

The Cleveland Star.

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SHELBY, N. C. FRIDAY, JUNE 23 1911.

\$1.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

PROFITS OF SHELBY LIGHT COMPANY ARE ENORMOUS SAYS MR. R. B. MILLER

Contract Has Been Violated—Other Irregularities—Estimated That Town Pays For All Current Used With Exception of \$13 Worth—Don't Have to Buy.

(R. B. MILLER.)

Ten years ago the city fathers here through an attorney, safeguarded the interests of the town of Shelby and its citizens in granting a franchise and making a contract with the Shelby Light and Power Co., but its terms and provisions have not been enforced. They evidently thought that for a corporation to have a monopoly of a necessity and to have the power to arbitrarily fix the price of light was dangerous to the interests and liberties of our people. So the price was fixed and a provision was made that if any part of the contract was violated for a space of three months, then the franchise to become null and void. They also took an option on the entire equipment to take possession and ownership at any time within the fifteen years franchise, and that the worth of same should be determined by two disinterested men chosen by each party to the contract, and they to choose the fifth man in case of disagreement. Such valuation to be determined by the earning capacity and physical condition of the plant, and both parties are bound by this valuation from which there is no appeal.

DON'T HAVE TO BUY

In the option and valuation the town of Shelby is not required to accept the plant, but the Shelby Light and Power Co. obligated itself to dispose of the entire plant in the option granted, upon the demand of the town of Shelby. There seems to be a misunderstanding at this point. The price agreed upon for incandescent lamps of 16 candle power was 50 cents scaling downward as per quantity used for all night service to the citizens, and for street lighting 32 candle power \$1.00 per month. The arc lamps were at \$65.00 per month for all night service, and every night if demanded by the town of Shelby and reclamation for lack of any service was provided.

It was further agreed to reduce the above prices after five years provided a reasonable profit was made. An excessive dividend could not be used in estimating its present valuation. That price of 50 cents all night service per month was 3 cents per K. W. while the price now has been about five years 15 cents per K. W. (equal \$2.50 per month all night service of ten hours) for the first 8 K. W. and 1-2 cents for balance used.

VIOLATING CONTRACT

In my former article the statement was made that the present plant paid a good dividend but the books not being open to the public, although the contract with this quasi-public corporation provided for inspection, the profits could not be fully stated.

The public seemed to be an infant crying in the night, an infant crying for the right, and with no language but a cry.

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ALL NEWS OF THE CAROLINAS

NORTH AND SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS IN BRIEF

Happenings in the Two States Boiled Down in Brief Paragraphs For Busy Readers of The Star—The Most Important Things of the Week Summed Up.

Two solid car loads of North Carolina Wagons were shipped from Winston-Salem this week. These wagons are being shipped throughout the West Indies.

A previous engagement prevented William Jennings Bryan from accepting an invitation to speak to the editors of the State in their meeting at Lenoir next week.

The Rockingham Post reports the first cotton blooms of the season in Richmond county on the 15th.

A blind horse, left standing unhitched near a saw mill in Moore county, walked into the saw and was cut to pieces.

Mr. John F. Cobb, said to be the grandfather of Ty Cobb, the famous baseball player, died Friday night at the State Hospital at Morganton. He was 80 years old and a native of Cherokee county.

It is reported that an Oregon apple grower has bought a tract of land near Asheville to establish an apple orchard; that he has a nursery of 20,000 trees in Oregon, all of which he will ship to his Buncombe farm and plant, and he expects the trees to begin bearing the fifth year.

Governor Kitchin has been invited to the Fourth of July celebration to be held at Caroleen. Extensive preparations are being made for a gala day.

BOOSTERS BOOST.

Eighty Five Spartanburg Men Come To Shelby on Special Train to Advertise Their Town. North Carolinians in Party.

Coming 85 strong on a special Pullman train, the Spartanburg, S. C. Boosters Club arrived here Tuesday and spent two hours in the city, proclaiming the splendid advantages of the "City of Success." They stopped at Gaffney, Blacksburg and after leaving here went to Henrietta, Forest City, Rutherfordton and Marion going also to Asheville and Hendersonville before returning home. The Boosters had an 18 piece uniformed band and gave concerts at the places they stopped. The purpose of the trip was to advertise their city and attract business. Flaming circulars and literature were distributed freely among the business men. They took dinner at the local hotels and the Cleveland Commercial club members showed the visitors over Shelby in automobiles. The Seelby mill band was engaged to furnish music also.

Many of those in the party were North Carolinians, Mr. O. L. Johnson, mayor elect being a native of Henderson county. Messrs. Ramsey, W. L. Turner, W. C. Lattimore, W. P. Turner and possibly others in the party being from Cleveland county.

Misses Sarah and Lucile Doggett who have been visiting Mrs. C. R. Doggett returned Wednesday to their home in Charlotte.

PROGRAM FOR JULY FOURTH

GREAT CELEBRATION NOW ARRANGED

Professor Charles Swartz, Noted Balloonist Will go a Thousand Feet in the Air and Descend in his Parachute—Ball Game, Races, Parade, Contests—Two Brass Bands.

Everything has been arranged for the grand celebration Shelby will pull off July Fourth and on page 6 this issue, The Star is publishing a full program which will be of interest to all within traveling distance of Shelby. The general committee expects to make it a gala day. Nearly \$500 has been raised to be spent on the occasion for attractions worth while and prizes in the various contests. Not only are visitors expected from every portion of Cleveland county, but some are coming from adjoining portions of Rutherford, Gaston, Lincoln and Cherokee. Several thousand people are looked for and every preparation will be made to entertain them properly.

As for attractions, Professor Charles Swartz, the noted balloonist, will be the chief feature. He has an immense gas bag which when inflated, carries him a thousand feet or more above the heads of the spectators. He will give a trapeze performance in mid air and as he descends in his parachute explosions will take place. Prof. Swartz gives a most satisfactory exhibition, having been in the balloon business a number of years and made successful ascensions in big cities throughout the eastern States.

Then there will be the parade of decorated vehicles, secret orders and automobiles. Four races and a tug of war will be other features and a sham battle in which uniformed soldier belonging to Co. G. First North Carolina Regiment will participate. Then the pole climb will be the most amusing feature. In the afternoon the ball game between Shelby and a team made up of the best players from Mooresboro, Forest City and Boiling Springs.

Free ice watch will be served on the court square. The soda fountains will be prepared to serve hundreds of people with cool refreshing drinks at the regular price. Hotels and restaurants will be able to feed those who do not bring their meals with them.

The hours for the various things will be procession 10 to 11; fat and lean race 11 to 12; dinner 12 to 1; boys' and bag races 1 to 1:30; tug of war, 1:30 to 2; sham battle 2 to 2:30; balloon ascension 2:20 to 3:30; ball game 3:30 to 5.

Girl And Mule Killed

Ellenboro, June 20.—The 16 year-old daughter of Mr. Bud Dobbins, a well-known farmer who lives near Cliffside Junction, was struck and instantly killed by lightning during a heavy rain and electrical storm which passed over this section this afternoon.

The mule hitched to the wagon in which Miss Dobbins was riding was also killed.

Cleveland Boys Lose

Messrs. T. F. and A. A. Horton, formerly of this county, but now living at Little Rock, Ark. where they are in business suffered a heavy fire loss recently when their excelsior plant was destroyed. The loss is said to be about \$8,000. They have many friends in this county who will regret to learn of their misfortune.

A. R. ESKRIDGE PASSES AWAY

PROMINENT CITIZEN DIED THURSDAY MORNING

Mr. A. R. Eskridge, one of The Most Respected Citizens of The Town Dies After Long Illness—Had Bronchial Pneumonia—Was 58 Years Old—Two Children Survive.

At 2:25 o'clock Tuesday morning at his home on West Marion street, Mr. A. R. Eskridge died after a long illness and much suffering. The citizens were saddened but not surprised as he had been in a dying condition for several days. The immediate cause of his death was bronchial pneumonia and possible diabetes, according to the physicians in attendance. Mr. Eskridge had been in ill health for a year or more. During the winter he had an attack from which it was feared he would never recover, but he got well enough to greet his friends on the streets for a few days. About two months ago another attack seized him. Every possible effort was made to prolong his life and physicians and two trained nurses were constantly watching over him. A few days prior to his death, the news went out that his condition was dangerous and the end was expected at most any moment.

Mr. Eskridge was 58 years old. He married Miss Mary Blanton who survives, but her health has been bad for a number of years and she just recently returned from a hospital at Asheville. Two children, Mr. Forrest Eskridge and Mrs. W. J. Roberts, Jr. survive. He also leaves one brother, Mr. T. Cling Eskridge and one sister Mrs. Martha Cabiness. The deceased was an honest and generous citizen, liked and respected by everybody. For years and years he was in business here and was known as an affable, genteel man, highly polished in his manners and friendly in his disposition. He has a large family connection that forms the foremost citizenship of the county. After going out of business here he did railroad contracting in Tennessee and Kentucky for two or three years. His health began to decline and he came home, managing the Central Hotel for awhile.

The funeral was conducted from the residence Wednesday morning at 10:30 by Rev. C. A. Jenkins, of the First Baptist Church of which he was a loyal member. The interment was in Sunset Cemetery, Messrs. J. J. McMurry, S. J. Green, J. A. Anthony, W. B. Nix, C. M. Lattimore and W. H. Jennings acting as pall bearers.

Mr. Baker Dead

Mr. Allen Baker, an aged man and father of well-known and influential children died this week of uremic poison. Mr. Baker was about 96 years old, one of the oldest men in the county. He had been in bad health for several years.

Drills to Begin.

All members of Company G. first North Carolina Regiment of which Mr. O. Max Gardner is captain will be expected to attend the drills in the armory every Tuesday and Friday nights in order for the company to make a creditable showing at the encampment this year. Drills will begin Friday, June 23.

Mrs. E. E. Williamson and aunt Miss Miller are in Winston-Salem visiting relatives.

TARIFF ON WOOL REDUCED

DEMOCRATIC BILL REDUCES THE TARIFF

Representative Underwood, Leader of The Democrats in the House is Given Great Ovation—Significant Victory for Democrats—Senate May Tie Bill up This Session.

Washington, June 20.—The House by a vote of 221 to 100 today passed the Underwood wool tariff revision bill providing for a reduction of the duty on wool and manufactures of wool. Twenty-four Republicans voted with the Democrats for the passage of the measure, and one Democrat, Representative Francis of Ohio, voted against it.

AMENDMENTS VOTED DOWN

Many amendments were offered and voted down, the only one adopted being a slight change in phraseology. Almost five hours were spent by the House in debate under the five-minute rule. Immediately preceding the final vote, a motion offered by Representative Payne of New York, that the bill be re-submitted to the ways and means committee with instructions that it await a report from the tariff board on the woolen industry before making a final report of the bill, was lost by a vote of 189 to 118.

PROVISIONS OF MEASURE

The bill places a duty of 20 per cent ad valorem on raw wool imports as against an average duty of a little more than 44 per cent ad valorem under the present law. On partly manufactured wool and on products manufactured in whole or in part from wool, the average duty under the proposed law would be about 42.5 per cent ad valorem as compared with the present average ad valorem duty of more than 90 per cent. The ways and means committee has estimated that the bill would reduce the annual revenue under the woolen schedule of the tariff by a little more than \$1,000,000.

The bill prescribed that it shall be in effect January 1, next, but it is not believed that the bill will pass the Senate at this session.

Will Give Recital.

Monday night, beginning at 8:30 o'clock there will be a musicale in the graded school auditorium. The best talent in Shelby will take part and a most enjoyable evening is promised. It will be under the auspices of the Daughters of the Confederacy and by patronizing it you will not only help a good and worthy cause, but receive an inspiration and a pleasure. Chorus composed of children and grown-ups, solos and quartettes will be rendered. Miss Ava Aycock is training the participants.

More Fine Wheat.

Mr. A. E. Canipe, one of the leading farmers of the Fallston neighborhood brought in several fine wheat heads Wednesday of the prolific variety. The heads measured 7 inches in length with four full large grains to the mash. On seven acres, Mr. Canipe has 300 shocks. Last year he made 123 bushels on this tract and this year he expects to increase the yield considerably.

Mr. G. B. Cabiness was here from Charlotte to attend the funeral of Mr. A. R. Eskridge.

NEW WOMEN ON PARADE

FIVE MILES OF SUFFRAGETTES MARCH STEETS

Nearly Sixty Thousand "Martyrs" Engage in The Most Unique Performance on Record—They Parade The Streets of London in Support of Amendment Allowing Women Right to Vote.

London, June 17.—Led by "General" Mrs. Drummond, astride a fine charger, a colossal coronation procession of suffragettes estimated at from forty to sixty thousand women marched through the streets of London tonight preparatory to the meeting at Albert Hall. The parade, which is said to have been the greatest procession of women in support of the suffrage movement the world has ever seen, marched in a five-mile formation from the Victoria embankment which leads east from Westminster bridge and proceeded along the coronation route to Kensington.

Militant and non-militant suffragettes combined on this occasion, all question of caste was put aside, and queens and those garbed to represent such characters as Boadicea, Catherine of Aragon, Mary Queen of Scots and Queen Victoria rubbed shoulders with fellow-workers in the suffragette cause from the sweat-shops of White Chapel.

A MIXED CROWD.

Every phase of social, professional and industrial life was represented, among the paraders being women of title, prominent actresses and collegians. Hundreds of historic characters from the early ages down to famous Victorians like Charlotte Bronte, Grace Darling, Jenny Lind and Mrs. Browning were portrayed. Seven hundred women who had been imprisoned for the cause formed a striking feature of the pageant. They carried lances with banners and the suffragette colors. There were many Americans in the ranks.

The international contingent was picturesque with the representatives of many continental and Eastern nations in their native garb.

JEER AT "MARTYRS"

Immense crowds viewed the pageant. Some jeering cries of "jail birds" were heard as the "martyrs" to the cause, passed, but on the whole their reception was not so antagonistic as on previous occasions.

The leaders were jubilant at the success of the demonstration pointing out that for the first time the militant suffragettes and constitutional agitators had made common cause.

The meeting at Albert Hall was enthusiastic. Mrs. Pankhurst, who presided, elicited loud cheers by the declaration that the demonstration proved that victory was close at hand.

Attend Meeting

This week the State Medical Society met in Charlotte and physicians from all over North Carolina were in attendance. Several Cleveland county physicians attended. Drs. W. F. Mitchell, W. T. Grigg, E. A. Houser, Harlan Shoemaker S. S. Royster. Drs. Shoemaker and Mitchell were on the program and read interesting and instructive papers.

Miss Maggie Black and Mrs. A. C. Miller were in Charlotte Wednesday for the day.