

### SMEDBERG HIRED BY COUNCIL AS CONSULTANT AT \$50 DAILY

(Continued From Page One) and his keen interest in doing his job as city manager.

"With the above things in mind and with my personal feeling that it is going to be almost impossible to replace Mr. Smedberg at this time, I am voting my own personal conviction when I vote to refuse Mr. Smedberg's resignation."

The mayor whose name was reached later in the roll call vote, referred approvingly to the Clendenin statement. He termed the present situation in Greensboro one of crisis in the light of all current conditions and remarked upon the need now, of all times, in his opinion, for the services of an experienced and trained city manager.

Smedberg's resignation was effective as of last night, and he left the session just before adjournment, his salary extending to July 15 to incorporate accrued vacations for the last two fiscal years.

#### Motion Amended

In seconding Stanley's motion, Fry amended that the resignation be accepted with regret. He afterward moved that City Attorney H. C. Wilson draft a resolution to be spread on the minutes thanking Smedberg for his "unselfish, efficient and favorable services to the city of Greensboro through the years."

Smedberg had served the city for some 20 years, having been manager since December 1, 1937.

Designated on motion of Fry, with a second by Yost, to serve as acting Manager, Mayor Sullivan by agreement was made to accept during such service the equivalent of the city manager's salary, in lieu of that of the mayor, although Sullivan protested against any compensation

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for his services. He stated to his fellow members that he would accept per diem pay for only such days as he gives to the manager's duties until a permanent manager is voted into office.

The city manager's salary is \$648 a month, that of the mayor \$100 a month, as fixed by city code.

#### Fry Makes Motion

In accepting the acting managership, Mayor Sullivan called attention to the important duties immediately ahead in preparing the budget, which must be ready for council action on July 6. He suggested that Smedberg had informed him he would be in the city for a limited period of time and said Smedberg's services as a consultant would be sorely needed in handling the knotty budget problems.

Councilman Fry moved that for a period not to exceed five days Smedberg be employed in this capacity at a consultant's rate of \$50 daily. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed. However, whether the budget problems can be solved in five days is questionable.

Upon motion of Clendenin, the mayor appointed a council subcommittee composed of Fry, as chairman, Yost Craven, Stanley and Webster to receive applications for permanent managership and report back at an unspecified date with recommendations. It had been requested by Clendenin that he be not named on the subcommittee, with which the mayor will serve in ex officio capacity.

Councilmen seemed of the impression that a permanent appointment might be made in about 30 days.

Before the appointment of Mayor Sullivan as acting manager, however, Craven declared that he was then ready to vote on filling the manager's post permanently, and he mentioned C. W. Mengel, former city director of public works, as successor.

Fry likewise remarked that he, too, was ready to vote on a permanent appointment provided the other members were so disposed, and he mentioned the name of Roy L. Morgan, FBI special agent here, saying Morgan's name had been suggested

to him by a number of citizens.

The mayor and other members, however, suggested that time and care should be devoted to a study of qualifications of the applicants, of whom the mayor said there likely will be many.

Mengel has already stated in writing in a letter to be handed the subcommittee that he would be happy to be considered for the city managership, although no other communications on the vacancy had been received last night. Mengel's letter was dated June 10, the day Smedberg's letter of resignation was published.

Stanley, moving acceptance of Smedberg's resignation, remarked that his task had not been a pleasant one. He said he held no feeling against the resigned official.

It was minutes before Stanley moved acceptance, following the reading of the letter, and so much time elapsed silently between Stanley's motion and finally, a second, that of mayor was prompted to ask if the motion was lost or if there would be a second to it.

#### Papers Returned

Previously, and before Smedberg's letter was read, former Councilman A. C. Davis, of counsel for Smedberg, appeared and returned for the city's files a group of 88 sheets of records which had been borrowed for use in the preparation of Smedberg's answer to the charges made by Stanley in the beginning of the city manager investigation.

Davis noted that 33 of the 88 sheets were original city records and he called attention to the fact that former City Auditor C. H. Porterfield, who produced these papers when giving testimony against Smedberg, had testified they were copies of the city records made by him.

Davis said that four city officials had testified that these 33 sheets were original records of the city, rather than copies, and that they had been removed from the files.

The attorney suggested, and Stanley put the suggestion in the form of a motion, that the 33 pages or original records be

put back in the city's files and that the other papers likewise be placed in the archives to become a permanent part of the record in the Smedberg investigation. The motion was carried.

Examination showed that the sheets referred to were records which Davis said had been made up and originally placed on file by L. E. Rempsey, sanitation superintendent, whose name was injected into the investigation by Porterfield. Porterfield was dismissed as city auditor by Smedberg more than a year ago, and Davis said the original records from the files apparently had been the former auditor's possession during this time.

### SOUTH GREENSBORO COMMUNITY DRIVE VERY SUCCESSFUL

The community drive for the young men of South Greensboro, Warnerville, closed Monday night, June 7th at 8. p. m. in the J. C. Price auditorium, a grand program was rendered by the young people of this community which was enjoyed by all.

The principle speaker for this occasion was Prof. A. H. Peeler, principal of J. C. Price school. His topic was Good Sportsmanship, and what it means to be a good sport. He brought his message in the form of a code. In connection with this he brought a moving picture film of some of the outstanding games of the season. This was also enjoyed. Response and comments by Rev. J. T. Hairston and Mr. Sam Penn.

The chairman Mr. T. D. Wooten spoke of how the people in business throughout this section had donated so well to

the committee. He also stated that we should continue to give these friends our support in their business and he also said it had been a pleasure to contact these people in the drive.

Those who appeared on program are as follows: Miss L. Sellars, Miss L. M. Paden, Morehead Quartet and words of appreciation by Thomas Fields.

The chairman called for the report for money raised in this drive. Mr. Chester Jenkins came forward and read the names of all who gave personal donations and those in business and their place of location.

Grand total raised in this drive, \$56.85.

T. D. Wooten, chairman, endorsers: Rev. J. T. Hairston, Shiloh; Rev. Johnson, New Zion; Rev. J. E. Brower, St. Matthews; Mrs. J. H. Dillard, Trustee, St. Matthews.

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