

CITY'S FUTURE BRIGHT, SAY CHAMBER'S GUESTS

Optimism Proves to be the Keynote of First Annual Social Session.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS PRESENT

Evening of Informal Goodfellowship Marked by Eloquent Addresses—Judge Mann and Mr. Tucker Do Not Object to Title of the "Next Governor."

Though the Chamber of Commerce annual banquet has for a number of years been the chief and most delightful social function of the winter with a large proportion of the city's business and professional men...

The members of the chamber and their guests gathered in the large reception hall on the second floor of the hotel, and spent four hours, enjoying all the palatable things that appeal to the inner man, and listening to all of the after-dinner eloquence of a banquet, and besides, reveling in the charm of informality and good fellowship that seldom finds its way into banquet halls.

Chairman L. C. Phillips, of the entertainment committee and Manager Moore, of the Warwick, had a feast in readiness when the party assembled shortly after 7 o'clock, and everybody, member and guest, was requested to "fall to." An hour or so later President W. S. Copeland called for order and after a few remarks in a happy vein, introduced as the first speaker, Rev. E. T. Wellford, who delivered a characteristic and beautiful address on "Loyalty." Among these called upon during the evening by the president were President Stevens, of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway, Hon. Harry St. George Tucker, Hon. William Hodges Mann, Mr. Meeks, business manager of the Washington Herald, Mr. Edw. Quarles, secretary of the Petersburg Chamber of Commerce, Captain Frank A. Grant, U. S. A.; Lieutenant Commander Price, U. S. A.; Hon. P. St. J. Wilson, state commissioner of roads; Mr. George Helms Wise and Mr. Frank R. Carty, secretary of the chamber.

All of the visiting speakers referred to the future of Newport News in glowing terms. Mr. Stevens spoke particularly of the cooperation between Newport News and the Chesapeake & Ohio Company, and expressed his confidence in the city's future. He took occasion to pay a grateful compliment to a member of the chamber, Mr. E. L. Ford, who recently was elevated to the position of superintendent of terminals for the railway.

Neither Judge Mann nor Mr. Tucker seemed to object to being introduced as "the next governor," and both made felicitous addresses in their delightful styles.

Mr. Wilson made a plea for an awakening in this section to the benefits which may be derived by taking advantage of the new state road building law. Mr. Wise spoke of the great advantages that would accrue to this city if a road were built to bring Newport News in touch with the upper counties of the First district, and Captain Grant gave some interesting information concerning the value of the army transport service to the port. Mr. Quarles brought from Petersburg inspiring reports of what is being accomplished by the chamber of commerce of that city.

Appeal for Support. Secretary Carty brought this meeting to a close with an appeal for the support of the members in the work by which he proposes to make the chamber of commerce a greater factor than ever in the progress and prosperity of Newport News.

Among those attending the social session were Messrs. George W. Stevens, William H. Dwyer, Mann, H. St. George Tucker, J. S. N. Mearns, Samuel W. Meeks, P. St. J. Wilson, Captain Abernethy, U. S. A.; Captain Frank A. Grant, U. S. A.; Captain Rorebeck, U. S. A.; Naval Constructor George Mallison, U. S. N.; Lieutenant Commander Price, U. S. N.; Messrs. John T. Hume and John A. J. Weston and Chaplain J. Martin Nettlet, National Soldiers' Home; Rev. E. T. Wellford, Rev. J. T. Diddam, Messrs. W. R. Vest, Fred Manville, J. M. Curtis, C. K. Weaver, W. Lee Powell, Elias Pevsner, G. R. Dwyer, J. W. Hunter, George N. Wise, J. E. T. Hunter, T. R. Bolek, W. E. Cottrill, Horace Epey, W. S. Copeland, E. W. Hoffman, T. J. Hundley, J. Royner, L. C. Phillips, E. W. Milstead, A. B. Meyers, S. Otis Hland, C. C. Berkeley, C. B. Neime, R. C. Armstrong, Frank R. Carty, W. W. S. Butler, J. R. Sprague and Dr. Clarence Porter Jones, J. A. Willett, E. M. Burton, W. J. Nelma, C. Asht, A. Chy, H. B. Holmes, L. R. Holmes, G. H. Salley, H. C. Avery, C. H. Richardson, P. C. Strachan, A. T. Moore, A. L. Powell, W. E. Barrett, Dr. Adler, E. I. Ford, A. Rosenbaum, Fred Cook, J. A. Somerville, W. T. Chapin, Harry Hertz, W. C. Martin, J. E. Downing and Mayor Mayrus Jones.

The president read letters declining invitations with regrets from Governor Swanson, Hon. Henry C. Stuart, Senators Daniel and Martin, Lieutenant Governor J. Taylor Edlyson, former Governor A. J. Montague, a number of other prominent Virginians, and the Richmond Times Dispatch. Congressman Jones said that he could be unable to attend because matters of importance to Newport News were being considered in the house yesterday.

C. L. U. BACKS CHAMBER Resolution Asking for Channel Lights Unanimously Adopted.

BODY NOT GOING IN BY HALVES Every Congressman Affiliated With Organized Labor Will be Urged to Aid in Securing Appropriation—Plan for Mass Meeting.

The Central Labor Union last night unanimously endorsed the resolution recently adopted by the Chamber of Commerce, appealing to Congress for an appropriation to provide for the lighting of the channel across Middle Ground bar with gas buoys. The body also decided to send copies of the resolution to all members of Congress who are affiliated with organized labor, with the request that any assistance possible be given Congressman William A. Jones in his efforts to secure the desired appropriation.

The resolution is as follows: "Newport News, Va., Jan. 22, 1909. "Whereas, the commerce of the port of Newport News, Virginia, demands that vessels should arrive and depart from the piers after nightfall, which cannot now be done, except at much risk, because of the indigent channel across the Newport News Middle Ground; and

"Whereas, this risk would be reduced to a minimum and traffic permitted after nightfall, provided the channel across said Middle Ground were properly and adequately lighted and designated by at least four (4) acetylene gas buoys of improved type;

"Therefore, Be it Resolved by the Chamber of Commerce of Newport News, Virginia, this 22nd day of January 1909, as follows: (a) "First: That the Congress of the United States, now in session, be requested and urged to provide, properly placed and maintained, four (4) acetylene gas buoys of the latest improved type so that the channel across the Newport News Middle Ground may be designated at night and traffic to and from the port of Newport News be permitted at all hours.

"Second: That copies of these resolutions be sent to our senators, Thomas S. Martin and John W. Daniel, and to our congressman, W. A. Jones, with the earnest request that they use their best endeavors to secure the adequate lighting of the channel across Newport News Middle Ground.

The regular meeting of the Central Labor Union was held last night, and various matters of interest were disposed of in addition to routine business.

A committee was appointed consisting of a delegate from each of the organizations represented in the central body, to confer with the committee appointed some time ago to arrange for the mass meeting to be held in this city on February 22 for the purpose of raising funds to assist in taking the contempt cases to the national leaders of the American Federation of Labor to the Supreme Court.

Mr. Moore is interested in only one Staunton Hotel. The report that Mr. A. T. Moore, manager of Hotel Warwick, leased the Virginia Hotel in Staunton when he made a trip to that city several days ago was erroneous. Mr. Moore visits the Beverly Hotel in Staunton but the Virginia is operated under a long term lease by a Mr. Ward and Mr. Moore has no connection with it.

Mr. Ware called up the Daily Press office over the long distance telephone yesterday to inform this paper that it had erred in connecting the name of Mr. Moore with the Virginia Hotel. Mr. Ware seemed to think that some one had "put up" a joke on him, and he didn't think the joke was particularly funny.

When asked about the matter Mr. Moore said that he did not know how the report was started and that he had no leased the Virginia Hotel.

Wants a Match Here. George Herbert, the Richmond wrecker, who took two out of three falls from Benjie Jones in Richmond yesterday night and who claims the featherweight championship of America, has addressed a letter to the sporting editor of the Daily Press, asking to meet Jones in this city, and saying that he would wager \$500 on the result. Jones went on to say that he was satisfied with the result of the last match and that he wanted to prove that he was the better man as well as to get some of Jones' coin. Jones authorizes the statement that he is willing to meet Herbert for \$100 a side of the latter will sign articles of agreement for a best two in three match, at 125 pounds.

May Have to Pay Duty. Part of the general cargo which was discharged here by the steamer Texas, has been stored in the wharves. This part of the cargo was unloaded under the direction of the office of Customs, and it is probable that duty will have to be paid upon it. The Texas was damaged by fire.

Only Partly Confirmed. In the Federal Court at Norfolk yesterday L. A. McMurray, receiver for E. B. Cameron, a druggist of this city, made a report to Judge Waldhill. The judge confirmed a part of the report, but refused to confirm the sale of the Cameron mercantile license for \$250 and the stock of drugs for \$275 to S. R. Buxton.

Frank J. Cheney met with that he is now on the list of the United States and State officials, and that said list includes the name of ONE HUNDRED FIFTY FIVE and every one of them that is not to be used by the use of Halls' Catarrh Cure.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is a valuable remedy and is effective in the treatment of all cases of the eye, ear, nose, throat, and bladder. It is a purely vegetable preparation and is entirely free from any injurious elements.

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ROOT, KNOX AND RUSSELL TESTIFY BEFORE GRAND JURY

All Declined to Throw Any Light Up on Their Testimony—Root is Jocular.

(By Associated Press). WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 22.—I simply brought my subpoena and conscience with me, primarily to mark the Secretary of State, Elihu Root, who today was one of the chief witnesses before the United States grand jury in its investigation of the alleged libel in connection with the purchase of the Panama canal.

The secretary made the remark to newspaper men, who sought to interview him a few minutes before he went into the grand jury room.

Senator Knox, of Pennsylvania and Assistant Attorney General Charles W. Russell, also gave testimony.

All declined to throw any light upon the nature of their testimony.

William Nelson Cromwell may be one of the witnesses tomorrow.

Well," said Mr. Root, as he emerged from the grand jury room "I cannot tell you how, or in what way I testified, but I will say that it is the first time I have been in this building since the trial of Charles Gifford for the assassination of President Garfield in 1882. I was then here as a spectator only."

Virginia Court of Appeals. RICHMOND, VA., Jan. 22. Proceedings in the supreme court of appeals today were:

Southern Express Company vs. Keeler. Argued by W. R. Meredith for plaintiff in error and C. R. Garrett for defendant in error, and submitted.

Owens vs. Owens' executor. Argued by James Lewis Anderson for appellant and Stuart Christian and Thomas C. Gordon for appellees and submitted.

Washington-Southern Railway Company vs. Chesapeake. Passed to March term.

Norfolk and Portsmouth Traction Company vs. Nixon. Error confessed by defendant in error.

Portsmouth Cotton Oil Refining Corporation vs. Oliver Refining Corporation and Oliver Refining Corporation against Portsmouth Cotton Oil Refining Corporation. Argued by J. Acorn Moore Wilcox, and continued until Monday, next.

Court will not sit tomorrow.

The next cases to be called are: Phillips vs. Southern Railway Company; Norfolk and Portsmouth Traction Company vs. Forester's Administrator; Smith vs. Eyer; Bill et al vs. American Coal and Iron Company et al; American Locomotive Company et al vs. White, et al; Norfolk and Western Railway Company vs. Munsell's Administrator; Norfolk and Western Railway Company vs. Holmes' Administrator; and Justice vs. Georgia Industrial Realty Company.

GOING AFTER "DODGERS." Norfolk County Grand Jury on Trail of Tax Welchers. NORFOLK, VA., Jan. 22.—The Norfolk county grand jury investigating taxpayers for alleged failure to list for proper assessments their personal taxable holdings increased the county personal tax assessments in one day by adding \$200,000.

The jury is still examining taxpayers who have been summoned to show why their personal tax assessments are so low and why they should not be increased in accordance with general understanding as to the value of the same.

Commonwealth's Attorney Stewart of Portsmouth, when informed of what was being done along the line of increasing county assessments, said there are hundreds of people in Portsmouth who pay no personal taxes at all.

"I think I shall ask the city grand jury to do a little investigating. One wealthy farmer confronted by the grand jury with an assessment of only \$200 against him, was asked if he did not have \$10,000 in a bank on interest. When the jury insisted that it had information to this effect the farmer said again, "It's not true. I've only got \$5,000 in the bank."

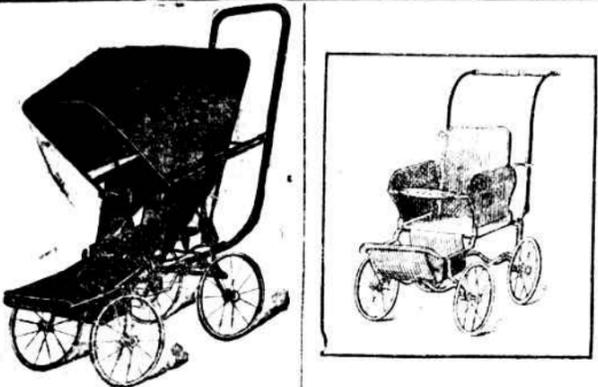
WILL FAVOR BRYAN. LINCOLN, NEB., Jan. 22.—The Nebraska house today approved the report of the committee of the whole recommending the passage of the Handbills bill for the election of senators by the Oregon plan. This bill will need both houses.

The bill is intended, it is believed, to give W. J. Bryan a chance to be elected senator.

Truth and Quality appeal to the Well-Informed in every walk of life and are essential to permanent success and creditable standing. Accordingly, it is not claimed that Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna is the only remedy of known value, but one of many reasons why it is the best of personal and family laxatives is the fact that it cleanses, sweetens and relieves the internal organs on which it acts without any debilitating after effects and without having to increase the quantity from time to time.

It acts pleasantly and naturally and truly as a laxative, and its component parts are known to and approved by physicians, as it is free from all objectionable substances. To get its beneficial effects always purchase the genuine—manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., only, and for sale by all leading druggists.

Local Association Will Send Delegates to Richmond to Participate in Meeting. Physical Director F. G. King of the local Young Men's Christian Association has received a letter from Acting State Secretary P. K. Ober, of Richmond, relative to a meeting of



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Have points of superiority which need only be stated to be appreciated. Our Collapsible Carts are made of steel, fully guaranteed, non-breakable. Simplicity, Strength, Beauty, and non-rubbing are a few of the points to the credit of our lines.

Buxton & Parker, Agency for Hale's Sectional Book Cases, McDougall Kitchen Cabinets and furnishes for every room in the house.

Capital Dry Goods House Washington Ave. at 30th Street

TODAY WE WILL SELL

Ladies' Fashionable Long Coats For Less Than Cost to Make

\$3.98 For Coats that were \$7.00 | \$7.98 For Coats that were \$12.50 | \$5.98 For Coats that were \$10.00 | \$9.98 For Coats that were \$14.50

NO NAVAL PACT. American Representatives Chiefly Blamed for Obstructive Action.

LONDON, JAN. 22.—Unless the various delegates arrive at a settlement of their difficulties there is a strong probability that the labors of the International Naval Conference, which has been in session here since last month, will come to naught.

Some of the delegates place the chief blame for the present situation on the shoulders of the American representatives. They aver that as soon as the conference took up questions upon which there were serious differences of opinion the American delegates adopted an uncompromising attitude.

Great Britain, it is asserted, which, with her great maritime interests, has the most at stake, has been conciliatory as becomes the power controlling the conference but American, whose views coincided in the beginning with those of Great Britain, has been unwilling to go so far as has England. The former delegates put this unwillingness down to failure to understand the continental points of view and to lack of definite instructions.

The British delegates have been free to negotiate, while the other representatives have had to send home for instructions on many important points.

There have been several informal meetings between the delegates at which an effort to reach a working understanding was made but without very much success.

The regular plenary session of the conference, which was held for today, was canceled. There will be meetings of various committees, however, and the hope is expressed that delegates will have sufficient authority to make it possible for the conference to continue. It is understood that trouble has arisen over the definition of "controllable" and over the question of "continuous voyage." On the latter point the Americans hold that a neutral vessel carrying contraband is liable to seizure as long as she is on the high seas or in belligerent waters, against the continental view that only warships actually engaged in blockading a port can seize such a vessel.

The American delegates, adhering to the arrangement for action in the proceedings of the conference, have not dissented, either their own or the other delegates' attitude. From other sources it has been learned that while it is true that the Americans are holding to their views, the same can be said of some of the continental powers, which have not receded from the stand taken from the start.

STATE ATHLETIC LEAGUE PROPOSED FOR THEM. M. C. A. Local Association Will Send Delegates to Richmond to Participate in Meeting.

Physical Director F. G. King of the local Young Men's Christian Association has received a letter from Acting State Secretary P. K. Ober, of Richmond, relative to a meeting of

representatives from all of the various associations throughout the state to be held in that city on January 29-30 for the purpose of organizing a state athletic league of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Mr. King will attend the meeting and will be accompanied by two other delegates, who will be appointed next week.

It is proposed to endeavor to put all of the associations in the state into the organization so that it will be possible to govern the athletic meets and contests held between different branches and more effectively look after the amateur standing of the various teams which desire to engage in the athletic contests with the association teams.

Mr. King was one of the most important of the state's witnesses during the previous trials and frankly admitted the part he played in the killing of Rankin and other calls of the band.

He declared he had frequently seen Marshall on these occasions.

Only One Damaging Witness. Fifteen witnesses have testified so far in the present trial, but Fehringer was the first to connect Marshall with the murder of Rankin.

The testimony of the others was merely to show that a band of Night Riders existed and that they killed Rankin because of his connection with the West Tennessee Land Company.

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Newport News Gas Co. Washington Ave. and Thirty-first St.



and WOOD

cord Pine Wood \$1.75 | cord Mixed Wood \$1.80 | cord Oak Wood \$1.85

No extra charge for splitting. All coal well screened and kept under sheds, both wood and coal being delivered perfectly dry.

Distilled Ice Co. 35th St. and C. & O. Ry. Bell Phone 98. City Phone 308.

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