this year will amount to 15,693,999 equivalent to 500 pound bales exclusive of linters, the Department of Agriculture announced from the December 1 condition. An estimate of 15,298,000 bales was made from the November 21 condition. Last year's crop totalled 12,237,000 bales.

Cotton of this year's growth gained prior to December 1 amounted to 13,857,686 running bales counting round as half bales and excluding linters, compared with 12,237,659 bales to that date last year, the Census Bureau today announced. North Carolina ginnings prior to December 1 totalled 1,930,000 bales.

BUY EAGLE CAFE

M. G. Grandy and E. P. Owens have bought out the Eagle Cafe, formerly owned and operated by Claude Ives, of the firm of Ashens & Ives.

M. G. Grandy recently operated the Deluxe Filling Station and E. P. Owens has for three years been in the employ of Sharber & White Hardware Company. Both men are originally from Currituck County and were raised within two miles of each other. Mr. Owens' postoffice was Jarvisburg and Mr. Grandy's was Grandy.

The new management is making a number of improvements in the Cafe and promise to have one of the cleanest places in the city.

NEW AMBASSADOR TO U. S. IS APPOINTED

Paris, Dec. 8.—The appointment of Senator Victor Berenger as French ambassador to the United States was approved today by the Council of Ministers.

UNITED STATES IS ASKED PARTICIPATE

Geneva, Dec. 8.—The League of Nations Council decided today to invite the United States, Russia and Germany to participate in the work of the special commission which is preparing for an international disarmament conference.

FORD CASE ENDS ABRUPTLY AFTER TWELVE SUBMIT

Judge P. G. Sawyer Dismisses Charges of Immorality and Gambling After Strong Defense Plea

ALL TO PAY FINES

County Engineer Taxed \$25 and Costs on Liquor Count, and All Fined for Disorderly Conduct

With a sudden unexpectedness that literally took the way, the breath of many courtroom spectators, the case against Jess R. Ford, County highway engineer, and 11 of his guests charged with a variety of offenses as the outcome of a raid by police early Sunday morning a week ago, came to an end late yesterday shortly after the State had put on its last witness.

The court dismissed charges of immorality against two of Ford's guests; of gambling against ten of the defendants, including Ford; and of running a disorderly house, which had been preferred against Ford.

All 12 submitted on a charge of disorderly conduct, in violation of a city ordinance, and were fined \$10 and costs each. Ford submitted on a simple charge of having liquor in his possession and was fined \$25 and costs. Thus the case ended.

No More "Wild Parties"

"I am very sorry a case like this had to be brought before me," County Judge J. G. Sawyer, presiding over recorder's court, said in pronouncing judgment. "If I should dismiss every one of the defendants, I would feel that they had suffered enough through the publicity given them, and through having had to go through this ordeal. I don't think we'll have any more 'wild parties' at Ford's, or on the part of any others involved in this case."

"A little too late festivity, and a little too noisy disturbance of the neighbors' right to sleep," was the way J. C. B. Ehringhaus, of counsel for the defense, summed up the situation in an appeal to the court to dismiss all except the disorderly conduct and liquor charges. Mr. Ehringhaus argued that the State had failed to make out a case of immoral conduct, or of gambling; and Judge Sawyer agreed with him on those points. The court sustained him also in his contention that there was no evidence that Ford had liquor in his home for purposes of sale.

"I don't believe anybody in the courthouse believes he had," Judge Sawyer commented in touching upon this phase of the situation.

The State rested at 4 o'clock, at the close of testimony by E. S. Chesson, Jr., a neighbor of Ford's; County Judge J. G. Sawyer, who had been awakened on several occasions late in the night by the lights of automobiles flashing on his sleeping porch as they were leaving Ford's home.

"D— it leave me alone, I'm not drunk," Mr. Chesson quoted as having heard some one, presumably a woman, exclaim at Ford's home on one occasion. The witness declared he had never seen any intoxicated individual entering or leaving the house.

Prosecuting Attorney J. H. LeRoy, Jr., vigorously opposed the defense's plea for dismissal of any of the charges against Ford or his guests, arguing that the State had Ford's evidence pending to convict the defendants on all counts. He quoted a Kentucky judge to the effect that it was harder to convict on a gambling charge than one of homicide.

"I don't think the State has made out a case of gambling," Judge Sawyer declared. "You haven't got the evidence. It's not your fault, or that of the officers. Probably they couldn't get it."

"Nobody, particularly a young woman, should be prosecuted on evidence like that," Mr. Ehringhaus argued in discussing the immorality charge. "It is a grave injustice to the young girl accused. There is no evidence that there was a man in her room, or that there had been." The testimony of the police was that Wilfred Deans, coatless and stocking-footed met Police Officer Roughton at the head of the stairs near the door to the room where the lady in question was found on a bed with tumbled bedclothes and with shoes that Deans later put on under it.

Besides Ford, the defendants in the various cases were W. W. Dudley, Wilfred Deans, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Topping, Parker Morgan, William Cotter, Frank Payne, Harry C. Jones, and three young unmarried women, two of whom were closely related to Mrs. Topping.

Thus ended the Ford case, without a witness having been put on the stand by the defense. Hearing of the case had been twice continued, at first from the Monday morning after the raid to last Saturday, and again to yesterday morning. General interest in the outcome was indicated by the fact that the courtroom was crowded.

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