

Alexandria Gazette

Cloudy Tonight and Thursday
Warmer Probably Rain Tonight
Sun rises 5:59, sun sets 6:17.
7:50 P. M.
High Tides: 7:22 A. M., and

CITY COUNCIL HOLDS MEETING

Resolutions Passed to Investigate Alexandria Water Company.

APPOINT COMMITTEE.

Measures Introduced Providing For Sewer and Street Improvements in Different Sections of City.

The City Council was in session about an hour last night. The volume of business transacted was small and mostly of a general nature.

The most important measure before the boards was introduced by Mr. Smith in the Common Council. It related to the operations of the Alexandria Water Company. The measure is in the shape of preambles and resolutions concerning the service furnished the city, water rents, etc., and provide for the appointment of a committee of two from each board to make an investigation and appropriate \$50 for defraying the expenses of the committee. The resolutions were passed by both boards. They will be found in full in the official proceedings of the Common Council.

Board of Aldermen.

The papers presented in the Board of Aldermen were of a routine character and did not bring on much debate.

The committees on light and finance had reported in favor of placing an arc light at the intersection of Princess and Union streets, and for removing the light at the intersection of Union and Wilkes streets to Wolfe and Union streets. The report had been adopted by the Common Council, but when it was read in the Aldermen Mr. Brill opposed moving the light from the foot of Wilkes streets, as did also Mr. Hill and Mr. Field. The Aldermen non-concurred in the action of the Common Council and recommitted the resolution to the committees.

The lower board non-concurred in the action of the Aldermen and asked for a committee of conference. Messrs. Field and Fitzgerald were appointed on the part of the Aldermen.

The committee reported in favor of placing a light at Princess and Union streets and allowing the light to remain at Union and Wilkes streets. The report was adopted.

A petition of William Demaine & Son protesting against the placing of a moving picture show next to their undertaking establishment on King street, also a petition of sundry citizens, against the placing of such a show on Columbus streets, between Wolfe and Duke, were received from the Common Council, that board having referred the petitions to the committee on general laws. The action of the lower board was concurred in although several members thought it was a matter that should not be brought before Council and that parties objecting to such places should wait until it was shown a nuisance was being committed and then resort to injunctions. Such enterprises, they said, would naturally be located on King street, and the city should offer some encouragement to parties who desired to spend money in the city. It was stated that in the case of the proposed moving picture show on the north side of King street, near Alfred, to which Messrs. Demaine & Son objected, the parties had paid \$9,000 for the lot and that they proposed to erect a building to cost \$8,000. Objectors it was further stated, should wait until the City Engineer granted the permit for such a structure before making protests.

Charles R. Clark presented a petition, which was referred to the committee on streets by the Common Council, asking permission to erect a garage at the northeast corner of the Wilkes and Fairfax streets (the old Fendall homestead). The Aldermen concurred in the action of the Common Council.

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action of the Common Council on all other papers sent in.

Common Council.
Council held a brief meeting last night, but transacted a fairly large amount of business, some of it of considerable importance.

The committee on light recommended that arc light be not placed at the corner of Princess and Fairfax St. which was agreed to.

The same committee recommended that a light be placed at the corner of Princess and Union Streets, and that the light at the corner of Wilkes and Union Streets be moved to Wolfe and Union Streets. An objection to this action was made by Messrs. Burke and Lambert, but after an explanation by Mr. Harrison chairman of the light committee, the recommendation was adopted. This later came back from the Aldermen, they non-concurring in the action of Common Council. A committee on conference was appointed and it was decided to place a light at the corner of Princess and Union Streets, and to refer the rest of the matter back to the committee.

Mr. Burke introduced a resolution authorizing Chas. R. Clark to place a galvanized iron automobile garage on the north side of Wilkes Street between Lee and Fairfax, which was passed.

Mr. Bryan offered a resolution appropriating \$1000 to pay for plans and specifications for the proposed new High School Building and to cover the cost of supervising the work. Mr. Bryan explained that this was offered by direction of the joint committee on schools and finance, and that it was the intention of the committee to have Mr. Dunn do this work. The committee wished this passed at once, but as there were not sufficient votes in Council to do this, only 11 members being present, it was referred to the appropriate committee to be reported at the next meeting.

A communication was received from Demaine & Son objecting to the erection of a moving picture theatre and bowling alley at 815 King St. The protest recited at great length the objection of the petitioners to having a place of amusement next to their property. The matter was sent to the committee on general laws, without discussion.

The property owners on Columbus Street between Duke and Wolfe also submitted a protest against the erection of a moving picture theatre for colored patrons on that square, this was also sent to the committee on general laws.

An ordinance to prevent the spilling of illuminating oils or gasoline on the streets of the City, and providing for proper spigots and guards on tank wagons laid over from the last meeting, was passed.

Notice was received from the City School Board that a vacancy existed on the board from the 3rd ward, due to the appointment of Dr. Wm. Smith as Postmaster. This was laid over and council gave notice that it would ask for an election at the next regular meeting.

Mr. Smith introduced a resolution relating to the water supply of the City, which recited that the water supply for fire purposes had been reported inadequate, that a difference of opinion existed between the Water Company and the City as to the obligation of the Water Company in increasing this water supply that the Charter of the Water Company is antiquated and that the Water Company has violated this Charter. Mr. Smith's resolution provided that a special committee be appointed to consist of two members of the Common Council and two members of the Board of Aldermen, to have full power to investigate both the quantity and quality of the water furnished, to summon witnesses, and to administer oaths and to do every thing necessary for a full and complete investigation of the water supply in the City of Alexandria. The resolution carried an appropriation of \$50.00 for the expenses of the committee. The resolution will be found in full in another column.

The only members making any remarks on this resolution was Mr. Lambert, from the First Ward. He said that as a Director of the Water Company he would not vote but wished to make a statement of the Water Company's position. Mr. Lambert made lengthy defense of the Water Company, saying that the Company and its officers had the interest of the City always at heart and would do everything possible to improve conditions here. The resolution was

ARMY PREVAILS IN ENGLAND

Seems British Government Does Not Mean to Crush Its Foes.

LIBERALS DIVIDED.

Labor and Radical Leaders Had, it is said, Demanded Settlement Once For All.

London, March 25.—The government must retain the right to use all the forces of the crown in Ireland and elsewhere to maintain law and order, but there is no intention to take advantage of this right to crush the political opposition to home rule in Ireland.

This statement, made to Brigadier General Gough and other officers who resigned their commands rather than serve in enforcing home rule upon Ulster, represents the extent of the government's surrender to the army in the conflict which has now developed into one of bitter class strife.

War Secretary Seely today made public the documents relating to the army's revolt against the coercion of Ulster. He revealed negotiations which have aroused labor and radical leaders to demand a settlement, once and for all, as to whether the King and the army or parliament is to make the laws. Indications are that even the liberal ranks are divided into the fight which is laid down on strictly aristocratic and democratic lines.

General Paget declared he preferred dismissal if ordered north, as he feared the men would refuse to move.

This was the real beginning of the struggle between the army and the government, which has thrown the country into political turmoil. Colonel Seely replied to General Paget's telegram, ordering the recalcitrant officers to the war office.

Reports of the resignation of War Secretary Seely, as a result of the compromise entered into with the army officers, were unconfirmed today.

Belfast, March 25.—Several persons were injured in a riot between Orangemen and Nationalists here early today. Stones were thrown and revolver shots fired. Leaders of the crowd were arrested.

TOUCHED WIRE WITH POLE.

Fourteen-Year-Old Will Killian Instantly Killed.

Newton, N. C. March 25.—Fourteen-year-old Will Killian of the Maiden section, was killed Sunday afternoon by what appears to have been a thoughtless act. The Southern Power Company linemen were doing some work on the line, and of course the power was turned off at the time. During the morning Killian and some other boys were strolling along the right of way of the power company and he took a pole and was touching the wires. The power being off, this had no effect. About 5 o'clock in the afternoon, after the linemen had finished their work and turned the power on, the boys returned to the line. Not knowing that the current was on, Killian again took a pole and touched the wire and immediately the current ran through his body, killing him instantly.

He hung suspended in the air by the force of the electricity, while his companions ran for help. When they returned the boy was lying on the ground dead.

ARM BROKEN.

Doctor Walter A. Warfield had his right arm broken this afternoon while cranking his automobile on King Street, between St Asaph and Washington. The accident was caused by a backfire.

adopted and the Chair appointed Messrs. Smith and Low the committee from Common Council.

A number of ordinances providing for the paving of streets and the laying of sewers that had been referred to the proper committees by the Board of Aldermen came before Council and in every instance the action of the Aldermen was concurred in.

INDORSEMENT MISPLACED.

Reason For Delay in Nominating Burch in Western District.

Washington, March 25.—It has become known that the apparent delay in nominating Thomas Burch, of Martinsville, to be United States marshal for the Western district, was caused through the loss of a large bundle of indorsements, which were forwarded to the Department of Justice, along with the recommendation for his appointment, signed by Senators Martin and Swanson. The papers which were apparently mislaid in the department somewhere have not been found, and another paper bearing the indorsement of most of the members of the Virginia delegation were filed with the department today.

It is now expected that the nomination of Burch, together with that of Richard H. Mann, of Petersburg, to be district attorney for the Eastern district, will be sent to the Senate today.

It is known that all of those nominated, with the exception of John Hart, will be confirmed at the same time toward the end of this week. Hart's nomination will probably be rejected, judging from the present indications. What move will follow that is problematical.

STUART TO VISIT BALTIMORE.

Virginia Troops May Also Attend "Banner" Celebration in Monumental City.

Baltimore, March 25.—Governor Stuart of Virginia and his staff, Mayor George Ainslie, of Richmond, and many of the Richmond City Council will attend "The Star-Spangled Banner" Celebration to be held here next September, was the assurance given Robert E. Lee secretary to Mayor Preston who called upon those officials in Richmond yesterday and presented invitations to the festivities.

Adj-Gen. W. W. Saies was also interviewed by Secretary Lee. General Saies said he was heartily in favor of sending the Richmond Blues, the Richmond Howitzers and other companies of the State military to Baltimore in the event it did not interfere with the maneuvers being planned for the summer the exact date of which has not been decided upon.

Several members of the last General Assembly, who had not yet left the city, were seen by Secretary Lee and they assured him that they would do everything they could on the part of the State toward boosting the national "Star-Spangled Banner" Centennial Celebration.

Secretary Lee left Richmond last evening for Baltimore.

LUMBERMEN FAIL.

Halifax Lumber Co., Inc. Declares it is Bankrupt and Asks For Receivership.

Norfolk, Va., March 25.—Declaring liabilities of \$200,141.14 with assets listed at \$165,000 the Halifax Lumber Co., Inc., of Norfolk, has filed a petition in voluntary bankruptcy in the United States District Court and asked for the appointment of a receiver to take over its affairs. The petition was filed by E. A. Bilsisly, counsel for the corporation.

Judge Washill has appointed Hamilton Johnson and Robert W. Shultice receivers under bond of \$15,000.

The Halifax Lumber Co., Inc., operates two large lumber manufacturing plants at Tunis, N. C., and owns large tracts of standing timber, and in many instances the land also, in Southampton and Nansemond counties, Virginia, and Camden, Bertie, Hertford and Gates counties, North Carolina. The real estate holdings set out in the schedule of assets are valued at only \$58,210, the figures indicating that some of these areas have been stripped of their most valuable timber. John H. Trant, of Portsmouth, is president of the corporation; and R. Lawrence Trant, also of Portsmouth, is the secretary and treasurer. It is said that they are the principal stockholders.

FOR RENT—Two houses, six room bay window brick, 818 north Columbus street, and six room house, No. 529 north Alfred street. Apply at 603 Queen street. 24-3t.

Now don't fail to join the McDougall Co-operative club and "wish you had," etc. Do it now before it is too late. M. Ruben & Sons.

Hard and soft shell crabs daily at the Rammel Cafe, Royal street.

TORREON STILL HOLDING OUT

Villa Fails to Reach City to Fill Engagement With Staff.

SAID TO BE TRAPPED.

Last Night's Dispatches to the Effect That Constitutionalist Army Was in Torreon Premature.

El Paso, Tex., March 25.—Torreon has not yet fallen, according to the belief expressed here by careful observers of the situation around that stronghold of the Huertistas in northern Mexico.

General Francisco Villa did not take lunch yesterday with Gen Eugenio Benavides of his staff in a Torreon cafe, as he had promised; nor did he dine there. It is doubtful whether he will get into the city today.

The fact that Villa, after taking Gomez Palacio, was not able to proceed to Torreon, has caused Huerta sympathizers to suggest that perhaps the retreat of the Federals, reported in staff dispatches yesterday, was merely a feint by Gen. Refugio Velasco, federal commander, to draw Villa into a trap.

This, of course, is merely a speculation based on the fact that the rebels had to fight desperately in Gomez Palacio, after apparently taking that place.

Although the telegraph wires and the south were busy all night, it was asserted by rebel officials that not a line of news regarding the battle was being received, excepting that fighting was still in progress.

A report was circulated here and in Juarez last night that Torreon had surrendered to Villa, but this has not been confirmed. Gen. Manuel Choa, military governor of Chihuahua state, telegraphed to Villa and other officers on the battlefield for information, but he received no reply.

"Hammering away at Torreon," was the only information that could be obtained in constitutionalist circles in Juarez.

CALL TO METHODISTS.

Rev. J. W. Smith, Opening Conference Points to Opportunity.

Baltimore, March 25.—A strong call for the Methodist ministry to look forward to a more glorious chapter of its already glorious history was made last night by the Rev. J. W. Smith, in the opening sermon of the one hundred and thirtieth session of the Baltimore Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South in St. Paul's Church West Fayette street near Carrollton avenue.

After telling of the mighty work done by Methodism in the past Mr. Smith brought home the ever pressing fact that the whole future life of the church depends on how it meets and grapples with the problems and the spirit of the present age.

Boy Kidnaps Self.

Philadelphia, Pa., March 25.—Twice within two days 15-year-old Julius Jacobson, of No. 807 Tinton street, New York, "kidnaped" himself, according to Captain of Detectives Cameron. On Monday instead of going to school as usual the lad went to Jersey City and from there wrote to his father that he was being held prisoner by two men until such time as \$10,000 should be paid for his release. The letter set forth that the boy would be killed if the money was not at once paid.

Match Blows Up Sewer.

Chester, Pa., March 25.—A sewer gas explosion at Eighth and Morton Avenue late yesterday afternoon tore two large holes in the street, wrecked three sewer manholes and lifted the covers from three cesswers.

Mrs. Harry Bernard, who lives a half square distant, was washing dishes when the shock tore the kitchen sink from its fastenings and threw several dishes from her hands.

TAX BILL IS SIGNED.

Governor Approves Act Providing for Body of Ten for New System.

Richmond, Va., March 25.—Governor Stuart signed the tax commission bill late yesterday afternoon. The Governor was in conference yesterday morning for some time with Speaker Cox and Lieutenant-Governor Elyson, but no announcement was made as to the personnel of the commission. It was stated that the list would probably not be completed until Saturday.

The bill approved by the Governor sets forth in its preamble that it has become necessary that there be a careful and thorough revision and amendment to the existing laws for the assessment and collection of taxes and other revenues of the Commonwealth; that it is seriously questioned whether the present system of taxation is the one best adapted to conditions as they now exist in this state, and that it is impossible at the regular sessions of the General Assembly, with due regard to other matters, to give the subject the thorough consideration which its importance demands.

The bill provides for a joint commission of ten members, to be made up of four members of the House of Delegates to be named by the Speaker, three members of the State Senate to be named by the Lieutenant-Governor, and three members at large to be named by the Governor.

The joint commission is charged with the duty of considering the various systems of taxation, and to report to a special session of the General Assembly two or more alternate plans with its recommendations. The commission is to organize as soon as possible after its appointment, and may employ such clerks and stenographers as may be necessary. Members of the commission will draw \$8.33 per day and mileage.

As soon as the commission has prepared its report with accompanying bills, which must be not later than November 1, of this year, it is to report to the Governor, who is requested in the bill to call a special session of the General Assembly to meet not later than the first Wednesday in January, 1915, to consider the report and enact such laws as may be necessary or expedient for the purpose of carrying it into effect. At the time of its report to the Governor the commission is to mail copies of its report to all state officers, judges, clerks, Commonwealth attorneys, supervisors, mayors, city attorneys, treasurers and similar public officials, to the end that full publicity may be given to the matter before the special session convenes. The bill carries an appropriation of \$30,000 for the salaries and expenses of the special commission.

While no word has been given by the three appointing officers as to their selections, there has been much speculation, and many slates have been made. The Governor and the presiding officers of the two houses have had a number of conferences with a view of harmonizing their lists of appointments and seeing that every section of the State is represented.

NORFOLK'S "WORST SALOON."

Preacher Defines it as Private Refrigerator and Women's Punch Bowl.

Norfolk, Va., March 25.—"I believe I have located the worst saloon in Norfolk, and it is the private refrigerator," said Rev. J. J. D. Hall, superintendent of the Galilee Rescue Mission at Philadelphia, in an address Monday, at the Granby Theatre at the Lenten services of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. "It is the worst saloon in Norfolk, it ought to be pulled and I hope it will be," he said.

"The private refrigerator, along with the ladies' punch bowl is one of the rock beds of the liquor traffic," said the minister. "The punch bowl is one of most pernicious institutions, and I would like to punch the bottom out of every one of them and let its contents into the sewer, where it belongs."

An entertainment will be given by the Trinity M. E. Junior League on Thursday evening March 26, at 7:30 o'clock. An offering will be taken at the door.

FIFTY-FOUR BILLS MEET APPROVAL

Gov. Stuart Clears Desk of Local Legislative Measures.

MANY STILL PENDING.

Juvenile Delinquency, First Degree Murder and Other Acts of a General Nature Approved.

Richmond, Va., March 25.—Governor Stuart cleared his desk yesterday of fifty-four routine and local bills, which were returned to the Keeper of the Rolls with executive approval. There are about 100 measures yet pending in the Governor's office, including several on which the advice of the Attorney-General has been invited.

The following measures were among those approved yesterday: Senate bill 40—"Mobile" bill, regulating fraternal beneficiary associations.

Senate bill 93—Exempts building and loan associations from State franchise tax.

House bill 119—Increases license taxes on moving-picture shows in large auditoriums.

Senate bill 122—Prohibits sale of liquor and cigarettes in slot machines, and reduces license tax on machines selling shoestrings and weighing machines.

House bill 306—Provides dog license tax in Loudoun county.

House bill 305—Fixes maximum tax levy of town of Round Hill, Loudoun county.

House bill 207—Exempts town of The Plains from county road tax.

House bill 38—Allows further time to city and county treasurers to collect taxes for which they have already settled.

Senate bill 31—Provides courts may hear complaints of improper registration when too late for regular method of purging books.

Senate bill 471—Provides further methods of collecting taxes.

Senate bill 43—Prescribes how depositions may be taken in suits for loss against common carriers.

Senate bill 373—Admits voluntary patients to insane hospitals.

Senate bill 375—Reduces license taxes on storage warehouses in towns between 5,000 and 30,000 population.

Senate bill 523—Provides for tuberculosis tests for dairy cattle.

Senate bill 151—Making it a misdemeanor to send a child under eight years old to a saloon, gambling place, or disreputable resorts.

Senate bill 190—Allows juries to decide between death and life imprisonment in cases of murder in first degree.

Senate bill 174—Validates gifts or devises to State for literary or educational purposes.

House bill 482—Tax Commission bill.

PREACHER USES BUZZER.

Puts Stop to Chatter in Lobby Which Disturbs Congregation.

St. Louis, Mo., March 25.—A buzzer has been placed in the lobby of the Pilgrim Congregational Church, by order of the pastor, Rev. S. H. Woodrow, D. D., its purpose is to put a stop to the chatter of women in the lobby, which disturbs members of the congregation.

Wires connect the buzzer with a button on the pulpit. A moment before the beginning of the service the pastor will push the button, and this will serve as a notification to those in the vestibule that the time for buzzing is over, and that their presence in the pews is desired.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

A called convocation of Mount Vernon Chapter, No. 14, Royal Arch Masons, will be held at the Masonic Temple tonight (Tuesday) at 7:30 o'clock. A full attendance is requested. Work Royal Arch. By order of the M. E. High Priest, A. G. UHLER, Secretary.